

## U.S. Anger Over P.O.W.'s Imperils Aid, Brooke Says

NYTimes APR 6 1973  
Special to The New York Times

VIENTIANE, Laos, April 5—  
Senator Edward W. Brooke, who is on a tour of Indochina, said today that the anger in the United States over mistreatment of prisoners of war by the Communists could jeopardize future aid to North Vietnam and to other countries of Indochina.

Mr. Brooke, a Massachusetts Republican, is touring Indochina as a member of the foreign operations subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee. He is trying to gather information on the area's reconstruction requirements. The Senator arrived here today from Cambodia for a three-day visit.

"I have no independent knowledge that the American prisoners of war were tortured," he said, "but I can certainly understand public feelings about this."

In deciding on aid to Hanoi, Mr. Brooke continued, "I would hope that success of the cease-fire and the generation of peace to which we are committed will also be considered."

Mr. Brooke was to dine tonight with the Laotian Premier, Prince Souvanna Phouma, and was scheduled to tour Laotian refugee installations tomorrow.

He is also seeking to go to North Vietnam, and if a visa is granted he will fly to Hanoi Saturday.