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# S. Vietnam Seeks U.N. Membership

From News Dispatches

The Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam applied yesterday for membership in the United Nations.

A cablegram from Huynh Tan Phat, president of the PRG, asked U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to put the application of the Saigon regime before the Security Council.

Election to U.N. membership is by a majority vote of the General Assembly upon recommendation from the Security Council. Unless the PRG application is vetoed in the council, where the United States has not made its position clear, the Saigon regime was expected to be elected to membership at the regular assembly session starting Sept. 16.

The United States, it is understood, would like to see its close Asian ally, South Korea, join if South Vietnam does.

Application by South Vietnam indicates that merger of that country and North Vietnam, which has said it would

apply for membership separately, is not imminent.

Hanoi's official press however, has published a major article arguing the case for one Vietnam in what could be part of a campaign to move toward reunification of north and south.

The fact that the North Vietnam News Agency carried the full text of the article yesterday suggested that it reflected the official Hanoi policy line on the issue, observers in Hong Kong said.

The lengthy article by a sociologist identified as Nguyen Khac Vien appeared in the current issue of the Hanoi monthly Vietnam Courier.

He said the two Vietnams could be brought closer through the process would be arduous.

He did not explain what the process was but disclosed that everyone in South Vietnam "is now being moved to rebuild his life on new bases within the social structure of this process."

Saigon's Liberation Radio said yesterday that some 140-

000 people have left two of South Vietnam's biggest cities for the countryside to do farm work.

The major exodus is from Saigon, with more than 125,000 going to a provincial center to start a new life on the land.

Over 14,000 have left Danang for the same purpose. They had asked the authorities there to give them agricultural work and went to villages whose inhabitants had helped them to settle down the radio said.

Saigon authorities have announced the arrests of four more antigovernment agents in a publicized crackdown on persons still opposed to the new administration.

The official Saigon government newspaper Liberation daily said Monday authorities had arrested two armed men at a village on the edge of Tansonhut air base.

## Five Nations Bolster Shaky Laotian Kip

From News Dispatches  
VIENTIANE, July 15—The

Laos government and emissaries of five countries signed a currency support agreement today which gave the Lao government \$116 million to bolster its shaky currency.

A signing ceremony at the Foreign Ministry formalized donations to the Lao Foreign Exchange Operations Fund which backs the Lao kip and permits the government and importers to buy goods aboard.

The United States already has given \$5 million to the fund this year and the American signature was not to pledge more money, but to acknowledge what has been given.

Australia, Britain, France and Japan are to give a total of \$6.6 million.

In other years the United States has contributed about \$11 million, but future aid to Laos is under review in Washington in the wake of more than two months of leftist-inspired anti-American incidents.

Meanwhile, Agence France-

Presse reported from Bangkok that pro-Communist Pathet Lao troops opened fire on a group of young people, killing or wounding more than 10 of them, on July 2 in the Laotian town of Thakhek 400 miles north-east of Bangkok.