

Nixon will withdraw more troops

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Nixon said Wednesday night he was withdrawing another 20,000 American troops from Vietnam on July 1. But he vowed to continue U. S. air and naval attacks on North Vietnam until it ends "naked and unprovoked . . . aggression" of the South.

"We will not be defeated," Nixon declared in a nationally broadcast report to the nation, "and we will never surrender our lands to Communist aggression."

The chief executive said the United States is returning to the Paris Peace Talks Thursday with the aim of halting the month-long invasion and "with the firm expectation that productive talks leading to rapid progress will fol-

low through all available channels."

The President spoke shortly after dispatches from Saigon told of a renewed North Vietnamese drive against the city of Quang Tri south of the demilitarized zone, and while the fate of much of the Central Highlands of South Vietnam remained uncertain under heavy offensive pressure.

As he announced over radio and television that U. S. troop levels would be cut in the next two months to 49,000—or 500,000 below the level when he took office three years ago—Nixon solicited public support for his determination to "be steadfast . . . not falter."

He said:

"The Communists have failed . . . Their one remaining hope is to win in the Congress of the United States, and among the people of the United States the victory they cannot win among the people of South Vietnam or on the battlefield in South Vietnam."

The speech, delivered in stern tones as he sat behind his desk in his Oval Office, was his first report to the American people on the war since the enemy thrust led him to renew bombing of North Vietnam, including air attacks near Hanoi and Haiphong.

Shortly before Nixon's address his chief foreign-affairs adviser, Henry Kissinger, briefed newsmen at the White House and,

while declining to talk about specific private negotiating, said "Notable diplomatic actions are going on . . ."

He said the chief Communist negotiator Le Duc Tho, is returning to Paris and added, "He doesn't return for trivial reasons."

Kissinger while reluctant to talk about the U. S. negotiating posture, said the administration feels North Vietnamese troops "should be withdrawn back across the DMZ," and that the Communists should abide by the 1968 agreement which led to cessation of U. S. bombing of the North.

According to U. S. officials, the understanding called for North Vietnam to respect the demilitarized zone and not shell or

rocket major South Vietnamese population areas. But Hanoi never has acknowledged subscribing to such an agreement.

"The gut issues are clearly understood" by the Communist negotiators in Paris, Kissinger said, and "we should be able to learn very rapidly whether progress can be made."

While Nixon said that South Vietnam still needs air and sea support, he added that his Vietnamization program of training and equipping the Saigon government's army "has proved itself sufficiently that we can continue our program of withdrawing American forces . . ."

"The South Vietnamese are fighting courageously and well

in their self defense and . . . have made great progress and are now bearing the brunt of the battle . . ."

Nixon's three decisions—continued withdrawal, a return to the Paris peace talks, and continued air and naval attacks on North Vietnamese military targets—could have a major impact on the domestic election year political scene as well as on international relations.

In his prepared address, Nixon did not renew his previous criticism of the Soviet Union for supplying Hanoi with modern weapons used in the current offensive—a diplomatic decision that might have resulted from Kissinger's just-concluded secret mission to

Moscow.

And while Nixon did not spell out any specific new private peace initiatives, his statement that the United States expects productive talks leading to rapid progress "through all available channels" was viewed as an indication that some secret maneuvering could be underway.

Nixon said Ambassador William C. Porter was going back into the Paris talks Tuesday "with one very specific purpose in mind."

"We are not resuming the Paris talks simply in order to hear more enemy propaganda and bombast from the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong delegates," (See Nixon, page 3)

Shells Battalions

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SANDBAGS ARE BIG BUSINESS in Da Nang, South Vietnam's second largest city. The city has been repeatedly rocketed or mortared since the start of the North Viet-

name offensive and citizens are snapping up the bags as a little added protection against the shellings. (AP Wirephoto)

Ethics committee rules

Dowdy's voting rights upheld

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House ethics committee voted Wednesday a resolution which would strip convicted Texas Rep. Olin Dowdy of his congressional voting rights.

But evidence mounted that a fight over the resolution was likely—from both extremes in opinion.

The resolution adopted on a 218-197 vote now goes to the Rules Committee for clearance for the floor vote.

Just when that might be clear but Rep. Olin Teague of Texas said he doubts that it will pass.

"I don't think they'll do anything until after the election," Teague said, referring to the May primary in Texas in which Dowdy's wife is running to succeed him in Congress.

Voting against the resolution were Teague and Rep. Watkins Abbitt, D-Va.

A report on the resolution will be released until Teague possibly Abbitt file minority views, which can be within three days.

As approved by the committee, the resolution would express the "sense of the House" that a member convicted of any crime punishable by two or more years in prison should abstain from participating in committees or voting on the House floor.

The resolution doesn't mention Dowdy but was forced out by

pressure from two California members, among others, who noted that the ethics committee was created in 1968 to patrol members' behavior and that to refrain from punishing Dowdy would be a bad precedent.

