

Hanoi Assurance Of No Bloodbath

Hong Kong

North Vietnam asserted yesterday that Vietnamese who worked for the United States have nothing to fear "if they really want to return to an honest life."

A foreign ministry note to the United States, made public here by the North Vietnamese press agency, declared:

"The Vietnamese people have no interest in maltreating their fellow countrymen, who, after going astray, sincerely repent their past mistakes."

The note, sent in response to a U.S. State Department note last Thursday, emphatically denied American allegations that Hanoi had violated the Paris agreement on Vietnam, countercharging instead that the accords had been "sabotaged" by Washington.

The Foreign Ministry note sought to assure the United States on the two issues that most concern Americans today: Evacuation of U.S. citizens and the possibility of a bloodbath after the Communists takeover.

If the United States really wants to bring its men home, h notete said, "It can do so right now. There is no difficulty orobstacle."

New York Times