

Day of Peace Awaited  
ROGERS EN ROUTE TO SIGNING

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WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State William P. Rogers left for Paris today to sign a historic Vietnam agreement which he said would "usher in an era of peace."

"Very soon, as a result of these agreements, the world will be at peace for the first time in a long time," Rogers said.

Rogers spoke to newsmen briefly at Andrews Air Base in nearby Maryland before setting off for the French capital.

Saturday, Rogers will join his counterparts from North Vietnam, South Vietnam and Vietcong's provisional revolutionary government in signing the pact to end the lengthy Vietnam conflict. The cease-fire is slated to go into effect at 6 p. m. CST Saturday.

"We hope and expect shortly thereafter that a cease-fire will take effect in Laos and Cambodia, too," Rogers said, adding: "So finally this long and difficult war will come to an end."

Aides said that in signing the intricate Vietnam agreements, Saturday, Rogers will be affixing his signature a total of 72 times.

The pact will be signed at 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Paris time. These times would be 3:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. CST.

Henry A. Kissinger, President Nixon's peace negotiator, at his Wednesday news conference explained that the two signature ceremonies would be required because the government of South Vietnam and the Vietcong "have not yet been prepared to recognize each other's existence."

The four-party document to be signed Saturday morning does not mention by name any of the four parties involved but refers only to "the parties participating in the Paris conference." It, Kissinger said, will be signed on two separate pages: The United States and South Vietnam signing on one page and North Vietnam and the Vietcong signing on another.

The other document will be signed in

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the afternoon by Rogers and the North Vietnamese foreign minister. This one differs from the other document only in the preamble and its concluding paragraph by mentioning the four participants by name.

On the eve of his departure by Air Force jet, Rogers conferred with Foreign Minister Adam Malik on Indonesia's plans for helping supervise the truce.

Indonesia is a member of the planned International Control Commission along with Canada, Poland and Hungary. Each is sending about 290 men to South Vietnam.

Malik told newsmen Indonesia's first contingent, of 62 men, will fly into South Vietnam Saturday night. This could make it the first ICC group to arrive.

And the Indonesian leader was optimistic about prospects for success of the four-nation watchdog force, totaling 1,160, in holding down cease-fire violations.

"My feeling is that if all parties sign the agreement with sincerity, and it appears to be so, it will be workable," Malik said.

Canada's foreign minister, Mitchell Sharp, was more reserved after his session with Rogers. Canada will begin sending its 288-man group to Saigon this weekend, he said, but will decide after 60 days whether the contingent is effective or should be withdrawn.

"Our doubts arise out of our membership in the ICC in Vietnam" under the old 1954 Geneva agreements, Sharp said. "It has been a farce, and we don't want to repeat that." The old ICC was stymied by straitjacket procedures and obstructionist tactics by the parties.