THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 1975

Mideast: the cost of peace

One thing underscored by the intensive effort to negotiate an agreement for another military disengagement in Sinai is that the process of achieving peace in the Middle East will be very expensive. Israel is said to be asking for some \$3 billion in American aid in the coming fiscal year - the highest aid request ever submitted.

This includes some \$2.1 billion for military hardware, \$700 million in economic assistance and \$350 million for oil imports to replace supplies from the Abu Rudeis oilfield. It is also reported Washington may be asked to help build a new defense line in Sinai at a cost of some \$150 million and oil reservoirs for long-term

Hence to get an agreement for an Israeli withdrawal of a few more kilometers in Sinai will cost American taxpayers a tidy sum. Then, when another round of negotiations gets underway, perhaps in 1977, the Israelis will want more arms and money.

The American people have in fact undertaken an indefinite financial commitment to Israel, which has replaced Vietnam as the largest recipient of U. S. assistance each year. Since the state of Israel was established, total aid to Israel has amounted to more than \$6 billion, of which some \$2.5 billion has been in outright grants.

In addition to official aid, Israel receives enormous support for its economy from the sale of Israel bonds and from private contributions to the United Jewish Appeal, a large portion of which goes to social welfare programs in Israel and in effect helps that nation's defense effort.

All this is not to suggest there is any basic foreign policy alternative. The United States helped create a free and independent Israel and is committed to its survival. Certainly the price of obtaining and maintaining stability in the Middle East is tolerable when measured against the probably cost of a big-power military confrontation in the region.

But the aid figures point up Israel's growing economic reliance on the United States - and the leverage which Washington now has in trying to bring about a permanent settlement in the Middle East. American policymakers cannot induce Israel to make concessions or adopt a softer stance except by withholding or threatening to withhold aid. President Ford did just that by refusing to consider Israel's latest aid request until the outlines of a Sinai accord were visible. And he presumably will not submit the request to Congress until he has an agreement in hand.

As the negotiations continue, critics raise sensitive questions about aid for Israel in general. Why, it is asked, should the U. S. subsidize the resettlement of Soviet Jews in Israel? Why should donations to the UJA be tax deductible, at a loss to the U. S.

It is also wondered, in this case, if President Ford is not paying too big a price for too small an agreement and giving up his financial leverage too soon, before a substantive negotiation for an overall settlement is begun. The administration is now talking of an aid package of about \$2 billion, less than Israel wants but still a substantial amount.

This question no doubt is being carefully weighed by Mr. Ford. The President needs a diplimatic success as he goes into the 1976 election. But he also knows that he cannot boast a real diplomatic achievement until there is a final peace settlement. For if he does not get that, he will confront more hostilities in the Middle East and an oil cutoff that would shatter not only the Israeli but the

At any rate, there is logic to the view that if the American people o go on picking up the tab for Israel's defense supplies they ought to have some say in its foreign policies. This means they should expect Israel - as well as the Arabs - to move steadily forward toward conclusion of a permanent peace.

-Christian Science Monitor

Browsing in the files

of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, August 24, 1950
William P. Saunders, president of Robbins Mills (N.C.) Inc., announced yesterday that construction will start immediately on a spun rayon plant in Raeford for making men's and women's suiting. He said that the plant would be similar in many respects to the company's plant in Aberdeen, although somewhat larger.

F. Knox Watson, Hoke county commissioner and former chairman of the county board, was elected president of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and County Accountants at the three - day meeting of the association at Wrightsville Beach last week.

15 years ago

Thursday, August 25, 1960
The Hoke County Board of Education voted Monday night to assign students of Ashemont school to schools in Raeford. The decision came after a long hard study by the came after a long nard study by the group and after parents of a group of 53 students who had attended Ashemont last year asked and got their children reassigned to the schools in town.

The Hoke High Booster's Club heard Young Howard, president of the Southeastern conference, expound on the importance of athletes keeping their scholastic averages during the group's Monday night meeting.

. . .

'Shh...I think I hear somebody's opposition party sneaking around outside



by Marty Vega-

Warning To Students

They seem compelled to dispense

guidance wherever they go. They can be seen guiding their relatives into

nervous breakdowns, guiding their friends into switching the TV from a

John Wayne movie so they can see

"Meet the Press", and guiding their cars into Howard Johnson's for a big

Saturday night English toffee binge.

But whatever career choice they have in mind for you, be it steel mill

furnace stoker, shepherd, or street

cleaning apprentice, don't let them fall back on their second choice and

tell you "you've got what it takes to be a guidance counselor".

Marty's Almanac

Aug. 29, 1929. Spanish Inquisition puts first prisoner on rack after judge

sentences him to a short stretch.

