

CAPITAL BRIEFING

Goals 'Substantially Achieved,' Kissinger Says of Talks

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Henry A. Kissinger said today that the United States had "a firm expectation" that the Vietnam cease-fire that goes into effect on Saturday would soon extend to both Laos and Cambodia as well.

Speaking at a 90-minute news conference, following the release

Text of accord, Pages 15 to 18; Kissinger news conference is printed on Pages 19 to 21.

of the text and the four protocols, or annexes, of the Vietnam accord he initialed in Paris yesterday, Mr. Kissinger said that the United States had "substantially achieved" the negotiating goals it had set for an "honorable agreement."

Mr. Kissinger, who was personally involved throughout the four years of what he called the "peaks and valleys" of negotiations, presented the Administration's argument that it had secured a "fair and just" settlement, one that he said could not have been achieved four years ago.

Series of Key Points

Besides revealing that the United States had indications from Hanoi to expect a formal cease-fire in Laos and an informal, de facto halt to the fighting in Cambodia, Mr. Kissinger made the following major points:

¶As part of the provision for the release of American prisoners within 60 days, North Vietnam has agreed to allow United States Air Force medical evacuation planes to land at Hanoi to pick up prisoners who were confined in North Vietnam and Laos. The first release of prisoners was expected no later than 15 days after the formal signing Saturday. Prisoners in South Vietnam will be released there. North Vietnam said no Americans were prisoners in Cambodia. [Page 17.]

¶The agreement makes it clear "that there is an entity called South Vietnam," and that any unification of North Vietnam and South Vietnam will be decided only by negotiations and not by military force—an issue of some importance to Saigon.

¶The demilitarized zone was recognized in the accord at American insistence to enforce the provision against the infiltration of men and equipment from North Vietnam into South Vietnam.

¶North Vietnam was not obliged by the accord to remove its troops—estimated at 145,000—from South Vietnam, a goal sought by Saigon, but provisions of the accord bar any replacement or reinforcement of those forces. Thus, the United States expects North Vietnam, on its own, to reduce gradually its forces in the South, even though this was not written into the agreement.

¶The United States has pledged to contribute to the future rehabilitation of the Indochina area, but discussions "of any particular sum" will take place only after the other

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