

Hansen opposes SALT pact

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U.S. Rep. George V. Hansen, R-Idaho, a leading House opponent to financing the Panama Canal treaty, isn't exactly excited about the SALT II arms treaty either.

Hansen, now looked on as one of the most formidable opponents for House approval for financial implementation of the Panama Canal treaty, said he sees two serious flaws in the SALT II agreement.

He defined these as a lack of adequate monitoring capability due to the overthrow of the friendly Iran government, and exclusion of so-called backfire bombers and SS-18 missiles from the treaty, both of which have capabilities for hitting United States targets.

In a Post-Register telephone interview, Hansen said the USSR contends the missiles are for use against China in case of open warfare with that country, but that they are also capable of hitting U.S. targets.

"If I were a senator," said Hansen, "I would not vote to ratify the treaty."

Jackson opposed

Hansen also pointed out that one of the most powerful senators, Sen. Henry Jackson, D-Wash., is opposing the treaty.

Hansen observed that only 34 senators can stop ratification and polls he has seen indicate President Carter doesn't have that much support so far.

The Idaho congressman also remarked the Soviets have warned they don't want changes in the signed treaty, a condition that does not meet the approval of many senators.

"I think the philosophy to limit arms manufacturing is commendable," said Hansen, "It could save money. We are all hopeful for open dialogue rather than force of arms."

"When we have an open society like ours compared with a closed society like their's, it makes such a treaty shaky from the start."

Panama treaty

Regarding the Panama Canal treaty monetary implementation, Hansen said a vote is scheduled this week, but this could be delayed.

The reason the vote has been delayed in the past is because the Carter Administration did not have the votes, he added.

"We want the administration to live up to its promises that the treaty will bring no charge to the taxpayers," said Hansen.

Hansen contended Panama would get a \$2 billion windfall from the tolls.

In all, said Hansen, the treaty cost will amount to \$4 billion to the United States.

He explained Panama gets \$2 billion from the interest, amortization and early annuities from the Panama Canal, which eventually will go to Panama. The Panamanian government will then get all the income.

"I'm trying to stop this cost to the American taxpayers," said Hansen.

He noted the State Department placed the cost at only \$893 million, which is to be reimbursed, but Hansen challenges these figures as erroneous on the basis of those

coming from accurate governmental sources.

In other matters, Hansen said he is pressing a fund-raising campaign on behalf of Taiwan, so that it is not ignored in the U.S.-People's Republic of China treaty.

Hansen explained this campaign was not intended to raise a great deal of money, but mostly to "identify the issue." He noted there is a strong movement in the Senate to make certain relations with Taiwan are retained.

He pointed out the OSHA campaign also started slowly, but that \$160,000 was raised to carry a successful lawsuit to the U.S. Supreme Court, requiring OSHA officials to get court orders on justifiable ground for inspection.

Hansen also said his campaign fund for 1980 is in good shape, estimating it to be at about \$20,000. He said about \$8,000 was raised by mailing appeals earlier in the year.