

Sen. Brooke Raps State Dept. Slip

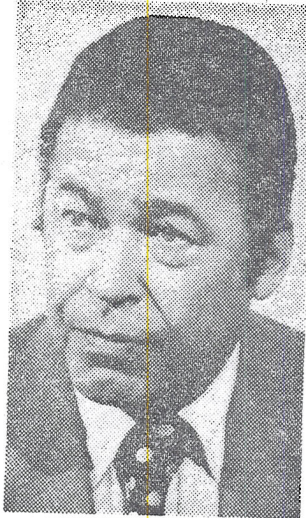
Senator Edward Brooke, here last night on his way back from a fact-finding tour of Southeast Asia, said his failure to visit Hanoi is partly the fault of the State Department for not forwarding his visa request on time.

"I'm not making any accusations at all," said the Republican from Massachusetts, "but it was my impression that we would have been welcome in Hanoi if they hadn't gotten the request just four days before I wanted to get there."

Brooke said he was told by the State Department that the visa wasn't requested earlier because of Administration concern over continued North Vietnamese infiltration of the South in violation of cease-fire agreements.

During his 15-day tour of South Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, Brooke said "I got the impression the Communist side is sincere in wanting peace."

The main motivation by Communist forces for peace,



SENATOR BROOKE
Indochina trip

said Brooke, "is their real desire for American aid in reconstruction."

He said he warned the Communist Pathet Lao in Laos that unless they "do everything they can" to account for the more than 300 Americans missing in action there, "they won't get one penny for reconstruction."