

EA187WX

(150) MRS. NHU-BILLS

173

WASHINGTON, NOV. 17 ¹⁹⁶⁴ (AP)-THE SOUTH VIET NAM EMBASSY SAID TODAY IT IS PAYING ABOUT \$15,000 IN PERSONAL HOTEL BILLS AND OTHER ACCOUNTS LEFT UNPAID IN THIS COUNTRY LAST YEAR BY MRS. NGO DINH NHU, WIDOWED FORMER FIRST LADY OF SOUTH VIET NAM.

CHECKS WERE SENT LAST WEEKEND TO PAY OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS RANGING FROM HOTEL BILLS TO PERSONAL PURCHASES SUCH AS BOOKS AND LUGGAGE.

IT IS PRESUMED THAT THE SOUTH VIET NAM GOVERNMENT HAS SENT SIMILAR INSTRUCTIONS TO VIETNAMESE EMBASSIES IN ROME AND PARIS.

THE FUNDS WERE MADE AVAILABLE FROM PROPERTIES CONFISCATED FROM MRS. NHU, THE SISTER-IN-LAW OF THE LATE PRESIDENT NGO DINH DIEM. THE PRESIDENT AND HIS BROTHER, NGO DINH NHU, WERE SLAIN DURING THE NOV. 1, 1963 MILITARY REVOLT WHICH OVERTHREW THE DIEM GOVERNMENT. MRS. NHU IS NOW IN FRANCE.

AN EMBASSY SPOKESMAN SAID THE PRINCIPLE OF SETTling ALL OF MRS. NHU'S ACCOUNTS WAS ACCEPTED EARLIER THIS YEAR. INSTRUCTIONS TO ADVANCE THE FUNDS WERE GIVEN BY THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE LAST WEEK.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID WHAT PORTION OF THE BILLS WILL BE BORNE BY THE GOVERNMENT AND WHAT PART BY MRS. NHU HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED.

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