Thieu in U.S. For Talks With Nixon

Associated Press

Los Angeles

South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu arrived from Saigon yesterday for talks with President Nixon, who was receiving last-minute briefings at what the President calls his "House of Peace" in San Clemente.

"I came to say thanks to the American people," Thieu said to newsmen after his chartered Air Vietnam jetliner landed at Los Angeles International Airport.

The nose of the plane caried a slogan in Vietnamese and English: "Cooperation in Peace."

AUDIENCE

Several hundred onlookers, mostly Vietnamese students attending Southern California universities, toted signs reading "Peace in Freedom — not Communism." Many stood behind a restraining fence and waved yellow and red colored Vietnamese paper flags as Thieu arrived.

Thieu left quickly for the Century Plaza Hotel, where

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he will rest before traveling to Mr. Nixon's home at San Clemente this morning for his talks with the President.

Thieu apparently never saw a group of about 50 demonstrators, who remained out of sight of the arriving party under the eyes of more than 100 uniformed Los Angeles policemen.

The two factions exchanged angry words but a police cordon kept the groups at least 30 feet apart. The words came after the friendly forces, trooping back to their waiting chartered buses, suddenly spotted the anti-Thieu faction, mostly white Americans opposed to the war, a spokesman said.

Thieu is to be greeted with full military honors when he arrives at San Clemente at midmorning today for his first face-to-face meeting with Mr. Nixon in nearly four years.

In advance of the start of the talks, Mr. Nixon conferred yesterday with his top foreign affairs adviser, Henry Kissinger, and with other aides.

Thieu also set aside last evening for conferences with his advisers at the hotel where he is making his headquarters.