

Hanoi U.N. Chief Expelled by U.S.; He Defies Order

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3—The United States ordered today that Vietnam's chief delegate to the United Nations leave the country promptly because of his alleged complicity in an espionage case involving a United States Information Agency official and a Vietnamese national.

The Vietnamese diplomat, however, said he would not leave. The Vietnamese delegation at the United Nations said in a statement that the diplomat, Dinh Ba Thi, would continue to carry out his duties at the world organization. The statement denounced what it called the "slandorous accusations" against him and called on other United Nations members to support Hanoi's "correct stand."

The decision by Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance to ask Mr. Dinh to leave marked the first time that a head of mission to the United Nations had been ordered out of the United States, the State Department said.

Deportation a Possibility

American officials said that if the Vietnamese diplomat persisted in his refusal to leave, his visa could be revoked under the terms of the headquarters agreement between the United States and the United Nations, and then he could be deported. The American officials said there was no precedent for any diplomat refusing to leave.

Mr. Dinh was listed as an unindicted co-conspirator in the federal grand jury indictment that led to the arrest on spying charges in Washington Tuesday of Ronald L. Humphrey, a middle-level U.S.I.A. official, and Truong Dinh Hung,

Continued on Page 5, Column 2

U.S. Expels Hanoi's U.N. Chief

Continued From Page 1

son of the "peace candidate" in the 1967 South Vietnamese presidential election.

The indictment did not specify what Ambassador Dinh did in connection with the case and the State Department refused to elaborate. It said that Mr. Humphrey had furnished classified items to Mr. Truong, who gave them to couriers who transmitted them "to unindicted co-conspirators, all of whom were representatives, officers, agents, and subjects of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam."

According to the indictment, Mr. Truong visited the Vietnamese mission at the United Nations on or about Dec. 23, "in furtherance of the conspiracy."

Defendants Plead Not Guilty

Mr. Humphrey, who has been living with a Vietnamese woman and her children in Arlington, Va., and who had previously served in South Vietnam, has pleaded not guilty to the charges, as has Mr. Truong, the son of Truong Dinh Dzu, who ran second to President Nguyen Van Thieu in 1967 and was subsequently imprisoned for five years on charges of advocating peace talks with the Vietcong.

John H. Trattner, a State Department spokesman, said that this morning the department had "officially requested that the Socialist Republic of Vietnam's permanent representative to the United Nations, Dinh Ba Thi, leave the United States."

"The action was taken pursuant to Section 13B of the 1947 headquarters agreement under which the United States retains the right to request the departure of members of foreign missions of the United Nations who have abused their privileges of resident," he said.

He said the United States mission to the United Nations had transmitted the request by diplomatic note to the Vietnamese mission, and that Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and his staff had been informed of the American action.

Mr. Trattner said that the United States expected Mr. Dinh to leave the country promptly but that, in order to allow him time to conclude his personal and professional affairs here, no date had been set.

The United States and Vietnam have had intermittent discussions since Presi-

dent Carter took office a year ago. As one of the new Administration's first actions, the United States dropped its objection to the admission of Hanoi to the United Nations and expressed a desire to establish diplomatic relations.

But Vietnam, which was admitted to the world body last September, linked diplomatic relations to American economic assistance, which Congress has blocked.

The last round of talks was held last December in Paris and no date has been set for the next round.

Mr. Trattner said the United States still hoped for an improvement in relations, but a department official said the outlook did not seem encouraging at the moment.