

## What Went on in Paris ? Nixon, Kissinger Confer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon received a breakfast briefing from adviser Henry A. Kissinger today as the administration continued its silence on whether his intensive Paris negotiation had made progress toward ending the Vietnam war.

Before a crackling fireplace in the White House family dining room, Nixon conferred with Kissinger, Secretary of State William P. Rogers, and Kissinger's top assistant on the National Security Council, Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr.

Nixon was given an initial report from Kissinger and Haig Thursday night after they returned from Paris and an unprecedented four days of private talks with North Vietnamese negotiator, Le Duc Tho and Xuan Thuy.

After the breakfast, White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler again refused to discuss content of the

negotiations. But in response to a question about Le Duc Tho's statement that there still are many difficult things to settle, Ziegler said "we would not challenge Le Duc Tho's statement."

Ziegler said in response to questions about U.S. bombing and mining in Vietnam that there is "no change in that policy as announced." But he cautioned reporters against drawing assumptions from that statement, saying later that "I'm not talking about the negotiations."

He said he had not budged one inch in his responses from the position that both sides had agreed not to characterize or comment on the private negotiations.

As photographers recorded the start of today's breakfast, the quartet sipped orange juice and chatted of events far removed from war and peace—base-

ball and Nixon's political trip to Atlanta Thursday.

As the photographers entered, Nixon was heard referring to the World Series when he asked, "Oakland against who?" Then, after a pause, he answered his own question: "Cincinnati."

"Today?" he asked Rogers.

"Tomorrow," the cabinet member replied.

"I can't tomorrow," sports fan Nixon said, mentioning the congressional drive toward adjournment and the

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'Peace Is Not Tomorrow' -- Tho.

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PARIS — "Peace is not for tomorrow."

This terse comment by a Vietnamese Communist official today summed up four days of secret negotiations by presidential adviser Henry A. Kissinger and another fruitless session of the formal peace talks.

A wave of pessimism—moods seem

to come in cycles in Paris—once again swept the French press after Kissinger's departure for Washington.

Le Duc Tho, a member of the North Vietnamese Politburo who conducted the talks with Kissinger, headed for Hanoi to report on the negotiations and presumably get new instructions.

Kissinger returned to Washington

last night with indications that major decisions still are required in Hanoi, Saigon and Washington on the latest peace initiatives.

Tho was traveling via Moscow and would be returning via the same route. In any case, his return to Paris was not likely before the end of next week. Consequently, if the secret negotiations are to continue, they would be interrupted by a 10-day pause. Kissinger last saw Tho Wednesday night.

According to some Communist sources, Tho is taking back a U.S. pledge to "persuade" South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu to give up power in exchange for withdrawal of all North Vietnamese troops from the South and a pledge of a halt to all future infiltrations.

This theory was picked up by a number of French newspapers. As usual, there was no official confirmation.

The tone of yesterday's weekly formal session was as harsh as ever and its results totally unproductive.

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planned Senate vote on his \$250-billion spending ceiling legislation.

The President then shifted the subject to this Thursday trip to Atlanta telling his breakfast guests "it was a beautiful day.

"The skyline today you wouldn't know," he told Rogers as they discussed previous Atlanta visits. He referred to the city's universities and professional sports teams and added this observation about the New South: "Everybody is upbeat."

When photographers were present a fifth chair at the table was empty. Aides said that would be occupied by H. R. Haldeman, one of Nixon's top assistants.

Kissinger and Haig, upon arriving Thursday night from Paris at nearby Andrews Air Force Base, would say nothing to newsmen. The two went directly to the White House for an initial report to Nixon.

A White House source said he knew

of no immediate plans to disclose what has gone on in the negotiations. So far Nixon has said only that "the negotiations are at a sensitive stage."

Against this backdrop, Senate Republican Leader Hugh Scott Thursday predicted that the United States' "warlike participation" in Vietnam will be over by Jan. 20.

The White House silence on the secret negotiations, matched by Hanoi's silence, has set off flurries of speculation that a peace deal is near at hand. But some rumors also portray the rival envoys still far apart.

The announced circumstances suggest that the two sides have gone into each others' peace terms in considerable detail, perhaps refining differences in a way to allow leadership decisions on the next negotiating move.

If so, Nixon could be weighing options brought home by Kissinger. A decision on the timing and scope of the next U.S. move would be up to the President.