

U. S. to Help Saigon Fight Reds With More Experts and Planes

By E. W. KENWORTHY

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16— President Kennedy has decided on the measures that the United States is prepared to take to strengthen South Vietnam against attack by Communists.

The measures, which received final approval yesterday at a meeting of the National Security Council, closely follow the recommendations made by Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, the President's military adviser. General Taylor returned Nov. 3 from a three-week mission to Southeast Asia.

The United States' plans do not include the dispatching of combat units at this time. They call for sending several hundred specialists in guerrilla warfare, logistics, communications, engineering and intelligence to train the forces of President Ngo Dinh Diem. The plans also call

for fairly large-scale shipments of aircraft and other special equipment.

Officials emphasized that President Kennedy and the National Security Council had not foreclosed the possibility of sending ground and air combat units if the situation deteriorated drastically. The President, it was said, does not wish to bind himself to a "never-position."

However, the President and General Taylor are agreed, according to reliable informants here, that the South Vietnamese Government is capable of meeting and turning back the Communists' threat provided it speeds the training of its regular forces, solves the problem of mobility, develops a

Continued on Page 12, Column 3

The New York Times

Published: November 17, 1961

Copyright © The New York Times

SAIGON WILL GET MORE U. S. HELP

C-47's so that it could be transported quickly to areas infested with Communist guerrillas.

Continued From Page 1, Col. 7

reliable intelligence system and adopts reforms in its military staff structure to free it from political interference.

The measures contemplated by the United States, it was emphasized, depend for their success on Vietnamese cooperation. Discussions are going forward with President Ngo Dinh Diem and his advisers.

U. S. Told Envoys of Plan

Earlier this week, Secretary of State Dean Rusk detailed the United States proposals to the British and French Ambassadors here. It was understood that neither the British nor the French voiced any objections. However, it was said that the French lack of enthusiasm for a larger American involvement was not disguised.

It is the present intention of the White House, officials said, to put the measures into effect while making them public only in general terms.

Dispatches from Saigon have indicated that some of the measures are already being effected. But officials said the arrival of some fighter-bombers and transports should be considered part of a "constant acceleration of effort" that had been going on since Vice President Johnson returned from his Asian trip last May. Few of the measures proposed by General Taylor, they said, have yet got under way.

General Taylor found that most of the Vietnamese regular forces were held at fixed positions—key towns, bridges, and highways. The problem, he said is to increase the flexibility of the defending forces by enlarging the mobile reserve and provide it with helicopters and

The New York Times

Published: November 17, 1961
Copyright © The New York Times