

New Cong Bid at Paris Is Rejected

PARIS — (UPI) — The Viet Cong said today it is ready to discuss "concrete" guarantees not to seize power in South Vietnam if the U.S. agrees to its joining in a new cabinet in Saigon.

The offer was made by Mme. Nguyen Thi Binh, the chief VC negotiator, at today's 162nd conference session.

The offer was backed by a warning by both Madame Binh and Hanoi delegate Xuan Thuy that peace will come only if South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu is removed and replaced by a coalition cabinet.

The U.S. and South Viet-

namese delegations, which have condemned the coalition plan as a maneuver for Communist domination, turned a deaf ear to the new offer.

They again vainly urged a general cease-fire and direct political talks between the Communists and Saigon.

Mme. Binh said the U.S. was distorting the picture when it claimed the Viet Cong sought to seize control of the new cabinet it wants to form with the Saigon administration minus Thieu and neutral elements.

She said the Viet Cong has already offered an agree-

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ment with Washington that South Vietnam would be dominated by "neither a Communist regime nor a U.S. puppet regime."

"We are also prepared to work out, together with other parties, concrete measures to implement this agreement," she said.

The Red statements made it clear that the form of the South Vietnamese regime is the key to peace.

The Communists demanded Thieu's head, although U.S. negotiator William J. Porter and Saigon's deputy representative Nguyen Quan Phong again condemned the tripartite coalition plan.

Porter called the plan "an arbitrary, illogical formula." He urged an immediate cease-fire throughout Indo-China followed within four months by a complete U.S. military pullout, plus direct talks between the Communists and the Thieu government, as proposed on

May 8 by President Nixon.

Madame Binh said: "In order to achieve national concord, we will consider the Saigon administration as an equal segment. We only demand that Nguyen Van Thieu resign and the Saigon administration change its policy."

She rejected the U.S.-supported Thieu plan for a new presidential elections in the south, claiming they would "legalize the U.S. puppet administration." She said that, by contrast, the Viet Cong's plan for election of a new constituent assembly organized by the tripartite cabinet would insure a free choice for the population.

Before walking into the conference hall, Thuy told newsmen the gap between the U.S. and Communist positions remains as wide as ever both on the "political and the military issues."

Xuan Thuy also told newsmen he strongly protests the large scale bombing of North Vietnam.