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GUN CONTROL BILLS STALLED IN SENATE

Thurmond Mounts Filibuster in Judiciary Committee

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WASHINGTON, July 10 — Opponents of gun control legislation stalled the measures in the Senate Judiciary Committee today after riddling the gun registration provisions with exceptions.

The Judiciary Committee was immobilized when Senator Strom Thurmond mounted a committee filibuster against the gun registration sections and their sponsor, Senator Joseph D. Tydings, refused to permit the bill to be voted to the Senate floor without them.

Senator Tydings, Democrat of Maryland, announced after the meeting broke up late this afternoon that "it is apparent we are not going to be permitted to vote.

"We're going to have to fight it out on the floor," he said. Senator Tydings noted that the judiciary committee would be occupied tomorrow and Friday with hearings on the Supreme Court nominations of Abe Fortas and Homer Thornberry and that another meeting on gun controls could not come until next week.

With Congress pressing for adjournment in early August, he said there would not be time to get the gun control bill through if more time is consumed in committee discussions.

He implied that he would move later this week or early next week to add the complicated gun control provisions as an amendment to some pending bill.

At stake in today's maneuverings were two bills.

One, a Johnson Administration bill sponsored by Senator Thomas J. Dodd, Democrat of Connecticut, would supplement the recently enacted ban on the mail order sales of hand guns by adding similar prohibitions on direct interstate mail order sales of rifles, shotguns and ammunition.

The second bill, backed by Senator Tydings, would have required registration of all guns and licensing of all gun owners.

3 Qualifying Amendments

However, it was watered down today by three amendments.

One, offered by the Senate minority leader, Everett McKinley Dirksen, would permit any state to exempt its citizens from the necessity of registering their guns and from satisfying the bill's licensing requirements if they obtained a state gun permit patterned after the permit laws of Mr. Dirksen's home state of Illinois.

Under the Illinois law, a person can obtain a gun permit unless he is a convicted felon, a narcotics addict, a recent patient, a minor with a misdemeanor record, or a person under the age of 21 who does not have his parent's permission.

Amendment From Bayh

Another limiting amendment was offered by Senator Birch E. Bayh, who previously had been considered a supporter of strong gun controls. He returned today from a re-election campaign swing through Indiana and promptly offered an amendment to exempt rifles and their owners from the registration and licensing bill.

James O. Eastland, Democrat of Mississippi, who is chairman of the committee, offered a similar amendment to exempt shotguns. Both carried by votes of 8 to 7.

The result is that as the gun registration bill now stands in the committee, it applies only to hand guns, and would not apply in any state that employs the Illinois system of gun permits.

Two gun control advocates, Senators Dodd and Senator Hugh Scott, Republican of Pennsylvania, indicated after the late afternoon session ended that they still had hopes that Mr. Eastland would call another meeting and that the bills would be voted on to the floor.

Since many Senators frown on efforts to circumvent the committee system, the chances of enactment would be much stronger if committee approval is obtained.

Despite the committee deadlock over gun registration and the statement by Representative Emanuel Celler, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, that he will oppose it for this session, the White House press secretary, George Christian said today that President Johnson still had hopes that a national gun registration bill would be enacted.

The President has made his recommendation on registration and naturally he would like his first choice enacted," he said at a news briefing.

Hadassah Urges Controls

Hadassah, the woman's Zionist organization of America, has urged every member of Congress to support effective arms control legislation.

Mrs. Mortimer Jacobson, national president of Hadassah, said that her organization of 313,000 women was seeking a bill that would "outlaw the sale of mail-order firearms of any kind, require registration of all firearms and make it mandatory for all persons owning firearms to be properly screened and registered."