

MRS. NHU BENDS CONDOLENCES:  
RECALLS DEATHS IN SAIGON COUP

Rome, Nov. 24 (UPI) - Mrs. Ngo Dinh Nhu sent a message today to Mrs. John F. Kennedy saying that the President's death must be particularly unbearable "because of your habitually well-sheltered life."

Mrs. Nhu termed the assassination "that ordeal which God has bestowed on you."

She compared it with the slaying in a coup d'état Nov. 2 of her brother-in-law, President Ngo Dinh Diem of South Vietnam, and her husband, Ngo Dinh Nhu. She said that "even the wounds inflicted on President Kennedy were identical" to those of Mr. Diem and of her husband.

Mrs. Nhu was in the United States on a lecture tour when the Vietnamese coup took place. Her three youngest children were brought to Rome and she joined them here later.

The text of Mrs. Nhu's message to Mrs. Kennedy follows:

"Though not having the pleasure to know you or hearing from you personally, I wish to tell you of my profound sympathy for you and your little ones in your time of shock and grief. Though I have said that anything happening in Vietnam will surely find equivalence in the U.S.A., truly I would not wish for anyone [to endure] what the Vietnamese and myself are now enduring while we were so near our victory against Communism.

"But though not being proven alike, I understand fully how you should feel before that ordeal which God has bestowed on you. I sympathize the more for I understand that that ordeal might seem to you even more unbearable because of your habitually well-sheltered life, notwithstanding how particularly incomprehensible it would be if, as reported, President Kennedy's assassination comes from Communist hands.

"Indeed, such a murder, where even the wounds inflicted on President Kennedy were identical to those of President Ngo Dinh Diem, and of my husband, and coming only 20 days after the Vietnamese tragedy, would only prove to the world that even power or extreme graciousness with Communism still does not protect from its traitorous blows.

"My children and I have especially prayed for President Kennedy when we learned that he did not regain consciousness to receive the last sacraments of the church. Be assured also that our most sincere thoughts and prayers are with you and your dear ones."