

H. T. PHAT



FILE SUBJ.
DATE SUB-CAT.



HUYNH TAN PHAT
President

Huynh Tan Phat was born in 1923 in My Tho province.

In 1936, when a student in architecture, he worked in the democratic movement against fascism and colonialism first under French rule then during Japanese occupation.

He was an activist in the campaign for the propagation of the national language and the relief to the victims of famine in the North, as well as in patriotic students and pupils' movements.

He was managing editor of the review *Thanh nien* (Youth), a pro-revolution militant organ, and one of the promoters of the *Thanh nien Tien phong* (Vanguard Youth) movement. He made a great contribution to the General Insurrection in Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh in August 1945.

After the French colonialists had reoccupied Saigon he was arrested on two occasions for underground activities.

In 1949, he went to the liberated zone and became Director of the Nam Bo Information Service, then member of the Resistance and Administrative Committee of the Saigon-Cholon Special Zone.

Back in Saigon after the signing of the 1954 Geneva Agreements, he belonged to the leadership of the mass movement against the US-Diem scheme to sabotage these accords and against US aggression in South Viet Nam.

In 1959, he left for the liberated zone and became Secretary-General of the South Viet Nam Democratic Party. Afterwards he was elected to the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and concurrently assumed the functions of Vice-Chairman of the Presidium, Secretary-General of the Central Committee, and President of the Saigon - Cholon - Gia Dinh Committee.

Early in 1965, he led an NFL Delegation to the Indochinese Peoples' Conference for Strengthening Friendship and Militant Solidarity in Phnom Penh.

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DATE / SUB-CAT.
HT Phat



Huynh Tan Phat, leader of the Democratic Party,
is General Secretary of the Central Committee of
the National Liberation Front.

DRV
FILE / SUBJ. 8107
DATE / SUB-CAT.
12/20 / HT PHAT

HUYNH TAN PHAT ATTENDS EXHIBITION--The exhibition on the Dong Son bronze drums was opened Sunday at the Vietnam History Museum in Hanoi. Vice Premier Huynh Tan Phat was present at the inauguration ceremony. About 60 Dong Son bronze drums are on display. Some of them date back 3,000 years. [Text] [Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 6 Dec 76 OW]

HISTORY OF THE VIETNAM WAR ON MICROFILM

Huỳnh Tấn Phát

Vice premier of the government, Huynh Tan Phat was born in 1912 in An Hoa District, My Tho Province, (now Ben Tre Province) but lived chiefly in Saigon. He graduated from the Hanoi College of Architecture under French domination.

After the success of the French popular front, Huynh Tan Phat, then a student, took part in the democratic movement.

Before the August revolution in 1945, Huynh Tan Phat was an active initiator and inspirator of the movement for the "popularization of the written national language." He was also editor-in-chief of the weekly THANH NIEN (Youth). With an anti-French and anti-Japanese tendency, he helped build and develop the "Thanh Nien Tien Phong" (Vanguard Youth) movement.

When the August revolution broke out in 1945, he was among those revolutionaries who seized power in Saigon and was later appointed deputy-director of the information and press department of the South Vietnam People's Committee.

After the French aggressors reoccupied Saigon, Huynh Tan Phat was arrested and jailed for two years. On his release, he resumed underground activities in Saigon.

In 1949, he went to the resistance base and was appointed to the resistance and administrative committee and made director of the information service of South Vietnam (1949-1950).

From 1950-1954, he was a member of the administrative and resistance committee of the special zone of Saigon-Cho Lon in charge of the radio station "The Voice of Free Saigon-Cho Lon."

After the signing of the Geneva agreements in 1954, Huynh Tan Phat came back to Saigon, where till late 1958 he engaged in underground activities to step up the political struggle to demand implementation of the Geneva agreements by the U.S. imperialists and the Ngo Dinh Diem administration.

In 1959, he went to the resistance zone where he joined in leading the revolutionary movement in Saigon-Gia Dinh, specially charged with agitation work among the intellectuals.

In 1961, he was elected president of the National Front for Liberation Committee in Saigon-Gia Dinh.

Early in 1962, he was elected vice-president of the Central Committee of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation at the congress of the front. Again, at the next congress of the front held in early 1964, he was elected vice-president of the Presidium of the front Central Committee and general secretary of the front.

In 1965, he headed the South Vietnam delegation to the first Indochinese peoples conference held in Cambodia.

Since 1969, he has been president of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam appointed by the congress of the

South Vietnamese people's representatives (June 1969). (Hanoi VNA 1543
GMT 3 Jul 76 OW)

FILE / SUBJ.
DATE / SUB-CAT.
1963

Huynh Tan Phat, Architect.

Vice President of the Presidium, Central Committee NLF

General Secretary of the Democratic Party SVN

President of the NLF Saigon Cho Lon Regional Council.

Well known architect, Mr Phat was born in 1913 in My Tho. Since 1936, even before the time he finished his study, he has been engaged in the democratic movement and then in the struggle against the fascism under the Japanese occupation. He was director of the magazine Jeunesse (youth) and a promoter of the Jeunesse Avant Garde Movement .

His active participation in the August Revolution cost him to be twice arrested by the French colonialists. Back in liberty, he held important functions in the Resistance, directing the Information Service in Nam Bo (SVN) and member of the Resistance ~~xx~~ and Administrative Council Saigon-Gia Dinh.

Back to Saigon after Geneva, he continued the struggle against the American aggression, which led him to join in 1958 the liberated zone.

