

NOV 2 1972

SF Examiner

Date Set by Nixon: Hanoi

By United Press International

North Vietnam claimed today President Nixon last month sent its premier two messages approving a nine-point Vietnam peace agreement and proposed last Tuesday as the date for signing.

Hanoi's Vietnam News Agency monitored in Tokyo said Nixon sent messages Oct. 20 and Oct. 22 to North Vietnamese Premier Pham Van Dong agreeing to the accord and proposing Oct. 31 as the day for signing.

The radio said the mes-

sages were received while presidential adviser Henry Kissinger, who worked out the pact earlier in private talks with Hanoi diplomats, was discussing terms of the settlement in Saigon with President Nguyen Van Thieu.

The VNA statement about the messages appeared in a lengthy commentary accusing Nixon of using Thieu to stall settlement of the war.

"How can it be that the U.S. President, while sending his messages, was com-

pletely in the dark about the talks Mr. Kissinger had in Saigon?" the broadcast said.

"Yet now the Nixon administration claims that due to difficulties raised by Nguyen Van Thieu, there must be further negotiations. Is there anyone who can accept such a contention?"

Kissinger and Hanoi revealed terms of the pact a week ago. But the presidential aide said at the time one more session was needed to work out remaining "difficulties" and said although

the United States had agreed to work toward an Oct. 31 signing, it gave no commitment to do so.

Nixon has maintained he would not be stampeded into a settlement and said in a paid political radio broadcast yesterday that he was determined to get a settlement "ending the war in Vietnam the right way, in a way that discourages aggression, that does not reward it."

The United States today was reported pressing Hanoi for withdrawal of its troops

from South Vietnam as part of the peace pact — although that condition was not included in the nine-point settlement reached by Washington and the Communists.

But Radio Hanoi in a broadcast monitored yesterday in Saigon warned that any attempt to alter the text that Kissinger worked out "word by word" with Hanoi would crush chances for a cease-fire.

Hanoi has never admitted the presence of its troops in South Vietnam.