

# Viet Paris Talk Off -- Mystery

PARIS — (AP) — The negotiating session today between Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho was canceled this morning, but U.S. and North Vietnamese spokesmen said they would meet again tomorrow.

No explanation was given for cancellation of today's meeting.

There was speculation that the announcement was a ruse to mislead newsmen, and that President Nixon's national security adviser and the Hanoi Politburo member were planning a secret rendezvous.

(One Washington report said that a face-saving compromise has been reached on how many North Vietnamese troops will be withdrawn from South Vietnam.)

## Heavy Cable Traffic

During the pause in the talks, there was heavy cable traffic between Paris and the White House.

Presidential press secretary Ronald Ziegler said Nixon had received a number of cables from Kissinger and that he had replied to give his negotiator "certain instructions."

Ziegler described the exchanges as intensive and said Kissinger had been in contact with the White House — although not Nixon personally — by telephone.

The presidential spokesman also said the United States would select the site for tomorrow's negotiations. Previously sites were selected by mutual agreement, he said.

## Agree to Delay

Ziegler gave no reason for the one-day suspension of the talks, saying:

"Both sides mutually agreed to postpone the meeting for a day."

Kissinger and Tho resumed negotiations yesterday after a nine-day recess. They met for a total of five hours under a complete news blackout. But officials in Washington said the talks are moving to a climax.

Tho and Xuan Thuy, the head of the North Vietnamese delegation to the Paris peace talks, met this morning with Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh, the chief of the Viet Cong delegation to the talks,

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and other members of her delegation.

Kissinger conferred for an hour last night with Pham Dang Lam, the head of the South Vietnamese delegation to the talks.

The South Vietnamese government kept up its campaign for the cease-fire agreement to include provision for withdrawal of all North Vietnamese troops in South Vietnam and safeguards to insure that the

proposed National Council for Reconciliation and Concord won't turn into a coalition government.

These Saigon demands were outlined once again by Lam, in a meeting with French journalists.

Despite South Vietnam's continuing insistence on these points, the belief was widespread that the United States is going to agree to the cease-fire this time, regardless of how little the North Vietnamese are ready to concede.