

# U.S. Vetoes U.N. Seat Bid by 2 Vietnams

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UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 11—The United States, standing alone against the overwhelming majority of the Security Council and reversing a practice of 30 years, today vetoed the admission of North and South Vietnam to the United Nations because of the council's refusal to consider South Korea's application for membership.

It was the first time that the United States vetoed a membership application.

Thirteen countries voted in favor of the admission of the two Vietnams. When U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Daniel P. Moynihan cast the only negative vote, there were hisses from the partially filled visitors gallery. Moynihan's vote, the eighth U.S. veto in the history of the United Nations, was on the admission of South Vietnam.

The U.S. ambassador cast another

veto, again the only negative vote, on the admission of North Vietnam. The hisses were heard again.

Costa Rica abstained on both votes. Moynihan spoke after the votes were cast, following a day of speeches by members of the Security Council as well as other U.N. members, all of whom supported the admission of the two Vietnams. Their speeches were filled with references to the "just war" and the "just cause" of the Vietnamese people in their protracted struggle against "imperialism" and "colonialism."

The representative of Guyana, who introduced the two resolutions of admission, said that events in Vietnam were a victory for the forces of national liberation.

"If our specific actions today are at variance with 30 years' practice," Moynihan told the council, "we nonetheless continue to act in support of the same principle, that of universal membership in the United Nations."

The United States, he said, is prepared to support the admission of the two Vietnams and South Korea—and North Korea if it were to apply. But what changed the U.S. position was the decision of the council last week "denying to one applicant (South Korea) even the right to have its case considered. Never before has the council gone so far as to refuse even to consider the application of an entity so widely regarded as a state," he said.

The Moynihan speech was brief, apparently because of a decision taken in Washington the play down the American veto. Moynihan, it is understood, was prepared to make a wide-ranging statement about the shift in U.S. practice, coupled with an appeal for "due process" in the procedures of the United Nations.

South Korea first applied for membership in 1949, and the U.S. believed

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that its admission should be considered with more recent applicants.

Reiterating the same warning that came from the State Department last week, Moynihan said the United States will "have nothing to do with selective universality, a principle which in practice admits only new members acceptable to the totalitarian states."

In the past the Soviet Union has vetoed the application of South Korea. China recently vetoed the admission application of Bangladesh.

Observers at the United Nations today expressed dismay at the shift in U.S. practice, suggesting that the veto represents personal pique on the part of Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger at the failure of U.S. policy in Vietnam.

Diplomats here said that representatives of the two Vietnams would probably be given the right to speak in the next General Assembly session, just as the representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization was given the floor during the last session.

South Vietnamese Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi, an observer

here, said before the vote, that the veto represents the continuing hostility of the United States toward the Vietnamese people. Thi said in a brief interview that his government and the North Vietnamese government want to look to the future, not to the past, and want to establish diplomatic relations with the United States.

That, he said, would be conditional on U.S. fulfillment of its obligations under the 1973 Paris accords, including an American contribution to reconstruction. South Vietnamese spokesman Heynh Nghiep said the South Vietnamese government is prepared to open discussions on how to proceed toward normalization of relations.

Those discussions, he said, could deal with all outstanding problems including reconstruction as well as with American missing in action. As to how and when such discussions could take place, Nghiep said, "The most important thing is the willingness to start. The form is unimportant."

In a formal statement after today's vote, Thi and North Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Van Luu said that the U.S. attempt to link the admission of

South Korea to that of the two Vietnams "is an illogical, absurd and unjustifiable position."

There was some dismay among American diplomats that Japan, which was serving as Security Council president for the month of August, was not more enthusiastic in its support of the South Korean application.

The Soviet and Chinese ambassadors vied with each other in expressing their support for the Vietnamese. Chinese Ambassador Huang Hua recalled that China and Vietnam are as closely linked as the lips and the teeth, that they are near and dear brothers and comrades. Soviet Ambassador Jacob Malik recalled that the Soviet Union maintains the closest and friendliest relations with the two Vietnams and that it has been "continuously on the side of the patriots."

In another development, 35 Communist and Third World states called for conversion of the Korean armistice accord into a durable peace and for reunification of the divided peninsula.

The draft resolution, seen as a counterweight to a proposal made in June by the United States and other countries seeking dissolution of the U.N. Command in Korea, provided alternative arrangements on aid. The new proposal also calls for dissolving the U.N. Command and for all foreign troops under the U.N. flag to withdraw from South Korea.