

NYTimes JAN 22 1973  
**NIXON IS BRIEFED  
BY GENERAL HAIG  
ON INDOCHINA TRIP**

**Aide Talks to Kissinger on  
Return From Saigon, Then  
Both Talk to President**

**WASHINGTON OPTIMISTIC**

**2d White House Session Due  
Before Chief Negotiator's  
Trip to Paris Tomorrow**

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21 — Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr. conferred with President Nixon and Henry A. Kissinger today shortly after returning from Saigon, where he sought approval of the agreement being drawn up by the United States and North Vietnam to end the Vietnam war.

The White House said that shortly after his arrival, General Haig met for an hour with Mr. Kissinger, the President's adviser on national security. Then the two men met with Mr. Nixon, who yesterday, in his inaugural address, said the war was coming to an end.

The two men plan to see Mr. Nixon again, the White House said, before Mr. Kissinger's scheduled departure for Paris at 9:30 A.M. tomorrow for what may be the final round of negotiations with Le Duc Tho, the principal Hanoi negotiator.

**Technical Talks Continue**

The technical experts working on the details of the agreement met again in Paris today and American sources said that they would meet again tomorrow. The Vietcong representative, Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh, returned to Paris today and Foreign Minister Tran Van Lam of South Vietnam was flying there from Saigon.

In a joint announcement Thursday, Hanoi and Washington said that Mr. Kissinger and Mr. Tho would resume their talks the following Tuesday "for the purpose of completing the text of an agreement."

Mr. Nixon sent General Haig

to Saigon last week to discuss the status of the negotiations with President Nguyen Van Thieu and to seek his concurrence as the negotiations entered their final phase.

**Haig Briefs Leaders**

He also briefed leaders in Laos, Cambodia, Thailand and South Korea on the negotiations. The general, who is Army Vice Chief of Staff, had served until this month as deputy to Mr. Kissinger on the National Security Council.

As usual, the White House refused to provide any substantive details on either the General Haig's discussions in Asia, or on today's meetings at the White House.

Expectations have been high in Washington for many days, however, that an agreement is near. It has been assumed that Mr. Nixon chose his words carefully yesterday when he used

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the expression "as America's longest and most difficult war comes to an end."

Moreover, Vice President Agnew, in comments to newsmen at inaugural events last night and today, said he was very optimistic about a accord soon.

There have been many reports from Saigon that Mr. Agnew would go to South Vietnam next weekend to signify continued American support for following the cease-fire.

Mr. Agnew, when asked about the reports, said he could not comment on them.

Senator Henry M. Jackson, Democrat of Washington, who has close connections at the Pentagon, said yesterday that an agreement had already been reached with Hanoi; all that was left, he said, was the technical matter of putting the accord into proper language.

It was not known how long Mr. Kissinger planned to spend in Paris, but from what has been said previously it seemed possible that an agreement could be initialed in a matter of days.

This initialing would be followed by a more formal signing, either at the level of foreign ministers, or higher, officials said.

**More Paris Talks Today**

By FLORA LEWIS

Special to The New York Times

PARIS, Jan. 21 — Another meeting of the technical experts working on details of the Vietnam cease-fire documents has been set for tomorrow, American sources said tonight after an unusual Sunday meeting of experts. Today's meeting lasted four and a half hours.

The Vietcong's chief repre-

sentative in Paris, Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh, returned to Paris tonight after a month-long absence.

She indicated that the form of signature on the cease-fire documents remained an issue. They must be signed by "all four parties," she said. The United States and North Vietnam have done all the bargaining, but Saigon and the Vietcong are also members of the formal Paris conference on Vietnam and are also expected to sign.

Saigon has taken the position that it will not sign anything mentioning by name the Provisional Revolutionary Government proclaimed by the Vietcong. The name has been removed from the body of the document, but it is still necessary to find an agreed title over which Mrs. Binh will sign.

The negotiators have reportedly been seeking an intricate compromise that would satisfy both Saigon and the Vietcong, such as the "our side-your side" formula of the formal Paris conference or separate sets of documents to be signed by the South Vietnamese enemies.

Xuan Thuy, Hanoi's permanent representative to the Paris talks, said tonight that the date for initialing the documents had not yet been decided on. He said this at the airport while awaiting Mrs. Binh. Le Duc Tho, the chief Hanoi negotiator, did not appear at the airport.

A South Vietnamese source in Paris gave some interesting insights into the way the negotiations have swung in the last three months, complaining that in the process Hanoi made no "real concessions" in regard to the October draft agreement.

"You know the Northerners and their way of negotiating," the source said. "They start by putting up demands—I won't call them unreasonable because they've used that word too much—but inadmissible, concerning the demarcation line, Laos and Cambodia. Then they move back from those demands, 'to show their goodwill.' But really these issues were all settled in the 1954 and 1962 Geneva accords. So there weren't actually any Hanoi concessions, properly speaking."

American sources disclosed that the United States used the same bargaining technique of making extravagant demands on issues that both sides actually considered settled, and did

not seriously expect to be reopened.

The purpose, the South Vietnamese source said, is to show "goodwill" and appear to be granting important concessions by dropping the demands, without actually giving anything away.

**Saigon Sees Talks Near End**

Special to The New York Times

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Jan. 21—Foreign Minister Tran Van Lam left Saigon for Paris this afternoon, saying that his mission was "to follow more closely and actively the final phase of the negotiations" for a cease-fire.

His departure statement was the first acknowledgment by the South Vietnamese Govern-

ment that the talks were near an end. It was generally expected here that Mr. Lam would initial a cease-fire agreement in Paris if one emerged after Henry Kissinger returned there Tuesday and that a formal signing would take place later in Saigon, Hanoi and Washington.

Mr. Lam would not answer direct questions about this at the airport this afternoon.

A statement about Mr. Lam's departure was read to the press at the airport by the Foreign Ministry's press spokesman, Pham Dang Sum. He added:

"We do not know how long we'll be in Paris, but I hope to be back by Tet," the Lunar New Year holiday that this year begins Feb. 3.

Mr. Lam smiled, waved, ex-

**PRESSED HOPE**, and then, accompanied by the American Ambassador, Ellsworth Bunker, walked to an Air Vietnam 747 bound for Bangkok.

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