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The War's Biggest
Military Aid Push

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Warplanes Rushed To S. Viet

SAIGON — (AP) —

The United States rushed more warplanes to South Vietnam today in the war's biggest military aid effort. U.S. sources said the buildup will make the South Vietnamese air force the third largest in the world, with more than 2000 aircraft.

It was disclosed that three Asian countries have agreed to give up about 120 of their U.S.-supplied F5 jet fighters to strengthen the South Vietnamese air force before a cease-fire goes into effect.

The Pentagon confirmed that South Korea, Nationalist China and Iran all had agreed to lend fighter planes to South Vietnam. Sources said each of the three allies would furnish about 40 jets which is about half of the total of such planes now in possession of the three countries.

Cease-Fire

The additional aircraft would strengthen the South Vietnamese air force while it can still be strengthened. Under terms of a proposed cease-fire, the United States could not provide additional military equipment to South Vietnam except as replacements for existing equipment.

The South Vietnamese presently have 18 F5s, in an air force that has more than 1300 aircraft, making it the world's 10th largest. The F5 is relatively easy to handle and can fly at speeds up to 1100 miles an hour.

U.S. military sources reported North Vietnam also is building up war stockpiles just north of the demilitarized zone.

Reds to Mekong

The sources said the North Vietnamese are reported to be moving south from Ho Chi Minh city toward Laos after heavy rains.