

HANOI COMPLAINT ON P.O.W.'S CITED

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Charge of Propaganda by
Freed Men Is Reported
NYTimes

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WASHINGTON, May 4 — Harold Gibbons, vice president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, said today that North Vietnamese leaders had told him during a recent visit to Hanoi that releases of American prisoners had been stopped because three servicemen who had been released were used for propaganda.

Mr. Gibbons, who was in North Vietnam late in March, said here today that Communist officials felt that three prisoners released in the fall of 1969 had been used by the Pentagon for propaganda tours. He said that if the North Vietnamese felt this would not happen again, they might release more prisoners.

Mr. Gibbons discussed the matter at a news conference here in which it was announced

that as a result of his visit, about 200 foreign-language text books were being sent to American prisoners in North Vietnam.

Mrs. Evelyn F. Grubb, coordinator of the National League of Families of American prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia, praised the North Vietnamese for agreeing to accept the books, which were sent from New York today. "We hope this will be only the first in a series of new overtures on he part of the North Vietnamese improved humanitarian standards of treatment for the prisoners," she said.

Books Were Requested

Mr. Gibbons said that while he was in North Vietnam he met with two American prisoners who told him they would like the books to learn various foreign languages while in the prison camps.

Mr. Grubb said that the book which provides courses in French, Spanish, Russian, Italian and German, had been made available without charge by several textbook companies and that shipment of the books had also been provided free of charge by two airlines.