

# U.S. Advisers

NEW ORLEANS STAFF ITEM

# To Stay in Viet

NOV 3 1972

SAIGON (AP) — The U.S. government has drafted secret plans for a military advisory group of American civilians to remain in South Vietnam after all U.S. troops are withdrawn, similar to the situation that now exists in Laos.

U.S. military sources said the advisers would be employed by civilian firms that would be under contract either to the U.S. Defense or State Departments. They would be on the order of Air America, the charter airline

that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency finances in Laos.

The draft peace agreement negotiated by Henry A. Kissinger and the North Vietnamese in Paris calls for the withdrawal of all U.S. forces from Vietnam within 60 days of a cease-fire but nothing has been said publicly about U.S. civilian advisers.

THE AGREEMENT also stipulates that the United States can send military equipment to the Saigon government only as replacements on a one-

to-one basis, with the replacement weapons to be of the same or similar characteristics and properties.

In anticipation that an agreement may be signed soon, the Nixon administration is rushing millions of dollars worth of military equipment into South Vietnam to beat any cease-fire cutoff, including 30 of the first four-engine transport planes to be given to the South Vietnamese air force.

The C130s began arriving at Saigon's Tan Son Nhut Air Base Thursday and the delivery is expected to be completed early next week, even though pilots and mechanics have not been trained for them.

The training of the C130 crews will be handled by civilian firms under contract, working with the U.S. Air Force advisory group for the time being, sources said. If the cease-fire agreement is signed while the training is still under way, the civilian firms will take over the entire program, the sources said.

## Nixon Attacks Rush to Truce

NOV 3 1972

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon says the United States will sign a Vietnam settlement "when the agreement is right—not one day before."

The President, who jets to Illinois, Oklahoma, and Rhode Island today to start a six-state campaign spurt, told a nationwide television audience that ambiguities in a draft peace accord with the North Vietnamese "must be clarified."

"We are not going to allow an election deadline or any other kind of deadline to force us into an agreement which would be only a temporary truce and not a lasting peace," he said.

Today's trip halfway across the continent and back is intended to bolster Republican chances of capturing closely-contested Senate seats now held by Democrats.

It comes as Nixon discusses health issues in a noontime network-radio broadcast and precedes a Saturday trip carrying him to North Carolina, New Mexico and California.

Thursday night's speech was Nixon's first prime-time television address of the campaign. And it was his most comprehensive report to date on the status of the Vietnam peace maneuvering.

He told voters that "the leaders in Hanoi will be watching" the election results for an answer to the question of whether Americans want "peace with honor or peace with surrender."

His re-election, the President said, "can help make certain that peace with honor can now be achieved."

Campaigning in Michigan, Sen. George McGovern said after listening to Nixon's address that "apparently the negotiations for peace are not going well at all."

"We have reached substantial agreement on most of the terms of a settlement," Nixon said as he reported that the settlement "we are ready to conclude" would accomplish his basic objectives—including return of all war prisoners and "a cease-fire throughout Indochina."

The nine-point accord disclosed by Hanoi a week ago — and not disputed by the United States—makes no reference to an Indochina-wide ceasefire. Rather, it says a cease-fire in South Vietnam would begin 24 hours after the agreement is signed.

THEY ADDED that the South Vietnamese Air Force is already short of maintenance personnel, and the U.S. Air Force and Army already have hired civilian firms to perform maintenance on both U.S. and South Vietnamese aircraft.

Informed sources said the Vietnamization program originally did not call for the South Vietnamese to get C130s but this was changed recently so they could move more troops and cargo. The four-engine planes can carry a third more than the twin-engine transports previously given the South Vietnamese.

One mechanic at Tan Son Nhut said the South Vietnamese didn't know the C130s were arriving until Thursday. The only cargo aboard them appeared to be maintenance equipment.