

Vietcong Use New Name for Its Government in South

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HONG KONG, Nov. 24—The Vietcong "shadow government" apparently has changed its name from the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam to the Government of the Republic of South Vietnam.

The new designation was used in a protest, issued in Hanoi and broadcast today by the Hanoi radio, over the United States bombings of North Vietnam Saturday.

The wording of the protest closely followed that of statements issued earlier in Hanoi except that it pledged a "riposte by the South Vietnamese people and armed forces five or ten times harder" for "every criminal act" taken by "United States imperialists against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam," the official name for the North.

The Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam was formed on

June 10, 1969, purporting to be a coalition of Communist and non-Communist elements. It was an outgrowth of the Communist dominated National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam.

Further Word Is Awaited

Western observers here are reserving conclusions about the change of title until they see whether it is permanently adopted and used in further announcements. But it was noted that the use of the new title in the Hanoi broadcast must have been deliberate, since the protest broadcast was repeated.

The premier of the Vietcong regime is Huynh Tan Phat, a former Saigon architect.

Mrs. Nguyen Tri Binh, who is now representing the regime at the Paris peace conference, is minister of foreign affairs. Another important personage in the regime with the title of president of the presidium of the front and chairman of the government's advisory council is Nguyen Huu Tho.

The strong man of the regime is believed to be the Communist Defense Minister Tran Nam Trung. The dominant element is the People's Revolutionary party, the Southern branch of the Hanoi-based Vietnam Lao Dong, or Communist party.

Political Intent Is Seen

The use of the new title aroused speculation here that it could be a political move possibly intended to appeal to South Vietnamese nationalism and separatism with a view to promoting a coalition between the Communist-led regime and elements in and around the Saigon Government, which calls itself the Government of the Republic of Vietnam.

Communist China continued its violent condemnation of the United States bombing today with a formal statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The statement was distributed here by Hsinhua, the Chinese Communist press agency.

The ministry declaration called the bombings a "new monstrous crime" and said they would not cow the Vietnamese people but would bring into play "the spirit of firm resolve to fight and win."

The ministry said "the Chinese people are closely watching the development of the situation in Vietnam and Indochina" and "would stand forever with the fraternal peoples of Vietnam and other Indochinese countries and fight together with them until complete victory."

Observers here believe Peking feels considerable satisfaction with the United States air strikes. Communist China's policy has been to urge the Vietnamese Communists to continue the war with no compromise.

North Korea joined the condemnation of the United States bombing today, calling it "a grave act of aggression high-handedly trampling underfoot the sovereignty and security of the Vietnamese people and another intolerable challenge to the peace-loving people of Asia and the rest of the world."