

U.S. Revokes Permission For Hoffa Trip to Hanoi

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By DAVID E. ROSENBAUM

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WASHINGTON, Sept. 7 — James R. Hoffa, the former president of the Teamsters Union, planned to leave tonight for Hanoi to try to bring about the release of American prisoners of war, but he canceled the trip, at least temporarily, this morning.

The cancellation came shortly before the State Department, which had given Hoffa a passport yesterday with a validation for travel to North Vietnam, voided the validation.

Mr. Hoffa's lawyer and White House officials disagreed on whether the trip had the approval of the Nixon Administration.

The lawyer, William L. Taub, said that the trip had been put off "because of certain matters that came up this morning in North Vietnam that need clarification."

He said Hoffa had been invited to North Vietnam several months ago by the Vietnam Trade Union of North Vietnam.

[A North Vietnamese source in Paris said no invitation had been given to Hoffa, The Associated Press reported.]

A State Department spokesman said that the stamp for travel to North Vietnam had been granted yesterday by an official who was not authorized to do so and that it had been revoked today by Secretary of State William P. Rogers.

Hoffa has a visa to visit North Vietnam, Mr. Taub said, and the State Department spokesman said there was no law against his going without a validated passport.

According to Mr. Taub, he and Harold Gibbons, a Teamsters vice president, met in San Clemente, Calif., in July with Henry A. Kissinger, President Nixon's national security adviser. Mr. Taub said that Mr. Kissinger had approved of the trip and of their discussions about war prisoners.

Ronald L. Ziegler, White House press secretary, acknowledged tonight that Mr. Taub and Mr. Gibbons had seen Mr. Kissinger, but he said Mr. Kissinger had expressed displeasure with the trip.

Mr. Ziegler said that after the meeting Mr. Taub had called the White House and had once more been told, this time by one of Mr. Kissinger's assistants, that the Adminis-

Continued on Page 4, Column 7

Continued From Page 1, Col. 6
 tration would not approve of a trip such as the one Hoffa planned.

Ronald L. Ziegler, White House press secretary, declared tonight that the Administration had never approved of Mr. Hoffa's proposed trip and had twice told this to Mr. Hoffa's representatives.

Mr. Taub said that in July he and Harold Gibbons, a Teamsters vice president, met in San Clemente, Calif., with Henry A. Kissinger, President Nixon's adviser on national security.

Mr. Taub said that they had informed Mr. Kissinger of Mr. Hoffa's plans and that Mr. Kissinger had endorsed them.

In recent weeks, Mr. Nixon has been sharply critical of the trips to Hanoi by Ramsey Clark, the former Attorney General, and Jane Fonda, the actress. The Administration also attacked the discussions on the prisoner issue in Paris last month between Pierre Salinger, an aide to Senator George McGovern, and North Vietnamese officials.

According to State Department officials, Mr. Hoffa and Mr. Taub went to the Passport Office here yesterday and asked for passports with a special validation for travel to North Vietnam.

Under "expedited procedures," a department spokesman said, the passports and the validations were issued by "a low-level official in the Bureau of East Asian Affairs who lacked the authority to grant them."

This morning, The Detroit News reported on Hoffa's plans, and the article started a flurry

of activity here. By later in the afternoon, Mr. Rogers had invalidated the stamp on Hoffa's passport, although not the passport itself.

According to the State Department spokesman, Mr. Rogers revoked the validation as soon as he found out about it.

The spokesman said that Mr. Rogers "does not like private American citizens trying to negotiate about prisoners."

Both the spokesman and Mr. Ziegler said that Mr. Nixon had not been involved in either granting the validation initially or canceling it today.

American passports are not valid for travel to Cuba, North Korea, Albania and North Vietnam.

However, the Supreme Court has ruled that the Government cannot control the travel of Americans abroad so long as they do not use their passports when they enter a forbidden country.

A five-member mission plans to leave for North Vietnam on Sept. 13 and escort home three American prisoners of war "at the first available moment."

Mrs. Cora Weiss and David Dellinger, who will lead the mission, also announced at a news conference yesterday that they would make the trip with the Rev. William Sloane Coffin Jr., Yale University chaplain, and two others still to be named.

The mission intends to reach Hanoi on Sept. 16, Mrs. Weiss said, "weather and bombing permitting and he threat of interference by the United States Government." By leaving Hanoi on the first plane available to them they could begin their trip back with the three American airmen on Sept. 23, she indicated.