

b) Assess the significance of the 1968 Tet Offensive as part of North Vietnam's strategy in achieving victory in the Second Indochina War.

During the celebrations of Tet (The Lunar New Year), South & North Vietnam held a ~~stop~~^{cease} fire for celebrations to occur.

The Vietcong ~~is~~ went against this ~~stop~~^{cease} fire and bombed the south. The south ~~didn't~~^{did not} know until it was too late ~~as~~ the bombs had been masked through the sounds of fire works.

The North believed that this would help in achieving victory as many from the South would die.

Also due to the fact that the Americans kept telling everybody that they were winning the war, the North knew that this would come as a devastating shock to them.

It turned out to not be a victory for either the North or South. The Vietcong lost thousands of fighters mostly their guerilla fighters who were used very well against the Americans. Because of this it turned into a conventional war where the Americans had more ~~is~~ chance of winning.

The Americans wanted to leave as ~~there~~ support from the homefront was dying down & ~~no body wanted~~ American civilians ~~didn't~~ did not want them there anymore. Too many soldiers were dying. So the Americans started to teach the South how to fight a conventional war & ~~to~~ seize victory. This was not good for North Vietnam as they had no guerrilla fighters & tactics to use against the South.

This shows that although the North Vietnamese believed that the Tet offensive could help them achieve victory, it actually crippled them, & led to their defeat.