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Hanoi Says Dikes Are Bombed; 2 Top Pentagon Aides Deny It

By JOHN L. HESS

Special to The New York Times

PARIS, June 8—North Vietnam charged today that the United States had been intentionally and heavily bombing its dikes, an action that could provoke major floods in its most populous rural areas.

The North Vietnamese mission to the suspended peace talks here listed eight sectors where it alleged that heavy bombs and naval artillery had damaged dikes, dams and locks in repeated attacks from April 10 to May 24. It also reported nine bombing raids asserted to have struck schools and killed scores of children.

Referring to President Nixon's visit to a cemetery in Leningrad where he met a war orphan named Tanya, a spokesman for Hanoi said, "North Vietnam has many Tanyas."

The spokesman, Nguyen Thanh Le, also indicated at a news conference that Senator George McGovern would be welcome to come to Hanoi, as he offered yesterday to do if elected President.

Asked about such a visit, Mr. Le said that, in the first place, Hanoi wanted President Nixon to reply positively to the Communist peace proposals, and, secondly, was happy at all times to receive Americans who seek peace.

If Mr. Nixon were ready to negotiate, the Paris peace conference could "register important progress in 24 hours," he said. But he told another questioner that there had been no contact with the Americans since they broke off the talks four weeks ago.

A statement by the North Vietnamese delegation said that American planes had conducted 42 raids and dropped 580 bombs on the dikes and waterworks of the Red River and other streams up to May 24. It added that ships of the Seventh Fleet had fired 500 shells on coastal dikes of Hai-hau district, about 70 miles southeast of Hanoi.

Yves Lacoste, a geographer at the University of Vincennes, warned in an article in the newspaper, *Le Monde*, this week that the bombings might have so weakened the dikes that a

major catastrophe could occur in the flood season, which begins in July.

Mr. Le, who appeared to agree, said that as a result of a major dike-building program, the country could "cope with any natural situation" and was now "doing all it can to bandage the wounds and strengthen the dams and dikes."

"But if Nixon continues," he said, "he must shoulder the responsibility. For our part, we'll continue our resistance, and it is to be foreseen that he'll meet worse defeats than before."

The Vietcong press agency here, meanwhile, made public an appeal to the United States Congress bearing the names of 15 American servicemen described as prisoners in South Vietnam. The appeal described the Vietnam war as "a mistake," defended the courage and honor of their captors and urged Congress to force the

Administration to negotiate peace.

The alleged signers, in the order given, were:

Capt. Harold Kushner, M.D.; Warrant Officer Frank G. Anton, Sgt. Jon Robert Cayiani, Specialist 4 John A. Young and Pfc. King D. Rayford. Also Lance Cpl. Frederick L. Elbert Jr., Pfc. John G. Sparks, Sgt. Jose Jesus Anzaldua Jr., First Lieut. Richard C. Anshus and Warrant Officer David W. Sooter.

Also Cpl. Alfonso Ray Riate, Specialist 4 Robert P. Chenoweth, Pfc. James A. Daly, Pfc. Don A. Mac Phail and Pfc. Abel L. Avannah. Dates of capture listed ranged from Feb. 17, 1967, to June 4, 1971.

The Vietcong asserted that there had been a massacre of the population of Konghring, in Kontum Province, by air raids on May 25. It said that many children and wounded South Vietnamese prisoners had been

killed in a large Belgian convent-orphanage and hospital.

Bombing of Dikes Denied

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, June 8—Two high-ranking military officials denied today that the North Vietnamese dikes had been targets of the bombing campaign.

Vice Adm. William P. Mack, who commanded the Seventh Fleet until two weeks ago, told reporters that the dikes were not among the targets struck by Navy and Air Force bombers.

The Seventh Fleet is stationed off Vietnam. Admiral Mack has been designated the new superintendent of the United States Naval Academy.

In an afternoon briefing, Lieut. Gen. George J. Eade of the Air Force also denied that the dikes had been hit.

"We haven't targeted any dikes," General Eade said in a review of the bombing campaign. He also said that he was not aware of any dikes struck by accident.

General Eade is the Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Operations.

Regarding the reported attack on Konghring, Defense Department officials said that there would be no comment. A spokesman said that all reports of alleged massacres were routinely investigated by the military.