

1

**TOP HANOI AIDE DUE
TO HEAD PARIS TEAM**

PARIS, June 23 (Reuters)—
A senior North Vietnamese leader Le Duc Tho, is returning to Paris to head Hanoi's negotiating team in the peace talks here, the North Vietnamese delegation said today.

Mr. Tho, who has been away from the talks for a year, is due here tomorrow. As a member of the ruling Politburo, he outranks Hanoi's chief negotiator, Xuan Thuy, and for that reason his impending arrival here is giving rise to speculation that North Vietnam might be planning to shift its negotiating tactics.

Mr. Tho has been very intimately concerned with matters dealing with South Vietnam.

The North Vietnamese delegation declined to make any comment on the return of Mr. Tho, who is 59 years old, other than to say he is special counselor to Mr. Thuy.