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Soviets Report RFK Peace Plan

From News Dispatches

MOSCOW, March 4 — Izvestia today said Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's Thursday proposal for Vietnam peace moves was a notable event, but maintained that Senate opposition does not influence the White House.

The Soviet government newspaper neither praised nor criticized Kennedy's advocacy of a halt to the U.S. bombing of North Vietnam, followed by peace talks within a week, as

a test of North Vietnamese sincerity.

The Kremlin has supported Hanoi's expressed willingness to start talks once U.S. military action against North Vietnam stops, and has condemned the Johnson Administration for not agreeing to this.

Izvestia said Kennedy has long been "stressing his disagreement with the White House," but added, "One should not exaggerate the extent of this disagreement."

Washington correspondent S. Kondrashov wrote that in his speech, Kennedy "swore his solidarity with the aims of American policy in Vietnam and prudently complimented the President for his 'efforts to achieve an honorable peace.'"

"Such a halfway policy is typical of the Senate opposition on Vietnam," he continued. "It is irresolute and its numbers are small, and has no practical effect on the policy of the White House."