

No Deadline

Rogers Indicates Viet Troops Will Stay in Cambodia

Washington

Secretary of State William P. Rogers indicated yesterday that the Administration will not oppose continuing South Vietnamese operations in Cambodia after American forces are pulled out.

He left open the possibility that American air support would be provided.

Rogers said the Administration is "not concerned at all" at reports from Saigon that the South Vietnamese army intends to continue operating in Cambodia after United States troops are withdrawn the end of next month.

DOCTRINE

Any such operations, he said, could fall under President Nixon's doctrine that "Asians work together to solve Asian problems."

Over the last several days, it has grown clear that the administration no longer is certain that the South Vietnamese will be bound by the

Report of Red China Troop Move

Taipei, Formosa

The Nationalist Chinese Central News Agency reported increased Communist troop movements in the provinces of Kwangsi and Yunnan on the mainland of China bordering North Vietnam.

The agency, quoting informed sources, said there were similar movements in eastern and southern Kwangtung province and followed orders from Peking to increase combat readiness because of the Indochina conflict.

It did not mention any Chinese troops crossing the border into North Vietnam.

Reuters

limitations that President Nixon has imposed on the U.S. operation into Cambodia — principally, the July 1 deadline for withdrawal.

This uncertainty contrasts with Mr. Nixon's firm statement on May 8 that "I would expect that the South Vietnamese would come out at approximately the same time that we do because when we come out our logistical support and air support will also come out."

DOUBT

Subsequent administration statements have cast doubt on whether the President's remarks on logistical and air support still stand.

Rogers spoke cautiously with newsmen at Andrews Air Force Base before he took off for a NATO ministerial meeting in Rome. He declined to say specifically that U.S. air support would be provided for Vietnamese units on operations into Cambodia.

"Our forces will be out of Cambodia by July 1," Rogers said. "But insofar as other aspects of the war are concerned, there is no point to signaling the enemy in advance. They don't tell us and we don't have any intention of notifying them."

CAUTION

Similar caution on the question of air support was shown by Herbert G. Klein, President Nixon's director of communications, who was interviewed on CBS' radio and television program "Face the Nation."

"I couldn't really rule in or rule out the possibility of air support," Klein said. "The question is probably too broad to give you a direct answer. I can only say that our

aim is to protect the security of American forces."

Klein said, that, despite the most recent indications of a South Vietnamese intention to remain in Cambodia, he stands by Mr. Nixon's statement of two weeks ago, "that the timetable in general will be followed, that they will follow their withdrawal with ours."

"Beyond that, as to what they might do at some future point," Klein added, "I don't think any of us can speak for what might be done by another government."

New York Times