

Salvador E. Luria
48 Peacock Farm Road
Lexington, Massachusetts
02173

February 8, 1968

The Editor, The Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

To the Editor:

With the current bombings of the very people we are supposed to protect, American action in Vietnam has passed all bounds of decency. As a European Jew, who escaped Nazi extermination and found in this country a haven and a new fatherland, I proclaim myself brother of the tortured victims of our mass bombings in Vietnam. The people of Saigon and Hue are today's counterparts of the fighters of Warsaw's ghetto and the cremated of Dachau.

History, if not their conscience or the courts of man, will deal with Lyndon Johnson, Dean Rusk, and their generals as it did with Adolf Hitler, Hermann Goering, and their henchmen. But it will deal more harshly with us Americans if, blessed with the freedom to speak up and to assemble which Germans did not have, we do not raise our voices in solemn protest to end the inhuman slaughter perpetrated in our name.

Salvador E. Luria, M. D.

The writer is Sedgwick Professor of Biology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and is currently president of the American Society for Microbiology.