

Thieu's Talk Excerpted

Following, in unofficial translation, are excerpts from President Nguyen Van Thieu's radio speech in Saigon yesterday on the cease-fire agreement. The excerpts appeared in late editions of The New York Times yesterday and are being reprinted to complete the documentary record of the Vietnam peace agreement.

To all my compatriots, soldiers and Government cadres:

You probably remember on Oct. 24 I talked to you for about two hours regarding the signing of a peace in Vietnam. Today my talk will deal with the same thing. My talk goes to all of you—to our religious, political and social leaders, to our soldiers, our police, to all the people in the villages, our civil servants and veterans.

After three months of negotiating between the United States and Hanoi, and after much bombing we finally have results today.

Today, Jan. 24, 1973, an agreement on peace for Vietnam has been reviewed for the last time and will be officially signed between all parties participating in the Paris peace talks on Vietnam on Jan. 27 and a cease-fire will come into effect at 8 A.M. Saigon time on Sunday Jan. 28.

After 18 years of savage fighting the Communists have been forced to stop the conflict because they cannot beat us by force or by violence.

2 Zones to Be Maintained

Our people have truly destroyed the Communist troops that have come from the North and we have valiantly fought the forces that are in the South.

Vietnam will remain two zones and will be reunified through peaceful means. The Communists have been forced to recognize two Vietnams.

North Vietnam will respect the sovereignty and independence of South Vietnam. Up to now the Communists have not been successful in carrying out their plans and have been forced to recognize that in the South there is one legal government and that is the legal Government of South Vietnam.

There will not be a two-part government in South Vietnam. The Communists have failed to win their demands for neutralism in the Communist way and to overthrow the President of Viet-

nam and abolish the legal institutions of Vietnam.

The Communists have failed and will fail in their demand to disband the Vietnamese Army and pull down the structure of Government in Vietnam. They have failed and will fail to make the South Vietnamese people accept a coalition government in South Vietnam.

The Communists demanded that we recognize the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam. But they have failed in this respect and no longer pursue this demand because they know we will never accept

two governments in South Vietnam.

In South Vietnam there is only one legal government, established and elected by the people of South Vietnam. The Communists have been made to recognize the sovereignty of South Vietnam and that the South Vietnamese people will decide their own fate by elections and through negotiations with the Liberation Front.

As long as there are foreign troops in South Vietnam the sovereignty and independence of South Vietnam cannot be respected.

All these things which the Communists have been made to respect are in the cease-fire agreement.

In regard to the participation of members of the National Liberation Front in the Government of Vietnam—this will be discussed and negotiated between the South Vietnamese Government and the Front.

The signing of the agreement means the beginning of peace. But it does not mean peace.

It is not that we are overly suspicious. It is because we have had plenty of experience with the Communists in this regard and we don't place too much trust in their signature.

Even if there is an agreement between the South Vietnamese Government and the National Liberation Front it remains to be seen if the Front will carry out the terms of the agreement.

If an election is agreed on by the Republic of Vietnam Government and the Liberation Front, it remains to be seen whether the Front will accept the result of the election.

Although I cannot guarantee there will be a true peace in Vietnam, I shall see to it that peace will come.

This is only the beginning of the end of the Communist aggression by force. Another phase will now come and it is going to be a political phase. This political struggle is inevitable.

The political struggle phase, although not as bloody, will be as tough and dangerous as the military struggle phase.

If South Vietnam still exists after 17 long years of hard struggle then South Vietnam will not be lost to the Communists.

As long as the 17 million people of South Vietnam, as long as the Government, as long as the Constitution, and as long as the people and cadres remain, then the Republic of Vietnam will survive.

We are determined to step into the new phase of the struggle with strength. Only in this way will we win.