

MISSILE CRISIS CHAT 4/13/68

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Kennedy to Use McNamara Film

WASHINGTON (AP)—Former Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, who has remained aloof from elective politics during seven years in Washington, is playing a modest role in the campaign of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Theodore Sorensen, a top Kennedy adviser, yesterday said McNamara appears on two television tapes that will be used in Kennedy's drive to win the Democratic presidential nomination.

He refused to discuss the content of the tapes.

THE WASHINGTON Post reported that on one McNamara and Sorensen reminisce about the Cuban missile crisis of 1962 when Kennedy, as attorney general, was one of those counseling his brother, President John F. Kennedy. Sorensen

then one of the president's closest aides, was another insider during the history-making confrontation with the Soviet Union over the missiles it was secretly supplying to Cuba.

McNamara left the Defense Department at the end of February to become president of the World Bank.

Before coming to Washington in 1961 to assume the top job at the Pentagon he was a registered Republican but was not active in politics.

WHATEVER ASSISTANCE

McNamara provides to Kennedy is expected to be slight in comparison with the services the candidate will get from Lawrence F. O'Brien, who resigned as postmaster general Wednesday and is already immersed in organizational details of the campaign.

McCarthy is spending the weekend in Washington. He took a breather from campaigning on Good Friday, although he did chat for a few moments with newsmen in Boston.

He criticized the "quibbling" between the United States and North Vietnam about the site of preliminary peace talks as "pretty silly."

MCCARTHY ALSO said he is unconvinced that the administration would be willing to deal directly with the National Liberation Front, political arm of the Viet Cong, or accept a coalition in South Vietnam to end the war.

The contest for the nomination is expected to become a three-way affair next week with the entrance of Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey.