

Cong Pamphlet Denies Torture

SAIGON — (UPI) — The Viet Cong distributed illustrated pamphlets yesterday — designed to refute as “slanders and distortions” the reports by released American prisoners of war that they were tortured while in captivity in North Vietnam.

The pamphlet was published by a group called “The Vietnam Committee for solidarity with the American People,” but it contained no publication date.

It had 36 pictures on the inside, most of them showing Americans eating and preparing food, participating in athletics, relaxing over chess and cards or lying in bed reading. None of the prisoners shown was identified, and several appeared in more than one picture.

The pamphlet said: “The propaganda machine of the U.S. administration and Mr. Nixon has tried hard to circulate all kinds of distortions, slanders and fabrications around the so-called ‘POW issue,’ playing upon the feelings of the families and American people to deceive public opinion and to further their mean interests.

“But as a Vietnamese saying puts it: ‘A hand cannot cover up the sun.’ The just cause and humanity of the Vietnamese people is an eloquent fact, and there is no denying it.”

The back side of the pamphlet showed nine pictures of the results of American bombing, including dead women and children. It also carried alleged “stop the bombing statements” by 18 American POWs.