

# Pentagon Papers-- 'Link to Attack'

## Los Angeles

A high-ranking Army staff official testified yesterday that release of the Pentagon Papers could have helped the North Vietnamese plan a 1972 attack against South Vietnam.

The statement by Army Lieutenant General William DePuy was the first point in the trial of Daniel Ellsberg and Anthony Russo at which anyone claimed the release of the documents may have done harm.

The government prosecutor, Assistant U.S. Attorney David Nissen, asked DePuy "what use" could have been

made of the top secret study on the Vietnam war if it had been turned over to a foreign nation in 1969. Ellsberg and Russo are said to have copied the documents in 1969.

"This document," said DePuy, referring to a section dealing with the 1968 Tet offensive, "is an unusual one in that it is a report and assessment . . . of the North Vietnamese attack in some detail by the senior uniformed official in the United States . . ." He referred to the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Earl Wheeler.

*Associated Press*