

Thieu Holds Talks With Peace Aide

Saigon

President Nguyen Van Thieu spent eight hours yesterday discussing the latest efforts to reach a settlement in the Vietnam war with his ambassadors to the Paris peace talks and to the United States.

The South Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Tran Van Lam, and some of the President's closest aides and advisers also attended the long meeting at the presidential palace.

"This is a crucial time for us," one of the participants said later.

The high - level session was called by Thieu after an unprecedented four days of secret talks in Paris last week between President Nixon's national security adviser, Henry Kissinger, and officials of North Vietnam.

One of those at the palace meeting was asked whether he and the others felt threatened by the possibility that the United States and North Vietnam might have reached certain tentative agreements which South Vietnam might find itself under pressure to accept.

"We will make our own decisions," the official said. "No one will tell us what to do. South Vietnam is our country."

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