



LE DUC THO
He may be there too

Hanoi Aide And Nixon's China Visit

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Le Duc Tho, the chief adviser to the North Vietnam delegation at the Paris peace talks, may be in Peking at the same time President Nixon visits there, informed sources said today.

The sources said the report, passed on by diplomats in Laos, indicated Tho would arrive in the Chinese capital about one day before Mr. Nixon's arrival on February 21.

They suggested that Tho might meet there with Henry Kissinger, Mr. Nixon's chief foreign policy adviser who will accompany the President.

Kissinger and Tho, who is a member of the North Vietnamese Politburo, met seven times in Paris last year in the secret peace negotiations which Mr. Nixon disclosed January 25.

Kissinger and Tho last met in Paris in October, then Tho became ill and returned to

Hanoi. The North Vietnamese aid this week that the United States refused to continue the talks with Xuan Thuy, the leader of the Hanoi Delegation.

U.S. officials said Kissinger didn't want to deal with him because he did not have

the authority to negotiate. Tho recently was reported planning to return to Paris soon, and the sources said it was believed he would stop in Peking on the way.

Although such stopovers are customary, the sources said the timing of Tho's reported travel plans could not be regarded as a coincidence.

Associated Press