

NO SECRET DEAL -- KISSINGER;
INDOCHINA PEACE PREDICTED

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WASHINGTON (AP) — Washington and Hanoi unveiled today the terms of an intricate peace accord to end America's longest war, and negotiator Henry A. Kissinger expressed confidence a Saturday ceasefire in South Vietnam would later spread across all of Indochina.

But Kissinger and his North Vietnamese negotiating counterpart said there were no secret peace terms.

The chief U.S. negotiator made these other major points in his 90-minute White House news conference:

—About 145,000 North Vietnamese troops remain in South Vietnam, but Kissinger said their numbers "should over a period of time be subject to considerable reduction" because they cannot be reinforced, resupplied or replaced.

—The release of American prisoners of war held in North Vietnam and

Laos will begin by mid-February in Hanoi and will be completed at 15-day intervals during the 60-day period when U.S. troops are being withdrawn from the South.

—The political independence of South Vietnam is guaranteed and its future form, including the fate of President Nguyen Van Thieu's government, will be determined, without outside interference, by the South Vietnamese themselves.

—A National Council on National Reconciliation and Concord will be organized among the South Vietnamese themselves on a three-part basis solely to organize the elections and implementation of the agreement, not to act in any way as a coalition government.

—The demilitarized zone continues as a temporary military demarcation line which cannot be violated under any circumstances by military forces of either side, Kissinger said. Neither Cambodia nor Laos can be used as infiltration routes or as bases for foreign troops, he said.

—The agreement in no way restricts U.S. military forces off Vietnam's shores or in Thailand, he said. "The deployment would be more geared to the war situation" than to anticipation of an established peace, Kissinger added.

—Discussion of U.S. economic aid to all of Indochina, including North Vietnam, will come "only after the signature of the agreement and after its implementation is well advanced," the negotiator said.

The 12-page agreement, to be signed Saturday before the Vietnam cease-fire takes effect at 6 p.m. CST on that day,

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A New Journey

(An Editorial)

The war in Vietnam is ending. The situation there, however, has not really changed. Only here at home is there a marked difference. There is no cheering, not the victor's gloat, only a feeling of relief tinged with quiet despair. For the war in Vietnam has left us a divided and disillusioned nation.

Gone are our innocence and the belief that we fight cleanly and our enemies do not.

Though our men fought bravely, we have spent the nation's blood and tarnished its good name in a vainglorious and futile effort.

If the war is to have any meaning, therefore, it must be in the lessons we learn.

We must recognize that our leaders are men, not gods, and that power corrupts.

We must learn once again to be honest with ourselves as a nation. We must never let pride take precedence over decency, nor seek to excuse our mistakes.

It is time for America to embark on a new journey of discovery, not to the outer limits of space, but to the inner recesses of the heart. That is where hope lies.

So let us put the war behind us and fix our sights upon the distant but attainable goals of peace and brotherhood. Let us turn at last from destruction to resurrection, from death abroad to the improvement of life at home.

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does not call for withdrawal of the 145,000 North Vietnamese troops in the South. But it does call for removal of all foreign forces from Laos and Cambodia.

KISSINGER said he expects a formal cease-fire in Laos "within a short period of time." He said the administration expects "a de facto cease-fire will come into being over a period of time" in Cambodia.

He said he would not elaborate on the situation in Cambodia and Laos.

Le Duc Tho, the North Vietnamese negotiator who shaped with Kissinger the agreement disclosed in general terms by President Nixon Tuesday night, said in Paris it was "a great victory for the Vietnamese people." He said it included no provisions for withdrawal of North Vietnamese troops from the South.

For his part, Kissinger said it would not impose a coalition government, even in disguise, upon the South. He said final political solution would be left to the parties in South Vietnam, which means Saigon and the Viet Cong's National Liberation Front.

Kissinger said the ultimate destiny of South Vietnam will be decided by free elections. He said the nature of the "political evolution" of the South is up to the parties involved there.

ASKED IF THERE were any provision that South Vietnam President Nguyen Van Thieu must resign, Kissinger said, "There is no such provision in this agreement. This again is a matter that will have to be decided by the Vietnamese parties . . . There is no requirement of any kind like this in the agreement."

Asked how the United States had persuaded President Thieu to accept the presence of North Vietnamese troops in the South, Kissinger said:

"We have not asked President Thieu nor has he accepted the presence of North Vietnamese troops in the South as a legal right. We have accepted a cease-fire in place. The forces are cut off from the possibility of new infiltration, they are legally prohibited from military action and their resupply will be difficult."

Asked if the United States would ever again send troops into Vietnam if the peace agreement were violated, Kissinger said "I don't want to speculate on hypothetical situations."

ASKED IF ANY secret protocols were agreed to, Kissinger said the only ones existing were the ones made public. He said there were no secret understandings.

Asked if the recent heavy bombing of the North was the key to settlement, Kissinger said "I do not want to speculate on North Vietnam motives. I have too much trouble analyzing our own."

"I will say there was a deadlock . . ." and then rapid movement in the talks (after the bombing), he added.

