



Associated Press

ANTIWAR CONFERENCE OPENS IN FRANCE: The rostrum of the "World Assembly of Paris for Peace and Independence of the Indochinese Peoples," which is being held in Versailles. About 800 delegates from 75 nations attended.

800 at French Rally Accuse U.S. of Sabotaging Talks

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VERSAILLES, France, Feb. 11

—One of the biggest international assemblies ever held on Indochina opened here today with expressions of total support for the Vietcong and North Vietnamese positions. There was also condemnation of the United States' refusal yesterday to agree to a date for the next session of peace talks because of the "intolerable pressure of the assembly."

Some 800 delegates to the World Assembly of Paris for Peace and Independence of the Indochinese Peoples, from 75 countries, approved charges that the United States was escalating the war through the use of bombers and mercenaries and was sabotaging the Paris peace negotiations.

"What our friends in Indochina expect from us is an immense cry — 'stop the war right away, that's enough,'"

André Souquiére, secretary general of the French Movement for Peace, said in opening the three-day meeting in the Congress Hall, next door to the Versailles Palace. Mr. Souquiére called for decisions to stage a worldwide peace campaign "of unequaled scope."

Leonid I. Brezhnev, the Soviet Communist party leader, sent greetings "from the bottom of my heart" to a meeting that he said "will make an active contribution to the further mobilization of world opinion in support of the heroic struggle of the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia."

Another message, from the deposed Cambodian head of state, Pire Norodom Sihanouk, called for pressure on the United States Congress to cut off military funds for the Vietnam war. A long cablegram from Premier Phan Van Dong of North Vietnam reiterated the basic demands for immediate and unconditional American

withdrawal and the resignation of President Nguyen Van Thieu of South Vietnam.

The delegates include about 100 Americans who seemed particularly indignant at being called "a horde of Communist-controlled agitators." That was the expression used yesterday by William J. Porter, the chief American negotiator at the peace talks.

Some Americans at the assembly accused Mr. Porter of slander and demanded that he resign.

Organizers Are Listed

The American spokesman at the peace talks, Stephen J. Ledogar, said yesterday that he had information indicating that the assembly had been organized by North Vietnam. In Versailles, 11 miles outside Paris, the organizers were announced as 48 French groups and the Stockholm Conference on Vietnam.

Among the French organizations, the Communist party and groups it controls figure prominently with the Socialist party and independent labor, civic and religious groups.

On the platform were Georges Marchais, the French Communist leader, and Georges Séguy, secretary general of the General Confederation of Labor and a member of the Communist politburo.

The Stockholm conference was organized in 1967 by Swedish pacifists closely associated with the Social Democrats, according to the conference's leader, Bertil Svahnstrom, a

former journalist. In the hall today were delegations from North Vietnam, from the Vietcong in South Vietnam, the Pathet Lao and the Cambodian government in exile in Peking.

A Soviet delegation of 26 was led by Pavel I. Piminov, secretary general of the Union of the Soviet Labor Federation. Though invited, the Chinese Communists were conspicuously absent, and no Rumanians were seen. Extreme left but anti-Soviet French groups, mainly Trotskyite and Maoist, were barred at the start of the meeting, but Mr. Svahnstrom said, with apparent embarrassment, that this problem was being "negotiated."

The Americans, most of them young, represented a variety of peace groups such as the Quakers, the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice, and the People's Peace Treaty. A member of the latter group, Nancy Woodside of Detroit, said that "we are very embarrassed as Americans at Porter's conduct." She and others charged that Mr. Porter was using the Versailles assembly to help establish a reason for escalating the war.

Among other Americans at the assembly were Jane Fonda, the actress; Barbara Dane, a folk singer; Bronson D. Clark, executive secretary of the American Friends Service Committee, and the Rev. Paul Mayer, a Roman Catholic priest who is a member of the Harrisburg defense committee supporting the Berrigan brothers.