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How the Mail To Congress Is Running

Washington

Representative Don Edwards (Dem.-Calif.) found his mail and telegrams from home running 208 to 16 against President Nixon's decision to send United States troops into Cambodia. So he wondered what other House members were hearing.

He had his staff member call 120 congressional offices yesterday, more or less at random but with the sample admittedly weighted toward the northwest and west and not including the south. Each office was asked to check the mail and call back.

Late in the day he had 60 responses, including 11 from Republicans and the rest from Democrats. He said their volunteered reactions from constituents totaled 5926 against the President's action and 311 for it.

In no case, said Edwards, a long-time opponent of the Vietnam war, did any office report a preponderance of messages in support of the Cambodia action. (A possible exception to this was the case in which he said the commander of a fleet reserve unit sought to record all his 1400 men as supporting the President's action.)

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