

Chou Links U.S. With Thieu's Delay on Truce

HANOI, North Vietnam, Nov. 1 (Agence France-Presse) — Well-informed sources said today that the North Vietnamese Government would not be opposed to a further meeting between its special negotiator, Le Duc Tho, and Henry A. Kissinger.

"Whether there is another meeting or not is not important," one source said. "What is important is that the United States keeps its word."

Despite their prudence, however, the sources did not hide the fact that they believed North Vietnam would now have to agree to a further secret contact with the Americans.

Only a few days ago, Hanoi believed that the four years of haggling in Paris, plus the marathon four-day talks in mid-October, had finally borne fruit and that a cease-fire agreement had been concluded.

The Americans "really take the Vietnamese people for children who run after a shadow that they can never catch," the source said.

They rebutted some of the reasons put forward by Mr. Kissinger, President Nixon's national security adviser, and the White House for holding another meeting.

The "minor" differences between the two sides are problems of translation between English and Vietnamese, notably on the role of the National Council for Reconciliation and Concord, the sources said. They pointed out that Mr. Kissinger had had his own interpreter with him for the most recent contacts.

As for American references to remaining difficulties raised by South Vietnam, and to demands from President Nguyen Van Thieu that his Government play an active part in deciding peace terms most affecting

South Vietnam, authoritative sources here referred to a news conference by Mr. Kissinger on Feb. 9.

Mr. Kissinger said at that time that all the private negotiations he had held with North Vietnamese representatives had been carried out with full consultations with President Thieu, and that Washington and Saigon were in complete agreement on each proposal put forward.

The sources also quoted from a speech made by President Nixon on Feb. 10: "Every pro-

posal we have made in Paris has been a joint proposal by the Government of South Vietnam and the Government of the United States.

"I can say that any future proposal we make will be joint proposals of the Government of South Vietnam and the Government of the United States."

Because of these assurances, there is surprise here that the "two signatures for four parties" formula has been called into question.

"Thieu, in any case, does not have the right of veto over American policy," a source said.