

U.S. Denies Truce Proposal Offered

PARIS — (UPI) — The newspaper France-Soir said today the United States had proposed a seven-day truce in Vietnam, but the U.S. State Department said the story "is totally without foundation in fact." U.S. spokesmen in Paris also denied the report.

The New York stock market shot up sharply on basis of the France-Soir report and the Dow Jones industrial averages gained 8.59 points to 943.79. Later prices began dropping as the official denials poured out.

The newspaper, quoting what it called a "good source," said the United States had made the proposal to the Communist delegations in new secret negotiations in Paris and that Hanoi appeared ready to accept it.

Unusual Move

Stephen Ledogar, spokesman for the U.S. delegation at the Vietnam peace talks, immediately denied the story and said "It is totally without foundation."

State Department spokesman Charles Bray also denied the report. He made the statement to newsmen after conferring with U.S. officials in Paris by telephone.

In an unusual move, Bray informed newsmen of the State Department denial even before the regularly-scheduled noon news briefing.

Newspaper Quoted

France-Soir said the secret talks had resumed following the return to Paris from Hanoi Sunday of Le Duc Tho, member of the Hanoi politburo who held 13 secret meetings with U.S. presidential adviser Henry Kissinger, up to last August.

France-Soir said according to its sources:

"The Americans have proposed a truce in the fighting for seven days. Hanoi is reported to have agreed.

"The sticking point: The arrangement of the ceasefire which would follow this truce."

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