

# Thieu Explains to the Vietnamese How

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SAIGON, South Vietnam, Sept. 20 — President Nguyen Van Thieu, in the second speech of his re-election campaign, today repeated his arguments for a hard stand against the Communists and, for the first time, told the people how to cast a "no confidence" vote against him.

Any military, political or territorial concessions to the Com-

munists could only heighten the chances of an enemy victory, Mr. Thieu said in a 45-minute nationwide radio broadcast. The speech, which he introduced as a "message on peace," was basically a defense of the President's "Four No's"—No territorial concessions to the enemy, no coalition government with them, no "pro-Communist" neutrality, and no political freedom for Communists in South Vietnam.

But the President's explana-

tion of how the people may vote against him broke new ground. Mr. Thieu hopes to receive at least a 50 or 60 per cent "vote of confidence" in the Oct. 3 balloting, while his opponents, mostly students and anti-Government Buddhists and politicians, have called for a boycott of the elections on the ground that they are unconstitutional and antidemocratic.

## He Explains Procedure

"Some people have been asking themselves how to cast an irregular ballot, to express their no-confidence," the President said. "Let me tell you frankly and boldly that there are two main ways to cast an irregular ballot."

He went on to explain that under the electoral law, a ballot or one that has been marked in some way is irregular, and that such a ballot would be counted as cast against him in the voting.

The President's explanation presumably opens the door for his enemies to mount a public information campaign urging the people to vote against him and telling them how to do so. But the Opposition leaders appear to have settled on the boycott call rather than on an attempt to defeat Mr. Thieu in the polling booth.

Mr. Thieu based his hard-line arguments on the view that any concessions to the Communists now might bring a temporary solution, but that they would not bring a "true and durable peace."

The idea of ceding some territories to the enemy to win a peace agreement, Mr. Thieu said, would only lead to an eventual resumption of the war as the enemy presses for more land.

As to a coalition with the Communists, Mr. Thieu said, that would only be "a step toward the total take-over of power" by the enemy.

## Other Cases Cited

The President cited the cases of Cambodia and Laos in his argument against South Vietnamese neutralization. Both states were "neutralized" under the Geneva conference on Indochina but are now deeply em-

## They Can Vote

broiled in the war. To be neutral, the President argued, "is to be isolated, to have one's hands tied in case of renewed attacks by the Communists."

The President argued that permitting political freedom to the Communists inside South Vietnam would open the way to

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## Against Him

civil disturbances and riots.

"During my next term, if I continue to have the confidence of the people, I will continue to search for peace, Mr. Thieu said.

His running mate, Tran Van Huong, a former Premier, did not speak during the broadcast.