

How White House May Compromise

Washington

High-ranking White House sources said yesterday that President Ford is now willing to accept a cutoff date on military aid to the embattled Cambodian government in return for congressional approval of \$82.5 million in immediate emergency military assistance.

"Nobody should think that it's all or nothing," said one White House official. "We're willing to take what we can get.

Another White House official, without willing to go that far, said that Mr. Ford is willing to go "considerably beyond" the position taken Wednesday before the House Foreign Affairs Committee by Acting Secretary of State Robert E. Ingersoll.

Ingersoll flatly refused to accept a compromise proposal that would have exchanged the \$82.5 million in aid for a June 30 cutoff date on all military assistance to Cambodia. He said that such a proposal "would encourage the other side not to negotiate."

This refusal by the administration to accept a cutoff date was blamed by some Republican congressmen friendly to the compromise for its subsequent rejection, on an 18 to 15 vote, by the committee.

One Democratic congressman, Donald M. Fraser of

Minnesota, said he had been prepared to vote for the compromise but wouldn't as long as the administration pursued "a policy of war to the last Cambodian to get negotiations."

White House officials believe that the President's willingness to compromise will cause the committee to reverse its position and send the limited Cambodian aid request to the floor.

These officials also believe, as one of them said, that the measure has "a fighting chance" in the full House.

But it was unclear yesterday just how far the Ford administration is willing to go to win the vote switches necessary to get the aid measure out of the committee.

One White House official said that one idea under discussion was a plan to cut off aid within a few months but not necessarily as soon as June 30.

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