

# Reds Report Take-Over Of Vietnam Is Complete

By Reuters

MAY 2 1975

The new Communist rulers of South Vietnam announced yesterday that their forces had completed the take-over of all areas of resistance that had remained after the surrender of Saigon Wednesday.

Describing their victory as now complete, they broadcast a series of decrees forbidding the publication of all newspapers, books and other printed material by private citizens and banning prostitution, dance halls and "acting like Americans."

The ban on the publication of printed materials by anyone other than the revolutionary authorities was described as a temporary measure aimed at protecting stability and order.

The broadcasts combined warnings against disorder with reassurances for those who obey the rules that their lives and property would be pro-

ected. But, the broadcasts said, there will be heavy penalties for arson, robbery, looting, rape, bomb throwing, possession of explosives and weapons, continued psychological warfare, rumor spreading, calling on people to flee and information gathering for unauthorized publication.

The broadcasts, heard in Singapore, Bangkok and elsewhere, were made over the capital's radio station, which identified itself as "the voice of liberated Saigon."

In the early hours after the surrender, it had been announced that the capital would henceforth be known as Ho Chi Minh City. But yesterday it was said that while this would be its popular name the official one would continue to be Saigon.

Western newsmen, whose

Continued on Page 16, Column 3

Continued From Page 1, Col. 6

communications from Saigon were cut on Wednesday, were still unable to file dispatches yesterday. But Japanese newsmen were able to file some through the Japanese Embassy.

A pooled dispatch said May Day parades in Saigon were staged yesterday from three assembly points, with trucks and gun barrels decorated with artificial flowers. Communist soldiers were reported to be patrolling the streets in twos and threes during the day chatting with people, and almost all women were said to have abandoned the Western-style clothing commonplace before the surrender in favor of the traditional Vietnamese dress.

Some reports quoted Communist broadcasts as announcing the nationalization of banks and virtually all other business and industrial enterprises, among them American companies.

The name Provisional Revolutionary Government continued to be used in broadcasts from Saigon during the day, but the word "provisional" was sometimes omitted.

nounced that the divisions had been dissolved.

Announcing what it described as the final military actions, the Communist's Gai Phong Press Agency said in a broadcast that "all the provinces north, northwest, south and southwest of Saigon and in the Mekong delta" were captured yesterday morning.

It said the forces of the National Liberation Front had begun the final drives in those provinces at the same time as Saigon was surrendered Wednesday.

## Numbers Differ

Late on Wednesday, more than 12 hours after the surrender, the Communists had said that eight provinces at the southern tip of the country had not yet heeded the call of the former President, Lieut. Gen. Duong Van Minh, for all to lay down their arms and subject themselves to the new government.

Precisely how many provinces had been in doubt was unclear yesterday. One broadcast said that four had been "liberated." "liberated" in the closing drive, among them Tay Ninh and Hau Nghia west and northwest of Saigon. Another said that 20 provinces had been taken over in the final drive.

## U.S. Presence Assailed

The Foreign Ministry of the Saigon Revolutionary Government condemned the United States for what it called the continued presence of American warships off South Vietnam as part of the evacuation program. As announced in a broadcast, the ministry demanded immediate withdrawal of the ships and an end to all United States "acts of intervention in the internal affairs of South Vietnam."

Similar demands were made in broadcasts from Hanoi, the North Vietnamese capital.

Saigon broadcasts repeatedly

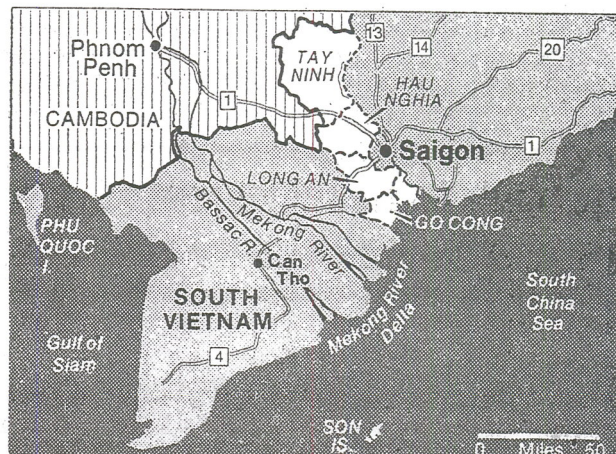
The 20-province area is roughly what was left outside of Communist lines at the time Saigon surrendered.

## No Reports of Casualties

Whether there was any actual fighting during the last military action announced yesterday by the Saigon radio was also unclear. There were no reports of casualties in the provinces.

In the capital itself, however, some resistance was reported yesterday in Cho Lon, the Chinese section of the city, according to the Japanese news agency Kyodo.

It said appeals were broadcast during the day for several divisions in the Mekong delta to surrender. Later it was an-



The New York Times/May 2, 1975

Saigon radio announced completion of Communist take-over in South Vietnam with capture of four provinces (shown in white). Other broadcasts said a total of 20 provinces were involved in final action. The 16 other provinces are to the west and southwest of the first four.

denounced the United States and hailed what they described as the end of the "North American occupation" with the closing of the embassy and the final evacuation.

"Anyone acting like Americans or participating in such American-style activities as opening night clubs, brothels or other places of entertainment will be punished," the radio said.

#### **New Committee Named**

This proclamation and others, the radio said, were issued in the name of the newly established "Committee of the Military management of Saigon-Gia Dinh." Gia Dinh is an adjoining community.

The Foreign Ministry also demanded that all property taken to other countries by Vietnamese who fled be returned by those countries, including the United States. The statement mentioned planes, ships, gold and money.

One demand was specifically addressed to Thailand, where 125 planes of the South Vietnamese Air Force fled before the surrender, carrying 2,000 refugees. The Thai Government has said that it plans to negotiate the return of the planes to Saigon with the new Communist rulers there, but the United States is believed prepared to contest this.

#### **Newsmen Move Freely**

TOKYO, May 1 (AP)—Associated Press correspondents reported from Saigon today that they were moving freely around the city and were able to purchase food at local markets.

Their brief message, sent through the Japanese Embassy and relayed to the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo, said Peter Arnett, George Esper and Matt Franjola were staying in the Caravelle and Continental hotels, which were functioning normally.

The Foreign Ministry official who relayed the message to the Tokyo bureau of the Associated Press said information received by the ministry indicated everything seemed quite normal in Saigon. The Japanese Embassy reported it was guarded by Communist troops to prevent any problems such as looting.

#### **French Nationals Safe**

PARIS, May 1 (Reuters)—The French Foreign Ministry said today that it was receiving regular messages from its embassy in Saigon saying that the situation there was returning to normal.

"Our ambassador has reported that all French nationals are safe and sound and life in the capital is calm and returning to normal," one official said.

The Ambassador, Jean-Marie Merillon, has been using the embassy's own radio communications system.