Photo
- 6 -
1963

HUYNH TAN-PHAT

1965

Huynh Tan Phat, who is usually identified as an architect, was first elected a Vice Chairman of the NFLSV Central Committee Presidium in March 1962. He currently serves also as Secretary General of the Central Committee and director of the NFLSV publication Giai Phong, heads the NFLSV Saigon-Gia Dinh Committee, and is Secretary General of the Democratic Party of South Vietnam. Phat has been described as the second-ranking member of the NFLSV. A native of southern Vietnam, he has been active in the Saigon area throughout most of his revolutionary career, which began during his student days in the 1930's. A French newspaperman has termed him a political moderate in the context of the NFLSV leadership, but the limited information available makes it difficult to make such a distinction. Phat, who headed the NFLSV

HUYNH Tan Phat, alias TAM Chi, alias NGUYEN Ngoc Quy, alias SAU Phat

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Secretary-General of the NFLSV's Central Committee since January, 1964, he was its Vice-President from March, 1962. He is also Secretary-General of the NFLSV affiliate, the South Vietnam Democratic Party, and has been Chairman of the Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh zone, and director of the NFLSV publication, GIAI PHONG, since January, 1962. Thought to be an architect, Phat has been active in the Saigon area since his student days in the 1930s. Reportedly born in My Tho in 1913, he graduated from the Hanoi College of Fine Arts in 1936. Since the mid-1940s, however, he has been known primarily for his political activities. He was arrested twice for subversion by the French - in 1945 and 1947. He became a member of the Saigon/Cholon Resistance Committee in 1950 and took part in a reunion in Bien Hoa in June, 1952, to study a terrorist programme for the province. Phat refused to leave for regroupment to the North in 1954 and took up residence in Saigon. In 1955 he was a member of the executive committee of the Fatherland Front which controlled joint Viet Minh and Hoa Hao sect activities in South-Vietnam. The leader of these activities was said to be Le Duan, now the First Secretary of the North Vietnamese Lao Dong (Communist) Party. Phat is said to have considerable responsibilities for the co-ordination of the NFLSV's political and military policies. In 1964 he was said to be responsible for the "political struggle" in the towns. Less of a committed Communist than Nguyen Van Hieu and Tran Buu Kiem, he may have been appointed Secretary-General in order to make the NFLSV more attractive to neutralists and non-Communist elements. His wife, BUI Thi Nga, was a committee member of the "Union of Resistance Intellectuals" established in Saigon/Cholon in 1950 and was in charge of propaganda. She was imprisoned in December, 1960, but reportedly released during 1964.

NLF / Biny
FILE / SUBJ.
DATE / SUB-CAT.
4/167 / H.T. Phat

HUYNH TAN PHAT NAMED NFLSV SECRETARY GENERAL

Paris AFP in English 2522 GMT 29 April 1967--E (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

N18

(Text) Hanoi, 29 April--by Jacques Moalic--Apparently for the first time, one of the vice presidents of the Central Committee of the South Vietnamese National Liberation Front, Huynh Tan Phat, has been designated in an official text of the front's Presidium as secretary general of the Central Committee, which would make him virtually top man in the NFLSV from now on.

The promotion of Huynh Tan Phat, who was the underground leader of the front in Saigon, was revealed in a Presidium communique published today by the Hanoi press on an important meeting held by the front from 24 to 26 April.

The communique, which gave the main points on the agenda, nevertheless brought out that a full range of problems, political as well as military, were debated during the three-day meeting.

Huynh Tan Phat made a report on efforts in Saigon and in the other cities--which is one of the front's concerns--against pacification and on consolidation and broadening of the liberated zones. (?Commander of) the armed forces and Vice President Tran Nam Trung reported on military operations since the start of the year.

It was during this meeting that the NFLSV decided to order a 48-hour truce on 22-23 May on the occasion of the anniversary of Buddha's birth--the first (?time) this event has been marked by a halt in military operations by the front. The truce decision, said the front's statement, is to allow for a policy of national solidarity and to respect freedom of conscience, and is also a reply to the legitimate wish of Buddhist clergy and followers.

Alluding to Saigon's 7 April initiative proposing a truce on the same occasion, the statement said the Saigon leaders are the ones who are plotting to use the anniversary to peddle their shoddy goods of peace and cease-fire in order to disguise their nature as aggressors and traitors to the motherland and in order to calm the Buddhist hatred and indignation toward them.

The orders given by the front command are identical to those issued during the Christmas truce, the new year truce, and the Lunar New Year truce. They forbid their adversaries to conduct any military activities, under pain of reprisals, and call on their troops for strict application of the order while advising vigilance.

HUYNH Tan Phat alias TAM Chi alias NGUYEN Ngoc Quy alias SAU Phat.

5164 Secretary-General of the NFLSV Central Committee since January 1964; Vice-President of the NFLSV Central Committee from March 1962 to January 1964; Secretary-General of the NFLSV Democratic Party; Chairman of the Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh Zone since January 1962; Director of the NFLSV publication Giai Phong (Liberation) since January 1962.

Generally identified as an architect, Huynh Tan Phat has been active in resistance movements since his student days in the 1930s. Reportedly born in My Tho in 1913, he graduated in architecture from the Hanoi College of Fine Arts in 1936. Since the mid-1940s, however, he has been known primarily for his political activities. In 1944 and 1945 he was director of the anti-French daily, Thanh Nien (Youth) and in June 1944 he was a founder member of the Democratic Party, an ostensibly anti-Communist Party actually controlled by the Communists after 1946. He was arrested and jailed twice by the French for subversion in 1945 and 1947. From 1945-1948 Phat was reported as a member of the executive committee of Nam-bo (Cochinchina) and as director of the Nam-bo information service. He became a member of the Saigon-Cholon Resistance Committee in 1950 and took part in a reunion in Bien Hoa province in June 1952 to study a terrorist programme for the province. Phat refused to leave for regroupment to the North after the armistice agreement in 1954 and took up residence in Saigon opening an architect's office with his brother and resumed his Democratic Party activities. He was identified late in 1955 as a member of the executive committee of the North Vietnamese Fatherland Front which controlled joint Viet Minh and Hoa Hao sect activities in South Vietnam from a headquarters in the Plain of Reeds area. The leader of these activities was said to be Le Duan, now the First Secretary of the North Vietnamese Lao Dong (Communist) Party. Phat was also mentioned in June 1964 by NFLSV Chairman, Nguyen Huu Tho, as a member of the Saigon-Cholon Peace Committee which he claimed was the predecessor of the NFLSV. In January, 1962, Phat was appointed chairman of the NFLSV's Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh Zone which is one of

COSVN's military regions and until 1966 the location of at least part of the headquarters of the People's Revolutionary Party, the Communist ruling party of the NFLSV, making Phat one of the leading Communist officials in the South.

