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# Nixon to Thieu: No Coalition

SFE Examiner

SAIGON — (UPI) —

President Nixon has written President Thieu that the Hanoi-Washington draft cease-fire agreement does not impose a coalition with the Communists, Vietnamese sources said today.

The letter was hand-delivered to Thieu by Gen. Alexander Haig, chief aide to presidential adviser Henry Kissinger. Haig conferred with Thieu shortly after arriving yesterday and again today.

The sources said the Thieu-Haig discussions were "tough" but they said Thieu indicated South Vietnam would not oppose any American move to win the release of prisoners of war, even if this means a bilateral agreement with Hanoi.

## Paris Prelim

American sources said the discussions between Thieu and Haig were intended to resolve all areas of possible disagreement before Kissinger meets in Paris with North Vietnamese negotiators.

Xuan Thuy, chief of Hanoi's peace delegation, said in Paris yesterday the North Vietnamese were willing to hold another secret meeting with Kissinger but would not discuss substantial changes in the cease-fire agreement.

The Vietnamese sources said the letter Haig brought from Nixon urged Thieu to "recognize the trends of peace in the world."

The letter, in general, "urges Thieu to consider the spirit of the nine-point draft agreement" between Hanoi and Washington and assured Thieu that the Council for National Reconciliation and

Concord contained in the draft treaty was merely an administrative body, the sources said.

## Adamant

Thieu has steadfastly refused to agree to coalition, contending it would mean the eventual takeover of South Vietnam by the Communists. He wants any Communist representation in the government determined by elections.

Nixon has ordered U.S. troop strength in South Vietnam reduced to 27,000 by Dec. 1 and American sources in Saigon have said it is hoped a treaty is signed in time to bring the remaining servicemen home "as a Christmas present."

Haig and Thieu talked for

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two hours at the Independence Palace shortly after the general arrived in Saigon yesterday, his second trip to the war zone this month.

The sources said there was hope that the agreement could become effective in time to end the fighting in South Vietnam around the end of the year.

## Troop Cut

One source said that one point of disagreement is a provision not yet made public in the previously announced Hanoi-Washington draft agreement.

It would reduce South Vietnam's armed forces from their current level of about 1 million men to 250,000 within three months and to 175,000 within six months after the agreement is signed.

The 175,000-man total would mean the South Viet-

namese militia which includes home guard and self-defense forces would have to be disbanded, the sources said.

A South Vietnamese official said if the withdrawal terms stand, the North Vietnamese would simply transfer their troops to Viet Cong divisions.

"All that would go back to North Vietnam would be the general and his flag," said the official.

The North Vietnamese never have admitted their own troops are fighting in the south.