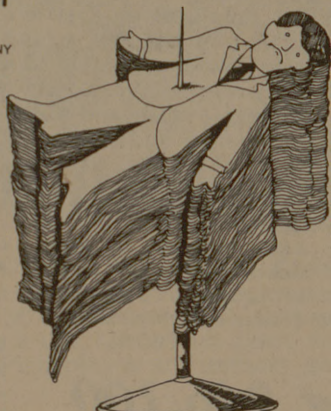


Nixon peace proposal contains snags, could intensify war

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President Nixon's Indochina peace proposal may sound logical and fair to many Americans, but the road to peace is littered with snags. There seems a clear danger that the war will be intensified, though perhaps only briefly. Behind this sort of assessment is the fact that Hanoi apparently reads the U.S. proposals as signifying a flagging American will to continue involvement much longer. Hanoi apparently sees big possibilities for its cause in the U.S. political campaign.

"The present situation is creating a great many new advantages for our armed forces," Lt. Gen. Song Hao told a Hanoi newspaper earlier this month. That sounded ominous in the light of reports of a new Communist buildup.

Gen. Hao indicted what was on Hanoi's mind when he said the Americans "are defeated and are therefore forced to change their strategy." This meant, he added, that North Vietnam was "faced with a new situation with many advantages and bright prospects," although there still would be hardships ahead for the population.

The general must have been aware of Nixon's proposals, and what he seemed to say in effect was: "Why settle for less if there's a chance to get it all?"

Maybe it's all Hanoi talk and maybe there is still hope for the proposals, but given the way they read the situation, the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong leaders

seem to want to hold out for a good deal more than is offered.

The snags in the way of peace are apparent.

Withdrawal to the two sides mean different things. The Americans mean taking out all U.S. forces and equipment. The other side means withdrawal of everything: all equipment, all weapons and dismantlement of all bases, "without any conditions whatever."

On the date, Nixon says he would withdraw U.S. forces totally within six months of an agreement. The other side wants a date for total withdrawal first.

Then it will talk about other matters.

The Communists are unlikely to agree to unfettered, internationally supervised elections. It is Communist tradition to distrust free elections. The only free election ever held in a Communist-ruled nation was in Russia in 1918, and when the Bolsheviks were trounced, they promptly annulled the results.

President Nguyen Van Thieu of South Vietnam goes a step further than his 1969 offer of internationally supervised elections for the South by offering to resign one month in advance. Although the proposal says all political ele-

ments would make arrangements for the elections, including the Viet Cong, the Communist side can portray this as simply a plot.

It wants unconditional abandonment of Thieu by the Americans. Thieu would talk with them, but they won't talk with him.

New constitution

(Continued from page 1)
The Election Commission. Membership will be by appointment.

"We want to get the politics away from the Election Board, so they can do their job and avoid any hassle," Sharp said. The Public Relations Committee will be relatively the same as in the present structure, with the Services Committee taking over the jobs of the other three committees now in existence.

Membership to these committees is subject to the appointment of the various chairmen, who are selected by the Student Body President. These committees are purely administrative, having no legislative duties.

The legislative branch will consist of the Student Senate, with its Executive Committee. The Vice President will preside over the Senate, with a Chairman Pro Tem to be elected by that group.

Six standing committees are planned for the Senate. The Executive Committee will consist of the President, the Vice President, the Recorder, the chairmen of the legislative standing committees and the Chairman Pro Tem of the Senate.

The other committees include the Academic Affairs Committee, the Student Services Committee, the External Affairs Committee, the Rules and Regulations Committee and the Finance Committee.

The Senate will have the power to override the President's veto with a two-thirds vote. It can grant recognition to student organizations, but it can only recommend withdrawal, again with a two-thirds vote. Each year the Senate will reappoint itself prior to spring elections.

The judicial branch will consist of the Student Body Judicial Committee. There will be nine members, two from each class, sophomore through graduate student, and chairman. All members are appointed by the Student Body President.

The duties of this committee will be the interpretation of constitutional questions, legislative interpretation and certification of elections. It will be their job to rule on election disputes and pro-

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