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Dong Reported to Declare Hanoi Offers U.S. an Honorable Exit

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PARIS, May 17 — Premier Pham Van Dong of North Vietnam said in an interview published today that his side would negotiate an end to the war in 24 hours, if it could.

"But we are ready to continue with ardor for years, for we know that whatever be our sacrifices, time is on our side," he told Claude Julien, correspondent of the Paris daily *Le Monde*.

Repeatedly, according to the account, the Premier insisted that his side was offering the United States an honorable exit, and did not seek to impose a Communist regime on the South. But he said President Nixon refused to negotiate.

In Paris, the American and Saigon Government delegations said in a joint note that they had rejected a resumption of the peace conference, which was proposed yesterday by the Vietnamese Communists, because "it takes two to negotiate." They said the North Vietnamese actions and words indicated that they had "no serious purpose in demanding another plenary session at this time."

The North Vietnamese and

Vietcong request for the resumption of talks on Thursday, and its rejection, were made public yesterday. The joint note today is an explanation of the rejection move.

Urging the United States to emulate the behavior of de Gaulle in ending the Algerian war honorably, the North Vietnamese Premier said in the interview:

"We must avoid overestimating or underestimating our adversary, who pounds on despite his reverses. He showed his obstinacy in Cambodia in 1970, in Laos in 1971.

"When, at the end of March, the popular forces hurled their offensive in the South, we were surprised by the surprise of the American leaders. Yet that offensive is built into the general line of this long war.

"At bottom, Nixon seemed to consider that the war would end one day for lack of combatants. That's why until now he has always refused to negotiate seriously, but the war will not end until the day Nixon realizes that it will yield him nothing. He has everything to lose except the honorable exit that we are determined to give him."