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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

GUIDANCE: PANAMA CANAL

General answer in response to questions about using troops to keep the Canal open:

A. Obviously, any President would use troops if necessary to defend the Panama Canal.

~~That's not the point, however.~~ What is important is the issue of whether or not we can avoid the use of troops through a process of negotiation and enhance our ability to protect our interests in the Canal.

Our interest in that area of the world involves maintaining good ties with our Latin American friends, in operating, maintaining and defending the Canal. Those interests would be jeopardized if we were to break off negotiations and permit a situation to develop which could lead to violence and require the use of troops.

Governor Reagan's harsh rhetoric, his reference to the head of the Panamanian government as a "tin horn dictator," and his obvious lack of knowledge about the facts, could quickly lead to a breakdown in our diplomatic efforts, which, in turn, would leave us no alternative but to use military force in an effort to keep the Canal open.

My position -- and that of my two predecessors -- is designed to avoid putting us in a position of having to choose between committing troops or losing access to the Canal. If our negotiations are successful, we will retain the right and enhance our ability to operate and defend the Canal. I believe that is the responsible course of action.

I agree with Senator Goldwater's observation that if former Governor Reagan understood the facts about Panama, he would not be critical of the current U.S. position.

X X X

5/10.

1975

17,500
1545
193
44

panel 1 or other
signal
2 or other

10,000 1976



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 94th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

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Daily Digest

FIRST SESSION OF NINETY-FOURTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House. The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 14 through December 19, 1975

	Senate	House	Total
Days in session.....	178	173	..
Time in session.....	1,177 hrs., 11 ^m	942 hrs., 53 ^m	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings.....	23, 112	13, 209	36, 321
Extension of Remarks.....	6, 956
Public bills enacted into law.....	67	138	205
Private bills enacted into law.....	7	20	27
Bills in conference.....	4	9	13
Bills through conference.....	13	46	59
Measures passed, total.....	682	754	1, 436
Senate bills.....	215	75	..
House bills.....	170	317	..
Senate joint resolutions.....	35	13	..
House joint resolutions.....	14	19	..
Senate concurrent resolutions.....	30	17	..
House concurrent resolutions.....	26	28	..
Simple resolutions.....	192	285	..
Measures reported, total.....	*640	*683	1, 323
Senate bills.....	253	31	..
House bills.....	127	368	..
Senate joint resolutions.....	26	2	..
House joint resolutions.....	8	19	..
Senate concurrent resolutions.....	19	7	..
House concurrent resolutions.....	11	24	..
Simple resolutions.....	143	232	..
Special reports.....	28	18	..
Conference reports.....	25	69	..
Measures pending on calendar.....	32	42	..
Measures introduced, total.....	3, 424	13, 591	17, 015
Bills.....	2, 840	11, 351	..
Joint resolutions.....	157	765	..
Concurrent resolutions.....	84	523	..
Simple resolutions.....	343	952	..
Quorum calls.....	92	216	..
Yea-and-nay votes.....	611	362	..
Recorded votes.....	..	250	..
Bills vetoed.....	3	14	17
Vetoes overridden.....	1	2	3

*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 640 reports have been filed in the Senate, a total of 770 have been filed in the House.

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 14 through December 19, 1975

Army nominations, totaling 15,738, disposed of as follows:

Confirmed.....	15,737
Unconfirmed.....	1

Navy nominations, totaling 26,096, disposed of as follows:

Confirmed.....	23,738
Unconfirmed.....	2,358

Air Force nominations, totaling 23,691, disposed of as follows:

Confirmed.....	22,707
Unconfirmed.....	984

Marine Corps nominations, totaling 6,073, disposed of as follows:

Confirmed.....	6,073
Unconfirmed.....	0

Civilian nominations, totaling 3,441, disposed of as follows:

Confirmed.....	3,021
Unconfirmed.....	**412
Withdrawn.....	6
Returned.....	2

Summary

Total nominations received.....	73,039
Total confirmed.....	71,276
Total unconfirmed.....	3,755
Total withdrawn.....	6
Total returned.....	2

**By the order of the Senate of Dec. 17, 1975, 234 of these unconfirmed nominations were returned to the President after sine die adjournment and 178 remain pending for the 94th Congress, 2d session.

Jim -

Outbox - handwriting -- Assume after checking that these figures represent number of bills introduced to Congress etc. The figures are not completely accurate --- Any action?

As far as the Q&A on Panama Canal -- I'll just send a copy to Jim Shuman OK?

Trudy