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U.S. Proposes Peace Talks Be Put Off to Dec. 30

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PARIS, Dec. 15—William J. Porter, who has been harsh with the Vietnamese Communists ever since he became the chief of the American delegation at the peace talks more than two months ago, was harsh with them again today. He proposed in effect a three-week break in the discussions.

The 138th session was held last Thursday, and under a proposal suddenly put to the North Vietnamese and Vietcong delegations this morning the 139th would not take place until Dec. 30.

Mr. Porter's harassing tactics have consisted of trying to hold the Communists responsible for lack of progress in the talks through their refusal to engage in give-and-take discussion of the issues and of the proposals presented by all sides to resolve them.

Last week, while the Communists charged "sabotage," he upset the routine by proposing that there be no meeting until Dec. 23, on the ground that the other side needed time for reflection and new instructions.

The Communists insisted that the usual practice of meeting weekly, except in exceptional circumstances, be followed and that a full-scale meeting be held tomorrow. They withheld acceptance of the Dec. 23 date and yesterday their liaison officers inquired whether the

Americans and the South Vietnamese would be prepared to meet tomorrow.

No answer was forthcoming from the allied side, according to the Communists' spokesmen. Early this morning they announced a news conference presumably to protest against Mr. Porter's intransigence. Shortly afterward they were presented with a note to the effect that he not only would not meet with them tomorrow but was not prepared to meet Dec. 23 either.

"To give you additional time to develop a constructive approach here, we withdraw our

proposal to meet Dec. 23," Mr. Porter said. He told the Communists that their approach up to now "has been inconsistent with a process of genuine negotiation."

Protesting its "constant goodwill and serious intent," the North Vietnamese delegation called Mr. Porter's move "an utterly unreasonable act." The Hanoi spokesman, Nguyen Than Le, said it proved that "the Nixon Administration does not want a peaceful settlement of the Vietnam problem but also nurtures the illusion of a military victory."