

NYTimes
Text of Remarks at Saigon News Parley

MAY 9 1975

Following is the text of introductory remarks made at a news conference in Saigon by Lieut. Gen. Tran Van Tra, the new military commander, as broadcast in Vietnamese by the Saigon radio and translated and transmitted from Bangkok, Thailand, by The Associated Press.

Comrades and gentlemen, I am very glad to represent the Military Command Committee of Saigon-Gia Dinh [Saigon's Province] in meeting the first official time with the press and people of Saigon in this big city.

And I recall I have met some of you here in Saigon before but in different circumstances and in different conditions.

And I believe many of you have followed different phases of our giant struggle.

You, friends, witnessed the moment when the people of Saigon together with their Liberation Armed Forces rose up to liberate their city.

And in other cities of South Vietnam, as in Saigon, you have witnessed that historic moment that ends 170 years in which our country did not have independence and freedom.

Since the liberation of Saigon, now and forever, our people have independence, freedom and democracy. Independence, freedom and

peace will exist in our country forever.

Having independence, freedom and peace we believe that the country will be built into a rich one. The Vietnamese people will have a peaceful and happy life.

It goes without saying that we meet with a number of difficulties in the first days of our liberation, but these difficulties are not considerable in comparison with those in 30 years of war.

Support of the People

You, yesterday, have observed the sentiments and attitudes of the people here toward the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam and the People's Liberation Armed Forces. The city fully supports the P.R.G. and supports the armed forces of the people.

Where there is the people's support, where there is the people's determination, obstacles will be wiped out.

In spite of those difficulties we are trying to restore security and order in the city soon and also stabilize life for all people here.

You have already witnessed that the people have taken an active part in all activities together with the revolutionary administration in Saigon.

Through unity in their tasks the revolutionary administration of the city, together with the people, will settle

all problems and wipe out all obstacles.

In my speech yesterday I spoke of the matters that we are attending to and I would like not to repeat them in order to save your precious time.

Congratulations Received

We are very happy to receive a great many congratulations from all parts of the world after we liberated Saigon and other parts of South Vietnam.

In only a short period of more than one week 11 countries have recognized the Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam.

And I believe that in the future there will be more countries establishing relations with us.

We are deeply moved not only by those congratulations from all over the world but also by the support and assistance from our friends in the Socialist countries—the Soviet Union, China and other countries, as well as organizations.

For example, the Soviet Union and China have transported food here.

We are very thankful for this timely and active support.

to all progressive organizations, progressive personalities from all corners of the world who are sending us congratulations, support and assistance.