

NOV 11 1972

# U.S. and Thieu 'Talking It Out'

SAIGON (AP) — Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr., President Nixon's special envoy, conferred for more than three hours today with President Nguyen Van Thieu in an extraordinary lengthy meeting on a proposed Indochina peace package.

There was no official word on whether their conference, the second in two days, had brought the Indochina war any closer to a settlement. The two had met for two hours Friday.

A spokesman for the U.S. Embassy said Haig was spending the night at the villa of U.S. Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker. He refused to disclose Haig's schedule beyond that and said he did not know whether the envoy would see Thieu again before leaving Saigon. A White House announcement earlier this week had said that Haig would return to Washington on Sunday. 12 NOV

A senior South Vietnamese official confirmed that Haig carried a personal letter from Nixon to Thieu, and reported it reaffirmed the U.S. commitment to military and economic support of Saigon and said the United States

would impose neither a coalition government nor a political solution on South Vietnam.

The official said the letter told Thieu the Nixon administration fully understands that the National Council of Reconciliation and Concord, which is proposed in the draft cease-fire agreement, would be only an "administrative structure" and not a coalition government.

**DISPUTE OVER** the meaning of the draft agreement's language on this point has been a major obstacle in the negotiations so far, with Thieu contending that it would allow the Communist side to impose a coalition on the Saigon government.

But North Vietnamese peace negotiator Xuan Thuy told Agence France Presse in Paris Friday there was nothing to be changed in the draft agreement's provision for a post-ceasefire "administrative structure" composed of representatives of the Saigon government, the Viet Cong and neutralists.

Thuy said the proposed council "will not be a government." He said its task would be to "stimulate" the Viet Cong and the Saigon government to observe the terms of the agreement, to agree on election procedures and organize voting throughout South Vietnam.