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Bonn Offers Postwar Aid To Vietnam

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BONN, Jan. 18—Chancellor Willy Brandt expressed hope today that the Vietnam war will be ended soon and pledged that West Germany will "help in rebuilding this tormented and devastated country, when at last the guns will be silent."

Brandt's statement on Vietnam took up only two paragraphs of his 90-minute speech to Parliament outlining his government's program during his second term as chancellor. But the fact that he included it near the very beginning underscored the degree to which U.S. policy in Vietnam has become a political problem and embarrassment for Brandt.

Since President Nixon's bombing campaign last month against North Vietnam, Brandt has come under heavy pressure from the left wing of his Social Democratic Party, and from many other segments of West German society, to speak out against the bombing.

The party's left-leaning youth wing, the Young Socialists, have been especially harsh in their criticism, at one point publicly denouncing Brandt as a "stooge" of Mr. Nixon. Many other prominent people here have suggested that Brandt, a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, has a moral obligation to use his influence and challenge U.S. bombing of North Vietnam.

However, the chancellor has refused to bow to this pressure on the grounds that it would not help to deter Mr. Nixon from his course and would place relations between Washington and Bonn under a strain.

Instead, Brandt has preferred a resort to behind-the-scenes diplomacy, aimed at discreetly warning the Nixon administration of the damage that the bombing has done to the U.S. image in this country.