

- Here is where Pres° Johnson made his great mistake. He desired to stop the Communists from moving forward to take more countries. Truman had successfully stopped them from taking Greece. Earlier ~~an~~ American diplomacy and military help prevented the Communists from making an attempt to take over Iran. The policy that had generally become established was not to interfere with what the Communists already have, but to prevent them from moving forward ~~xxx~~ to take more countries. Now the Communists were moving forward to take South Vietnam. It was a natural extension of the policy that had been in effect for a long time to stop them from doing so. ~~However~~ However, no really serious effort was made to stop their infiltration into Vietnam until it had gone so ~~f~~ far that it was very difficult to end. Then Kennedy began to make real efforts to help ~~Vietnam~~ South Vietnam defend itself against the Communists, and Johnson carried it further. If Johnson had gone ~~in~~ with full force, ^{blockaded} made a blockade of No° V°, and rationed delivery of arms to Cambodia, ~~the~~ and sent all the force necessary to win the war as quickly as possible, within two or three months he could have brought NV° to its knees and established a situation where ~~NEW~~ NV° would be ~~absolutely~~ absolutely powerless to give any help to the Vietcong. Viet Cong(?). After doing this it would have required considerable effort to put an end to the Vietcong Viet Cong force in So°V°, but it could have been done within a year or so.

Johnson was afraid that if he put in any ~~gm~~ great amount of force, and particularly if he interfered with the coming of Russian and Chinese ships to Haifong (sp?) or to Cambodia that these nations would become angry and it might lead to a Third World War. He was very anxious not to come into any collision with the great ~~the~~ Communist powers. Therefore he did not ~~interfere~~ interfere with their bringing of munitions. (no par)
~~China and~~ Communist China and Communist Russia, on the other hand, thought that it was very vital, in their plan of world conquest, to take over Indo-China, and therefore proceeded to send tremendous amounts of military equipment to the Viet Cong and to No° Vietnam. No interference was made with their bringing it. The only interference that was made was an attempt to prevent it from being taken from No. ~~Vietnam~~ Vietnam to ~~f~~So° Vietnam, and this was very difficult because of the jungle territory