

SOUTH VIETNAM - Possible Invasion of NVN & US Support of

NAME: President Richard M. Nixon  
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Q. Mr. President, if the Army of South Vietnam sought to cross the DMZ in force, would you be of a mind to restrain such action?

THE PRESIDENT. If the—excuse me, the Army of South or North Vietnam?

Q. South Vietnam.

THE PRESIDENT. Oh, South Vietnam.

Q. If the ARVN sought to cross the DMZ in violation—

THE PRESIDENT. I will not speculate on what South Vietnam may do in defense of its national security. South Vietnam now, as we withdraw, has an ever increasing responsibility to defend itself.

South Vietnam will have to make decisions with regard to its ability to defend itself. I will only speak with regard to what the American action will be.

The American action will be, according to the guideline I laid down a moment ago, the use of airpower where I believe that North Vietnam's action may threaten our forces.