

# Nixon May Review Trip Unless Soviet Curbs India

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 14—The White House is letting it be known that President Nixon will reconsider his planned trip to Moscow unless the Soviet Union uses its influence

with India to bring about a cease-fire in her war with Pakistan.

This Administration view was made known to news correspondents today by a high White House official. He said that the President, disturbed by Soviet vetoes of cease-fire resolutions in the United Nations Security Council, believes that Moscow is seeking to humiliate Peking by demonstrating that China — a supporter of Pakistan cannot prevent Pakistan's defeat.

Meanwhile the Indian Ambassador to Washington, L. K. Jha, charged this afternoon that his Government had information from "a reliable source" that the United States nuclear-equipped and powered carrier Enterprise was sailing toward East Pakistan with contingency orders that included the evacuation of Pakistani personnel

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bottled up by the Indians in Dacca.

Ambassador Jha said that he had raised the matter with Joseph J. Sisco, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asia this afternoon and had not received a categorical denial.

He declined to reveal his sources, but said that such a plan would be regarded in New Delhi as "a very serious matter."

Officially, neither the State Department nor the Pentagon would comment on the charge. But Administration officials said privately that the Enterprise, four destroyers and an amphibious ship carrying two dozen helicopters were under orders to sail from Singapore into the Indian Ocean. They said that no orders had yet been given to proceed from there.

## Ziegler Comments

Ronald L. Ziegler, the White House press secretary, first learned of the widespread reports of the President's attitude

toward Moscow when he arrived in Washington several hours after Mr. Nixon and his official party returned from the Azores.

"The United States is not considering canceling the U.S.-Soviet summit and no U.S. Government official intended to suggest this," Mr. Ziegler insisted.

Despite the clear impressions received by those who heard the official express the White House viewpoint, Mr. Ziegler said that the accounts were "highly speculative and taken out of context."

According to Mr. Ziegler, the official was discussing a "highly hypothetical situation."

"If the Soviets continued to support Indian military action and the Indians should move into West Pakistan, this could very well affect future relations with the Soviet Union," the press secretary said. "But we have no reason to suspect this will occur. We have every expectation the fighting will stop in South Asia."

## Nixon Back From Azores

The White House intention to link the President's Moscow trip to Soviet willingness to promote a cease-fire between India and Pakistan became widely known upon Mr. Nixon's return late today from the Azores, where he conferred with President Pompidou of France on the deteriorating situation on the Indian subcontinent and other international matters.

It was the latest indication that the White House regards India as the aggressor in the war with Pakistan and that Mr. Nixon is disturbed by the lack of evidence that Moscow wants its allies, the Indians, to honor a United Nations General Assembly call for a cease-fire.

The President was said to regard the Russians as capable of restraining the Indians but to believe that if they did not do so within the next few days he would have to reassess the entire relationship between Washington and Moscow.

Unless the Russians indicate quickly that they will seek to restrain India's military thrust into East Pakistan and her combat efforts along the border with West Pakistan, Mr. Nixon will seriously consider holding off attempts to reach a détente with Moscow, it was understood.

## Diplomatic Efforts Cited

The senior Administration official told reporters the United States is still working on a variety of diplomatic fronts to bring the war to a close. He complained, as officials of the State Department had yesterday, that the Soviet Union had not played a constructive role — "to put it mildly."

The official said that the White House was trying to prevent not only the dismemberment of Pakistan but any military threat to West Pakistan.

Asked if Pakistan could be a viable state should the central Government lose control of East Pakistan, as now seems likely, the official said that the United States view was that Pakistan could survive if there were certain unspecified changes in the eastern region.

The President had tried to win France's support for the cease-fire resolutions at the United Nations. The Pompidou Government has abstained, however, from voting on the issue.

An official familiar with the talks between Presidents Nixon and Pompidou said that the French apparently decided there was nothing to be gained in taking a stand on the cease-fire issue because the resolutions were sure to be vetoed by the Soviet Union in the Security Council.

## Previous Comments Noted

At a briefing for newsmen last week, Henry A. Kissinger, the President's adviser on national security affairs, said that the White House felt the Soviet Union had not used its influence on the Indians. The briefing was provided on the condition that Mr. Kissinger not be publicly identified. But his identity was subsequently made public by Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona.

The President's increasing dissatisfaction with Moscow — as it was made known here today — thus represented a low-key attempt to send a signal to the Soviet Union without directly attributing it to Mr. Nixon himself.

Meanwhile, the American carrier Enterprise rendezvoused with the five other Navy ships yesterday off Singapore. It would take the convoy three to four days to travel the 1,600 nautical miles to East Pakistan.

Ambassador Jha said that the Indian Government and the Bangla Desh (Bengal Nation) insurgents in East Pakistan had insured the safety of all foreign nationals in East Pakistan and that all Americans who wished to leave had already done so.