

## He's Undismayed

# Westy Sees Red Offensive for Tet

SAIGON — (UPI) — Gen. William C. Westmoreland, U.S. Army chief of staff, said today an expected Communist offensive probably will begin next month and will be large compared with the past couple of years, but small compared with the 1968 Tet offensive.

Westmoreland told a news conference at the end of a one-week tour of Vietnam, including a six-hour visit to Cambodia, that he was confident the Allies could handle it because they are stronger now and the guerrillas are weaker than in 1968.

### Four Years

The general was U.S. Commander in Vietnam from 1964 to 1968.

"It would seem the enemy is preparing himself for a major offensive," he said, "in the northern region (of South Vietnam) and the (central) highlands area.

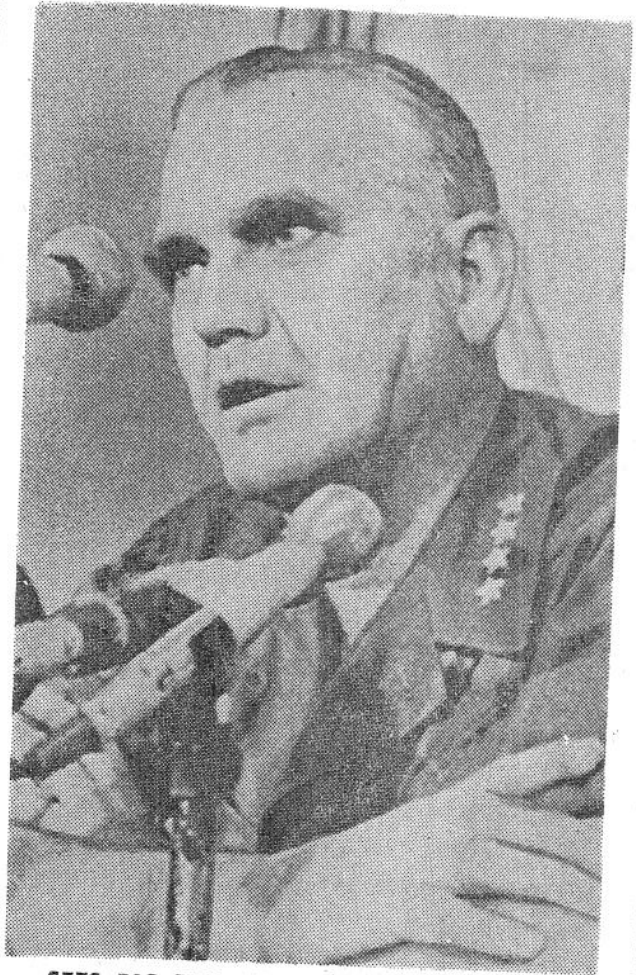
"Vietnamese officials and their American counterparts have a great deal of confidence they can handle any forthcoming enemy initiative," Westmoreland said. "I share this confidence."

"I'm told this offensive will take place some time during February."

### Nixon Trip

Asked if the offensive would be timed to embarrass President Nixon during his Feb. 21 trip to Peking, Westmoreland said, "I think it's quite likely that will be the case."

But pressed on how this would embarrass Nixon, the chief of staff said, "I'm in no position to judge a matter of that type; that's a political question."



**SEES BIG RED ATTACK COMING SOON**  
General Westmoreland at news conference in Saigon  
—UPI Photo