

VIETCONG INDICATE THEY WANT MINH AS SAIGON LEADER

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**Reds Suggest in Broadcast
That General Is the Only
Man Acceptable to Them**

3 OTHERS ARE REJECTED

**South Vietnamese President
Among Those Spurned—
Ford Is Denounced
NYTimes**

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Special to The New York Times

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Friday, April 25 — The Vietcong strongly implied last night that only Gen. Duong Van Minh, a proponent of peace, neutrality and cooperation with the Communists, was acceptable to them at the head of the Saigon Government.

Without specifically naming General Minh, who is widely known to foreigners as Big Minh, a Vietcong broadcast rejected as unacceptable any new government that included President Tran Van Huong, his Defense Minister, Gen. Tran Van Don, or the Senate president, Tran Van Lam.

The Vietcong also rejected "any so-called constitutional solution," meaning, presumably, that General Minh must simply be installed in power without any mandate other than his acceptability to the Vietcong.

Saigon Rivals Argue

The Vietcong broadcast came at the end of a day in which the rival Saigon politicians argued among themselves over who should lead the country to peace and how he should do it.

North Vietnam and the Vietcong have not said that they will attack the capital if their demands are not met, but there is no question in the minds of Saigon's residents that they are likely to attack soon. Military and political leaders as well as Western observers also are in no doubt that the result would be shattering.

The Vietcong have continued to insist on two basic conditions—the departure of all of the "Thieu clique," specifically including President Huong, and the departure of all "American troops and military advisers disguised as civilians."

U. S. Leaders Denounced

An earlier Vietcong broadcast yesterday appeared to define the conditions somewhat more closely. It denounced President Ford, Secretary of State Kissinger and the American Ambassador to Saigon, Graham A. Martin, whose continued presence here the Vietcong have indicated is unacceptable. But the broadcast appeared to stop short of demanding a recall of the entire American Embassy staff.

The statement did, however, call for the removal of "all C.I.A. agents" from Vietnam in addition to military personnel and advisers.

The two centers of political interest today were President Huong, the 71-year-old former

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teacher who succeeded President Nguyen Van Thieu on Monday, and Gen. Minh.

While the Vietcong have never specified whom they would consider an acceptable transitional chief of state for bargaining purposes, it is widely assumed that General Minh, known among Americans as Big Minh, would satisfy them.

The Vietcong, in a later radio broadcast, clearly rejected any other solution. The broadcast specifically rejected as unacceptable any new government that included the Senate president, Tran Van Lam, President Huong, or president Huong's defense minister, Gen. Tran Van Don.

The Vietcong also rejected "any so-called constitutional solution," meaning, presumably, that General Minh must simply be installed in power without any mandate other than his acceptability to the Vietcong.

But politics in Saigon today are as complicated, contradictory and chaotic as they were in the mid-nineteen-sixties, and most of the principals were assuming the positions and roles they did then. At that time, Saigon seemed caught in an endless succession of coups and countercoups, futile initiatives toward achieving political unity in some way, and dangerous and sometimes bloody street battles.

General Minh called on President Huong today. Both are ethnic South Vietnamese and they share a common religious antipathy for the Roman Catholics—President Huong is a Confucian and General Minh a Buddhist. Both are interested in achieving peace as rapidly as possible.

But these common viewpoints did not appear to have brought them together.

Informants said the two tended to talk around the main issues. One of those issues was plainly whether President Huong should remain in office and appoint General Minh as Premier with real power, or should resign as his entire Cabinet did yesterday, leaving the way completely clear for a new government.

[The Associated Press, quoting political sources in Saigon, said that President Huong had offered the premiership to General Minh, but that the general had insisted on the presidency.]

The champions of each course were pursuing their causes as actively as possible, and factionalism was growing.

A group of key opponents of the former President Thieu gathered to announce that they were asking President Huong to resign and that they were going to the palace without appointment to present their petition.

The group was headed by Senator Vu Van Mau, who, while serving as Foreign Minister to the late President Ngo Dinh Diem, resigned in protest over President Diem's policies toward Vietnamese Buddhists. Since then, he has been a leading exponent of peace and reconciliation.

Group Disappears

But Mr. Mau and the politicians with him disappeared after purportedly setting out for the palace, and it appeared that they never arrived. Later, spokesmen for the group said they had not intended to actually go to the palace at all. Meanwhile, at the Senate, a "Special Committee for Political Affairs," headed by the Senate president, Mr. Lam, informed newsmen that its members took a different view of matters.

The group declared that a transfer of power from President Huong to, for example, General Minh, would be unconstitutional, and could only be brought about either by coup d'etat or a national referendum.

The first alternative was unacceptable, they said, and the second impractical, given the little time the Vietcong are likely to postpone their attack.

Therefore, the followers of

Mr. Lam said, President Huong should resign, leaving his post constitutionally to the president of the Senate—Mr. Lam himself. Mr. Lam could then, if he chose, appoint General Minh as Premier.

The Vietcong delegation here appeared to be following developments intensely within the limitations imposed by its virtual captivity inside a camp at Saigon airport surrounded by large Saigon troop units. In telephone conversations, a Vietcong spokesman asked this correspondent as many questions as he was asked, and while his own answers were extremely guarded, his interest clearly was in how General Minh appeared to be faring.

All or nearly all of those Americans working for the embassy's defense attaché office—the main American group the Vietcong wants out—have left here in a continuous shuttle of jet transports. A large number of other embassy staff members and employes also have left.