

Ky Confirms Intention to Appear At McIntire's Washington Rally

By JAMES P. STERBA

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SAIGON, South Vietnam, Sept. 20—Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky went on South Vietnamese national television tonight to confirm that he would make his trip to Washington as planned and that he would participate in the controversial prowar March for Victory rally to be held Oct. 3 on the grounds of the Washington Monument.

"The forthcoming March for Victory will provide a good opportunity for us to raise our own voice and a good tribune from which we will be able to speak directly to the American people," the Vice President said in his 12-minute speech.

It was the first time Mr. Ky had committed himself publicly to participate in the rally, sponsored by the Rev. Carl McIntire, a fundamentalist right-wing preacher. Mr. McIntire had flown to South Vietnam and urged Mr. Ky in a meeting on Sept. 12 to keep his pledge to attend the rally.

Reaction Feared

Officials of the Nixon Administration and American and South Vietnamese officials in Saigon had earlier reportedly expressed fear that the rally would aggravate antiwar feelings in America.

Mr. Ky acknowledged that he had heard reports "that my presence would embarrass the Nixon Administration and American parties and cause difficulties to the coming elections in the United States."

He went on to say: "I am a Vietnamese and neither a member of the Democratic party nor the Republican party of the United States. How, then, can I cause difficulties to them? I do not have the intention of interfering in the internal affairs of the United States, nor any other country in the world."

'A Fellow Combatant'

Speaking in Vietnamese, he continued: "I am not a dove and, truly speaking neither am I a hawk. I am going to speak to the American people as a fellow combatant, and I think as fellow combatants we should have a better mutual understanding."

There has been no official word from the Presidential Palace about President Nguyen Van Thieu's attitude toward Mr. Ky's decision. Because Mr. Ky has described his trip as a "private visit," the President presumably does not have the power to order him not to go.

There were unconfirmed reports that President Thieu has voiced some misgivings but that Mr. Ky had talked with him and had assured him he would not say anything out of line.

The Vice President said he was aware of the "risks and dangers" involved in his trip, scheduled to begin Tuesday with a flight to Paris and then to Washington.

Cables and Letters

He said: "I have received many cables and letters from individuals and associations in the United States as well as in Vietnam expressing approval of the trip. Some also expressed their concern about the risks involved. But life and death have been predetermined and it is vain to struggle against fate."

He said: "The dangers and the damages, if any, would only go to me alone. But for the country and the people I am sure this trip will be useful. The good cause of our struggle should be heard and the dark plots of the Communists should be denounced. That is the purpose of my forthcoming trip to the United States."

Mr. McIntire has predicted that more than half a million people will attend the rally in which, he said, Vice President Ky would "out-Agnew Agnew."

Preacher Widely Heard

The preacher, from the Bible Presbyterian Church in Collingswood, N. J., broadcasts the program "20th Century Reformation Hour" over more than 600 radio stations in the United States.

Mr. Ky, 40 years old, has long had a reputation of being a brash and outspoken spokesman against Communism and has consistently taken a hard line against concessions to Hanoi. His trip to the United States, he insisted, had no political meaning.

Referring to the presidency, he said: "Next year, if I run I will certainly run in Vietnam, not in the United States. I would think you would not have to travel that far to prepare for an election that is still so far away, especially when that trip could be filled with dangers and uncertainties, according to some people who have voiced their apprehensions."