

VIET-NAM BULLETIN

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Politics

PRES. THIEU ISSUES STATEMENT ON STUDENTS' PROBLEM

Saigon, July 4, 1970--The Press Secretary at the President's Office announced Friday:

Following is the statement of President Nguyen Van Thieu on the students' issue (unofficial translation):

Although the government has settled satisfactorily and generously the demands of a number of university and high school students, a minority of them continue to wage demonstrations requesting the government to end the war unconditionally and to accept peace at any cost.

This minority went to several places throughout the country and colluded with various groups and factions which shared the same trouble-making advocacy with them with a view to hold demonstrations, for example the July 1st incident in Hue.

At any place they set foot, they tried to seduce a number of other university and high school students either through exhortation or threat and terrorism, to show that their illegal acts are responded by a large number of students.

At first, they put forth a number of aspirations purely relating to the student issue. But when these aspirations were satisfied they raised out other unreasonable problems that the government could not settle and then chose them for their struggle's motives, for example, the postponement of the examination, the abolition of the military training program at school, etc. However, it was clear that they advocated an unconditional end to the war and an acceptance of peace at any cost. In fact, they are henchmen of underground Communist cadres or are incited by profiteer politicians who, although living among the nationalist ranks, are helping the Communists to carry out their dark schemes harmful to the country and betraying the interests of the people and of the majority of university and high school students.

For instance to demand the postponement of examinations, to threaten those students who want to take the exams and prepare to hinder the sabotage the examination centers.

Demanding the abolition of the military training program at school,

Using a number of university facilities for gatherings with a view to stir up anti-war movements, etc.

Any compatriots who have followed up this issue are well aware of what the students have previously asked the government to settle, namely:

-the granting of a building to be used as headquarters of the students' union, which the government has settled;

-the official recognition of the Students' Union, which the government has also accepted;

-the promulgation of a University status, which the government has pushed forward; a draft-status will be sent to the National Assembly for decision.

Regarding the release of a number of students in custody, the government has so far set free 31 persons including those who were sentenced by the Court. The government even generously granted them draft deferment to enable them to continue their studies.

Regarding their request for punishment of those policemen who tortured the students, the government has brought the case before the Court. In the case of student Huynh Tan Mam, especially, the government has temporarily set him free plus 16 other students. As for those students who committed desertion, the government cannot release them. The remainder were released on bail pending the Court's trial but the government cannot acquit them since it cannot encroach upon the powers of the Judiciary.

Besides, among those students who still continue to stir up the masses and create disturbances are those who had committed the same offenses several times in the past, were arrested several times and were set free according to the government's tolerance.

In brief, the government has done its best within its powers, including too generous measures toward those who evidently are guilty, -- measures which can be considered unjust vis-a-vis other persons who committed the same offenses.

The government did so because it wanted to adopt special measures reflecting its understanding and tolerance toward the students, with the hope that the latter understood its goodwill and returned to their school, and stopped to create disturbances to the nation as well as to the interests and the studies of the majority of other students.

However, until now the government recognized that this minority of students still remained stubborn and intended to go against the law and to undermine the national security and public order. Therefore the government had decided to apply energetic measures to stop these actions.

The government is tolerant and understandable but it is not weak and does not advocate demagogery, the government can no longer yield to this stubborn minority.

For this reason, I assert today to the people, the students' parents and the university and high school students themselves through the country that:

First, I am determined not to delay the scheduled examinations, that means:

- the Baccalaureate Part II examination, first session, will take place on July 8, 1970 and second session on August 19, 1970.

- the Baccalaureate Part I examination will take place on July 29, 1970.
- the junior high school examination will take place on November 18, 1970.
- the police, and the Armed Forces if need be, will effectively ensure security at examination centers and for the candidates. The government is determined to crush down all those initiators of sabotage activities.

Second, I am determined to maintain the military training program at school and to correctly apply the laws in force toward those who violate them.

