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**Hoang Van Thai, 71;
A Vietnamese General**
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BANGKOK, Thailand, July 4 (AP) — Gen. Hoang Van Thai, a Vietnamese revolutionary who fought against French and American forces, died of a heart attack Wednesday in Hanoi, the official Vietnamese press agency reported today. He was 71 years old.

The agency, in a dispatch monitored here, said the four-star general, a Deputy Minister of Defense, was born in northern Vietnam and joined the Communist Party in 1938.

He held top military posts after becoming involved in the organization of Vietnam's revolutionary forces in October 1940.

General Thai was at one time chief of staff of the Vietnam People's Army, the key military force in North Vietnam, and commander of the Army of Liberation of South Vietnam.

After the Communist victory in 1975 against the United States-backed Government in South Vietnam, General Thai was named Deputy Minister of Defense.

He had been a member of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party since 1960 and was a member of Parliament.