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Goldberg Briefs Saigon on U.S. Stand

By William Tuohy

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SAIGON, March 4—Arthur Goldberg said today that he had reviewed with South Vietnamese officials various American attempts aimed "at achieving an honorable settlement through unconditional negotiations."

The American ambassador to the United Nations did not spell out the "many efforts," but he said that "our will to go to the conference table is not shared by the other side."

Goldberg made his remarks at a news conference after three days in Vietnam, shortly before departing for Manila to see Philippine leaders and attend a meeting of U.S. ambassadors to Southeast Asian nations.

[Goldberg arrived in Manila and immediately went to Malacanang Palace for a meeting with President Ferdinand E. Marcos that lasted 30 minutes, United Press International reported. The details of their talk were not disclosed.]

Confers With Marcos

Goldberg repeated his belief that there is "no insurmountable problem" between Washington and Saigon in agreeing to the nature of the role the National Liberation Front, the Vietcong's political apparatus, would play at some future conference table.

In his meeting with Vietnamese government leaders, informed sources said, Goldberg was told that they were

willing to negotiate a settlement of the war with Hanoi as long as South Vietnam's interests were protected.

On his part, these informed sources added, Goldberg reassured the Saigon leaders—as well as Asian leaders in Tokyo, Seoul, and Taipei—that the United States had no intention of abandoning commitments in Asia.

View of Concessions

According to these sources, some Asian leaders had expressed the fear that America might try to make too many concessions in Asia in its desire to seek an over-all detente with the Soviet Union.

The Ambassador spent Saturday morning touring Lon-

gan Province in the northern Delta region. He did not wear the usual fatigues and boots, merely taking off his dark blue jacket and tie, and touring the countryside in a long white shirt with French cuffs and dressy black shoes.

With Col. Sam Wilson of Farmville, Va., American mission chief in Longan, Goldberg flew over Vietcong areas and had a first-hand look at the trails, spider holes, and bunkers of the villages under enemy control.

He observed a village being built by Chieu Hois, "ralliers to the government cause," and said, "I think this is the real meaning of national reconciliation."