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## THIEU RENTS HOME IN TAIPEI SUBURB

Former Saigon Leader Said  
to Be Planning Memoirs

Special to The New York Times

TAIPEI, Taiwan, June 2—  
Nguyen Van Thieu, the former  
President of South Vietnam,  
has moved into a rented house  
in a Taipei suburb and is re-  
portedly preparing to write his  
memoirs.

When Mr. Thieu arrived here  
on April 26, there was specu-  
lation that after a few weeks  
of rest he might move on to  
settle in Europe, where he has  
a son in school. But a South  
Vietnamese source said that Mr.  
Thieu was now expected to re-  
main in Taiwan for some time.

Mr. Thieu, who was described  
as quite depressed during the  
first few weeks he was here,  
is now said to be in a better  
frame of mind. He has report-  
edly been asking the help of  
staff members of the former  
South Vietnamese Embassy  
here in gathering documents  
and reference materials related  
to his term as President, pre-  
sumably to aid in writing his  
memoirs.

The former President has re-  
fused all requests for inter-  
views since coming to Taiwan  
and has issued no statements.  
His last public comment made  
in Saigon April 21 as he an-

nounced his resignation from  
office, was a bitter attack on  
the United States, which he  
accused of having broken its  
promises to support an anti-  
Communist Government in Sai-  
gon.

### Security Tight but Discreet

Until last week Mr. Thieu  
and his wife lived in the home  
of his elder brother, who was  
South Vietnam's Ambassador  
to Taipei. The three-bedroom  
house they are now occupying  
is nearby in the same Taipei  
suburb, Tienmu, which is popu-  
lated mostly by foreigners or  
wealthy Chinese. Rentals in the  
district, though high by Taiwan  
standards, rarely exceed \$300  
a month.

Since Mr. Thieu's arrival se-  
curity in the area has been tight  
but discreet. The security po-  
licemen on patrol duty have  
mostly been casually dressed  
young men who resemble uni-  
versity students except for  
their only partially hidden  
walkie-talkie radios.

Mr. Thieu has made only  
a few known excursions, all  
of them unannounced, outside  
Tienmu. During his first week  
in Taiwan he traveled by auto-  
mobile to Tzu Lake, 30 miles  
south of Taipei, to pay re-  
spects at the tomb of President  
Chiang Kai-shek. He also paid  
a condolence call on President  
Chiang's widow.

A week ago Mr. Thieu and  
members of his family ate a  
Sunday lunch at a small-town  
restaurant and shopped for  
wood carvings without in-  
cident. But an earlier visit to  
a Taipei department store had  
ended with some unpleasant-  
ness. Mr. Thieu's nephew physi-  
cally assaulted a Chinese news-  
paper photographer who tried  
to take the former President's  
picture.