

# Kennedy Urges U.S. Try to Extend Truce Offered by Vietnam

Senator Robert F. Kennedy suggested yesterday that the United States take "whatever initiative" it could to get an extension of the 12-hour Christmas Eve truce suggested by the Vietcong.

The Senator said the extension "could be for a certain period of time," but added, "I would not suggest anything specific at the moment."

He said the extension could also be "on an open-end basis." He explained that he meant it could be continued as long as certain conditions were met or "certain other arrangements could be made."

The New York Democrat declined to say what conditions or arrangements might be made but said it was the responsibility of everyone to explore all the possibilities "because we are getting into a more dangerous situation for all mankind."

Mr. Kennedy gave his position in an interview after addressing a meeting of Democratic state leaders at the Dryden East Hotel, 150 East 39th Street.

A State Department spokesman, commenting Wednesday on the Vietcong's 12-hour-truce proposal, said:

"As far as this 12-hour Christmas lull is concerned, the real Christmas present for the world would be a readiness to make peace and to accept any of the suggestions made by ourselves and others to move to the conference table."

The spokesman declined to elaborate, particularly on whether the statement meant acceptance or rejection of the Vietcong proposal. United States officials note that past lulls have been used by the Vietcong group.