

Hanoi, Saigon Warned

No Truce, No Aid, Nixon Says

SAIGON (AP) — President Nixon has warned President Nguyen Van Thieu he will cut off military and economic aid to South Vietnam if Thieu refuses to sign a peace agreement. Washington expects Hanoi to agree to soon, high South Vietnamese officials said today.

North Vietnam tended to confirm reports it also had received a Nixon ultimatum, saying, "The White House and the Pentagon have insolently threatened to continue the bombardment of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam ... in order to force our people to accept the United States' absurd terms."

"The Vietnamese people ... are de-

termined not to yield before any brutal force and are determined not to be intimidated by any insolent threats," said a government statement broadcast by Hanoi radio.

While the White House and State Department declined to comment, other U.S. sources said the Saigon ultimatum report was overdrawn although they did not deny Nixon put pressure on both Vietnamese antagonists.

Nixon also told Thieu not to try to circumvent U.S. peace efforts by making proposals of his own, as he did on Dec. 12, the officials reported. They said Nixon considered Thieu's proposal — made while Henry A. Kissinger and Le Duc Tho were negotiating in Paris — untimely.

Nixon's reported ultimatum was contained in a personal letter delivered Tuesday by Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr., who flew from Washington as Nixon's emissary. Thieu discussed it with his National Security Council and then sent a reply by Haig, but what he said was not revealed. 19 DEC

The South Vietnamese sources also reported that after the breakdown of the Kissinger-Tho negotiations on Dec. 13, Nixon sent North Vietnam an ultimatum giving it 72 hours to agree to his demand that Hanoi recognize South Vietnam as a separate state.

When he received no reply, Nixon ordered heavy military pressure brought to bear. Mining of North Vietnamese ports above the 20th parallel was resumed Dec. 17, and the next night hundreds of U.S. bombers launched the heaviest attack of the war on the Hanoi-Haiphong industrial complex.

Nixon told Thieu that he has plans to force Hanoi to sign a fair and just agreement and predicted it would be concluded in the near future, the South Vietnamese officials reported. They said Nixon urged Thieu to join in signing an agreement because the United States has all the means to achieve a reasonable peace.

Nixon was reported to have told Thieu in the strongest terms that South Vietnam would be cut off from military and economic aid if he refused to accept Nixon's peace terms.

Kissinger told a news conference in Washington last Saturday that a settlement was 99 per cent complete. He refused to disclose the issue blocking the settlement, but South Vietnamese officials said it was North Vietnam's refusal to agree in principle to recognize South Vietnam as a separate state.

American officials contend that if Hanoi recognized South Vietnam as a sovereign state, it could no longer claim any justification for North Vietnamese military intervention in the South.

Hanoi has always maintained that North and South Vietnam are one nation and that the demilitarized zone between them is only a temporary dividing line, as provided by the 1954 Geneva Agreements.