Third, I have instructed governmental agencies all over the country to adopt effective measures to check and repress any demonstrations or actions harmful to public order which asked for an end of the war in order to accept peace with surrender to the Communists.

I have also instructed local officials to use first peaceful measures to explain to that minority to understand their case and put an end to their action. Otherwise, they can use the police or in case of necessity, requisition the Armed Forces to restore security and public order.

I wish the people, the students' parents and all the university and high school students would understand clearly what I have presented above so as to understand the government's actions from now on.

I would like to reiterate that the national law, security and public order must be maintained and I am determined to use every measure to do so, once my goodwill which has been shown at the maximum has been abused.

I also warn for the last time those who nurture dark political schemes of exploiting the innocence and enthusiasm of a number of students for their own benefits to stop their traitorous actions since their dark schemes will be sooner or later uncovered and they will be guilty of treason to their country.

Besides, President Nguyen Van Thieu made known today that he will present to the nation the problem of war invalids, widows and wards of the nation early next week after he completes the review of programs and capabilities of the government.

The President also disclosed that the law on the war invalids, widows and wards of the nation endorsed by the National Assembly will be promulgated in the near future.

VICE PRESIDENT KY ON NATIONAL ECONOMY

Saigon, July 5, 1970--Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky said Saturday evening that if the Vietnamese economy continues to degenerate without any efficient curative measure, the society will certainly experience unrest, political activities will weaken and military success scored in the past years will not be maintained.

Addressing newsmen at the dinner organized by the Vietnamese Newspapers Publishers' Association (VNPA) at Caravelle Hotel, Vice Pres. Ky successively analyzed the deep and superficial causes leading to the current critical economy.

According to the Vice President, one of the primary causes stemmed from the war waged by the Communists in South Viet-Nam which has paralyzed many national activities in the commercial and economic fields, hindering the implementation of almost all productive projects.

Vice President Ky added that in addition to the suspension of our production capacity, due to the enemy sabotage activities, the increase of expenditures for the national defense have caused larger and larger deficit to the national budget.

According to him, the U.S. aid policy is merely a fight against inflation meaning a policy to cope with periodical difficulties.

Therefore the U.S. aid only aims at helping Viet-Nam make up for the deficit in her national budget and not at helping her in economic development, for instance industrial development and establishment of production installations.

After analyzing the causes of the present critical national economy, Vice President said that our "patched" economic policy and the U.S. aid policy have given birth to serious social injustices, vices and the division situation.

However, he added, how dangerous and tragic our true situation may be, we can still have faith in the noble fighting spirit of the combatants since this very spirit had, in the past, saved and repaired the weakness of many other branches of national activities.

Vice President Ky also made known that he advocated a moderate social revolution but moderation here does not mean delay and lack of clear-cut attitude.

He stressed that in the present national juncture, a social revolution has become a demand which must be satisfied. Therefore, the government should initiate and lead the revolution in an active, clear-minded and determined manner to early build a new life for the people.

On this occasion, Vice President Ky also gave satisfactory replies to the newsmen's question on current events.

SECRETARY ROGERS TO DISCUSS WITH PRES. THIEU, SEARCH FOR NEW POLITICAL INITIATIVE

Saigon, July 4, 1970--"I have come to Saigon to review with our Allies the military and political situation in Viet-Nam and Indochina. I am also anxious to consult with President Thieu about whether there are further political initiatives that might be taken for peace." U.S. Secretary of State, William P. Rogers made the statement upon his arrival at Tan Son Nhat airport at 12:25 a.m. Saturday.

The U.S. is firmly committed to the search for a political solution to the tragic problems of Southeast Asia, he said.

According to Sec. Rogers, President Nixon's appointment of Ambassador Bruce to head the U.S. delegation in Paris is the most recent symbol of that commitment.

"We hope that North Viet-Nam will respond to it," he said. It is time for negotiations, real negotiations, to end this war and bring to the people of South Viet-Nam a fair and lasting peace.

