

see Post 7/25/71

25' 602 70

Soviets Mum on National Review Hoax

MOSCOW, July 24 (AP)—A Soviet newspaper and the government news agency have carried stories on the National Review report last last week about "secret" Pentagon documents, but so far Soviet readers have not been told that the report was a hoax.

A day after National Review editor William F. Buckley Jr. declared the "secret" U.S. government documents published by his magazine were written by his staff, the Soviet Defense Ministry newspaper Red

Star carried a lengthy report on the "Vietnam plans."

Under the headline "Horrible Plans," the newspaper reported much of the National Review article, stressing the discussion on contingency plans for the use of nuclear devices.

Buckley's acknowledgement of the hoax came only a few hours before the newspaper appeared on the news stands in Moscow. The Soviet news agency Tass also carried a report in its international and

domestic service on the National Review documents.

Neither Red Star nor Tass has reported that the documents were a spoof.

Westerners feel that the So-

viet media does not want to admit being fooled by the National Review hoax or has decided to let the report stand as another step in the continuing propaganda war against "American imperialism."

687,834 Hold Pentagon Clearance

WASHINGTON, July 24 (AP)—A total of 687,834 persons hold top secret security clearance, the Pentagon says. They include civilian and military personnel in the services

and the Defense Department, consultants to the Pentagon, and employees of private business firms performing classified contracts.