

# BREZHNEV HAILS VIETNAM ACCORD AS TURNING POINT

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**WIDE IMPACT SEEN**  
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**Soviet Chief Predicts Influence on Strife in Middle East**

By HEDRICK SMITH

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MOSCOW, Jan. 30 — Leonid I. Brezhnev, the Soviet Communist leader, today hailed the Vietnam cease-fire agreement as an important turning point in international affairs that not only would have a positive effect on Soviet-American relations but also could influence settlements in world trouble spots such as the Middle East.

In a speech at a banquet in honor of Le Duc Tho, North Vietnam's chief negotiator, Mr.

Excerpts from the Brezhnev speech are on Page 17.

Brezhnev declared that "more favorable conditions have been created for ending the bloodshed in Laos and Cambodia."

[In Washington, Nixon Administration officials suggested in interviews that improved relations with China would be a major "dividend" of the Vietnam accord, Page 17.]

The address by Mr. Brezhnev was the most hopeful high-level comment in recent days on the continued fighting in Laos and Cambodia and suggested that Moscow might be urging Hanoi and its allies to reach early settlements there.

#### Soviet 'Helped Actively'

Mr. Brezhnev, giving only the barest hint that the Soviet Union had played a behind-the-scenes role in bringing the Vietnam negotiations to a successful conclusion, said that it had "helped actively on all fronts, military, political and diplomatic."

His speech read like a defense of earlier moves toward accommodation with President Nixon despite the mining of the Haiphong harbor and the American air raids on the North last spring and in the face of what have been described as vigorous objections from the North Vietnamese and from within the Soviet leader-

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ship. While Mr. Brezhnev condemned what he termed "barbarous aggression" against Vietnam, comparing North Vietnamese endurance to Soviet endurance against Nazi Germany in World War II, he asserted that "the decisive step toward complete restoration of peace in Vietnam has been taken."

For North Vietnam Soviet leader emphasized that "your cities and villages are no longer hit by bombs" and that the country "has an opportunity to concentrate its efforts on socialist construction."

For the world at large he called the settlement "a victory of realism and sanity in international affairs" because "the most dangerous seat of war is being liquidated."

In language that paralleled themes used by Mr. Nixon in his inaugural address and other recent speeches, Mr. Brezhnev asserted:

"New possibilities for easing tensions, for consolidating security and world peace open now. It can be expected that the political settlement in Vietnam will have a positive effect on relations among the states that were involved in one way or another in events in Indochina."

He did not specify the United States, but the context indicated that he was satisfied that it had heeded his warning in December, when Hanoi and Haiphong were being hit anew by heavy American raids, that the future of Soviet-American relations would depend largely on the outcome in Vietnam.

#### Mideast Perils Stressed

"Moreover," Mr. Brezhnev said, "this shows that it is possible to find a peaceful and just solution of other conflicts, to liquidate the seats of war danger that now exist, above all in the Middle East, since the situation in that area is fraught with a great threat for the cause of peace."

Without alluding to alleged violations of the cease-fire, Mr. Brezhnev asserted that "the peoples expect" Washington, Saigon and their allies to "honor and completely observe" the Paris accords. A commentary in Izvestia, the Government newspaper, accused Saigon of breaking the agreements:

"Even before the ink on these documents has dried, President Thieu in Saigon has come out with a speech, full of malicious attacks on the

patriotic forces of South Vietnam. The Saigon administration has already undertaken its first attempts to violate the documents signed in Paris."

The North Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Nguyen Duy Trinh, seemed to reflect a similar concern in his responding speech, asserting that the chief task ahead was "stronger unity in the struggle for strict and full compliance with the Paris agreements."

He pressed the Soviet leadership to "continue to give us support and assistance" in such tasks as the "completion of the national democratic revolution in South Vietnam and the peaceful reunification of the fatherland."

Mr. Tho left for Hanoi tonight, Tass reported, but it did not say whether Mr. Trinh was with him.

The Soviet press agency reported that Premier Aleksei N.

Kosygin "and other officials" joined Mr. Brezhnev at the Kremlin dinner, without listing them by name as is customary and without mentioning President Nikolai V. Podgorny.

#### Gain for Red Bloc Foreseen

Special to The New York Times

BERLIN, Jan. 30—The East German communists hailed the Vietnam truce today as a clear defeat of the United States and predicted a shift in world power relations in favor of the Communist bloc.

In what appeared to be a new party line, East Berlin newspapers sought to emphasize the loss of American prestige as a result of the Indochina conflict. In initial reaction to the cease-fire the East German leaders had restricted comment to praising the Paris accords as a great victory for the "just cause of the heroic Vietnamese people."

Neues Deutschland, the party organ, observed in an editorial that in signing the agreement "the United States was forced to acknowledge that 30 years of bloody imperialist aggression against Vietnam ended in a fiasco."

Meanwhile, officials in both East and West Germany announced moves to aid the Vietnamese.

In Bonn, the Government said it planned to offer a first installment of more than \$9-million, with further, larger amounts to follow for reconstruction projects in both parts of the country. Chancellor Willy Brandt called on Germans to make generous donations to humanitarian organizations.

East Germany, which has sent millions of dollars' worth of goods and supplies to Hanoi in past years, appealed to its people "to keep up solidarity with the Vietnamese brothers."