He also expressed his happiness in returning to Saigon after a year of important developments.

Dealing with the Vietnamization program, Secretary Rogers made known that its progress is confirming the U.S. faith in South Viet-Nam's capacity to assume the major responsibility for its defense.

The U.S. Secretary of State also praised the considerable advance of the pacification plan and the RVN government for having taken encouraging steps to deal with social and economic difficulties.

He contended that in the successful operation just completed in Cambodia, South Viet-Nam provided more than 60 per cent of her troops who have performed remarkably well.

Earlier at 12:15 a.m. Foreign Minister Tran Van Lam and his counterparts from New Zealand, Australia, Thailand and the Republic of Korea landed at Tan Son Nhat airport by a Pan Am plane.

The allied nations' Foreign Ministers made no statement upon their arrival but promised to give a press conference after attending the conference in Saigon.

In a written statement made public at the airport, Foreign Minister Lam said South-east Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) member-countries share with Viet-Nam the feeling of urgency and are determined to maintain the principles and commitments of the South-east Asia Collective Defense Treaty.

The SEATO Council meeting held July 2-3 in Manila, the Philippines, also acknowledged the continuing progress achieved by the RVN government in the fields of national defense, economic development and social justice.

MIN. LAM: US APPOINTMENT OF NEW CHIEF NEGOTIATOR DOES NOT MEAN CONCESSION

Saigon, July 2, 1970--Foreign Minister Tran Van Lam Wednesday morning said if the United States government appoints a new chief negotiator at the Paris peace talks, it does not mean a concession to the Communist side.

Minister Lam made the statement at Tan Son Nhat airport before embarking for Manila to attend the SEATO conference.

Asked about President Nixon's June 30th report on Cambodia, the RVN Foreign Minister said the U.S. has once again shown its goodwill toward the Communist side by pulling out their troops from Cambodia and appealing to Hanoi to negotiate a just peace to soon end the Indochina war.

To another question from newsmen, he expressed the hope that Communist North Viet-Nam would negotiate seriously now that their supply systems in Cambodia have been destroyed.

However, this depends on Hanoi, Minister Lam added.

Foreign Minister Lam will be invited to speak at the opening session of the SEATO conference on July 2 and will attend close sessions to present the RVN firm stand and to produce proofs of the Communists' aggression scheme.

Besides, he will brief the conference on the progress of the situation in Indo-china.

The SEATO conference's opening ceremony will be presided over by President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines.

On hand to see Foreign Minister Tran Van Lam off at Tan Son Nhat airport were members of the diplomatic corps in Saigon, and ranking officials of the Foreign Ministry.

VIET-NAM TROOP CONTRIBUTORS MEETING OPENS

Saigon, July 5, 1970--Prime Minister Tran Thien Khiem, in his opening speech at the Viet-Nam Troop Contributing Countries Meeting at Majestic Hotel, Sunday morning expressed his optimism at the Vietnamese situation and hoped that with the support of friendly countries, the RVN will fulfil its duty for the restoration of peace and hope in Southeast Asia.

In the presence of six countries' delegations including the Republic of Viet-Nam's and representatives of diplomatic corps, Prime Minister Khiem recalled the Allied forces' determination in a limited war against Communist aggression five years ago.

He also recalled the progress the RVN has gained in the political and military fields since 1965 with the Allied countries' support.

On this occasion, Prime Minister Khiem dealt with the RVN military assistance to Cambodia with a view to protect the neighbouring country's Sovereignty, territorial integrity and neutrality in face of Red aggression.

In his reply, New Zealand's Premier concurrently Foreign Minister Keith Holyoake praised the achievements scored by the RVN.

He emphasized that the Sunday meeting had a special significance showing the Allied countries' determination to continue their support to the Vietnamese people's anti-Communist struggle.

He added, the Allied countries have been really encouraged before the improved security situation in Viet-Nam.

