

HOUSE PANEL BARS END-WAR MEASURE

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But 19-to-18 Vote Indicates
Nixon Policy May Face
Difficulties on Floor

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WASHINGTON, June 13 — The House Foreign Affairs Committee, by a one-vote margin, today rejected end-the-war legislation proposed by Democrats and instead adopted a Republican-sponsored resolution endorsing President Nixon's policy in Vietnam.

The committee vote was a victory for the White House, which had lobbied actively to block the Democratic proposal.

The closeness of the vote, however, in a committee that was once hawkish and pro-Administration, suggested that the administration will face difficulties when the Vietnam issue reaches the House floor, perhaps later this month.

Difficulties Predicted

Representative Thomas E. Morgan of Pennsylvania, the committee chairman, who in the past has supported the Administration but who voted for the Democratic proposal today, saw "an excellent chance" that the pro-Administration resolution would be modified or perhaps defeated on the House floor.

In response to a mandate from the House Democratic Caucus, which in April had called on the committee to prepare legislation providing for a prompt termination of the American involvement in the Vietnam war, Democrats on the committee had prepared a resolution that would require that all American forces be withdrawn from Vietnam by Oct. 1, subject to release of prisoners of war.

By a vote of 19 to 18, the committee approved a substitute proposal, offered by Representative John Buchanan, Re-

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House Foreign Panel Rejects Democrats' End-the-War Plan



Associated Press

Senator Hugh Scott, right, and Representative Gerald R. Ford after meeting with the President at White House.

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publican of Alabama, expressing the "sense of Congress" that all American forces should be withdrawn four months following an international ceasefire and release of American prisoners of war.

In essence, that was the proposal of President Nixon in a speech on May 8. The White House issued a statement today saying the President was "pleased" with the committee's support of his position.

The Buchanan substitute was adopted with the votes of 14 Republicans and 5 Democrats — Clement J. Zablocki of Wisconsin, Wayne L. Hays of Ohio, L. H. Fountain of North Carolina, Roy A. Taylor of North Carolina, and John W. Davis of Georgia. Voting against it were 16 Democrats and 2 Republicans — Robert H. Steele of Connecticut and Charles W. Whalen Jr. of Ohio.

The absence of Cornelius E. Gallagher, Democrat of New Jersey and Seymour Halpern,

Republican of Queens — proved crucial. Both were regarded as supporters of the Democratic proposal.

Mr. Gallagher, who was defeated in the primary, arrived in the committee room only about a minute after the vote was completed.

Mr. Halpern, who has decided to retire after facing redistricting problems, was in Stockholm as a member of the United States delegation to the United Nations conference on the environment.

"We had the votes but they weren't here," observed Representative Lester Wolff, Democrat of Nassau, after the committee meeting.

Meanwhile, Republican Congressional leaders, after a meeting with President Nixon, began raising what appeared to be a campaign charge to the effect that Administration critics who were proposing withdrawal from Vietnam or cuts in the defense budget were undercutting the President's peace efforts.