

SF Examiner
Anti-War Support Grows DEC 24 1972

45 Senators Oppose Bombing

WASHINGTON — (CST) — By a margin of more than two to one, members of the Senate oppose President Nixon's decision to resume the bombing in Vietnam, a poll shows.

Out of 73 senators interviewed by the Congressional Quarterly, a non-partisan and independent publication, 45 said they were against the renewal bombing and 45 — not necessarily the same ones — said they would support new antiwar legislation in the new Congress.

Nineteen senators supported Nixon's decision, and nine expressed no opinion.

Congressional Quarterly could not reach 27 members of the Senate in the upcom-

ing 93rd Congress for comment.

Rapid Decision

The poll results, released yesterday, seemed to indicate that the President's rapid decision to resume bombing after the disappointment over the efforts to reach a peace settlement gave anti-war senators a good chance to pass another resolution early in the 93rd Congress.

An earlier amendment, sponsored by Sen. Edward W. Brooke (R-Mass.) would have cut off funds supporting the United States in Indochina four months after final passage of the amendment. It would also, however, have hinged on the re-

lease of American prisoners of war.

The Senate adopted the amendment by 49-47 votes last August as part of the foreign-aid appropriations bill, but it was killed by House-Senate conferees. A similar measure was resoundingly defeated in the House.

Solid Base

The 45 senators who expressed support for a new antiwar resolution gave a solid base of support to those who are attempting such legislation.

According to Congressional Quarterly, which guaranteed anonymity to senators who wished it, three senators who voted against the Brooke Amendment said

they would now support such a measure.

In general, out of the 26 others who could not be reached for comment, plus the nine who said they had no opinion, only five would have to agree to support a new anti-war measure to be assured of its passage.

Congressional Quarterly estimated that "at least two to four" senators more than in the last Congress would support a new measure, which would automatically give the Senate proponents of anti-war moves, a better chance with House conferees than they had last fall.

The poll was conducted Dec. 21, three days after the resumption of the bombing.