Hanoi gambles on military force, internal weakening of US resolve

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no hope of victory. He explained this in three ways, the first taken almost directly from the report.

Reasons for offensive

The report stated that "Hanoi is placing considerable hope at present upon the theory that the United States will end its Vietnam as did France — second to accept defeat by a combination of internal political considerations and external pressure. . . . In this sense, the outcome is being decided on the streets and in the homes of Americans as much as in the jungles of Vietnam." To cause a pause in American, to shake American's belief that the war in Vietnam will be won, would be the closest thing to the heart of any Viet Cong. With this in mind, it is not difficult to see at least one reason behind this new offensive. However, Professor Pye does not see this as the main reason.

What we are fighting

In an interview with Professor Pye, he stated that to understand this new action, you must first understand both the political and psychological goal of these people. Unlike ourselves, they are fighting for their homeland. But also, they are fighting for control of that homeland. This is not a group of individuals fighting for the liberation of our country and we going on to decide how to govern. It is right for them. Rather, it is a government fighting for control of a new area and in this there is a total and absolute personal commitment. The professor called this new offensive analogous to Japan's use of kamikaze pilots in World War II. Both situations were desperate moves to keep the war going. But why is it so necessary to keep the war going, particularly when faced with such a formidable opponent?

Professor Pye explained this in this way. He stated that this was a government designed and oriented toward war. It simply could not survive in a situation of peaceful co-existence. This is the reason behind the fact that they have not simply tried to withdraw the present South Vietnamese government; they are a government themselves.

Situation Polemical

Concerning the report the Professor had this to say: "The main opposition to the report has come from those who believe it to be a document simply supporting the administration's point of view. This was not its intent." The professor went on to say that the intent of the report was to make it possible to project the Vietnamese issue without being immediately classified as a "dove" or "hawk." He said that debate had become polarized accordingly: only two views possible and likened it to the situation existing during the Korean War. You were immediately classified as backing either Truman or MacArthur. Now you are classified as loyal or anti-war. This makes progress very difficult. The professor believes this a most unhealthy situation.

Was it worth it?

As for the future, the report is optimistic. It points out the recent success in Indochina, and generally states that the United States has bought time for two-hundred million people of South East Asia) to develop, without their being constantly confronted with combined external-internal Communist arguments of losing power portions." And the experts seem to think that it was and still is worth the price.

FAC officers selected

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of requests in recent years for elected positions in the administration, honorary position, theoretical position, and probability. He is co-author of the text- book on Graph Theory written in collaboration with the American Mathematical Society and associate editor of the American Mathematical Monthly.

Professor Buttrner has been assistant director of student aid at MIT since January 1963. In his new position as Executive Officer of the FAC, he will become assistant to the dean of students. He will be responsible for advising on recruitment, assignment of students to advisors, and operational liaison with the Admissions Office, Registrar, Schedules Office, heads of freshmen subjects, and faculty by residence. In addition, his office will handle the detailed planning and implementation of both freshmen weekend and the course selection program.

Mr. Buttnerr received his B.S. degree in political science from the University of Rochester in 1952. He served in the U. S. Army Signal Corps from 1963 to 1965 as a lieutenant. From 1961 to 1965 he was employed by IBM in computer programming and communications systems analysis. As assistant to the director of student aid he has been involved in providing data processing support, system definition and liaison between the Student Aid Center and the Office of Institutional Studies. Mr. Buttnerr, his wife and two children, are residents of Wayland, Massachusetts.

From Princeton to MIT

Rota joined the MIT faculty in 1953 as assistant professor of mathematics. He became associate professor in 1960, left for four years (1963-1967) to become professor of mathematics at The Rockefeller University, and returned to MIT as mathematics professor in 1962.

Professor Rota has made important contributions in research in graph theory, spectral theory, and probability.