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Viet Reds

Pull Out of

Peace Units

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Saigon

The Viet Cong and North Vietnam have announced that they are suspending participation in the two cease-fire commissions set up by the Paris peace agreement last year to protest alleged "acts of sabotage" by South Vietnam and the United States.

In a statement broadcast by radio, the Viet Cong's Provisional Revolutionary Government announced its decision to suspend its participation in the two-party Joint Military Commission which is charged with implementing the cease-fire, and the four-party Joint Military Team, which is supposed to search for men missing in action.

The two-party commission

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is made up of representatives of the Viet Cong and the Saigon government. The four-party group consists of representatives from the United States, North Vietnam, the Viet Cong and South Vietnam.

Yesterday afternoon, a spokesman for Hanoi's delegation to the four-party group said that the North Vietnamese delegation had "just received its orders" to support the Viet Cong's posi-

tion and to suspend its role in the commissions as well.

The Viet Cong statement, issued by its Ministry of Foreign Affairs, catalogued a series of grievances and demands, including written guarantees of the Communists' "privileges and immunities" here.

The statement also denounced Saigon for the sinking of a North Vietnamese "civilian supply" vessel three days ago off the Cua Viet estuary in the Communist-held side of Quang Tri

Province. The South Vietnamese say the ship was laden with munitions.

The sinking of the ship appeared to have in part caused the decision to leave the talks here — which have never been much more than propaganda sessions — but some diplomats believe that the Communists have begun a campaign to demonstrate to world opinion that the implementing mechanisms of the Paris agreement have completely broken down.

New York Times