

Secret Session Held Between U.S., North

PARIS (UPI)—American and North Vietnamese negotiators met in secret session for three hours Wednesday but failed to reach accord on final arrangements for opening of expanded negotiations toward a Vietnam peace.

Diplomatic sources said North Vietnam objected to a number of procedural ground rules suggested by the Americans in a similar behind

the scenes bargaining session Monday.

But American officials said Wednesday's private session, held at a secret suburban villa, was "useful." They said they still hoped the long-delayed conference could get underway next week.

The U.S.-North Vietnamese meeting was held as South Vietnam announced its delegation to the conference would arrive in Paris Saturday. There was no immediate indication whether the delegation director, Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky, would arrive with the Saigon negotiating team.

Saigon reports quoted President Nguyen Van Thieu as saying South Vietnam's delegation would participate in the first meeting of the Paris talks next Wednesday—ending support to speculation that expanded talks might start that day.

Thieu angrily denied rumors that Saigon would stall the conference until after the new Nixon administration takes office.

In Washington, U.S. delegation Chief W. Averell Harriman expressed the hope that arrival of the Saigon delegation in Paris would signal the start of substantive discussions.

Harriman warned, however, that all North Vietnamese troops must be withdrawn from the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and the shelling of South Vietnamese cities must be halted before Paris peace talks could turn to serious military and political issues.

At Wednesday's secret suburban meeting, U.S. deputy-delegation leader Cyrus

Vance exchanged strong protests over "military incidents" with his North Vietnamese counterpart, Col. Ha Van Lau.

Israelis Retaliate; Tensions Building

JERUSALEM (UPI) — Israeli jet fighters bombed and strafed Iraqi expeditionary troops, artillery and radar positions deep inside Jordan Wednesday in the fourth day of seesaw attacks between the two countries.

An Israeli military spokesman said the raids were carried out "to impress upon the Iraqis that they cannot attack Israeli settlements and escape punishment."

The air strikes came shortly after Jordanian and Israeli artillery positions shelled each other across the Jordan River cease-fire line near the Damiya Bridge.

The Jordanians reported six "military" deaths and 14 injuries from the air attacks and the Israelis said they lost one plane.

The jets attacked targets concentrated near Irbid, 18 miles east of the Jordan River, where heavy artillery barrages were hurled at Israel Tuesday, and in the area of Mafrak, in northern Jordan about 45 miles east of the river.

The jets also flew over the Jordanian capital, Amman, but did not attack as air raid sirens sounded and citizens fled into shelters, reports from Jordan said.

The Israeli spokesman said the Iraqi troops, stationed inside Jordan since the last Mideast war 17 months ago, were responsible for eight bombardments of Israeli territory recently.

The Iraqis were blamed because shell fragments were identified as from Russian-made 122 mm. cannon, which the Jordanians do not possess.

In Cairo, the Egyptian government announced that it would "not be drawn into a war which was made to serve

CHICAGO (UPI)—A chief federal judge said Wednesday a special grand jury "might well look into the timing and motivation" behind a report

that charged some police "rioted" during the violent disorders of Democratic National Convention week.

William J. Campbell, chief judge of U. S. District Court in Chicago, suggested the grand jurors might look into whether the release of the controversial "Walker report" Sunday was designed to influence the grand jury's own exhaustive investigation of the riots.

The judge also questioned the objectivity of the report, labeled it "just the report of one individual," and expressed doubt that Daniel Walker, head of the task force that prepared it, was qualified "in the field of criminal investigation."

Walker, who submitted the report to the task force's parent National Commission on Violence, sent an open

telegram to Campbell replying to the judge's news conference statements.

"I was given a deadline of mid-November by the President's National Commission on Violence," the telegram said. "I met that deadline. I was informed that the commission needed my report in time to make their interim report to President Johnson."

"The commission decided to release the report because of its great public interest. I concurred in that decision because I felt that to have the completed report withheld from the public would not be in the tradition of full disclosure which is expected of governmental operations."

Campbell, speaking at a news conference, said he was

not directing the grand jury to investigate the release of the Walker report but "I assume they will look into the matter."

"The Walker report, according to all I have read, is just the report of one individual, not of the commission," the judge said. "It covers only in part the matters of the grand jury is going into fully."

"To release the report at this time, when the grand jury hasn't completed its investigation, and without first submitting the report or seeking its the grand jury's approval might give rise to a question as to the motivation and timing of its release."