Phat led the NFLSV delegation to the Indochinese People's Conference in Phom Penh in 1965 and is reported to have told Prince Sihanouk that South Vietnam would never submit to dictation by the North and that reunification, while desirable, was not necessary for several decades.

Huynh Tan Phat is the NFLSV theoretician and is said to have considerable responsibilities for the co-ordination of the NFLSV's political and military policies. He replaced Tran Buu Kiem as Secretary-General in January, 1964, apparently because a more authoritative person was needed in the post. In 1964 he was said to be responsible for the "political struggle" in the towns, a continuation of campaigns for "persuasion" of the bourgeoisie and intelligentsia with which he had been identified since the 1950s. His appeals for intensification of armed and political attacks in the cities and for the sabotage of the South Vietnamese pacification programme appear frequently in NFLSV propaganda. Phat submitted the draft of the NFLSV's 1967 Political Programme to an NFLSV extraordinary congress in August 1967. He reported on the effects of the programme's promulgation in Vietnam and abroad to a Presidium Conference in October, 1967.

Less of an openly committed Communist than Nguyen Van Hieu and Tran Buu Kiem, Phat may have been appointed Secretary-General of the NFLSV in order to make it more attractive to neutralists and non-Communist elements.

His wife, BUI Thi Nga, was a committee member of the Union of Resistance Intellectuals in Saigon-Cholon established in 1950 and was in charge of propaganda. She was imprisoned in December 1960 but reportedly released during 1964.

FILE	SUBJ.
DATE	SUB-CAT.
1962	
1969	

Huynh Tan Phat

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4/62

He took part in the patriotic activities as early as in 1936, and was twice arrested by the French colonialists. After peace was restored, he actively worked in Saigon-Cholon for the correct implementation of the four 1954 Geneva agreements. In 1958, he left this city for the countryside to join the people's struggle. Now he is Secretary General of the South Vietnam Democratic Party. (Hanoi in Eng. 1417 GMT - 4/16/62)

[Text] Architect Huynh Tan Phat, president of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of Vietnam, was born in My Tho in 1913. Since 1936, before leaving school, he operated within the democratic movement against fascism and colonialism under the French rule and during the Japanese occupation period. In the struggle, he made great contributions toward motivating the national movement under the forms of national language diffusion, famine relief in North Vietnam, and the patriotic students' movement.

6/69

He was director of the magazine "YOUTH," a struggle organ during the uprising period. He was one of the founders and promoters of the vanguard youth movement and actively participated in staging the uprising of August 1945 in Saigon-Cholon-Gia-Dinh. He was twice arrested by the enemy for continuing his activities after the French reoccupation of Saigon. In 1949, he joined the liberated areas, assuming the functions of director of the Nam Bo information service and then member of the Saigon-Cholon administrative and resistance committee.

After the signing of the Geneva agreements, he returned to Saigon and participated in leading the mass struggle movement against the U.S.-Diemist plot to sabotage the Geneva agreements and to invade South Vietnam. In 1959, because of his functions, he rejoined the liberated areas as secretary general of the South Vietnam Democratic Party. He was elected to the NFLSV Central Committee, assuming the functions of vice chairman of the Presidium and concurrently secretary general of the NFLSV Central Committee and chairman of the Saigon-Cholon-Gia-Dinh NFLSV committee. In early 1965, he was appointed head of the NFLSV delegation to the Indochinese peoples' conference to tighten the bonds of friendship and militant solidarity with the Indochinese peoples.

NLF B109
FILE SUBJ.
DATE SUB-CAT.
5-70

HUYNH TAN PHAT REPORTEDLY KILLED IN B-52 RAID

Saigon Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 14 May 70 S

[Text] A Cambodian paper yesterday reported that Huynh Tan Phat, premier of the so-called Viet Cong Provisional Revolutionary Government, was killed in a B-52 raid on a clandestine encampment on Cambodian territory. The Cambodian paper (NOKOR THOM) pointed out that Huynh Tan Phat is the chairman of the NFL, the armed organization of the Viet Cong. It is added that Huynh Tan Phat was killed during a bombing raid at low altitude by B-52's near Mimot, Kompong Cham Province, some 150 kilometers northwest of Phnom Penh. This Cambodian paper did not mention the date of this air raid.

Mimot, an area behind the Fishhook area, was violently bombed after the U.S.-Vietnamese troops began to cross the border to enter the Cambodian territory. One of the targets of the air raids was a rubber plantation and a rubber processing factory owned by a French company. At that time, the bombing was considered to be a matter of pure coincidence, but today it is tied to the death of Huynh Tan Phat. Although the rumor about Huynh Tan Phat's death has been circulating in Phnom Penh for many days, it was first reported by the press yesterday.

FILE 3 SUBJ.
DATE 1970
SUB-CAT

HUYNH Tan Phat (alias TAM Chi, alias NGUYEN Ngoc Quy, alias SAU Phat)

3/70
Chairman or "Prime Minister" of the PRG. Secretary-General of the NFLSV Central Committee since January, 1964; Vice-President of the NFLSV Central Committee from March, 1962, to January, 1964; Secretary-General of the NFLSV Democratic Party; Chairman of the Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh Zone since January, 1962; Director of the NFLSV publication Giai Phong (Liberation) since January, 1962.

