

## When America butted in

Joseph Sobran earns an "F" for referring to Rep. Henry Hyde as a credible foreign policy resource (Daily News, Nov. 9). Contrary to Hyde's assertion, "Vietnam" is not the sole example to be raised in warning about "what happened when America acted in world affairs."

Another example is what happened after the U.S. intervened in Iran in 1953, to replace the democratically elected prime minister Mossadegh with the playboy Shah. The reason given was that Mossadegh was cozying up to the Soviets, even though he had, in fact, successfully freed Iran from Soviet designs through international pressure. The real reason was that Mossadegh had threatened "our" oil by nationalizing Iran's oil fields.

The CIA then created SAVAK, one of the most barbaric secret police forces the world has known. SAVAK killed off the moderate opposition to the Shah, leaving only the hard-liners in exile (viz. the Ayatollah Khomeini), as (inevitable?) successors.

Sobran also earns an "F" for suggesting that former and current "anti-communist" dictators like the shah and Pinochet of Chile somehow deserve the "benefit of the doubt." Such thinking is the essence of a morally bankrupt, as well as demonstrably ineffective, foreign policy.

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