

VIET-NAM

DOCUMENTS AND RESEARCH NOTES

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THE LEADERSHIP OF THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT

Background

The National Liberation Front of South Viet-Nam (Mặt Trận Dân Tộc Giải Phóng Miền Nam Việt-Nam), abbreviated to NLF or NLFV, was founded December 20, 1960. According to Nguyễn Hữu Thọ, who has been chairman of the Central Committee since the Front was created, it was successor to the Saigon-Cholon Peace Committee, a loosely organized group which had operated since 1954 without by-laws or programs. "Many of the members of the NLF Central Committee were also members of the Peace Committee...namely Huỳnh Tấn Phát, architect, Hồ Thu, a pharmacist, and Lê Văn Thân, a radio engineer," he said in an interview much later. 1/ Phùng Văn Cung, currently identified as one of the Vice Chairmen of the Central Committee of the NLF, was one of the chief organizers.

Although the organization is clandestine, more is known of its leadership than of that of the People's Revolutionary Party (PRP), the admittedly Marxist organization which was organized and joined the Front in 1962.

The purpose of this issue of Viet-Nam Documents and Research Notes is to provide a current listing of the incumbents of key leadership positions within the National Liberation Front. The principal source of this information has been the pronouncements of the Front's radio station, Liberation Radio, and of Radio Hanoi. Other knowledge of the Front's leadership has been gleaned from the interrogation of returnees and prisoners, and from news from abroad of travel performed by the Front's representatives.

Much of the following data has been compiled over a period of time during which changes may have occurred. The organization of the Front undergoes periodic revision, resulting in the creation of new positions as well as changes in personnel. Most of the data, however, particularly the list of the Front's representatives abroad, is believed to be accurate as of the date of publication of this document.

The Central Committee members listed are those elected on January 8, 1964. There may also have been changes in the composition of this Committee, but a more recent roster of its personnel is not available. For example, at least one member of this Committee, Madame Lê Thị Riêng, has been reported by Liberation Radio to have been killed on January 31, 1968.

The MLF currently has a permanent representation in 16 countries. In August 1968 the Front announced the establishment of permanent representations in Albania, Mongolia, Bulgaria and Rumania. This was the first indication of representations having been established in the former two countries; in the cases of Bulgaria and Rumania, however, Hanoi Radio reported on December 22, 1966, that the MLFSV had been "invited to set up its representation" in these states.

1/ Douglas Pike; Viet Cong (Cambridge: M.I.T. Press, 1966), p. 62.

THE PRESIDUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Chairman	Nguyễn Hữu Thọ
Vice Chairmen	Phùng Văn Cung
	Võ Chí Công
	Huỳnh Tấn Phát
	Ibih Aleo
	Thom Me The Nhem
	Trần Nam Trung
Members	Phạm Xuân Thái
	Trần Bạch Đằng
	Nguyễn Thị Định
	Thích Thiện Hào
	Trần Bửu Kiếm
	Nguyễn Văn Ngộ
	Nguyễn Hữu Thế
	Đặng Trần Thi

THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Secretary-General	Huỳnh Tấn Phát
Deputy Secretaries-General	Hồ Thu
	Lê Văn Huan
Members	Ứng Ngọc Kỳ
	Hồ Xuân Sơn

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Chu Phát	Nguyễn Thị Dương
Đặng Trần Thi	Nguyễn Văn Hiếu
Dương Kỳ Nam (alias)	Nguyễn Văn Ngộ
Dương Trường Thanh	Nguyễn Văn Thanh
Mà Thị Chu	Nguyễn Văn Thi (Tu?)
Hồ Thu	Nguyễn Văn Tiên
Hồ Xuân Sơn	Nhu Sơn (alias)
Huỳnh Cường (Khuông?)	Phạm Xuân Thái
Huỳnh Đăng	Phạm Xuân Vy (Thiên Vy?)

Huỳnh Tân Phát	Phùng Văn Cung
Huỳnh Tiên Tư	Rochon Briu
Huỳnh Văn Tam	Thích Nhân Thu (aka Hồng Liên)
Ibih Aleo	Thích Thiện Hào
Lâm Trí Chanh	Thom Me The Nhem
Lê Thanh Long	Trần Bạch Đằng
Lê Thị Riêng (deceased)	Trần Bửu Kiêm
Lê Văn Tha	Trần Hữu Trang
Lê Văn Huân	Trần Nam Trung
(Mai Văn Ti?)	Ứng Ngọc Kỳ
Nguyễn Hữu Thế	Võ Chí Công
Nguyễn Hữu Thọ	Xát
Nguyễn Ngọc Hiền	Võ Đăng Liên
Nguyễn Thạch (Hoc?)	Võ Đông Giang
Nguyễn Thị Bình	(Vũ Tích?)
Nguyễn Thị Định	(Trần Hoài Nam?)

CENTRAL COMMITTEE DEPARTMENTS

<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>CHAIRMAN OR REPRESENTATIVE</u>
Military Affairs	Trần Nam Trung
Information, Culture and Education	Trần Bạch Đằng
External Relations	Trần Bửu Kiêm
Defense of Buddhism	Thích Vinh
Public Health	Phùng Văn Cung
Inspectors Group	Nguyễn Văn Hiếu

NLF AFFILIATES

<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>CHAIRMAN</u>
Liberation Trade Union Association	Phạm Xuân Thái
Liberation Peasants Association	Nguyễn Hữu Thế
Liberation Youth Association	Trần Bạch Đằng
Liberation Womens Association	Mme Nguyễn Thị Định
Liberation Students and Pupils Association	Trần Bửu Kiêm

Liberation Writers and Artists Association	Buỳnh Minh Xuyên
Association of Former Resistants	Trần Bạch Đằng
Patriotic and Democratic Journalists Association	Tân Đức
Patriotic Buddhists Association	Thích Thiện Hào
Tay Nguyen Highland Plateau Autonomy Movement	Ibibi Aleo
Asian African Solidarity Committee	Nguyễn Ngọc Thuồng
People's Committee for Solidarity with the American People	Hồ Thu
Committee for Solidarity with the Latin American People	Thích Thiện Hào

REPRESENTATIVES ABROAD

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SENIOR MEMBER OF DELEGATION</u>
Albania	Nguyễn Phi Long
Algeria	Trần Hosi Nam
Bulgaria	Huỳnh Khang
Cambodia	Nguyễn Văn Hiếu
Communist China	Nguyễn Văn Quang
Cuba	Hoàng Bích Sơn
Czechoslovakia	Hoàng Minh Hoa
East Germany	Nguyễn Nhu
Hungary	Đinh Bái Thi
Mongolia	Đặng Quang Minh (concurrently representative in USSR)
North Korea	Vũ Ngọc Hồ
North Viet-Nam	Nguyễn Văn Tiên
Poland	Trần Văn Tư
Rumania	Nguyễn Đức Văn
United Arab Republic	Lê Quang Chanh
USSR	Đặng Quang Minh