

Saigon Says 30,000 Are Moved to Delta

The Saigon radio announced yesterday that 30,000 of the more than three million residents of the capital area had been moved southward to the Mekong delta.

The broadcast, monitored in Bangkok, Thailand, said, according to Agence France-Presse, that the move had been made with the help of the new Communist authorities.

The Associated Press reported in a brief dispatch from Saigon that hundreds who had fled the capital and other cities during the war had begun to return to their homes.

Other reports of resettlement were broadcast by the Hanoi radio, which said, according to United Press International, that thousands of South Vietnamese who tried to flee the country during the Communist takeover had been picked up and returned. The North Vietnamese broadcast said that many of them had been taken off Son Island in the South China Sea and Pnu Quoc Island in the Gulf of Siam and transferred to the Mekong delta area or to the south-central coastal city of Nha Trang.

The Saigon radio also said that residents of the capital had given up the long-standing practice of taking a siesta between noon and 2 P.M. In the past, the streets had been empty during those hours.

Other items in the broadcast included reports that pick-

pockets and beggars had disappeared from market areas and that more than 1,000 employees of Saigon's Tan Son Nhut airport had been ordered to return to their jobs. But there was no indication when the airport might be reopened to traffic other than daily flights from Hanoi.

Another broadcast told of artillery fire in the Saigon area and of flights by warplanes over the capital apparently in preparation for three-day victory celebrations scheduled to begin tomorrow.

Still another broadcast said a thief who had stolen a briefcase belonging to an American correspondent had been arrested and shot on the spot.

Britain Opens Ties

Reporting on diplomatic developments, the Hanoi radio said the new Saigon Revolutionary Government had claimed title to the South Vietnamese Embassy in Washington and designated Algeria to take over the premises. In Washington, the State Department said it had received an Algerian note to this effect but had not acted on it.

A U.P.I. dispatch from Saigon said Communist officials there had said the new Government would be willing to accept a small United States mission but that the United States

would have to pledge to keep out of Vietnamese affairs.

This report came as the British Government announced that it had recognized the new Saigon Government and would reopen its embassy in the South Vietnamese capital as soon as possible. Britain recognized the new Cambodian Government May 2.

The United States has recognized neither.

Foreign Newsmen Arrive

SAIGON, South Vietnam, May 13 (Agence France-Presse) —Some 30 foreign newsmen, among them two Frenchmen and an Italian, arrived here yesterday by air from Hanoi, the first such group to land here since the Communist takeover.

Most of the reporters were from Eastern Europe, Cuba and China.

A jovial atmosphere, helped along with generous offerings of Soviet cognac, carried over after their plane landed at Tan Son Nhut airport, itself a gloomy sight. Parts of the airport are still strewn with charred aircraft and planes and helicopters shelled in the last days of the war.

The newcomers seemed impressed with the villas of Saigon, the traffic, rich shops and outdoor cafes, with Communist soldiers sitting at tables nursing glasses of beer.