

Elegant In Field And Fashion



Mai Ky and her "westernized" eyes



Sometimes she totes a pistol

WHO'S WHO

Frances Moffat

Security Clouds Mrs. Ky's S.F. Visit

IF THE ANTICIPATED protest develops tomorrow when South Vietnam's Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky comes to town, his 28-year-old wife, Mai, might be tempted to show up in her battlefront outfit.

The State Department cautions that while she is traveling with him on an unofficial private visit (he's inspecting Vietnamese troops being trained in this country), it's possible Mrs. Ky won't come to San Francisco.

However, Luong Nhi Ky (no relation), South Vietnam's consul general here, expects her to be in the party of ten that will stay at the Fairmont, where Ky speaks tomorrow at a Commonwealth Club luncheon.

Hotel officials said security is so tight they don't know arrival time. They have simply been told, "We'll tell you when it happens."

It's reminiscent of the visit of Mme. Ngo Dinh Nhu, the "Dragon Lady" of Saigon, who came here for three days in late October, 1963, shortly before her husband and his brother, President Ngo Dinh Diem, were slain by a junta.

It cost our police department \$11,759 to protect Mme. Nhu from pickets protesting the war and the policies of the Diem regime. She never returned to Vietnam and now lives in Rome.

Mai Ky is no Mme. Nhu, but the pretty former airline stewardess has gotten her share of publicity, particularly for the clothes in which she has visited the battlefield.

She and Vice President Ky have His and Hers black zippered helicopter suits which they wear with lavender scarves and black boots. Wire services have dubbed her "the best-dressed woman in any battle area."

Mai sometimes adds a holster to her suit and totes a pistol. She is said to be able to draw a gun in Wyatt Earp style. She also can cook, copilot a DC3 and converse in three languages.

She and Ky have a 5-year-old daughter, Duyen, a name that means "a wonderful love story." By a previous marriage, the vice president has a daughter and four sons, all of whom live with them.



The Kys during last year's S.F. stopover

Four years ago Mai Ky was in the news because she went to Tokyo to have her eyes "westernized," to make herself more attractive to her husband, she said at the time.

The Kys have a home in Paris. They were there last month when plans for them to attend the March for Victory rally in Washington, D.C., organized by the Rev. Carl McIntire, were canceled.

This is their first visit to San Francisco, although they were at the airport a few hours in March, 1969, en route to Washington to attend the funeral of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Mrs. Ky was then wearing a yellow ao dai, a high-collared native dress. The Kys' U.S. tour has been under wraps — tomorrow is his first public appearance — so we'll have to wait to see what Mai is wearing in this country.

What's Going On . . .

. . . Friends of L. B. Chilton, who was killed November 20 in an auto accident near St. Helena, are invited to a memorial service at 5:45 this afternoon at the Swedenborgian Church . . . ular bachelor art dealer was buried in town, Marlin, Texas . . . instructions for contributions to the Children's Hospital are preferred.

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