

# Kissinger Returns --No Pact

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Henry A. Kissinger returned to Washington last night without reaching an agreement in Paris negotiations to stop violations of the Vietnam cease-fire. He returns Tuesday to talk to Hanoi's Le Duc Tho.

Kissinger will confer with President Nixon by phone before the President returns from a Florida trip late today.

He declined to comment on speculation that unexpected disagreements led to the break in his talks with Tho on tightening the Vietnam peace agreement.

### 'Takes Time'

Asked about predictions made Friday by an American official here that a joint communique on the latest round of talks would be signed this weekend, Kissinger replied with a smile:

"American officials have sometimes been mistaken in their estimates of the length of time required to bring the Vietnamese parties to a common realization of the significance of certain words."

Kissinger's deputy, William

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Sullivan, and Tho's deputy, Nguyen Co Thach, said they will continue the negotiations at a lower level during Kissinger's absence.

Thach told newsmen Tho will remain in the French capital.

Kissinger's departure without announcement of the new agreements contrasted with the optimistic assessment of American officials who had predicted a communique would be signed over the weekend.

### Formal Statement

In a formal statement before leaving, Kissinger said:

"I am returning to Washington because the preparations for the visit of General Secretary Brezhnev require my presence.

"While I'm absent, Ambassador Sullivan will continue the discussions with Minister Thach. I plan to return to Paris on Tuesday.

"Because the negotiations are still in progress I will say nothing further about my conversations with Le Duc Tho."

There was no official explanation from either side

for the setback to Kissinger and Tho's efforts to agree on measures to implement the peace settlement they drafted last winter.

### Optimism Vanishes

The optimism vanished during the final 4½-hour meeting in suburban Gif sur Yvette. Kissinger and Tho shook hands as usual in parting, but their smiles, in full view of newsmen and photographers, seemed strained.

The setback was believed due largely to a refusal by President Nguyen Van Thieu of South Vietnam to authorize his representatives in Paris to sign the communique.

The South Vietnamese deputy premier, Nguyen Luu Vien, and the Viet Cong minister of state, Nguyen Van Hieu, whose separate political talks have been deadlocked here since they started in March, took no part in the Kissinger-Tho meetings. But they were kept closely informed by their respective allies.

### Meeting Canceled

The first hint of a setback came on Thursday, the sec-

ond day of the current round of meetings. Kissinger delayed a scheduled session with Tho by four hours after South Vietnamese officials warned that Thieu would not accept a new peace agreement. A meeting scheduled for Friday was canceled altogether.

American officials hastened to stress that the draft communique was not a new agreement but merely an "explanation" of the existing agreement. Thieu evidently was not satisfied with this view and maintained his objections to the draft communique.

The communique reportedly contained detailed procedures for implementing the cease-fire in South Vietnam and setting up the national reconciliation council foreseen under Article 12 of the January 27 agreement.

Informants said it contained no provision for ending the fighting in Cambodia, including regular American bombing.