According to the New Zealand Premier, "the withdrawal of substantial numbers of United States troops means only one thing, their role is being successfully taken over

by Vietnamese units adequately trained and equipped to assume increasing responsibility for the defense of their own country."

Mr. Holyoake also promised that after the security is restored in Viet-Nam, the Allied countries will contribute to the social and economic development of this country.

The New Zealand Premier finally appealed to the Allied countries to continue their effort in finding a way of breaking the deadlock at the Paris meetings on Viet-Nam.

Present at the international conference hall of Hoan My Restaurant Sunday morning was a 500-strong audience including representatives of six delegation of the Republic of Viet-Nam, New Zealand, Australia, the United States, the Republic of Korea, Thailand; Cabinet members and newsmen.

The RVN delegation participating in the conference included Foreign Minister Tran Van Lam; Messrs. Nguyen Qui Anh, Cabinet Director, Diep Quang Hong, Secretary General, Nguyen Huy Dau, Inspector General at the Foreign Affairs Ministry; Lt. Gen. Nguyen Van La, Deputy Chief of the ARVN Joint General Staff, Maj. Gen. Cao Hao Hon; Commodore Chung Tan Cang, Col. Nguyen Quoc Quynh, Chief of the ARVN Joint General Staff's Psywar Department; Mr. Nguyen Bich Lien, Director of the International Conference Organization; Mr. Nguyen Tiet, Director of the Asian and Pacific Affairs and Mr. Phung Nhat Minh, Director of the American and United Nations Affairs.

The ROK delegation: Foreign Minister Kyu Hah Choi; Lt. Gen. Lee Sao Ho, Commander of ROK forces in Viet-Nam and nine officials of the ROKAF and Foreign Ministry.

The U.S. delegation: Secretary of State William Rogers, Amb. Ellsworth Bunker; Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, Commander of U.S. Forces in Viet-Nam and ten officials of the U.S. Departments of State and Defense.

The New Zealand delegation: Prime Minister concurrently Foreign Minister Keith Holyoake; Foreign Secretary of State Laking; Ambassador Paul Edmonds, Lt. Gen. Leonard Thornton, Chief of Staff and three officials of the Defense Ministry and the New Zealand Embassy in Viet-Nam.

The Thai delegation: Foreign Minister Thanat Khoman; Commodore Charern Plengqidya; the Thai Ambassador to Viet-Nam; Minister of Communications Dance Chullasapya and nine other officials.

The Australian delegation: Foreign Minister William McMahon; Mr. P. Harey, Ambassador to Viet-Nam; Gen. John Wilton, Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff, and five officials of the Foreign Ministry.

Military

GEN. DZU ON UNCOVERY OF RED INTELLIGENCE AGENCY IN CAMBODIA

Saigon, July 4, 1970--Saigon would have been victimized by a general offensive or subject to a serious political influence if the IV Corps had not destroyed and captured the whole Communist Staff Intelligence Agency R last July 1 in Moc Hoa, Kien Tuong province.

Gen. Ngo Dzu, IV Corps Commander, made the statement to newsmen during a visit to the Lower House Defense Committee to combatants participating in operations conducted by the IV Corps in Cambodia.

According to Gen. Dzu, a unit of the operational forces on July 1 attacked and killed 12 Communists besides capturing seven others along with many documents and an extremely high-wave radio station. The prisoners of war confessed that they, members of the Communist Staff Intelligence Agency were studying important problems concerning the situation of Saigon.

Asked about the article of an American magazine alleging that the RVNAF fought well in Cambodia but had bad conduct, Gen. Dzu showed his discontent at such an exaggeration. He made known that the RVN troops were ordered to keep good conduct in Cambodia.

He added that since the moment the IV Army Corps began to conduct operations in Cambodia to date, only one bad incident occurred. A number of armored troops had bought at cheap price and brought a quantity of small-sized motorbikes to Viet-Nam. These troops were arrested and the motorbikes were returned to the Cambodian government. The Commander of the 3/2 Armored Platoon was relieved from his post and received 30 days of confinement while the servicemen-offenders were prosecuted.

