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February 21, 1975

REPRESENTATIVE AL ULLMAN
MARTIN AGRONSKY'S "EVENING EDITION"



MR. AGRONSKY: Good evening.

While the pot continues to boil in the conflict between President Ford and the Congress over economic and energy policy, the state of the economy is not getting any better. The failing health of the economy was demonstrated again today when the Labor Department released its monthly Consumer Price Index. It shows consumer prices up .6 of a percent from last month and caused mostly by higher food prices. So inflation is still going.

This week in the Congress the House Ways and Means Committee has approved a tax cut bill which may bring relief to hard-pressed Americans, but the Congress is still having a lot of difficulty in dealing with the more complex energy problem.

Tonight on "Evening Edition" a discussion of the state of Congressional-Presidential relations as well as economic and energy policy with the new chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, Democratic Congressman Al Ullman of Oregon, and joining in the discussion is Paul Steiger, the worker for the Los Angeles Times.

Mr. Chairman, Europe's member in the Senate, Russell Long, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said today that he thinks the Senate will sustain President Ford if he vetoes the legislation that delayed his oil tariff. What do you think?

MR. ULLMAN: Well, Senator Long should know. He is close to the action.

It is quite possible. It will be within a vote or two. I hope they don't. I think it is a grave mistake to allow the import fee system to go into place. It is going to put a bulge of inflation into the economy that does not belong there in a time