

Nunn: U.S. will pull troops if NATO members cut theirs

LONDON (AP) — Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said yesterday any troop cuts by NATO allies will provoke withdrawals of U.S. forces from Europe and undermine talks with Moscow on conventional arms.

In remarks to the International Institute for Strategic Studies, the Georgia Democrat also urged U.S. banks to open branches in Poland to attract billions of American dollars Poles are believed to be hoarding.

Nunn, who often says many Americans think they pay too great a share of the cost of defending Western Europe, said he had "disquieting reports" that several European NATO nations plan large reductions in troop levels.

He said the cuts might exceed the 30,000 soldiers the United States would withdraw — a 10 percent reduction — under Washington's pro-

posal for reducing American and Soviet troop levels by 1993 to 275,000 each stationed on the territory of European allies.

"If our allies cut their forces... then we will cut ours proportionately," Nunn said, referring to a provision in the defense authorization bill the Senate passed last month that puts a ceiling on the U.S. proportion of NATO troops in Europe.

"I believe the U.S. Congress is prepared to maintain our current share of NATO's deployed forces in Europe while we are negotiating (with the Soviets)... but we are not willing to increase our share of the burden," he said.

"While we negotiate in hope of reaching East-West common ceilings, NATO must not open holes in our own floor."

In Vienna, the 16-nation NATO alliance is negotiating conventional arms



AP LaserPhoto

Sen. Sam Nunn

reductions with the seven members of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact.

Nunn did not identify the NATO nations said to be planning troop reductions.

Commenting on Poland, he urged American banks to open branches as soon as permitted by the new government led by Solidarity.

Environmentalists say Stroh's dropped Audubon funding after boycott threats

By LES BLUMENTHAL
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Stroh's Brewing Co. has withdrawn \$600,000 in financing for National Audubon Society television specials after Northwest loggers, upset with an upcoming program on the region's ancient forests, threatened to boycott the brewery's products, environmentalists say.

A spokeswoman for the Detroit-based brewer said Stroh was reviewing its underwriting of the Audubon series, but said the review was driven by the need to cut costs rather than the loggers' concerns and that no decision has been made.

"I want to stress any consideration or thought of canceling future contributions to the Audubon Society's program productions is completely independent from concerns related to the upcoming program 'Ancient Forests: Rage Over Trees,'" said Lacey Logan.

However, environmental sources, who spoke on the condition they remain anonymous, said the company had sug-

gested to the Audubon Society that changes be made in the program to "make it more favorable to the loggers" and that the money was withdrawn when the society refused to change the program.

"Logging interests in the Northwest saw an ad for the program and they started to put a lot of pressure on Stroh," said one source. "They were prepared to launch a nationwide boycott."

Logan conceded that loggers had been in contact with the brewery.

"We have been having discussions with logging interests regarding the program's content," she said, but insisted that the review of backing for the series had nothing to do with those talks.

"We have made no decisions," Logan said. "All sponsorships and community activities are under review."

Stroh recently announced it would cut more than one-third of its workforce in Detroit in an effort to streamline its operation and cut costs.

The timber industry and environmen-

talists have been locked in a bitter struggle for months over the future of logging in the Northwest's old growth forests, which provide prime habitat for the northern spotted owl.

The Audubon Society is among the environmental groups that have sought to have the owl protected as a threatened or endangered species and logging in the ancient forests was stopped.

Christopher Palmer, an Audubon vice president and executive producer of the television series, would say only that Stroh had dropped its funding. He declined to discuss any threatened loggers boycott.

"Stroh has withdrawn their support," said Palmer. "They said it had nothing to do with the ancient trees film."

But several sources said Stroh told the Audubon Society of its decision to drop its funding the same day the society refused to make changes in the program.

Palmer said he felt the program on the trees was fair and balanced and that Stroh's decision to drop its underwriting could put the entire series in jeopardy.

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