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Civilians Said to Aid Saigon Arrest Efforts

From News Dispatches

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Saigon civilians are aiding security forces to break up two anti-government organizations, Saigon officials said yesterday on an official radio broadcast monitored in Hong Kong.

The Giai Phong radio said that many persons, including former officers of the armed forces under President Thieu's regime, were arrested recently in the capital of South Vietnam. The broadcast said some were denounced by civilians.

A high-ranking Vietnamese source in Hanoi, meanwhile, told Agence France-Presse correspondent Jean Thoroval that Vietnam will be totally reunified by the end of next year.

Informed sources at the United Nations, however, indicated that North and South Vietnam are likely to seek U.N. membership as separate nations.

In Vientiane, sources said that three Pathet Lao soldiers had shown no sign of giving up their three-day-old occupation at the quarters of U.S. Charge d'Affaires Christian Chapman. The U.S. mission protested the occupation, but the Foreign Ministry's promise that they would be removed has not yet been kept.

Radio Phnom Penh, meanwhile, said that Cambodian Foreign Minister Sarin Chhak last week visited several countries, including Albania and Yugoslavia, to thank them for their support during the war.

The Cambodian radio also claimed that Khmer Rouge troops had killed nearly 100 U.S. Marines during the fighting on Koh Tang last month to rescue the 39 crewmen of the U.S. merchant ship Mayaguez. The Pentagon has said that 23 servicemen were killed in a helicopter crash prior to the island landing. Another 15 men were killed in the rescue operation and three are missing.