

Congress Finishes Action on Military Construction Bill

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Congress completed action Thursday on a compromise \$1.6 billion bill authorizing construction of military facilities and housing both at home and abroad.

The measure, which would authorize \$665 for military housing, was the result of a Senate-House compromise on earlier separate versions passed by the two chambers.

It would authorize \$488 million in new construction for the Air Force, \$902 million for the Navy, and \$199 million for the Army.

The bill was approved first by the House on a 356-1 vote, with Rep. Thomas B. Curtis, R-Mo., the lone dissenter. The Senate then passed it by voice vote, sending the annual authorization measure to the White House.

Below Request

The compromise bill was \$237 million below what the administration wanted.

The bill includes provision for 10,140 new units of military family housing at various bases around the country.

Other major items include:
—\$45 million for dispersal of U. S. fighter interceptor squadrons.

—\$34 million for new hospitals at Ft. Rucker, Ala.; Amarillo AFB, Tex.; Elgin AFB, Ill., and Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

—\$35 million for new Nike-Hercules and Hawk missile batteries and other air defense facilities in the southeastern part of the United States. These facilities highlighted the new emphasis being placed on defense from a possible air attack from Communist Cuba.



**Small
Worlds
Around
Us**
Lynn W.
Watkins
By
Register & Tribune Syndicate, 1963

Moon Attracts Giant Squids

We can hardly credit such a grotesque creature as a giant squid, which may measure 50 feet in length with being romantically inclined or fascinated by the light of the full moon, but such seems to be the case.

These monstrous, 10-armed creatures are known to come up from the great depths of the sea to gaze in stunned amazement at a bright moon.

At such times the squid seems to be in a state of self-hypnosis. In this trance-like state, it may even allow itself to be cast up on a beach and be seen, for the first time, by human eyes.

These monsters of the great deeps have fascinated man since he first went down to the sea in ships. Old woodcuts and drawings in natural history books pictured a sailing vessel in the grip of a giant squid. The picture showed the frightened crew diving overboard, preferring drowning to being caught in the great, sucker-lined tentacles of a giant squid.

Picture Frightening

The over-all sour note about the pictures was the fact that what they illustrated never happened. Viewing this old picture would certainly have changed the mind of a prospective sailor and sent him out to buy a chicken ranch.

As far as science can definitely ascertain, the giant squid spends most of his life at the bottom of the sea, probably living in a cave, and dreading the whale that might penetrate the great depths. This whale, who is known to relish squid meat, dives to unbelievable depths just to enjoy feasting on one of these, the largest backboneless animal in the world.

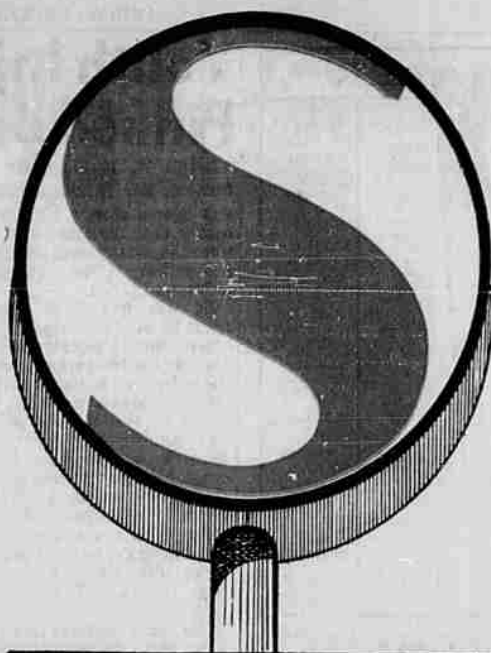
In the nomenclature of scientific classification, it is somewhat confusing to learn that the squids are related to the very beautiful seashell, the chambered nautilus. Of course the nautilus is a relative of the oyster, clam, conch, and the others of the mollusk family.

Considered Intellectuals

The squids and their running mate, the octopus, are considered to be the highest in intellectual accomplishments of all the mollusks. In fact, the squid displays considerable craftiness in the pursuit of prey, as well as in eluding capture. These faculties have been developed to a point almost approaching a low form of intelligence.

It is not too well known how the giant squid protects itself against its greatest enemy, the whale. But many cases are on record of whales that bear on their bodies the round, saucer-sized marks, left there by the suction disks of a squid's tentacles. It is assumed that, eventually the whale is always the winner in these great, underwater contests.

The squid is classified as a cephalopod, which means "feet around the head" seemingly an impossible condition. This animal goes "head over heels" to be ridiculous, and succeeds.



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