Communists had recently stepped up their attacks around Saigon and Danang. Jordan expressed hope that the Paris conference would get down to "discussing the questions in a serious way that the bombing and the kind of restraint we would like to see from the other side."

Vance Reports to LBJ. Cyrus R. Vance flew to Washington May 28 to report to President Johnson on the progress of the talks in Paris.

After the meeting, Mr. Johnson, at a news conference, gave an assessment of the situation based on his talks with Vance. The President said the North Vietnamese negotiators "ought to use these talks for 2 purposes: first, if we can be pressured to stop the bombing completely in the southern panhandle of North Vietnam, without compensatory action on their part, 2d, to use the conference for obviously wide-ranging propaganda. They have been unwilling to enter serious, quiet discussion of the conditions for ending the bombing or any matters of substance."

While the talks were in progress, the President pointed out, North Vietnam was "attacking the camps" in its southern panhandle and into South Vietnam "at an unprecedented rate." But allied forces, he said, were "destroying something over 20% of what is coming through to the South."

Mr. Johnson noted that the Communists had intensified their attacks in the South since the start of the Paris conference, while "we have stopped the bombing of most of the territory and population in North Vietnam." But he said, the U.S. position at the Paris talks remained unchanged: "If North Vietnam would show some similar restraint, we were prepared to make further decisions to try to reduce the violence."

"While our men deal with the Communist forces in the field, we shall continue to try to see whether the Paris talks shall yield anything in the way of constructive results," the President pledged. Mr. Johnson called on North Vietnam "to move from fantasy and propaganda to the realistic and constructive work of bringing peace to Southeast Asia."

(Pres. Johnson's position in the Paris talks and American military policy in Vietnam were supported by Australian Prime Min. John G. Gorton in a joint Australian-American communiqué issued May 28. The statement was based on talks between them in Washington with Pres. Johnson May 26-28.)

Pres. Johnson had said May 23 that the U.S. was determined to "pursue negotiations toward an honorable and peaceful settlement of the war." But he added that the U.S. "is not about to be played on the battlefield while the talks go on. We shall not permit the enemy's mortars and rockets to go unanswered and to permit him to achieve a victory that would make a mockery of the negotiations."

"There has been no visible lessening of aggression, in fact. In Hanoi today telling its forces in the South that they must continue their offensive to support their negotiators in Paris," Mr. Johnson made these remarks in presenting a Presidential Unit Citation to the 26th Marine Regiment and its reinforcing units for their actions in defense of the Marine base at Khe Sanh during its siege by North Vietnamese troops.

(Appearing before the Senate Appropriations Committee May 23, Defense Secy. Clark Clifford said North Vietnam's policy of "fight and negotiate" and the U.S. must be prepared to do the same, "both physically and psychologically.")


Gromyko reportedly insisted on an unconditional U.S. halt in the bombing of North Vietnam. Stewart, supporting the American view that North Vietnam must display some sign of military reciprocation before the U.S. could stop. Stewart was said to have urged Gromyko to persuade the North Vietnamese negotiators in Paris that their repeated raising of the point of who started the war only served to impede the discussions.

On his return to London, Stewart said May 24 that the Russians had "not yet in my judgment realized some of the things needed to end it [the war], such as a withdrawal of all North Vietnamese forces to make some response to a stopping of the bombing by the Americans."

"The U.S. has not had agreement on this," Stewart said. He added that Gromyko had discussed the Arab-Israeli dispute and that the Soviet Union and Britain had agreed to continue talks to help UN Middle East envoy Gunnar V. Jarring in his efforts to find a solution.

South Vietnam

Huong Cabinet. Tran Van Huong appointed South Vietnamese premier May 18, announced the formation of a new cabinet May 25. The cabinet was sworn in the same day. [See p. 19 SD]

Only one ministry in the new 19-member cabinet—Agriculture & Land Reform—was continued by the faction supporting Vice Pres. Nguyen Cao Ky. In the previous 17-member cabinet, the Ky faction had held 7 seats. Ky and his followers, however, succeeded in the week-long negotiations in preventing Pres. Nguyen Van Thieu from assuming editor-in-chief of the official news agency, which is a possible step toward the conclusion of the "100"

"Incontestable fact" of hunger and malnutrition in the country as a "national disgrace" and then declared in a statement to the press May 28 that "the fact is not a reality for the black, Mexicans-American, Indian and Puerto Rican poor, discrimination in employment, housing and education only persists but in many areas is rapidly increasing."

At a meeting with Labor Secy. Willard Wirtz, Abernathy said: "We have had some problems that try to fit poor people to a system that has system-

The new cabinet: Premier and Foreign Minister—Huong; First Minister of State and General Inspector—May Tho Tran; 2d Minister of State and Open Arms Ministry—Pham Quang Dinh; 3d Minister of State—Vu Van Cam; 4th Foreign Ministry—Col. Hoang Van Le; Defence and Veterans Ministry—Lt. Gen. Nguyen Van Vyi; Interior—Lt. Gen. Truong Phu; Internal Security—Phan Van Quong; Education & Youth—Nguyen Van Tho; Agriculture & Land Reform—Tran Quang Thieu; Post: Tran Thanh Thien; Education & Youths—Pham Nhu; Secretary to the Premier's Office—Huynh Van Do.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Protest Movement

