

Helms Announces Reduced Foreign Aid Plan

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Calling for a radical change in the execution of American foreign policy, Sen. Jesse Helms declared Tuesday his streamlining plan would go forward despite the opposition of the Clinton administration.

"The way it is now structured it is a mess," Helms, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said of the U.S. foreign policy apparatus.

"No person is in charge," he told Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

At a committee hearing, the North Carolina Republican also challenged the administration's \$13.2 billion foreign aid budget.

"We've got to draw a line in the sand," Helms said, referring to taking a stand against Russia for helping Iran to rebuild a nuclear power plant near the Persian Gulf.

Helms told reporters after a committee hearing that the \$269 million the administration was requesting to help Russia dismantle long-range nuclear weapons and promote economic and political reform should be reconsidered because of this move to help the Iranians.

"All of it, and start over again," Helms said.

Christopher agreed, saying agreeably

that Moscow had not provided a "satisfactory response" to his own expressions of concern.

Christopher also said that he would reconsider the decision if more facts about the matter came to light.

Christopher's two-hour appearance before the committee was characterized by Helms' criticism both of the way American foreign policy was handled.

Helms also criticized the budget expenditure request.

In an opinion piece published Tuesday by The Washington Post, Helms sought to bolster his contention that Vice President Al Gore's "reinventing government" campaign was "mostly talk."

The senator is promoting a plan to scuttle the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and the Agency for International Development.

The plan also changes the Foreign Commercial and Foreign Agricultural services.

They would be combined with the State Department.

Christopher had initially considered abolishing the two agencies.

On Tuesday Christopher endorsed Gore's decision to keep them in operation because of the great cost to replace them with anything comparable.

The changes would cost more than the benefits, he told Helms, though he offered "to look at any proposal."

Helms, asserting that he disagreed thoroughly with the decision, told Christopher "we will proceed. It will be good for the country and good for the American taxpayers."

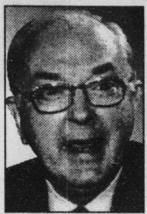
He said the plan had the support of Senate Republican leader Bob Dole of Kansas and House Speaker Newt Gingrich of Georgia.

On foreign aid, Christopher said the administration proposed to keep spending at current levels and at only 1.3 percent of the government's budget.

"It's the rock-bottom minimum needed to defend U.S. interests," Christopher said.

Challenging Christopher's figures, Helms said the administration proposed to spend about \$785 million more than Congress approved last year.

"Given the mountain of debt piled on



U.S. Sen. **JESSE HELMS**, R-N.C., wants to change the Clinton administration's foreign policy spending proposals.

the shoulders of the American taxpayer—and the unmistakable message sent to Washington by the voters on Nov. 8—I expected some meaningful spending cuts," Helms said.

A senior Republican, Sen. Nancy Kassebaum of Kansas, appeared to disagree with the chairman.

"It isn't easy selling foreign aid," she told Christopher.

"On the whole, I think we got a good bargain."

On another subject, Christopher said North Korea must accept two South Korean-designed reactors as part of a deal to stop its suspicious nuclear program.

"We are just going to have to stick to our position," he said.

He also rejected a North Korean request for \$500 million to \$1 billion in additional equipment.

Also, Christopher urged President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia to reconsider his decision to oust U.N. peacekeepers at the end of March.

Christopher said the situation was dangerous in the former Yugoslav republic, where ethnic Serbs are demanding an independent state, and Tudjman may have "unrealistic expectations" about the Croatian army's capabilities.

'Forrest Gump' Cleans Up On Academy Nominations

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — Warner Bros. didn't want it. Paramount Pictures spent more than three years twiddling its thumbs. Oscar voters showed no hesitancy, however. "Forrest Gump" was it.

Tom Hanks' improbable march through history collected 13 Academy Award nominations Tuesday—the most for a single film since 1966's "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" and one shy of "All About Eve's" record 14 in 1950.

