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U.S. Denies a Plan For Major Increase In Cambodian Role

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 18—The State Department affirmed today that the Administration was committed to maintaining a "low profile" in Cambodia and was not considering any plan that would substantially increase the American involvement there.

Charles W. Bray 3d, a department spokesman, denied reports that the Administration was considering a major increase in the United States aid program for Cambodia.

Congressional sources, concerned about the possibility of an involvement developing in Cambodia similar to the one in Vietnam, have reported that the Joint Chiefs of Staff have developed a plan under which American aid to Cambodia would more than double yearly to about \$500-million by 1977.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, over Administration objections, last week voted an amendment to the foreign aid bill putting a ceiling of \$250-million on United States aid to Cambodia in the current fiscal year and limiting to 200 the number of Americans who could be stationed there. It also barred the use of American funds to employ more than 50 persons from third countries.

Mr. Bray also denied persistent news reports from Cambodia that thought was being given to hiring Thais or other allies to serve as military advisers to the Cambodians, financed by American funds. Americans are barred from serving as advisers in Cambodia.
