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# Diplomat Says Shooting Heard Often in Saigon

Associated Press

A French diplomat arriving in Laos from Saigon reported yesterday that shooting is heard nightly in the South Vietnamese capital.

"By 8:30 p.m. the city is dead. People are afraid to go outside," said the diplomat,

who asked that his name not be published.

Saigon's Liberation Radio reported clashes in provinces near Saigon and the capture of armed troops who had been holding out against the new government.

In the Mekong Delta, a broadcast said, authorities in Mytho Province recently organized a demonstration to encourage the population to turn in "henchmen and ex-soldiers who are still in hiding places."

Another broadcast said officials in the vicinity of Hue, the former imperial capital on the northern coast, were forming security units to patrol along the Cambodian border and the South China Sea coast.

South Vietnamese broadcasts monitored in Bangkok reported renewed efforts to root out "immoral books and magazines" and said a week was specially devoted to such efforts in Quangnam Province.

Most school pupils in the province "behave very well now, long hair and hippie dress having disappeared from schools and elsewhere in the province," Liberation Radio said.

Meanwhile, a U.N.-run program of repatriation for South Vietnamese began with the return of two diplomats who represented the former Saigon government in Malaysia. The two flew from Vientiane to Saigon aboard a plane chartered by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees.

Both signed declarations stating that their repatriation was voluntary.

Alexander Casells, a Swiss official of the U.N. refugee office, said more than 2,000 South Vietnamese have applied for permission to return. He said the number is expected to increase as information about the program circulates.