

Reds to Ask Site Switch On POWs

SAIGON — (AP) — A North Vietnamese spokesman said the Communist side will propose at a meeting with the United States today that the site for the release of 27 American prisoners in South Vietnam be changed from Quan Loi to Loc Ninh, 15 miles farther north.

Col. Bui Tin also said that a specific hour had not been fixed for the release of the American prisoners tomorrow. He said this also would be taken up at a meeting of the four-party Joint Military Commission scheduled for 4 p.m. Saigon time Sunday.

Tin said the Viet Cong delegation to the commission would propose Loc Ninh, 10 miles from the Cambodian border, as the new site because "it's easier to do." He said continuing artillery fire in the An Loc-Quan Loi region was not the reason for the proposed shift.

He did not elaborate, but Loc Ninh is the main Communist headquarters in the Saigon military region. It is 75 miles north of Saigon and the nearest Communist base to southern jungle prison camps. Thus, the Viet Cong would not have to transfer the prisoners as far.

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