"The timing seems inopportune. I think any investigation of the timing by my grand jury might be appropriate. I assume they will look into the matter."

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Johnson To Propose Increase In Salaries

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Johnson's final budget will propose substantial pay raises for his successor, Richard M. Nixon, and other top federal officials including members of Congress and the Supreme Court, it was disclosed Wednesday.

Well-informed congressional sources said the President's recommendations were contained in his budget message. The raises will go into effect automatically 30 days after he submits them unless specifically voted down by Congress. The budget message is due by Jan. 18, two days before Nixon's inaugural.

It was understood that Johnson had sought and received the approval of President-elect Nixon for the salary increases, although Nixon reportedly was concerned that the raises might be too high.

The Constitution provides that the President's pay must "neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected." Thus, any pay boost for Nixon must be proposed by Johnson before he leaves office.

For his part, Johnson has said privately he felt that the proposals as recommended by

a Special Commission on Executive Pay might be too low, one congressional source said.

Johnson, however, is expected to revise downward the commission's recommendations in an effort to avoid congressional opposition that could kill the proposal.

The key to whether congress goes along with his recommendations, according to observers, is the President's recommendation for members of Congress who currently receive \$30,000 a year.

The nine-member commission, which was established by Congress in 1967 and is headed by Frederick Kappel, former board chairman of American Telephone & Telegraph, reportedly has recommended the following increases: President, up \$50,000 to \$150,000; Vice President and speaker of the House up \$32,000 to \$75,000; Chief Justice, up \$35,000 to \$75,000; Associate justices, up \$25,000 to \$65,000; cabinet members, up \$25,000 to \$60,000, and Congressmen and Senators, up \$20,000 to \$50,000.

The Kappel Commission—whose report has never been publicly released also proposes similar increases for presidential assistants, sub-cabinet officials, commission and board heads, and all federal judges.

Although Johnson apparently feels these proposals don't go far enough in view of competing salaries paid executives outside of government, he must weigh his proposals against the mood of Congress.

Even if substantial opposition does develop, observers pointed out that lawmakers, busy organizing the 91st Congress, would have very little time in which to reach votes in both the House and Senate against Johnson's pay proposals.

Auto Repairs Blasted, Justified In Hearings

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A garage owner told senators Wednesday that if the public really wanted easily and cheaply repaired cars the Model T Ford would still be on the market.

"But it would not be much sought after today," testified Athell Yon, a Charleston, S. C., garage owner who represented the Independent Garage Owners of America at a Senate antitrust and monopoly subcommittee hearing chaired by Sen. Philip A. Hart, D-Mich. Yon said the public is "asking the impossible by asking the manufacturers to include all the comforts and beauty which they admire and still design it (the automobile) to be repaired cheaply."

A car has already been built with simplicity for easy and inexpensive repair work, Yon said. "This was the Model T Ford—but it would not be much sought after today."

But auto design found a critic in Norman Bennett, president of the U. S. Merchandise Mart, a Washington, D. C. discount house, who described himself as a safety expert and president of the Automobile Improvement Foundation, which he said was a nonprofit organization created to facilitate auto safety and design improvement.

The auto designer, Bennett charged, "has gone out of his way to insure vulnerability to danger."

He cited "decorative" bumpers that can cost \$150 to repair when hit by a minor blow. He said the bumper hits the car body "in most cases no more than one-half inch away... this type of design is not only unnecessary but inexcusable, except for one reason—it results in expensive

repairs."

Another witness, Louis Baffa, president of the Auto Body Association of America and owner of a Brooklyn, N. Y., repair shop, testified from behind a pile of tire rims, stainless steel strips and ornaments and auto hood supports.

Showing the senators two wheel rims capable of holding the same weight, he said one was from a 1968 Ford Galaxy and cost \$7.45 and the other from a 1968 Chevrolet and cost \$12.50. "I can't understand the difference in price," he said.

He showed a hood support so placed that in every front end collision end collision it jabbed into the car's air conditioning unit.

A lack of adequate space between the fan assembly and the radiator in some cars, he said, means the least impact can damage the radiator, necessitating replacement of both the radiator and the fan assembly.

Scholarship Granted

GREENSBORO (UPI)—The University of North Carolina has been awarded a \$71,400 grant by the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation of Winston-Salem, Chancellor James S. Ferguson reported Wednesday.

The funds will support the Katharine Smith Reynolds scholarship program at the University for the 1969-70 school year. There are 48 students now attending the University on the scholarships, which are worth \$1,400 annually.

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