

End-the-War Amendment Killed in Senate, 45 to 42

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By JOHN W. FINNEY SEP 27 1972

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WASHINGTON, Sept. 26—The Senate reversed itself today and rejected, by a vote of 45 to 42, an end-the-war proposal that it had adopted two months ago. The vote appeared to mark the collapse of the antiwar movement in the Senate, leaving the Administration firmly in control of the war issue in Congress.

The Senate went on to approve, by a vote of 46 to 41, a revived foreign military aid authorization bill to which the proposal had been attached as an amendment. Last July, the Senate adopted the same amendment but then killed the foreign military aid authorization bill.

\$300-Million Under Request

The bill passed today, like the one that was killed last July, calls for the authorization of \$1.8-billion in various forms of military aid, or some \$300-million less than the Administration requested.

The end-the-war amendment, sponsored again by Senator Edward W. Brooke, Republican of Massachusetts, would have required, through a cut-off of funds, the withdrawal of all United States forces from Indochina within four months after its enactment, subject only to the concurrent release of prisoners of war.

The \$1.8-billion Senate bill for the fiscal year that began July 1 now goes to conference with the House, which has ap-

Continued on Page 5, Column 3

Continued From Page 1, Col. 3

proved a measure that would authorize \$2.1-billion in military aid.

Economic aid is authorized under a bill passed last year by Congress to cover also the current fiscal year.

The House last week passed a \$4.2-billion foreign aid appropriation bill that includes \$1.9-billion for military aid. Now that the Senate has approved the authorizing legislation, setting the funding limits for military aid, the Senate Appropriations Committee is expected to report out a foreign aid appropriations bill restoring some of the House cuts in economic aid, particularly for international lending institutions, and providing about \$1.8-billion in military aid.

The Brooke Amendment represented the strongest effort advanced by war critics in the Senate over the last two years to impose a troop withdrawal policy upon the President.

In July, the Senate voted by 50 to 45 to add the amend-

ment to the military aid authorization bill, which was then killed. Later the Senate attached the same amendment to a military procurement bill by a vote of 49 to 47, but the amendment was dropped in a Senate-House conference.

At least outwardly, the Brooke amendment, on its third time before the Senate, was defeated today by absenteeism among its past supporters, including Democratic Senators George McGovern, the party's Presidential candidate, Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota, William B. Spong Jr. of Virginia, and Harrison A. Williams Jr. of New Jersey.

In blaming absenteeism for his defeat, Senator Brooke was particularly critical of Senator McGovern.

"The war is McGovern's main campaign issue," Senator Brooke told reporters after the vote. "He had an opportunity to be effective, but he was out talking about it when he could have been here voting against the war."

Senator McGovern was cam-

paigned today in California, accompanied by Senator Humphrey.

Privately, however, Senate doves acknowledged they had little enthusiasm for organizing a new battle over the war issue and pushing through the Brooke Amendment. One Democratic dove, for example, advised Senator McGovern that it was more important that he continue his Presidential campaign in California than to return for the vote.

Among the doves there was a common feeling that the war issue in Congress had been overtaken by the Presidential campaign and the issue of an immediate troop withdrawal policy would be decided by the electorate in the November campaign.

There was also a feeling of frustration and futility over pushing through an end-the-war amendment only to have it blocked once again by the House, which by margins of 50 and more votes has consistently rejected all such amendments passed by the Senate.
