

TASS REPORTS ON LIFE IN SAIGON, DINH BA THI STATEMENT

MAY 75

Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1143 GMT 1 May 75 LD

[Text] Hanoi--According to reports from liberated Saigon, the city, decked out with the state flags of the PRGRSV, was today the scene of a mass May Day demonstration, the first seen for many years. Columns of many thousands of festively attired people carrying flowers, banners and greetings slogans addressed to the soldiers of the people's armed forces walked through the main thoroughfares of Saigon.

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The life of the multimillion populated city is returning to its normal course. The curfew has been abolished. The work of institutions and transport has been resumed. It has been announced that the representatives of revolutionary power guarantee the lives and property of foreigners resident in the city and will strictly adhere to the humane policy of the PRGRSV as regards officials of the former administration and former soldiers in the Saigon army. Regular broadcasts have started from the "Liberation" Radio stations. One of the first programs proclaimed an order from the command of the people's armed forces. It contains an appeal to the population to rally around the National Liberation Front and the PRGRSV, to observe the instructions of the revolutionary authorities and to further the administration of order and help the new authorities to govern the city.

Paris--Dinh Ba Thi, official representative of the PRGRSV speaking at a press conference here, has said that his government is conducting a policy of peace and nonalignment. The PRGRSV is prepared, he stated, to establish diplomatic relations with all countries, regardless of their sociopolitical systems. The PRGRSV is ready to accept economic and technical aid from various countries on the condition that this aid is not accompanied by any political conditions. Inside the country, Dinh Ba Thi noted, the PRGRSV continues to pursue a policy of broad alliance and national accord with the objective of setting up a peaceful, independent, democratic, neutral and flourishing South Vietnam, in order to consistently advance toward the reuniting of the Vietnamese homeland.

Further Details

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[Excerpt] Moscow May 1 TASS--TASS commentator Yuriy Trushin writes: In Saigon today, the first May Day demonstration involving workers and students of the city, fighting men of the People's Liberation Armed Forces of South Vietnam took place. It passed off in an exemplary way, as Western agency correspondents report. Enthusiastic residents ardently cheered the fighting men of the people's armed forces. Life in Saigon is rapidly coming back to normal. Leaflets with an address of the National Liberation Front have been pasted everywhere in the city on the walls of buildings: "Rally closer around the South Vietnam National Liberation Front in order to take into your own hands the rights of the country's masters, in order to form a revolutionary administration, to defend the life and property of population, to reduce the number of victims to the minimum."

Peace has at last come to the long-suffering land of Vietnam for the first time in 20 years. The victory of the South Vietnam patriots led by the South Vietnam National Liberation Front and the inglorious collapse of the invincibility of the forces of peace and progress, of another big defeat of the forces of reaction and aggression. [as received] This is exactly how the progressive world press views the Vietnamese patriots' great deed.