

U.S. Doctors To Hanoi for Senate Panel

WASHINGTON (AP) — Five U.S. physicians will leave for Hanoi Wednesday under the auspices of a Senate subcommittee to study the immediate and long-range relief needs of war victims.

Dale S. DeHaan, counsel for the Judiciary Subcommittee on Refugees, said Saturday that the Senate panel had been invited by North Vietnam to send a group of doctors and that the medical men would leave for Hanoi after Tuesday's election.

The invitation by North Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh was sent through private channels to Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., chairman of the subcommittee, DeHaan said.

Physicians on the team are Nevin Scrimshaw, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Joseph English, president, Hospital Corp. of New York City; David French, Boston University; John Levinson, Wilmington, Del., and Michael Halberstam, Washington, D.C.

DeHaan, who will accompany the group, said the doctors will visit Cambodia in response to an official invitation and also South Vietnam and Laos, in addition to North Vietnam.

Their main objective, DeHaan said, is to gather information on the human needs of war victims and the need for postwar rehabilitation and reconstruction throughout Indochina.

The team will seek detailed information on the identities and condition of U.S. servicemen held in North Vietnam, he added.

French, 48, head of the Boston University Community Medicine Program and a trained pediatric surgeon, said the general purpose of the trip is to "review the general health and environmental programs with an eye toward restoration after the war."

He said he expected "fuller details would be discussed Wednesday before the group left."