

TOKYO, Oct. 26 (AP)— Following is the text of a statement issued by the North Vietnamese Government today on the peace negotiations, as broadcast in English and monitored here:

Following years of a glorious resistance war of our armed forces and people in both zones, the United States had to stop in October, 1968, the bombardments against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and accept the holding of a four-party conference on Vietnam in Paris. That situation opened up prospects for restoring peace in Vietnam.

The Nixon Administration chose, however, to embark on the path of "Vietnamization of the war" and negotiation from a position of strength. As a result, the U.S. war of aggression in Vietnam dragged on, was intensified and expanded, and the Vietnam peace negotiations could not make any progress.

Over the past four years the valiant and undaunted Vietnamese people have stepped up their just struggle on the military, political and diplomatic fronts, and have recorded unprecedented victories, especially in the spring, thus inflicting a very important setback on the Vietnamization policy.

At the same time, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam has constantly shown its serious attitude and goodwill in the search for a peaceful solution to the Vietnam problem on a basis guaranteeing the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights and the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination.

In full agreement with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam has held private meetings with the U.S. Government with a view to a peaceful settlement of the Vietnam problem. But till September, 1972, the negotiations on the Vietnam problem had remained without result.

With a view to making the negotiations progress, at the private meeting on Oct. 8, 1972, the DRVN side took a new, extremely important initiative: It put forward a draft Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam, and proposed that the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, with the concurrence of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam,

and the Government of the United States of America, with the concurrence of the government of the Republic of Vietnam, immediately agreed upon and sign this agreement to rapidly restore peace in Vietnam.

In that draft agreement, the DRVN side proposed a cessation of the war throughout Vietnam, a cease-fire in South Vietnam, an end to all U.S. military involvement in Vietnam, a total withdrawal from South Vietnam of troops of the United States and those of the foreign countries allied with the United States and with the Republic of Vietnam, and the return of all captured and detained personnel of the parties.

From the enforcement of the cease-fire to the installation of the government formed after free and democratic general elections, the two present administrations in South Vietnam will remain in existence with their respective domestic and external functions.

These two administrations shall immediately hold consultations with a view to the exercise of the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination, achieving national concord, insuring the democratic liberties of the South Vietnamese people and forming an administration of national concord which shall have the task of promoting the South Vietnamese parties' implementation of the signed agreements and organizing general elections in South Vietnam within three months

after the cease-fire comes into effect.

Thus the Vietnam problem will be settled in two stages in accordance with the often-expressed desire of the American side: The first stage will include a cessation of the war in Vietnam, a cease-fire in South Vietnam, a cessation of the United States military involvement in South Vietnam and an agreement on the principles for the exercise of the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination; in the second stage the two South Vietnamese parties will settle together the internal matters of South Vietnam. The DRVN side proposed that the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the United States sign this agreement by mid-October, 1972.

'Path to a Settlement'

The above initiative of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam brought the negotiations on the Vietnam problem, which have dragged on for four years now, onto the path to a settlement. The American side itself admitted that the

draft Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam put forward by the DRVN side was indeed an important and very fundamental document which opened up the way to an early settlement.

After several days of negotiations, on Oct. 17, 1972, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the United States reached agreement on almost all problems on the basis of the draft agreement of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, except for only two unagreed issues. With its goodwill, the DRVN side did its utmost to remove the last obstacles in accepting the American side's proposals on the two remaining questions in the agreement.

In his Oct. 10, 1972, message to the Premier of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the President of the United States appreciated the goodwill of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and confirmed that the formulation of the agreement could be considered complete. But in the same message he raised a number of complex points. Desirous of rapidly ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam clearly explained its views on this subject. In his Oct. 22, 1972, message, the President of the United States expressed satisfaction with the explanations given by the government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. Thus by Oct. 22, 1972, the formulation of the agreement was complete.

Main Points Summarized

The main issues of the agreement which have been agreed upon may be summarized as follows:

[1]

The United States respects the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Vietnam as recognized by the 1954 Geneva agreements.

[2]

Twenty-four hours after the signing of the agreement, a cease-fire shall be observed throughout South Vietnam. The United States will stop all its military activities and end the bombing and mining in North Vietnam.

Within 60 days there will be a total withdrawal from South Vietnam of troops and military personnel of the United States and those of the foreign countries allied with the United States and with the Republic of Vietnam. The two South Vietnamese parties shall not accept

the introduction of troops, military advisers and military personnel, armaments, munitions, and war material into South Vietnam.