Even as the committee acted, however, criticism of its action rose.

Rep. Bob Eckhardt, a Houston Democrat and lawyer, said it would be improper if not unconstitutional for Congress to deprive a member of his voting privilege without giving his district a chance to elect someone in his place to give it representation.

He said the district's election of a member gives the election

man his vote, not the Congress itself. The Congress could properly take away a member's committee assignments — but not his floor vote.

Eckhardt appeared before the ethics committee to give them his arguments.

"This would put a member in a pretty tough situation," Eckhardt said. "A man's under a duty from his district to vote and then here comes a resolution from the House telling him not to."

The congressional Black Caucus is also critical of the ethics committee resolution, arguing that it is being hypocritical in light of Congress' exclusion of the late Rep. Adam Clayton

Powell of Harlem, who wasn't convicted of anything but was accused of improper conduct.

After Powell was reelected by an overwhelming vote, the House then stripped him of his seniority and fined him \$25,000, both unprecedented actions.

The Black Caucus said the resolution against Dowdy, who has been convicted of bribery in the conduct of his duty, was "a mere slap on the wrist."

"A House vote on anything less than exclusion of Dowdy would plunge ethical standards to the level of the preposterous," the caucus said.

Kleindienst to be recalled regarding antitrust statements

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate Judiciary Committee voted 9-5 Wednesday to recall Richard G. Kleindienst and ask the nominee for attorney general about differing statements regarding a major antitrust settlement.

The committee extended an earlier hearing deadline by one day as it agreed to send the full Senate its recommendation on the nomination by late Thursday.

At the same time, Republican committee members with some Democratic help beat back attempts by liberals to further extend the hearings and call still more witnesses, including presidential aide Peter M. Flanigan.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., said he still will ask the full Senate to send the nomination back to the committee for expanded hearings.

Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W. Va., the Democratic whip, said he is particularly interested in what Kleindienst would say about earlier testimony that he did not recall talking to Flanigan about settlement of the antitrust suit against International Telephone & Telegraph Corp.

In a letter to committee chairman Sen. James O. Eastland, D-Miss., earlier this week, Flanigan said he had delivered a financial report on the proposed settlement to former Asst. Atty. Gen. Richard W. McLaren while Kleindienst was present.

McLaren, renowned as the Nixon administration's trustbuster before he left to accept a federal judgeship, has said the financial report prepared by investment banker Richard J. Ramsden was a major factor in the decision not to carry the ITT case to the Supreme Court.

Flanigan also said he relayed word to Kleindienst shortly before the settlement was announced that ITT would not accept the original proposal, which was changed later.

Kleindienst's nomination was approved once before by the committee but hearings were reopened at Kleindienst's request. They followed allegations by columnist Jack Anderson that the antitrust settlement was connected with a financial commitment by ITT for the Republican National Convention.

In presidential race

Muskie pulls out of primaries

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Edmund S. Muskie has decided to withdraw from all presidential primaries and concentrate a less-expensive, small-scale campaign on the search for delegates to the Democratic convention, a source said Wednesday night.

There were reports — denied by the Muskie camp — that the Senator would quit the race altogether.

"Ed Muskie will withdraw from all primaries," a Democratic office holder said. The source said Muskie, who suffered a twin defeat in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania primaries Tuesday, will maintain a smaller campaign operation aimed at recruiting delegates in non-primary states.

"He has recognized the gravity of the situation and is making a rational decision based on it," the source said.

The Maine senator, who was considered frontrunner for the Democratic nomination until the April 4 Wisconsin primary, canceled a Wednesday night trip to Ohio. The Ohio primary is next Tuesday.

But Muskie's press secretary denied a Mutual Broadcasting System story that the Senator would drop the campaign entirely.

"I categorically deny any statements that he's decided to withdraw," Stewart said.

Muskie himself met with top aides at his home in suburban Washington, and his campaign headquarters said he was "evaluating the political situation" and would hold a news conference Thursday.

Muskie said Tuesday night, after his defeat in the Massachusetts and Pennsylvania primaries, that he intends to stay in the race for the Democratic nomination.

Top aides have advised him to withdraw from future primary races, where polls show him doing poorly, but stay in the race for the nomination. Under this strategy, he could concentrate on rounding up delegates in non-primary states, and later could offer himself to the party convention as a compromise candidate.

Muskie had been scheduled to speak Wednesday night in To-

ledo, Ohio, and the state's governor, John J. Gilligan, was already on the way there to introduce him when word came that the trip was canceled.

A statement from Muskie's campaign headquarters in Washington issued shortly before 6 p.m. said, "He has been consulting with his family, with friends and his supporters throughout the day. And he will continue to do so throughout the evening."

Some of those supporters in Congress, asked about the report, said they hadn't heard Muskie would get out. Some said they thought it more likely he would merely withdraw from some or all of the remaining primaries, but remain in the race for the nomination.

