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# Lodge Criticizes Anti-War Moves

## Washington

The former U.S. ambassador to Vietnam, Henry Cabot Lodge, said yesterday that domestic opposition to the war in 1969 is the main reason it took four more years to negotiate peace in Vietnam.

Lodge said the North Vietnamese took advantage of anti-war protests and American sentiment against the fighting and upped their price for a negotiated settlement.

"One reason is that in 1969

American public opinion was opposed to the U.S. government, and you cannot have a negotiating position if your public isn't back of you," he said. "And North Vietnam knew that this was the case, and they did everything they could to prolong this condition."

Lodge, ambassador to the Paris Peace Talks in 1969, was questioned by Elizabeth Drew on her National Public Affairs Center for Television interview show.

*Associated Press*