

# Talks Begin Friday Pulitzer Prizes Awarded

PARIS (UPI)—The United States and North Vietnam agreed Monday to hold preliminary Vietnam peace talks in the former Nazi Gestapo headquarters in Paris, diplomatic sources reported.

The reported agreement was reached after several days of wrangling which threatened to further delay the start of the discussions tentatively scheduled for Friday.

Charge d'Affaires Woodruff Wallner of the U.S. Embassy and Mai Van Bo, North Vietnamese general-delegate in Paris, called separately at the French Foreign Ministry during the day.

Diplomatic sources said tentative agreement was reached during the conversations to hold the meetings in the International Conference Center, near the Arc de Triomphe in the heart of Paris.

Both Wallner and Bo visited the center at different times during the afternoon, then went back to their missions to report their findings to their capitals and await approval or rejection.

The center, which was built originally in 1908, is about one mile from the U.S. Embassy and about two miles from the North Vietnamese legation.

The former Hotel Majestic, the blackest spot in its history was its preemption by the feared Gestapo during the Nazi occupation of France from 1940 to 1944.

It presumably was suggested by the French over several frequently mentioned suburban chateaux because it already is equipped for international

conferences, has modern communications and translation equipment and other facilities.

While there was no immediate official confirmation that the center had been selected, police sealed off the building to all but official personnel.

Even before the site was selected, the United States

began moving into Paris the vanguard of its negotiating team. John O'Brien, deputy assistant secretary of state for public affairs, arrived with a plane-load of equipment and several aides during the weekend.

The Hanoi mission said Col. Ha Van Lau, reported to have been designated official press spokesman for North Vietnam,

NEW YORK (UPI) — The Knight newspapers Monday were awarded an unprecedented three Pulitzer prizes for journalistic achievement. The prizes covered editorial writing, local reporting and editorial cartooning.

The Pulitzer Prize for fiction went to author William Styron for "The Confessions of Nat Turner," an account of a Negro slave uprising.

For the 10th time in the 52-year history of the Pulitzer Prizes, there was no award given for drama, apparently reflecting the opinion of the Pulitzer board that no outstanding play was produced during 1967.

Toshio Sakai, 26, a combat photographer for United Press International in Vietnam, won the award for feature photography, a new category introduced this year. Sakai was cited for the picture "Dreams of Better Times," showing a weary GI asleep in the rain while a buddy keeps watch.

The awards to the Knight newspaper group went to John S. Knight, editorial chairman of the papers, for editorial writing; the staff of the Detroit Free Press for coverage of last summer's riots; and to Eugene Gray Payne of the Charlotte N.C. Observer, for editorial cartooning.

Precedent Set  
It was the first time since the Pulitzer Prizes were first issued in 1917 that one newspaper organization won three in the same year.

George F. Kennan, former U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union and now a professor at Princeton University, won his second Pulitzer Prize. He was cited for biography for his book, "Memoirs, 1925-50."

There were these other journalism awards presented by the trustees of Columbia University on recommendation of the Pulitzer Prize advisory board:

—The Riverside Calif. Press Enterprises, meritorious public service. The paper won a gold medal for disinterested and meritorious public service for an expose of corruption in the courts in connection with the handling of estates

and property of an Indian tribe and successful efforts to punish guilty parties.

—J. Anthony Lukas of the New York Times, local reporting award for "the social document he wrote in his investigation of the life and murder of Linda FitzPatrick." Miss FitzPatrick, daughter of a wealthy Connecticut advertising executive, was slain in a hippie haunt in New York's East Greenwich Village.

—Alfred Friendly of the Washington Post, international reporting. He was honored for his coverage of the Middle East War last June.

## Committee OK's Tax Increase

WASHINGTON (UPI) — House taxwriters, who blocked President Johnson's proposed tax surcharge for nine months, changed their minds Monday and approved a \$10 billion income tax increase coupled with a \$4 billion spending cut.

The surprise action by the House Ways and Means Committee could provide the momentum to speed a compromise tax increase bill, now under consideration by House and Senate negotiators, to President Johnson for his signature nine months after he first proposed it.

The vote was 17 to 6 in favor of an increase—either

through Johnson's proposed 10 per cent surcharge or by raising the various tax rates for both individuals and corporations.

One of those favoring it was Chairman Wilbur D. Mills, D-Ark., who reversed his role as the foremost House opponent of a tax increase. He did not immediately explain his change in thinking.

The committee acted after the President wrote Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield and Speaker John W. McCormack, appealing for a tax increase. Lack of action, he told them, "would be a ticket to disaster."

The plan adopted by the committee, written by Rep. S. Herlong, D-Fla., called for a tax increase to total \$10 billion, either through Johnson's proposed 10 per cent tax surcharge or through a raise in the basic income tax rates, in the fiscal year beginning July 1. Tied to this tax increase was the stipulation that federal spending be cut by \$4 billion during the same period.

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