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U.S. Gives \$4 Million To Avoid ICCS Collapse

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SAIGON, Sept. 25—The United States has contributed another \$4.1 million to prevent bankruptcy of the international commission charged with supervising Vietnam cease-fire, an embassy spokesman announced today.

The announcement comes after private contractors threatened to stop providing housing, security, food and transportation services to the International Commission of Control and Supervision (ICCS) unless they got paid.

If the services stopped, it would mean the end of the 40 ICCS field stations throughout South Vietnam, where representatives of Hungary, Indonesia, Iran and Poland are posted to watch for cease-fire violations.

While the field stations have not operated effectively, their elimination would be a visible defeat for Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, who bargained intensively to provide at least a potentially workable ICCS under the terms of the 20-month-old Paris agreement.

The Communists wanted a small ICCS limited mostly to Saigon and lacking its own means of transportation and other support. "If you want to take over the country, then it's to your disadvantage to have a workable ICCS," explained an American diplomat.

The United States succeeded in having a 1,100-member body established with stations throughout the country, though the Communists have never allowed stations inside their zones and have refused to provide their share of the body's financial support.

Because of these problems and internal strife, the ICCS has filed few reports on viola-

tions and these are generally bland, placing the blame on both sides.

It appears that the new U.S. contribution plus a \$2.8 million South Vietnamese contribution earlier this week will stave off the contractors—at least temporarily.

An official of Pacific Architects and Engineers, the largest contractor, said today that the company is now negotiating to get its money from the ICCS but that all problems are "not totally solved." He refused to elaborate.

The United States has provided most of the ICCS budget. American and South Vietnamese officials are concerned that Congress might eventually balk at this.

Of the \$30.4 million that the commission has spent since its inception, the Americans provided \$17.3 million, South Vietnam \$9.3 million, North Vietnam \$2.5 million, and the Vietcong \$1.3 million, according to U.S. embassy figures.

Under the cease-fire agreement, each of these parties should provide 23 per cent of the budget, while the four commission members should chip in 2 per cent each.

A U.S. embassy statement today accused North Vietnam and the Vietcong of "constant and deliberate obstruction" and of seeking "to destroy the effectiveness of the ICCS as a peacekeeping organ."

The Communists have made no contribution at all to the ICCS this year, the statement said.

Vietcong spokesman Vo Don Giang said in a press conference last Saturday that his side will not pay "until the United States stop its military engagement and intervention in South Vietnam."

A North Vietnamese spokesman said his country supports this view.

American officials here said they do not know where the State Department came up with the \$4.1 million contribution today.

[A State Department spokesman said the money was borrowed from AID funds, with the approval of appropriate congressional committees, and would be paid back by the department when its own budget is approved.]

Besides watching for cease-fire violations, the ICCS would play a supervisory role in general elections if they are held.

Elections were planned under the terms of the cease-fire agreement, but the machinery for holding them has never been set up due to a breakdown in talks between the two sides.

Kissinger Confers With Pathet Lao

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 25 (AP)—Secretary of State Henry Kissinger met yesterday with a high-ranking official of the Communist Pathet Lao and asked him for information about some 300 American servicemen missing in action in Communist-controlled parts of Laos.

State Department spokesman Robert Anderson said Kissinger met privately with Phoumi Vongvichit, a vice premier in the coalition government of Laos and the secretary general of the Pathet Lao. Anderson gave no indication of Phoumi's response to the American request.

Most of the missing were airmen who crashed in eastern Laos, along the Ho Chi Minh supply trail. Much of that area is reportedly controlled by North Vietnamese, not the Pathet Lao.

Emmet Kay, freed by the Pathet Lao last week, was the last known American captive in Indochina. Anderson said Kissinger's request to Phoumi does not mean the U.S. government thinks there are more prisoners.

"Some of the 300 are believed killed," he said. "It is a question of trying to find their bodies."

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