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4 More War Years

Hanoi Sees Nixon Victory on Nov. 7

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By Peter Arnett

HANOI — (AP) — President Nixon will probably be re-elected in November, so even though North Vietnam would like peace it has no choice but to prepare for four more years of war, said the editor of Hanoi's Communist Party newspaper Nhan Dan.

Hoang Tung also told four visiting American antiwar activists — Cora Weiss, David Dellinger, Prof. Richard Falk and the Rev. William Sloane Coffin — and this reporter — that North Vietnam believes it has beaten the American air and naval blockade aimed at cutting off armaments and fuel for front line troops, "and we can accomplish our objectives."

Tung said, "We can hardly believe the war will end. After 17 private meetings, Kissinger has shown no sign that Nixon is changing. The possibility for peace is greater now but if Nixon does not meet with difficulties in the coming election he will not accept a solution."

Summits

Nixon's strength, Tung believes, "is in his incumbency and his dramatic visits to Peking and Moscow."

He added, "With these two strong points, Nixon has refused to accept a solution to the war. I don't think progressive forces in America can change the situation now."

The ideal political scenario for the North Vietnamese, Tung said, would have Nixon "defeated."

"On Jan. 20, when McGovern enters the White House, we shall release the first series of U.S. prisoners. Within 90 days, the two sides would have solved problems and the last prisoner will leave Hanoi for home."

But even with McGovern losing, Tung said, "his movement will have support in future. Nixon can win for only four years and Agnew won't take over."

Demos in 1976

"The Democratic candidate will learn from McGovern and win in 1976."

Because of this, "the best way is for us to prepare for more war. If Nixon does not end the war, the struggle will have to continue."

Tung admitted that the escalated naval and air war has created difficulties.

"We could have accomplished our goals in April this year had not Mr. Nixon re-Americanized the war with his navy and air force. Because the war was re-Americanized, we were unable to drive ahead."

Tung claimed, however, that "in recent months our fighting forces have faced great tests and we are now

in a position to smash the puppet army, as we were in April.

Supplies

The air war and naval blockade have "created difficulties in terms of how to transfer supplies to thousands of our soldiers fighting in the front line. But we have been able to accomplish our objectives," he said.

"Laird said we would be exhausted in July, but today it is September and the fight continues. It proves we have made enormous efforts with spirit and courage," he said.

One of Nixon's purposes, Tung claimed, was to destroy economic structures.

"On these terms we have had losses and if the war continues for four more years we will have still more difficulties," Tung said.

But Tung expressed confidence North Vietnam could maintain its fighting pace.

Good Harvest

"We have been fighting almost on our own economy and we have had a very good harvest this year," Tung said.

Vietnam needed little food from outside, but was dependent on outside aid for weaponry and fuel, he said.

"We have plenty of manpower. That is what is important."

After 30 years of war you can still see many children playing on the streets."

Tung said North Vietnam expected no letup in aid from socialist nations.

"This is a revolution supported by everybody and socialist countries cannot help but support us," Tung asserted.

His leaders he said "will persist in negotiations with Nixon because we want to end the war with him just as we have tried with successive American Presidents."