

SAIGON AIDE ALLEGES KISSINGER ARMS VOW

NYTimes APR 15 1975

SAIGON, South Vietnam, April 14 (AP)—South Vietnam's Foreign Minister at the time of the 1973 Paris peace agreements says President Nguyen Van Thieu's Government agreed to sign only after Henry A. Kissinger promised that any North Vietnamese attack would be met by American military action.

The former Foreign Minister Tran Van Lam, said President Richard M. Nixon also promised in a letter to President Thieu to "react immediately and vigorously" to any large-scale North Vietnamese offensive. But he added that no secret agreement was signed.

The Ford Administration has acknowledged a commitment to South Vietnam but denies any secret agreement. It says any commitment to military action was canceled by the Congressional ban on such action later in 1973.

Mr. Lam, now president of the South Vietnamese Senate, said in an interview that Washington never clarified what Mr. Nixon meant by his pledge to "react immediately and vigorously," to a North Vietnamese attack. But he said Secretary of State Kissinger, then Mr. Nixon's national security adviser and the negotiator of the Paris agreement, promised military action.