

KISSINGER AND THO CONTINUING TALKS

Confer for 6 Hours and Will Resume Today—Stands at Formal Session Stiffen

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PARIS, Jan. 11—While Henry A. Kissinger and Le Duc Tho continued their closed-door talks a few miles away, both Saigon and the Vietnamese Communist delegations reverted to stiff demands today at the weekly formal peace talks here.

Mr. Kissinger and Mr. Tho met for six hours at a suburban villa in St.-Nom-la-Bretèche, west of Paris. For the first time since the new round of private negotiations resumed on Monday, they were joined by their technical staffs, who had been meeting separately.

Mr. Kissinger and Mr. Tho scheduled another meeting for tomorrow morning. The technical experts will continue their own meetings.

As usual, there was no direct word on developments in the private negotiations. But the four-sided formal talks, which often reflect the essentials un-

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Big Raids Above DMZ Go On; Fighting in South Said to Drop

JAN 12

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Friday, Jan. 12 (AP)—United States planes kept up heavy raids on the southern panhandle of North Vietnam yesterday while ground action reportedly tapered off in South Vietnam.

South Vietnam officials reported 54 enemy attacks in the 24 hours before dawn today, the lowest number since the New Year's truce period.

In the last few days, enemy attacks—consisting mainly of shelling—have reportedly averaged more than 70 a day.

The United States command said that American fighter-bombers flew 144 strikes yesterday over North Vietnam below the 20th Parallel. It also reported 13 B-52 missions in the area in the 24 hours ended at 8 A.M. Each mission usually is flown by three of the heavy bombers.

The planes were concentrating on storage areas and routes used to move supplies southward toward South Vietnam, the United States command said.

It said that 187 fighter-bomber strikes and 17 B-52 missions were flown yesterday in South Vietnam, in support of Government forces or against known or suspected enemy targets.

Cambodia Probe Reported On

In a delayed report, South Vietnamese spokesmen said that Government armored troops operating in Southeastern Cambodia three days ago found the bodies of 200

enemy soldiers killed by bombs about nine miles southwest of the Cambodian provincial capital of Svay Rieng.

Both fighter-bombers and B-52 heavy bombers have been used in that area recently, but military officials said that they did not know yet when the enemy troops were hit.

The bodies of 30 other North Vietnamese and Vietcong killed by air and artillery strikes were found Wednesday in western part of War Zone D, about 70 miles northeast of Saigon.

Apparently they had been killed on Tuesday when militia troops supported by bombers and artillery fought a ground battle. Six South Vietnamese were killed and seven wounded in the fighting, spokesmen reported.

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The discussion concentrated on the basic issues that Vietnamese and Americans have been fighting about throughout the war.

This issue is whether there is to be one Vietnam, influenced by Hanoi, or whether the country is to remain divided into two independent states, one Communist and one anti-Communist.

Both the North Vietnamese and Vietcong spokesmen wanted, reportedly, of what they said was an independent offensive by Saigon's army against Vietcong-held territory in the south.

They said large-scale preparations were under way for such an offensive, especially in Quang Tri province, which lies below the demilitarized zone separating North and South Vietnam.

The Communist offensive

last spring was control of most of Quang Tri, South Vietnam's northernmost province.

With substantial American support, Saigon has been demanding that the line at the center of the DMZ be recognized as the border between two sovereign Vietnamese governments.

The Vietcong's Provisional Revolutionary Government and Hanoi have been insisting that there be no more than the temporary military demarcation line as provided in the 1954 Geneva accords on Indochina.

Partition of Germany Cited

The accord explicitly recognizes the unity and territorial integrity of Vietnam, a fact that both Hanoi and Vietcong spokesmen recalled today. They cited a clause in the accord that said that the DMZ was not to become a territorial or political border.

The South Vietnamese, arguing that a border exists and must be formally accepted, cites

the partition of Germany as a precedent for their stand.

There must be, they said, paraphrasing Chancellor Willy Brandt of West Germany, "two Vietnamese states in one nation." Saigon's spokesman, Nguyen Triu Dan, repeated the phrase several times.

This formula, he said, has led to peace and stability in Europe; it can also bring peace and stability in Asia.

The Hanoi and Vietcong delegates stressed the opposite view. Vietnam, they said, "is one people, one nation, and its territory is indivisible."

Only Heyward Isham, the acting United States chief of the United States delegation since the departure yesterday of William J. Porter, avoided polemics and called for "a sober de-escalation of rhetoric."

In the private talks, Mr. Kissinger has reportedly been seeking phraseology that could lead to a compromise on the Saigon and Communist demands.

But at the formal conference, at least, the Vietnamese belliger-

erants showed no interest in words that might blur their positions. On the contrary, they dropped all reference to secondary or peripheral issues over which they have often haggled and focused on the heart of the conflict.

In only slightly varying words, all three Vietnamese delegations warned that the war might go on indefinitely if the current negotiations did not quickly produce a firm settlement.

North Vietnam's delegate, Nguyen Minh Vy, replacing Xuan Thuy, who was in the meeting with Mr. Kissinger, said that "the negotiations have now come to a decisive stage" and declared: "It is either good progress toward signing of a agreement or continuation of the war. Obviously, this depends on the U. S. side."

Later, North Vietnam's spokesman, Nguyen Thanh Le, said, "The decisive moment is now."