

U.S. Assailed At World Assembly

Versailles, France

One of the biggest international assemblies ever held on Indochina opened here yesterday with expressions of total support for the National Liberation Front and North Vietnamese positions.

There was also condemnation of the United States' refusal Thursday to agree to a date for the next session of the peace talks because of the what it called "intolerable" pressure of the assembly.

Some 800 delegates to the World Assembly of Paris for Peace and Independence of the Indochinese Peoples from 75 countries agreed that the United States is escalating the war through the use of bombers and mercenaries and is sabotaging the Paris peace negotiations.

"What our friends in Indochina expect from us is an immense cry — stop the war right away, that's enough," Andre Souquiere, secretary general of the French Movement for Peace, said in opening the three-day meeting.

Among the delegates were about 100 Americans, who appeared particularly indignant at being called "a horde of Communist-controlled agitators." This was the expression used Thursday by William J. Porter, the chief American negotiator, in refusing to schedule a new meeting in protest against what he said were the "intolerable" pressures being exerted on the talks by the Versailles assembly.



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Delegates from 75 countries at the peace congress in Versailles condemned U.S.

The Rev. Paul Maier, an American Catholic priest, called Porter's "Communist" charge "slander" and Bronson Clark, executive secretary of the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers) accused the negotiator of using "gutter language."

In Versailles the organizers were announced as 48 French organizations and the Stockholm Conference on Vietnam. Among the French organizations, the Communist Party and groups it controls figure prominently along with the Socialist Party and independent labor, civic and religious groups.

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