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AFP REPORTS CONTINUED FIERCE FIGHTING SOUTHWEST OF SAIGON

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[Text] Saigon, Feb 26 (AFP)--Fierce fighting continued to rage today in the Fourth Military Region southwest of here.

A High Command spokesman in Saigon said the worst fighting was reported in the coastal province of Kien Giang, 200 kms (125 miles) from the capital, and Kien Province 80 kms (50 miles) from here.

The spokesman said 16 communist troops were put out of action, while government losses totalled two dead and 34 wounded.

Government aircraft carried out missions in all four military regions destroying 24 fuel tanks, three mortars and 24 communist military installations, the High Command said.

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SOUTH VIETNAM

The women arrived yesterday in Binh Duong, 30 kms (18 miles) northwest of Saigon from Phuoc Binh, which lies 100 kms (65 miles) further north. The two nurses and a lecturer had walked 150 kms (nearly 100 miles) after escaping from the town shortly before it fell.