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Thieu, Nol 'Discussing Alliance'

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S&S Vietnam Bureau

SAIGON — Vietnam's President Nguyen Van Thieu flew to Neak Luong, Cambodia, Friday for his first visit to the nation on whose soil his troops have been fighting since mid-April and for his first meeting with Cambodian Prime Minister Lon Nol, according to Vietnamese government sources.

Thieu spent two and a half hours with the Cambodian leader and his deputy premier, Sirik Matak, discussing the possibility

of an anti-Communist Indochinese military alliance, the sources said.

But sources close to Thieu said he stood opposed to such an alliance as being "not practical, not necessary and not urgent."

The sources said Thieu sees an alliance as impractical because of international agreements making Laos and Cambodia neutral.

Arriving along with Thieu at the Mekong River ferry crossing

town of Neak Luong was Viet Foreign Minister Tran Van Lam, the man who negotiated the first tentative agreements with the Cambodian government in Saigon more than a month ago.

The Vietnamese party landed in seven helicopters on a landing pad built for the cross-the-border Vietnamese supply and command post by Vietnamese soldiers.

The Cambodians greeted the

Vietnamese, and then both leaders and their entourages drove to a nearby military headquarters complex.

Several Vietnamese newsmen traveled with Thieu, but only a few Western newsmen who came the 36 miles by road from Phnom Penh watched the meeting.

The ferry crossing was captured from Communist troops by Vietnamese marines and Vietnamese and American Navy rivercraft in mid-May.

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