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Cambodia 7/2/73

Late in June, President Nixon vetoed a Congressional appropriations bill containing an amendment which would have cut off funds for continued U.S. bombing in Cambodia. Afterwards, in the House of Representatives, supporters of the amendment failed to come up with the necessary two-thirds majority (the vote was 241 to 173) to override the veto and so it was upheld.

In the Senate, Majority Leader Mike Mansfield declared that that body would not pass a supplemental appropriation without the Cambodia funds cut-off amendment. Senator Mansfield said the amendment would be attached to other bills due to come before the Senate.

In his veto message to the House of Representatives, the President maintained that a total halt of U.S. air operations in Cambodia would "virtually remove communist incentive to negotiate" a cease-fire there and would "gravely jeopardize" the ability of the Cambodian armed forces to prevent a communist military victory.

However, a compromise was apparently reached in late June when Congress passed and sent to the President legislation which would cut off funds for U.S. combat involvement in Indochina as of August 15, 1973.