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Hanoi Insists On Direct Peace Talks

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North Vietnam charged yesterday that President Nixon was seeking to weaken and divide the forces supporting its war effort and predicted that the effort would not succeed.

Nguyen Than Le, the spokesman for the North Vietnamese peace delegation, declared that the war must be settled by direct negotiation. "All maneuvers by the Nixon administration aimed at avoiding direct negotiation with the representatives of the Vietnamese people will fail," he declared to newsmen.

Le made his comment in answer to questions about the effects on the peace talks of Henry A. Kissinger's visit to Peking and that of Soviet President Nikolai V. Podgorny to Hanoi.

Le made it clear that while insisting on negotiating here, North Vietnam is not budging from its opposition to a cease-fire ahead of a general settlement or from its insistence that the United States agree to withdraw its forces by a specific date and halt its support for President Nguyen Van Thieu of South Vietnam.

"This is the constructive basis for a settlement," he said.

Le gave no support to Podgorny's prediction that the negotiations would soon resume. He said that his delegation continues to insist on the regular Thursday sessions but up to now has consistently met with a refusal by the U.S. since the talks were broken off May 14.

Xuan Thuy, the chief North Vietnamese negotiator, is still in Hanoi and Le would give no date for his return here. One major factor in the American refusal to resume the sessions is Thuy's absence.

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