

# U.S. Group Asserts Vietcong Are Giving Amnesty to Ex-Foes

By IVER PETERSON

A group of Americans seeking to end the fighting in South Vietnam reported yesterday that Vietcong representatives in Paris had told them that the Communists were following a policy of "general amnesty" toward those with anti-Communist connections in areas they now occupy in South Vietnam.

The group, which included a Congressman and several anti-war activists, said on their return from Paris that Dinh Ba Thi, head of the Vietcong's delegation in Paris, had assured them that the amnesty policy applied "even with regard to those who have been involved in the C.I.A. Phoenix program," which was designed to eliminate Communist agents.

"The only question in their treatment is whether they renounce their past," Mr. Thi was quoting as having said.

During a two-and-a-half-day visit to Paris, the group said they met with representatives of the Saigon Government, with North Vietnamese officials and with members of neutralist Buddhist, student and intellectual groups.

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In a statement read at John F. Kennedy Airport, the group asserted that peace could be achieved in the South provided a Saigon government without President Nguyen Van Thieu at its head cooperated with the Communists on formation of a government of national reconciliation and concord.

The group appealed for "medical aid and food, not military aid" to the South for relief of refugees. They repeated a warning from Mr. Thi, the Vietcong delegate, that sending United States marines to help evacuate Americans from the South would constitute a "threat" and would be unnecessary, since the Vietcong have pledged to protect foreigners.

The group of six consisted of Representative Edward W. Pattison, Democrat of Troy, N.Y.; the Rev. Sterling Cary, president of the National Council of Churches; Cora Weiss of Clergy and Laity Concerned and of Women Strike for Peace; Gareth Porter, co-director of the Indochina Resources Center of Washington, D.C.; Edward Snyder of Washington, head of the Friends Committee on National Legislation, and Prof. Grace Paley of Sarah Lawrence College, representing the War Resisters League.