

# KY SAYS THAT U.S. HELPED 'TOO MUCH'

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Onetime Saigon Leader, Now on Guam, Tells of Role in Plot to Oust Thieu

By The Associated Press

AGANA, Guam, Monday, May 5—The United States is not to blame for the fall of South Vietnam, according to Nguyen Cao Ky, former Premier and Vice President of the country.

"Concerning America, and the American people, in the last 10 years you did a lot for us—too much, in my opinion," Marshal Ky said shortly after arriving here this morning.

"But unfortunately," he went on, "we were not brave enough to overthrow Mr. Thieu."

Marshal Ky said that he had actively plotted an overthrow of by force by President Nguyen Van Thieu, to install as President either himself or the head of the Senate.

## Thieu Was "Lonely"

"At the time Thieu lost support, he was a lonely man," Marshal Ky said, adding that it would not have taken "too much force" to oust the President, who ultimately resigned.

"What we needed," Marshal Ky continued, "was new military leaders—we were not interested in politics, but in military leadership." He declined to name other participants in the plot.

"Thieu and his people were so corrupted and so incapable," he said. "It is not the fault of the United States Congress and the brave Vietnamese soldiers," he said, referring to the final collapse. "Of course, as Vietnamese, we would have liked more help, but we understand the feelings of the American Congress."

On April 25, with the end for Saigon five days away, Marshal Ky made a speech in the capital in which he flayed as cowards those countrymen of his who were fleeing the Communist threat. "Let the cowards

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who are leaving with the Americans go, and let those who love South Vietnam stay and fight," he said, adding:

"Why run? To do what? To eat left-over American food? Even if the country falls to the Communists, at least they have yellow skins like ours." On the last day Marshal Ky himself fled the country.

"There will be a big problem," he said today on Guam, "not only for refugees but for the United States of America. You have your own problems. I don't want the 100,000 refugees to become a big task for your Government and your country."

## Ky Expects Reprisals

He said he expected reprisals against some Vietnamese still in South Vietnam: "There won't be a massive massacre, but they will kill a lot of people and more will go to concentration camps—and, of course, a big brainwash of the people" could be expected, he added.

The rest of his family is at Travis Air Force Base in Cali-

fornia, he said. He would be willing to live in the crowded refugee camps, the marshal said, but his arrangements here were not immediately known. He said he hoped eventually to become a private citizen in the United States.

His personal plans, Marshal Ky said, are indefinite. "I think some American friend will find a job for me," he said. "I don't have much money. I never had much money. I am not Mr. Thieu."

## Staying on Guma, He Says

Marshal Ky went aboard the American command and communication ship Blue Ridge after leaving South Vietnam by helicopter. The ship took him the Philippines. He arrived here carrying three bags and wearing a light-colored casual suit.

He said he intends to remain here indefinitely to bolster the moral of the other Vietnamese refugees. "I want to tell the Vietnamese we have no right to ask too much," he said. "If we can have a little place in the sun, that is already too much." Marshal Ky smiled, but

shrugged off suggestions that he might try to become the leader of the Vietnamese exiles. He said, however, that he intends to go to Washington on behalf of the refugees.

## Manila Had Objections

The Manila Government had demanded that the United States not bring political and military exiles from the old Saigon regime to American bases in the Philippines. In a formal diplomatic note to the United States, the Government said it preferred that only Vietnamese women and children be brought to the Philippines, adding that they had to remain on the military bases and could stay only three days.

Marshal Ky, a former commander of the South Vietnamese Air Force, and a pilot, led his country's first air raids on North Vietnam. This spring, at 44 years of age, he was in political retirement when the Communist advance began. He became active once more, leading efforts to get President Thieu—his long-time political foe—to resign, in hopes that the resignation might persuade the Communists to negotiate.

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