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San Francisco Sentinel

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WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 5, 1967

San Francisco's Vietnam

This Is House That ? Built

By Wallace Wood
Sentinel Staff Writer

A sharp and vicious argument over putting names on the dedication plaque for the new county governmental center split the board of supervisors this morning.

Moves by three supervisors to leave the name of contractor Werner Jasper off the plaque were opposed by Supervisors Robert Burton and Vincent Locatelli.

And Jasper's attorney, Eugene Adams, said it was a "not too important matter, but not an action of a self-respecting county government."

The plaque design was up for final approval by the board. It is a six-foot long by one-foot high bronze casting.

It was to carry the names of seven supervisors, including the present board and former Supervisors Francis Silliman and Lewis Nelson.

County Administrative Officer Carl Millar, Public Works Director Warren Harrison, Architects Rockwell and Banwell and structural engineers Nicholas Forell and Associates were other names to go on the plaque.

When Locatelli moved to add the name of Jasper Construction, Supervisors Henry Mello, Russ McCallie and Tom Black voted against it. Then Locatelli objected to including Nelson's and Silliman's names: "One of them never did work hard on that building. He was always for lease-purchase. We ought to include the name of Mrs. McLean (Hulda McLean, another former supervisor) who did work hard."

McCallie declared that "all five members of the board at the time voted for a bond election on this. There isn't one supervisor sitting here today that contributed any more."

Locatelli snapped back "I worked plenty hard on this, raising money to publicize the bond election."

And Burton declared, "You can leave my name off, if that's the game you want to play."

After some sniping at the architect for putting any kind of names on the plaque at all for board approval, McCallie charged, "It's very childish to argue about this at this point."

"Well," growled Locatelli, "it's very childish to eliminate the name of the contractor when you know very well who built it."

"I'm all too aware of it," sighed McCallie.

Finally, Mello suggested holding the question for a week to allow Burton and Locatelli to suggest adding or deleting names. And there the matter rested.

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