

War Tide and Nixon's Chances

by Samuel Lubell
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Of all the psychological victories scored by Richard Nixon this year, none has been more far-reaching than his gaining a free hand to resist pressures for quick withdrawal from Vietnam. If I read ^{correctly} my interviews of recent months, the public in the main is ready to:

Chalk off expectations that we will be out by election time.

Continue to "bomb them into giving up."

Stay in Vietnam past the election to give Nixon time for a settlement which many voters say openly will "save face."

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Two factors are worth noting:

First, much of Nixon's current war support reflects a demand for a military victory and even to destroy the enemy. A conciliatory election eve settlement might be resented as a cynical sell-out.

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Second, more significant, is what may happen if, despite all the bombing, the North Vietnamese simply refuse to yield.

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