

**RELEASE DATE SET  
FOR LAST P.O.W.'S**

**138 to Be Freed in Hanoi on  
Saturday and Sunday**

SAIGON, South Vietnam, March 21 (AP) — The North Vietnamese and Vietcong delegations announced today that they would release the final group of 138 American prisoners in Hanoi on Saturday and Sunday.

The Communist delegations asked the United States to pull out its remaining 5,300 troops

by the weekend, three days in advance of the March 28 deadline for completion of freeing of prisoners and withdrawal of United States troops.

United States officials indicated they would make a major effort to comply. The United States has the facilities to move that many troops in four days.

The North Vietnamese and Vietcong delegations called a meeting of the four-party military subcommission on prisoners for tomorrow morning to turn over the lists of Americans scheduled for release over the weekend.

It is expected that the United States, immediately after receiving the lists and transmitting them to Washington for notifi-

cation of next of kin, will begin the last of its troop withdrawals.

Phuong Nam, chief spokesman for the Vietcong delegation, said that 31 American prisoners of war captured in South Vietnam would be released at Hanoi's Gia Lam airport on Saturday.

Bui Tin, the chief spokesman for the North Vietnamese delegation, said 107 American servicemen captured in the North would be released at Gia Lam on Sunday.

He said he still had no word on seven American servicemen and two civilians listed as captured in Laos. He said they would not be in the groups being released Saturday and

Sunday, but would be freed "very soon afterward."

"There is a question of sovereignty involved," he said of the prisoners listed as captured by the Communist led Pathet Lao.

Mr. Tin said Maj. Gen. Le Quang Hoa, chief of the North Vietnamese delegation, had told the United States side that he would do all he could to make contact with the Pathet Lao and seek a quick release of the prisoners.

A spokesman for the United States delegation said Hanoi was responsible for the return of American prisoners held in Laos.

The United States paused in its troop withdrawal from Viet-

nam with 6,300 troops still remaining, but said it would resume the pullout once it officially received the lists of prisoners and the dates they would be turned over.

The Vietcong spokesman said that the plans for the release were agreed to during a four-and-a-half-hour meeting of the four-party Joint Military Commission's subcommission on prisoners. The subcommission is made up of representatives of the United States, North Vietnam, South Vietnam and the Vietcong.

The spokesman also reported that one South Korean prisoner would be released at Duc Pho, 100 miles south of Da Nang, on Sunday.

\* Charles Mohr, NYTimes 21 Mar 73, gives the total as ten.