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Peace Talks, Both Private And Formal, Held in Paris

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PARIS, Dec. 7—While Henry A. Kissinger continued his private cease-fire talks with the North Vietnamese, delegates of Hanoi and the Vietcong delivered a message of toughness today in the formal negotiations a few miles away.

But there was no sign whether they were signaling a warning that the private talks might break down or whether they were trying to exert last-minute pressure before an imminent breakthrough.

The private talks conducted by Mr. Kissinger and Le Duc Tho, North Vietnamese chief delegate, continued for four hours today. It was announced that they would meet again tomorrow at 3 P.M.

Wild Fluctuations in Mood

The mood surrounding the negotiations oscillated wildly between optimism of almost immediate agreement and deep pessimism, as the French news paper L'Aurore asserted that a date had been set for signing a cease-fire agreement while the formal talks at the Hotel Majestic produced grim conflict.

Communist delegates to the four-sided formal sessions—which are closed but fully reported upon afterward by press spokesmen spoke several times of "impasse" and "deadlock" in the efforts to negotiate a settlement. They renewed the demand that the United States sign the draft agreement concluded last Oct. 17 without any change.

But it was reported reliably that the private talks had still produced nothing decisive and that there were full grounds available for either optimism or pessimism according to the temperament of the participants.

Mr. Kissinger was said to be convinced that, having settled so many contentious issues already, the negotiations could not fail to find some way to agree on those remaining if they keep trying.

Remaining Points Crucial

But while the list is described as short, the remaining points are crucial.

The key issue is still said to be the presence of North Vietnamese troops in South Vietnam. The Saigon government has urged the United States to

press for a concrete pledge by North Vietnam to withdraw its troops, while Hanoi, which has not acknowledged that its troops are fighting in the South, has resisted such pressure.

Mr. Kissinger reportedly continues to seek a compromise formula. The White House said new instructions had been sent overnight to him for today's meeting, but evidence so far was that they had not narrowed the vital gap.

The full American and North Vietnamese negotiating teams worked today at the Gif-sur-Yvette villa 13 miles from Paris where they have met several times before.

Lunch With French Aide

Before his meeting with Mr. Tho, Mr. Kissinger had lunch with Foreign Minister Maurice Schumann at the Quai D'Orsay. He was accompanied by the United States chargé d'affaires, Jack B. Kubisch.

The regular Thursday session at the Hotel Majestic, an elaborate ritual, produced a sharp difference of tone between the Americans and the Communists.

North Vietnam's deputy delegation leader, Nguyen Minh Vy, said in his prepared speech that the United States had "threatened to escalate the war." Mr. Vy was replacing the delegation chief, Xuan Thuy, who attended the private talks.

None of the spokesman who

reported on the session, would clarify Mr. Vy's phrase. The United States spokesman, David Lambertson, denied that the American side had made any threats, but Hanoi's spokesman said that Mr. Vy "had weighed his words very carefully."

Despite Saigon reports that President Nguyen Van Thieu was getting ready to accept what he considers an unsatisfactory agreement, Saigon's delegates firmly maintained the major demands that Hanoi has consistently rejected. The central point was the withdrawal of North Vietnamese troops.

The Vietcong spokesman declared that any agreement would have to include guarantees on prisoner release. Both Vietcong and Saigon spokesmen insisted that there could be no link between civilian prisoners and troop withdrawal. ~~maximum positions, go their beyond concessions already~~ made in the private talks.

The four sides agreed to meet again next Thursday, which will be the 170th session of the formal conference.