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by John W. Finney is that the Department of Defense made the statement.

This means that eventually we must make up to the Department of Defense this oil that is being furnished to Southeast Asia. In the meantime, and now I am drawing upon my imagination, bolstered a bit by past experience and observation, much of that oil is likely to be bombed out by the North Vietnamese.

I am one of those Senators who long supported the President as he slowly, gradually, painfully, and conscientiously, I believe, dragged us out of Southeast Asia and brought our American personnel home. I did so because we were so committed with one-half million men over there. We were so heavily committed that I felt we could not abruptly impede the careful effort to extricate ourselves. But it would seem obvious that we are not going to be able to continue—by money and by oil, by supplies and by ammunition—to bolster them up. Certainly the South Vietnamese can fight and I guess they do fight. But the Cambodians are not—

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. COTTON. I yield.

Mr. MANSFIELD. I think the figures announced by the Senator are correct: 22,000 barrels a day to South Vietnam and 1,500 barrels a day to Cambodia. No mention is made of Laos, but certainly they are getting some oil, too. I understand, if my recollection is correct, that this 23,550 barrels of petroleum amounts to 1 million gallons.

Furthermore, it is my understanding that South Vietnam, in its relationship with the Arab countries, has not been cut off, but after we quit supplying them out of our stocks, and the military taking care of them 100 percent, South Vietnam can expect to buy oil from the Middle East, but that we will pay for that oil, too.

So I think the Senator has raised a very valid point. There is still too much American participation in Indochina in the form of civilians and otherwise, and hundreds of millions of dollars, very likely billions of dollars, still being spent there, when the war was supposedly concluded the early part of this year.

Mr. COTTON. I thank the distinguished Senator.

Mr. President, I have just been handed this item from the news ticker tape:

Commerce Secretary Frederick Dent today moved to curb rising exports of petroleum by requiring exporters—starting tomorrow—to get licenses to ship oil and other petroleum products out of the country.

Further quoting Secretary Dent:

Said exports of energy-related products averaged 43,300 barrels per day during the first ten months of this year. This was only 0.3 percent of the estimated domestic demand of 17 million barrels a day and 0.8 percent of the amount of petroleum products the United States imported during that period.

However, other government statistics showed that petroleum exports rose sharply in November, and Commerce Department officials said that, because exporters could get higher prices overseas, exports probably would continue to rise unless the government curbed them.

One Commerce Department official said the average daily exports of 43,300 barrels per day in the first 10 months of 1973 did not include oil made available to South Vietnam through U.S. military authorities. This oil, taken from U.S. military stocks, have been estimated to range as high as 1 million barrels per day.

So that is the situation, Mr. President. We are not going to save Southeast Asia by oil. We are not going to save them unless they can save themselves, in the long run.

In New England we are facing perhaps the greatest hardship, as great as any section of the country and greater than most sections of the country, and where we are now further restricted to 15 percent less fuel oil than we had last year.

I do not know how any Senator from the States in New England or from Minnesota or from the Northern border States with Canada, the cold-weather States of this country facing the coming winter, with no prospect, no real, assured prospect, despite all the optimistic comments that have been made, of obtaining more imports, could sit here, in justice to the people that we represent, and not do something to check that flow of precious oil that we need so badly.

This Senator had hoped that when we got the men home from Southeast Asia we could get clean out of that situation. We cannot—this country cannot—continue forever to bear the burden or continue the hopeless task of maintaining the defense of people who, in most cases, seem unable to defend themselves. They have our sympathy and they have our cooperation, but we cannot drain the lifeblood of this country, even though apparently we have gotten out of the Asian war. If we are going to do this sort of thing in this crisis, the next step you will hear is that we want to send some American troops back to help them. It will come as surely as night follows day. We have to draw the line somewhere and get out of it clean.

I speak as a Senator who steadfastly supported our effort throughout those long, weary years when the President of the United States, and I honor him for it, was trying to extricate us, as he expressed it, with honor. But there is a time when we owe something to our own people, and I offer this amendment conscientiously because I do not think we are going to do any good, in the long run, by sending oil over there, to be destroyed by the enemy.

I am not doing it selfishly for the people I represent. I think I do it conscientiously as a national policy. But I will add, Mr. President—and this will terminate my remarks—that I do not propose to see my people suffer from the cold in New England and see this oil going out of the country and know, in addition to that, that the Pentagon, without our knowledge, is expecting us to make up, from already scarce domestic supplies, this draining of such oil as they furnish to these governments, from the military reserves controlled for military defense purposes.

Therefore, I hope this amendment will be adopted, and I ask for the yeas and nays.