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## Kissinger: 'My Job to End War, Not Judge It'

By Peter Lisagor

WASHINGTON — (CDN) — Presidential adviser Henry Kissinger has told an Italian writer that he "might agree" that the war in Vietnam has been useless, but that his task has been to end it, not judge whether it was "useful or useless."

"The war must be ended with principle, with judiciousness. And this is not the same thing as saying that it was right to enter the war," Kissinger told Oriana Fallaci in an interview for the left-of-center magazine *L'Europeo*.

In the interview, conducted in Kissinger's White House office Nov. 4, he voiced the conviction that "peace will come in a few weeks after the resumption of negotiations—not in many months, in a few weeks."

### Thieu

Pressed by Miss Fallaci to say whether he could persuade South Vietnam President Nguyen Van Thieu to accept North Vietnamese troops in the south or whether the United States would sign a separate agreement with Hanoi, Kissinger would not give a direct reply.

"I can tell you only that we are determined to make this peace and we shall make it in the shortest possible time after my new meeting with Le Duc Tho," he said. "Thieu can say what he wants. It is his business."

Asked "If I should put a gun to your head and force you to choose between a dinner with Thieu and one with Le Duc Tho, whom would you choose?" Kissinger refused to answer.

Miss Fallaci then asked if he liked Tho.

"Yes," Kissinger replied, "I found he is a dedicated man, very serious, very strong, and always courteous and polite. Sometimes very hard, difficult to deal with, but this is something for which I have always respected him . . . naturally our relations have always been very professional, but I sensed much kindness within him."

### Joking

"It is true, for example, that sometimes we even succeeded in joking. We used to say that one day I would teach international relations at Hanoi University and he would teach Marxism-Leninism at Harvard. I would say that our relations were good."

Could he say the same about Thieu, Miss Fallaci asked.

"Also with Thieu, my relations have been good . . . before," he said. Reminded that the South Vietnamese had said they did not part the best of friends, Kissinger added that they did not necessarily share the same viewpoints. "Let's say we

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parted allies, Thieu and I."

Kissinger said about dealing with Thieu: "I still have something to do. I have not finished at all. And I do not feel powerless. I don't feel discouraged at all."

He said it was "useless for Thieu to ask you of the press to define the points on which we do not agree."

"It is so useless that I don't even get nervous about it. On the otherhand, I am not the type that lets himself be pulled by emotions. Emotions are useless, least of all do they help in reaching a peace settlement."

In a section of the interview dealing with his personal views of power, President Nixon, his reputation as a ladies' man, and his future, Kissinger made these points:

• "Pursuing power, however, was not what led me to this work. If you should go through my past political life, you wouldn't imagine that President Nixon could fit in with my plans. I was one of his opponents in three electoral campaigns . . . President Nixon showed a great vigor, a great ability, even in picking me . . ."

"I do know of many leaders, among the very many I have met, who would have the courage to send their assistant to Peking without letting anyone else know it. I do not know many other leaders who would leave the negotiations with North Vietnam up to their assistant."

• Spinoza and Kant, not Machavelli or Metternich, influenced him most.

• The opening to China "has been an important element in the mechanics of my success. And yet this is not the main point . . . The main point comes from the fact that I have acted alone. The Americans love this immensely."

"The Americans love the cowboy who leads the convoy, alone on his horse, the cowboy who comes into town all alone on his horse, and nothing else. Perhaps not even with a gun, because he does not shoot. He acts, and that is enough, being in the right place at the right time. In sum, a Western."

(Miss Fallaci: "I see. You see yourself as a sort of Henry Fonda, unarmed and ready to let them have it for honest ideals. Alone, courageous . . ." Kissinger said, "not necessarily coura-

geous," but doing everything alone.

"This romantic and surprising character suits me because being alone has always been part of my style, or, if you wish, of my technique.")

• He was not "embarrassed" by this playboy reputation in dealing with Le Duc Tho, Chou En-lai and Mao Tse-tung because it "has been, and is, useful . . . in reassuring people, to show them that I am not a museum piece."

• His reputation as "a ladies' man" is "partly exaggerated, but in part it is true." But women don't play a main role in his life. "For me, women are only amusing, a hobby. Nobody spends too much time on a hobby."

He prefers being with his two children as often as his busy schedule permits. He may get married again, but "You know, when one is as serious as I am, to coexist with someone else and survive that existence is very difficult."

• He is unlikely ever to go back to teaching at Harvard because "there are more interesting things to do." He hasn't made any decision yet "as to whether to quit this job. I like it very much, did you know that?"