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Politics

RVN READY TO DISCUSS REDUCTION IN TEMPO OF WAR

Paris, August 23--Mr. Nguyen Trieu Dan, spokesman of the RVN delegation at the Paris talks said Thursday that the RVN is ready to discuss with the Communist side measures to reduce the present tempo of the war.

Mr. Dan made the above statement in the weekly press conference following the 31st session last August 21, when asked to comment on a rumor that debates concerning a ceasefire would take place soon.

Mr. Dan made clear that this was simply a rumor. The RVN delegation has requested the other side to clarify what they meant by the factions in Viet-Nam "when they said that the problem of various Armed Forces in SVN should be settled by various factions in Viet-Nam."

The Communists had declined to answer. "Therefore they not only refused to discuss our proposals but they did not want to make clear their stand either."

Mr. Dan remarked that this stubborn Communist attitude is the obstacle to the negotiations.

Asked about the ceasefire, the U.S. spokesman, Mr. Harold Kaplan, also said it was a groundless rumor. He pointed out, however, that the war in Viet-Nam only aims at checking Communist aggression. If this aggression ends, the war will also end.

Meanwhile, the spokesmen of the Communist side avoided answering the same question.