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Mr. H.R.B. Adair, Chief, Field Service

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Federal Bureau of Investigation in Hanoi**

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About a year ago, a group of refugees came here from the North and were installed in an old building on what was then the outskirts of Hanoi. These people were different from the general run of refugees as they became almost immediately self-supporting. They established small businesses and trades. As the city grew up around the area where they were located, it became necessary for them to vacate within 6 months. As no effort was made to secure new quarters for them they remained. At the end of 6 months, the provincial police moved into the area, destroyed the houses and shacks, broke up furniture and equipment, injured several of the people, and put seven in jail.

There has been considerable hard feelings over this affair. It is the feeling of many people that the Provincial authorities acted in an illegal manner in forcing this evacuation without due course to law. It is reported that the Chief of Province, or his representative, told the refugees that they must move or be returned to North Vietnam. A delegation from the refugees took the matter to the I.C.C. and protested against being sent North again.

I had several delegations from the refugees call on me to intervene with the Provincial authorities for the release of the jailed people. As this was an internal matter of the Vietnamese government, I did not feel that I should become involved in it. This is just another example of the high-handed, fascist type actions that are becoming more and more frequent by the Provincial government. While there is just reason that these people should be moved, the method of doing it is wrong and sets a very poor example of the workings of a democratic government. There is no doubt that some propaganda will be made of this affair. Several unidentified people with cameras viewed the affair and took pictures. I feel that the matter should at least be called to your attention.

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