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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 13, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF *M.L.F.*

The outlook in the House Foreign Affairs Committee is grim following the 15 to 18 defeat today of the Hamilton-Dupont Cambodia compromise.

Bill Broomfield and Doc Morgan have discussed the situation and the Chairman is inclined to kill our whole request when the full committee reconvenes next week.

Technically the door is still slightly open because our basic request for additional funds has not been disposed of.

However, Doc seems inclined now to kill the entire request and we believe that part of the motivation is to protect the Democratic Caucus and avoid a floor vote which would put the onus of cutting loose Cambodia on the Democrats.

Broomfield estimates that even if we could get the full committee to reconsider and pass the compromise or a revised version of it, that there are still 250 votes on the House floor against any form of military aid. Both Broomfield and Morgan were highly critical of Bob Ingersoll's testimony today prior to the vote and felt it was the deciding factor in the defeat of the compromise.

Bob came down in support of the Senate version and this irritated the House committee which had predicated its support of any measure on a cutoff date.

We know that at least two votes, Herb Burke and Roy Taylor, were influenced adversely by Ingersoll's testimony.

We lost on the Republican side Findley, Burke and Whalen and picked up Biester whom we had as highly questionable. Findley went his own way with an amendment of his own; Burke said he was turned off by Ingersoll and also under heavy pressure from newspapers in his district and the fact that Paul Rogers and Bill Lehman would be voting different than he would. Whalen was as usual, inflexible.

We picked up seven Democratic votes and the only surprise was Roy Taylor who said he had had it up to here with Cambodia and also was upset about the closing of an Agricultural station in his district.

We will continue working with State to try and secure a reconsideration of the Compromise or a modification. The Senate Foreign Relations full committee is scheduled to consider the \$125 million draw down on Monday but the overwhelming Democratic Caucus vote today (35-5) against more military aid for Cambodia will further damage our chances in the Senate.