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PARIS APP IN ENGLISH 1539 GMT 10 NOV 67 E

(TEXT) HANOI, 10 NOVEMBER--BY EDUARD-JOSEPH CABANES--U.S. NAVY  
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JOHN SIDNEY MCCAIN, SON OF ADMIRAL JOHN MCCAIN  
COMMANDER OF U.S. NAVAL FORCES IN EUROPE, WAS QUOTED BY THE HANOI  
PRESS TODAY AS HAVING STATED THAT THE UNITED STATES APPEARS ISOLATED  
BECAUSE OF THE VIETNAM WAR. LIEUTENANT COMMANDER MCCAIN, WHO WAS  
CAPTURED AFTER HIS PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN OVER HANOI LAST 26 TWENTY SIX  
OCTOBER, WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN INTERVIEWED BY NORTH VIETNAMESE  
JOURNALISTS ALONG WITH ANOTHER CAPTURED PILOT, AIR FORCE COLONEL JOHN  
PETER FLYNN, WHOSE PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN OVER THE CAPITAL ON 27 TWENTY  
SEVEN OCTOBER.

MCCAIN WAS NOTED AS HAVING SAID "THE MORALE OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE  
IS VERY HIGH, THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE ARE VERY STRONG, PRESENT EVENTS ARE  
MOVING TO THE ADVANCE OF NORTH VIETNAM, AND THE UNITED STATES APPEARS TO  
BE ISOLATED.

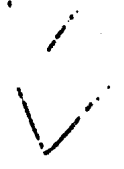
MCCAIN, 31 THIRTY ONE, SAID THAT HE HAD CARRIED OUT 23 TWENTY THREE  
RAIDS OVER NORTH VIETNAM, INCLUDING 5 FIVE OR SIX OVER HAIPHONG. HE  
WAS SHOT DOWN ON HIS FIRST RAID OVER HANOI, LAUNCHED FROM THE AIRCRAFT  
CARRIAGE OF ROCKAWY. HE SAID THAT HE HAD PREVIOUSLY  
SEEN BASED ON THE CARRIER FORRESTAL AND HAD NARROWLY ESCAPED DEATH  
DURING THE BIG FIRE WHICH BROKE OUT ABOARD THE VESSEL TWO MONTHS A

ACT: (DIA-15)

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Approved for Release  
Date 11-11-1992



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THE NEWSPAPERS SAID THAT BOTH MCCAIN AND COLONEL FLYNN SAID THAT THEY HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY THE DENSITY AND ACCURACY OF THE ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE OVER HANOI. FLYNN WAS QUOTED AS SAYING: "YOUR GROUND-TO-AIR MISSILES ARE REALLY DANGEROUS. AS FOR YOUR MIGS, WE COULD HARDLY TELL WHERE THEY WERE COMING FROM, AND AFTER FIRING THEY DISAPPEARED."

COLONEL FLYNN, 45 FORTY FIVE, A VETERAN OF THE KORAN WAR WITH 23 TWENTY THREE YEARS OF ACTIVE SERVICE, SAID THAT HE CAME FROM THE U.S. AIRBASE AT KORAT, THAILAND. HE ALLEGEDLY SAID THAT EACH SQUADRON AT THE BASE LOST THREE PILOTS AND EVEN MORE PLANES EACH MONTH OF FLIGHTS OVER NORTH VIETNAM. GREATEST LOSSES WERE OF THE F105 AND F-105 FIGHTER BOMBERS. AT PRESENT, THE UNITED STATES LACKS EXPERIENCED PILOTS.

THE PAPERS QUOTED FLYNN AS HAVING SAID THAT THE YOUNG PILOTS AT THE KORAT BASE, DESPITE AN OUTWARD SHOW OF BRAVADO, WERE FRIGHTENED AT THE IDEA OF HAVING TO FLY OVER NORTH VIETNAM, AND PARTICULARLY HANOI. MANY YOUNG PILOTS WANT TO LEAVE THE AIR FORCE TO SECURE CIVILIAN PILOTS, HE WAS SAID TO HAVE STATED. AS FOR THE OLD PILOTS LIKE ME, WE WANT TO RETIRE AND RETURN TO OUR FAMILIES. 12 1539 [REDACTED] 12/16/72 NOV

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