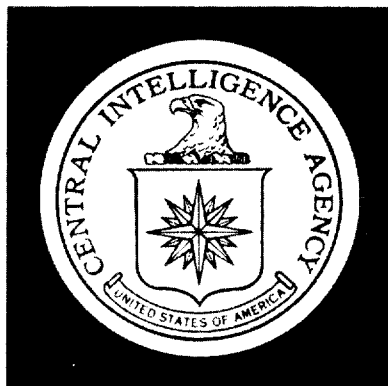


~~Top Secret~~



FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

Special Daily Report on North Vietnam

~~Top Secret~~

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25 March 1968

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I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

[Redacted content]

3.3(h)(2)

* * *

Conditions in Hanoi:

[Redacted]

3.3(h)(2)

[Redacted] that morale still appeared to be high among the inhabitants of Hanoi. [Redacted] the people

as going about their work cheerfully and their attitude toward controls as "disciplined." The Doumer bridge was still down, with no work in progress, but 20 kilometers south, a new pontoon bridge permitted a limited amount of alternating traffic to flow in both directions.

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

Communist Commentary on General Westmoreland's Transfer: Hanoi, with considerably more speed than usual, has already commented on the transfer of General Westmoreland. A Nhan Dan editorial on 24 March claimed--predictably--that the change in command was another indication of the over-all failure of US policy in Vietnam. Westmoreland's removal, said Nhan Dan, had nothing to do with his ability to command. The main thrust of the editorial was an attempt to discredit over-all US policy in Vietnam and the US President in particular.

* * *

Hanoi Notes Student Harassment of Secretary Freeman: Hanoi propaganda has picked up Western press reports of the student harassment of Secretary Freeman in Wisconsin last week. In a broadcast in English on 24 March, it described the students as "angrily protesting" and frequently interrupting the speaker. The same broadcast also cited several other expressions of antiwar feeling in the US: a letter protesting the war in the New York Times written by a "former director of the economic aid program in Vietnam, Gardner"; a New York Times interview with "four businessmen connected with the Home Trade for Peace in Vietnam Organization"; and a speech by "well-known American writer (James) Michener in Caracas"--all denouncing the US role in Vietnam.