Nitze Unveils New Boat Here

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traveling back and forth from off-shore rigs in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Navy version is armed with twin 50-caliber machine guns in a "gun tub" over the pilot house, and an over-and-under mount on the aft deck combining a single 50-caliber machine gun and an 81mm mortar.

The Swift is powered by twin General Motors V12 diesel engines, with a pair of screw propellers. It has bunk facilities and a galley for its crew of one officer and five enlisted men.

Nitze said the Swifts would have immediate value in patrol and surveillance operations along the coast of South Vietnam, where the U.S. Navy is working with the South Vietnamese Navy to keep Viet Cong guerrillas from getting any help by sea.

The four Swifts in San Diego are attached to Boat Support Unit 1 at the Coronado Amphibious Base.

Secretary of Navy Paul Nitze said that Adm. David L. McDonald, chief of naval operations, yesterday aboard the Navy's and Deputy Secretary of Defense Cyrus Vance had explained the situation in a Washington press conference and "I wouldn't have anything to add."

In response to a further question, he did say that he did not think the resignations were a protest against policies of Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara.

"VERY MUCH PLEASED"

Nitze said he was "very much pleased" to see the results of the Navy's search for a new craft to operate in coastal waters and rivers of Vietnam.

He said the Navy is branching 34 Swifts, which have the official designation of "Patrol Craft, Fast" or PCF.

The 50-foot aluminum boat has a top speed of about 28 knots. Basically, it is the same craft as one developed by Stewart Seacraft, Inc., of Berwick, La., for use by oil well crews of ships.