KISSINGER SAID the United States seeks "a peace that heals," and one that will last. He said the U.S. aim is to move from hostilities to normalization and conciliation with North Vietnam.

" . . . We believe that under conditions of peace we can contribute throughout Indochina to a realization of the humane aspirations of all the people of Indochina," he said, "and we will in that spirit perform our traditional role of helping people realize these aspirations in peace."

The presidential adviser said the

U.S.-Hanoi agreement forbids the use of base areas in Laos and Cambodia to infiltrate Communist troops into South Vietnam.

He said it is "our firm expectation that within a short period of time there will be a formal cease-fire in Laos . . . leading to the withdrawal of all foreign forces" and ending use of the country as a corridor for infiltration.

THE CAMBODIAN situation is more complex, Kissinger said. But he added that he expects a "de facto cease-fire will come into being" in that country within a time frame "related to the execution of this agreement."

Kissinger emphasized that final arrangements for a political settlement in South Vietnam will be left to Saigon and the National Liberation Front, political arm of the Viet Cong.

But he said the agreement will not impose a coalition government, "or a disguised coalition government" on South Vietnam.

However, nothing in the settlement requires North Vietnam to remove its troops from South Vietnam.

PRESIDENT NIXON, claiming all conditions for "peace with honor" have been met, announced last night agreement on a Vietnam accord to end America's longest war.

In a television-radio address, Nixon told the nation that the peace pact calls for an internationally supervised cease-fire, release of all American war prisoners within 60 days after the cease-fire, an accounting for all missing in action, and—within the same 60-day period, withdrawal of all American forces from South Vietnam.

The pact was hailed by South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu and announced in bald terms by Hanoi radio.

In essence, the agreement and four accompanying diplomatic documents, called protocols, hew close to a Washington-Hanoi draft agreement made known last Oct. 26—the day when Henry A. Kissinger, President Nixon's chief negotiator, proclaimed that "peace is at hand."

The settlement package calls for a four-power international control commission force of 1,160 persons to go to South Vietnam as a peace-keeping unit. The number contrasted with the original Hanoi demand for a ceiling of 250 personnel and an American suggestion of 5,000.

Despite the imminence of the cease fire, Communist attacks in South Vietnam doubled overnight. South Vietnamese claimed the Communists were trying for last-minute gains before the truce takes effect.

The agreement disclosed for the first time that both the People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union are proposed as participants in an international conference to be held within 30 days to try to guarantee that the peace plan works.

Other conference participants being proposed by the United States and North Vietnam are France, the United Kingdom, the four countries of the international control commission—Hungary, Canada, Indonesia and Poland—and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Hanoi and Washington also would participate.

THE formal agreement declares that the South Vietnamese people have an inalienable right to self-determination and "shall decide themselves the political future of South Vietnam through genuinely free and democratic general elections under international supervision."

The South Vietnamese government and the Viet Cong are barred by the agreement from "all hostile acts, terrorism and reprisals" once the cease fire begins. Another section bars "discrimination against individuals or organizations that have collaborated with one side or the other."

To help shape South Vietnam's political future a National Council of National Reconciliation and Concord will be set up with equal representation given to the Saigon regime, the Viet Cong and neutral parties.

"The council shall operate on the principle of unanimity," the document said.

The agreement envisions signing by the Saigon government and Viet Cong of their own accord on internal matters, hopefully within 90 days following the cease-fire.

The nine-year-old demilitarized zone between North and South was recognized as "only provisional and not a political or territorial boundary." The agreement envisions ultimate reunification of Vietnam on the basis of a North-South settlement, "without coercion or annexation by either party."

AS EXPECTED, the settlement includes a vaguely worded promise of future American aid to the Hanoi government.

It said:

"The United States anticipated that this agreement will usher in an era of reconciliation with the Democratic Republic of Vietnam as with all people of Indochina. In pursuance of its traditional policy, the United States will contribute to healing the wounds of war and to post-war reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and throughout Indochina.

The Saturday ceremony in Paris calls for the signing of two separate but virtually identical documents, major differences being in the preamble section.

One document will be signed by Secretary of State William P. Rogers and by North Vietnamese Foreign Minister Tran Van Lam. The other will bear the signatures of Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh for the Saigon government and Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh for the Viet Cong.

THE ACCORD forbids Saigon and the Viet Cong to accept foreign troops, military advisers, armaments and other war goods. However, the document adds:

"The two South Vietnamese parties shall be permitted to make periodic replacement of armaments, munitions and war material which have been destroyed, damaged, worn out or used after the cease-fire, on the basis of piece-for-piece of these same characteristics and properties." The international control commission would supervise such operations.

HAILED BY South Vietnam's President Nguyen Van Thieu, and announced in bald terms by Hanoi radio, the peace pact as Nixon outlined it calls for:

—An internationally-supervised cease-fire to take effect at 6 p.m. CST Saturday.

—Release of all American war prisoners within 60 days thereafter, "the fullest possible accounting" for all missing in action, and—during the same period—withdrawal of all American forces from South Vietnam.

Nixon asserted that the agreement, initialed by aide Henry A. Kissinger and Hanoi's Le Duc Tho, meets all conditions "that we considered essential for peace with honor."