VIETNAM CEASE-FIRE REPORTED INITIALED; KISSINGER AND LE DUC THO COSCLUDE TALK; FORMAL SIGNING IS EXPECTED ON SATURBAY

PARIS HANDSHAKE

Two Negotiators End Their Final Session in a Jovial Mood

Special to The New York Times

PARIS, Jan. 23—Henry A. Kissinger and Le Duc Tho concluded their long negotiations on a Vietnam cease-fire today with glowing smiles and hearty handshakes.

As always before, however, they emerged from their final session without a word, leaving it to their capitals to announce that they had at last achieved success.

According to authoritative official sources, the actual cease-fire is expected to take effect 24 hours after signing Saturday. Foreign ministers of the United States, North Vietnam, South Vietnam and the Vietcong's Provisional Revolutionary Government are expected to affix their names.

Mr. Tho, who has been the chief North Vietnamese negotiator since direct contacts with the United States began after the 1968 tet offensive, is to hold a news conference tomorrow at 4 P.M. (10 A.M. Wednesday, New York time).

Meets with Lam 3 Times

He is likely to provide a number of details of the agreements at that time, but at this point the full texts of the documents are not expected to be made public before the signing ceremony at the weekend.

Mr. Kissinger left Paris to return to Washington after lunch with South Vietnam's Foreign Minister, Tran Van Lam, who flew here from Saigon yesterday.

Mr. Kissinger met three times with Mr. Lam in less than 24 hours. When he arrived last night after 11 P.M., Paris time, he drove straight from the airport to Mr. Lam's Paris residence, where they conferred for an hour and a quarter.

Mr. Kissinger saw Mr. Lam again this morning before going to his 9:30 A.M. meeting with Mr. Tho. Then, after the



Associated Press

Le Duc Tho of North Vietnam with Henry A. Kissinger after their meeting in Paris yesterday morning.

final United States-North Vietnamese session, he and all his staff went to lunch at Mr. Lam's residence. From there, Mr. Kissinger drove straight to Orly Airport and took off for Washington.

None of the people directly involved in the negotiations made any comment about them in Paris. But word gradually

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leaked out that the long, often tedious, search for agreement had finally achieved success.

It took an all-out effort by technical experts on both sides to have the cease-fire documents ready for the Kissinger-Tho meeting this morning. The experts had been working almost daily for a month, including last Sunday and a session lasting late last night.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State William H. Sullivan headed the American team. He remained in Paris when Mr. Kissinger flew home today, and is understood to be helping now with arrangments for the ceremony Saturday.

Secretary of State William P.
Rogers is expected to arrive toward the end of the week, and Paris sources said that Hanoi's Foreign Minister, Nguyen Duy Trinh, was ready to fly to Paris.

Although they said nothing, Mr. Kissinger and Mr. Tho smiled and waved at newsmen when they emerged from their last private session at 1:15 P.M. They shook hands enthusiastically for cameramen, and then with each other's staff.

It was their first encounter on the neutral ground of the International Conference Center, the former Hotel Majestic on the Avenue Kléber, provided by the French for the formal, four-sided Vietnam conference.

Until today's meeting, they had worked in an assortment of private apartments and houses, at first kept carefully secret

and lately alternating between suburban villas chosen by the Americans and the North Vietnamese.

'Initialing': A First Step

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23—In diplomatic practice, the "initialing" of an agreement means that the chief negotiators have concurred on the language of the text.

The agreement, however, does not go into effect until it has been formally signed by designated officials. The Vietnam accord reportedly initialed by Henry A. Kissinger and Le Doc Tho in Paris today would presumably be signed by Secretary of State William P. Rogers and the Foreign Ministers of North Vietnam, South Vietnam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Vietcong. Some agreements, such as treaties, also require the approval of the United States Senate, but the Vietnam accord is not believed to need such action.



Associated Press Tran Van Lam, South Vietnamese Foreign Minister, in Paris yesterday.



Associated Press Xuan Thuy, Hanoi negotiator, leaving the site of yesterday's meeting.