

U.S. Union Officials On Peace Mission Welcomed in Hanoi

The writer of the following dispatch is a freelance journalist who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1970 for his disclosure of the Mylai massacre.

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HANOI, North Vietnam, March 17 — Three American labor leaders were greeted with bouquets today on their arrival to begin a one-week visit whose aim is, in the words of one, "to do what we can to see an end to this immoral and senseless war."

David Livingston of New York, president of District 65, Distributive Workers of America, added: "We believe that the Vietnamese want an end to the war. We hope this trip will confirm our feeling that the Vietnamese are prepared to end this war on a reasonable basis."

Mr. Livingston arrived along with Harold Gibbon of St. Louis, vice president of the Teamsters Union, and Clifton Caldwell of Boston, vice president of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America.

They were greeted by a flower-laden delegation headed by Le Van, a member of the secretariat of the North Vietnamese Federation of Trade Unions. Tom Glennon, an aide to Mr. Livingston, said the visit was the first ever made by American labor leader to North Vietnam.

During a brief interview the Americans said they were traveling with the full support of their union memberships. There are two million members in the Teamsters Union, 550,000 in the meat cutters' union and 50,000 members of District 65 of the Distributive Union.