

# LODGE AND C.I.A. DIFFER ON POLICY

## Ambassador and Agency's Chief in Saigon Clash on Conduct of War

By DAVID HALBERSTAM

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3 (AP)—The chief of the Central Intelligence Agency and the ambassador to South Vietnam have clashed sharply over the conduct of the war in that country.

Mr. Lodge, who has been in Saigon since August, has been a vocal critic of the CIA's operations there. He has accused the agency of being too cautious and of not providing enough support to the South Vietnamese government.

Mr. Belmont, who has been in Saigon since July, has been more supportive of the CIA's operations. He has praised the agency's efforts to gather intelligence and to provide technical assistance to the South Vietnamese.

The two men's differing views on the war have led to a series of heated discussions in Saigon and in Washington. Mr. Lodge has even threatened to resign if the CIA's operations are not improved.

The CIA's operations in Saigon have been the subject of much controversy in the United States. Some critics have accused the agency of being too involved in the war, while others have praised its efforts.

The CIA's operations in Saigon have also been the subject of much criticism from the South Vietnamese. Some have accused the agency of being too supportive of the South Vietnamese government, while others have accused it of being too cautious.

The CIA's operations in Saigon have been a major part of the United States' strategy in Vietnam. The agency has provided a wide range of services, including intelligence gathering, technical assistance, and training.

The CIA's operations in Saigon have been a major part of the United States' effort to win the war in Vietnam. The agency has played a key role in the success of the South Vietnamese government.

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Ambassador, Assistant Secretary of State for Far East Affairs, has been denied in a report here.

Mr. Lodge even amid the recent controversy, it is acknowledged that the CIA chief for more than a year, has carried out the extremely difficult task of supervision of military operations in South Vietnam. In this aspect of his duties, he has done a superb job, say the other members of the mission. It is the basic contradiction between the role and that of an intelligence chief that is at stake.

Mr. Belmont, however, has told Washington that he has a new chief, and that the CIA's chief in Saigon is Mr. Belmont. Mr. Belmont is believed to be in contact with the White House. It is believed here that Mr. Belmont and the CIA chief are in a state of conflict. Mr. Belmont is believed to be a strong supporter of the CIA's operations in Saigon, while Mr. Lodge is believed to be a strong critic.

Mr. Belmont's appointment as chief of the CIA in Saigon is believed to be a result of the White House's desire to have a more aggressive approach to the war in Vietnam. Mr. Belmont is believed to be a strong supporter of the CIA's operations in Saigon, while Mr. Lodge is believed to be a strong critic.

At the moment, some observers say, there is a growing effort to make the CIA the scapegoat for the unhappy events of the last six weeks. When Government forces rallied Binh Dinh on Aug. 21, the CIA was confused about what was going on. There followed the demand by Washington that Ngo Dinh Nhu and his wife be removed out of the country. The demand for their removal by Ngo Dinh Diem and his ministers' decision to do nothing with the regime.

Some prominent members of the intelligence agency are accused of using recent events as an opportunity to voice their bitterness against the agency. Many persons in Saigon contend that in general intelligence operations here are at the highest quality and they may have played a role in some of the most successful programs of the agency and counter-insurgency operations.

White House Seeks Harmony  
WASHINGTON, Oct. 3 (AP)—The Administration set out today a policy of being "different" in Vietnam, and seeking to deal with the "umbrella" spread by President Kennedy. Various officials expressed the view that the Special White House statement had not resolved interdepartmental differences, any more than the Administration's Vietnam strategy had resolved the Administration's basic problem in dealing with the Saigon Government.