Generally identified as an architect, Huynh Tan Phat has been active in resistance movements since student days in the 1930s. Reportedly born in My Tho in 1913, he graduated in architecture from the Hanoi College of Fine Arts in 1936. Since the mid-1940s he has been known primarily for his political activities. In 1944 and 1945 he was director of the anti-French daily newspaper Thanh Nien (Youth), and in June, 1944 was a founder-member of the Democratic Party, an ostensibly non-Communist Party actually controlled by the Communists after 1946. He was one of the founders and promoters of the Vanguard Youth Movement. He was arrested and jailed twice by the French for subversion in 1945 and 1947. In 1945-1948 Phat was reported as a director of the Nam-Bo information service. In 1949 he went to "liberated" areas and became Director of the Nam Bo information service. He became a member of the Saigon-Cholon Resistance Committee in 1950 and took part in a reunion in Bien Hoa province in June, 1952, to study a terrorist programme for the province. Phat refused to leave for regroupment to the North after the armistice agreement in 1954 and took up residence in Saigon, opened an architects' office with his brother and resumed his Democratic Party activities. He was identified late in 1955 as a member of the executive committee of the North Vietnamese Fatherland Front which controlled joint Viet Minh and Hoa Hao sect activities in South Vietnam from a headquarters in the Plain of Reeds area. (The leader of these activities was said to be Le Duan, now the First Secretary of the North Vietnamese Lao Dong Workers' Party). Phat was also mentioned in June, 1964, by NFLSV Chairman, Nguyen Huu Tho, as a member of the Saigon-Cholon Peace Committee which he claimed was the predecessor of the NFLSV. In January, 1962, Phat was appointed Chairman of the Central Committee of the NFLSV's Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh Zone which was until 1966 the location of at least part of the headquarters of the People's Revolutionary Party, the Communist ruling party of the NFLSV, making Phat one of the leading Communist officials in the South.

Phat led the NFLSV delegation to the Indochinese People's Conference in Phnom Penh in 1965 and is reported to have told Prince Sihanouk that South Vietnam would never submit to dictation by the North and that reunification, while desirable, was not necessary for several decades.

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HOYINH Tan That (cont.)

Secretary-General in January, 1964, apparently because a more authoritative person was needed in the post. In 1964 he was said to be responsible for the "political struggle" in the towns, a continuation of campaigns for "persuasion" of the bourgeoisie and intelligentsia with which he had been identified since the 1950s. His appeals for intensification of armed and political attacks in the cities and for the sabotage of the South Vietnamese pacification programme appear frequently in NFLSV propaganda. When NGUYEN Huu Tho was seriously ill in 1967, That took over the Chairmanship of the NFLSV Presidium. He submitted the draft of the NFLSV's 1967 Political Programme to an NFLSV extraordinary congress in August, 1967. He reported on the effects of the programme's promulgation in Vietnam and abroad to a Presidium Conference in October, 1967. Headed a PRG delegation on a friendship visit to Cambodia in June, 1969. He was appointed Deputy Head of the NFLSV funeral committee for President Ho in September, 1969.

Less of an openly committed Communist than Nguyen Van Hieu and Tran Buu Kiem, That may have been appointed Secretary-General of the NFLSV to make it more attractive to neutralists and non-Communist elements.

His wife, Bui Thi Nga, was a committee member of the Union of Resistance Intellectuals in Saigon-Cholon established in 1950 and was in charge of propaganda. She was imprisoned in December, 1960, but reportedly released during 1964.

HUYNH TAN PHAT

NLF CC V.C. (see biog)

--
Radio Hanoi (domestic) Jan 31 1964 said he
NLF CC sec-gen.

--
2nd Congress served as secretary general of
NLF.
Gen Sec Democratic Party; chairman NLF Saigon-
Cholon Gia Dinh Zone.

(over)

Huỳnh Tấn Phát

President of the PRG; Vice Chairman of the Presidium of the NFLSV; on 18 May 1970 spoke at a ceremony held in a liberated area of South Vietnam to honor Ho's 80th birthday. (Nhan Dan, 20 May 70, p 1)

Huỳnh Tấn Phát, Architect

President of the PRG; received congratulatory messages from the leaders of socialist countries on the occasion of the first anniversary of the PRG. (Nhan Dan, 19 Jun 70, p 1)

Huỳnh Tấn Phát, Architect

President of the PRG; was one of the presiding dignitaries at a rally held on 8 November 1970 by the Central Committee of the NFLSV in connection with the International Week of Solidarity with the Cambodian People in their Struggle Against the American Aggressors. (Nhan Dan, 10 Nov 70, p 4)

Huỳnh Tấn Phát, Architect

Secretary General of the Central Committee of the NFLSV; President of the PRG; addressee, with Nguyen Huu Tho, of a message of congratulations on the 10th anniversary of the NFLSV, sent by the USSR. (Nhan Dan, 22 Dec 70, p 1)

Huỳnh Tấn Phát

President of the PRG of the Republic of South Vietnam; signed a message to Prince Sihanouk dated 21 March 1972. (Nhan Dan, 24 Mar 72, pp 1, 4)

Huỳnh Tấn Phát

President of the PRG of the Republic of South Vietnam; He was one of the presiding dignitaries at a rally held in a liberated area of South Vietnam to celebrate the 12th anniversary of the NFLSV. (South Vietnam in Struggle, English, 25 Dec 72, p 4)

Huynh Tan Phat

Born in the Mekong Delta city of My Tho in 1913, Huynh Tan Phat attended the Hanoi College of Fine Arts during the early 1930's. Exposure to the severity of French colonialist political repression which followed the abortive nationalist and communist attempts at uprising, as well as the presence in Hanoi of clandestine political groups, apparently politicized Phat. He is reported to have been involved in revolutionary activity in the North, although the precise nature of those activities have not been defined. There is no evidence that Phat became a member of the Indochinese Communist Party at this time. However, he can hardly have helped being aware of the Party's existence and goals.

Phat graduated as an architect in 1936 and apparently returned to the South immediately thereafter. It was at this period that the formation of the Popular Front Government in France resulted in the loosening of restrictions on political activity in Indochina. Phat appears to have continued his involvement in politics. His official biography, issued by the NFLSV at the time of the formation of the PRGRSV in mid-June 1969, cites Phat's membership in an organization called the "Democratic Movement Against Fascism and Colonialism", an organization which was probably affiliated with the communist-sponsored Indochinese Democratic Front of the 1936-1939 period.

