

Thieu Wants to Settle in the U.S.



Jack Anderson

CONFIDENTIAL CABLES from the U.S. embassy in Taiwan report that South Vietnam's deposed President Nguyen Van Thieu wants to settle permanently in the United States.

American diplomats have done their best, however to discourage the idea. They fear that the Vietnam issue is still too hot and that Thieu's arrival might touch off demonstrations.

But they fully expect Thieu will eventually move to the United States. As one source put it: "It's not a question of if; it is a question of when."

Thieu left office on April 21 with a withering blast at the United States. He charged that U.S. failure to support his regime was the major cause of its disintegration.

He fled Saigon shortly before the victorious Communists moved in and he secured refuge in Taiwan. He is now ensconced in a five-bedroom house in a residential compound outside Taipei.

Behind the high walls are a swimming pool and a garden where Thieu lolls in seeming tranquility. But the embassy cables indicate that Thieu is unhappy in Taipei and would like to join the South Vietnamese community in America.

WXP clipping filed Indochina.

THE CENTRAL Intelligence Agency monitored all telephone calls between the United States and Latin America for three months, apparently without the knowledge of the telephone company.

We checked into this illegal telephone monitoring several months ago. Both the CIA and the Bell System flatly denied the story. Now the Rockefeller Commission has confirmed that the calls were monitored in late 1973 until the CIA's general counsel put a stop to it.

A spokesman for the Bell System still assures us the company "had no knowledge of any wiretapping by the CIA and did not at any time provide any assistance to the agency in connection with wiretapping, eavesdropping or otherwise monitoring of any telephone calls between the United States and any foreign countries, including those in Latin America."

We have learned, however, that the Bell System provided the CIA with traffic information on calls between the U.S. and both Russia and China.

This information, a spokesman explained, "was not furnished with respect to any particular callers but rather on all calls."

It included only the names, telephone numbers and locations of the parties involved and the date, time and duration of any completed calls. The information provided did not disclose the content of any conversation."