Kissinger, Tho Awarded Nobel Prize for Negotiations

OSLO, Norway (AP)—Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and Le Duc Tho of North Vietnam were awarded the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize Tuesday for fashioning the cease-fire which officially ended the Vietnam war.

Mrs. Aase Lionaes, chairwoman of the Nobel committee, announced the award would be shared equally by the architects of the truce, who conducted 42 months of on-and-off, tough negotiations in Paris before reaching agreement in January.

In a brief statement, Mrs. Lionaes said the prize winners "had acted in accord with Alfred Nobel's idea . . . that conflicts should be solved through negotiations and not by war."

Kissinger, 50, and Tho, 62, a member of the North Vietnamese Politburo and the first ranking member of a Communist government to win the prize, will each receive 255,000 Swedish crowns, or about $60,000, the Nobel medal and the peace prize diploma.

The presentations will be made in a formal ceremony at the University of Oslo Dec. 10. Mrs. Lionaes said she hoped both winners would attend. She said both had been notified immediately before the public announcement at the Nobel Institute.

Kissinger was attending a White House meeting on the Middle East when he received the word. He was beaming as he left to drive to the State Department, saying, "I'm very pleased." No comment was available from Tho.

President Nixon said, "By jointly citing Dr. Kissinger and Le Duc Tho, the Nobel Committee has also given deserved recognition to the area of negotiation" which Nixon said "will be more essential than ever as we seek to build and maintain a structure of peace in the world."

Kissinger, who was Nixon's chief national security adviser when he negotiated the cease-fire, is the 16th American to win the peace prize. Tho is the first Asian to be so honored.

A total of 47 candidates had been nominated for the 1973 prize, including Nixon and Yugoslav President Tito.

Kissinger and Tho earned their prize the hard way—in hundreds of hours of tense and exhausting secret talks that often looked virtually hopeless.

Their meetings began in 1969, in such secrecy that Kissinger sometimes traveled to them by subway to avoid attracting the attention of newsmen.

When they ended in a blaze of news and television coverage in January, they were still nominally secret. But Kissinger and Tho found themselves followed wherever they went in Paris by scores of newsmen and photographers.

Details of how Kissinger and Tho arrived at their breakthrough after dozens of months of bargaining are likely to remain secret for years.

Kissinger has said Tho made the crucial concession at an Oct. 8, 1972 meeting, when he finally agreed to separate military and political issues. Tho has remained silent about the bargaining.

Persian Gulf Oil Producers Hike Prices

KUWAIT (AP)—The six largest oil-producing countries on the Persian Gulf announced a 17 per cent price increase in their crude oil early Wednesday, but said the move had nothing to do with the Middle East war.

A group of Arab oil exporting nations will meet here Wednesday to decide how to use their oil as a weapon in the Arab cause in the war against Israel.

The price increase—from $3.02 to $3.65 a barrel for standard light Arabian crude—is not expected to affect the U.S. consumer right away. The most direct immediate affect is likely to be on Europe and Japan which depend mostly on the Middle East for their oil.

The United States depends upon the Middle East for about 6 per cent of its oil needs.

The six countries account for about 40 per cent of the oil production in the non-Communist world.

The announcement said they took their action in direct response to what one envoy called the "intransigence" of the Western companies in negotiating a price increase.

Those price talks that had been under way in Vienna, Austria, were suspended last Friday. The companies asked for two weeks to study the situation.

The countries are Iran, which is non-Arab; and Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Abu Dhabi and Qatar, all Arab.

All the major Western oil companies are represented in the Persian Gulf. They are over-all buyers of crude and thus are forced to accept the new conditions.

18 Firemen Make School

Eighteen volunteer firemen from Rohm and Haas Chemical's Deer Park facility are participating in a special industrial fire school conducted by A&M's Texas Engineering Extension Service.

The program, directed by Tom Robinson, gives the students an opportunity to practice firefighting on actual chemical and oil fires, something they can't do at their home stations.

Clyde Davis, fire marshal at the plant and delegation leader, said environmental legislation has banned any fires for practice in his vicinity, so he has been bringing members of his volunteer fire brigade to TAMU for five years for large fire experience.

"The training program offered here is quite adequate and it seems to improve every year," he noted. "The facilities can't be matched anyyhere, and our students get some good experience fighting large fires."

Davis, who has served as an instructor for the past eight years at TEES's annual Industrial Fire School, said his company has never had a major fire in the plant in 27 years of operation.

"The fact that we have had a good fire safety record is a credit to the working men in the plant," he said. "They are all conscious of potential fire hazards and know what to do when something happens."

The company provides in-plant classroom training for the students before sending them to TAMU for their "practical." The entire brigade will attend training session this year, according to Davis.

Rohm and Haas is a member of the Channel Industrial Mutual Aid program, an organization of approximately 50 companies in the Houston Ship Channel area which gives assistance to each other if a major disaster occurs.

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