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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON -- Chances for an end to the fighting in Vietnam, as seen from the North Vietnamese side, will be related here tomorrow by Cyrus S. Eaton, the Cleveland industrialist who went to Hanoi on a search for peace last month.

Mr. Eaton will speak at a luncheon meeting at the National Press Club at noon tomorrow and will relate what he was told by North Vietnamese leaders. His talk is entitled, "A Capitalist's Report from Hanoi."

Mr. Eaton spent eight days in Hanoi, from December 5 through December 12. He had discussions there with Pham Van Dong, Prime Minister of North Vietnam; Le Duc Tho, who is in charge of the North Vietnam delegation to the Paris peace talks, and with Nguyen Duy Trinh, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Eaton, 86, has had a career in American business that covers many fields. At one time he headed the largest group of electrical power companies in the nation. He is the founder of a major steel company and during World War II, when iron ore was in great demand, he developed Steep Rock Iron Mines in Ontario by draining a vast lake to get to the hitherto inaccessible ore body. He is also active in the transportation and coal industries and is an active farmer and breeder of prize Shorthorn cattle and quarter-horses.

In 1957, he made it possible for leading nuclear scientists of the World to meet at Pugwash, Nova Scotia, his birthplace, for discussions on how nations could control the misuse of nuclear energy. This was the start of the world-famous Pugwash Conferences, which have contributed to the cessation of atom bomb tests and other nuclear controls. Agreements reached at Pugwash among the scientists also were reflected at the recent SALT disarmament talks at Helsinki.

Mr. Eaton is a trustee of the University of Chicago and Denison University, Granville, Ohio.

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"WHAT WE NEED is someone in Washington to end this conflict in Vietnam," warned Cyrus Eaton. "If it can't come from the executive, it must come from Congress. They control the purse strings." The 86-year-old Ohio industrialist gave his evaluation of the Vietnam situation at a Club luncheon Jan. 21. "Mrs. Eaton and I spent eight very crowded days in Hanoi," he said. "I found these people not very interested in Communism, but in nationalism. I feel they should have been supported in their convictions." He added, "They feel that the U. S. doesn't want to end the war and any small withdrawal of American troops is a tranquilizer for the American people. I tried to persuade them otherwise."

Asked about the POW problem, Eaton said, "I think they're going to change their policies," with the exchange of letters between the prisoners and their families. "I would think within 60 to 90 days something will be done." Who will succeed Ho? Eaton said, "there is at the present time complete cooperation between the three top men in the North... I found them very sharp." As for the future, he commented, "I had the pleasure of appearing here 12 years ago; I'll be back in 12 more." He concluded, "I want to devote the rest of my life to promoting peace." —George Beatty

ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP: Active—Don B. Cullimore, Outdoor America; Jacques Jacquet-Francillon, LeFigaro of Paris; Thomas D. Harmon, Publishers' Auxiliary; Donald Fraser McNeill, Canadian Broadcasting Corp.; Michael Anthony Prentice, Reuters; Kenneth E. Rankin, F-D-C Reports; Robert A. Webb, Cincinnati Enquirer; Allan William Barker, Reuters; Fred H. Zerkel, Chemical and Engineering News.

Non-Active—Thomas R. Ferrall, United States Steel; Peter Hendry, Food and Agriculture Organization.

Associate—R. L. Belzer, Rand Corp.; John W. Brennan, U. S. Savings & Loan League; Daniel T. Coughlin, Upjohn Co.; Clare C. Casey, Jr., American Trucking Association; Philip Gasteyer, Corn Refiners Association; Richard D. Jordan, Selvage Lee & Howard; Owen B. Kiernan, National Association of Secondary School Principals; Julian R. Kossow, Georgetown University; James R. Lamb, Jr., International Business Machines; Richard W. Murphy, Merck & Co.; Patrick J. Martin, Computer Symbolic, Inc.; Forrest J. Prettyman, National Trade Association; W. D. Brewer, Small Business Administration.

Associate Non-Resident—Ray W. Gillman, Hoover Worldwide Corp.

Non-Resident—Franklin R. Little, Ogdensburg, N. Y. publisher; Sal Massimino, Contractors & Engineers Magazine; Stanley Cohen, Consulting Engineer Magazine.

WITH A NEW YEAR under way this week for The Record, it's time to take one last look at what transpired in the past year. In 1969, during another 12 months of conflict and uncertainty, the Press Club again offered a platform for reasoned discussion of major foreign and domestic issues. NPC's international outlook was underscored by its first administration headed by a non-American, British-born John W. (Pat) Heffernan of Reuters news agency.

Vietnam and the Middle East provided the overriding global issues. Fresh from the Paris peace talks, W. Averell Harriman dwelt on the inferences to be drawn from the unproductive conference. Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird later stated his opposition to setting a deadline for U. S. troop withdrawals from Vietnam. On another Southeast Asian aspect, Laotian Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma assured his audience that U. S. personnel in his country were restricted to Air Force men and others needed to aid 700,000 refugees.

(Continued on next page)