

U.S. Envoy Finally Sees Australian Prime Minister

From News Dispatches

U.S. Ambassador Walter Rice finally got to talk to Australia's new prime minister, Gough Whitlam, yesterday about the Australian Maritime Union's boycott of American shipping to protest the bombing of North Vietnam.

Rice asked again for the interview after the Laborite prime minister refused his request for a meeting last week. Rice had protested the boycott, and informed sources said he repeated the protest today.

Whitlam reportedly told him he expected the matter to be settled Tuesday by the president of the Australian Council of Trade Unions, Robert Hawke, who has proposed an end to the boycott. But the decision is up to the 2,000 members of the union.

It was not known if Rice also complained about the latest criticism of President Nixon and the bombing by a member of Whitlam's Cabinet. Tom Uren, the minister for ur-

ban and regional development, accused Nixon of a "diplomacy of terror," a "mentality of thuggery," "false pretensions" and "double dealing in the campaign for peace which he conducts by mass murder."

Rice complained earlier about attacks on Mr. Nixon by Labor Minister Clyde Cameron and the minister for overseas trade, Jim Cairns.

In other protest actions around the world:

- A group of six U.S. Protestant, Catholic and Jewish churchmen, led by theology Prof. Harvey Cox of Harvard University, started a European tour by appealing in London to British counterparts to pressure the United States for peace.

- A conference in Bangkok sponsored by the World Council of Churches passed a resolution asking North Vietnam to admit a Christian ecumenical group to share the fate of the people living in the country's "terror zones."

- Four cars belonging to

U.S. military officers were set afire in Rome after a day of anti-war demonstrations throughout Italy.

- About 120 prominent Dutch scholars, artists and newspapermen told Premier Barend Bieheuvel in a letter that the Dutch ambassador should be withdrawn from Washington as long as the United States continues the war in Indochina.

- Otto Kersten, secretary general of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, the largest non-Communist international labor group, said his Brussels-based organization had sent President Nixon a message asking him to stop the bombing and sign a peace.

In another development, Iceland announced that it has decided to recognize North Vietnam, but that no ambassadors would be exchanged. Iceland said it would continue to recognize the Saigon government as the legitimate government in South Vietnam.