

Thant Makes Appeal for Urgent International Confer

By SAM POPE BREWER

Special to The New York Times

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., May 5 — Secretary General Thant made a worldwide appeal today for an international meeting to seek peace in Indochina.

He called such a conference "an indispensable step of the utmost urgency," and concluded, "all who seek peace and justice should support such a move."

The Secretary General recalled that he had consistently said for several years that no peace could come to Vietnam and its neighbors in Indochina through military action.

As the text of Mr. Thant's statement was distributed here,

he delivered it orally over the United Nations television and radio hookup. At least 18 countries took it through satellite transmission for live television showing, the secretariat reported. Those did not include the Soviet Union.

No Decisive U.N. Role

Mr. Thant noted that the United Nations had "not been in a position so far to play a decisive role in bringing an end to the conflict." He said this was partly because several of the parties involved—he apparently meant North Vietnam, South Vietnam, the Vietcong and Communist China—were not member states. Another reason, he said, is that many members "including some per-

manent members of the Security Council, were not in favor of United Nations involvement."

The principal opponent of such discussion in the Council has been the Soviet Union.

"I fear that, if the parties involved do not take urgent, decisive and courageous measures toward peace, it will become increasingly difficult to end a war which constitutes a threat not only for the peoples of Indochina but for the whole of mankind," Mr. Thant said.

Coincidentally with Mr. Thant's statement, the United States made public the text of a letter to the Security Council reporting the United States action in Cambodia and the rea-

sons for it. The United States representative, Charles W. Yost, who presented the letter today to Jack Kosciusko-Morizet of France, president of the Council, asked for its circulation to all Council members.

Similar letters were presented on Feb. 7 and 27, 1965, to explain American armed action in South Vietnam. They required no Council action.

Thant Briefed on Letter

Mr. Yost called on Mr. Thant yesterday and advised him of the gist of the letter.

It started by accusing North Vietnam of aggression and described the sending of United States and South Vietnamese troops into Cambodia as "ap-

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1970

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ence to Seek Peaceful Settlement of Indochina War

appropriate measures of collective self-defense by the armed forces of the Republic of Vietnam and the United States of America."

It was basically a summary of the reasons given by President Nixon on Tuesday, with quotes from Mr. Nixon on preventing the use of Cambodia as a "springboard for attacks" by North Vietnam and on "ending the war in Vietnam and winning the just peace we all desire."

Mr. Yost assured the Council: "The United States wishes to reiterate its continued respect for the sovereignty, independence, neutrality and territorial integrity of Cambodia."

Mr. Thant's statement began: "For many years I have expressed my belief that military methods would not bring about a peaceful solution to the Vietnam problem and I have always stated that the only sensible objective was to return to the provisions of the 1954 Geneva agreement."

Those agreements ended eight years of fighting between France and her former colonies in Indochina. They provided for the independence and neutrality of Cambodia and Laos and partitioned Vietnam into two zones with provisions for general elections on their future to be held in two years.

The agreements were signed by France, Britain, the Soviet Union, Communist China, Cambodia, Laos and the Vietminh regime, the predecessor the North Vietnamese Government. The United States and the Vietnamese Government—later the South Vietnamese Government—took part in the talks but did not sign the agreements.

Peace Efforts 'Vital'

"Since the inception of the Paris talks," Mr. Thant said, "I have refrained from public statements in order to avoid any risk of creating unnecessary difficulties for those talks."

He said he had broken his

silence not because he thought the Paris talks had failed but because he felt every possible effort toward peaceful solution of the Vietnam war had become "more imperative and more vital now than ever before."

This is because, he said, it has become "alarmingly clear," that "a new and critical stage in the development of that war is being reached."

Mr. Thant expressed concern over the spread of the war into Cambodia and over "the intensification of the fighting in Laos."

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