

Editorial

George Bush is losing around the world

History will no doubt judge the "seasick" summit as a sideshow—a disgusting exhibition but nonetheless relatively unimportant against the background of historical events now ongoing. Whether or not, and for however long, Mikhail Gorbachov retains power, his policies have proved, and are recognized in the Soviet Union, as a disaster.

The truth is that George Bush will very soon be in the same situation as Gorbachov. He is losing credibility everywhere. Bush's attempt to sacrifice Europe to his condominium aspirations with Gorbachov has left Europeans disgusted.

He has played a disgusting role in Central America, particularly with Panama. That is not yet understood generally enough, for that to be a political factor inside the United States, and elsewhere; but nonetheless, when the truth about Panama begins to come out—that the United States has been stabbing its best anti-communist ally in the region, Noriega, in the back in the service of a power-sharing deal with Gorbachov—there is going to be great agony in Washington, D.C.

● The **Philippines** situation is backfiring against Washington, against both the Reagan and the Bush administrations. What Bush did, under the influence of advisers, was the worst possible thing—to show Mrs. Cory Aquino of the Philippines to be an American puppet. That certainly fostered, if not for the immediate present, at least for a short term down the line, the overthrow of the Aquino government. Mr. Bush just dropped what was left of the tattered "Mandate of Heaven" of the Aquino government, by intervening with U.S. air cover against the rebels.

● More disgusting, is **Lebanon**, where Bush has also cut a superpower deal. He has turned against the entire Christian population of Lebanon, and left them as targets of the world's leading Mideast drug runner and terrorist, Syria's President Assad.

Not only has President Bush been playing Kissinger's ugly game in the Mideast, but he has lost his bet that Gen. Michel Aoun could be easily unseated. The Lebanese population has rallied to Aoun's support. Assad is hated as the occupying oppressor by most of the

people of Lebanon. He is liked only by the drug-runners of Lebanon, whose godfather he is.

● Bush's policy with regard to **Eastern Europe** is equally bankrupt. Events in the German Democratic Republic, we hear from him and Secretary of State James Baker, must be slowed down. "It is a good development—a nice development, but it is going a bit too fast." But what's happening in Eastern Europe, is not simply an orchestrated political shift. This is a genuine revolution. This is the kind of process, that shapes and makes history.

It is revolutions and wars that make history. That's the history of mankind. If you have successful revolutions, you don't have wars. If you don't have successful revolutions, you may end up in wars. Mr. Bush wants to stop a revolution, not aware that this is the best way to start a war. He's talking about stability. He says that the East Germans should slow down. Obviously, this also means that the Czechs should slow down, and the Poles should slow down.

However, the economic emergency in Poland is such that there must be a concerted effort involving both the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic as well as France to send massive relief into Poland. This means the first steps towards the integration of the economies of the two Germans.

Failure to move in a timely fashion will destroy the Polish government. It will also open the door to the kind of Balkanization which led directly to the First World War. One example of this is the dangerous civil war situation developing now between the Serbs and the Slovenes in Yugoslavia.

● Perhaps President Bush could survive the catastrophes of his foreign policy, but he has another looming disaster facing him. What is going to sink George Bush, if he continues to evade reality, is going to be the **economic crisis**.

George Bush has got to wake up. He's out of touch with reality. It's his last chance, and unfortunately it may be ours as well, if the present enormously hopeful revolutionary process now sweeping the East bloc is halted, and war follows.