

Supervisors Take Anti-War Stand

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors yesterday adopted a resolution in support of congressional efforts to end the United States military involvement in Southeast Asia.

By the narrowest possible margin, the board endorsed the McGovern-Hatfield amendment which would cut off funds for military activities in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.

The issue was in doubt until the very last moment, when Supervisor Dorothy von Beroldingen voted in favor of the resolution.

Her vote was greeted with a tremendous roar and a standing ovation from more than 200 anti-war persons who filled most of the Supervisor chambers' 253 seats.

It also broke tensions that had existed for three hours, when various anti-war organizations filed quietly through heavy police lines into the room.

Last week, after a hectic public hearing, Terence Hallinan had promised that his supporters would not leave the board meeting until the Supervisor's adopted an anti-war position.

'VICTORY'

Yesterday, after the decision, he hailed what he called "a tremendous victory" and called it "an affirmation of people power against an evil, illegal war."

The Rev. Cecil Williams, another leader of the anti-war groups, said the action proved the value of working within the political system.

"This says something about working with established political processes," he said. "If we work within channels, there are those who are sensitive enough to respond. It's a glorious day for San Francisco."

The resolution, which will

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go to Mayor Joseph Alioto for his expected signature, says the city supports Amendment 609 to House Resolution 17123 which provides that, unless Congress declares war, no funds shall be spent in Laos or Cambodia one month after the amendment is enacted and that funds for Vietnam shall end by June 30, 1971—except funds for the withdrawal of United States troops.

The prime sponsors of the amendment are Senators George McGovern (Dem-S.D.) and Mark Hatfield (Rep-Ore.) Others include California Democrat Alan Cranston.

DEBATE

The Supervisors' dramatic vote followed an hour-long debate that was frequently interrupted by hisses, applause and catcalls from persons in the audience, including those for and against the President's conduct of the war.

Board president Dianne Feinstein warned the audience several times to "extend the courtesy of free speech to the Supervisors" and about half-way through the hearing eight policemen in battle dress moved into the aisles of the chambers.

After the vote, Mrs. von Beroldingen commented briefly on the reasons for her crucial decision.

"I couldn't do anything else — because of the way I feel," she said.

LINEUP

Her vote, which made the difference between a 5 to 5 standoff and the final 6 to 4 decision — was cast for the amendment along with Supervisors Roger Boas, Mrs. Feinstein, Terry Francois, Robert Gonzales and Robert Mendelsohn. Opposing votes were cast by Supervisors John Barbagelata, John Er-

tola, James Mailliard and Peter Tamaras.

Francois, who introduced the successful resolution, said an effort to write a resolution that all sides could agree to had proven impossible.

"Some of us have an honest, basic difference of opinion about the responsibility for the war," he said. "The difference is whether the Congress should be involved in the war-making decision or whether it should leave it to the President alone. I believe that Congress should be involved and that's what the Hatfield-McGovern amendment would do."

Francois pointed out that it would neither "condemn, criticize or call for the impeachment of the President," as demanded by anti-war groups.

TAMARAS

Tamaras said he could not support the resolution because it would "tie the hands of the President" and could give "succor to the enemy by telling him what we're going to do."

He also said that the President's decision to send troops into Cambodia could "prevent an American Dunkirk and could get our boys home sooner and safer."

Tamaras was joined by Supervisors Mailliard and Barbagelata in saying that the military decisions should be left in the hands of the President as Commander-in-Chief.

In addition, Barbagelata and Ertola said they were not satisfied with the five-hour hearing conducted by Mailliard's committee last week and they asked for another round of hearings. They charged that the meeting had been stacked by anti-war speakers.

Their effort to send the controversy back to committee was supported only by Tamaras and lost, 3 to 7.