

Effect on Genetics Claimed

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SPC

Hanoi's Charge on U.S. Defoliants

Tokyo

North Vietnam said yesterday that defoliants dumped by United States aircraft in South Vietnam have caused millions of people to suffer the same fate as victims of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki

atomic blasts in World War II.

Hanoi's Vietnam News Agency said in a broadcast dispatch that medical studies have revealed the defoliants "provide important cosmic alterations in the local population."

"Clinically, there have been many miscarriages, congenital anomalies and frequent monstrosities," it said.

"The victims of toxic chemicals sprayed by the Americans, numbering by the millions, are condemned to the same fate as the sur-

vivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic tragedy."

It added that the defoliants' effects on genetics constitute "an aggression not only against the present day life of the Vietnamese people, but also against their future."

Associated Press