Gen. Dzu disclosed that the Cambodian government did not show any resentment at the incident while Gen. Fernandes, Commander of the Khmer II Military Region regarded it as a trivial occurrence.

The IV Corps Commander concluded that the RVNAF especially the 9th Infantry Division have demonstrated good behavior and are much admired by the Khmer people. However, as a measure of precaution, four check-points have been set up at the Vietnamese-Cambodian border. Therefore any goods bought from Cambodia and brought back home by the Vietnamese servicemen were confiscated and returned to the original country.

REDS FAIL IN CARRYING OUT SUMMER HIGH POINT: COL THIEN

Biet Khu Quang Da, July 2, 1970--"Four Communist Regiments which infiltrated from North Viet-Nam are trying to carry out their summer high point in Quang Nam, Da Nang area," Col. Nguyen Van Thien, Quang Da Special Sector Commander stated Wednesday at an interview with newsmen at the Quang Da Special Sector Hqs.

However, Col. Thien added, due to the deficiency of their military strength as well as the intervention of the RVN troops in the above-said area, the enemy could not carry out their dark scheme.

According to Col. Thien, the four infiltrated Red Regiments were the 36th, 90th, 141st and 31st Regiments, of which the 31st Red Regiment was completely disintegrated after many engagements with the RVN units last year. Generally speaking each enemy battalion counts at present around 100 men at the maximum.

Besides, Col. Truong Tan Thuc, Commander of the 51st separate Regiment at Quang Da Special Sector, remarked that since the enemy was unable to launch large scale operations, they have resorted to sabotage activities in Quang Nam province and Da Nang city in the past three months.

Col. Thien also made known that the Quang Da Special Sector Commander launched Operation Hung Quang in Thuong Duc district's jungle area (Quang Nam province) in the past two months to destroy the enemy supply bases.

Operation Hung Quang, conducted since May 14 in Thuong Duc district, resulted in 348 killed, a large quantity of weapons and military gear seized and all enemy supply bases in the area destroyed.

Foreign Relations

NEW CAMBODIAN AMBASSADOR TO VIET-NAM APPOINTED

Saigon, July 4, 1970--The Republic of Viet-Nam has approved the Cambodian government's appointment of Mr. Thoutch Vutthi to the post of Cambodian Ambassador to Viet-Nam, the Foreign Affairs Ministry said Saturday.

The appointment was officially announced by the RVN and Cambodian governments at noon Saturday in Saigon (11 a.m. in Phnom Penh.)

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT CENTER TO HAVE SAIGON OFFICE

Saigon, July 4, 1970--The Asian Development Center (ADC) of the Asian Parliamentarians' Union (APU) will set up an office in Saigon to promote its social and economic development missions.

In his report at the July 2 APU meeting in Taipei, Mr. Yen Shu, Secretary General of the Asian Development Center emphasized the importance of the ADC as well as its various projects to be carried out in the future.

He said, the close cooperation of the RVN National Assembly delegation will help a rapid setting up of an ADC office in Saigon.

The Asian Development Center was established following an APU meeting last November, in Taipei.

The War

RED TERRORIST ACTS ON JUNE 28 - ELECTION DAY PROTESTED

Saigon, July 3, 1970--The Vietnamese Mission in charge of relations with the ICSC, in a protest note lodged to the ICSC Secretariat General in Saigon on July 2, 1970, severely condemned the acts of terrorism and sabotage committed by the North Vietnamese infiltrated troops during the nation-wide elections for the Republic of Viet-Nam's municipal and provincial councils on June 28, 1970.

According to the note, the Communists deliberately perpetrated 23 criminal attacks including: 9 shellings; 4 blasts of mines or TNT charges; 6 cases of sniping and harassment; 3 armed attacks against the election support forces; 1 attempt to hinder the voters from going to the polling stations. As a result, 7 civilians were reported killed and 30 injured.

