

DRV AND PRGRSV STATEMENTS ON "CEASE-FIRE"  
IN VIET-NAM

On October 26, 1972 Hanoi Radio broadcast a Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam statement summarizing the outcome of private discussions that had taken place in Paris, beginning on October 8, between Dr. Henry Kissinger, Assistant to the President of the United States for National Security Affairs, and Mr. Le Duc Tho, Special Advisor to the DRV's Delegation to the Paris Peace Talks. The DRV statement declared: "The main points of this agreement, which have been agreed on, are summarized as follows...." In other words the first broadcast transcribed in this issue of Principal Reports is not the complete text of a pending agreement between the DRV and the United States. It is simply the DRV's summary of a possible agreement. Therefore no attempt to analyse it is made.

The second broadcast reproduced here is Liberation Radio's English language rendition on October 28 of a statement endorsing the DRV initiative issued by the so-called Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam. As in the case of the DRV statement, the English language version is used, since it conveys the wording which the PRGRSV wished to transmit to overseas listeners. In both cases the English broadcasts have been compared with a monitor's translations of the Vietnamese broadcasts. There is no difference of substance between the two versions in either case.

The PRG's claim that "the agreement responds satisfactorily to the two basic demands set forth in the September 11, 1972 Statement of the PRGRSV" is not warranted by the formulation in Point 4 of the DRV summary. The PRG had demanded that a "three segment government of national concord" subsume the administration of the

Government of Viet-Nam, while the October 26 statement leaves the GVN full operating authority throughout most of South Viet-Nam. Additionally, Point 4 explicitly provides for international supervision of projected elections in South Viet-Nam, a proposal which the PRG had rejected in its February 2 and September 11, 1972 position papers. (For a detailed review of them see Principal Reports No. 15.)