Nothing is known of Phat's activities in the early 1940's, when both French and Japanese troops occupied Viet-Nam. In about 1944, he had become editor of an anti-French daily newspaper, Thanh Nien (Youth), and, at about the same time, was a founding member of the ostensibly non-communist but Viet-Minh affiliated South Viet-Nam Democratic Party.

His official biography cites Phat as "one of the founders and promoters" of the Thanh Nien Tien Phong (Vanguard Youth) in 1945. The TNTP, described by French historian Philippe Devillers as the Viet-Minh's "only fist" in the South, was effectively controlled and directed by the Viet-Minh's communist elements. Its founder and head, Dr. Pham Ngoc Thach, is reported to have been a secret member of the ICP. Subsequently he went North and became Minister of Health of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam. Although

there is no concrete evidence that Phat was anything more than a collaborator with the Party at that time it is not impossible that he became a Party member in 1945.

Phat's official biography also stated that he "actively participated" in preparations for the August, 1945 "uprising" in Saigon. Since the actual "uprising" was more spontaneous than Vietnamese communist historians care to admit, it can only be assumed that Phat was involved in political agitation in Saigon, probably as a Vanguard Youth spokesman.

Following the French reoccupation of Saigon at the end of September, 1945, Phat apparently remained in the city. Late in 1945 and again in 1947, he was briefly jailed for subversive activities. The fact that he was not imprisoned for a longer period may indicate either the failure of French security forces to prove more serious charges or that Phat simply was not as active as has been claimed since by communist historians.

By 1949, however, Phat found it best to leave the city for the Viet-Minh "liberated areas". The Nam Bo Executive Committee, then headed by Le Duan, appointed him Director of the Nam Bo Information Service. A year later, he was appointed a member of the Viet-Minh Resistance and Administrative Committee of Saigon-Cholon, a position he held until the 1954 Geneva Agreements ended the war.

Rather than "regroup" to the communist-controlled northern half of Viet-Nam, as a large number of Viet-Minh cadres did after the war, Phat, possibly on Party orders, remained in Saigon. He opened an office with his brother and practiced architecture. Several buildings purportedly designed by Phat during this period still stand in Saigon. He also resumed activities on behalf of the South Viet-Nam Democratic Party. The Democratic Party continued to claim independence and non-Communism, however, and agitated against the Diem government on that basis. Phat and other Democratic Party members were also active in the 1954-1955 Saigon-Cholon Peace Committee, which its vice chairman Nguyen Huu Tho has described as a precursor of the National Front for Liberation.

However, by 1959, Diem was taking harsher measures against political opposition of any sort and Phat once more left Saigon for the "liberated areas." By this time, he was Secretary-General of the Democratic Party.

When the NFLSV was formed in December 1960, Phat was named a Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee Presidium and Chairman of the NFLSV's Committee for the Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh area. In mid-1964, he became NFLSV Secretary-General, replacing an old associate from the Democratic Party, Tran Buu Kiem.

His ostensibly non-communist background made Huynh Tan Phat a logical choice for the presidency of the Provisional Revolutionary Government when it was formed in June, 1969. A rallier who had worked at COSVN at the time of the PRGRSV's formation said that "Phat is a veteran Party member", and attributed his selection as PRGRSV President to "the prevailing principle which requires that the Party retain real power."

There is some question as to exactly when Phat became a Party member, but little doubt that he is. His long identification with the goals of the overtly communist elements of the Viet-Minh and the NFLSV and his association with communist leaders, as well as the Democratic Party's affiliation with the communists, discredit attempts to portray Phat as a non-communist nationalist.

DUF / B.uy
FILE SUBJ.
DATE SUB-CAT.
H. T. Phat

Huynh Tan Phat was born in 1923 in My Tho province.

In 1936, when a student in architecture, he worked in the democratic movement against fascism and colonialism first under French rule then during Japanese occupation.

He was an activist in the campaign for the propagation of the national language and the relief to the victims of famine in the North, as well as in patriotic students and pupils' movements.

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In 1949, he went to the liberated zone and became Director of the Nam Bo Information Service, then member of the Resistance and Administrative Committee of the Saigon-Cholon Special Zone.

Back in Saigon after the signing of the 1954 Geneva Agreements, he belonged to the leadership of the mass movement against the US-Diem scheme to sabotage these accords and against US aggression in South Viet Nam.

In 1959, he left for the liberated zone and became Secretary-General of the South Viet Nam Democratic Party. Afterwards he was elected to the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and concurrently assumed the functions of Vice-Chairman of the Presidium, Secretary-General of the Central Committee, and President of the Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh Committee.

Early in 1965, he led an NFL Delegation to the Indochinese Peoples' Conference for Strengthening Friendship and Militant Solidarity in Phnom Penh.



HUYNH TAN PHAT
President

Phung Van Cung was born in 1908 in Vinh Long province:

After graduating from the Hanoi Medical Faculty, he became Director of the public health service in Rach Gia then Chau Doc provinces, and later a physician at the Fukien hospital in Cholon.

He was held in high esteem for his ardent patriotism and his active support to the revolution. While a high-ranking official in the Ngo Dinh Diem administration, he constantly opposed US-Diem treatment of intellectuals, especially the drafting of doctors and forced participation in the so-called «Denounce Communists» campaign.

In 1960, with his family he joined in the resistance against US aggression, and was concurrently given the posts of Vice-Chairman of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, Chairman of the South Viet Nam Peace Committee, and President of the South Viet Nam Liberation Red Cross.

FILE SUBJ. 15102
DATE SUB-CAT.
475

HUYNH TAN HAT LEADS NFLSV-PRGRSV DELEGATION TO BINH PHUOC

LPA From North Vietnam [Clandestine] in English to East Europe and the Far East 1505 GMT
10 Apr 75 BK

[Text] South Vietnam April 10 LPA--After its visit to the people in Phuoc Long provincial capital, the delegation of the National Front for Liberation Central Committee and Provisional Revolutionary Government of the RSV headed by President Huynh Tan Hhat called on the people on Dong Xoai township, Binh Phuoc Province. Thousands of people of all strata, workers of rubber plantations and ethnic minorities held a meeting to welcome the delegation.

