



House Door Locked as GOP Stalls

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A Republican bloc brought the House to a standstill Tuesday in an effort to prevent action on a bill to allow televised presidential campaign debates. Speaker John W. McCormack was forced to lock up the chamber to keep members at work.

McCormack resorted to his seldom-used authority to order the House doors locked after Rep. Donald Rumsfeld, R-Ill., repeatedly blocked House procedures with a series of time-consuming quorum calls. The speaker's action was unprecedented in the memory of congressional observers of the past quarter-century.

A spokesman for Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, who has been demanding a face-to-face television debate with his GOP presidential rival, Richard M. Nixon, charged the Republicans were trying to filibuster the bill to death.

Rumsfeld, leading a group known jocularly in the galleries as "Rumsfeld's Raiders," threw a monkey wrench into the hopes of House members of adjourning the election-year session by this weekend.

Four and one-half hours after the House convened at noon, the "Raiders" had insisted on nine quorum calls, each one consuming 25 to 30 minutes. The House had been unable to proceed with any business except for the opening prayer.

At issue was a bill to waive the federal requirement that equal time be allowed for all presidential candidates on political television appearances.

A similar waiver opened the way for the John F. Kennedy-Nixon debates in 1960. This time, the House bill would extend the provision for both major party candidates to include George C. Wallace of the American Independent party.

Humphrey has been demanding that Nixon meet with him in debate. Nixon has shrugged off the proposal, saying he refused to debate Wallace. The bill would permit all three candidates to appear on television without the necessity of giving equal time to minor candidates.

GIRL DIES OF INJURIES — BUFFALO (UPI) — Sheila Donovan, 14, of Buffalo died Tuesday of injuries sustained Oct. 3 when she was struck by an auto in a Buffalo street.

You'd Never Get Cornered There

What looks like some kind of undersea vehicle is actually a futuristic house, unveiled aboard the motor ship Finnpartner in London at the start of the Finnish Trade Fair. The house is constructed of polyester

plastic reinforced with fiber glass. It weighs a little more than a ton and can be transported in sections. London's Tower Bridge is in the background. (UPI Cablephoto).

Infantry Division Rescinds Its Salute-or-Fight Order

WASHINGTON (AP) — An Army division commander's salute-or-fight order in South Vietnam has been cancelled, an Army spokesman said Tuesday.

The cancellation was announced a day after Maj. Gen. Charles P. Stone confirmed his 4th Infantry Division has such a policy.

The Army spokesman said the order "has been rescinded by the 4th Infantry Division."

There was no word on who brought about cancellation of the order providing that soldiers could be shipped to the front lines from rear echelon jobs for failing to salute officers.

Stone said in Vietnam Monday that such transfers come "only after a flagrant violation."

Only a short while before the cancellation was disclosed, an official Army statement, in re-

sponse to an inquiry, in effect bucked the problem to Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, U.S. commander in Vietnam.

"The Army considers this a matter of concern for the local command," it said when asked whether the order would be allowed to stand.

But there were signs at the same time of behind-the-scenes efforts to end a situation which had become an embarrassment to the Army.

One high ranking source had predicted "I think reason will prevail."

Stone's order came to light last weekend when the Boston Globe published a report which said rear echelon soldiers in the 4th Division had been threatened with transfer to forward areas for failure to salute.

The Boston newspaper said the directive appeared in the division's Sept. 8 daily bulletin. Stone confirmed Monday that such a policy exists and said a man is transferred forward "only after a flagrant violation."

As Stone explained it: "If a

soldier is transferred to a job in a forward area, it is one for which he has been trained in the past and which he is physically qualified to accomplish.

"It should be pointed out that saluting is a custom in the service," he said, "that there is a reason why we in service salute, and that no man in the division who salutes need be concerned about the division policy."

Officials at the headquarters level were reluctant to shortcut the chain of command and preferred that the matter be handled by Stone's superior in the field, Abrams. Officers at the Pentagon obviously hoped he would act to rescind the directive.

They feared that unless Abrams moved soon, the matter would balloon into a major wrangle.

Officers here generally spoke of Stone's order as "unfortunate."

They foresaw that the order could accentuate the negative image that some American civilians have of the military as a rigid caste.

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