Voters also embraced independent Miramax Films, giving it a leading 22 nominations—as many as major studios Disney, Columbia and Universal combined.

"The studio movies are formulaic," said Harvey Weinstein, Miramax's co-chairman. "It's really, really exciting. The revolution has begun."

In another surprising decision, "Hoop Dreams" wasn't nominated in the documentary feature category, despite some of the year's best reviews.

"Forrest Gump" earned nominations for best picture, best actor for Hanks, best director for Robert Zemeckis and best supporting actor for Gary Sinise—after gathering dust for more than 5 years at Warner Bros. and spinning in movie purgatory for 3 years at Paramount.

But it came up blank in the best supporting actress category, where co-stars Sally Field and Robin Wright were contenders.

The next-closest films—"Pulp Fiction," "Bullets Over Broadway" and "The Shawshank Redemption"—had seven nominations apiece.

"Forrest Gump" was topped only by "The Lion King" as 1994's highest-grossing release with more than \$300 million in domestic ticket sales.

"It's a textbook example of how word-

of-mouth works," said co-producer Steve Tisch.

"It's taken nine years, two studios, and a lot of blood, sweat and tears to hit the screen."

Also nominated for best picture were "Four Weddings and a Funeral," "Pulp Fiction," "Quiz Show" and "The Shawshank Redemption."

In a sharp rebuke to the predictable scripts churned out by the Hollywood studios, all of the original screenplay nominations came from movies made outside the studio system.

Woody Allen earned his 11th screenwriting nomination for "Bullets Over Broadway," one shy of Billy Wilder's record.

Rescued from an acting career offering roles no better than "Look Who's Talking" sequels, John Travolta was nominated for best actor for his depiction of a hapless hit man in "Pulp Fiction," a violent, sexy and often comic journey through the Los Angeles underworld. His last Oscar nomination was for "Saturday Night Fever"—17 years ago.

"I never dreamed it would take so long to get another one," Travolta said. "I'm so delighted that I was able to be part of the game again."

Travolta will face Hanks, Morgan Freeman from "The Shawshank Redemption," Nigel Hawthorne in "The Madness of King George" and previous winner Paul Newman for "Nobody's Fool."

The best actress nominations included a performance from a movie made in 1991—Jessica Lange in "Blue Sky."

Also nominated for best actress were Jodie Foster for "Nell," Miranda Richardson for "Tom & Viv," Winona Ryder for "Little Women" and Susan Sarandon for "The Client."

AIDS

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STDs is self-defeating because it adds to the stigma associated with having AIDS," Furney said.

"The things we have to gain in the fight against AIDS by reporting this information to the state far outweigh the loss of a few people who refuse to be tested because they don't want the state to know."

Last week's 6-5 vote to end anonymous testing surprised some of the commission members as well as the AIDS activists who were strongly in favor of extending anonymous testing.

Doug Ferguson, chairman of the Orange County Lesbian and Gay Association, said he thought the commission was "shooting itself in the foot."

"It's going to result in less people being tested, because people who think they might be HIV positive do not want people in the state government to know that they are even being tested, and they especially don't want the state to know if they test positive," Ferguson said.

"With state officials like Jesse Helms who have run on platforms which advo-

cated quarantining those who have AIDS, it's no wonder that people feel they can't trust the government with private information like this."

Marks Lane, an affiliate of the AIDS Community Residence Association, said the new rule might prevent people from going to be tested.

"It's very difficult for a person who has or may have HIV to actually go have himself tested because of the terrible fear involved. I mean, these people are afraid for their lives," Lane said.

He said he thought it was unfair for them to have to face the additional fear that this information would be made available to the state government because of the threat of the leakage of that information presented to their lifestyles.

"It's a question of whether a person is entitled to the right to privacy regarding this health information," he said.

Furney said that although lists of positive testers existed, access to them was restricted and it was a misdemeanor for anyone who had access to the citizen's health information to give that information to anyone who was not properly authorized.

