

# Kissinger Gives Hint Of Accord With Tho On Cambodian War

NYTimes JUN 15 1973

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, June 14 — Henry A. Kissinger hinted broadly today that the United States had received some kind of assurances from North Vietnam in Paris that could provide the basis for an end to the fighting in Cambodia.

Speaking in extremely guarded terms, Mr. Kissinger refused to confirm reports from Paris and Saigon that a secret understanding had been reached that went beyond the communiqué on Vietnam signed by him and Le Duc Tho, Hanoi's chief negotiator, and the two South Vietnamese parties, in Paris yesterday.

But he did nothing to dampen speculation that in fact such an understanding had been achieved.\*

Mr. Kissinger said that any agreement on Laos and Cambodia would no longer be "se-

Continued on Page 10, Column 5

Continued From Page 1, Col. 4

cret" if he discussed it publicly. Then, however, he made the following statement:

"The evolution in Laos and Cambodia depends not only on decisions taken by Hanoi and Washington, but also on decisions taken by other sovereign parties. Therefore one can only make judgments on impact of such events such as the signing of the communiqué on the development in these countries.

"On that basis, we hope that progress will be made, first toward bringing about a political solution in Laos.

"And secondly, that an im-

petus would be given to an end to hostilities in Cambodia and a political solution. Negotiations that are involved there are complex and no useful purpose would be served by engaging in a detailed discussion, but it is our belief that the communiqué that was agreed to yesterday will make a positive contribution and events over the next weeks should testify if the hope is well taken."

## 'Our Best Judgment'

Mr. Kissinger, aware of commentaries expressing little enthusiasm for the latest Vietnamese document, said that

"we can only give a judgment" and that such judgments by the Administration "have not always been wrong."

"Our best judgment," he said, "is that the possibility for peace in Indochina has been strengthened."

He said that the original January cease-fire accord had worked "reasonably well," considering the distrust in Indochina. "I have the impression," he went on, "that the realization that military victory cannot be achieved in Vietnam by either of the contending sides is becoming clearer."

As for Cambodia, he said that the complex negotiations

going on there needed "an opportunity to mature."

The negotiations to which Mr. Kissinger referred were not known. There have been no public signs that the Lon Nol Government was negotiating with either the Cambodian insurgents, who are deeply reliant on Hanoi, or with the government in exile of the former chief of state, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, based in Peking.

The impression given by Mr. Kissinger was that the United States had some indication or assurance from Hanoi that it would take steps in coming weeks to persuade the insurgents to diminish the fighting and begin negotiations.

Le Duc Tho, in answer to reporter's question at press conference, Paris, 14 Jun 73, said: "There is no tacit agreement on Cambodia." (NYTimes 15 Jun 73.)

Le Duc Tho, press conference, Paris, 14 Jun 73 (NYTimes 15 Jun 73):

\*

Q. It is being advanced that there is a tacit agreement concerning Cambodia. Could you tell us how you envisage the evolution in Cambodia?

A. All along during the negotiations we have had with Dr. Kissinger there have been plenty of rumors, the echo of which reached the press, and among those rumors, naturally, those concerning Cambodia. I can tell you that all of these speculations are unfounded and do not conform to reality. There is no tacit agreement on Cambodia. ....