

P.O.W. Offer and Truce Counteroffer Fail in Paris

By HENRY GINIGER
Special to The New York Times

PARIS, Dec. 10—The United States and South Vietnam today proposed an immediate exchange of war prisoners with North Vietnam and the Vietcong. They countered with an offer of a cease-fire immediately upon agreement by the United States to withdraw its forces from South Vietnam by next June 30.

The offer and counteroffer were made at the 94th session of the peace talks here. Each side viewed the other's suggestions as unacceptable, and after the four-hour session the two sides found themselves about where they were before the exchanges began.

David K. E. Bruce, the chief American delegate, continued his recent pressure on the issue of prisoners by suggesting that the two sides meet daily, starting tomorrow, to settle the prisoner exchange by Christmas. The exchange would apply to all North Vietnamese held in the South and to all Americans and South Vietnamese held in other parts of Indochina.

The session took place here before President Nixon said at a White House news conference that a refusal by Hanoi to agree to the prisoner exchange would "pinpoint" North Vietnam as an outlaw nation.

More Than 8,000 Involved

Mr. Bruce told the other side that his proposal "offers you the opportunity to obtain the release of some 8,000 men in exchange for far fewer on our side."

"It also offers you the opportunity to prove your claims of humanitarian concern for the prisoners you hold," he added.

The Communists returned after lunch with a proposal that represented some movement from past positions. Last Sept. 17, Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh, the chief Vietcong delegate, proposed that in return for an American agreement to withdraw by next June 30, her side would cease to attack forces that were withdrawing, and would start talks on security measures for remaining Ameri-

can troops and on the liberation of prisoners.

The cease-fire offer was broadened today from forces that were withdrawing to include all American troops—again contingent on agreement on withdrawal by next June 30. The second point offered a ceasefire to the South Vietnamese Army as soon as there was agreement and "a Saigon Administration without Thieu, Ky and Khiem that stands for peace, independence, neutrality and democracy."

Two Stages Discerned

Mrs. Binh's statement appears to envision a cease-fire in two stages: one applying immediately to the United States and other foreign allied troops, the other to the South Vietnamese.

The United States and South Vietnam declared that they were faced with the same two preconditions that they had rejected before—American withdrawal without any similar action by the North Vietnamese and the elimination of the present Saigon Government.

Mr. Bruce also said that the freeing of the prisoners should not await settlement of political and military problems. "We do not accept this obvious attempt to use prisoners of war as a political pawn," he added.

For their part, the Communists repeated the charge that the American insistence on immediate action on prisoners was "a maneuver that seeks to camouflage American aggression and war crimes."

The allied offer of a prisoner exchange was more limited than one made by President Nixon in October. That offer covered all prisoners, but American and South Vietnamese spokesmen said that—while the offer was still on the table—as "a first step" the proposal today did not cover South Vietnamese or American prisoners held in South Vietnam.

Appeals in the North

By TILLMAN DURDIN
Special to The New York Times

HONG KONG, Dec. 10—The North Vietnamese Government and the Workers (Communist) party issued an extraordinary appeal today to the people and

army for redoubled efforts to win the war.

The North Vietnam high command also called on the armed forces to heighten their preparedness and determination "to fight victoriously" and "shatter all the new maneuvers of the enemy against the North."

The appeals, relayed here from Hanoi by the official North Vietnam News Agency, were linked to what were termed "threats" by the United States of "new military adventures" against North Vietnam.

A joint statement by the Workers party and the Government is rare and a sign of importance. Similarly rare is a public appeal such as the one issued by the high command.

Grave Concern Shown

The appeals seemed to reflect grave concern in the North about prospects of further American bombing and possibly commando raids in the North and to indicate a need to arouse the North Vietnamese to greater exertion.

The party-Government appeal portrayed the United States as having been driven into a critical situation by the Vietnamese Communists but said "the imperialists remain very stubborn and bellicose, harbor the illusion of preventing the North from supporting the resistance of the South" and "are plotting new military adventures against" Vietnam.

"While paying lip service to peace," the appeal stated, "they are actually intensifying the war. They are bent on preventing the Paris conference from

making any progress and have not shown any goodwill."

Long Truce Rejected

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Dec. 10 (UPI)—North Vietnam today denounced any proposal of an extended cease-fire in South Vietnam from Christmas to the Tet lunar new year on Jan. 26 as "a new treacherous trick by the Nixon Administration."

In a broadcast from Hanoi that was monitored here, North Vietnam said "the United States suggestion of a prolonged cease-fire from Christmas to the lunar new year is an extremely treacherous scheme by the Americans aimed at advertising the so-called cease-fire proposal by Nixon last Oct. 7."

As early as Nov. 25, the Vietcong radio rejected such an extended holiday cease-fire.

The United States has not formally proposed a cease-fire from Christmas to Tet, but Secretary of State William P. Rogers enthusiastically supported such a suggestion Sunday by Senator Henry M. Jackson, Democrat of Washington, on a national radio and television program.

An aide said that Secretary Rogers had asserted that the Administration had long been considering such a proposal.

The Communist side has already announced plans for a three-day truce at both Christmas and New Year's and for a four-day truce at Tet. Saigon has decided on one-day truces at Christmas and New Year's, and is expected to choose a one-day truce for Tet.

DO NOT FORGET THE NEEDIEST!