

U.S. May Keep Bombing Trails

Washington

U.S. bombers may continue to hit North Vietnamese supply trails in Laos and military targets in Cambodia after the fighting stops in Vietnam today.

Pentagon spokesman Jerry W. Friedheim left open this possibility yesterday in refusing to answer directly questions about this. He replied by referring to Dr. Henry A. Kissinger's prediction of cease-fires in Laos and Cambodia soon.

"I cannot give you anything beyond what Dr. Kissinger said . . . about our future expectations in Cambodia and Laos," Friedheim said.

In discussing details of the new peace agreement with North Vietnam, Kissinger spoke two days ago of "our firm expectation that within a short period of time there will be a formal cease-fire in Laos" and an end to the shooting in Cambodia, too.

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There was no indication as to whether Kissinger had told North Vietnamese negotiators that the United States would keep up bombing of the Ho Chi Minh Trail and other targets in Laos and Cambodia after the Vietnam cease-fire.

The United States still has nearly 500 bombers, fighter bombers and gunships based in Thailand and ready to carry on military operations, if ordered to do so.

Whether the United States would choose to keep its bombers on the ground to avoid souring the cease-fire atmosphere in Vietnam and future negotiations with Hanoi could not be determined.

Friedheim made these points at a Pentagon briefing:

- The United States will halt all military type flights over North Vietnam with the cease-fire. Included are flights by radio-controlled, pilotless drones which have been taking pictures of North Vietnam since President Nixon stopped all bombing and reconnaissance flights by manned aircraft there several days before the cease-fire agreement was completed.

- The remaining 23,000 troops will be withdrawn from South Vietnam in two major segments, about half in the first 30 days and the remainder in the following 30-day period. Most will come back to the United States, but some Marine flyers, in the last two U.S. bomber squadrons in Vietnam, will return to Japan. The military Air Lift Command will use about 130 flights, some of them civilian charter to bring out the remaining troops. Another

White House Confirms Agnew Role

Washington

The White House confirmed yesterday that Vice President Spiro T. Agnew will fly to Vietnam and six other Asian nations tomorrow "to discuss post-war relations."

He will "explain the continuing American role in Asia," White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said.

Agnew's new press secretary, J. Marsh Thompson, said no reporters or photographers will accompany the vice president.

Ziegler said Agnew's trip will last "something over a week," taking him to South Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia.

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200 flights will carry out equipment and baggage.

- An unspecified number of ships will call at about half a dozen South Vietnamese ports to haul away some of the remaining heavy equipment which cannot be removed by plane.

- Americans remaining in South Vietnam over the 60

days following the signing of the cease-fire agreement, will exercise the right to defend themselves from attack, if necessary.

- About 500-1000 U.S. military men will be assigned to work with a Joint Military Commission which will supervise the cease-fire until an international commission of Poles, Canadians, Hungarians, and Indonesians takes over the policing job.

The temporary joint commission, provided under the cease-fire agreement, includes military men from the United States, the South Vietnamese forces, North Vietnamese and Viet Cong elements. A certain number of U.S. helicopters and other equipment will be put at the disposal of the temporary commission.

- Friedheim said all U.S. bases already have been turned over to the South Vietnamese forces as part of the Vietnamization program.

He declined to say when U.S. air and naval forces, totalling about 100,000 in Thailand, on Guam and with the 7th Fleet, will be scaled down.

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