

NyT

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## Communists Mount Attack on a Town Northeast of Saigon

SAIGON, South Vietnam, April 25 (Reuters). Some three battalions of Communist troops today attacked the town of Trang Bang, 30 miles from Saigon.

Witnesses reported that rocket fire poured into the town at mid-morning, sending Government troops scattering in disorder.

Within an hour, the town looked deserted, with civilians and soldiers huddled in whatever cover they could find, the witnesses said.

A Government communiqué reported that South Vietnamese planes had bombed Communist positions in the Trang Bang area last night. In the early hours the Communists at-

tacked on the southeast of the town.

The rocket barrage came hours the Communists attacked positions in the Trang Bang area last night. In the early some hours later.

Trang Bang lies half way between Saigon and Tay Ninh city, to the northwest, where Government troops are believed to be still holding out.

To the northeast of Saigon, Government units used bulldozers and cranes to dig antitank ditches on the road leading to Bien Hoa air force base.

The base, now under sporadic shelling, has been expecting an attack for the last week, especially since the fall of Xuan Loc three days ago.

In the Mekong delta region, the Saigon command reported throwing back an attack on the town of Kien Phong.

Other clashes and rocket attacks were reported over a wide area, although most were minor.