

CONGRESS PASSES EXTENSION OF AID; ADJOURNS SESSION

Program Will Be Continued
to Feb. 22 at an Annual
Rate of \$2.8-Billion

STOPGAP ACTION TAKEN
DEC 18 1971

Overseas Assistance Issue
Will Confront Legislators
Anew on Return Jan. 18
NYTimes

By JOHN W. FINNEY
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17—
The first session of the 92d
Congress adjourned today after
resolving the foreign aid con-
troversy by temporarily ex-
tending the current program.

As its final action in a ses-
sion that sputtered fitfully to a
conclusion, Congress passed a
stopgap resolution permitting
the aid program to continue
obligating funds at an annual
rate of \$2.8-billion until Feb.
22.

With little more than a
quorum present, the Senate ap-
proved the continuing resolu-
tion, 45 to 9. The House, whose
quorum had vanished over-
night, carefully avoided a vote
and approved the resolution by
unanimous consent.

The foreign aid issue, which
delayed adjournment by sev-
eral days, will be back before
Congress when it reconvenes
for its second session on Jan.
18.

Vote Delayed by House

Early in the next session, be-
fore the continuing resolution
expires, Congress will again be
faced with the question of ap-
proving authorization legisla-
tion to set a ceiling on foreign
aid spending for the current
fiscal year, and of approving
an accompanying appropria-
tion bill to provide the funds.
Ultimately, the Nixon Adminis-
tration is expected to wind up
with at least \$1-billion less for
foreign aid than it had re-
quested for the fiscal year,
which ends next June 30.

The Senate, 33 to 21, has ap-
proved a compromise bill au-
thorizing \$2.75-billion in new
funds for the program, but the
House put off action on the
authorizing legislation until
next session. After final action
on the authorizing legislation,
Congress is expected to ap-
prove an appropriation bill pro-
viding about \$2.3-billion, or
\$1.2-billion less than requested
by the Administration.

Setback in Power Struggle

In the opinion of many in
Congress, the Administration
came out the loser in the for-
eign aid controversy, not only
in terms of money but also in
the underlying power struggle
between Congress and the ex-
ecutive branch.

At the temporary White
House in Florida, the Presi-
dent's press secretary, Ronald
L. Ziegler, said "we'll be able
to work" with the continuing
resolution, although it provides
"less than we requested."

The continuing resolution
authorizes the aid program to
spend on a temporary basis
\$2.37-billion in new funds and
\$452-million in past appropria-
tions. It also authorizes \$300-
million in military credits to

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Congress Votes Aid Extension To Feb. 22 and Ends Session

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Israel for the purchase of
American weapons as well as
\$50-million in grants for "sup-
porting assistance" for the Is-
raeli economy.

The question being asked in
Congressional quarters, how-
ever, was whether the Adminis-
tration would be able or would
want to live with the various
policy restrictions that the Sen-
ate wrote into the still-pending
regular authorization bill.

Concern Over Vietnam

Thus far the Administration
has apparently been so con-
cerned about amoney amounts
and winning deletion of the
amendment calling for the
withdrawal of American troops
from Vietnam that it has not
focused on the policy restric-
tions.

Secretary of State William
P. Rogers, for example, called
Representative Thomas E. Mor-
gan, Democrat of Pennsylvania,
chairman of the House Foreign
Affairs Committee, today to
congratulate him on deletion of
the amendment, which had
been sponsored by the Senate
majority leader, Mike Mans-
field. But he made no reference
to other policy restrictions ac-
cepted yesterday by the House
conferees in resolving differ-
ences between the Senate and
House bills.

One restriction involves a
novel use of the Congressional
power over the purse strings to
force the President to spend
domestic funds appropriated by
Congress. The provision spec-
ifies that, before the President
can spend the foreign aid funds,
he must release some \$2-billion
in funds for domestic programs
that he has impounded.

Restriction on Budget

Another restriction would re-
quire periodic authorization of
the State Department's budget,
making the department more
responsive to the Senate For-

eign Relations Committee and
the House Foreign Affairs Com-
mittee, which would handle the
authorization.

The provision also requires
the State Department to keep
the two committees "fully and
currently informed" about its
activities—the same legal re-
quirement that the Congres-
sional Joint Committee on
Atomic Energy has used to
maintain tight control over the
Atomic Energy Commission.

Congress left with much of
its controversial business—such
as welfare reform, revenue
sharing, water pollution and
national medical insurance—
put over until the next session.

Senator Mansfield, a Mon-
tana Democrat, made legisla-
tion giving enforcement powers
to the Equal Employment Op-
portunity Commission the un-
finished business of the Senate,
thus setting the stage for a
prolonged civil rights debate in
the opening weeks of the sec-
ond session.

Campaign Bill Pending

The Speaker of the House,
Carl Albert, Democrat of Okla-
homa, made a Senate-approved
bill setting limitations on po-
litical spending the first order
of business for the House.

In a statement on the
session's end, Representative
Gerald R. Ford, Republican of
Michigan, the House minority
leader, described the record of
the first session as "spotty and
uneven." He said that some
major pieces of legislation had
been enacted, such as draft ex-
tension, tax reduction and wage
and price controls, but that
Congress had generally showed
"a lackluster performance" on
the Administration's legislative
program.

Speaker Albert, in response
to reporters' questions, said
that he thought it had been a
successful session but "a little
slower than I would have
liked."