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STATE DEPT REPORT ON EDITORIAL COMMENT:
AID TO NORTH VIET-NAM IS FAVORED BY MOST EDITORS

IN EDITORIALS RECEIVED THROUGH FEB. 15, 30 OUT OF 35 REPRESENTATIVE NEWSPAPERS (86 PER CENT) VOICE CLEAR SUPPORT FOR A U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO RECONSTRUCTION IN NORTH VIET-NAM.

NON-COMMITTAL THE REMAINING FIVE PAPERS DO NOT TAKE A HOSTILE STAND, BUT REFRAIN FROM TAKING A FIRM POSITION-- TYPICALLY EXPRESSING CONCERN THAT HANOI WILL CONTINUE ITS ATTEMPT TO CONQUER THE SOUTH (ARKANSAS GAZETTE, CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER, KANSAS CITY TIMES, NEW ORLEANS TIMES-PICAYUNE, WASHINGTON STAR-NEWS).

SUPPORTERS SUPPORTERS OF THIS AID USUALLY CITE THE PLEDGES BY PRESIDENTS JOHNSON AND NIXON, AND ALSO EXPRESS AGREEMENT WITH PRESIDENT NIXON'S BELIEF THAT THIS AID WOULD BE "AN INVESTMENT IN PEACE."

BOTH THE HEARST AND SCRIPPS-HOWARD CHAINS FAVOR U.S. AID; AND THE SUPPORTERS INCLUDE SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS NOTED FOR THEIR IMPLACABLE HOSTILITY TO COMMUNISM (E.G. N.Y. NEWS, CHI. TRIBUNE, SAN DIEGO UNION, WALL ST. JOURNAL).

SEVERAL SUPPORTERS STATE THEIR EXPECTATION THAT HANOI'S COMPLIANCE WITH THE SETTLEMENT TERMS WILL BE CAREFULLY CHECKED BEFORE AID IS ADVANCED. ALSO SEVERAL SAY THAT THE AID SHOULD BE MULTINATIONAL.

HEARST PAPERS	DETROIT NEWS	NORFOLK PILOT
SCRIPPS-HOWARD	HARTFORD COURANT	PHILA. BULLETIN
BALTIMORE SUN	HOUSTON POST	PHILA. INQUIRER
BOSTON GLOBE	(L.I.) NEWSDAY	PROVIDENCE JOURNAL
CHICAGO NEWS	LOS ANGELES TIMES	RICHMOND TIMES-DISP.
CHICAGO SUN-TIMES	LOUISVILLE COUR-JNL	ST. LOUIS POST-DISP.
CHICAGO TRIBUNE	MIAMI HERALD	SAN DIEGO UNION
CHRIS.SCI. MONITOR	MINNEAPOLIS STAR	WALL STREET JOURNAL
CINCINNATI ENQUIRER	NEW YORK POST	WASHINGTON POST
CLEVE. PLAIN DEALER	NEW YORK TIMES	WHEELING INTELLIGENCER

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