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## 'Modalities' on POWs Aired

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Senate Republican Leader Hugh Scott claimed today that recordings of "official talks" between U.S. and North Vietnamese negotiators do not indicate American prisoners would be returned in exchange for a definite U.S. withdrawal date.

The North Vietnamese, according to the tapes, said only "If you totally withdraw, we will talk about the modalities of releasing prisoners." Scott told newsmen.

Modalities — methods — of releasing the prisoners are far from an automatic exchange, the senator said.

Scott said this after hitting

at a statement by Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) that he would set a withdrawal date "on the assumption" the North Vietnamese would return the American prisoners.

Scott said he had the White House study the taped recordings again to make sure of the North Vietnamese attitude.

The senator said he was not certain if the recordings were of the public Paris sessions or the secret talks of presidential assistant Henry Kissinger, or both.

But, he added, "the tapes show this is all Hanoi ever said."