

VIETNAM BIDS U.S. LET IT ENTER U.N.

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Newly United Country Says
That Assent Would Help
to 'Normalize' Relations

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UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Sept. 1—Vietnam appealed to the United States today not to veto its application for membership in the United Nations, and said American acquiescence to its admission would improve the atmosphere for talks between Hanoi and Washington to "normalize" relations.

Next week the Security Council is to consider a membership application that the Communist Government of reunified Vietnam submitted Aug. 20.

The permanent observer of the Hanoi Government at the United Nations, Dinh Ba Thi, called on the United States at a press conference today to act in the 15-nation Council in accordance with the United Nations Charter and the "traditions of freedom and justice of the American people."

Speech Moderate in Tone

Moderate in tone, the Vietnamese representative also stressed that direct contacts between his Government and Washington would greatly help to solve the unsettled questions of Americans missing in action and of American assistance in his country's postwar reconstruction.

The United States used its veto power in the Security Council last year to block applications by North Vietnam and South Vietnam for membership. The two countries merged this year after elections.

The United States said last year it was blocking admission of the two Vietnams because the Security Council had refused even to consider South Korea's application for United Nations membership. North Korea has submitted no request to become a member.

The Vietnamese representative said today the explanation for the American vetoes against North Vietnam and South Vietnam had been an "absolute pretext." He added his Government had so far received no indication on how the United States would vote in the Council this time.

American officials refused to comment on the United States position in next week's debate on Vietnam. Sources close to the Administration are speculating that the United States attitude may depend on a last-minute signal from Hanoi holding out hope for progress in efforts to settle the problem of Americans missing in action.