

SENATE, BY 49-47, ADOPTS PROPOSAL FOR ENDING WAR

Amendment to Military Bill
Sets 4-Month Deadline if
P.O.W.'s Are Released

HOUSE ACTION NEEDED
AUG 3 1972

Pressure by White House
Fails to Change Stand of
Key G.O.P. Supporters
NYTimes

By JOHN W. FINNEY
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2—The Senate, over the strenuous opposition of the White House, narrowly adopted today an amendment requiring the withdrawal of all American forces from Indochina in four months, subject to the concurrent release of prisoners of war.

The amendment, attached to a military procurement bill, was adopted by a vote of 49 to 47 as the White House failed, despite intensive lobbying, to switch a few crucial Republican votes.

By a vote of 92 to 5, the Senate then passed the military bill, which authorizes \$20.5-billion in weapons procurement and military research—about \$2.7-billion less than requested by the Administration.

Conference With House

The bill will go to a Senate-House conference committee, and it was doubtful that the troop withdrawal amendment would survive in a conference between the two conservative armed services committees, which have tended to support the Administration's Vietnam policy.

Even if the amendment is modified or eliminated in conference, however, today's Senate vote provided further indication that some end-the-war legislation is likely to be adopted by the Democratic-controlled Congress this session.

Next week the House will consider a foreign aid authorization bill to which the For-

ign Relations Committee has attached an amendment requiring a termination of the American involvement in the Vietnam war by Oct. 1, subject to a limited cease-fire with North Vietnam to assure the safe withdrawal of American forces and the release of prisoners of war.

More Amendments Expected

Even if the House committee amendment does not survive on the House floor—and at this point the outcome is in doubt—the Senate, on the basis of today's vote, would be in a position to attach its own troop withdrawal amendment when it receives the foreign aid bill from the House.

The legislation and the amendment would then go to a more sympathetic conference between the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

The Senate amendment, sponsored by Senator Edward W. Brooke, Republican of Massachusetts, was virtually identical to one that the Senate adopted 10 days ago by a 50 to 45 vote

Continued on Page 5, Column 1

Continued From Page 1, Col. 8

as an attachment to the foreign aid bill. The amendment then died when the Senate defeated the foreign aid bill.

The White House, for reasons of both principle and policy, had opposed any end-the-war amendment on the ground that it would intrude upon the President's Constitutional position and would jeopardize the current peace talks in Paris.

Throughout the day, White House officials, both on the telephone and outside the Senate chamber, lobbied intensively to defeat the Brooke amendment. At one point White House officials and the Senate Republican leader, Hugh Scott, were confident they had the votes to defeat the Brooke amendment, either by a tie vote—in which case an amendment fails—ore by a one-vote or two-vote margin.

The vote last week was 50 to 45.

The Administration managed in the vote today to switch the votes of two Democrats—Howard W. Cannon of Nevada and Herman E. Talmadge of Georgia. It also picked up the vote of Senator Everett B. Jordan, Democrat of North Carolina, who did not vote last week and who was defeated in the primary after running as a peace candidate.

The Brooke amendment provides that funds can be used by the President "only for the

purpose or withdrawing all United States ground, naval and air forces from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia and protecting such forces as they are withdrawn," with the withdrawal to be completed within four months after enactment of the legislation, "provided that there is a release within the four-month period of all American prisoners of war held by the Government of North Vietnam and all forces allied with such government."

These Democratic switches were offset in part by Senator George McGovern, the Democratic Presidential candidate, who did not vote last week but who voted today for the amendment.

Senator McGovern, who was defeated on the senate floor yesterday on attempts to curb the defense bill did not participate in the debate.

2 Moderates Not Swayed

The crucial votes were those of two moderate Republicans—Marlow W. Cook of Kentucky and Ted Stevens of Alaska—who both voted for the amendment last week. The White House had hoped to switch their votes particularly that of Senator Stevens, but in the end both voted for the Brooke amendment.

Senator Stevens, who could have provided a tie vote, was the object of intensive lobbying, both by White House officials and by his Senate colleagues supporting the amendment. As he walked on and off the floor, he was grabbed alternately by White House officials and by supporters of the amendment.

The argument used by the White House on Senator Stevens' was that Senator Brooke had significantly changed the amendment from the one adopted last week, through a provision that the four-month troop withdrawal should be accompanied by concurrent release of prisoners of war.

The amendment adopted last week called for withdrawal, subject to release of the prisoners, leaving open the question whether the withdrawal would follow release of the prisoners.

Assurances From Brooke

In what proved to be a crucial colloquy on the Senate floor, Senator Brooke assured his Republican colleague from Alaska that the purpose and intent of his amendment was the same as the one adopted last week and that under his proposal the troop withdrawal would not have to be completed if all prisoners had not been released by the end of the four month so.

Senator Brooke walked off the Senate floor arm-in-arm with Senator Stevens, believing that he had the vote of his Republican colleague, while off the floor White House officials were still confidently counting Senator Stevens in the Admin-

istration corner.

While the White House would have preferred no amendment at all, it decided to fight the Brooke proposal with a pro-Administration amendment offered by Senator George D. Aiken of Vermont, the Republican dean of the Senate and in the past one of the Republican doves.

The Aiken amendment embraced President Nixon's peace proposal of May 8 by providing for withdrawal of all forces in four months, subject to an internationally supervised cease-fire and release of prisoners of war.

The Aiken amendment was adopted by a vote of 50 to 47. But then the Senate turned around and adopted the Brooke amendment, offered as a substitute for the Aiken proposal.