
'Bad Faith' by Hanoi Charged

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The United States accused North Vietnam today of "a sign of bad faith" in launching a further offensive while U.S. envoys were preparing to return to the Paris peace talks.

Referring particularly to the new Communist assault against Quang Tri, a South Vietnamese city just below the Demilitarized Zone dividing the two Vietnams, and to other North Vietnamese actions, U.S. State Department spokesman Robert McCloskey said:

Under the Gun

"Put together, one can say no less than this is a sign of bad faith, that in our judgment it is outrageous, particularly in light of the continuing public pressure that they (the enemy) were engaged in pressing for the U.S. return to the conference forum."

"How can North Vietnam expect discussions to get anywhere under these circumstances, virtually at the point of the gun?" the U.S. spokesman said.

McCloskey set forth the U.S. views in remarks understood to have White House approval. The State Department spokesman spoke after Hanoi's rebuff of the U.S. position at the Paris conference which President Nixon had ordered resumed.

Present Tactic

McCloskey declined to say just how long U.S. envoys would remain at the Paris sessions if Hanoi sticks to its present tactic.

In announcing a further U.S. troop pullback from South Vietnam, 20,000 men over the next two months, Nixon said also that U.S. bombing of North Vietnam would continue "until the North Vietnamese stop their offensive in South Vietnam."
