

# TROOPS TO BUILD BASE FOR STRIKING FORCE

## Congress Will Declare War if Asked: Aiken

### VIET NAM ANALYSIS

Arthur Veysey, who has been covering the war in Viet Nam, will give his assessment of the military, political, and economic situations and how the United States is affected in a series of articles beginning Sunday in The Tribune.

BY WILLARD EDWARDS

(Chicago Tribune Press Service)

Washington, June 9 — Congress today sensed the seemingly inevitable approach of "another Korea."

White House assurances failed to allay a growing apprehension that full-scale war is impending in Viet Nam. Sen. George Aiken (R., Vt.) suggested that Congress might disclose the true dimensions of the Asian conflict by voting a declaration of war. If President Johnson asked for it, Aiken said, he'd get it.

"It would take him off the hook, which is exactly what he wants," Aiken declared in an exchange with Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R., N. Y.) "It would relieve him of all responsibility."

### Urges Presidential Request

Javits agreed that Congress would probably declare war if asked, but hoped it wouldn't come to that. The nation was moving, he said, toward "a massive bogdown land struggle in Asia" and urged the President to ask Congress for a resolution specifically authorizing

An expansion of the United States military role in Viet Nam.

In the House, Rep. Edward J. Derwinski (., Ill.) said few members were surprised by the announcement yesterday that United States troops would be committed to combat.

"If we are to commit our fighting men in direct war against communism in south-east Asia, then the Johnson administration should immediately drop its plan to subsidize the eastern European communist countries by trade, the same nations who are in turn subsidizing North Viet Nam," he declared.

### Fear Casualty Lists

"If we are to wage a war against communism, it should not be handicapped by subsidy of communism on other fronts."

Off the floor, in their offices and committee rooms, leaders of both parties confessed their fears that newspapers soon would be publishing long lists of American casualties in the South Vietnamese jungle.

The President, who frequently summons these men—not for consultation but to listen to harangues on his problems—was described as preparing to send an additional 20,000 combat troops into South Viet Nam, which would swell the total to 73,500.

Moreover, if conditions don't improve [and the President's Pentagon advisers are advising him they may get worse], the President may pour an additional 100,000 or more Americans into the combat zone, the congressional sources said.

As Sen. Dirksen (R., Ill.), the senate minority leader remarked, a guerrilla-type war was being transformed into a conventional war.

Aiken's reference to getting

lected reports by many visitors that Johnson is a frustrated and angry man. He has not concealed the impatience he feels because the Communists have utterly ignored his many hints that he is anxious to negotiate peace.

### Outburst Is Noted

It caused him to burst out yesterday, in a White House rose garden talk, that "we wait, listen and we strain to hear . . . for that word from other lands which will signify willingness to talk of peace."

Sen. Gale McGee (D., Wyo.) was a lone defender of the White House disclaimer today that no major change in military strategy was contemplated in yesterday's state department announcement that American troops had been authorized for combat in South Viet Nam.

McGee spoke up after Javits called this "another escalation of United States participation in the struggle."

"There's nothing new in commitment of ground troops," McGee said. "We're already bombing in North Viet Nam. How does this change it?"

McGee criticized the state department declaration.

The official New China news agency, which reflects thinking of the Peking regime, said: "This is the first time that the United States openly cast aside the advisers cloak and the protection of its bases hoax.

"It shows that after a series of defeats in South Viet Nam and having lost confidence in the puppet [Vietnamese] troops, the United States aggressors had to come out themselves to run the risk."

### Called Serious Step

The liberation front said the United States announcement "is a new serious step which blatantly violates the 1954 Geneva agreements on Viet Nam, openly provokes the progressive opinion in the United States and the world which is more resolved than ever to demand that the United States pull out of South Viet Nam."

"By giving such an order . . . President Johnson once again gave the lie to his faltering allegations about un-

talks on Viet Nam," the front said.

### U. S. Ignores Warnings

MOSCOW, June 9 (Reuters) —The soviet news agency Tass said today Washington appeared to be ignoring warnings from many former American leaders, in particular the late Gen. Douglas MacArthur, against being involved in a big war in Asia.

The agency described the authorization of American troops to fight alongside the South Vietnamese forces against the communist Viet Cong guerrillas, as a sinister decision.

The agency, quoting its political commentator, Vasily Kharkov, said "It has become a tradition that with Gen. Taylor's [United States ambassador in Saigon] every visit to Washington the United States takes another step on the notorious escalation ladder in Viet Nam."