

NYTimes MAY 12 1975
**SAIGON ANNOUNCES
INTENTION TO HOLD
NATIONWIDE VOTE**

**General Says Ruling Army
Panel Will End Control
When Security Is Set**

EVENTUAL MERGER SEEN

**Paris Accord of '73 Cited
on Unity With North—
News Sent Via Hanoi**

The new rulers of South Vietnam intend to hold nationwide elections and eventually to unify North and South Vietnam, according to delayed news dispatches from Saigon.

The dispatches were reports on the first news conference held by the military commander of the Saigon area since the Communist victory of April 30. The conference was held Thursday, and Western news organizations received earlier reports of it only through the Saigon radio broadcasts monitored in Hong Kong, Bangkok and other Asian cities. 8 MAY

The earlier reports covered only the opening statement by the commander, Lieut. Gen. Tran Van Tra, not ensuing questions and answers.

Unsure of Election Date

United Press International reported yesterday that General Tra had said that he was not sure when the elections would be held, or when the Provisional Revolutionary Government would take over from the Military Management Committee, which he heads and which is administering Saigon.

General Tra said, at the conference in Saigon's presidential palace, that members of the Provisional Revolutionary Government were in Vietnam, but declined to say where. The major problem, he was quoted

by U.P.I. as having said, was security.

"That is why we cannot speak of a time limit," he said, referring to the life span of his committee of 11 members.

The general said that the administration that followed his committee would continue to be known as the Provisional Revolutionary Government. "When there is a general election," he said, "there will be no more 'Provisional.'"

Paris Accords Cited

A Reuters dispatch quoted the general as having said that the eventual reunification of North and South Vietnam had been stipulated in the Paris peace accords signed in 1973. But he did not say when the unification would occur.

The two Vietnams were created at a 1954 Geneva conference after the French Indochina War.

All news dispatches received yesterday in Hong Kong were written last week and transmitted via Hanoi; it was not known whether they had been censored. American news organizations have had no direct communication with Saigon since shortly after the city fell to the Communists.

Meanwhile a Saigon radio broadcast, monitored in Hong Kong, reported that the new Government in South Vietnam had sent diplomatic notes to the five nations that make up the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, asking them to advise Vietnamese refugees that the Saigon Government would provide transportation for their return home.

Meeting Is Scheduled

Representatives of those nations — Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines and Indonesia—are to meet tomorrow in Singapore to discuss extending membership to additional Southeast Asian countries.

A dispatch on General Tra's news conference quoted him as having said that the refugees would be treated leniently, and that "in this war, only

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**SAIGON DISCLOSES
ELECTION PLANS**

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U.S. imperialism is the loser."

Reuters reported that the general said that his country would have friendly relations with all nations and would not take sides in the long-time dispute between the Soviet Union and China.

Of reported predictions by Americans that the Communist take-over of South Vietnam would be followed by a blood-bath, he said, "This is a very contemptible slander, as you can see." And, of Vietnamese who fled, he said: "We are sorry to see that a number of our people are living miserably in a foreign country."

The only Vietnamese who left of their own accord, General Tra said, were "a small number of ringleaders and reactionaries who scheme and plot and do harm to the people."

Defeated Generals Register

SINGAPORE, May 11 (Reuters)—Ten generals of the defeated South Vietnamese Army have registered at a Government center in Saigon, the Saigon radio said today.

In a broadcast heard here, the radio said that within half an hour of the center's opening last Thursday 400 colonels, more than 1,000 lieutenant colonels and 124 majors had registered. At other centers more than 10,000 air force, navy and police personnel had registered, it said.

The generals who registered were said to have included the commander of Military Region III surrounding Saigon, the commander of Special Forces, the deputy commander of the Saigon area, the commanders of the Third, Fifth, 23d and 25th Divisions and the commander of Special Forces in Military Region II.

Aide Says General Tra