

US. Sends

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A Warning

To Hanoi

Washington

The United States sent a note to Hanoi yesterday warning North Vietnam "it should have no doubt that it will be held responsible" unless a cease-fire is agreed to immediately.

The note talked of the high hopes held after the 1973 Paris accords and noted: "Tragically, these hopes and expectations have been shattered by the Democratic Republic of Vietnam's (North Vietnam) total violation of these accords."

The note said the current North Vietnamese offensive is in total violation of the agreements and has produced "a human flight of refugees which is of historic proportions."

The note goes on to say, "We believe the suffering of the South Vietnamese people must be ended and must be ended now."

The note called for an immediate end to the military offensive and warned there should be no doubt about the consequences if the fighting continues. The State Department, however, gave no indication of how this warning would be carried out.

In the meantime, State Department officials declined to discuss any diplomatic activity aimed at arranging a cease-fire or more general Vietnam settlement.

The note to North Vietnam parallels notes sent to the Soviet Union, China, Britain and other countries which signed the Paris agreements. That note, which was issued Thursday, called on the signatories to use their influence to end the North Vietnam offensive.

Associated Press