

SFXAMINER

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# McGovern Plan for Viet Peace

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Here is the text of the specific steps proposed Tuesday night by Democratic presidential candidate Sen. George McGovern to achieve peace in Vietnam:

“Immediately after taking my oath as President, if the war has not ended by then, I would issue a National Security Directive to the Secretary of Defense, to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and to our commands in the field, with the following orders:

- “Immediately stop all bombing and acts of force in all parts of Indochina;
- “Immediately terminate any shipments of military supplies that continue the war;,”
- “Immediately begin the orderly withdrawal of all American forces from Vietnam, from Laos and Cambodia, along with all salvageable American military equipment. And we will assign whatever transportation is required to complete that process and to complete it within 90 days — a time period that I’ve been told by competent military authority is well within our capability.

“Secondly, I would issue the following instructions to our negotiators in Paris:

- “Notify the representatives of the other side that we have taken these steps to end the hostilities, and that we now expect that they will accept their obligation under their own Seven Point Proposal of 1971—to return all prisoners of war and to account for all missing in action. We will expect that process to be completed within 90 days to coincide with our complete withdrawal from the war.
- “We would further notify all parties that the United States will no longer interfere in the internal politics of Vietnam, and that we will allow the Vietnamese people to work out their own settlement. The United States is prepared to cooperate to see that any settlement, including a coalition government, gains international recognition.
- “Thirdly, I would send the Vice President to Hanoi to speed the arrangements for the return of our prisoners and an accounting of the missing. I would also instruct our diplomats to contact the opposing parties in Laos and Cambodia in order to secure release of prisoners held in those

countries, and an accounting of missing in action, including American civilian newsmen now missing in Cambodia. There are six known prisoners in Laos, and nearly 300 missing. No effort has been made to secure their release.

“Fourth, after all of our prisoners have been returned, and we have received a satisfactory accounting for any missing men, I would order the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff to close our bases in Thailand, to bring home any troops and equipment still there, and to reassign elsewhere any ships still stationed in the waters adjoining Indochina.

“Fifth, as the political solution in Vietnam is worked out by the Vietnamese themselves, we should join with other countries in repairing the wreckage left by this war.

“Sixth, I would ask the Congress to take immediate action on an expanded program for our veterans. I think it’s simply a disgrace that our government is able to find these young men to send them off to war, but somehow, we look the other way when they come back in need of an education or decent medical treatment, or a decent job.”