

b) The 1968 Tet Offensive was a significant factor as part of North Vietnam's strategy in achieving victory in the Second Indochina War. While they militarily did not ~~win~~ achieve a win as a result of the offensive, it demonstrated the psychological strengths of the North in overcoming the vast military and technological developments of ~~the~~ the South in conjunction with the USA.

This three pronged attack on the Southern capital of Saigon was significant in demonstrating the north's ability to overcome the military strengths of the South. While militarily the North lost the battle, the north's victory was "psychological not physical" (Trek). While Southern forces were more prepared than the north had initially hoped for, this was a significant event in demonstrating the power of the

North Vietnamese army. This is evident through the fact the north specifically planned the attack on Christmas day, an important day of celebration<sup>and rest</sup> for Christians in the South.

While the north may not have been as militarily trained as the South, this element of surprise demonstrated north's ability to overcome the military strengths of the South.

The Tet Offensive was significant as ~~it~~ the element of surprise involved in the attack severely decreased ~~and~~ the South's morale. Soldiers in the South experienced a loss of morale as a result of not knowing when the enemy would attack, this directly impacting upon their military performance. US soldiers in particular, as a result of such surprise attacks suffered many post-war psychological disorders, for example ~~Post~~ Post-trauma stress disorder. This led to many members of the US and South

Vietnamese forces ~~becoming~~ experiencing inability to fight well, decreasing the productivity of the South as a result.

The Tet Offensive was significant as it caused the north to realise the success of their unique strategies, and use them to their advantage.

~~Military~~ Strategies employed by the North including tunnel systems, booby traps and the Ho Chi Minh trail all held a highly secret and complex secret the south could simply not weaken, ~~no matter~~ <sup>no matter</sup> how many bullets or technological devices they used. The Tet therefore proved to the Americans and South Vietnamese forces the north would always be one step ahead of them, as a result of the success of such tactics. This is evident for example through the Ho Chi Minh trail. No matter how many times the South bombed the trail in an attempt to destroy it, this complex system still enabled

The easy flow of troops and supplies from the north to south, enabling them to secretly ~~cross~~ travel through Indochina, ~~help~~ easily preparing attacks such as the Tet Offensive.

The 1968 Tet Offensive was significant ~~in~~ as part of North Vietnam's strategy in achieving victory in the Second Indochina war. While the North may not have won militarily, this psychological victory was significant in demonstrating the north's ability to overcome the military strengths of the South, and realise the importance of their unique military strategies in ~~achieving~~ ~~ultimately~~ ultimately achieving victory in the Second Indochina war.