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# Goldberg Reaffirms Viet Stand

From News Dispatches

U.S. Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg arrived in Saigon last night to "reaffirm our commitment" that the South Vietnamese "be left alone to determine their own destiny." Meanwhile, in Rangoon, U.N. Secretary General U Thant denied that he planned to confer with North Vietnamese diplomats during his vacation in Burma.

## Goldberg

SAIGON — Goldberg reiterated that the Administration position "has always been that we're ready for unconditional negotiations." Referring to his days as a labor negotiator, the Ambassador said that "like a labor dispute," the "will for peace has to be on all sides. Steps toward peace must be reciprocal." He added that U.S. peace overtures "unfortunately are not matched on the other side."

## U Thant

RANGOON — Diplomatic sources said that North Vietnamese officials had contacted Thant at the resort city of Ngapali. They said Thant declined to meet the North Vietnamese because of his public statements that he was on a personal visit to his homeland. However, some observers believe that a visiting North Vietnamese mission may communicate with the Secretary General through Burmese government officials to spare Thant the publicity of face-to-face talks.

## North Vietnam

The North Vietnamese Foreign Ministry declared yesterday that the United States is "mistaken" if it thinks it "can prevent North Vietnam from supporting the South and can force the Vietnamese people to hold negotiations under their (U.S.) conditions by widening their air war of destruction." The statement, broadcast from Hanoi and monitored in Tokyo, came on the heels of a Vietcong statement Tuesday reaffirming its will to fight.

## "Phoenix" Mission

HIROSHIMA—Five American pacifists left yesterday on the Phoenix, a 50-foot ketch they hope to sail to North Vietnam with a cargo of medical supplies. The group plans to stop in Hong Kong to pick up additional medicine and three more passengers. If all goes well, the Phoenix will arrive in Haiphong in about three weeks. Total value of the medical supplies is said to be \$20,000.

The State Department has declined to say what action might be taken against the Phoenix crew, but it noted that U.S. law prohibits shipment of supplies to North Vietnam without a license, and that special validation of passports is required for travel to that country. The Phoenix group has neither.

## Russell "Trial"

BERN—The Swiss government refused an application by British philosopher Bertrand Russell to hold his "international war crimes trial" of President Johnson and other U.S. leaders in Geneva. The Swiss Federal Council refused the request because it ran counter to a law prohibiting foreigners from making political propaganda on Swiss territory.