

SEP 23 1975

NYTimes

## SAIGON IS ISSUING A NEW CURRENCY

Radio Says Move Is Aimed  
at Overcoming Inflation

SINGAPORE, Sept. 22 (Reuters)—South Vietnam's Provisional Revolutionary Government today announced the creation of a new currency to replace the devalued money of the former government.

The Saigon radio reported the decision in a morning broadcast. The radio ordered Saigon businesses to close and told people to stay off the streets for seven hours to fill in financial declarations and applications for the new money.

The announcement said that the operation would be carried out under the guidance of local officials, but gave no indication how much the new currency would be worth. The currency has been called the piaster.

The communique said that the Government had decided to take economic and financial steps aimed at "actively overcoming the effect of the monetary inflation left behind by the enemy, and preventing the imperialists' reactionary lackeys from continuing to use the old banknotes to undermine the economy and finances and from engaging in acts of espionage."

### Serving the People

The announcement said that the old currency would be replaced by an independent and sovereign currency that serves the interests of the people.

The announcement said the notes would be issued by the Bank of Vietnam. Financial sources in Singapore said it was not immediately clear from this whether the notes were being issued by the former National Bank of Vietnam—the central bank of the former government—or whether the Provisional Government had set up a new bank.

The radio asked all people to participate enthusiastically so that their declaration and exchange of money could be carried out promptly, completely and satisfactorily.

### Hanoi Leader in Peking

The Globe and Mail, Toronto

PEKING, Tuesday, Sept. 23—The North Vietnamese Communist leader, Le Duan, last night publicly told China in effect that Hanoi was going to maintain good relations with the Soviet Union despite Peking's misgivings.

The North Vietnamese official, on a visit here, made a pointed and positive reference to aid from the Soviet Union and the Soviet bloc. Speaking at a banquet, he said:

"Our victory is inseparable from the profound sympathy and great and valuable assistance that the people of the other fraternal socialist countries and all progressive mankind extended to our just patriotic struggle."