

WASHINGTON REPORT

Congressman Edwin D. Eshleman

16th District—Pennsylvania



Many of the facts about Vietnam have been ignored or clouded over in recent protests. Some dissenters have failed to see that the course of the war has been reversed. They perhaps prefer to believe that no progress is being made so that the excitement of demonstration can continue. But, before reasonable Americans judge President Nixon's war policy too harshly, perhaps they should study the figures which show the reversal which is underway.

Before President Nixon took office, the Vietnam situation was one of greater and greater commitments of U.S. troops. In nine months, the President has changed that pattern.

The official Defense Department figures tell the story. Here are some facts, devoid of emotion, for your contemplation.

In 1960, 900 Americans were committed in Vietnam under President Eisenhower.

In 1961, 2000 Americans were committed under President Kennedy.

In 1962, 11,000 Americans were committed under President Kennedy.

In 1963, 15,500 Americans were committed under President Kennedy.

In 1964, 23,000 Americans were committed under President Johnson.

In 1965, 184,000 Americans were committed under President Johnson.

In 1966, 385,000 Americans were committed under President Johnson.

In 1967, 486,000 Americans were committed under President Johnson.

In 1968, 537,000 Americans were committed under President Johnson.

By January, 1969, President Johnson's last month in office, 542,000 Americans were serving in Vietnam.

On October 2, 1969, 509,500 Americans were serving in Vietnam under President Nixon. Three months were left in the year.



FORD ROTARY CUTTER

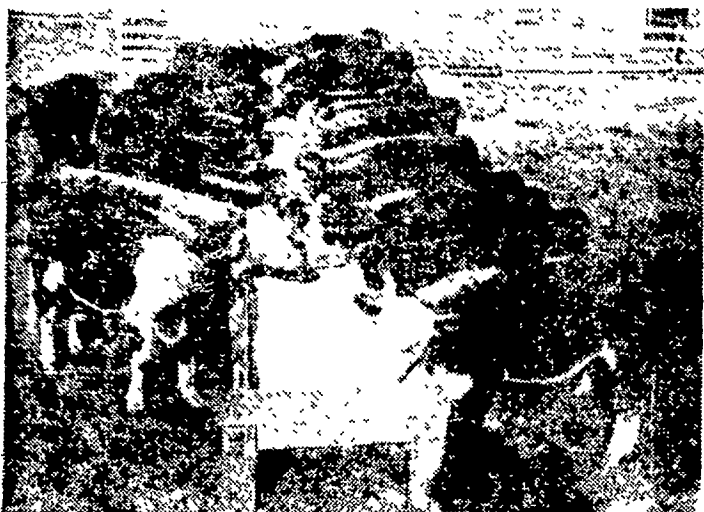
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