

# Kosygin Assails Saigon's Refugee Policy

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MOSCOW, April 9—Premier Aleksei N. Kosygin asserted today that the Saigon Government was guilty of the "new crime" of forcing civilians out of areas it had lost in Vietnam.

Mr. Kosygin's remarks, at a Kremlin dinner tonight honoring a high-level Yugoslav delegation, made him the first ranking Soviet leader to comment directly on the recent events in Vietnam. The Soviet Premier spoke with apparent gusto as he assailed the leadership of President Nguyen Van Thieu.

But Mr. Kosygin, in the excerpts from his remarks issued here by Tass, the official press agency, did not mention the role of the United States in the Vietnam crisis. One recent Soviet commentary attacked the United States, alluding to President Ford and his Administration. It charged Washington with increasing "interference" in Vietnam. Mr. Kosygin apparently confined his invective to Saigon.

## "New Crime" Charged

At the dinner, attended by the Yugoslav Premier, Dzemal Bijedic, the Soviet Premier said: "The Saigon regime commits a new crime by forcibly driving away on a mass scale civilians of South Vietnam from the territory surrendered by the puppet army. The so-called refugees are needed by Saigon to continue the war."

Mr. Kosygin added: "The Saigon clique, which has been grossly violating the Paris agreement ever since it was signed, is responsible for the continuation of military actions in South Vietnam, for the privations and sacrifices to which it dooms the people."

In the excerpts from the Pre-

mier's remarks, there was no Soviet proposal for relief or aid for destitute Vietnamese civilians. There was no repetition in the Premier's remarks of Hanoi's castigation of the American airlift of refugee children.

Mr. Kosygin asserted that the Communist forces would win part of an inevitable world vic-

tory of "everything new and progressive" over "everything that constitutes an obstacle on the way of the people to a better future."

"The Vietnamese patriots," the Premier declared, "cannot but win victories in their heroic struggle against Thieu's venal antipeople regime."

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