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LB 167

when the Polish crisis continued on a week to week basis and one can never be sure when the Russians will decide that the cost of intervention will be less than the cost of permitting further liberalization of the Polish system. And one never knows when the Russians facing the ferment and turmoil in Iran will not take advantage in some fashion of that turmoil to move closer to the Persian Gulf and our oil pipeline. So in this period when our doubts about the Russians are so intense, our concern about their behavior is so high, to appear to be relaxing our policy toward them is a serious question for us to address whether with respect to the grain embargo or any other policy that impacts upon them. And I make this analysis truly in an objective fashion. My state is not involved in it one way or another and I am not in politics any more so I am not interested in the votes and I don't plan to run for President. So it is a perfectly objective analysis, an analysis that we constantly reviewed through the months of my term as Secretary of State and one that we finally reviewed before we left office. This was our finding at that point. Having said that, I think I should come to the end of this discourse. I don't know whether you would be interested in a question period of sorts. I do it at my own legislature. I have formed the habit of addressing our legislature which is a larger audience, I might say, one hundred and eighty-four, once a year and they always like to get involved in questions. If you would like that I would like it, but if not, let me thank you once again for the honor you pay me in inviting me, for the interest you show in my public service by that invitation and may I wish you luck in your work in the future. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Will the committee please escort Mr. Muskie to the back of the room. Mr. Muskie we appreciate your coming and we hope you come again. And, when you talk about this being a smaller group, you filled the balconies pretty well I think.

MR. MUSKIE: Hi!

SPEAKER MARVEL: The business before the House is under Item number 4, Final Reading, LB 167. The return of LB 167. Senator Newell. Do you want to refresh us just for a moment Senator Newell and then we will go to some of the other speakers.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body, I'm standing today to offer an amendment, the amendment basically strikes the Hoagland amendment and takes the whole question, doesn't just strike the Hoagland amendment