

NYTimes
**Thai Premier Calls for Ties
With Hanoi as Soon as Possible**

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BANGKOK, Thailand, May 23 (Reuters)—Thailand wants diplomatic relations with North Vietnam as soon as possible, Premier Kukrit Pramoj said today on the second day of talks here between the two countries.

Mr. Kukrit told newsmen that he hoped the talks would bring about the early establishment of relations.

The North Vietnamese representatives are stressing the need for "mutual confidence," informed sources said. They are believed to be urging Thailand to speed the eviction of American forces, currently scheduled for next March.

The Thais are expected to demand that Hanoi stop its support for Thai Communist guerrillas in Northeast Thailand.

Among other issues on the

agenda is the future of some 40,000 Vietnamese refugees who have lived in northeast Thailand since the nineteen-fifties.

After a series of demonstrations against the refugees this month, the Government said it wanted them to return to Vietnam within a year. Hanoi has objected publicly to this idea, and it appeared that the North Vietnamese delegation would not welcome it.

Meanwhile, in his first major speech to the nation since he came to power two months ago, Premier Kukrit stressed the need for self-reliance as Thailand moves away from the United States.

Since there were now Communist stems in Cambodia and South Vietnam and the pro-Communist Vyshet Lao were gaining in creasing power in neighbouring Laos, "I have a feeling that it is time to rely on ourselves," he said over radio and television. "our freedom."