Four typical incidents were singled out in the note to bare the barbarous acts of the North Vietnamese aggressors aimed at sabotaging the recent elections.

On behalf of the government of the Republic of Viet-Nam, the Vietnamese Mission charged that the North Vietnamese rulers obviously ordered their terrorist agents to make attempts on the life of the innocent population of the South during the above elections. Thus, they bluntly betrayed their commitments in the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet-Nam.

The Mission earnestly requested the Commission to undertake investigation of the afore-mentioned violation and to denounce before international opinion the crimes of North Vietnamese aggressors.

MOTORIZED BOAT HITS RED TORPEDO IN DONG HA - 46 KILLED

Saigon, July 3, 1970--A motorized boat Friday morning hit a Communist torpedo at Cua Viet, 1 km. east-northeast of Dong Ha, resulting in 46 civilians killed, authoritative sources said.

The boat carried about 50 civilians from Cua Viet to Dong Ha.

Besides, in Saigon, a French youth named Andre Jean Pierre Thursday night set off two big fire crackers at Tan Dinh Primary School on Huynh Tinh Cua Street causing light injury to himself.

The same sources added that a total of nine civilians were killed and 25 others wounded during a Communist attack against Polei Krong hamlet in Kontum province last June 27.

Open Arms

RED COMPANY LEADER RALLIES IN SAIGON

Saigon, July 3, 1970--A Communist company leader operating in the Capital city's vicinities recently rallied the national cause at the Prefecture's Open Arms service.

The returnee, Le Van Tam, 42, joined the Communists' ranks in 1949.

Before his defection, he was a leading cadre of the Red 306th Battalion operating in Nha Be area.

602 RETURNEES WELCOMED IN WEEK

Saigon, July 3, 1970--Open Arms agencies throughout the country last week received 602 more Communist cadres who rallied the national cause.

The returnees included 323 military, 202 political and 77 other elements.

The IV Corps Tactical Zone still headed the list with 364 returnees.

Since early this year, a total of 16,222 returnees have been welcomed at Open Arms Centers throughout the country.

Miscellaneous

86 NORTH VIETNAMESE POWS, FISHERMEN TO BE REPATRIATED JULY 11

Saigon, July 5, 1970--The RVN government will free and send back to North Viet-Nam July 11, 62 North Vietnamese maimed and sick prisoners-of-war and 24 fishermen.

These North Vietnamese have illegally infiltrated into South Viet-Nam since 1965.

The RVN government officially announced last June 11 the release of these POWs and fishermen to the Ha Noi authorities.

The repatriation is for humanitarian reasons and according to the aspirations of these sick POWs.

At the 70th session of the Paris meeting last June 11, Ambassador Pham Dang Lam, RVN Chief Negotiator had asked the Ha Noi authorities to suspend all military activities on ground, territorial waters and space at the area where the release will take place.

According to schedule 86 POWs and fishermen will be freed at Cua Tung of North Viet-Nam coastal area at the 17th parallel.

Ha Noi had previously rebuffed the RVN government's offer to repatriate those POWs but this time it agreed to receive the 86 former North Vietnamese troops and fishermen.

SENATE ENDORSES BILL ON INTERNATIONAL
LABOR CONVENTION RATIFICATION

Saigon, July 4, 1970--The Senate endorsed at the plenary session Saturday morning the bill on the ratification of international labor conventions 116, 117, 118, 120, 122, 123 and 124.

The bill was forwarded by President Nguyen Van Thieu on October 13, 1969 and was passed by the Lower House at its plenary session last April 10.

The Executive suggested the ratification of seven of the 12 labor conventions.

Senate Chairman Nguyen Van Huyen presided over the session with 34 Senators in attendance.

