

McCloskey

Plans Trip To Hanoi

SFChronicle

Congressman Paul McCloskey (Rep-San Jose) announced yesterday he plans to go to Hanoi to view for himself the results of American bombing there.

The maverick Republican made his announcement in a letter to President Nixon.

"It is my intention to go to Hanoi as soon as the necessary visas can be obtained from the State Department, and to report back to the Congress when we reconvene January 3," he wrote.

Should the State Department grant him such a visa, McCloskey would be the first elected American official to visit the North Vietnamese capital.

McCloskey, who challenged Mr. Nixon for the Republican presidential nomination in the New Hampshire primary last March, wrote the President:

"I want to express my sadness and regret that you have chosen to resume the bombing of the populated areas of North Vietnam.

"It seems apparent that such bombing cannot be considered as protective of American lives. In fact, from what we can learn from those news sources not restricted by your recent order, the lives of American

prisoners of war in North Vietnam are in grave jeopardy, and some may have already died under U.S. bombs.

"In visiting Hanoi, I will . . . seek to ascertain the extent of bombing in populated areas.

"If the Pentagon's statements (that only military targets are being hit) are truthful, then, of course, there will be no risk or danger."

McCloskey was recently re-elected to a third full term in Congress from the newly formed 17th Congressional District, which includes parts of San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.