

Both Must Leave, U.S.

PARIS — (AP) — The United States indirectly told North Vietnam today it intends to pull its residual force out of South Vietnam only if there is a reciprocal withdrawal of North Vietnam troops.

U.S. negotiator William Porter let Saigon's delegate, Pham Dang Lam, make the announcement at the 140th session of the Vietnam peace talks, and then approved Lam's statement.

At the end of an acrimonious, 140-minute meeting, Porter told newsmen the Communist delegates said "nothing constructive or pertaining to the negotiations."

The United States and South Vietnam have long demanded a negotiated withdrawal of all outside forces of both sides from South Vietnam.

Lam's statement appeared to set a new condition for the complete withdrawal of U.S. forces, but the U.S. delegation spokesman, Stephen Ledogar, denied there had been any change in the American position.

Denies Change

President Nixon has said there are two basic conditions for a total American pullout:

The release of the several hundred American prisoners held by the Communist side, and the ability of the Saigon government to go it alone, without the help of U.S. troops.

Lam, the first speaker at the meeting, told the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong delegations:

"Whether all the allied forces leave South Vietnam

or there remain residual forces, and how long these forces will take to disengage, depend on whether or not you accept to negotiate seriously on the problem of troop withdrawal as part of an over-all settlement, as well as on the question of the release of the prisoners of war."

Porter delivered a brief statement immediately after Lam's speech.

"The representative of the government of the Republic of Vietnam has spoken for our side," Porter said. "I support his remarks. On matters pertaining to the affairs of the people of South Vietnam, you should address yourselves to the government of that country."

It was the first time in the three-year-old deadlocked talks that an American nego-

tiator withdrew so completely behind his South Vietnamese colleague.

Ledogar and the South Vietnamese spokesman, Nguyen Trieu Dan were asked whether the ability of the Saigon government to go it alone depended on a prior withdrawal of North Vietnamese troops.

Both replied, in effect, that this would depend on the circumstances at the time.

North Vietnam has never acknowledged the presence of its regular troops in South Vietnam. It has refused to negotiate or even discuss their withdrawal as a counterpart for an American withdrawal.

Bitter Reply

Porter's demand that the Communist side should address itself solely to the Sai-

to Hanoi

gon delegation on Vietnamese matters drew an infuriated response from the Hanoi and Viet Cong delegations.

Porter's statement is "a maneuver to pretend that the dog's tail is its head," the Viet Cong spokesman, Ly Van Sau, told newsmen.

'Provocation'

The North Vietnamese spokesman, Nguyen Thanh Le, said Porter "carried the escalation of provocative language far beyond that of his predecessors."

The Communist delegate appeared to be particularly incensed by an off-the-cuff remark Porter threw into the discussion. Challenging the Viet Cong's right to claim to represent the South Vietnamese people, Porter added facetiously:

"I would like to ask the

North Vietnamese element of your side to permit the Viet Cong. to provide details of how and when they received such a mandate. Were they elected by the South Vietnamese people? When? Where is this so-called government located? What part of South Vietnamese territory does it claim to control? Please tell us. Please take all the time you need to explain it for the benefit of the public and the press."

Reply By Query

Sau replied with another question: "Who gave the United States the right to wage its aggressive war against the South Vietnamese people?"

Le described Porter's challenge as "ridiculous and unintelligent," and added: "The American delegate seems to have lost his lucidi-

ty. He wants to know where the provisional revolutionary government of South Vietnam is located? Well, as the man formerly in charge of the pacification program he should know that it is all around and everywhere."

Le began his regular briefing by displaying photographs of dead or wounded North Vietnamese children and a nurse, whom he described as victims of American bombardment of North Vietnam on Dec. 26.

He unwrapped a brown paper parcel and showed what he said were two American fragmentation bombs, one larger than the other. The larger bomb was perfected and used under the Nixon administration, Le said, thus a "demonstrating what President Nixon understands by civilization."