

Senator challenges SALT treaty

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Sen. Henry Jackson, D-Wash., said yesterday the loss of electronic spy stations in Iran leaves the United States unable to check Soviet compliance with crucial missile restrictions in the emerging SALT treaty.

Jackson urged the administration to admit the treaty would contain this and other "verification" loopholes so Americans may "decide whether to accept the risks that the administration is inviting us to share."

His challenge, though not unexpected, underscores the problems President Carter will face when he submits a new Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty for Senate ratification.

Jackson, a defense expert and an outspoken critic of Soviet policies, will be a pivotal figure in any SALT II ratification debate and his views will prevail with many conservatives.

Meantime, trouble arose from the opposite quarter last Saturday.

Three Senate liberals — Republican Mark Hatfield of Oregon and Democrats George McGovern of South Dakota and William Proxmire of Wisconsin — announced they might find it "difficult if not impossible" to support SALT II unless it means a genuine reduction rather than just a re-direction in strategic weapons.

Jackson, releasing excerpts of a speech he plans to deliver this morning to the Forum Club of Houston, made clear he will oppose or at least try to change any SALT treaty that does not provide for full verification of Soviet compliance.

Rejecting the contrary assurances of administration officials, he said the loss of U.S. electronic listening posts in Iran, near the Soviet border, had done "irreparable harm for years to come" to U.S. surveillance capabilities.

"However much some may seek to minimize the impact of the loss of Iranian facilities and our ability to verify Soviet compliance with SALT II, the fact is that we now find ourselves unable to learn whether crucial developments prohibited by SALT are actually taking place," Jackson said.

"Even before the recent events in Iran," he said, "the emerging SALT II treaty contained a number of provisions that we are unable to verify" — including, he said, whether the Russians were upgrading the capability of their "Backfire" bomber or complying with the agreed range for cruise missiles.

"Since Iran," he added, "we have lost our ability to verify Soviet adherence to the ban on new types of ballistic missiles that is a central part of the treaty." Jackson said the full range of verification problems constitutes "a risk that it is imprudent for the United States to take."



UPI Wirephoto

Heavy rainfall does not stop Iranian women from marching in Tehran to protest the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's orders to fast and to wear their western style dress.

Iranian women demand rights

TEHRAN, Iran (UPI) — Thousands of women shouting "Down with Khomeini!" marched on Prime Minister Ali Bazargan's offices yesterday, but their resolve was broken abruptly by revolutionary guards who fired shots in the air and dispersed them in panic.

The march was the strongest show of opposition to Iran's Islamic chief Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini since he threw the shah last month. It was also the first time revolutionary guards had resorted to gunfire to break up a demonstration.

The march toward Tehran University through blinding rain, the defiant procession had swelled to 100,000. The women, most of whom were university or high school students, demanded equal wages, a greater voice in government, the right to wear what they like and the

restoration of a family protection law enacted by the shah and scrapped by the ayatollah.

The 15,000 demonstrators who gathered in front of the prime minister's house staged that rally after ceremonies at the university commemorating International Women's Day. With fists clenched they chanted, "We shall fight the veil," and, "We don't want another dictatorship."

Guards blocked the women from encircling the building and fired shots in the air to scatter them. The tactic worked, as the crowd ran away screaming. There were no reported casualties.

Some women protesters were covered by a chador, the ankle-length Persian robe worn by orthodox Moslem women, to stress that their grievances do not interfere with their adherence to Islamic code.

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