

2

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 5-A

USA TODAY
15 January 1985

CBS consultant 'proud' of documentary

J By Bruce Frankel
Special for USA TODAY

A NEW YORK — Former CIA analyst and CBS consultant Samuel A. Adams testified Monday he was proud of a 1982 Vietnam documentary because it explained how decep-

tions by Gen. William Westmoreland helped lose the war.

In some of the most compelling testimony yet in Westmoreland's \$120 million libel suit against CBS, Adams, 51, also said he was "satisfied" the broadcast was accurate.

Westmoreland claims he

was defamed by CBS' charge that he ordered intelligence officers to minimize enemy troop strength to make it appear the U.S. was winning the war.

"We, in intelligence, I thought, had tried to fool the American public," said Adams, a defendant and CBS' first wit-

ness called. "We tried to fool the Congress and the administration ... but we ended up, I think, in fooling ourselves."

The documentary, *The Uncounted Enemy: A Vietnam Deception*, was "important" because it explained "in part how we came to lose this war," he said.

In questioning Adams, CBS lawyer David Boies gave the 12 jurors their first look at the broadcast in its entirety.

Asked why Westmoreland would deceive President Johnson, Adams said: "What was at stake was basically our policy in Vietnam. If we believed our enemy was twice as big, we had to do something about it." The choices: mobilize the reserves or begin withdrawing, he said.

Adams told the jury of a visit to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington last year.

Of the more than 45,000 Americans killed in combat whose names are engraved on the wall, Adams said he wondered "how many were killed by people who were not listed" in the official estimates CBS claimed Westmoreland altered.

"I said to myself, a third — maybe half," Adams said.