

## Hanoi Bars a Search for G.I.'s Unless U.S. Gives Postwar Aid

BANGKOK, Thailand, June 11 (UPI)—North Vietnam said today there could be no search for the more than 2,000 missing and dead Americans in Indochina unless the United States provided postwar aid to North and South Vietnam. It said it was ready to discuss the issue with the United States.

The statement was in a commentary in the North Vietnamese Communist party newspaper Nhan Dhan broadcast by Radio Hanoi and monitored here. United States officials here said that it was the first time they had known the North Vietnamese to link the two subjects so directly.

After accusing the United States of continued "crimes" against the Vietnamese people, Nhan Dhan said: "We demand that the United States seriously implement the spirit of Article 21 of the [1973 Paris] agreement concerning the United States obligation to contribute to healing the wounds of war caused by the criminal U.S. war of aggression."

Although Article 21 calls for American postwar assistance in Vietnam, Secretary of State Kissinger and other United States officials have frequently said that the United States was not obligated to carry it out because North Vietnam violated the agreement between the 1973 cease-fire and the fall of Saigon on April 30.

"At present, the war has completely ended and real peace has been reached throughout Vietnam," Nhan Dhan said. "This situation has created conditions for resolving problems of the consequences of war between Vietnam and the United States, such as the United States contribution to healing the wounds of war in both parts of Vietnam, the search for U.S. M.I.A.'s [Mis-

sing-in-action]; and the exhumation and repatriation of the remains of Americans who died in Vietnam."

United States authorities list about 965 American servicemen and civilians missing in Indochina as well as about 1,100 others declared legally dead but whose bodies have not been recovered.

A special military unit, the Joint Casualty Resolution Center, was set up at the time of the Vietnam cease-fire to search for missing Americans in Indochina.

The unit was able to locate some bodies in South Vietnam, but its operations there were sharply curtailed when an unarmed American officer on a search operation was killed in an ambush in 1973. The search came to a halt when the Saigon Government fell.

North Vietnamese authorities blocked any attempts to recover bodies in their country except for a few war prisoners who died in prison camps that were turned over to United States military representatives. No operations of any consequence have been conducted in Cambodia or Laos.