

# Saigon Paper Says Opposition Continues

From News Dispatches

Opposition to the new government in South Vietnam is continuing, according to an editorial in the government newspaper and broadcast reports of clashes with military holdouts.

A broadcast of an editorial in Saigon's *Ghia Dinh* newspaper, monitored in Hong Kong, appealed to officers and men of the former government to lay down their arms and register with the new authorities.

Those that do, the broadcast said, would be protected and given jobs, adding: "Reactionaries who are trying to oppose the revolutionary government still exist . . . These reactionaries who oppose the people and the revolution will be severely punished."

Liberation Radio broadcasts indicated that the main resistance was in the Mekong Delta.

The radio said that one operation succeeded in capturing 27 South Vietnamese navy vessels. The brigadier general commanding the flotilla was also captured, the radio said.

Meanwhile, <sup>8 MAY</sup> delayed reports of a Thursday press conference by Gen. Tran Van Tra, head of the Saigon Military Management Committee, said that although the military government in South Vietnam is intended to be temporary, he could give no indication of when the Provisional Revolutionary Government would take over.

Tra said the PRG was in South Vietnam but would not reveal its exact location.

He said that nationwide elections would eventually be held in South Vietnam

and that the aim of the new rulers was to unify North and South Vietnam.

In his first official contact with the Western press since the fall of Saigon, Tra said, "We have just liberated Saigon, a city of 3 million people, and as I recall there has never been such a large city liberated so suddenly. In a large city liberated after a lightning attack, there are many problems."

The news conference took place in the same hall in the presidential palace where President Thieu had resigned three weeks before and where Duong Van Minh had taken over two weeks before for his brief presidential term.

While Tra spoke of the PRG's eventually taking over and of elections, he was vague on both. He said the security situation in Saigon was the reason "we cannot speak of a time limit" for the military committee's existence.

He said the committee's role is to reestablish order and security and to bring about normal living conditions.

United Press International reported that all dispatches its Hong Kong office received yesterday with a Saigon dateline had been written several days earlier and were transmitted via Hanoi. There were no indications of censorship. There has been no direct communication with Saigon since shortly after the Communists conquered the city April 30.

Liberation Radio in Saigon said yesterday that the new government had asked Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines and Indonesia "to inform Vietnamese refugees that the Saigon government agreed to provide transportation, such as planes and ships, to transport those who wish to return to their country."

The five countries make up the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and many of the estimated 150,000 South Vietnamese who fled the country are in these countries.

In his news conference,

Tra said many who left were forced to go or were kidnaped.

"The U.S. government said that when we entered Saigon there would be a bloodbath, but you have seen whether or not there has been a bloodbath. We consider this a very contemptible slander. We protested against this scheme of the U.S. government and we are very sorry to learn that a number of our people are living in a miserable way in a foreign country," Tra said in apparent reference to crowded conditions in refugee transit camps.

UPI's Alan Dawson reported from Saigon in a dispatch dated May 9 that the city's residents had begun to register for new identification cards.

A radio broadcast from Saigon yesterday said the military government is making plans to reopen Tan Son Nhut Airport, which was heavily damaged by shells and rockets in the closing days of the war. Air force personnel and civilian technicians were urged to report to the airport for work.

The Associated Press reported that a small number of aircraft had already used the airport.

In another delayed dispatch, Dawson said U.S. officials refused to carry 148 South Koreans, including 10 diplomats, from Saigon during the U.S. evacuation even though the Koreans were in the embassy compound.

"We were told to line up in the embassy compound and we did," said one of those left behind. "But when the last helicopter came into the compound it just settled down and then lifted off and did not carry out anyone."

## Burma Storm Kills 33

Reuter

SINGAPORE, May 11 — A cyclone that lashed Bassein, at the mouth of Burma's Irrawaddy delta, last week killed 33 people, the Burma broadcasting service reported to-night.