Poor People Gather in Capital. The Poor People's Campaign, planned by the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in August 1967, brought 9 caravans of poor people to Washington, D.C. beginning May 11. As proposed by King, the campaign called for massive lobbying by the nation's poor in Washington to pressure Congress and the Administration to enact legislation to reduce poverty. As part of the campaign, the movement of thousands of participants in a canvas-and-plywood "Resurrection City U.S.A." in the capital and for massive demonstrations. The caravans started from various parts of the country May 2-17. They held rallies and picked up additional participants on the way to Washington. [See p. 132D1, G1-A2]

An opening phase of the Poor People's Campaign began Apr. 29 when the Rev. Ralph David Abernathy, 41, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), and Mrs. Abernathy, delivered the "Declaration of 100" (ranging at times from 130 to 150 persons), representatives of Negroes, Puerto Ricans, Mexican-Americans, American Indians and Appalachian whites, in conferences with Washington Cabinet members and Congress members leaders and on the plugging list of legislative demands. (Abernathy had been elected in Atlanta Apr. 9 to succeed the late King as president of the SCLC. Mrs. Coretta King, Dr. King's widow, and Harry Belafonte, the singer, were elected to the 53-member board of directors. Abernathy said that the SCLC would be "more militant than ever" while continuing to employ nonviolent methods.) [See p. 140D1]

The delegates Apr. 29 met first with Agriculture Secy. Orville L. Freeman. They described the "inconceivable fact of hunger and malnutrition in the country as a "national disgrace" and then declared in a statement to the press May 28 that "the fact is not a reality for the black, Mexicans-American, Indian and Puerto Rican poor, discrimination in employment, housing and education only persists but in many areas is rapidly increasing."

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Thursday, May 23—Wednesday, May 29, 1968
Johnson, at his news conference May 3, had announced that the government had made "extensive preparations" to meet the consequences of the dramatic rise in the number of people in the least term of government, where there's much work to be done and very little time to do it."

The 2d phase of the campaign began May 12 when Mrs. Martin Luther King Jr. led a 2-block march of "welfare mothers" from 20 cities to the Cardozo High School Stadium in the center of Washington's Negro ghetto.

Mrs. King declared at the rally, attended by 5,000 participants, that she would try to enlist the support of "black women, white women, brown women and red women—all the women of this nation—in a campaign of conscience." She stressed the need for nonviolence, but admitted that it was not an easy task, particularly in this day when violence is almost fashionable, and in this society, where violence against poor people and minority groups is routine. But, she continued, "I must remind you that a starving child is a violence. Suppressing a culture is violence. Neglecting school children is violence. Punishing a mother and her family is violence. Ignoring medical needs is violence. Contempt for poverty is violence. Even the lack of will to help the humanity is a sin and sinister form of violence."

Mrs. King was accompanied by several white women, including Mrs. Robert F. Kennedy; Mrs. Joseph S. Clark, wife of the Democratic Senator from Pennsylvania; Mrs. Philip A. Hart, wife of the Democratic Senator from Michigan; and Mrs. Harry Belafonte, wife of the singer.

The marchers were supported by prefabricated plywood-and-canvas shelters that were started May 13 when Abernathy, dressed in blue denim, drove a ceremonial nail at the dedication of "Resurrection City, U.S.A." At each stroke of the hammer about 500 Negro members of a "construction battalion" cried "Freedom!"

Before the march started, the Reverend Linda Aranayko, 20, a member of the Creek tribe of Oklahoma, was permitted to "use this land."

Abernathy said he would conduct a nonviolent protest "to arouse the conscience of the nation."

In a Senate speech Apr. 26, Sen. John Stennis (D., Miss.) called for the abandonment of the demonstra since "nothing good" would come of it. Sen. Jennings Randolph (D., Va.) charged in the Senate May 2 that there were "strong evidences of Communist planning and participation" in the demonstrations. Sen. John L. McClellan (D., Ark.) asked Pres. Johnson May 7 to announce, "promptly and firmly," that "the government of the U.S. in its capital city will not be subjected to intimidation."

The Defense Department announced May 11 that "selected troop units" had been alerted to help District of Columbia police in the event of violence. Pres.

Congressional Quarterly map shows location of "Resurrection City, U.S.A." in Washington. Encampment was set up by Poor People's Campaign for 3,000 people who came from all parts of the U.S. to put pressure on Congress and the Administration to take action against poverty.
little more than $500 annually), by a crowd of 2,0000 people. They camped in an industrial park outside the town and began recruiting march volunteers.

Abernathy led about 150 persons from Marks to Edwards, Miss., and on to the Mississippi State Fairgrounds. Protesting Negroes arrived Monday by van, bus and car and were beaten by local police before they could begin their march. The marchers were led by President A. D. King of the Mississippi State University. At least 200 Negroes were thought to have been arrested.

- 500 Fired: President A. D. King has announced plans to file a $500,000 suit against the state for damages caused to Negroes who were arrested during the march. The state has been charged with violating the civil rights of the students who were protesting the expulsion of an undergraduate for disciplinary reasons.

- In Chicago, the Negroes had been promised $500,000 in damages in a suit against the state by the Federal District Court. The suit had been filed by the Chicago Anti-Apartheid League, which had been formed to protest the arrest of Negroes during the March on Washington.

- 400 of the 1,800 students at predominantly Negro Cheyney State College in Philadelphia have been arrested in connection with an investigation of administration handling of money. The vice president of the board of trustees said that the school has a $100,000 surplus and that the board is looking into the matter.

- About 500 students at the University of Illinois in Urbana have been arrested in connection with a demonstration against the arrest of 500 Negro students in New York City.

- About 500 students at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Ill., faced the arrest of 500 students in connection with a demonstration against the arrest of 500 Negro students in New York City.

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