

# NIXON REASSURES THIEU ON U.S. OFFER AT PARIS SESSIONS

At News Meeting, He Says  
Administration Will Not  
Undercut Its Ally

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HANOI GIVEN A WARNING

President Says No New Bid  
Will Be Made Until Foe  
Replies to Earlier One

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10— President Nixon sought today to reassure President Nguyen Van Thieu about his intentions at the Paris peace talks and simultaneously to warn North Vietnam that the allies would make no new offers until Hanoi responded to his latest proposal.

"Under no circumstances are we going to negotiate with our

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enemy in a way that undercuts our ally," he told reporters at an impromptu conference in his office. "Nor will we negotiate over the heads of our ally with our enemies to overthrow our ally."

Directing his comments to the North Vietnamese, the President continued:

"We are ready to negotiate a settlement. The next step is up to the enemy. Our proposal is on the table and it is going to stand there until we get a reply from them." [Question 4, Page 16.]

### Setting of Date Put Off

Earlier in the day at the Vietnam peace talks in Paris the United States refused to agree to a date for the next session, accusing the North Vietnamese of organizing a three-day international rally beginning tomorrow in nearby Versailles in support of the Communist peace proposals. [Page 17.]

Mr. Nixon summoned reporters to his Oval Office at 4 P.M. to discuss arrangements for his trip to China. Standing behind his desk with the afternoon sun slanting across the floor behind him, he fielded questions on a wide range of issues and made the following points:

☐ He will depart for China next Thursday and will spend two days in Hawaii and one in Guam before arriving Monday on the Chinese mainland.

☐ He will defer any decision on the recognition of the new state of Bangladesh, formerly East Pakistan, until after his return from China. Future United States policy toward the subcontinent will be "pro-Indian, pro-Bengalese, pro-Pakistan, but mostly pro-peace." [Q 9.]

☐ He has decided against any new taxes or tax increases this year. Although he intends to submit a program to replace local property taxes, the value-added tax would be used for this purpose only if a formula could be devised that would make it less regressive.

☐ He has ordered a study to determine whether a Constitutional amendment or legislation

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is needed to negate the trend of recent Federal court decisions requiring extensive busing to achieve integration.

President Nixon's news-conference remarks came in response to a question about President's Thieu's unhappiness with a statement by Secretary of State William P. Rogers Feb. 3 that the United States would be "flexible" on the timing of Mr. Thieu's resignation as part of a peace agreement with North Vietnam.

Speaking on Vietnamese television, Mr. Thieu objected to the secretary's remarks as "a serious violation of Vietnamese sovereignty" and said that South Vietnam would make no further concessions at Paris.

As part of the eight-point proposal put forward by President Nixon on Jan. 25, Mr. Thieu offered to resign a month before new elections in South Vietnam and turn the administration of the country over to a caretaker government. It was on this aspect of the proposal that Mr. Rogers said the United States would be willing to negotiate if the other side displayed "good faith" in the talks.

Apparently seeking to soothe Mr. Thieu, Mr. Nixon observed that the resignation offer had been suggested by the South Vietnamese leader in the first place.



United Press International

ARRIVE FOR VIETNAM TALKS: William J. Porter, chief U.S. delegate, left, and Stephen J. Ledogar, spokesman for the delegation, in Paris yesterday. Mr. Porter accused the North Vietnamese of organizing a leftist gathering in nearby Versailles to put pressure on negotiators.

Mr. Nixon described the offer as a "very statesmanlike" one that shows Mr. Thieu's "devotion to breaking the political deadlock in the negotiations." [Question 0.]

The President conceded that the remarks by Secretary Rogers had caused a "misunderstanding" between Washington and Saigon. In an effort to resolve it, he pledged that "any future proposals we make will be joint proposals of the Governments of South Vietnam and the United States."

"Under no circumstances will we make any proposals—particularly on the political issues that are primarily theirs to make — without consultation with and the agreement of the Government of South Vietnam," he said.

Mr. Nixon maintained that this had been the case with all the offers the allied side had put forward in Paris, including the eight-point proposal that was first submitted to the North Vietnamese in secret last October.

### Only Joint Proposals

He added that President Thieu knew this and that "he knows now that there will be no new proposals made unless it is a joint proposal."

Asked if he planned to consult shortly with President Thieu, who, in his television appearance yesterday, called for a meeting Mr. Nixon said: "We already have. We are in constant consultation with him."

The answer seemed unlikely to satisfy Mr. Thieu, who Administration sources say has repeatedly asked for a meeting with Mr. Nixon. The two Presidents last met in Saigon in July, 1969. Despite his recent public statements of support for Mr. Thieu, the sources said they doubted that President Nixon would favor a meeting in the near future.