

INTERSTATE: NATURAL GAS - PETROLEUM

EMERGENCY H. R. 11450 HOS

HARLEY O. STAGGERS

2D DISTRICT, WEST VIRGINIA

HOME ADDRESS:  
KEYSER, WEST VIRGINIA

THEIS, CARL F.

CHAIRMAN:  
COMMITTEE ON  
INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN  
COMMERCE

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

April 2, 1974

Mr. Carl F. Theis  
320 Hill Top Avenue  
Keyser, West Virginia 26726

Dear Carl:

This will acknowledge your letter of recent date together with the enclosure. I deeply appreciate hearing from you again.

Needless to say, I am grateful to you for sending along the article from the Journal American from Georgetown, South Carolina, which I have read with a great deal of interest. I agree with you there are some excellent points set forth.

Again, thanking you and with kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

HARLEY O. STAGGERS



THE  
**NATIONAL BANK  
OF KEYSER**  
KEYSER, WEST VIRGINIA

Feb. 25, 1974

FEB 26 1974

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also:  
Sen: Thank you  
file

Hon. Harley O. Staggers,  
Member of House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Harley:

I thought you would be interested in reading the enclosed editorials from the Journal American newspaper from Georgetown, S. C. The writer really hit the nail on the head concerning the French!

Keep up your good work.

Sincerely,

*Carl*

Carl F. Theis  
320 Hill Top Ave.  
Keyser, W.Va. 26726

*Dear Carl*

*recd. 2/27/74  
encl. 1  
C. F. Theis  
02/27/74*





'IT WORKS ....'

## French irresponsibility in the oil crisis

TERRIBLE

By William S. White

WASHINGTON -- The future of the West, economically at least, now depends upon the United States no less than did the physical survival of the West a generation ago in the Second World War.

In the Washington energy conference now ended, France's petulantly destructive attitude has clearly compromised -- but never destroyed -- the capacity of the Western world to deal in concert with a presently intolerable Arab oil blackmail.

Of the 13 oil-consuming nations participating, France stood alone in saying no to every scheme that could lead to some sensible accommodation between the energy needs of the West, plus Japan, and the determination of the Arabs to get the highest possible prices for the longest possible time.

It has been the worst display of sheer querulous irresponsibility that has been known in this century -- with one far graver exception. Though

history and the truth have for so long been plastered over with the rouge and lipstick of lies, the French opened the gates to the Nazis more than three decades ago -- and had, in the end, to be rescued by the Americans and the British.

France never "fell" before the German invaders.

France, actually the stronger of the two powers at that time, jumped to its own humiliation. Many a man who soldiered in France, from D-Day onward through the final liberation, knows the truth.

For the truth was visible in a negative way on the very terrains from which Radio Paris had earlier reported France's wonderfully gallant resistance to an overwhelming Nazi force that never was. You don't fight giant battles over terrains that only four years later show not a shell crater, not a scar.

France, in short, let the Western world down with no serious common effort for its own defense. (Brave individual

exceptions, of course, there were. For one illustration, a genuine French resistance fighter told me with tears in his eyes, on the day of the liberation of Paris, that 80 per cent of his countrymen had willingly collaborated with the Nazis.)

Now, three decades later, France -- in the energy crisis -- has again let the Western world down, with the plain intention of making another kind of collaborationist deal for itself with the Arabs. It is now in the role of the back alley black marketeer.

So the wheel turns again and it will be necessary for others to save the French along with the rest of us -- if not necessary, thank Heaven, to like France.

Moreover, just as the military job could be and was done long ago, France notwithstanding, so it can be done now. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, therefore, is not so fatuously optimistic as he might seem in proclaiming the Washington conference to have been "a success."

Perhaps "success" is a bit too strong; but so, too, is "failure."

For the conference has at least and at last compelled France's associates in the Common Market to see that French pretensions to any responsible role in Europe, on any issue, are as full of sham as is that famous "French logic" which Francophiles have so long saluted.

To get realistically at any problem, the essential first step is to strip from it all fantasy and illusion. That first step has now been taken by the very nations that had to take it -- the Common Market group.

The rest of the Europeans see it all now clear and plain, having had a rush to the head of enlightened self-interest.

They will now readily and truly accept the leadership of the only country that can first contain and at length master the energy crisis. That country is old Uncle Sam, if only because he alone can survive in any event and everybody else knows it.



# Solzhenitsyn: man of courage and integrity

By Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON—Under the Soviet system of repression, which is a perfection of the Czarist system, freedom of the individual is non-existent.

When Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn was forced into exile something like a sigh of relief went up that he was not subjected to another prison term in the icy hell of a Siberian prison camp.

That was the theme of his "One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich." That short novel of the Siberian hell was published in Moscow during the Khrushchev thaw. But as his writings, "The First Circle," "The Cancer Ward," "August 1914," and finally "Gulag Archipelago," zeroed in on the cruelties of the system, reprisal was certain to come. These works were published abroad but not in the Soviet Union.

Solzhenitsyn's courage and intellectual integrity are beyond compare. Where freedom without responsibility often seems to degenerate into anarchy, we can have no conception of what it means to stand up to total repression that has at least the passive sanction of all but a few dissidents.

The Solzhenitsyn case cannot help but influence the course of U.S.-U.S.S.R. relations. It is already being seized on by those who would end the detente and go back, if not to the cold war, to something very like it with an unabated arms race.

Honest convictions to one side, there is political mileage in the old familiar anti-communism that today can ride piggyback on a growing isolationism.

The cry of the dissident intellectuals and scientists finds a response in all who love freedom. But the political issue that strikes deep is the plight of the Soviet Jews who want to emigrate to Israel.

