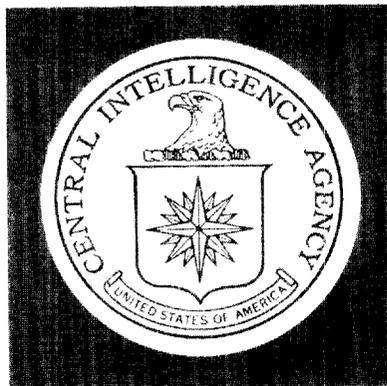


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FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

Special Daily Report on North Vietnam

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14 February 1968

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I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

Hanoi Plays Down Tet Offensive: The North Vietnamese are continuing to describe the Communist offensive in South Vietnam as part of a longer term effort.

3.3(h)(2)



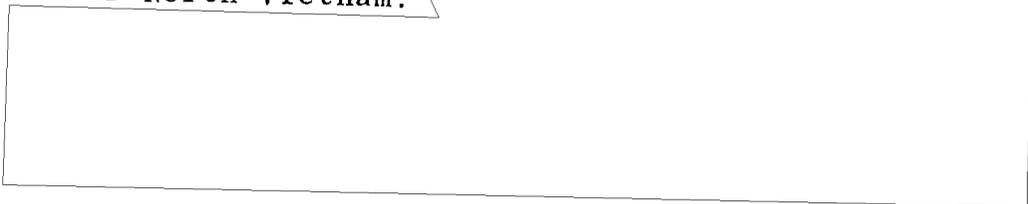
An article in the North Vietnamese party daily, Nhan Dan, on 13 February also suggested that the current fighting would not be the final Communist effort. The article referred to the fighting as "the curtain raising victories" and called it an example of "relentless fighting and of firm maintenance and development of the revolutionary struggle."

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3.3(h)(2)



Hanoi Allows Some Non-Communist Visitors: After several months of denying visas to applicants from non-Communist countries, Hanoi is apparently once again allowing selected non-Communist individuals to enter North Vietnam.



3.3(h)(2)

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Hanoi Letter to General Westmoreland: Hanoi's latest English language broadcast to US servicemen in South Vietnam took the form of an open letter to General Westmoreland. The letter ridiculed "false optimism" on the part of the General and claimed that his attitude did not fit with the fact that the situation is growing worse for the Americans in South Vietnam. The broadcast pointed out that the General's "failure and that of Washington are as clear as daylight," and that the lesson he should draw from Vietnam is that "no violence can prevail over people's war."

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Yacht Phoenix Completes Mission: The Quaker yacht Phoenix reached Hong Kong on 13 February after delivering \$6,000 worth of medical goods to North Vietnamese officials at the port of Haiphong.

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

Hanoi on Senator Kennedy's Speech: North Vietnam added a bit more to its coverage of Senator Robert Kennedy's speech last week in Chicago. In a domestic broadcast on 13 February, Hanoi quoted several sentences of the speech and added that "press circles in the US" consider Kennedy's statement a "severe criticism of Johnson's policy." Hanoi has not yet referred to the speech in its international English language broadcasts nor have the North Vietnamese provided any independent comment on it.



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