

KY TRIP FOR A RALLY DISCOURAGED BY U.S.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4 (UPI)—The South Vietnamese Embassy is understood to have advised Saigon that a visit to Washington next month by Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky to address a "march-for-victory" rally would not be wise.

The news that he had accepted an invitation to speak at the Oct. 3 rally planned by the Rev. Carl McIntire, a Fundamentalist radio preacher, surprised the South Vietnamese Ambassador, Bui Diem, as well as American officials. Mr. Diem, who visited the State Department to discuss the matter, indicated that he was advising his Government against a visit because officials were concerned over the security aspects.

Mr. McIntire, who has long advocated an aggressive war policy in Vietnam, sponsored a similar march and rally here April 4 that attracted a crowd estimated at 50,000. A spokesman predicted the October rally would draw at least 500,000.

Ky and the 'Victory' Rally

There is probably no legal or constitutional reason why Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky should not come to the United States next month to participate in the Rev. Carl McIntire's "March for Victory" in Washington. But that does not keep the projected visit of South Vietnam's Number Two from being objectionable on grounds of taste, propriety and judgment.

As full-fledged a politician as Marshal Ky cannot be ignorant of the extreme right-wing character of his sponsors. He knows that the rally at which he is to speak will come in the closing weeks of an American election campaign in which the Nixon Administration's policies in Indochina and at the Paris peace talks will figure heavily.

It would be strange if he were not aware that his visit probably will coincide with the withdrawal of 50,000 more American troops from Vietnam and possibly with a new Washington diplomatic initiative after Ambassador David Bruce returns from Paris for report and consultation.

Perhaps it will even occur to Marshal Ky that for South Vietnam's Vice President to join in what will obviously be a "win the war" rally in America might provoke doubts about the sincerity of the Saigon Government's commitment to the search for a negotiated settlement in Paris. The colorful flier seems to have little real authority these days, but marching down the streets of Washington is a poor way to relieve his frustrations.