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SAIGON--The Communists are sending South Vietnamese ~~chi~~ ^{toe} schoolchildren and teenagers to North Vietnam training, in a significant, long-range move designed to develop "a new breed of cadres."

The selected children fall into two age groups--11 to 14 and 15 to 17. They are the children of low-level Communist cadre, children whose parents have joined the "revolutionary cause," children of very poor families without means of support and children of dead Viet Cong soldiers and ~~cadre~~ civilian cadres.

Captured by Allied forces, the written Communist Party instructions for "selection of children for training in North Vietnam" specified the purpose of the move as "an action to reward cadres who have rendered meritorious services to the Revolution in the South and at the same time to train a new breed of cadres loyal to the Revolution and dedicated to the building of Socialism in the future."

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Several high-ranking Viet Cong defectors ~~have~~ said they have seen groups of small South Vietnamese children leaving the country for Cambodia, ~~where~~ from where they are flown by airplane to North Vietnam. No official estimates of the number of children involved are available, but the Communists are known to have been carrying out the practice for some time. In 1954, when Vietnam was ~~dividi~~ divided, many Southern Communists--and their children over ten years of age--were "regrouped" in Communist North Vietnam. These regroupees ~~were~~ then became the invaluable backbone of the Communist ~~leadership~~ leadership by re-infiltrating back to their home areas in the South since 1956 to ignite the initial phases of the subversive and guerrilla war.

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"This move of shipping kids off to North Vietnam means the Communists are thinking in very long-range terms," one informed source explained. "If there is a coalition government set up in the South, the Communists will have new Southern cadres to send South for the next five to ten years—and all of them will be expertly Communist trained and indoctrinated. The Communist Communists are way ahead of the Allies in mapping out future alternatives."

Other ~~capt~~ captured Communist documents, discussing strategic plans, have revealed to Allied authorities here that the ~~Commun~~ Hanoi is attempting in 1968 to make an all-out, ~~short-range push~~ ^{military effort}—but that if ~~it~~ it fails in ~~this~~ ^{the} military ~~con~~ showdown, it is prepared to fall back into a protracted war strategy of less military intensity. The move to send Southern children to the ~~the~~ North is interpreted in this broader sense as a concrete step taken to prepare already ~~preparing~~ for this ~~latter contingency~~ ^{protracted} ~~contingen~~ contingency.

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The captured Communist instructions are dated April, 1968, but refer to two earlier "circulars" dated October, 1967, and February, 1968, concerning the selection of children to be sent ~~North~~ to North Vietnam. The instructions are addressed to Communist Party sections and village committees of the Viet Cong district-level organization. In systematizing the procedures for the selection of the children, the instructions specify the children are to be categorized ~~and~~ ^{BY} for approval of senior levels. Each selected child was to have a brief biographical data sheet certified by the committee level, LETTERS OF along with recommendations ~~letters~~ from the local Communist Party district committee.

"The children are supposed to depart before the onset of the rainy season," the instructions read. MONSOON The rainy season in the southern part of the country begins ^(V) began in June ~~this~~ year.