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OFFICIALS REACT TO THIEU RESIGNATION, CAMBODIAN SITUATION

Miyazawa Expresses Views

Tokyo KYODO in English 0615 GMT 22 Apr 75 TK

[Text] Tokyo April 22 KYODO--Foreign Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told his cabinet colleagues Tuesday [22 April] there was no knowing at present what would happen in South Vietnam after President Nguyen Van Thieu's resignation Monday.

Reporting on the latest situation in South Vietnam at the day's regular cabinet session, Miyazawa said the South Vietnamese situation was "unpredictable," as the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) is taking a strong attitude toward new President Tran Van Huong. Miyazawa noted that the PRG mission in Paris had branded President Huong as Thieu's follower.

Regarding the military situation in South Vietnam, Miyazawa reported the balance was overwhelmingly in favor of insurgent forces.

Labor Minister Takashi Hasegawa questioned Miyazawa on Prince Norodom Sihanouk's statement in Peking last week that his government would not resume diplomatic relations with Japan for a few years. Miyazawa refrained from making his comment on the Sihanouk statement, saying that relations between Prince Sihanouk and leaders of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia were unclear.

Concerning evacuation of Japanese nationals in South Vietnam, Miyazawa said they would be able to leave Saigon if the Tan Son Nhut airport was available. As of April 19, 211 Japanese including the embassy staff remained in South Vietnam and 80 of them who were married to Vietnamese might stay on there, he said.

Government Takes 'Wait and See' Attitude

Tokyo KYODO in English 0012 GMT 22 Apr 75 TK

[Text] Tokyo April 22 KYODO--The government outwardly was taking a wait-and-see attitude on the resignation of President Nguyen Van Thieu of South Vietnam. Commenting on President Thieu's announcement Monday that he had decided to resign, government sources said Monday night that they believed the president took such a step to pave the way for a settlement through talks. They said, however, they wanted to watch developments in the future since the situation at present was very fluid.

Foreign Ministry sources revealed Monday night that they also wanted to carefully study the situation. Commenting on future outlook, they said that there is need to watch developments for some time to see whether the military situation in Vietnam will calm down or whether the way will be paved toward tripartite talks based on the Paris peace agreement. No matter how the situation develops in the future, the Foreign Ministry reportedly plans to exert all efforts in the future to aid refugees in Vietnam through the International Red Cross and other international organs. It also plans to extend "economic assistance" from a pure meaning [as received] in the form of contributing to the reconstruction of Indochina.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Takeo Miki heard the news of Thieu's resignation Monday night from the Foreign Ministry and other quarters concerned. He, however, avoided making a comment, saying that he would like to study the situation further.

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Quarters close to Miki believe that there will be a change in the U.S. policy toward Asia and its defense strategy due to the recent developments in Cambodia and Vietnam. They believe that Japan-U.S. relations in the post-Vietnam era will be the most important topic to be taken up in the coming summit meeting in August between Miki and President Gerald Ford.

Party Leaders Comment

Tokyo KYODO in English 0028 GMT 22 Apr 75 TK

[Text] Tokyo April 22 KYODO--A spokesman of the Liberal-Democratic Party, commenting on the resignation of President Nguyen Van Thieu of South Vietnam, said Monday night Japan's diplomacy toward Asia in the future should be pushed based on the standpoint of co-existence and co-prosperity and by respecting national self-determination.

Misoji Sakamoto, chairman of the LDP Foreign Relations Committee, said he believed Thieu's announcement of his resignation before bloodshed occurred in Saigon was a prudent measure. Even if the South Vietnamese Government shifted toward the left, he believed it will stand on the principle of national self-determination and aid in easing tension in Asia when regarded from a long range point of view.

Kanji Kawasaki, head of the International Affairs Bureau of the Japan Socialist Party, said Thieu's resignation indicated that the U.S. policy of military intervention and intervention in domestic affairs had failed completely. He said his party demands that the government decide in favor of establishing diplomatic ties with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam and extend economic cooperation positively by respecting the sovereignty and will of the new regime in that country.

Akira Kuroyanagi, head of Komeito's International Affairs Bureau, said Thieu's resignation was expected as a matter of course. It clearly shows that the Thieu regime had been completely abandoned by the Vietnamese people, he said. He said the government should respect the national self-determination of the Vietnamese people and push policies toward Vietnam conforming to the wishes of the Vietnamese people.

Hiroshi Tachiki, head of the International Affairs Department of the Japan Communist Party, said the resignation of Thieu is the outcome of the struggle of the Vietnamese people against the Thieu regime which, he claimed, had consistently violated the Paris accord. He said it is now clear that the Liberal-Democrat government's policy toward Indochina had failed. Tachiki demanded that the Miki government make a basic shift in its diplomatic policy based on dependency on the U.S.

Keigo Ouchi of the Democratic Socialist Party said that Thieu's resignation did not come as a surprise to his party because it was expected. He said there is no other way than to deal with the Vietnam problem through negotiations in the future. He believed the resignation of Thieu was one of the series of moves of the South Vietnamese Government to grasp a way for working for a political settlement.

MIYAZAWA DISCUSSES PRC TREATY AT LDP EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEET

Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT 21 Apr 75 TK

[Text] Tokyo April 21 KYODO--Foreign Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) leaders Monday the government would seek Diet approval to conclude a Japan-China peace and friendship treaty during the current Diet session

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while trying at the same time to obtain clarification of the Chinese-proposed "hegemony clause" in the treaty. At a meeting of the LDP's Executive Council, Miyazawa also exchanged views with LDP leaders on other problems such as a Japan-South Korea continental shelf agreement and ratification of the nuclear nonproliferation treaty.

On the peace and friendship treaty, the foreign minister said the government had not changed its plan to seek Diet approval to conclude the treaty during the current session ending May 25. However, he said, it was necessary first to clarify the meaning of the "hegemony clause" to avoid any misunderstanding between Japan and China. The government will decide whether to agree on its inclusion in the treaty after the word "hegemony" has been clarified, he said.

Miyazawa said the government basically supports the Chinese stand against the establishment of hegemony by any nation in Asia, as made clear in the 1972 Japan-China joint statement. He said the problem is that such a hegemony clause could be misunderstood by third nations if it is included in the Japan-China peace and friendship treaty.

Concerning Miyazawa's expected visit to China, Chairman Hirokichi Nadao of the LDP Executive Council said Miyazawa's visit could prove to be an ill-advised move unless it is certain the visit would bring about a breakthrough in negotiations on the treaty.