

NOV 16 1972

The Final Round in Paris Talk

SF Examiner

PARIS — (AP) — A new round of secret Vietnam peace negotiations was imminent today, but North Vietnam in advance rejected any changes in the draft cease-fire agreement worked out by Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho of the North Vietnamese Politburo.

Xuan Thuy, the chief of North Vietnam's delegation in Paris, told the weekly session of the semi-public peace talks:

"We resolutely reject all the pretexts put forth by the United States and Saigon to demand modification of the substance of the agreement."

Persistent

He repeated Hanoi's persistent demand that the United States "immediately sign the agreement."

The chief modification demanded by Saigon, a provision calling for the withdrawal of North Vietnamese troops in South Vietnam, was repeated today by South Vietnam's representative at the session, Nguyen Xuan Phong.

U.S. negotiator William Porter said:

"Each of us is aware that the restoration of peace in Vietnam is approaching. Each of us is equally well

aware of the efforts being made to refine and perfect the accomplishments of the negotiation so that a settlement fair to all will result."

Porter avoided any reference to substantive issues but urged the Communist side to avoid "exaggerated

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rhetoric and unfounded charges of bad faith."

Phong told newsmen as he arrived for the meeting that his government regards such a withdrawal and restoration of the demilitarized zone between North and South Vietnam as "essential elements" of any agreement.

The draft, as outlined by Hanoi and discussed with newsmen by Kissinger, makes no mention of either point. American sources have said that Tho, in his secret meetings in Paris last month with Kissinger, gave him to understand that some North Vietnamese would be withdrawn from the northern part of South Vietnam. But the implication has been that most of Hanoi's forces in the South would stay where they were.

Final Round

Tho was in Moscow today, en route to Paris from Hanoi, and he and Kissinger were expected to meet in Paris this weekend for what the U.S. presidential adviser has said would be their final round of talks to agree on details and the wording of the agreement.

Thuy charged that the United States deliberately delayed signing the agreement while subjecting Viet-

nam to unprecedented bombing raids and pouring war materiel into South Vietnam.

"All this inevitably leads to the following conclusion: The Nixon administration says one thing but does another. It talks of peace but makes war," Thuy said.

He accused the United States of using President Nguyen Van Thieu's objections to the draft as a pretext for putting "an obstacle on the road to peace."