

New Slogan in Hanoi: 'Everything for the South'

Le Monde, Paris

HANOI, North Vietnam, April 25—"Everything for the South!": That is the new slogan in North Vietnam.

Until now it was a question of "freeing the South and strengthening the North." Now that formula is outdated.

The people of North Vietnam are being told that the end of the war is not going to mean abundance, but rather hard work—even more than before—to develop the North and help lay the foundation for the new regime in the South.

A few days ago a crowd formed on the great square in front of the national bank. The loudspeakers worked well and people came by the thousands to listen to the singers, accompanied by accordion and violin.

"Clearly amateurs," a Viet-

namese commented. "And for a good reason—all the professional groups have left for the South."

Hanoi is becoming empty of officials, professors, doctors, all kinds of professionals. Bank notes in the currency used in the North are being sent beyond the 17th parallel to replace Saigon's open-devalued piaster, or what remains of it.

With transportation obviously limited, it would be an exaggeration to speak of an air link between Hanoi and Da Nang and other southern cities, but there is constant traffic, and also a tie between Haiphong and "the newly liberated provinces" by way of the sea.

Is that to say that after having sent its armies, the North, thanks to its organization and material assistance, is conquering the

South? The North Vietnamese say that is not really what has been going on. According to them, the division of Vietnam was never measured by the 17th Parallel but rather by political and cultural attitudes of Vietnamese in general.

Those in the South, they add, were never considered South Vietnamese but supporters of a liberating cause that was shared by Hanoi. It is also evident for those under the jurisdiction of areas administered by the Provisional Revolutionary Government that Hanoi's soldiers are numerous but that they are not considered by the local revolutionaries to be "North Vietnamese."

Besides, the army of North Vietnam intervened in strength when the Americans sent their expeditionary force. It was also necessary

to fill the great gaps among the troops and in the political networks when the "pacification" campaigns killed tens of thousands of rebels.

The free circulation between North and South today also permits reunions between family members. A great number of South Vietnamese left for the North in 1954, in accordance with the Geneva agreements. Today thousands of Saigonese have parents in Hanoi, and in the North's capital also live Vietnamese originally from the country's center who are now going to look for their own.

"I am going to Da Nang tomorrow," an official said. "My mother lives in Saigon. I have received no news. My village was located 12 miles from Da Nang. I know it has been demolished. Will I find the tree, once planted there?"