Senate rejects extra \$\$ for hostages' pensions

WASHINGTON — Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes Sept. 11-17.

NERVE GAS — The House rejected, 125-276, an amendment to delete nerve gas money from the fiscal 1981 defense appropriations bill. Defeat of the amendment left \$19 million in the bill

amendment left \$13 million in the bill for use in preparing an Army facility at Pine Bildf, Ark, for the possible manufacture of binary nerve gas. Since 1599, the U.S. has not added to its stockpile of chemical weapons. The bill was passed and sent to the Senate. Rep. Paul McCloskey, R.Calir. Supporter of the amendment, said: "Chemical weapons are every bit as supporter of the amendment, said: "Chemical weapons are every bit as repulsive as nuclear. Their recent usage in Afghanistan and Southeast, Asia, as well as their stockpilling in Europe on both sides of the Iron Curtain, pose agreat if not greater threat to world or der than that posed by nuclear warheads."

Opponent Jack Edwards, R-Ala., said

DEFENSE CONTRACTS - The

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House voted, 220-179, to allow the Department of Defense to direct procurement contracts for general goods and services (not weapons) to high-unemployment areas. This repealed the so-called Mayshani amendment which since 1933 has prohibited targeting of Pentagon contracts to help local economies. The vote occurred during debone on IRB 8105 (see preceding vote). Rep. Matthew Hinaldo, R-N.J., a supporter, said: "There has been an appalling disparity in the amount of defense contract money spent" in the Sun Beit as opposed to the Northeast and Midwest.

west ponent Bill Chappell, D-Fla, said 'multiary procurement . . is no place for us to attempt social programs.' Members voting yea favored the targeting of defense procurement contracts to economically depressed areas. Pursell, Bonior, Ford, Brodhead, Blanchard and Broomfield voted yea.

FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE —
By a vote of 235-150, the House sent to
the President for his signature legislaiton revamping the federal crop insurance program. The bill will replace the
disaster payment program of the Pederal Crop Insurance Orop, (PCIC) with
taxpayer-subsidized insurance that
eventually will cover most crops in vitrutally all counties of the country, the
existing disaster program covers a few
major crops in a limited number of
counties.
Supporter Ed Jones, D-Tenn. said

counties.

Supporter Ed Jones, D-Tenn., said the bill "biulds upon established institutions by utilizing 40 years of FCIC experience and the great resources at aleants of the private sector and will benefit "farmers, the insurance indus-

roll call report

try and the taxpayer."

Opponent Kent Hance, D-Tex., referred to recent revelations of wrong-doing at top levels of the PCIC and said: "The top four people have been asked to step down because of a scandal. Now we are passing a bill that will give more power and more authority to Members voting yea wanted the bill expanding the FCIC to become law.

Pursell, Bonior, Ford, Brodhead and

the House.

Sen. Henry Jackson, D-Wash, the sponsor, said that because the Soviet Union "enjoys a preponderant advantage" over the U.S. in chemical war-fare preparedness, "there is little or no inducement for Moscow to reach an arms control agreement limiting and reducing chemical waepons."

Senators voting yea favored taking a step toward possible manufacture of nerve gas at the Pine Bluff Arsenal.

Senz. Donald Riegle and Carl Levin, both Democrats, voted any.

THE BOSTAGES — By a vote of 41-43, the Senate rejected an amendment to enlarge the retirement pensions of foreign service officers held hostage overseas. The proposal, intended pri-

marily to aid Americans held in Iran, was offered to a foreign service bill that was later passed and sent to conference with the House.

Sen, Jesse Helms, R.N.C., sponsor of the amendment, said: "It is time for the Senate to speak in terms of encouragement to those hostages and others in the Foreign Service."

Sen. Claiborne Pell, D.R.I., an opponent, said the families of the hostages would prefer that Congress approve a more comprehensive bill that is predicted in committee of the prediction of the special proposed the special benefits or preferred a difference of the preferred and dispension of the preferred and proposed the special proposed the spe

hostages. Riegle and Levin voted nay.

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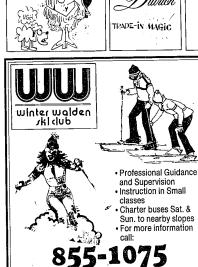
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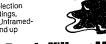
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