

Viet Nam Resolution

WASHINGTON (AP) — The congressional resolution on Viet Nam signed by President Johnson on a hot August afternoon in 1964 has rocketed back into the limelight in snow-covered Washington. Exactly what does it say?

In one form or another, the resolution has, like an undercurrent, swept beneath the great decisions and debates over Viet Nam the past five days.

It was used by President Johnson as guidance in his decision to resume bombing of targets in North Viet Nam.

It was cited by Chairman J.W. Fulbright of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee

who said he was "not at all proud of" the part he had in its passage.

Its repeal is being sought by Sen. Wayne Morse, D-Ore., persistent critic of the Johnson administration's handling of the Viet Nam situation.

Johnson requested the resolution shortly after the Gulf of Tonkin incidents in which North Vietnamese PT boats attacked American destroyers.

Here is the text of the joint resolution passed Aug. 10, 1964, "to promote the maintenance of international peace and security in Southeast Asia:"

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the

United States of America in Congress assembled,

Whereas naval units of the Communist regime in Viet Nam, in violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, have deliberately and repeatedly attacked United States naval vessels lawfully present in international waters and have thereby created a serious threat to international peace;

Whereas these attacks are part of a deliberate and systematic campaign of aggression that the Communist regime in North Viet Nam has been waging against its neighbors and the nations joined with them in

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Haunts United States

the collective defense of their freedom;

Whereas the United States is assisting the peoples of Southeast Asia to protect their freedom and has no territorial, military or political ambitions in that area, but desires only that these peoples should be left in peace to work out their own destinies in their own way;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

The Congress approves and supports the determination of the President, as commander in chief, to take all necessary

measures to repel any armed attack against the forces of the United States and to prevent further aggression.

Sec. 2. The United States regards as vital to its national interest and to world peace the maintenance of international peace and security in Southeast Asia. Consonant with the constitution of the Charter of the United Nations and in accordance with its obligation under the Southeast Asia Collective Defense Treaty, the United States is, therefore, prepared, as the President determines, to take all necessary steps, including the use of armed force, to assist any member or protocol state of

the Southeast Asia Collective Defense Treaty requesting assistance in defense of its freedom.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall expire when the President shall determine that the peace and security of the area is reasonably assured by international conditions created by action of the United Nations or otherwise, except that it may be terminated earlier by concurrent resolution of the Congress.

First formal observance of Mother's Day was in Philadelphia Pa., on May 10, 1908.