

Hanoi Drills For Attack, But Is Calm

HANOI, North Vietnam, April 6 (Agence France-Presse) — Alarm bells rang for an air raid practice here today, sending factory workers to stations on the roofs where they took up positions behind heavy machine guns.

The atmosphere in Hanoi was calm, and only children on their way to school stopped to watch the activity. Adult passers-by, faces impassive, continued on their way after glancing at the military preparations.

Workers detailed for anti-aircraft gunnery duty passed boxes, hand to hand. Army officers supervised the exercise and, at the word of the local commander, the teams trained their guns on a target sector.

In the street, other workers were preparing to defend their factories with light infantry weapons. The whole exercise was completed in minutes.

News of the North Vietnamese offensive in the South is awaited avidly here. Although Hanoi has officially said that the offensive is being conducted by South Vietnamese liberation forces, every family has at least one relative in some cases several, at the front. There is a general air of confidence in the capital that this battle may be the last.

Tell of Agents' Role

Informed sources here said today that special Communist propaganda agents, who slipped into South Vietnamese military units in recent months, had played a key role in the success of the current offensive.

The sources said that the success of the offensive depended mainly on maximum mobilization of the populations in the zones under Saigon's control.

In the country towns, the underground organization of the National Liberation Front comes out into the open when the Communist troops arrive, the sources said. The entire operation, they said, thus depends on close coordination between the troops and the population.

The Front is broadcasting constant messages to the Saigon troops and administrative personnel. Government soldiers are told to indicate their desire to surrender by walking toward the Communist lines with their rifles in the air. Helicopters, the broadcasts say, should carry colored cloths as they land in Communist-held territory, while tanks should approach with their guns skyward.

Report 2 Refusals to Fight

The Communist appeal said: "Contact us by radio or send us liaison agents. The people await you and you will be welcomed. Those of you who wish to return to your homes can do so."

Meanwhile, the North Vietnamese Army newspaper Quan Doi Nhan Dhan asserted today that an antiwar movement had begun among South Vietnamese troops. In Tayninh Province, northwest of Saigon, the paper said, two units, identified as the First Squadron of the 18th Armored regiment and the First Battalion of the 25th Infantry Regiment, had refused orders to fight.