Judge Hands Down Decision on Microsoft Policy

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A federal judge rejected the Justice Department's proposed antitrust settlement with Microsoft Corp., saying it fails to correct the software giant's monopoly or correct its "anticompetitive practices."

In a 45-page ruling issued late Tuesday, U.S. District Judge Stanley Sporkin said he was unable to find—as required by law—that the proposed settlement was in the public interest.

"Microsoft has a monopoly on the market for personal computer operating systems," Sporkin declared, noting that the company's share of the market is consistently above 70 percent.

The decree, he said, applies only to future licensing practices by Microsoft. The government, he added, failed to show how that would "remedy the unfair advantage Microsoft gained through its anticompetitive practices."

"Simply telling a defendant to go forth and sin no more does little or nothing to address the unfair advantage it has already gained," Sporkin wrote.

"The decree is too little, too late."

Neither Microsoft nor the Justice Department had any immediate comment.

Attorney General Janet Reno said she intended to read the decision before commenting.

Microsoft's stock fell 12 1/2 to 61.87 1/2 Tuesday in NASDAQ trading, which was over before the ruling was announced.

Sporkin's refusal to approve the decree was highly unusual.

But he has grumbled publicly for several months about the narrowness of the government's case.

The proposed settlement, which was reached July 15, would have forced Microsoft to change the way it sells or licenses operating software to personal computer makers.

The company has enormous influence in the computer industry. Microsoft's MS-DOS, including Windows, which translates MS-DOS commands to graphic signals, is the operating software for an overwhelming majority of the world's 150 million computers.

The settlement focused on prohibiting Microsoft from engaging in certain licensing procedures that the government argued gave the company an unfair advantage in selling its computer operating systems and other software to companies that make computer terminals and other hardware.

The agreement was reached after four years of investigation, first by the Federal Trade Commission, which was unable to act, and then by the Justice Department's antitrust division.

But Sporkin wrote that it "does not constitute an effective antitrust remedy."

Antitrust settlements are subject to judicial review under a law known as the Tunney Act.

Sporkin cited 4 reasons for his decision:

"Microsoft has a monopoly on the market for personal computer operating systems."

... Simply telling a defendant to go forth and sin no more does little or nothing to address the unfair advantages it has already gained."

STANLEY SPORKIN

U.S. District judge

—The government declined to supply sufficient information about the agreement.

—The scope of the settlement was too narrow.

—The government and Microsoft "have been unable and unwilling to adequately address certain anticompetitive practices" that the company had vowed to continue using.

—The settlement had inadequate mechanisms to ensure the company would comply with its provisions.

He set a hearing for March 16 for further proceedings in the case.

In a hearing last month, Sporkin questioned Assistant Attorney General Anne Bingaman, the government's top antitrust enforcer, on why the Justice Department hadn't brought a broader case.

She responded that the government had brought the case it could prove in court and argued that Sporkin lacked the legal authority to order her to bring the charges she did not think the government could prove satisfactorily.

"The court finds the decree on its face to be too narrow," Sporkin ruled.

In his ruling Tuesday, the judge complained that the government had not told him what it proposed to do about issues that he had raised that were outside the scope of the settlement.

"Is the investigation to continue?" Sporkin asked. If not, he said, he wanted to know why it was being closed.

He noted that the decree applied to the licensing of several existing Microsoft operating systems including "MS-DOS and Windows and its predecessor and successor products."

But, Sporkin said the litigants in the suit had not addressed concerns about all of Microsoft's systems, except the few directly addressed in the decree.

"Neither party has even addressed the court's concern that the decree be expanded to cover all of Microsoft's commercially marketed operating systems."

"The decree must anticipate covering operating systems developed for new microprocessors," the judge said.

He explained that during the next seven years that the decree would be in effect, the computer and software industry would likely undergo "wholesale changes."

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