

~~Top Secret~~



FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

- 1.) Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
- 2.) North Vietnamese Reflections of U S
Political Attitudes



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16

26 October 1968

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Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
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I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

The President's Press Conference: Hanoi is keeping up its barrage of propaganda attacks on the US negotiating position. Yesterday a radio commentary beamed to South Vietnamese audiences zeroed in on President Johnson's 24 October press conference. The press conference proved, said Hanoi, that the US still refuses to either stop the bombing or recognize the Liberation Front. Only when the US stops the bombing unconditionally can discussions of "substantial matters" begin, it repeated.

As for press speculation about a possible breakthrough in the talks, this was "fabricated news" and the rumors that Hanoi had accepted a number of US conditions in exchange for a bombing halt are "deceitful arguments of a psychological warfare nature aimed at sowing confusion," according to the radio commentary.

According to Hanoi radio today, Nhan Dan has come out with a similar statement.

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Haiphong Dredging:

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[Redacted] the Vietnam-
ese have four dredgers active in the harbor to remove
the silt.

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Stockholm Demonstration: A group of Americans
active in the antiwar movement will participate in
a Stockholm rally on 27 October. Their host will be
the American Deserters' Committee. The purpose of
the visit is to demonstrate support for deserters,

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to coordinate and improve deserter activities, and to counter recent signs of less lenient treatment of US deserters in Sweden.

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New Zealand Demonstrations: Antiwar demonstrations are planned for Monday in Auckland, Christchurch, and Wellington. The demonstrations are part of the world-wide week of protest. In Auckland the demonstrators plan to march on the US Consulate and deliver a letter damning the war. Wellington protesters also intend to demonstrate at the airport when Holyoake returns 31 October.

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II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL ATTITUDES ON THE WAR

"GI Protest Week": Hanoi so far has said little about the protest week organized by US antiwar groups. The first noted mention was yesterday in an international English language broadcast. This one cited the American press as the source for news on several incidents involving servicemen opposed to the war. In one such incident, an Air Force nurse allegedly passed out antiwar tracts and, in another, soldiers stationed at Ft. Lewis, Washington, are supposedly deserting to form protest groups.

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