



UPI Telephoto

BESS TRUMAN (CENTER) WITH HENRY AND NANCY KISSINGER.  
The secretary and his wife made a 30-minute visit in Independence, Mo.

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# Kissinger Says U.S. Won't Make a Deal for the Ship

## Kansas City

The Ford administration has ruled out any deal with the Communist regime in Cambodia to win release of the seized American ship Mayaguez, it was learned yesterday.

The new government in Phnom Penh is not going to get anything for return of the merchantman and its 39-man crew, newsmen traveling with Secretary of State

Henry A. Kissinger were told.

Also, it was understood that Kissinger would be astonished if President Ford agreed to a Pueblo-style compromise.

In 1969, in order to secure release of the Pueblo, the United States signed a statement that the electronic vessel had been in North Korean territorial waters committing "grave acts of espionage."

nage."

In another statement, the U.S. government repudiated the agreement.

The State Department, in its messages to Cambodia, most probably through Chinese channels, is known to be emphasizing a single point. That is: "We want the ship back."

Return is not considered to be imminent.

There has been little negotiating activity since the Mayaguez was fired on and seized by a Cambodian naval vessel in the Gulf of Thailand.

U.S. officials acknowledge that the Mayaguez may have been within eight or ten miles of an island reportedly claimed by both Cambodia and South Vietnam.

But even though the Unit-



ed States supports a change in international law to extend national sovereignty to 12 miles, the State Department says international

*Back Page Col. 5*

From Page 1

shipping lanes must remain free. Also, the department questions that a 12-mile zone can be established around all island possessions.

Kissinger, answering questions after a speech to the Kansas City International Relations Council said, "We insist upon release of the ship and of its crew."

He acknowledged the War Powers Act and additional congressional restrictions "complicate the flexibility of the President" in Indochina.

"But, on the other hand," he said, "It is generally held that the President has inherent powers to protect American lives. I know the President is operating on this assumption."

Kissinger added that the administration would consult with Congress.

At a subsequent news conference he said, "The United States will not accept harassment of ships on international sea lanes."

He said the President can act — in unspecified ways — without the explicit approval of Congress. But he said that, whatever Mr. Ford decides to do if diplomatic negotiations fail, he would "consult" with the legislators.

Kissinger and his wife, Nancy, met with Bess Truman for 30 minutes yesterday before leaving Missouri to return to Washington.

The 90-year-old widow of former President Harry S. Truman, standing with the aid of a cane, greeted her visitors at the door of her Independence home.

*Associated Press*