Buckley Solidarity Move on China Fails

By JOHN W. FINNEY

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WASHINGTON, Sept. 28—Senator James L. Buckley, Conservative-Republican of New York, sought today to lead a solidarity move among Congressional conservatives in support of the Administration's China policy in the United Nations, only to have two of his conservative colleagues criticize him for being too soft on Communist China.

Along with Senator William E. Brock 3d, Republican of Tennessee, Senator Buckley arranged for a news conference in the Senate Auditorium to read a statement supporting the two-China policy of the Administration and warning that the expulsion of Nationalist China would necessitate "a complete reassessment" of United States financial support for the United Nations.

The statement, which had been signed by 21 Senators and 35 House members, most of them conservatives, emphasized support for the Administration's "commitment" to retain Nationalist China's membership in the United Nations. But implicit in the statement, as Mr. Buckley and Mr. Brock acknowledged, was endorsement of the Administration's policy of also supporting the admission of Communist China.

Signer Changes Mind

The news conference broke up in confusion as one of the signers, Representative John G. Schmitz, Republican of California, a member of the John Birch Society, stood up to announce that he and Representative John R. Rarick, Democrat of Louisiana, no longer subscribed to the statement after listening to the explanation by Senator Buckley and other conservative Senate Republicans.

"Take our names off the list," Mr. Schmitz shouted out to reporters. "This is too weak a position for us."

An embarrassed grin came across the face of Senator Buckley as he turned around to see Mr. Schmitz and Mr. Rarick steal the attention of reporters and television cameras and break up one of his first major news conferences with fellow Senators.

In the middle of the Senate auditorium, Mr. Schmitz, with Mr. Rarick at his side, held his own impromptu news conference to explain that "when the so-called conservatives of the Senate start talking about a two-China policy, that's where I get off."

'God Help Us'

"If this is the conservative side of the senate, God help us," he said. Not only were the Senate conservatives "acquiescing" in the admission of Communist China to the United Nations, he complained, but they were also using such terms as "the Government of Formosa" to describe the Nationalist Government.

At one point in the scheduled portion of the news conference, Senator Buckley said it was "categorically clear" that there were the votes in the General Assembly to admit Communist China and seat it on the Security Council.

The statement drew no dissent from the conservative Senators seated on both sides of him, with the exception of Senator Strom Thurmond, Republican of South Carolina, who explained that he was opposed to the admission of Communist China but still endorsed President Nixon's planned trip to Peking.

Senator Buckley said the statement was designed to "reinforce the position of the Administration." But he also made clear that the conservative statement was aimed not so much at the White House as at members of the United Nations who might be prepared to vote for the expulsion of Nationalist China.

Reason for Sponsorship

Senator Buckley said he had decided to sponsor the statement because "silence on the part of Senators who feel strongly on this issue might be misinterpreted by many memb states" of theUnitedn taios.N

The statement contained at least an implied threat that if Nationalist China was expelled, the conservatives in Congress would lead a drive to reduce United States financial support for the United Nations. Among the signers of the statement were senior members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, such as Senator Allen J. Ellender, Deomcrat of Louisiana; Senator Roman L. Hruska, Republican of Nebrask Representative Robert L. F. Sikes, Democrat of Florida, and Representative Daniel J. Flood, Democrat of Pennsylvania.

"For the Republic of China to be expelled while the Peking regime is admitted would do such violence to the principles and spirit of the U.N. charter, that we would feel compelled to recommend a complete reassessment of U.S. financial and moral support of the U.N.," the statement said.