The Mutual report quoted aides to Muskie as saying he would continue to consult with advisers and family to consider the situation, but had already decided to get completely out of the race.

Reports that Muskie would withdraw have surfaced with increasing frequency since the one-time frontrunner for the nomina-

tion finished fourth in the April 4 Wisconsin primary.

Muskie's office has continued to deny the reports and Muskie himself has repeated that he intends to press his campaign all the way to the Miami Beach convention in July.

Should Muskie withdraw from campaigning for the Ohio primary it would leave just three Democratic candidates making an all-out effort there: Sen. George McGovern of South Dakota; Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota and Sen. Henry M. Jackson of Washington.

Muskie's campaign is reported to be at least \$1 million in debt. The staff has been trimmed and the salaries cut on more than one occasion in recent months as contributions dried up.

Muskie was beaten by Sen. George McGovern in Massachusetts and by Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey in Pennsylvania. Those setbacks followed earlier losses in Florida and Wisconsin and a lukewarm victory in his own backyard state of New Hampshire.

Texas Democrats pledge public trust restoration

DALLAS (AP)—Democratic candidates seeking to become Texas' next governor promised Wednesday night that, if elected, they could restore public confidence in state government.

"I would require all officials to make a full financial disclosure of their sources of income," said Mrs. Frances Farenthold, one of five Democratic candidates appearing on a televised question-and-answer program. "And I would make anyone appointed to a state agency make a full disclosure."

"I would veto any legislation that had not had a public hearing in the House and Senate," said Dolph Briscoe.

"If we had full financial disclosure, annual sessions and bring our constitution up to date, this would take care of the situation," said Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes.

Robert Looney, another Democratic candidate for governor, said that, if elected, he would personally see that any other official "guilty of malfeasance" was prosecuted.

Looney said he had personally prepared "a criminal complaint" against Gov. Preston Smith, accusing the governor of "the same offense they convicted Gus Mutscher of at Abilene" and would present the accusation to the Travis County district attorney on Friday. Mutscher, former

Speaker of the Texas House, was convicted at Abilene of conspiracy to accept a bribe in connection with two banking bills passed by the 1969 legislature.

Smith, who refused to take part in the TV program, vetoed the two bills and has claimed that this action brought on the stock fraud investigation.

Bill Posey, Houston funeral director, said he would restore public confidence by making members of the state insurance board elected, instead of appointed.

Earlier, five Republican candidates for governor generally agreed that local property taxes should continue to be the main income for Texas public schools.

The five GOP candidates appeared in one segment of the TV program, followed by six Democratic candidates for governor with Gov. Preston Smith conspicuously absent.

Ross, Zepeda recognized as Student Senate leaders

Randy Ross of San Antonio and Richard A. Zepeda of Pottsville were recognized Wednesday at A&M as outstanding members of the 1971-72 Student Senate.

Zepeda, doctoral student in industrial education, was named Outstanding Student Senator at the annual Senate awards banquet.

Ross was cited as the outstanding Senate executive committee member. He will be the 1972-73 Senate vice president.

Zepeda has been elected Graduate Student Council president for next year.

Outstanding class senator awards went to Stanley D. Kosanke, graduate student, Cordell, Okla.; George S. (Sam) Drugan, senior, El Paso; William E. (Bill) Hartsfield, junior, La Marque; Mark Blakemore, soph-

omore, Richmond, Ky., and Terry Brown, freshman, Garland.

More than 150 persons including TAMU President Jack K. Williams witnessed the awards for top service on the 86-member Student Senate, A&M's student body organization.

Tommy Henderson, the 1970-71 outstanding student senator, presented the award to Zepeda. John Sharp and Mike Essmeyer, 1971-72 Senate president and vice president, made the other awards.

Drugan was also Great Issues chairman of the Memorial Student Center directorate this year. Hartsfield will serve next fall on the Senate executive committee as academic excellence committee chairman. Blakemore was elected president of the 1972-73 Civilian Student Council.

Shaw to present engineering talk at Great Issues

Genetic engineering, its possibilities and consequences, will be discussed by Dr. Charles Shaw, M.D., in a Great Issues presentation tonight.

Dr. Shaw will speak at 8 p.m. in the Zachry Engineering Center's main auditorium. His presentation, "Genetic Engineering—Man Into Superman?" is a public-free event, Great Issues Chairman T. C. Cone said.

Dr. Shaw is chief of the medical genetics section at the M. D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute in Houston.

Cone said Dr. Shaw's presentation is the final Great Issues program of 1971-72.

Sen. Ratliff quits due to criticism

AUSTIN (AP) — Sen. David Ratliff of Stamford resigned Wednesday following a month of media criticism over his handling of relatives.

Ratliff said his resignation was effective immediately so a special election could be called to name a successor.

University National Bank on the side of Texas A&M. —Adv.