

WNEW-FM TO URGE APPEALS TO HANOI

Listing of U.S. Prisoners' Names Is Being Sought

Radio station WNEW-FM will replace its commercials today with hourly appeals to listeners to write to Ton Duc Thang, President of North Vietnam, urging him to release the names of American prisoners.

"In keeping with the true spirit of Christmas," explained George H. Duncan, vice president and general manager of the station, "we are scheduling all of our commercials in such a way that none will be aired for the 24-hour period starting at midnight Dec. 24.

"We will, however, be broadcasting special hourly messages on behalf of the International Red Cross. These will be appeals to listeners to send holiday cards to the President of North Vietnam, beseeching him to reveal the names of captured Americans."

The Red Cross announcements point out that about 1,300 Americans are believed to be prisoners of Hanoi.

Listeners are told that North Vietnam's President "has the power to guarantee that our boys will be treated humanely." It urges that writers plead with him to release the names of prisoners and to allow communication between the men and their families.

"Believe it or not," the spots declare, "he'll listen to you, because the leaders of North Vietnam are very conscious of American public opinion."