

SFChronicle
Combining of Life Styles

MAY 8 1975

Clue to Vietnam's Future

By Jean Thoraval
Agence France-Presse

Hanoi

As mini-skirts disappear from Saigon, official plans call for brightening the streets of Hanoi with new color schemes in women's clothes.

Since 1954, North Vietnamese women of all ages have worn the traditional black slacks of this Spartan country.

But the Ministry of Culture is now studying 1500 sketches of women's fashion and hair style, a well-informed North Vietnamese source said yesterday.

The frivolous subject of style offers a clue to the Vietnam of the future — slight liberalization in the north coupled with sharp limits in the south: a marriage of Sparta and Byzantium aimed at harmonizing two Vietnams, radically different in spirit and mores, but now committed to reunification.

The people running the revolution are not about to embark on a consumers' society, which their Marxist principles condemn as unproductive.

Still, they will have to deal with thousands of individuals north and south who badly want a breather after years of doing without personal comforts to support the patriotic war.

Now that the day of "Vietnam for the Vietnamese" finally has come, they want to

Ford Proclaims End of Viet Era

Washington

President Ford has formally declared that yesterday was the end of "the Vietnam era" in a proclamation ending wartime veterans benefits for new military recruits.

The President also sent to Congress legislation that would set June 30 as the final date on which an individual enlisting in the military could qualify for educational benefits under the GI bill.

"America is no longer at war," Mr. Ford said in a statement issued at the White House.

The presidential proclamation, issued two years after the withdrawal of American combat forces from Vietnam and one week

enjoy some fruits of their hard-won victory.

"One of the lasting problems we must settle is that of the greater production of consumer goods," was the telling comment of the special representative here in South Vietnam's Provisional Revolutionary Government to a Yugoslav newsmen.

Ironically, it is the north that probably will bear the burden of this final push aimed at providing a bit better for some without stripping others of all they have.

after the fall of Saigon, was a formality that ended such benefits as burial allowances and death pensions for individuals enlisting in the armed services after yesterday.

Mr. Ford said that the action will save \$1.5 billion over the next five years without limiting the benefits due to seven million Americans who served in uniform during the Vietnam war.

The action served, along with several other steps taken by Mr. Ford, to underscore his statement at a news conference Tuesday night that the United States had learned "the lessons of the past in Vietnam" and should begin now to "look ahead."

New York Times

South Vietnam, cut off from American hard cash, manufactured goods and

some raw materials, will remain for the time being dependent on the north, well-informed North Vietnamese sources said.

A cosmetics factory has promised to grind out an extra 500 tons of soap, 50 tons of soap bars and 500,000 tubes of toothpaste.

The Honh Ha (Red River) Office Supply Factory has agreed to produce 100,000 pens of various kinds and 50,000 packets of carbon paper above their normal output.

All over the country, industrial complexes and cottage industries alike are proclaiming their solidarity with the south and their readiness to do their best to save the bankrupt and abandoned southland from the hardships of a postwar economy.

The major reform, say officials in Hanoi, is to clear South Vietnam's cities and sprawling urban areas of all "unproductive elements," who will be assigned to farming or light industry in the countryside.

This seems the No. 1 goal of the revolution.