

# Post-Vietnam Goals Outlined by Rostow

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The struggle in Vietnam may be "the last great confrontation of the postwar era" if Allied forces hold together and "get on with the job," Walt W. Rostow, special assistant to the President, said Thursday.

He argued that if the Cuba missile crisis was the Gettysburg of the cold war, Vietnam could be the Wilderness campaign in "a kind of global civil conflict."

"Vietnam could be made the closing of one chapter in modern history and the opening of another," Rostow said in a lengthy review of world problems at the University of Leeds, England.

Copies of Rostow's address, entitled "The Great Transition: Tasks of the First and Second Postwar Generations," were made available at the White House.

Rostow took as his text President Johnson's theme in his State of the Union address last month that "we are in the midst of a great transition: from narrow nationalism to international partnership; from the harsh spirit of the cold war to the hopeful spirit of common humanity on a troubled and threatened planet."

Much of the effort of the first postwar generation was devoted to preventing Communist powers from altering boundaries by force of arms, Rostow said. If the effort is successful in Vietnam, the new generation can concentrate on positive development rather than the prevention of aggression.

He outlined the major tasks as follows:

First moving to settlement, reconciliation and cooperation with respect to endemic disputes.

Second, moving forward in the tasks of growth in the developing regions, especially the food problem.

Third, carrying forward movements toward regionalism.

Fourth, moving toward a liquidation of key issues of the cold war in Europe, and toward arms control, while working to bring a more moderate Communist China into a normal relationship with other countries.

Rostow said that "we have made great but uneven progress" in the effort to aid the developing countries, but that now "a lion stands in the path: the food-population problem."

"The solution to this problem will certainly be central to the agenda of the coming generation," he said.

Mass starvation can be prevented only by massive and cooperative action by all countries, Rostow said. Unless Red China faces up to its food problem, "it may need the help of the world community to avoid mass starvation," he said.

Rostow declared that Chinese leaders made "two grandiose errors": emphasizing industry at the expense of agriculture and attempting to expand onto the world scene in disregard of the realities of power.