

## Paris Demonstration

# Viet Cong Petitioned on POWs

### Paris

A five-member delegation from San Diego, Calif., rolled out two half-mile-long petitions outside the Viet Cong's Paris headquarters yesterday to climax their campaign in behalf of United States war prisoners.

Wearing striped prisoners' uniforms, they unrolled the petitions on the pavement, while a woman dumped a bag of mail in front of the tightly closed gate of the Viet Cong negotiators' residence.

The delegation said the pe

titions carried thousands of signatures, and the bag was but a symbol for the 12 tons of mail which they had brought to Paris. The messages ask for more information about American prisoners and for humane treatment for them.

The members of the delegation were Peter Nasmyth, Joe McCain, Bel Stewart, Lee Dinapoli and Denise Evers. On Saturday, the North Vietnamese legation refused to accept 50 bags of mail from them.

McCain, son of Admiral

John S. McCain Jr., commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific, said that while the delegation was unrolling the petitions, six Frenchmen came out of the Viet Cong headquarters and asked them to go away.

"We told them we were not terrorists, and that we came with peaceful purposes, but they refused to talk to us and only asked the police to arrest us," McCain said. French police came, and asked the delegation to clear the way.

The delegation left after 15

minutes, but they said they would continue to press the prisoner issue — and "closed doors will not stop us."

They said they wanted the Viet Cong to announce the number of American prisoners held in camps in South Vietnam.

McCain said that before coming to Paris, the delegation had visited Sweden and Switzerland to ask their foreign ministries to press the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong for better POW treatment.

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