

Bombing of Cambodia To Continue

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Washington

The White House said yesterday that the United States would continue with "the right policy" of bombing in Cambodia in support of the Lon Nol government, despite Thursday's House vote blocking the use of defense funds for such raids.

White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler also announced — jointly with North Vietnam—that Henry A. Kissinger and Le Duc Tho, Hanoi's chief Vietnam negotiator, would resume talks on Thursday in Paris to seek ways of achieving "strict implementation" of the 3½-month-old cease-fire agreement.

The administration apparently is heading for a constitutional conflict with Congress, if the Senate, as expected, supports the House action next week.

Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield told newsmen that "if the will of the Congress and the intention of the Congress — the representatives of the people — are not adhered to, then we will face a true constitutional crisis. One thing this country cannot afford at this time is a constitutional crisis."

To those who urged that

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any action be postponed until after Kissinger completes his talks with Tho, Mansfield said:

"My sympathies are with Mr. Kissinger. My hopes are with Mr. Kissinger, but I don't think we should delay exercising our responsibilities."

VOTE

Thursday, the House voted 219 to 188 to block the use of defense funds for the continued bombing of Cambodia. This was the first time that the House had supported an end-the-war amendment.

"We, of course, observed the vote in the Congress . . ." Ziegler said, adding:

"We will continue with the policy which we feel is the right policy, and that is to provide support to the government of Cambodia at their request. If at some time in the future the funds are not available, then the Congress will have to assume the responsibility in that matter."

PURPOSE

Ziegler reiterated that the purpose of the bombing, a daily occurrence for more than two months, is to pressure the anti-government forces in Cambodia into accepting a cease-fire with the government.

There are cease-fire agreements for Vietnam and Laos, but none for Cambodia.

Administration officials have said that one of the chief objectives of Kissinger, President Nixon's national security adviser, in his talks with Tho, will be the securing of a commitment by North Vietnam to press its Cambodia allies into beginning cease-fire negotiations with Lon Nol's government. Plans for the

Kissinger-Tho meeting were first discussed last month.

TALKS

Kissinger returned to Washington Thursday night after four days of talks in Moscow with Leonid I. Brezhnev, the Soviet Communist party leader, on agenda plans for Brezhnev's anticipated visit to the United States next month.

Deputy press secretary, Gerald L. Warren said that a date for Brezhnev's visit has been set but that it has not been decided when to make the joint announcement.

Ziegler said that the measures sought by the U.S. to get Hanoi's implementation of the cease-fire agreement included strict observance of Article 20 dealing with foreign forces in Laos and Cambodia; of Article 7 on infiltration; and Article 15 barring the crossing of the demilitarized zone.

SWEEP

In answer to a question, Ziegler also said that the two sides would discuss Hanoi's desire to get the U.S. to resume the mine-sweeping operations in North Vietnamese waters, and the talks on possible economic aid to North Vietnam.

Both the mine-sweeping and economic talks were suspended by Washington because of Hanoi's alleged violations of the cease-fire agreement.