

Pope Expresses Joy as World Capitals

CHINA HAILS STEP; MOSCOW PLEASED

Relief Is Felt in Europe
—Hope Stirs in Mideast
That Its Crisis May End

By LAWRENCE VAN GELDER

In statements characterized by expressions of relief and hope for enduring peace, world leaders and governments yesterday welcomed the impending cessation of hostilities in Vietnam.

In an audience with newsmen from 50 nations in Rome, a weary-looking Pope Paul VI expressed his joy over the accord and conveyed his good wishes for peace, freedom, concord and prosperity to the peoples of North and South Vietnam.

Like some of the other leaders, the Pope drew a distinction between truce and peace and observed, "Armistice is a truce of arms; it is necessary for it to evolve and be transformed into true peace."

Favorable response to the cease-fire agreement was also forthcoming from China, where the Foreign Ministry declared the accord "in conformity with the interests of the Vietnamese people and the American people" and said that it would "be conducive to the relaxation of tension in the Far East and Asia."

Waldheim 'Very Gratified'

Citizens of the Soviet Union heard the news at 7 A.M. yesterday in a 49-word radio announcement. A statement issued by the Foreign Ministry called the initialing of the agreement "a success for the Vietnamese people, a success for the forces of peace and freedom" and "a realistic step toward a peaceful settlement in Vietnam."

In Europe, the mood was one of relief, and several Governments pledged support and funds for rebuilding North and South Vietnam.

In the Middle East, the successful outcome of negotiations that the Arab-Israeli conflicts on Vietnam kindled new hope could also be resolved.

At the United Nations, Secretary General Kurt Waldheim said: "I am very gratified that this long and agonizing war, which has brought so much human suffering and destruction, is now at an end."

"I know that I speak not only for the United Nations but for all mankind when I express the fervent hope that the peace settlement will be permanent, and that the peoples of Vietnam and of all of Indochina will be able to finally begin the tremendous task of reconciliation and reconstruction."

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Welcome Coming Truce in

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Vietnam Fighting

"In these efforts, the United Nations stands ready to play any role which may be required of it."

Schumann Pledges Aid

After a Cabinet meeting, Foreign Minister Maurice Schumann of France said:

"The Government welcomes with deep satisfaction the accord on a cease-fire in Vietnam."

"The Government reaffirms its determination to contribute to the reconstruction and development of countries to which France is particularly attached and declares itself ready to participate in whatever may be done to strengthen peace."

President Nixon's announcement, which was televised live by satellite and broadcast with a simultaneous translation in Japan at noon yesterday, evoked expressions of pleasure from Premier Kakuei Tanaka, other Government spokesmen, all political parties, prominent businessmen and labor leaders.

Mr. Tanaka told Japanese newsmen that he regarded the cease-fire as a matter of joy and that Japan's role in post-war Vietnam would become very important.

Key Japanese Role Seen

President Park Chung Hee of South Korea, whose 37,000 troops constitute the largest foreign force in Vietnam, said that the soldiers would be withdrawn "immediately." Military sources said that it would take more than a month to bring them home.

"The Korean Government, the people and I sincerely wish that the cease-fire will lead to a lasting peace in Vietnam," he said. He added that his Government would "offer all possible cooperation to the Vietnamese Government and people in their efforts for reconstruction and rehabilitation."

In Thailand, Premier Thanom Kittikachorn expressed hope that the cease-fire would "lead to the establishment of a genuine and lasting peace in South-east Asia as a whole," but aid that nations must not interfere in the internal affairs of other nations and there must be "effective measure to insure that all parties abide by the agreement."

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India expressed her pleasure at the cease-fire, and Foreign Minister Swaran Singh

called on the world's nations to "turn their attention to the task of cooperating and collaborating in the reconstruction of the war-ravaged nation." He said, "India will contribute its own share."

President Ferdinand E. Marcos of the Philippines issued a statement of congratulation to the parties to the agreement and called on his own countrymen, "whatever their ideology or persuasion, Moslem or Christian, Communist or Democrat, to lay down the weapons of war and take up the tools of peace."

In Europe, officials in Belgium, West Germany, Sweden, Denmark and the Netherlands were among those who said that their Governments stood ready to provide funds to reconstruct both parts of Vietnam.

The cease-fire brought a special sense of relief to the Yugoslav leadership. As a non-aligned country between the Eastern and Western blocs, Yugoslavia was particularly troubled by the war because bitterness among Yugoslavs over the conflict made it difficult for Belgrade to maintain the desired friendly relations with Washington as a power balance to Moscow.

In Tel Aviv, directing his words mainly to Egypt, Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban said that the Vietnamese cease-fire was evidence that the most difficult and bitter disputes could be adjudicated by patience and sustained negotiations.

Setting the tone for editorial reaction in the Government-controlled Egyptian press, the

official Middle East News Agency said in a commentary that the main lesson of Vietnam was that "a poor and small people that is determined to fight, united and ready to bring sacrifice, can defeat the might of a superpower."

The Jordanian Premier, Ahmed al-Lawzi, declared that peace in Vietnam "will open the door to a solution of the Palestine question"—and the first press comment in Lebanon was that a Middle East settlement would be next on the agenda of Henry A. Kissinger.

In London, the Foreign Office said, "Her Majesty's Government is very glad that after all these years of war there is an agreement on Vietnam. The opportunity is now there to convert it to an enduring peace throughout Indochina."