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# Terms Better Then--Shriver

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Democratic vice presidential candidate Sargent Shriver said today President Nixon "blew" a historic opportunity to end the war in 1969 on better terms than he can get now.

Shriver, who was U.S. ambassador to France when the Paris peace talks began, said Nixon had "one of the great historic opportunities of my life time, the same opportunity President Eisenhower had in Korea."

"Nixon had peace handed to him literally in his lap," Shriver said. "He blew it."

Shriver was interviewed at Timberlawn, the spacious estate he leases in suburban Maryland, in a room cluttered with mementoes of the Kennedy-era he shares as a family-in-law.

### Souvenirs

Also prominent are souvenirs of his own career as director of the Peace Corps, the head of Office of Economic Opportunity and as ambassador to France.

Appointed to Paris by President Lyndon Johnson, Shriver stayed on for a year after Nixon was elected to the White House.

He remained, he said, because he thought Nixon would make the Paris peace talks succeed and because the President had agreed to virtually all of his recommendations on U.S. policy toward France.

He left, he asserted, because "steps toward peace had not been significant and I did not want to be connected with an administration where that effort was not being made."

### 'Differed Often'

Shriver said he did not want to make his disagreement with administration war policy a public confrontation with either Johnson or Nixon although he was free to express his own views when they differed from official

cial policy, and did so often.

"I think we would have gotten better terms in 1969 than President Nixon can get today," he said.

"Now, we're hoping to get out completely within 90 days after our prisoners are released and a supervised ceasefire is established.

"Then, I can assure you,

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the terms would have been as good as that, or better."

### Same Terms

President Nixon, Shriver said, could have offered the same terms he is now offering and the chances of their being accepted promptly would have been very high.

"The obvious reason, he said, "is in that period we had hundreds of thousands of troops there."

"I think we could have been out of Vietnam by declaring — just as Sen. George Aiken advised — that we had won and were getting out," he said. "A simple declaration that we had done all that we had set out to do and promised we were going to do."

Turning to other subjects, Shriver said he believes the Nixon administration's handling of the economy and problems of inflation and joblessness will be the chief issue in the campaign.

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