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# Kissinger's Talks Extended Again

Associated Press

## Washington

Presidential adviser Henry Kissinger and North Vietnamese negotiators completed a third day of private talks in Paris yesterday and agreed to extend their sessions into a fourth day, the White House announced.

White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler, in making this disclosure, refused again to discuss the substance of the unprecedentedly prolonged talks or to say whether the extension meant a breakthrough in negotiations is near.

President Nixon's assistant for national security affairs had been scheduled to return to Washington last night after three days of talks with North Vietnamese negotiators Le Duc Tho and Xuan Thuy.

But, at about the same time Paris airport officials were saying Kissinger's departure had been delayed, Ziegler told newsmen at the White House that Kissinger and the North Vietnamese "have agreed to extend the talks to a fourth day."

This means, he said, that

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Kissinger and his top assistant, General Alexander M. Haig, Jr., will return to Washington tonight to report to Mr. Nixon.

Asked the significance of the extension, Ziegler replied, "I can't draw any conclusions at all or discuss the talks."

There have been persistent reports that Kissinger and Haig are centering their discussions on the possible makeup of the South Vietnamese government after the fighting ends. This has long been a principal obstacle to agreement.

In Saigon, U.S. Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker conferred with South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu, whose resignation

has been demanded by the Communists.

## POSITIONS

A Saigon newspaper, Tin Song, which has links to Thieu's chief adviser, reported there has been no change in the basic U.S. and South Vietnamese positions in the Paris talks.

Some sources said it is likely either Kissinger or Haig would go to Saigon soon for more conferences with Thieu, but Ziegler said there were no plans for either to do any further traveling.

Ziegler rejected contentions that the extended negotiations are linked to the coming election. "We have stated the purpose of the meetings I think rather clearly," he said.