

## U.S. Senate ratifies second Panama Canal treaty

By L. Kent Wolgamott

The United States Senate ratified the second Panama Canal treaty by a 68-32 vote late Tuesday afternoon.

Nebraska Senators Carl Curtis and Edward Zorinsky voted against the ratification of both treaties.

The treaty establishes the process for turning the canal over to Panama.

The first treaty, ratified March 16 by an identical vote, dealt with canal neutrality following the year 2000 when the canal would come under Panamanian control.

A reservation to the first treaty by Sen. Dennis DeConcini (D.-Ariz.— presented the greatest difficulty for ratification of the final treaty.

The DeConcini reservation, which definitely stated the right of the United States

to keep the canal open in the future, was opposed as a policy by the Panamanian government and some Senate liberals.

However, a compromise clarification of the DeConcini reservation was passed by the Senate Monday.

The compromise reaffirmed the U.S. policy of non-intervention, satisfying the liberals, while stating the U.S. could keep the canal open in the future, satisfying DeConcini.

The compromise also was cleared with the Panamanian government through its Washington embassy, according to Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd (D.-W.Va.)

The outcome of the vote was in doubt until the roll was called.

Three Senators, James Abourezk (D.-S.C.), Howard Cannon (D.-Nev.) and S.I.

Hayakawa (R.-Calif.) were undecided on their votes on the treaty, although only Cannon had reservations on the merits of the treaty.

Cannon was concerned about the economic aspects of the treaty but a reservation to the treaty was passed which allowed him to support the treaty.

Abourezk based his vote on current negotiations on the price and possible de-regulation of natural gas.

Hayakawa had concerns about the policy of the Carter administration toward communism and in Southern Africa.

Both Abourezk and Hayakawa visited the White House to speak with President Carter about their votes. Abourezk visited Carter early Tuesday.

Following a meeting Tuesday afternoon

with Energy Secretary James Schlesinger, Abourezk announced his intention to support the treaty.

Hayakawa also voted for the treaty, telling a National Public Radio reporter there were better ways for him to express dissatisfaction with Carter's policy than voting against the treaty.

The ratification to the treaties is seen as a major victory for President Carter by most Washington observers.

It is also being seen as a victory of sorts for Senate Minority Leader Howard Baker (R.-Tenn.) whose support for the treaties was instrumental in their passage.

The lengthy debate on the treaties was broadcast on National Public Radio and portions were used by national radio and television networks, for the first time in Senate history.



The past called out to me  
but I didn't forsake those  
burned bridges,  
leaving the peaceful gray ashes to lie.

I could have rebuilt yesterday  
but I don't trust treading  
solidified carbon,

tunneling me back through time.

Instead I turned and blew away the  
smoldering debris  
and forgot about mining archaeological  
treasures.

By Debbie Johnson  
freshman business major from Harrisburg

Photo by Ted Kirk

## ASUN group reviews YAF practices, requests senate action

The UNL chapter of the Young Americans for Freedom may not have complied with student organization banking regulations and has a constitution inconsistent with established guidelines, according to an ASUN committee report.

The report, submitted Monday by the Special Topics Committee to the ASUN Senate, recommends that the senate, through legislation, take "appropriate action" concerning YAF inconsistencies with monetary and constitutional guidelines.

The report also recommends that a code of ethics for student organizations be established by ASUN.

The Special Topics Committee report is a result of that committee's inquiry into the constitutions and operations of YAF

and the Nebraska University Public Interest Research Group.

The committee found that NUPIRG has met all of its constitutional requirements and has followed proper procedure in its actions, including its application for space in the student union.

University bylaws require that student organizations use a central university bank for deposits and that vouchers authorized by the organization be used for payment from the bank.

Based on information from the Office of Student Activities, which showed "no activity" in the YAF account for the 1977-78 school year, the committee report states that "more than reasonable doubt has been

raised" about YAF's compliance with the regulation.

The YAF constitution was found to be "clearly inconsistent" with the General Model of Constitution Form, (guidelines for student organization constitutions) because of YAF constitutional references to "non students" within the student organization.

The recommendation for development of an ethics code for student organizations is based on the committee's investigation of a UNL YAF letter mailed last fall.

The report charges that the letter may have conflicted with the ethics code of the Student Tribunal Handbook concerning "Honesty and Morality."

The Student Tribunal was the predecessor to the ASUN Student Court.

The Special Topics Committee report will be discussed at tonight's ASUN meeting.

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