President Nuynh Tan Hhat spent much time to enquire after the people's life and health and reminded the people to promote democratic liberties and bring into play the working class' vanguard role to carry out new political tasks assigned by the local revolutionary administration, thus contributing a worthy part to this glorious historical epoch of the entire people.

Members of the delegation called on familites of different ethnic minorities and religious families which recently broke away from the enemy coercion.

FILE / SUBJ.
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2/68

A Woman - Deputy Supreme Commander

2/68

The fifth Vice President is the well-known architect ^{H47N6} When Tan ^HPat. He was born 1913. He joined the democratic movement in 1936, at the very moment when in different parts of the world anti-fascist fronts were being created. During the Second World War he fought the Japanese. The French authorities arrested him twice. He appeared on the free territory in 1959.

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FILE SUBJ.
DATE SUB-CAT.
4/75

HUYNH TAN PHAT CHAIRS RECENT NAM BO, SOUTHERN TRUNG BO MEETING

Liberation Radio [Clandestine] in Vietnamese to South Vietnam 1000 GMT 6 Apr 75 BX

[Text] At a time when our southern armed forces and people under FRGRSV leadership have staged continuing offensives and uprisings to punish the U.S.-Thieu clique for sabotaging the Paris agreement, and at a time when they have recorded unprecedented victories and are pursuing the enemy on all battlefronts in the countryside as well as in cities, the FRGRSV recently held a conference of revolutionary administration at zonal and provincial levels in Nam Bo and southern Trung Bo to discuss the building of the liberated areas and the development of the role of the revolutionary administration in the new situation. The conference was presided over by President Huynh Tan Phat.

The conference noted that the southern revolution is at present developing in an extremely satisfactory manner. The rural areas have been expanded and several townships, cities and important municipalities have been recovered along with increasing numbers of inhabitants. In Nam Bo and southern Trung Bo in particular, our armed forces and people have closely coordinated with the administration in the Central Highlands and Tri-Thien in central Trung Bo in stepping up the offensives, sweeping away several enemy posts and positions and recovering vast areas.

In areas under the temporary control of the U.S.-Thieu clique, especially in Saigon and other cities, the people who have been living in a confined atmosphere under the enemy rule are rising up to demand a new life and the ouster of the Nguyen Van Thieu junta--stubborn and warlike lackey of the U.S. imperialists--which has sabotaged the agreement, dragged on the war and prolonged the sufferings of the compatriots, thus driving the enemy into a weaker position and inevitable total collapse.

The conference also discussed urgent measures to promptly carry out construction work and set up revolutionary administration in the liberated areas as soon as they are recovered in order to satisfactorily administer and build the newly liberated areas. The conference stressed in particular the necessity of satisfactorily implementing the policies proclaimed by the government, especially the strict implementation of the policy announced on 1 April 1975 regarding the newly liberated areas and the strict 10-point code of conduct to be applied during the takeover.

The conference adopted concrete measures to be carried out in the newly liberated areas to achieve early political stability and solidarity among the people in the spirit of national reconciliation and concord, to maintain security and order, protect the people's life and property, satisfactorily manage public property and to quickly restore normalcy in all fields. In addition to motivating the people to actively take part in building and defending the liberated areas, militia, guerrilla and security forces must join the people in resolutely sweeping away the reactionaries and smashing all enemy counterattacks and slanderous, subversive propaganda plots while stepping up production work, stabilizing the people's livelihood and building public health, cultural and educational institutions to serve the people.

NLF 8102
FILE SUBJ.
DATE SUB-CAT.
8/71

LPA REPORTS PRENSA LATINA INTERVIEW WITH HUYNH TAN PHAT

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY [Clandestine] in English to East Europe and the Far East 1529
OMT 17 Aug 71 B

[Text] South Vietnam August 17 GPA--Huynh Tan Phat, president of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the RSVN, recently granted an interview to Victorio Copa Presneda, special envoy of PRENSA LATINA. Follow the questions and answers:

Question 1--The seven-point new peace initiative laid down by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam at the four-party Paris conference on Vietnam is enjoying warm welcome from the Cuban people and world public opinion. Would you tell me Mr President, why, at this time when the South Vietnamese people are recording repeated victories, the PRG has advanced such a flexible proposal, and the relationship of the settlement of the question of U.S. troops withdrawal and the release of captured militarymen with the problem of power of South Vietnam?

Answer--For many years now, the U.S. imperialists have conducted an aggressive war in South Vietnam. For the independence and freedom of their fatherland, the South Vietnamese people are resolved to fight despite all sacrifices and hardships, and have recorded tremendous victories in all spheres.

However, with the desire to win a peaceful solution to the South Vietnam issue, the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam have since early 1969 put forth proposals full of good will one after another. But due to the U.S. imperialists' stubborn policy, the Paris conference on Vietnam still is marking time. The Nixon administration does not want to negotiate seriously, instead is nurturing the illusion of gaining a position of strength through its "Vietnamisation of the war" plan. This plan, however, has met with grave setbacks: On the Indochinese battlefield, the patriotic forces are winning great and repeated victories; in the U.S.A. and the rest of the world, the movement to demand an end to the U.S. imperialist aggression is mounting daily.

Proceeding from the Vietnamese people's aspiration for peace and national independence, and responding to the desire for peace of the American people and the other peoples in the world, and to make the Paris conference on Vietnam progress, the R.S.V.N. Provisional Revolutionary Government on July 1st, 1971 advanced a new seven-point peace initiative. The two important questions of this initiative are: 1) The U.S. Government must set a deadline for the total withdrawal of U.S. troops and troops of the other foreign countries in the American camp from South Vietnam. 2) The U.S. Government must stop backing in every respect the present bellicose Saigon administration headed by Nguyen Van Thieu, so that the South Vietnamese people can be free to settle their internal affairs.

The above two questions are closely connected. If the U.S. pulls out troops while trying to maintain the Nguyen Van Thieu clique to carry out "Vietnamisation" with a view to realizing U.S. neocolonialism, the Vietnam war cannot be stopped.

