

White House Asks Anyone Charging 'Secret' Pacts to Give Evidence

By RICHARD L. MADDEN

Special to the New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 11—A White House spokesman said today that President Ford knew of no secret commitments made to South Vietnam and that anyone who charged there were such agreements should back it up with evidence.

At the same time, Senator John J. Sparkman, Democrat of Alabama and chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, sent a letter to Mr. Ford requesting that all "pertinent documents" relating to the 1973 Vietnam cease-fire agreement be turned over to the committee.

"In order to insure that there is no misunderstanding about any United States undertakings relative to the agreement, I believe that all of the pertinent documents should be made available to the committee," Mr. Sparkman said.

He specifically asked for "a text of all understandings, undertakings or similar state-ments" made by former Pres-

ident Nixon, Secretary of State Kissinger or other United States officials dealing with the 1973 agreement.

State Department officials said yesterday that Mr. Kissinger did not make public the private exchanges between the Nixon Administration and Saigon because he felt this would have jeopardized progress toward the cease-fire agreement in Paris.

The officials said that South Vietnam would not have agreed to the signing without such a "statement of intent," and that North Vietnam would not have signed the agreement if it had known of such a statement.

Ron Nessen, Mr. Ford's press secretary, declined immediate comment on the Sparkman letter but sought once again to deny that any secret commitments or agreements existed in the private exchanges between the Nixon Administration and President Nguyen Van Thieu of South Vietnam in the final stages of the cease-fire negotiations.

Senator Henry M. Jackson, Democrat of Washington and a contender for the 1976 Democratic Presidential nomination, said on Tuesday that he had been "reliably informed" that "secret agreements" existed between the United States and South Vietnam.

Mr. Nessen acknowledged on Wednesday that Mr. Nixon had privately assured the Saigon Government in 1973 the United States would react vigorously of the cease-fire agreement, but insisted that the private exchange did not differ in substance from what the Nixon Administration had stated publicly.

Mr. Nessen contended today that the issue was whether secret commitments had been made "about which Congress or the American people were not aware," and added: "The President knows of none. The Secretary of State, who was intimately involved in the negotiations, asserts knowledgeably that there were none."

He also added that Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr., Mr. Nixon's former chief of staff, had issued a statement saying there were no secret agreements and that Mr. Nixon "never said there were any."

Mr. Nessen said it would be "unfortunate if a mistaken impression were perpetuated. Specifically, anybody who states all or implies that because there were private communications therefore secret hearings on the matter commitments is making a statement that seriously lacks precision. Any suggestion that private communications contained secret agreements should be backed up with evidence. I haven't seen any such evidence." An aide to Mr. Jackson said when told of Mr. Nessen's statement: "We've been asking for all the evidence." The Senator has asked the Senate Armed Services Committee to hold