

TALKS NEAR END, U.S. REPORT SAYS

Review by White House Is
Called Over-All Appraisal

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AP) — A few hours after Henry A. Kissinger acknowledged a delay in reaching a Vietnam cease-fire, the White House made public a review that termed the U.S. role in peace negotiations nearly completed.

A White House spokesman explained the apparent discrepancy between the review and the current situation by saying that the review was intended as an over-all look at President Nixon's first four years in both foreign and domestic affairs, not as an updated report on the peace negotiations.

The review, written in somewhat abbreviated, summary form, appeared to be the most optimistic assessment of foreign policy from top levels since Mr. Kissinger reported on Oct. 25, that "peace is at hand." It says:

"The cold war diminished, if not ended by the President's successful summit trips and the many agreements which flowed from these historic missions; U.S. role in Vietnam peace settlement virtually completed."

The 43-page review, prepared by the White House staff to cover all aspects of the Nixon Administration to date, is presented as a record of nearly unblemished accomplishments.

In the four and a half pages devoted to foreign policy, the writers say that Mr. Nixon transformed the face of international affairs from a "clouded and dark" time to "the beginning of a generation of peace."

The report points to Mr. Nixon's trips to China and the Soviet Union, negotiations with Moscow on limitation of arms, the beginning of talks on East-West troop reductions in Central Europe, the continuing cease-fire in the Middle East, a more mature relationship with Japan and the increasing participation by allies in defense systems.

On Vietnam, neither the report nor Herbert G. Klein, director of communications for the White House, who briefed newsmen, gave details supporting the "virtually completed" assessment of the Vietnam negotiations.

But the review does list three familiar points as essential to any settlement: a cease-fire, release of all American prisoners of war "and an opportunity for the people of South Vietnam to determine their own future without having either a Communist government or a coalition government imposed upon them."

Because of the President's stand on ending the war, the report says, "the people of Vietnam may now anticipate an internationally supervised cease-fire and the reconstruction of their country."