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Russ want end to war in Indochina - Harriman

MOSCOW — (AP) — W. Averell Harriman came out of a Kremlin meeting today saying he is still convinced the Russians want the Indochinese war stopped. He also revealed they helped in arranging the 1968 agreement to halt United States air attacks on North Vietnam.

Harriman was President Lyndon B. Johnson's chief negotiator at the Paris peace talks. He is now retired and is in Moscow on a private visit. He made his remarks at a news conference after a meeting with Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko.

Harriman also said the Russians had helped settle the dispute over the conference table at the talks.

"They will help us if the two sides (in Vietnam) are moving in the direction of a general agreement," he added.

"They want to see the fighting stopped. They do. I've been saying it for five years now, based on a talk I

had with Premier Kosygin," Harriman said.

"The Russians would like to see the war ended. They said our relations would improve if it did and they are probably right."

He is in Moscow to introduce Senator Edmund S. Muskie, a Democratic Party presidential hopeful, to high Soviet officials. Muskie is due here tomorrow.

The Soviet ambassador to France, Valerian Zorin, told correspondents in Paris in the spring of 1969, "We helped you with the table." Zorin was referring to the 2½-month dispute over the table shape that delayed the beginning of the present round of four-sided talks in Paris.

The Soviet role in promoting the bombing halt agreement that permitted the four-party talks to get under way has been discreetly overlooked until now.