

Vietnam Conference Opens

① Rusk said McNamara will be one of the speakers at the meeting. McNamara said on his arrival last night.

"It's our objective to provide the training and logistical assistance which the South Vietnamese government has requested of us, and upon completion of certain facets of that training, small numbers of the U.S. personnel will be able to return by the end of this year."

The momentous meeting of minds at Camp Smith comes only 29 days after the Diem government was overthrown in a military coup.

Rusk said, "Groups that used to be dissident are beginning to pitch into the war effort so we ought to look upon this as an opportunity to make reassessments and get along with the job more rapidly."

"Today's meeting, he said, will cover some of the international problems relating to U.S. commitments in Southeast Asia.

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Asked if the meeting would discuss future military operations in Vietnam, Rusk said, "American leaders at the meeting will make as full and detailed assessment as possible of how things are going and what can be done to speedily and effectively bring the war to a conclusion."

Reporters pressed Rusk on the question of a military speed-up, and he said that "ought to be our objective, to wind up as soon as possible the various aspects" of the war.

Rusk added that the purpose of the war effort still is to help the Vietnamese defend themselves from this attack from the north."

McNamara said that the change of governments in South Vietnam makes a victory over the Viet Cong rebels possible.

"He said the revolutionary government "is bound to have and is already receiving" more support from the people than the old Diem regime "either had or deserved."

A war against a subversive guerrilla action, as this is, can only be won with the full support of the people and the Diem government had lost the support of much of the population of South Vietnam, McNamara said.

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"We will review again, as we have in the past, the program of assistance which the United States is furnishing to the South Vietnamese government in their fight against the subversive activities of the Viet Cong."

"I think it's quite clear that the previous regime had lost the support of large segments of the population, and a war of this type—a war against a guerrilla action, a war against subversion, can only be won with the full support of the people."

"I think this new government is bound to have and is already receiving more support than the previous one either had or deserved."

Rusk was accompanied by McGeorge Bundy, presidential adviser on national security; Robert Manning, Rusk's deputy for public affairs; David E. Bell, administrator of the Agency of International Development; and Pierre Salinger, President Kennedy's press secretary.

While McNamara has met fairly frequently with Pacific military leaders, this is by far the biggest session on America's future in Southeast Asia.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Lodge Will Report to President

Henry Cabot Lodge, U. S. Ambassador to South Vietnam, said yesterday he would report to President Kennedy right after today's conference of military and political leaders at Camp H. M. Smith.

He said he would leave for Washington tomorrow but wouldn't say just when he would meet with the president.

Lodge declined to discuss

anything else, saying "I'm a non-news source" when approached in the lobby of the Royal Hawaiian Hotel after he made a long-distance phone call from a public pay booth.

Lodge said he was swimming at Waikiki shortly after arriving here yesterday morning from Saigon with General Paul D. Harkins, top U. S. military man in Vietnam.

① States personnel will be one of the subjects we'll discuss at this meeting," Mc-

③ McNamara said, "This is another of a series of meetings which representatives of State and Defense have held with the ambassador and our military commander in South Vietnam over the past several months; I think this is probably the 14th meeting I have attended."

② Despite political problems developing rapidly between Cambodia and Washington, Rusk said that he doubted if a discussion of the Cambodia situation will come up here. He indicated that policy will be handled in Washington.