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SOUTH VIETNAM

ATTENTION FOCUSED ON MARSHAL KY AFTER PALACE BOMBING

Liberation Radio [Clandestine] in Vietnamese to South Vietnam 1400 GMT 8 Apr 75 SG

[Excerpt] Following the bombing, Thieu, panic-stricken, had martial law imposed on Saigon-Gia Dinh, thus causing streets to be deserted and all of the people's social activities suspended. He had thousands of paratroopers and rangers deployed around his palace and on the roofs of buildings around it. Thieu also ordered the closing of Tan Son Nhut airport and the arrest and detention of Brig Gen Phan Phung Tien, commander of the airport. UPI said Tien was one of Ky's confidants.

Thieu shouted over Saigon radio that this was not a coup attempt but only a plot by a group. VOA chimed in by saying that the bombing was an individual act.

However, following the bombing, as UPI reported, attention was immediately focused on Nguyen Cao Ky. At the time, he and his wife were not present in their home at Tan Son Nhut.