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**Jackson Cites
'Secret' U.S.,
Vietnam Pact**

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Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) charged yesterday that "secret agreements" had been made between the Nixon administration and South Vietnam, and he called on President Ford to disclose them.

Jackson did not say what is the substance of the agreements.

The executive branch, particularly Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, repeatedly has stated there are no "secret agreements." Kissinger last weekend said there was no U.S. "legal commitment" to South Vietnam, but rather, "a moral obligation."

Jackson told the Senate yesterday that despite the disclaimers, "I have been reliably informed that there exist between the governments of the United States and South Vietnam secret agreements which envision fateful American decisions."

He said, "In fairness to President Ford, I think he has only recently found out about these accords."

If necessary, said Jackson, he will call hearings and question senior U.S. officials under oath about "these secret agreements."

Jackson said later that he was talking about agree-

See DIPLOMACY, A9, Col. 1

DIPLOMACY, From A1

ments "in writing" which he broadly characterized as "agreements, commitments, understandings, accords, between our government and South Vietnam of a secret nature that have never been disclosed, in connection with the (1973) Paris (cease-fire) agreement."

In the face of that broad charge, from a Democratic presidential candidate, spokesmen at the White House and the State Department said they would withhold direct comment until after making further inquiry, but said they were still unaware of any secret accords.

Ever since the ill-fated Vietnam cease-fire agreement was signed, there have been claims by the South Vietnamese government that there were a variety of "understandings" behind the accord.

Jackson's charge could lead to a highly contentious debate over whether anything in the voluminous exchanges between Washington and Saigon is "a secret agreement."

The Ford administration's latest attempt to induce Congress to provide new military aid to South Vietnam hit a wall of opposition yesterday.

Behind closed doors, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee heard Assistant Secretary of State Philip C. Habib and Army Maj. Gen. John R. D. Cleland discuss possibilities for regrouping Vietnam government's routed forces to give that regime "a chance" for survival.

In a typically skeptical comment afterward, Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.), said scornfully, "Everyone goes around with flowers in their ears saying it is going to

work out. It isn't going to work out—it is a disaster."

Cambodia is "a lost cause" said Humphrey. As for South Vietnam, he said that after the "sickening" sight of South Vietnamese troops fleeing from battle and mistreating civilians, I am not ready to give one more dime to people that won't stand up and fight for their existence."

Jackson's charge of secret agreement involving South Vietnam brought expressions of surprise from Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.).

"Frankly, I know of no secret agreement" behind the Paris accord, said Mansfield. Every time Kissinger has returned from a negotiation abroad, Mansfield said, the question about secret agreements has been raised at the White House by congressional leaders, or there has been a voluntary disclaimer by Kissinger that "there were no secret agreements."

Jackson said that while the Ford administration "has intimated that the Congress has reneged on 'commitments' and 'obligations'" to South Vietnam, "in recent years, obsessive secrecy has come to surround American diplomacy."

In the initial nuclear strategic arms limitation talks with the Soviet Union, Jackson reiterated, Kissinger for two years withheld secret "understandings" from Congress. Jackson also repeated that Kissinger withheld "crucial communications" on the collapsed U.S.-Soviet trade accord last year.

Questioned about Jackson's latest charge, a State Department spokesman said he could only repeat what Kissinger said last week-end at Palm Springs, Calif.

Kissinger said that when President Ford stated that the United States defaulted on "solemn commitments that were made in Paris" to provide replacement weap-

ons to South Vietnam, that was "the President's perception of the moral obligation growing out of the context of events."

There are at least two different kind of issues involved, however, in the dispute over alleged secret agreements with South Vietnam.

One dispute turns on what assurances the United States gave to South Vietnam about U.S. supplies, plus other expectations that were raised to induce the Saigon government to sign the Jan. 27, 1973, cease-fire. The other dispute concerns what the United States told South Vietnam it would do in event the cease-fire was massively breached.

When South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu

visited Washington in April, 1973, South Vietnamese sources said there were various "understandings." They reportedly included a U.S. "understanding" with Moscow and Peking to restrict their flow of war materials into North Vietnam; assurances that continued U.S. bombing in Cambodia would checkmate North Vietnam's ability to mount offensives in South Vietnam, and U.S. assurances on replacement of Saigon's war materials.

South Vietnam's ambassador to Washington, Tram Kim Phuong, said last week that "we have been told that in case of a massive violation (of the cease-fire), the United States would not stay idle and probably there would be major retaliation."