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NEW YORK GROUP LOBBIES FOR PEACE

Senators Are Urged to Back
2 Amendments on Asia

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WASHINGTON, May 21—The president of Bloomingdale's, the head of Random House, the author of "The Rothchilds," an investment banker, the former Gloria Vanderbilt and her husband, Wyatt Cooper, and assorted envoys from New York's worlds of culture, business and fashion became lobbyists today. They visited wavering, hostile and sympathetic United States Senators to present their establishment credentials and urge the passage of amendments to get the United States out of Southeast Asia. Most of them had never lobbied before.

Their message was simple: The Congress has abdicated its historic power to wage or not wage war, leaving it in the hands of one man, the President.

The group of 40, including two teen-aged daughters of a paper company president and an 8-year-old boy, the son of Jerry Orbach, the actor, came down by train for a frenzied five hours of meetings in and near the Capitol. The corridors of the Congress were already swamped by thousands of other amateur lobbyists, mostly students.

The Washington merry-go-round began for the New York contingent with a briefing from two State Department officials in a hearing room of the Rayburn Office Building. It infuriated many of the group and touched off a shouting match in which the Government men were accused of lying to the people and acting like Nazis.

The exchange became so

heated that a desk officer for Southeast Asia, Jerome K. Holloway, lost his poise and shouted back:

"When you get democracy in Mississippi, I'll worry about democracy in Vietnam."

As the day wore on, however, the group appeared increasingly exhilarated by its contacts and exchanges with members of the Senate, who commanded them for exercising their rights as citizens to be heard.

One of the first stops was at the offices of Senator Thomas J. McIntyre, Democrat of New Hampshire. Among those who spoke up were Robert Bernstein, president of Random House; Marvin Traub, president of Bloomingdale's; Frederic Morton, author of "The Rothchilds" and Benjamin S. Clark, an investment banker who just completed a 12-year term as a trustee of Radcliffe College.

They expressed alarm that elements of the right and left were increasingly disenchanted with Government and were by-

passing it. They said that the Senate's "last chance" to seize back its constitutional powers of declaring or not declaring war rested with two pending amendments.

Two Amendments

The amendments are the legislation introduced by Senators John Sherman Cooper, Republican of Kentucky, and Frank Church, Democrat of Idaho, that would prohibit any funds for retaining American forces in Cambodia; and the amendment sponsored by George S. McGovern, Democrat of North Dakota, and Mark O. Hatfield, Republican of Oregon, which would require withdrawal of all American forces from Vietnam by mid-1971.

Mr. Clark said he had become very worried by the polarization that was pushing "constructive critics" and "moderates" who opposed the war into the camp of leftists.

Senator McIntyre responded

that he considered himself a "middle American" who was "disgusted" by obstreperous activists and people carrying the Vietcong flag. He said he had been a hawk until 1968, but since had done a "turnaround" that was agonizing for him. He said he had already announced his support for the Cooper-Church legislation but was having "some trouble" with the McGovern-Hatfield bill.

The New York group was organized hastily by the staff of Representative Richard L. Ottinger of Westchester, now a candidate for the Democratic nomination for United States Senate.

David Mixner, a young leader in the antiwar movement, explained that Mr. Ottinger wanted to ring in "prominent New York citizens" in business and the arts and letters—"people who have clout and who have played an important role in economics and culture"—to impress Congress.