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# Guarantee Asked Of China, Soviet

Oct. 24, 1972

SAIGON — (UPI) —

President Nguyen Van Thieu said tonight he has "not agreed to any cease-fire" in the Indochina War.

In a lengthy television and radio address to the nation, Thieu said a cease-fire would have to be guaranteed by the Soviet Union and China and he indicated no such guarantees had been obtained.

"We have not agreed to any cease-fire," Thieu told the nation. "Any cease-fire has to be the result of a political and military agreement. We have to guarantee a cease-fire."

Thieu also rejected:

- Any form of coalition government with Communist participation. "They are trying to stir up political troubles without the participation of the real people of South Vietnam," he said.

- A halt to American bombing of North Vietnam as part of a "temporary" solution of the war.

### 2-Hour Broadcast

Thieu said, however, that the Communist side has requested a cease-fire and that one could come "in the near future" — but only if North Vietnam withdraws all its troops.

Once that is done, Thieu said in a two-hour broadcast, his government would be ready to discuss a political settlement with the National Liberation Front (Viet Cong). No outside party could make decisions determining South Vietnam's future, he asserted.

He declared that no formal agreements were reached in his five days of talks with President Nixon's national security adviser, Henry Kissinger. He said the talks were exploratory and "nothing was signed."

### Asks Guarantee

In what was essentially a reiteration of his government's long-standing position on an Indochina settlement, Thieu said the cease-fire would have to cover Cambodia and Laos as well as South Vietnam, and be guaranteed by international supervision.

"A cease - fire may take place in the near future because the Communists have requested it," he continued. "The Communists agree to, and even beg for a cease -

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## Cease-Fire Out, Thieu Declares

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fire because they are militarily weak."

He said he had asked the United States to "ask the Communists what they want" and said South Vietnam would reserve its own final decisions on its future.

He suggested that the North Vietnamese were trying for a settlement before the U.S. presidential election.

### 'To Stand Pat'

"If a cease - fire occurs before or after the U.S. elections, we will stand pat on our firm position," Thieu said.

By declaring his opposition to an imposed peace agreement, Thieu indicated sharp disagreement in discussions with the United States on an Indochina settlement.

The tone of Thieu's speech was generally pessimistic. It seemed to indicate that war would continue in Indochina despite worldwide reports in the past few days that a cease - fire might be imminent.

Thieu referred to Communist offers for a cease-fire and new elections in South Vietnam as "booby traps on the road to what they call a peace settlement."

During his long and sometimes rambling address over a nationwide radio and television network Thieu re-



NGUYEN VAN THIEU  
Defiant speech

ferred to "dark schemes aimed at taking over South Vietnam" and declared that no one has the right to impose a peace agreement on the South Vietnamese, thus indicating a sharp disagreement with the United States.