ASSIALS U.S. POLICY

Lyons Calls For Win In Viet Nam

By JIM DENNEY

Thresher Religion Editor

Father Daniel Lyons called upon the United States to "adopt a policy of winning" in the war in Viet Nam at a speech in the Chemistry Lecture Hall Tuesday night.

"The basic problem in the whole war is facing reality," said Father Lyons as he criticized the President and the Department of State for calling for negotiation in the Asian war. Father Lyons, Secretary-General of the Free Pacific Association, feels that South Viet Nam is not the only area at stake in the war.

"What will we do when the Communists get Hawaii?" he asked.

Over the past several years Father Lyons has written numerous pamphlets on Southeast Asia and is considered by some as an expert.

Selected Newsman

In August of last year, he was selected by the Department of Defense as one of four newsmen to tour South Viet Nam.

Citing Administration figures, the speaker noted that hundreds of thousands of refugees have come into "free" areas from districts controlled by the Viet Cong. Father Lyons stated that the United States policy is one of Communist "containment" to keep the "free world free."

He drew an analogy to the U. S. action in Greece and Turkey following World War II to analyze present American thought on Communism in Asia.

Condemn Accord

While condemning the Geneva Accord of 1954 as the "Asian Munich," Father Lyons, a Jesuit priest, noted that the United States and the government of South Viet Nam never signed the treaty.

"The Viet Cong were the first aggressors in Viet Nam . . . (and) no contract is valid when broken by the other party," he said.

The Viet Cong are trained and supplied by North Viet Nam and Red China, according to the priest. All decisions are

made by the government of Ho Chi Minh, and the contention by some leading university professors that the Vietnamese conflict is primarily a civil war when asked if he thought that his opposition to negotiation was at variance with the Pope's attempts to secure an agreement on Viet Nam, Father Lyons said that he "knows more about the Pope's position than anyone else here."

After being reasked the question, Father Lyons said that his position is the same as the Pope's. The speaker had previously termed the American action in Viet Nam as being in the "Christian tradition."

In closing, Father Lyons reiterated his point that the United States must have a strong commitment to defeating the Communists and that "a policy of weakness will only lead to a greater war."

As part of his policy to defeat the Communists, the speaker called for immediate blocking of the North Vietnamese port of Haiphong, and, if necessary to end the war, the ultimate use of nuclear bombs.

The lecture was co-sponsored by the Rice Forum and the Rice Chapel Series.