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'The Americans Promised Us'

SAIGON, April 21 (UPI)—
Excerpts from Nguyen Van Thieu's speech in which he resigned the presidency of South Vietnam follow:

"If you [Americans] give us the same aid as the other side gives North Vietnam we would win.

"If the Americans don't want to support us any more let them go, get out! Let them forget their humanitarian promises!

"No matter that we cannot accept, we are adults. We are going to continue to be insulted because Americans won't help us.

"The Americans promised us — we trusted them. But you have not given us the aid you promised us. With that aid which you promised us, I would not be afraid of the Communists.

"My resignation will let the United States give you aid and open the way to negotiations."

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Thieu said he and former President Richard M. Nixon had an agreement "on paper" under which Nixon pledged "all necessary military and economic support to the Republic of Vietnam when threatened by the Communists."

"I never thought a man like Mr. Kissinger would deliver our people to such a disastrous fate," Thieu said.

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"To fight against the rebels we have to have ammunition, the wherewithal to fight. The other side gets it from the Communists. The Communists bring down more people, more tanks, more guns and they would like to overrun us.



Associated Press

Thieu as he appeared on television.

"This has been shown. Russians, Chinese, Americans, even Kissinger have not been able to work it out."

"I told you in those days [1968] that if you listened to these political schemes of the Americans you would be lost. Now you are going to find out what I meant in those days in 1968.

"I put out the plan that there was only one solution. I was given an alternative solution. The alternative solution was that I could take an airplane out of Vietnam on Oct. 26, 1972. I was told I could leave the country. I also was told my life was threatened by Vietnamese."

"Finally, we had to reach a compromise solution [in 1973]. I said that I would only agree to a solution whereby the problem of North Vietnamese troops was settled. This solution was: the problem concerning the armed forces of South and North Vietnam shall be settled by the Vietnamese governments, the Vietnamese elements themselves, on the basis of gradual reductions in the troop strength and demobilization.

"I believe that this was not our desired solution to the problem concerning the North Vietnamese troops and was not an ideal solution. But we could do nothing better. We could not drive all of them out of the South at a time when the United States had stopped fighting and had stopped aiding us. That was why I considered this solution acceptable if North Vietnam had good will."

when this happened, should have reacted.

"Let me ask you, when the Americans saw the loss of those vehicles and weapons, why didn't you come and replace them? When you saw our people being lost, why didn't you come in and help our people? You signed the Paris agreement which said you would do this.

"Now I have told you the situation and how the allies have treated us. I am hiding nothing."

"Now we are going to regroup and we are going to retain III Corps and IV Corps, even though others made stupid mistakes in I Corps and II Corps. Do not lay down your arms. Keep your arms. If you make the mistake of abandoning outposts and laying down your

arms we are going to lose everything."

Referring to the 1972 proposed Paris peace agreement that was later changed because of Thieu's protests, he said:

"I argued with the Americans. I told them, 'You are selling out South Vietnam to the Communists,' but the American officials said, 'We demand you sign this agreement.'

"I rejected that plan. I said we won't go along with it. I don't go along with any agreement with the Communists in any form whatsoever. The North Vietnamese will not agree to our constitution, our laws, in making a solution of what is to be done here in South Vietnam.

"If the United States had intervened as it should have we would not be losing province capitals, district capitals and we would not be faced with losing the national capital. Maybe we could have worked out something with the Communists.

"We lost tanks. We lost artillery. The United States,