The two South Vietnamese parties shall be permitted to make periodical replacements of armaments, munitions and war material that have been worn out or damaged after the cease-fire, on the basis of piece for piece of similar characteristics and properties. The United States will not continue its military involvement or intervene in the internal affairs of South Vietnam.

[3]

The return of all captured and detained personnel of the parties shall be carried out simultaneously with the U.S. troops' withdrawal.

[4]

The principles for the exercise of the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination are as follows:

the South Vietnamese people shall decide themselves the political future of South Vietnam through genuinely free and democratic general elections under international supervision;

the United States is not committed to any political tendency or to any personality in South Vietnam, and it does not seek to impose a pro-American regime in Saigon;

national reconciliation and concord will be achieved, the democratic liberties of the people insured;

an administrative structure called the National Council of National Reconciliation and Concord, of three equal segments, will be set up to promote the implementation of the signed agreements by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, and the Government of the Republic of Vietnam and to organize

the general elections, the two South Vietnamese parties will consult about the formation of councils at lower level;

the question of Vietnamese armed forces in South Vietnam shall be settled by the two South Vietnamese parties in a spirit of national reconciliation and concord, equality and mutual respect, without foreign interference in accordance with the postwar situation;

among the questions to be discussed by the two South Vietnamese parties are steps to reduce the military numbers on both sides and to demobilize the troops being reduced;

the two South Vietnamese parties shall sign an agreement on the internal matters of South Vietnam as soon as possible and will do their utmost to accomplish this within three months after the cease-fire comes into effect.

[5]

The reunification of Vietnam shall be carried out step by step through peaceful means.

[6]

There will be formed a four-party joint military commission and a joint military commission of the two South Vietnamese parties.

An international commission of control and supervision shall be established. An international guarantee conference on Vietnam will be convened within 30 days of the signing of this agreement.

[7]

The government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Vietnam shall strictly respect the Cambodian and Laos peoples' fundamental national rights as recognized by the 1954 Geneva agreements on Indochina and the 1962 Geneva agreements on Laos, i.e., the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of these countries. They shall respect the neutrality of Cambodia and Laos. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Vietnam undertake to refrain from using the territory of Cambodia and the territory of Laos to encroach on the sovereignty and security of other countries. Foreign countries shall put an end to all military activities in Laos and Cambodia, totally withdraw from and refrain from reintroducing into these two countries troops, military advisers and military personnel, armaments, munitions and war material.

The internal affairs of Cambodia and Laos shall be settled by the people of each of these countries without foreign interference.

The problems existing between the three Indochinese countries shall be settled by the Indochinese parties on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

[8]

With the ending of the war, the restoration of peace in Vietnam will create conditions for establishing a new, equal and mutually beneficial relationship between the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the United States. The United States will contribute to healing the wounds of war and to postwar re-

construction in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and throughout Indochina.

[9]

This agreement shall come into force as of its signing. It will be strictly implemented by all the parties concerned.

The two parties have also agreed on a schedule for the signing of the agreement. On Oct 9, 1972, at the proposal of the U.S. side, it was agreed that on Oct. 18, 1972, the United States would stop the bombing and mining in North Vietnam; on Oct. 19, 1972, the two parties would initial the text of the agreement in Hanoi; on Oct. 26, 1972, the foreign ministers of the two countries would formally sign the agreement in Paris.

On Oct. 11, 1972, the U.S. side proposed the following change to the schedule: On Oct. 21, 1972, the United States would stop the bombing and mining in North Vietnam; on Oct. 22, 1972, the two parties would initial the text of the agreement in Hanoi; on Oct. 30, 1972, the foreign ministers of the two countries would formally sign the agreement in Paris. The Democratic Republic of Vietnam agreed to the new U.S. schedule.

On Oct. 20, 1972, under the pretext that there still remained a number of unagreed points, the U.S. side again put forth another schedule: On Oct. 23, 1972, the United States would stop the bombing and mining in North Vietnam; on Oct. 24, 1972, the two parties would initial the text of the agreement in Hanoi; on Oct. 31, 1972, the foreign ministers of the two countries would formally sign the agreement in Paris.

Despite the fact that the U.S. side had changed many times what had been agreed upon, the DRVN side, with its goodwill, again agreed to the U.S. proposal while stressing that the U.S. side should not under any pretext change the agreed schedule.