Spet. 5, 1936- Trigger makes first appearance in Roy Rogers movie, is

applauded for bit part.
Oct. 3, 1939- Sing Sing resident
Irving Frink takes up landscape

painting, reputation grows as con

Nov. 8, 1947- Sun in Leo, moon leaves Virgo, Harry Miskin leaves

wife for belly dancer in Wilkes-Barre.
Dec. 23, 1956- Vacationer Waldo
Wembley can't get hotel room in
Bermuda, takes Miami Beach as last

Jan. 3, 1961- L.A. Rams trade center and fullback for Right Guard.

Stories Behind Words

by William S. Penfield

Lyric

The lyre is the most ancient of stringed musical instruments. The instrument, which is in the harp class,

is generally associated with the ancient Greeks, but it is believed to have

In its early form the lyre had from

chief instrument accompanying songs or recitations.

Anything of a musical quality.

three to sixteen strings and was the Greeks' chief instrument in

therefore, was called "lyrikos," of, or

pertaining to the lyre, hence musical, "Lyrikos" became "lyricus" in Latin, "lyrique" in French and "lyric" in

Jezebel

to as a "jezebel". The allusion is the Jewish queen of that name who is

The account of Jezebel is found in the Book of Kings in the Old Testament. She was the wife of Ahab,

king of Israel. She turned the people

away from the worship of God, had

temples erected to Baal and persecuted

flung from a window of her palace and her body was devoured by dogs.

Alibi

a crime can prove that he was not at

the scene when the crime was committed, he is cleared, for if he was

not there, then he could not have

In legal terminology, the fact of being elsewhere when a crime is committed is called "alibi" from the Latin "aliubi" other place, from "alius", other.

In colloquial usage the word has acquired another meaning - a weak explanation or excuse offered in order

If a person charged with committing

When Jehu became king, he had her

described in the Bible.

the prophets.

committed it.

to avoid punishment.

A wicked woman often is referred

originated in Egypt.

English.

locker room still smells.

For the hundreds of thousands of high school students going back to school, be on your guard, for some of you will fall into the clutches of that creature known as the guidance counselor. You know, the ones who look too smart to be janitors and too dumb to be teachers.

Generally, a guidance counselor is a person who spent four years in college studying psychology so he can advise you to spend six months studying welding at a trade school. At his worst, his idea of a big homecoming is for the police to round up all the dropouts and drag them back to school; a memorable prom is to have the girls dance in the gym from 8 to 10, followed by the boys from 10 to midnight; and the Big Game for the year is to have the chess club play Klamath Falls High School by mail.

Who else would have the nerve to enforce the school dress code while wearing a blue suit with a green necktie and brown shoes?

Puppy Creek Philosopher

A neighbor the other day asked me a question, "Why," he said, "can't the Russians grow all the grain they need? They've got more land than we have, they've got more people, they've got enough tractors. they're even exporting tractors, so why can't they feed themselves?"

Obviously he doesn't understand the soil of Russia. You see Russian Soil is not all the same.

For example, as you know, the state over there owns all the land, and what a farmer produces on that land goes to the state, with one exception. Each farmer is allowed a small plot, maybe a fifth of an acre, maybe a half, but not more than one whole acre, on which he can grow what he pleases and keep it all himself or sell it and keep the

those small plots are than the rest of the farm. Why the average Russian farmer can grow ten times as much per square foot on his part than he can on the state's.

This has baffled the Soviet leaders. They just can't figure it out. The land is the same, they say, one part gets just as much or as little rain as the rest, yet invariably the small plots out-produce.

I understand this matter has come

up before the Politboro year after year, but not a single Russian leader has found the answer. Even Russian scientists are baffled by the problem, or if they aren't baffled they ain't saing nothing. It's cold in Siberia.

I can see the Minister of Agriculture tackling the problem himself. "Ivan," he says, after Ivan has just come in from an 8-hour day on state-owned land driving state-owned tractor that needs oil but he'll get around to that tomorrow or sometime, "how is it that you always produce better cabbage in your garden here than you do out there in the field?"

"I've always wondered about that myself," Ivan probably says. "It's hard to explain. Maybe the soil is better. Here, take this nice head of cabbage home to your wife and kids. Want some of these potatoes? They taste better than those field-grown

ones."

There's a great opposit.

Russia for better soil scientists.

Yours faithfully,

J.A.

CLIFF BLUE ... People & Issues



BILL FRIDAY -- Dr. William C. Friday, president of the University of North Carolina has been conducting himself like a true statesman and educator as he refuses to kow-tow to HEW pressure to locate the proposed new Veterinary School at Greensboro and to fall in line for unreasonable integration suggestions from Washington. "We shall continue to stand for the right and authority of the UNC Board of Governors to make educational decisions free of imposed restrictions," says the President of the oldest state university in the nation.

Friday's solid statesman - like stand has started tongues wagging over North Carolina that he just might be the right man to succeed Jim Holshouser as governor, come

January 1977.
MAYOR DALEY -- We note that MATOR DALET - we note that Mayor Richard Daley of Chicago says the Democratic National Committee has taken "all the fun" out of party conventions and Chicago will no longer bid to be the host city. "They stopped all the demonstrations (by stopped all the demonstrations (by delegates on the convention floor). Now you just sit there like a lot of

mopes," says Mayor Daley.

