

# Hanoi V. Cong "Terrified Of Elections" Prospect

WASHINGTON - Secretary of State Rusk says the Hanoi regime and the Viet Cong are "terrified of the elections" to be held by the South Vietnamese September 11 to choose a constituent assembly.

The communists, said Mr. Rusk, know "any expression of solidarity among the South Vietnamese" will explore the falsity of the "National Liberation Front's claim to speak for the South Vietnamese."

Mr. Rusk, addressing the American Legion Auxiliary, composed of wives of American legionnaires, warned on August 31 that Americans must not "suppose that if we turn our backs somebody else will act" to prevent communist aggression in Asia.

He emphasized, too, that a paramount purpose of the Johnson administration's foreign policy was "to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity."

"If a hard choice has to be made between the liberty and peace, we shall choose liberty just as we have done in the past," the Secretary said.

Mr. Rusk said he was "quite aware" that Chinese communist party leader Mao Tse-Tung "is not Hitler" and that Peking's Defense Minister Lin Biao's September 1965 article "is not a Mein Kampf."

"But the differences," he cautioned, "should not be allowed to conceal the heart of the matter."

The Secretary of State said it would be "a tragedy for mankind if we were to forget the most important lessons leading up to World War Two, for we are not going to have the chance to draw the lessons from World War Three."

**Back-to-the-Farm . . .** Mr. Rusk reiterated that the U.S. presence in South Vietnam is to repel North Vietnamese aggression and to assure the South Vietnamese people the choice of their own future.

When those objectives have been achieved, then we will withdraw," he said.

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