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Secretary Rogers' News Conference of July 2, 1969

Q Mr. Secretary, in his press conference, President Nixon said that he expected that President Thieu would be putting forth some concrete proposals on a political program in the near future. Can you tell us what the prospects are for that now? There are these reports out of Saigon that he has backtracked on this.

A Well, we haven't had any such reports, George. When the President and President Thieu met at Midway, they did talk about this. The decision, of course, is up to President Thieu when he makes it. It's a decision that he has to make, and it's one he will make, and I don't think there is any reluctance on his part to do it. The political future in South Viet-Nam has to be decided by the people in South Viet-Nam, and that was the discussion.

Now, we expect that there will be some proposals made by President Thieu in the near future, and we haven't seen any change of mind on his part.