

Into the Homestretch

by Tom Wicker

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..... Just as the most optimistic of McGovern men are beginning to see some daylight, the headlines are filled with portents of what at first glance seems to be genuine progress in the Vietnam peace talks. Almost certainly, if Dr. Kissinger can get a settlement, even a preliminary arrangement, before the election on Nov. 7, the political effect in this country would be a tremendous boost for Mr. Nixon; and that would be the case even if the President only made a convincing announcement that he was on the verge of a settlement. Recrimination - such as the realization that any settlement obtainable now probably could have been had in 1969 - would come too late.

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