

SAIGON DENIES GIVING HELP TO CAMBODIANS

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SAIGON, South Vietnam, March 18 (AP)—A Government spokesman today denied reports published yesterday that South Vietnamese artillery went to support Cambodian troops trying to drive Vietcong forces into South Vietnam Sunday and Monday.

The reports came from highly reliable informants, who had said a Cambodian officer had asked for and received artillery support from a district chief in Chaudoc Province in South Vietnam southwest of Saigon. These informants today stood by their original reports.

Elsewhere in Vietnam, two clashes were reported deep in the Mekong Delta and in the Central Highlands yesterday.

In one fight, United States the 173d Airborne Brigade lost 3 killed and 4 wounded in a 7½-hour battle 38 miles northwest of Quinhon near the coast in the Central Highlands region. Enemy losses were unknown.