'Difficulties in Saigon'

Thus, by Oct. 22, 1972, the DRVN side and the U.S. side had agreed both on the full text of the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam and on the schedule to be observed for the formal signing of the agreement on Oct. 31, 1972. Obviously, the two sides had agreed upon an agreement of extremely important significance, which meets the wishes of the peoples in Vietnam, the United States and the world.

But on Oct. 23, 1972, contrary to its pledges, the U.S. side again referred to difficulties in Saigon, demanded that the negotiations be continued for resolving new problems and did not say anything about the implementation of its commit-

ments under the agreed schedule. This behavior of the U.S. side has brought about a very serious situation, which threatens to jeopardize the signing of the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam.

The so-called difficulties in Saigon represent a mere pretext to delay the implementation of the U.S. commitments, because it is public knowledge that the Saigon administration has been rigged up and fostered by the United States. With a mercenary army equipped and paid by the United States, this administration is a tool for carrying out the Vietnamization policy and the neocolonialist policy of the United States in violation of the South Vietnamese people's national rights. It is an instrument for the United States to sabotage all peaceful settlement of the Vietnam problem.

The above shows that the Nixon Administration is not negotiating with a serious attitude and goodwill in order to end the war and restore peace in Vietnam. All it is doing, in fact, is to drag out the talks so as to deceive public opinion and to cover up its scheme of maintaining the Saigon puppet administration for the purposes of continued war of aggression in Vietnam and Indochina. The Nixon Administration must bear before the people of the United States and the world responsibility for delaying the signing of the agreement and thus prolonging the war in Vietnam.

U.S. Commitment Stressed

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam deems it its duty to bring the present situation with respect to the private meetings between the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the United States to the notice of our countrymen and fighters throughout the country, and peoples in the world and the United States so that the truth may be known. This information is in the interest of peace and will in no way affect the negotiations, the two parties having agreed upon the text of the agreement and the schedule for its signing.

While pointing to the above situation, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam strictly holds to the undertaking between the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the United States to the effect that no change should be brought to the agreed text of the agreement and that the date scheduled for its signing is Oct. 31, 1972.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam strongly denounces the

Nixon Administration's lack of good will and seriousness. It firmly demands that the United States Government respond to its goodwill, keep its commitments and sign on Oct. 31, 1972, the agreement whose text has been agreed upon with a view to ending the war, restoring peace in Vietnam, contributing to the consolidation of peace in Asia and the world, thus meeting the desire of the Vietnamese people, the American people and the people around the world.

Countrymen and fighters throughout the country: We want peace in independence and freedom. We are animated with goodwill. But the U.S. imperialists still nurture the design of conquering the southern part of our country, turning it into a new-type colony and a military base of the United States, and perpetrating the partition of our country. We had rather sacrifice everything than submit. Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom!

For the independence and freedom of our fatherland, for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism in the world, we are fighting and defeating the U.S. imperialist aggressors. Ours is a position of victory, of initiative, which is unceasingly improving. The position of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys is one of defeat, passivity and decline.

Reunification Termed Aim

More than ever, our countrymen and fighters throughout the country are enhancing their resolve to unite as one man, to brave all hardships and sacrifices, to do their utmost to carry out President Ho Chi Minh's sacred testament, to persist in and step up the fight on the three fronts—military, political and diplomatic—until these lofty objectives have been achieved, to liberate the South, to defend and build the Socialist North and to proceed to the peaceful reunification of the country. Our people are determined to fight shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal peoples of Laos and Cambodia and inflict a total defeat on the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys.

Our people's patriotic struggle against U.S. aggression is a just one. The strength of our unity is invincible. We have traditions of valiant and undaunted struggle against the aggressors. Moreover, our people enjoy the sympathy and great support of the fraternal Socialist countries and the progressive people around the world.

We will win!

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam calls on the Govern-

stronger support and assistance to the Vietnamese people's just struggle until total victory.
The Vietnamese people will win!
The three peoples of Indochina will win!

of Vietnam so as to rapidly end the war and restore peace in Vietnam.
The Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam calls on all brothers and friends around the five continents to extend even

edly supporting the Vietnamese people's patriotic struggle against U.S. aggression, to wage a resolute struggle to urge the U.S. Government to carry out immediately what has been agreed upon between the United States and the Democratic Republic

ments and peoples of the Soviet Union, China and the other fraternal Socialist countries, of the peace- and justice-loving countries, the international organizations, the American people and the peoples around the world, which have been wholeheart-