

Soviet Press Assails Bombing of Vietnam

Moscow

The Soviet news agency Tass and the Communist party newspaper Pravda called the United States Vietnamization program a failure yesterday and lashed out at the intensified American bombing of North Vietnam.

"Vietnamization cannot change the course of the war," a Tass commentator and Pravda said. "The masterminds of the Vietnam adventure should not forget that the Vietnamese people have loyal, reliable allies."

Tass complained of what it called "the biggest U.S. B-52 bomber force for all the period of the war," which together with the Navy "bomb, shell and strafe North Vietnamese territory, killing civilians indiscriminately."

The Tass commentator said there has been a switch from Vietnamization back to

Americanization in the war.

The news agency maintained that the United States is not "winding down" the war but only "winding down the chances for reaching a peace settlement of the Vietnam problem at the Paris peace talks."

Pravda said it is convinced that the Pentagon is using "its airpower and other armed forces as a trump card in order to weaken the resistance of the Vietnamese people, to supply crutches to its Saigon puppets and secure success for its ill-starred Vietnamization program."

"The Soviet people," Pravda added, "regard aid to the courageous people of Vietnam, the patriots of Laos and Cambodia as their sacred internationalist duty and nothing will stop them from fulfilling this duty in full."

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