'Critical' Situation

Viet Reds Freeze

Release of POWs

Hanoi's 3-Point **Ultimatum**

Associated Press

Saigon

The chief spokesman ris peace agreement." for the North Vietnamese delegation said yesterday there will be no further release of American prisoners of war until several other points in the Vietnam peace agreement are honored.

"The United States is responsible for the total application of the agreement," Hanoi spokesman Bui Tin declared.

He said authorities in Hanoi and officials of the Viet Cong's Provisional Revolutionary Government had ordered a freeze on the release of American prisoners in both North and South Vietnam.

He characterized the situation as "critical."

Tin said three critical points must be resolved before the next group of American prisoners will be released:

- Strict application of the cease - fire.
- Simultaneous return of civilian and military prisoners.
- A guarantee of improved working conditions for the four - party Joint Military Commission.

The understanding in Paris, according to Henry Kissinger, was that prisoner exchanges would take place in four installments 15 days apart. Therefore, a prisoner exchange had been expected by today.

WASHINGTON

(In Washington, the White House, State Department and Pentagon declined comment on the development.)

Tin said the Hanoi govern-

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ment understands very well the feelings of the families of the American prisoners and all Americans who wait for them to come home.

"But we must also think of the families of Vietnamese prisoners and of the millions Vietnamese who are hoping for peace that they expect to come through the strict application of the Pa-

He charged that the U.S. delegation "has shown bad faith and has shown only interest in getting U.S. prisoners back.

A subcommission on captured persons convened again this morning in efforts to resolve the differences.

CHARGES

The North Vietnamese have repeatedly charged that the South Vietnamese government has harassed and provoked their representatives and has sanctioned demonstrations that

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have led to violence against members of the Hanoi delegation.

At least seven North Vietnamese delegates were injured by mobs of rockthrowing demonstrators in the northern cities of Hue and Da Nang on Sunday, according to Tin.

Tin said if the harassment, provocation and lack of security and decent accommodations continue, the Joint Military Commission cannot function.

(Just before Tin's announcement, American military sources at Clark Air Base in the Philippines said North Vietnam is expected to hand over in Saigon to-morrow a list of POWs to be freed the following day.

(The sources said a n American aircraft assigned to the International Commission for Control and Supervision would fly to Hanoi to pick up a North Vientamese official who would take the list to Saigon.

(In Saigon, the list will be turned over to the Americans at the regularly scheduled meeting of the four-party Joint Military Commission, the sources said.)