

NYTimes MAR 9 1974
**U.S. Envoy in Saigon Charges
Times Article Was Inaccurate**

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, March 8—Graham A. Martin, the United States Ambassador in South Vietnam, has complained to the State Department that an article in New York Times on continued American involvement in Vietnam "contains numerous inaccuracies and half-truths."

In a lengthy cablegram made available to The Times in Washington, Mr. Martin took strong issue with a survey article that was written by David K. Shipler of The Times Saigon bureau and published on Feb. 25.

Mr. Shipler wrote, in summary, that American military aid to the Saigon Government "continues to set the course of the war more than a year after the signing of the Paris peace agreements and the final withdrawal of American troops."

"Whether the United States is breaking the letter of the agreements could probably be argued either way," Mr. Shipler wrote. "But certainly the aid directly supports South Vietnamese violations and so breaks the spirit of the accords."

Hanoi Campaign Seen

In a preface to a paragraph-by-paragraph rebuttal of Mr. Shipler's article, Ambassador Martin said that Hanoi was planning an all-out campaign to persuade Congress to cut aid to Saigon and that efforts would be made "to bring influence to bear on selective susceptible but influential elements of American communications media."

As an example of his objections, Mr. Martin noted that Mr. Shipler had referred to Saigon's violations of the cease-fire accord.

"This is a classic," Mr. Martin said. "Shipler categorically postulates 'South Vietnamese violations' without presenting a shred of evidence, and alleges American military aid 'directly supports' such violations which thereby 'breaks the spirit of the accords.'"

"It is quite true that to Hanoi 'the spirit of the accords' was that the Americans would deliver South Vietnam bound

hand and foot into their hands," the Ambassador said. "Fortunately, only a handful of Americans would agree with that interpretation of the 'spirit of the accords.'"

Mr. Martin acknowledged in his cablegram that he and Maj. Gen. John E. Murray, the embassy's defense attaché, had refused to meet with Mr. Shipler while he was preparing his article because "to do so would permit their own reputations for integrity to be used as a platform for promoting a campaign to grossly deceive the American Congress and the American people."

"In summary, Mr. Martin said, "the Shipler article was obviously not written to inform New York Times readers but to give a slanted impression that the United States and South Vietnam are grossly violating the cease-fire agreement."

"It deliberately omits or treats skeptically the flagrant Communist violations of the Paris accords, all of which have been pointed out repeatedly to Shipler and The New York Times Saigon Bureau by United States and South Vietnamese officials."

Mr. Martin invited Secretary of State Kissinger or Secretary of Defense James R. Schlesinger to release his cablegram to the Columbia School of Journalism to expose "propaganda under the guise of 'investigative reporting' rather than a responsible journalistic effort."

Beame Names McDonnell To City Bargaining Board

Vincent D. McDonnell, chairman of the State Mediation Board, was named Thursday by Mayor Beame as a member of the city's Board of Collective Bargaining. He will still retain his chairmanship on the state board.

Mr. McDonnell, who will serve as one of the two city members on the seven-member board, will replace John H. Mortimer, vice president for labor relations of The New York Times. Members of the board are unsalaried.