



THE SUBJECT IS CAMBODIA: Letters and telegrams are pouring into the offices of Senators and Representatives, heavily in opposition to the assignment of U.S. troops in Cambodia. Here, aides of Senator J. W. Fulbright sort messages. The New York Times (by Mike Lien)

## Heavy Mail to Congress Opposes Cambodia Policy

By MARJORIE HUNTER  
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 15—Congress is virtually staggering under an avalanche of mail, telegrams and petitions, heavily opposed to use of United States troops in Cambodia.

"This is the greatest volume of single-subject telegrams we've ever handled," a Western Union official said yesterday. "It even exceeds Pearl Harbor."

"We've heard from 127,208 people so far," said an aide to Senator J. W. Fulbright, Democrat of Arkansas who is a leading critic of the Administration's policy in Southeast Asia.

Mail and telegrams are piled high in many other offices, too, and dozens of bags of still unsorted mail are stacked up in the Senate Office Building basement, prompting one postal worker to suggest, jokingly, that "we need to call in the Na-

tional Guard to help us sort this stuff."

In the downtown Western Union office, too, every machine is steadily clicking off messages, most of them to members of Congress.

### 110,000 Telegrams

In the two weeks since President Nixon announced his decision to send troops into Cambodia, Western Union has delivered 110,000 telegrams on the subject to the White House and 210,000 to Capitol Hill.

White House aides said a week ago that the mail and telegrams were running heavily in support of the President's action. Yesterday, a White House spokesman said there was no up-to-date tally. In contrast, telegrams to members of Congress appear to be running strongly against the President's decision. Senator Fulbright alone has received 29,589 telegrams protesting the Cambodia action and only 756 in favor.

What had been only a trickle of mail and telegrams to Congress in the days following the President's announcement swelled into a flood shortly after the shooting of four Kent State students on May 4.

Senator Edward W. Brooke, Republican of Massachusetts, has received nearly 20,000 letters and telegrams, only 600 supporting the Administration action.

Senator Richard S. Schweiker, Republican of Pennsylvania, has received about 10,500 messages, running 15 to 1 against the Cambodia action, plus petitions bearing 60,000 names.

Aides to Senator Ralph E. Smith, Republican of Illinois, report that the mail is running 9 to 1 against the Cambodia action; Senator John Sherman Cooper, Republican of Kentucky, about 6 to 1 against; Representative Gerald R. Ford of Michigan, the House Repub-

lican leader, about 4 to 1 against; and Representative Frank Thompson, Democrat of New Jersey, 30 to 1 against.

### 'New Faces'

Many members, such as Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Republican of Maryland, report that much of the mail is from "new faces," both students and adults who have never written before. Up to 80 per cent of Mr. Mathias's mail is of this nature.

The mail from some rural Southern or Border-state districts that were formerly strongly pro-hawk is now running about 50-50, members report.

And those members who report that their mail is pro-Administration concede that volume is relatively light. This is true in the case of Senator Barry Goldwater, Republican of Arizona, and Representative George Bush, Republican of Texas.