Congress debates U.S. troops abroad

Here's how Observer & Eccentric-area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes in the week ending Sept.

HOUSE

"Burden Sharing": The House rejected, 195 for and 231 against,

South Korea and Europe three years to assume the costs of U.S. troops based on their soil or lose the protection. Sponsors said more than half of U.S. military spending, maintain of co.s. military specialists, including personnal costs, is for basing troops abroad. The amendment was offered to a \$262.8 billion defense authorization bill (HR 2401) for fiscal 1994 that re-

2401) for fiscal 1994 that re-mained in debate.

Sponsor John Bryant, D-Tox., said "It's about time we stopped subsidizing the Europeans and the Japanese and protecting them and took some of that morey and started protecting the American people" in such areas as health care, crime prevention and educa-tion.

tion.
Oppone . Floyd Spence, R.S.C.,
sald "we keep hearing speakers
mistakenly say that we are in Europe to protect Europeans. I'd like
to . . . set the record straight. We
are in Europe to protect our own
varied interests."

varied interests. A yes vote supported the amendment. Area representatives voting yos were: Bob Carr, D-Pontlac, Date Kildee, D-Flint, William Ford, D-Ypallantl. Voting no: Joseph Knollenberg, R-Birningham and Sander Levin, D-Southfield.

Missile Defense: By a vote of 202 for and 227 against, the house rejected an amendment to reduce ballistic missile defense

reduce ballistic missile defense (BMD) unding in fiscal 1994 from \$3 billion proposed by the Armed Services Committee to \$2.8 billion. The vote occurred during debate on HR 2401 (above). BMD is a new Pentagon umbrella term for the former Strategic Defense Initiative and the localized, ground-based theater Missile Defense that includes weapons such as the Patriote.

cludes weapons such as the Path-ot, Osponsor Patricia Schroeder, D. Coto,, said money saved by her amendment would be put to good use in a Pentagon program that helps defense contractors adjust to a civilian economy, Opponent Jim Saxton, R.-N.J., said "the theater missile threat is here and now" and that the amendment would slow efforts to

mendment would slow efforts to

A yes vote was to transfer \$229 million from ballistic missile definish floor basistic frames de-fense to peacetime conversion. Area representatives voting yes were: Carr, Kildee, Levin, Ford. Voting no: Knollenberg.

D-5 Missile: By a vote of 183 for and 240 against, the House refused to strip HR 2401 (above) of \$1.2 billion for building 295 additional D-5 missiles for Trident if nuclear-equipped submarines. The missile was developed during the Cold War and is designed to penetrate hardened targets in the former Soviet Union. Savings from this amendment were to have gone to defense conversion pro-

grams.

Sponsor Ronald Dellums, D-Calif., sald "the Cold War is over.
To talk about fighting nuclear war is madness... This weapons sys-

tem was designed to hit hard tar-gets. The Soviet Union has explod-ed on its own."

ed on its own."
Opponents said the D-5 missile
and Trident II programs should be
fully funded until the future stability
of the former Soviet Union is as-

sured.
A yes vote was to kill the D-5 missile program. Area representatives voting yes were Carr, Kildee, Levin, Ford. Voting no: Knolenberg.

To Confirm Dr. Elders: The Senate voted 65 for and 34 against to confirm Dr. Dycelyn Elders, a 59-year-oid pediatriclan, as U.S. Surgeon General. The former Arkansas health dilector was conversial, in part, because of blunt views on pregnancy prevention, abottlon and the Catholic Church. Supporter Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., san'e Elders' "has come through this unfair gauntlet of excessive criticism with flying colors, and she has prevalled over it." Opponent Don Nickles, R-Okla, said "my concern is that Dr. Elders has a very radical agenda" es shown by her pro-abortion views. Ayes vote was to confirm Elders. Michigan Sons. Carl Levin, D. and Donald Riegle, D, both voted yes.

National Service: By a vote of 57 for and 40 against, the Senale sent President Clinton a bill (HR 2010) to begin his national service program at a three-year cost of \$1.5 billion. Persons 17 and older would perform 1,700 hours of community work in each of two years, in exchange for subsistence wages, health and child-care benefits and up to \$4,775 annually in vouchers for later job-training or higher education. An estimated 100,000 persons would take part over three years. A new federal agency would run national service, overseeing state and local programs.

grams.
Supporter Harris Wolford, D.Pa., sold decentralized national service would test the government's "ability to become a leaner, more efficient and antibureaucratic force for change."

clent and arrandoments.

Opponent Nancy Kassebaum, RKan., said the program is "too
costly, too bureaucralle, too prescriptive and misdinets scarce educational dollars."

A yes vote was to pass the bill.
Levin and Riegie voted yes.

Gays in the Military: By a vote of 33 for and 63 against, the Senate refused to remove restrictive language on gays from the fiscal 1994 defense authorization bill (S 1298). At issue was language writing into two a ban on gays in the military based on their sexual status as opposed to their conduct, it goes beyond President Clinton's "don't tell, don't ask, don't pursue" policy proposal. Amendment supporter Howard Metzenbaum, D-Ohlo, sald Clinton's plan is "a middle-of-the-road policy approved by the Joints Chiefs of Staff" that Congress should accept.

should accept.

Opponent Sam Nunn, D-Ga., said the amendment would wrong-ly remove Congress from its consti-tutional obligation to set rules for the military services.

A yes vote was to remove re-strictive language from the bill so that President Clinton's policy on gays in the military can take hold. Levin and Riegle both voted yes.

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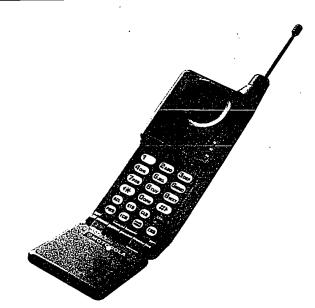
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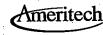


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