

# A Hint of What's Next In Cambodia

U.P. & A.P.

Washington

The State Department said yesterday that United States air and logistic support for South Vietnamese troops operating in Cambodia may halt on June 30—the deadline for the withdrawal of American troops—and then resume in a day or so.

Department spokesman Carl Bartch said, "I think it's fair to say that when the United States withdraws its forces from Cambodia by June 30 that air and logistic support would also be withdrawn." He added:

"I am distinguishing between that and what might arise in the future after June 30."

## RESUMPTION

Newsmen then asked him whether U.S. support for the South Vietnamese might be cut off on June 30 and restored on July 1, and he agreed that something like that might develop.

At his May 8 news conference President Nixon said he expected the South Vietnamese to leave Cambodia about the same time as the Americans and that when the latter leave their air and logistical

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supports would go with them. This seemed to imply that if the South Vietnamese remained they'd be on their own.

Pentagon sources said no decision to support them has been made yet.

Defense Department officials said during the day that the South Vietnamese air force most likely will furnish the support for Vietnamese troops in any future operations in Cambodia.

## USC

U.S. air power used in Cambodia after July 1, they said, probably will concentrate on bombing enemy supply routes and concentrations in the same way American warplanes have been trying to interdict the Ho Chi Minh trail running through Laos.

This was the clearest indication yet of how air attacks in Cambodia will be handled after the deadline for total U.S. troop pullout from Cambodia.

The South Vietnamese Air Force flew close support missions in the Parrot's Peak, frist of the enemy's Cambodian based areas to be attacked on the ground in late April. This was largely a South Vietnamese operation.

As U.S. forces moved into other Cambodian sanctuaries, American air units took over the dominant support role.

## DEPARTURE

The White House also reaffirmed yesterday that U.S. forces will leave Cambodia by the end of June despite Cambodian wishes that they remain.

Presidential Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler said U.S. determination to have all Americans out of Cambodia by June 30 would not be swayed by the reported intention of Cambodian Foreign Minister Yem Sambaur to ask President Nixon to order them to remain for the duration of the war.

Ziegler said the White House has not received a request from the Phnom Penh government for U.S. troops to remain in Cambodia.

"If we do receive such a request we would make them aware of our policy," Ziegler said, saying the U.S. is sticking by Mr. Nixon's plan to be out of Cambodia by June 30.