

# KISSINGER MEETS WITH HANOI AIDES; TALKS GO ON TODAY

SEP 27 1972

Surprise Extension Delays  
Return to U.S.—Neither  
Side Comments on Move

## NIXON 'IN CLOSE TOUCH'

Meetings in Paris Coincide  
With Signs of Diplomatic  
Activity in Other Capitals

NYTimes  
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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26 — Henry A. Kissinger met privately in Paris today with North Vietnamese representatives, and the White House announced that the talks would be extended tomorrow into a second day.

Ronald L. Ziegler, the White House press secretary, declined to say, however, whether the extension of the private discussions means that progress was being made toward a settlement of the Vietnam war. In Paris, the North Vietnamese delegation was equally silent.

But Mr. Ziegler made the point of stressing that Mr. Kissinger, the President's adviser on national security, had said at a White House news conference Sept. 16, the day after the previous session with the North Vietnamese, that "the fact that these talks are going on would indicate a certain seriousness."

18th Meeting Since '65

The meeting today was the 18th secret session Mr. Kissinger has had with the North Vietnamese since the discussions began in August, 1969. This was the first time, however, that he was to hold sessions lasting more than one day.

It was also the first time that the White House issued an advance statement that Mr. Kissinger would meet again with Hanoi's delegates. The past practice was for the White House to disclose either that a secret meeting had been held or that one was in progress.

The first White House announcement today said that Mr. Kissinger was conferring privately with Le Duc Tho, a member of North Vietnam's Politburo, and Xuan Thuy, Hanoi's chief negotiator in Paris. White House spokesmen said at the time that Mr. Kissinger would be returning here tonight or tomorrow morning.

### Nixon 'Is in Close Touch'

But during the afternoon—as President Nixon was flying from Washington to New York—the White House said that Mr. Kissinger was remaining in Paris for another meeting.

Mr. Ziegler, who was accompanying the President, said that Mr. Nixon himself learned only during the flight that the secret talks were being extended. He said that Mr. Kissinger "is staying in close touch with the President concerning the current talks."

White House officials refused to draw any conclusions from Mr. Kissinger's return to Paris early today to resume the secret meeting.

Present plans were for Mr. Kissinger to fly back to Wash-

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ington late tomorrow. But late today a White House official said it was possible that Mr. Kissinger might have still additional conversations with Mr. Tho and Mr. Thuy.

The announcement of the new meetings in the Paris talks came amidst other signs of renewed diplomatic activity on Vietnam in other capitals.

Officials at the State Department said privately that they were following with special interest the meetings in Moscow this week between the North Vietnamese Ambassador, Vo Thuc Dong, and top Soviet officials.

### Hanoi Aide Sees Podgorny

Mr. Dong was received yesterday by the Premier, Aleksei N. Kosygin, and today by President Nikolai V. Podgorny.

But the State Department said that the subject of Vietnam did not come up at last night's dinner in New York between Secretary of State William P. Rogers and Andrei A. Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

In Washington, a French diplomatic source expressed the belief in recent days that a Vietnam peace settlement is "within reach" if both parties are prepared to "reach out" for it.

This source, emphasizing that his optimism had increased since early July, offered the comments after the French Foreign Minister, Maurice

Schumann, conferred here separately last Friday with Mr. Kissinger and Secretary Rogers.

### Vietnam Among Topics

It was understood that Vietnam was among the main topic of the conversations here by Mr. Schumann, who maintains contact in Paris with the North Vietnamese.

However, American officials said in private conversations today that they had no basis for linking Mr. Schumann's talks here on Friday and Mr. Kissinger's departure for Paris yesterday.

Several State Department officials expressed interest in an article published yesterday in Nhan Dan, Hanoi's official newspaper, urging the United States to join with North Vietnam in guarantees that "neither side dominates the political life in South Vietnam" under a peace settlement.

Noting that the article bore the authoritative "Commentator" signature, these officials said privately that it appeared to be a reply to Mr. Kissinger's news conference comment on Sept. 16 that the United States would not, as a result of negotiations, "impose a particular form of government that guarantees predominance to one side."

An Administration official called special attention to the passage in the Nhan Dan article that "the correct way is to proceed from the reality of the situation in South Vietnam and to form during the transition from the restoration of peace to the holding of free and democratic elections a provisional government of national concord without domination by any side."

This official said that "the wording of this sentence raises the question of whether Hanoi may be edging toward accepting our view that a cease-fire must precede a political settlement in Saigon."

He said the most significant appeared to be the suggestion that a provisional government be formed "during the transition" from war to elections without the usual insistence that a political accord precede a cease-fire.

"It is interesting that the article was broadcast on the eve of Kissinger's departure for Paris, of which North Vietnam obviously had to be aware," the official said.