Evidence of More Vietnam Fighting

Bangkok

A growing body of evidence seems to be accumulating that indicates some resistance by military units of the former anti-Communist government is persisting in scattered areas of South Vietnam.

Twice within the last few weeks, Saigon's radio has reported the capture of "former puppet soldiers."

Both references were to activities in Soc Trang in the Mekong Delta. The more recent broadcast heard here last weekend, was the more specific, saying that some 500 "former puppet soldiers including many officers who, unwilling to report themselves, had gathered to harass the revolution and disrupt security and order."

Western analysts here were surprised at the size of this force and said that the South Vietnamese acknowledgement of it could indicate a more serious and widespread resistance.

An earlier broadcast, also referring to the Soc Trang area, said, without specifying the number involved, that a Communist military force had captured remnants of a unit of intelligence officers trying to escape disguised as Buddhist monks.

Refugees, too, have continued to report signs of some resistance. A refugee who arrived here two weeks ago through the Mekong delta said that he had seen North Vietnamese units in concentration along the Cambodian border.

New York Times