Here, it seems to me, President Nixon and Secretary of State Kissinger can claim some progress in working out the detente with Party Secretary Leonid Brezhnev. From nearly zero, four years ago, the number of Jewish emigres in 1973 was 32,000. Injustices, cruelties, hardships among those who want to leave are still numerous.

The choice may well be

between slow progress and a return to the past under a hardening of the Soviet position.

From experience it is at least logical that hard-liners in the Kremlin will take over with the argument that Brezhnev's detente policy has failed to produce anything like the benefits claimed for it.

The easy rationalization is that the Soviets need American technology so badly that they will yield to American pressure on fundamentals of the Soviet system.

Those who take this position sound at times as though the United States can dictate a complete transformation of a way of life centuries old. Not only the Jews but the Catholics in Lithuania, the Uzbecks, the Turkomans, would be allowed to depart. Freedom of press and religion would be part of the new order.

That Soviet Communism will write its death warrant in this way, desirable as it would be, is sheer wishful thinking.

What is amazing and marvelous is the way the human

spirit has persisted in Russia in spite of the centuries of repression. The poet Ossip Mandelstam, who suffered continuous persecution, wrote poetry hailed as great as any in this century.

Mikhail Bulgakov in his novel, "The Master and Margarita," portrayed a confrontation between Christ and Pontius Pilate profoundly moving. A small edition of the Bulgakov novel was published in the Soviet Union before he was put on the proscribed list.

Boris Pasternak's "Dr. Zhivago" had worldwide acclaim although it was never published in Moscow. It is a description in terrifying detail of the disintegration of a society. At one point a minor character about to be executed with other leftist dissidents makes this proud declaration:

"Don't humble yourself: Your protest will not reach them. These new oprichniki (security troops of Ivan the Terrible), these master executioners of the new torture chambers, will never understand you! But don't lose heart. History will tell the truth. . . we die as martyrs for our ideals at the dawn of the world revolution. Long live the revolution of the spirit! Long live world anarchy!"

That revolution has been betrayed again and again and again, yet men of courage continue to defy their jailers.



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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

December 10, 1973

Mr. Carl F. Theis  
320 Hill Top Avenue  
Keyser, West Virginia 26726

Dear Carl:

Thank you very much for your letter of December 4. It is always good hearing from you and I am pleased to have the benefit of your comments.

I have read with much interest the Letter to the Editor written by Michael Moore at Keyser Exxon. The cartoon also expresses a million words.

I agree with you wholeheartedly, [Carl], with reference to increasing the tax on gas. In fact, I think this is the wrong way to accomplish anything, and especially to bring about a solution to our present crisis. The House Interstate Committee held hearings last week on this important problem facing our Nation.

Carl, I am doing my best in urging that Amtrak service be reinstated through Keyser to Cincinnati. It is my sincere hope this may be accomplished during the next year.

Again, thanking you and with best wishes to you and yours for the Holiday Season, I am

Sincerely yours,

HARLEY O. STAGGERS





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Dec. 4, 1973

DEC 6 1973

Hon. Harley O. Staggers, Congressman  
House Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Harley:

(X) I certainly hope you will do something about getting  
AMTRAC service reinstated through Keyser to Cincinnati. (X)  
With this energy crisis, the people of this nation need  
better transportation service in order to save gasoline,  
etc.

Also, please do not allow Pres. Nixon to increase the  
tax on gasoline, while planes, etc. are eating it up.  
Rationing is probably the best answer to the problem  
if they watch the Mafia!! I understand they have al-  
ready printed counterfeit rationing coupons, or are  
ready anyhow - according to Time magazine! I hear  
the public's viewpoints all day long here and you would  
be surprised just how low the morale of the general pub-  
lic is getting. What with Watergate, Israeli war, etc.

Enclosed are two items of interest - one a letter to  
the editor of the local paper from the Exxon dealer,  
who will find that he is out in the cold before too  
long. Also, the cartoon is really true to life. Ida and  
I were crowded off the road between here and Winchester  
by a tanker truck only yesterday - going too fast. He  
must have been traveling about 75 MPH. We were going at  
the recommended speed of 50 MPH or less.

Getting back to the price of gasoline per gallon, it is  
high enough now without adding a tax to increase it to  
60¢ or more per gallon!

Thanking you for listening, I remain, with kindest personal  
regards.

Sincerely,

*Carl*

Carl F. Theis,  
320 Hill Top Ave.  
Keyser, W.Va. 26726

P.S. Please reply to my home address.

*Keep up your  
good work  
1/1/1*

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

DEAR SIR:

I have posted signs: "Exxon Co. is not giving Keyser your fair share of gasoline." This fact may not seem significant at this time. In the near future, however, this fact may well be appropo.

Oil companies, for instance, are being found out diverting fuel oil supplies from areas in need of fuel oil.

Exxon is forcing me to reduce my production to less than half my average monthly production. Certainly, Exxon has not reduced its inventories and productions in half. How then can they justify such a drastic cut to Keyser Exxon?

If other companies follow Exxon's example, and do their dealers as Exxon is doing me, the area's gasoline supply will be nil.

Because of transportation costs, Keyser is not the most attractive geographical location for oil companies to supply. Exxon Co., I can assure you, is very interested in costs. Because corporate profits and corporate profits only are their concern.

What has become my business execution sentence may very well become a desperate situation for this area and all eastern West Virginia.

Sincerely yours,

Michael N. Moore, dealer  
Keyser Exxon

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THERE OUGHTA BE A LAW!

By Borth and Whipple

BECAUSE OF THE ENERGY CRISIS THE GASOLINE COMPANIES ADVERTISE:



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