If real and lasting peace is to be restored in Vietnam, the above two questions must be solved. The points raised by the PRG are concrete enunciations of the principle of independence and sovereignty for which the South Vietnamese people have all along been perseveringly fighting. To demonstrate the PRG's good will and to provide the U.S. with conditions to end the war at an early date and to open for the Nixon administration an honorable way out, the seven-point peace initiative stresses that if the U.S. Government sets a terminal date in 1971 for the withdrawal from South Vietnam of the totality of U.S. forces and those of the other foreign countries in the U.S. camp, the parties will agree on the modalities for the withdrawal in safety of all U.S. forces and those of the other foreign countries in the American camp and for the release of all militarymen of all parties and the civilians captured in the war including American pilots captured in North Vietnam. The question of captured militarymen, which is an aftermath of the war, normally can be solved only after the war is ended. However, proceeding from its genuine concern for the American people's aspiration about the captured American militarymen, the PRGRSV undertakes to begin and end at the same dates the parallel processes of total troop withdrawal and release of all captured militarymen and civilians so as to enable them to return to their families.

The Nixon administration has noisily ballyhooed about the "POW" issue to stir up American public opinion. But to the PRGRSV's initiative full of goodwill, it has not yet given any serious response. This shows more clearly to public opinion in the U.S.A. and the rest of the world that the "POW" issue, drumbeaten by the Nixon administration, is only a trick to delay the setting of a time-limit for the total U.S. troop withdrawal from South Vietnam and cover up the scheme to maintain the bellicose Saigon administration headed by Nguyen Van Thieu.

LPA: CARELESS GI DRIVERS KILL HUE STUDENTS

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY [Clandestine] in English to East Europe and the Far East
1523 GMT 18 Aug 71 B

[Text] South Vietnam August 18 GPA--Thousands of students, pupils and other people in Hue city on August 16 seethingly demonstrated against careless U.S. drivers who had run over and killed the student Dang Duy.

After this murder, the U.S. drivers tried to flee away, but they were caught by the people. The demonstrators angrily burnt the U.S. truck and heavily beat the GI's on board.

Earlier, on August 1st, a U.S. military vehicle ran over and killed the pupil Le Van Chat in the same city, then fled into the Huong Thuy military base. This incident triggered a demonstration of thousands of students, pupils and puppet war invalids.

POW SOOTER'S MESSAGE TO CONCERNED OFFICERS MOVEMENT

Liberation Radio [Clandestine] in English to American Servicemen in South Vietnam
2330 GMT 18 Aug 71 B--FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] Now listen to a letter from a U.S. serviceman captured in South Vietnam to the Concerned Officers' Movement:

[Follows recorded male voice with American accent]

To Concerned Officers' Movement:

From David William Sooter, WO/1, W3153961

I feel that your voice adds more weight to the antiwar movement inside the military. I take this opportunity to let you know that I am very interested in the work you're doing, in trying to inform the military men about the facts of this war, and you're demanding that the United States Government put an end to this war.

I feel that the American people are getting very tired of being in this meaningless and costly war, with no end in sight under our present policy. The recent top secret documents that were released by NEWSWEEK [as heard] on how we got into this war has no doubt aroused the people more, and will be of most importance in helping to change our government's policy.

I think the recent seven-point proposal made at the Paris conference to be a reasonable one, helping the United States get out of this war. By setting a terminal date for troop withdrawal, it could end the suffering of so many people, both here in Vietnam and in the United States.

I wish to express my support for the work you're doing in hope that it will help to bring a quick end to this war, to bring peace to the Vietnamese people and to the American people.

Sincerely, David William Sooter [recording ends]

That was a letter to the Concerned Officers' Movement from a U.S. serviceman captured in South Vietnam.

The international conference of scientists on the chemical warfare in Vietnam held in Paris on December 12, 1970 concluded that the defoliants and herbicides directly affect the population and the fauna, induce sight troubles and genetic lesions, that their direct effects on food plants, forests and the whole vegetation is unquestionable, that their long-term effects can result in deep disorder, which is very likely to be irreversible, on the ecology, the soil and the climate in vast regions of Vietnam.

The conference asserted "one is faced with a genocide coupled with a biocide."

Question 5--How do you view the current anti-war campaign of the progressive American people in various cities of the U.S.A.?

Answer--The aggressive war waged by the U.S. imperialists against South Vietnam is a crime and is meeting with heavy setbacks. It has landed the U.S.A. into serious political, economic and social crises, and is disastrously staining her honor. The American people of different strata are protesting more and more seethingly against this war, and are urging their government to meet their urgent demands for economic interests and democracy at home.

The recent spring offensive marked the climax in this movement with the demands for an immediate end to the war in Indochina and the setting of a deadline for the total U.S. troops withdrawal.

The South Vietnamese people warmly hail this new and vigorous development of the anti-war movement in the United States. That movement also enjoys ever stronger sympathy and support from all peace, freedom and justice-loving people in the world. But the Nixon administration has so far remained opposed to the legitimate and pressing demands of the peoples in Indochina, the United States and the rest of the world; namely, a halt to the aggressive war, speedy and total withdrawal from Indochina of all troops of the U.S. and the other countries in the American camp without setting any conditions, so that the people of each Indochinese country can freely settle their internal affairs without foreign interference. The struggle of the peoples in Indochina, the U.S.A. and the world as a whole against the U.S. aggressive war is still long and hard, but will surely triumph in the end.

Before concluding, I would like to convey, through PRENSA LATINA, my wishes for still bigger successes to the heroic Cuban people in their defense of the country and the building of the first free land in America into an ever more prosperous nation.

My best wishes to all our Cuban friends.

The present bellicose ruling group in Saigon headed by Nguyen Van Thieu, rigged up by the U.S. through the 1967 fraudulent elections, has proved themselves to be only a group of corrupt dictators, thriving on war and entirely opposed to the people.

