

# R. Kennedy Qualifies Support of Viet Policy

By Richard Halloran  
Washington Post Staff Writer

Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.) declined to say yesterday that he "fully" supports President Johnson's present Vietnam policy.

"I basically support the policy," Kennedy said. "I have some reservations about whether we are doing enough in the economic and political field." He added, "I think we emphasize continuously the military aspects without the political and the economic efforts that have to take place in Vietnam."

Kennedy also said he had felt for some time "that a major effort had to be undertaken in the diplomatic field." Kennedy's remarks were in response to questions on the television interview "Meet the Press" (NBC, WRC).

Kennedy said he "would like to see visits to Vietnam by representatives of the civilian side" of the U.S. government. He said that "visits that take place in Vietnam by our high officials are always by representatives of the military."

Kennedy also said that if troops "beyond the number that President Johnson mentioned in his speech in August" are going to Vietnam, it should be discussed in Congress, as should any plans to carry the bombing beyond present targets.

Last summer, the President ordered American troop levels raised to 125,000. At present, about 170,000 are in Vietnam, and this number will reportedly go to 200,000 shortly. Officials in Saigon are believed to have asked Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara for a total of 350,000 to 400,000 men.

Kennedy said, "I think we should consider the alternatives carefully and why a particular course of actions needs to be followed and what we can expect, both from the North Vietnamese and from the Chinese."

Kennedy, who has just returned from a three-week tour of Latin America, said he found serious reservations about U.S. policy there.

To rectify this, Kennedy

said the U.S. must align itself with the "progressive leadership" in Latin America, such as Chilean President Eduardo Frei.

Secondly, Kennedy called for "general leadership within our own country for internal reform."

Thirdly, he suggested a limitation on the heavy military weapons the United States sends to Latin America.

Kennedy, who has been an advocate of preventing the spread of nuclear weapons, said he had "serious reserva-

tions" about schemes to allow West Germany to share in NATO nuclear forces.

But he said the West Germans should be brought into discussions regarding the use of nuclear weapons and an agreement regarding the future should be reached with them.

"I think under different leaders at a different time in history, the Germans might decide that they are going to build their own nuclear force, Kennedy warned. "That is not a problem that I think we should hand over to the next generation."

On Communist China and disarmament, Kennedy said that he thought it "worthwhile making the effort to invite them" to a U.N. disarmament session but not to the extent of asking them to join the United Nations. The Chinese have said that they will not attend the disarmament session until their delegates are seated in the U.N.

Turning to domestic politics, Kennedy called on Democratic City Council members to "cooperate 100 per cent with Mayor-elect (John) Lindsay."

Kennedy said he favored the programs and people Lindsay proposes to bring to New York and that Democratic leaders should support him in every way possible. "If there are disagreements in policy, then they should be stated," Kennedy said, "but there shouldn't be any backbiting."

## Foster Says Moscow To Rejoin Arms Talks

The director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency yesterday confirmed that the Soviet Union has agreed to resume talks on a pact to halt the spread of nuclear weapons.

William C. Foster said that the negotiations would be in Geneva, preferably in January. He appeared on the television interview "Face the Nation" (CBS-WTOP).

Foster said that there is agreement on the range of items to be discussed at the Geneva meeting which will include 16 nations besides the U.S. and Russia.

Some progress had been made because "differences have been somewhat narrowed" by discussion over the past seven to nine weeks, he added.

Foster said the rejection of participation in a United Nations preliminary disarmament conference by Communist China was a "press statement by an unidentified person in Peking" and "we are making inquiries, trying to find out" what the Chinese really want.