

The Political POWs Held By Saigon

London

Amnesty International appealed yesterday for urgent and concerted international pressure to secure the release of some 100,000 civilians it said are still detained in South Vietnam.

Amnesty International, a private organization that speaks in behalf of political prisoners, said it endorsed an earlier call by Senator Edward M. Kennedy (Dem-Mass.), chairman of the Senate Judiciary subcommittee on refugees, for the U.S. government to encourage negotiations between the two South Vietnamese parties for the repatriation and return of political prisoners covered by the Paris agreement.

The appeal coincides with the publication of an Amnesty International report called "Political Prisoners in South Vietnam."

The 40-page illustrated report documents the circumstances that led to the detention of non-criminal noncombatants.

Amnesty said its report was based on detailed research into what it described as "one of the most serious cases of political repression in the world today."

The report cites the organization's own sources, official statements and statistics by both parties, U.S. officials and independent newsmen and observers.

United Press

SFChronicle JUL 2 1973

Cambodia Peace Efforts Reported

Washington

Top administration officials have told members of Congress and newsmen in recent days that wide-ranging diplomatic efforts are going on to promote a political settlement in Cambodia—by the end of the summer, it is hoped.

Officials have been reluctant to discuss details, but they have indicated that the diplomatic activity has apparently failed so far to produce any formal negotiations between the opposing Cambodian sides.

As part of this effort, the administration reportedly informed the Peking, Hanoi and Moscow governments that it had made a policy decision to accept Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the former Cambodian leader, as a participant in any future negotiations that include the government of Lon Nol in Phnom Penh.

Henry A. Kissinger, President Nixon's adviser for national security affairs, met secretly with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on June 21 to discuss, in general terms, the emerging administration policies.

Secretary of State William P. Rogers met with the committee in a publicized but closed door session last week.

Senator Mike Mansfield of Montana, the Senate Democratic leader said Saturday that as the result of his talks

with administration officials "I think they are trying as hard as they can to get some kind of agreement."

The decision to deal with Sihanouk, the former chief of state who was deposed by the Lon Nol forces in March, 1970, represents a major shift away from the previous administration view that he spoke from Peking, his exile headquarters, for no one but himself, and that only Hanoi could control the insurgent forces in Cambodia.

Mansfield, a longtime admirer of Sihanouk, said he expects that as soon as the prince returns to Peking from his current trip to Africa and East Europe, "the tempo for possible negotiations will be stepped up, and I believe that in this respect, the People's Republic of China and our government are in close contact."

He said he expects that important talks will be held between Sihanouk and Premier Chou En-lai of China on how to get a negotiating framework established.

New York Times

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