Their traitorous nature has been unmasked more and more and they are despised by the South Vietnamese of all strata who are standing up to overthrow them. But the U.S. imperialists have not yet given up their scheme to rule South Vietnam by means of neocolonialism. Therefore, they are resorting to the coming "presidential election" trick to prettify their warlike yes-man Nguyen Van Thieu with a view to prolong the war.

The "elections" to be held at the juncture of nearly 300,000 U.S. aggressors and satellite troops and nearly 1 million puppet regular troops and policemen, will be only another step up to realize Washington's design. Nguyen Van Thieu's fascist "election bill" has clearly shown what this "election" really means. That is why, in the South Vietnam cities under enemy occupation the people of various strata including many members of the Saigon puppet administration, themselves are vehemently condemning and opposing the U.S.-puppet fraud.

The South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination including the right to vote freely and stand for elections, can only be obtained when the U.S. Government has pulled out all its troops and war means from South Vietnam and renounced the gang of militarist and warlike stooges headed by Nguyen Van Thieu. Only then can the South Vietnamese be free to settle themselves their own affairs without foreign interference.

On such a basis, a broad three-component government of national concord would organize free general elections in South Vietnam, as proposed by the Provisional Revolutionary Government in its July 1st, 1971 seven-point proposal.

Any solution that goes counter to the South Vietnamese people's aspirations and right to self-determination is doomed to bitter failure.

Question 4--Would you tell me how the U.S. imperialists have conducted the chemical war in the recent past and what damage it has caused to the South Vietnamese people?

Answer--During their aggressive war against South Vietnam, the U.S. imperialists have stopped at no brutal war manoeuvre. Chemical weapons which even the Hitler fascists dared not use, have been now openly used in South Vietnam. Over the past 10 years since 1961, the U.S. has waged a large-scale chemical war to massacre people, ravage crops and vegetation, kill the cattle and other domestic animals, deny the people of any food supply, cause famine and devastate land, and make of Vietnam and her people a testing ground for its mass killing weapons.

Since Nixon came into office, the use of toxic chemicals and poison gases has been used on a larger scale, mainly against heavily populated areas in the Trung Bo coastal areas and the Mekong Delta. According to still incomplete figures, from August 1961 to late December 1970, the U.S. spread toxic chemicals on over 6.10 million hectares, affecting more than 1.62 million people. In 1970 alone, over 400 persons died of toxic poisoning.

The PRGRSV's seven-point peace initiative is realistic and reasonable and, as such, has enjoyed warm welcome, approval and support from the peace and justice-loving governments and people in the world. But Mr Nixon has so far shunned a response and, furthermore, has increased military activities in South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos while continuing the bombing and shelling of a number of populated areas in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, and recently run (?all over) earth and heaven in an attempt to save his aggressive war against Vietnam and Indochina from the present quandry. The Vietnamese people are masters of their own destiny. So long as the U.S. imperialists still obdurately continue the war, the South Vietnamese people are resolved to deal them more powerful blows till total victory is won.

Question 2--Would you tell me about the "new pacification" plan newly announced by the U.S. and its lackeys in South Vietnam? What are its objectives and prospects?

Answer--"Pacification" is the strategic measure of the U.S. "Vietnamisation". Having sustained heavy and repeated failures, the U.S.-puppets in early 1970 launched the "accelerated pacification" then "special pacification" programs, but the objectives of both have been shattered by the South Vietnam armed forces and people. It was in the context of this failure that the "new pacification" plan saw the light under the name of "complementary pacification" which is in essence the prolongation of the "special pacification" plan that had been defeated in the last 6 months of 1970.

Blindly pursuing its "pacification" plan, the Nixon administration is hoping, through the most brutal war methods, to exterminate the South Vietnamese people's war bases by the end of 1971, occupy the whole countryside, build the areas temporarily under their control in a safe rear with a view to bringing the "Vietnamisation" to success.

However, the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen are like moths flying into a flame. In the first half of 1971, the South Vietnam armed forces and people, combining attacks with uprisings, repeatedly foiled the U.S.-puppets' terror and looting operations throughout South Vietnam, wiping out an important part of their live forces, destroying by big chunks the "strategic hamlets", expanding the liberated area and taking the people's war up to their dens. The U.S. and its lackeys' "new pacification" plan came into being following the repeated failures of the former "pacification" plans, and at the very time when the U.S.-puppets are stalemated on all battlefields and the South Vietnamese liberation armed forces and people are dashing forward in the flush of their victory to step up their offensive and uprising. It will surely end in ignominious failure together with the whole of their "Vietnamisation" plan.

Question 3--Would you comment on the coming puppet presidential election in Saigon?

Answer--The Saigon administration is a tool for the U.S. imperialists to carry out their aggressive plan in South Vietnam, and is an offensive of U.S. neocolonialism. This has been time and again exposed by the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, and was recently confirmed in clear terms by the U.S. Defense Department secret documents. The elections in Saigon, ordered and decided by the U.S., are not only deceitful and fraudulent, but also illegal and contrary to the South Vietnamese people's principle of independence, freedom and sovereignty.



HUYNH TAN PHAT

VIETNAM

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:

1912, My Tho Province

CURRENT POSITIONS AND
DATES OF APPOINTMENT:

Vice Premier, Jul 1976
Deputy, Sixth National
Assembly, Apr 1976



PREVIOUS POSTS:

1944-1945	Editor in chief, <i>Thanh Nien</i> (Youth) magazine
Aug 1945-?	Deputy director, Information and Press Service, Nam Bo (South Vietnam) People's Commission
pre-1949-at least 1950	Member, Nam Bo Resistance and Administration Committee
1949-1950	Director, Nam Bo Information Service
1950-?	Vice chairman, Executive Committee, South Vietnamese Student League
as of 1950-1954	Member, Resistance and Administration Committee, Saigon-Cholon Special Zone
1958-at least 1966	Secretary general, Democratic Party of South Vietnam
1962-at least 1967	President, Saigon-Gia Dinh Com- mittee, National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam (NFLSV)
as of 1962	Member, Executive Committee, NFLSV