

Peace talks—no truce in sight Big Red wiped out in wet, Tiger clash

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bombing raids to the North, halt bombing and withdraw from the country immediately. He also stated that the Saigon government was illegal.

In a rebuttal at the next meeting Harriman replied that, on the contrary, the Saigon government was legal. It had a popularly elected Chief of State and Legislature, he said, an effective armed force and a civilian administration which "represents a majority of the South Vietnamese."

Harriman added that the U.S. was determined to "preserve the right of the

South Vietnamese people to determine their own future, without outside interference or coercion."

They contended that the Americans were guilty of "aggression" and that American forces were "terrorizing the South Vietnamese."

Harriman countered by saying, "I must state that we reject your interpretation of history. North Vietnamese Military and subversive forces have no right to be in South Vietnam."

The DRV head delegate replied that Hanoi had no knowledge that soldiers from the North Vietnamese Regular Army were in South Vietnam. He dared the United States to recognize the "right to self-determination" to all Vietnamese.

The American delegation claimed it did recognize that right. Harriman continued, "We are prepared to withdraw our forces from South Vietnam as the DRV

withdraws to the north, stops the infiltration and the level of violence thus subsides."

Cycle complete

The cycle was completed when Xuan Thuy told the next meeting, "We require an unconditional cessation of the bombing and all other American acts of war."

Thus the stalemate had developed. The talks were now a routine debate. It was agreed to hold sessions only once a week, "to give adequate time to study each others statements."

By August of 1968 officials were privately conceding that North Vietnam had the advantage at the talks. They attributed it largely to mounting opposition to the war within the U.S.

The only significant concession either side made came on Oct. 9, 1968, Xuan Thuy proposed that, if the U.S. were to stop bombing the North, Hanoi would allow Saigon to participate. The Americans added to the conditions that the DMZ be respected and that southern cities not be attacked.

A week later the DRV agreed to the terms, provided that the Viet Cong governmental arm, the National Liberation Front, be accepted as a full member also.

On Oct. 31, President Johnson halted all air, naval, and artillery bombardment of North Vietnam for the tenth time since 1965.

The election of Richard M. Nixon sidelined the peace talks. Averell Harriman resigned with very little optimism that the talks would solve anything before refused for over a month to of the shape of the table.

Finally it was decided that a rectangular table would be placed on either side of the main circular one. It took 77

days to reach that decision. Henry Cabot Lodge former Ambassador to Vietnam, was appointed as Harriman's successor.

Lodge's initial statement at Paris indicated a new enthusiasm. "This is a unique moment in history," he told the session. "Today we begin the search for an honorable and enduring settlement to the conflict which divides us."

But beliefs that this enthusiasm perhaps pervaded from a new policy vanished when Lodge continued, "The U.S. government seeks no permanent establishment of troops, no permanent military bases and no permanent military alliance," he added. "We have no desire to threaten or harm the people of North Vietnam. What we do seek is a South Vietnam that is free from attacks or subversion from without."

The subsequent thirty-five weekly "plenary" meetings have accomplished very little. The first anniversary of the Paris peace talks brought to mind the futility of Panmunjom, North Korea, peace talks which were designed to end the Korean conflict.

Hedrick Smith of the New York Times reported that in the first year of the Paris negotiations there have been 175,000 combat casualties with at least 11,700 American deaths. Nearly one third of all casualties have occurred since the first peace session.

Until someone offers concessions, the peace negotiations seem headed for continued deadlock.

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Nebraskan Staff Writer
COLUMBIA, Mo. — More than 7,000 red-clad Husker fans braved monsoon-like rain and traffic jams Saturday to see another in a long line of close, hard fought Nebraska-Missouri football games.

Ever since the first clash in 1892, won by the Huskers

1-0 on a forfeit, the MU-NU series has included scores like 16-14, 10-7, 13-12 and Saturday's 17-7 victory for Missouri.

Nebraska received the opening kickoff, punted almost immediately and Missouri took over on their own 28. After a plunge into the line, MU quarterback Terry McMillan unloaded a

bomb to split end Mel Gray, who beat the Husker's Jim Anderson for a 69-yard score. The Black Shirts stiffened, however, and for most of the first half, the game consisted of bruising line play.

At halftime NU had gained only 11 net yards rushing and 66 passing.

The play that may have destroyed Nebraska's hopes for victory occurred with a minute to go in the half.

Quarterback Jerry Tagge, fading to pass, was hit by defensive end John Brown who jarred the ball loose and recovered at the seven. With 21 seconds left, McMillan passed to left end Tom Shryock for an 8-yard

Possibilities of a Husker comeback dimmed during halftime ceremonies when the sky, which looked threatening all day, suddenly drenched fans, baton twirlers, pom pom girls, the Missouri band and the playing field.

The rain slackened after halftime, and the Huskers provided their only excitement of the day. After an exchange of punts, Tagge rolled to his right looking to pitch out, but suddenly flipped the ball to halfback Jeff Kinney. The McCook sophomore outraced two Missouri defenders 77 yards to the goal line.

Missouri quickly regained any lost momentum, however, when Jon Stagger's returned the ensuing kickoff 41 yards to midfield. The Black Shirts held after a first down, but kicker Henry Brown, with the ball in the middle of the field and a strong wind at his back, scored a 48-yard field goal.

Defense again prevailed as the Cornhuskers later stopped Tiger bids at the 16 and 21 yard lines. The Big Red offense, frustrated by excellent MU punting, never threatened.

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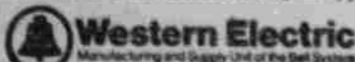
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