Special Feature

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE
UNITED NATIONS, THE HONOURABLE U THANT

Saigon, July 1, 1970, (MF)--Dear Mr. Secretary-General:

The world press reports that you have made an earnest appeal to "all concerned" to preserve from destruction Angkor Wat in Cambodia and other shrines in Indochina. The news item further states that you recalled the fate of Hue, the ancient imperial capital of Viet-Nam which was largely destroyed by North Vietnamese forces during the course of the Communist Tet offensive in 1968.

Of course, no civilized person will take issue on your plea to preserve these priceless monuments of ancient Asian culture. However, with due respect, let it be noted, Sir, that the peoples of Cambodia, Laos and South Viet-Nam, place an even higher value on the lives of human beings, especially our children who someday will inherit this part of Southeast Asia and - hopefully - make it a better place to live.

A great deal has been said and written about the destruction of priceless treasures in Hue. Relatively little has been said or written about the destruction of over three thousand human beings who were methodically slaughtered by the North Vietnamese and their supporters, the Viet Cong.

The South Vietnamese village of Thanh My, south of the city of Da nang, did not possess priceless, ancient treasures. Nor, for that matter, was it a military target. So when recently, over one hundred civilian men, women and children were butchered during a night raid by North Vietnamese forces, the event was dutifully reported by the press and promptly forgotten as yet another Communist act of violence in the seemingly endless war in South Viet-Nam.

Since you are a busy man, Mr. Secretary-General, the chances are that you may not even be aware of this senseless mass murder. However, since you are a devout Buddhist, the people of Viet-Nam know that you do care - unlike many protesters in America, Sweden and other areas around the world, who appear more concerned about the "stubbornness" of South Viet-Nam in failing to accept Hanoi's "just peace."

Mrs. Duong Thi Ba, a widow whose husband was killed by the enemy during the Tet offensive in 1968, was found crawling on the ground shortly after the North Vietnamese attack on Thanh My village. The lower part of her body and her legs were badly burned by a North Vietnamese phosphorous grenade. By some superhuman effort, she had collected four of her five children - or rather, Mr. Secretary-General, she had collected the mutilated bodies of four of her five children for they were all burned to death. She was screaming for her eldest son, whom she never found. Some village officials speculated that the youngster may have been abducted and taken to North Viet-Nam to be trained as a "soldier of the proletariat."

Mrs. Ba is only one of 68 badly wounded survivors. Her four dead children are now mere statistics, part of the 114 civilians killed in Thanh My. There are many similar cases to the one of Mrs. Ba - in fact, Sir, there are thousands of such cases in the more than twenty years of resistance against submission to the Hanoi regime.

Mr. Secretary-General, as a private individual who has suffered the loss of a son taken from you in the full bloom of life, you may understand the agonies of Mrs. Ba and thousands like her.

As the leading official of a world organization, you obviously have to maintain a neutral mien in the conflict of Communist totalitarianism and a reasonably free society - freer, in fact, Sir, than your own country, Burma, which is not at war.

The countries of Indochina have learned to expect little from the United Nations but pious platitudes and earnest, meaningless resolutions to restore peace in their tortured lands. But you, Sir, as a leading world citizen and a fellow Asian, you may be able to explain to the bored sophisticates of the United Nations that the people of South Viet-Nam are - indeed - fighting for survival. If ever this nation were to succumb to the "just peace" of Hanoi, the Communist murders in Hue, Thanh My and countless other communities in this land will pale into mere insignificance compared to the mass slaughter of our people which will then take place.

South Vietnamese have few illusions left. The thought that the United Nations could possibly halt the blood letting and suffering in this country, has long since been dismissed as a mirage.

As far as ancient, priceless monuments are concerned, Mr. Secretary-General, you may get your wish fulfilled. Although the North Vietnamese continue to stack their ammunition dumps and weapon depots in and around Angkor Wat, the Cambodian government has announced that they will attempt to preserve at all costs this world monument of ancient culture.

Respectfully,

MINH TAM

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