Pentagon, B-1 bomber given go-ahead from House

roll call report

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes July 9-15.

HOUSE

DEFENSE SPENDING: By a vote of 190-194, the House rejected an amendment to make the Pentagon answerable to the same grants and contracts procedures that other departments and agencies must follow. The amendment was offered to the defense authorization bill, which exempts the Pentagon from a law requiring departments to use contracts in acquiring property or services. Because major contracts entail competitive bidding, the law controls the multi-billion dollar federal procurement apparatus. Its exemption permits the Pentagon to substitute grants for competitively bid contracts in obtaining basic research. The bill was headed for final passage.

Sponsor Jack Brooks, D-Tex., said that "given the $1.635 trillion that will be spent on defense in the next five years," the exemption could result in "a less effective defense and millions of dollars wasted in unrealistic research procurement."

Opponent Melvin Price, D-Ill., said grants are useful in financing research by universities and think tanks and that "this authority should be clearly available to the Department of Defense."

Members voting "nay" wanted to exempt Pentagon research procurement from a federal law governing the award of grants and contracts.

Reps. Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth; David Bonior, D-Mt. Clemens; William Ford, D-Taylor; William Brodhead, D-Detroit; James Blanchard, D-Pleasant Ridge; and William Broomfield, R-Birmingham, voted "yea."

B-1 BOMBER: By a vote of 153-254, the House rejected an amendment that was unfavorable to production of the B-1 as the next-generation U.S. manned bomber. The amendment said that research and development money in fiscal year 1982 defense authorization bill could be spent for any new bomber the administration chose to build; the radar-resistant Stealth is the main alternative to the B-1. This countered the bill's instructions that the money be spent only on the B-1.

Expressing "serious reservations" about the B-1, sponsor Wyche Fowler, D-Ga., said President Reagan and Congress should not be hamstrung by B-1 advocates as they proceed to make "one of the most important national security decisions for the next 30 years. . . .

Opponent Samuel Stratton, D-N.Y., said the amendment would "take the control of our defense out of the hands of the Congress and have us sit supinely and wait" for President Reagan's decision on whether to build the B-1.

Most members voting "yea" opposed or leaned against production of the B-1 bomber.

Pursell, Bonior, Ford, Brodhead and Blanchard voted "yea."

Broomfield voted "nay."

DRUG ARRESTS: The House adopted, 362-49, an amendment allowing military personnel to make drug arrests outside of the U.S. land mass and military equipment to be used domestically for drug enforcement. This gives the armed services their first major role in helping civilian agencies police drug trafficking.

Supporter Dante Fascell, D-Fla., said: "Frankly, I am so frustrated at the failure of the federal governement to come to grips with the crime and drug problem and with the inability to enforce our immigration laws, I am ready to turn it all over to the military."

Opponents argued that military personnel are untrained for making legally sensitive drug arrests that will hold up in court, and that the expanded authority — opposed by the Pentagon — would divert resources from the military's chief mission of defending the country.

Members voting "yea" wanted military personnel to have a limited role in drug enforcement away from the mainland.

Bonior, Ford, Brodhead, Blanchard and Broomfield, voted "yea."

Pursell voted "nay."

SENATE

NOISE CONTROL I: By a vote of 54-32, the Senate failed to achieve the three-fifths majority needed to end a filibuster mounted by liberals during debate on the fiscal year 1982 Justice Department authorization bill. The talkathon sought to prevent action on amendments limiting the role of the Justice Department and the Courts in advocating busing to integrate schools.

Most senators voting "nay" opposed the anti-busing amendments. Democratic Sens. Carl Levin and Donald Riegle voted "nay."

NOISE CONTROL II: The Senate rejected, 40-55, an amendment designed to retain federal noise control regulations in a way that benefits America's only motorcycle manafacturer, the Harley Davidson Motorcycle Co. of Milwaukee, Wisc. The amendment was offered to a bill that returns most authority for controlling noise from Washington to state and local governments. The bill was passed on a non-record vote and sent to the House.

The rejected amendment would have retained federal standards governing the manufacture — but not operation — of motorcycles, thus freeing Harley-Davidson from the added expense of complying with as many as 50 different state standards.

Supporter William Proxmire, D-Wisc., said the bill "would have a devastating impact" on Harley Davidson.

Opponent Slade Gorton, R-Wash., said the amendment would restrict "the rights of states to control what everyone believes, knows, to be one of the greatest sources of noise pollution in the U.S., that is to say, motorcycles."

Senators voting "yea" voted for the federal noise standard for the manufacture of motorcycles.

Riegle voted "yea."

Levin voted "nay."

OU dedicates new hall

Oakland University dedicated its new energy efficient classroom-office building in ceremonies last week. All four officials who have directed the Rochester area campus since its founding were present.

The $8.5 million structure is named Jan and Don O'Dowd Hall in honor of Donald D. O'Dowd and his wife, Jan. O'Dowd served as president from 1970 to 1979.

O'Dowd Hall's air, electricity and heat are tied to a Delta 1000 micro computer in the Central Heating Plant. The building's insulating glass exterior aids in heat retention.

Present at the reception and at the dedication were representatives of area and state governments, the OU board of trustees and OU's four "first families."

Returning from Nebraska were D.B. "Woody" Varner and his wife, Paula. Varner was OU's first chancellor and governed the university from the date of its founding in 1957 to 1969.

Jan and Don O'Dowd returned from Loudonville, N.Y. O'Dowd replaced Varner when OU received its independence from Michigan State University in 1970. O'Dowd became the institution's first president, serving until 1979.

George T. Matthews and his wife, Margie were also present. Matthews, charter member of the OU faculty, served as interim president from 1979-81.

Varner left OU to become first chancellor and then president of the University of Nebraska. He is chairman of the University of Nebraska Foundation.

O'Dowd is executive vice chancellor of the State University of New York Systems.

Presiding over the ceremonies was President Joseph E. Champagne.

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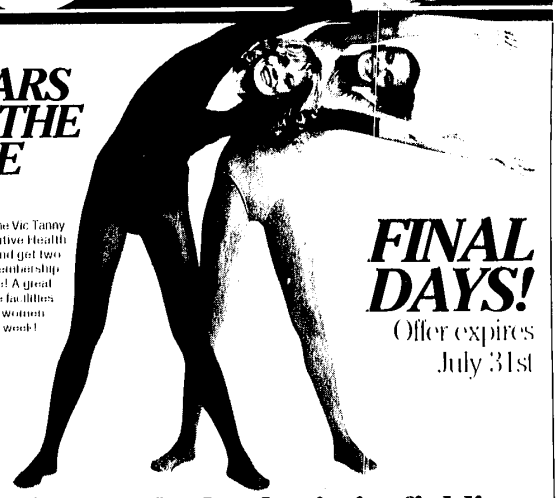

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Calvin Klein's fabulous fall in store for you and he's sending all his latest creations to Hudson's for you to see, via his representative, Maura DeVisscher. She'll be in The Woodward Shops of our Northland store for this very special

Trunk Showing on Wednesday, July 29, 11 a.m.

Maura will offer fashion tips, answer questions, show you how to put it all together. And of course, she'll be taking special orders on any fashion or accessory you see in the show. Don't miss this event!

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