GOVERNMENT JOBS -- A good tax - paying citizen was talking to the writer a few days ago, and by the way he has a son on the State payroll. He didn't like the idea of high - ranking military men retiring on good salaries, then getting another government job after retiring. We think the man has something. Except when manpower is scarce or in times of an emergency we feel that it would be much better for the retirees wanting to work to seek employment in the free-enterprise area rather than back to Uncle Sam who too many

people seem to take for Santa Claus! EXPENDITURES -- We hear a lot of talk about how much it will cost to run for statewide office now. If the candidate with the right platform and appeal comes out we doubt that it will take half the money that some of the candidates are talking about. Could be that some of the well -heeled candidates are trying to scare off some of the "poorer" candidates with all this money talk. We know lots of money can be spent but we suspect that as big a percentage of money is wasted in political money is wasted in political campaigns as in national defense.

Political spending is right much like defense spending. For defense most congressmen will tell you that a goodly percentage is wasted but they are not sure which part. It's the same way with political campaigns. Even the man out front, like President Nixon was in 1972, doesn't want to take any chances and spends like money will be of no value after. like money will be of no value after the election!

WHEAT SALE? -- Seems like a lot WHEAT SALE? -- Seems like a lot of people are against the U.S. farmers selling their wheat to Russia. Well, we can't see the objection. We could see the fallacy of selling munitions to a rival nation, but surplus food-stuff, why we think it good to have a foreign market for it - be it Russia or some more friendly country. Remember, wheat is a product of the farm and farmers have had it pretty tough in recent years, when the margin between what they get and what the consumer finally pays has continued

JIM HUNT - Lt. Gov. Jim Hunt's recent speeches in which he calls for an all-out fight on crime reminds us of the speech which Bob Scott made in Dunn when he was getting set to run for governor. Scott's speech was called a "law and order" speech which we understand he made to head-off another candidate who might have been planning a similar speech. Anyway, it helped make

Scott governor.

JUSTICE - Now, commenting on crime, we feel that "plea - bargaining" has been a great deterrent to justice just as has modern rulings about evidence which can or cannot be given in court before the jury. There are too many factors today designed to protect and safeguard the criminal rather than provide justice for the public.

PARTY-LINE VOTING - "Party line" voting seems to have almost

gone the way of the mule and the one-horse farm except for a small hard-core in each party. In the opinion polls taken by the writer we find that "party regularity" as it once was preached is pretty much a thing of the past.

thing of the past.

HARD TO UNDERSTAND - It's might hard for natural gas and gasoline users to accept higher prices for the fuel when the companies are announcing higher and higher profits.



From the mail we receive and from conversations I have had recently with North Carolina citizens, there is a growing citizens, there is a growing resentment over the Food Stamp

Program. This is not directed at the Program's original purpose, which was to provide families, whose incomes are below the poverty level. with assistance in helping them with their monthly food bills. When it was started, the program's estimated cost

designed to aid the really needy. Only it hasn't worked out that was. According to recent government tigures, one out of every 12 persons the United States is now receiving Food Stamps. The total cost of the program now is \$6.3 billion annually and it is rising steadily.

was a few million dollars and was

Under the present law, neither the President nor anyone else can halt or even reduce this expenditure. Until this law is changed, taxpayers must put up whatever sums may be required to cover the cost of food stamp redemptions. And an estimated 57 million people -- about 25 percent of the total population --are potentially eligible to receive this This could end up costing \$20 billion a year.

One of the faults in the present setup is that the eligibility rules are so loose that a four-member family, for instance, with an income of \$12,000 a year can qualify for government aid with its grocery bill. The present formula lets the family deduct expenses for income taxes, retirement, Social Security, union dues, medical costs, child care and a portion of all housing costs. After subtracting these items from income, the family, which has a \$1,000 per month income, can buy Food Stamps, worth \$154 at the grocery

store, for \$95,00. Now certainly that wasn't what the Congress had in mind when it

created this program to help low income people with their food bills.

Senator Herman Talmadge has been quoted as saying, "Every time I go home to Georgia I hear complaints about Food Stamps.

Report To The People

by Senator Robert Morgan

I would like to say that when I come home so do I. And it's not just in Georgia and North Carolina that people are complaining.

This is because people see other people that they know are not poverty stricken buying groceries with food stamps. The bare facts are that a great many of our people are taking advantage of the loose regulations to get something their government never meant them to

I think that Congress is now realizing what it has done and legislation has been introduced to correct the grossest abuses.

There seems to me to be an urgent need to overhaul the whole program and make it apply only to those people who really need assistance.

Otherwise it appears to me the whole program will go down the drain and those who really need help will be hurt the most

Letter To The Editor

I would like to know why the Hoke High School would not let me know that my son was failing in English and why they would let him buy his ring and picture if he was to stay in the 11th grade. Now I would like to have his money back. Joyce Walker

