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F.M. LAM: RVN ABLE TO DEFEND ITSELF
AGAINST ANY COMMUNIST ATTACKS

Saigon, September 19--Foreign Affairs Minister Tran Van Lam, in an interview Thursday with correspondent Philip Plarke of the Mutual Broadcasting System (MBS) in New York said that we should always keep the Communists guessing and no deadline for the withdrawal of Allied troops from Vietnam should be suggested.

Minister Lam also expressed his firm confidence that South Vietnam will be able to defend itself against any Communist attacks from the North if the RVN Armed Forces receive adequate supplies and assistance in training. The Communists, he added, are now lying low and South Vietnam is making steady progress in every field, he said.

However, he would not overlook the fact that the Communists are always intent to take over South Vietnam by force and they will still be very active in many ways.