A Possible Resurgence of Ancient Asian Frictions

By FLORA LEWIS Special to The New York Times

Indochinese Communist parties to the role of their North maintain that position. have surprised knowledgeable French officials and scholars. A number of these experts are revis-

tion of deeply Asian attitudes were other forms of aid, yes, ance the influence of China, in Cambodia. "There is no ancient Asian frictions." There is no ancient Asian frictions.

"Two Western religions have been implanted in Vietnambeen implanted in Vietnam— He did not deny that North already considering joining the will not be allowed to reopen Catholicism and Marxism," said Vietnamese troops had been nonaligned bloc of nations. This the facilities that religious and Jean Lacouture, a French expert involved, but he went out of information was confirmed by humanitarian groups have pro-on Indochina. "They are bound his way to reject the idea of neutral diplomats stationed in to leave profound traces. But continuing influence on Cam-Hanoi, by high Yugoslav offi-they are bound hodie by the trace. being nationalized, bodia by Hanoi. they are

Vietnamized." Despite intense French efforts a mediating diplomatic role in themselves expressions of the Vietnam and Cambodia, the ef-ancient Cambodian antagonism fect of the efforts seems to be toward Vietnamese, regardless North Korren Vietnamese sources said that North Korren Vietnamese sources said that North Korren Vietnamese regardless North Korren Vietnamese sources said that North Korren Vietnamese regardless North Koren Vietnamese regard

era.

A number of these experts are revis-ing their assess Analysis ments and con-cluding that a major result of the way the Indochina wars have ended is likely to be a reasser-tion of deenly Asian attitudes

Favor Nonaligned Bloc

fect of the efforts seems to be toward Vietnamese, regardless not so much a resurgence of of political systems. French influence as a reversion They not only emphasized similar move, again apparently did not consider relations

to attitudes of the precolonial their determination to be part of with Chinese support for a way the nonaligned group of nations of limiting Soviet influence.

The Cambodian Communist but also insisted that the evolv-

North Vietnamese military suc-cesses in the South, Hanoi was said, indicating that the French

PARIS, May 1—The sudden and sometimes apparently con-tradictory twists of the various a much more intense sensitivity would favor their chances to a much more intense sensitivity would favor their chances to maintain that position. The intricate web of regional North Vietnamese Communists Their argument is that China achieve victory, the French ex-

To Bar Foreign Charities

"There is no reason for a pri-Last fall, before the sudden vate foreign hospital, a private

cials who were involved in way they were ordered to evac-

with any foreigners, certainly not any Westerners, to be privileged.

There have also been some hints of evolving attitudes among Vietnamese Communists.

Intermarriage Frowned Upon

A North Vietnamese official, for instance, expressed open surprise that intermarriage with Chinese is common in Thailand.

"It's because they're farther away from China," he said. "It wouldn't be possible in Vietnam.

The same official spoke much more freely about the prospects Vietnamese reunification for than has been the habit of North Vietnamese in the last few years, when the responsibility of the Provisional Revolu-Government for the tionary fate of the South was stressed.

But he predicted a gradual retransfer of populations, with a return northward of the many Catholics who fled south after the 1954 partition and a return southward of those who moved to Communist North Vietnam.

It was, in effect, an acknowiedgment of the ancient differences between the North, the central region and the South in Vietnam—and a surprising omission of political and ideological factors.

A Change of Mind

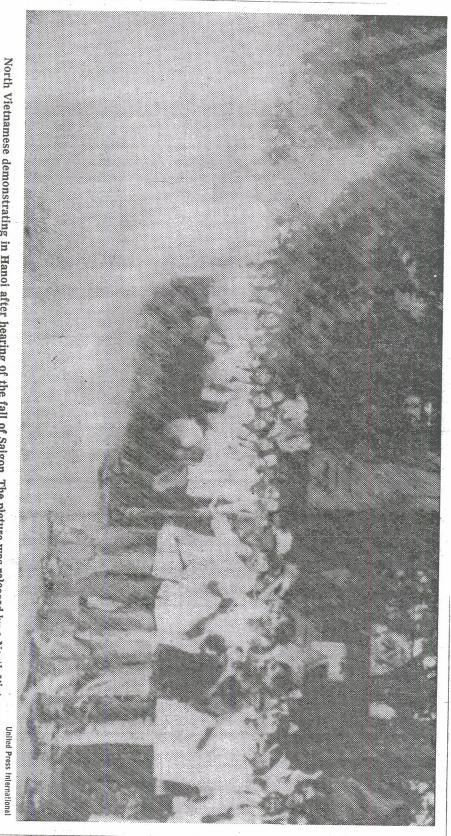
Mr. Lacouture, who had long felt that the South's Communists represented an authentic assertion of South Vietnamese identity, said that he had come to change his mind.

"I began to wonder when they allowed Le Duc Tho to negotiate the fate of the South," he said, referring to the North Vietnamese official who negotiated the 1973 Paris accords. "And now, with all those North Vietnamese troops

"But," he added, "if Hanoi tries to swallow the South, it will have a very sore throat. I think they realize it."

No expert here is eager to predict what will happen in Vietnam in the next few months, during what Mr. La-couture calls "the transition phase."

But from a longer perspective, there is a consensus among Indochinese officials and French experts that what is ending is not just 30 years of revolutionary war. Some 150 years of Western dominion in Indochina is also ending. And that, they say, may prove more important for what emerges in the long run than the essentially Western doctrine of Communism.



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