

# Vote in 2 Vietnams For Joint Assembly To Be Held April 25

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BANGKOK, Thailand, Jan. 19 (AP) — North Vietnam and South Vietnam will elect a joint national assembly on April 25 with jurisdiction in both parts of the country, the Saigon radio announced today.

It said the election date, nearly one year after the final take-over of South Vietnam by Communist troops, had been approved by a body called the Consultative Conference on Reunification and endorsed by other governmental groups in Saigon and Hanoi.

The new national assembly will be the legislative organ for a reunified Vietnam, which previous Communist broadcasts have said will come soon, though no date has been set.

The merger of North Vietnam and South Vietnam began unofficially on April 30, 1975, when Communist forces rolled into Saigon, crushing what remained of the South Vietnamese administration of President Nguyen Van Thieu.

Since then the Communists have moved speedily to integrate the two parts, with many officials from the North taking significant positions in South Vietnamese Government ministries.

Both the Hanoi radio and the Saigon radio have said that the new joint assembly will have the task of approving a ruling body to run day-to-day affairs of the country and set policy, subject to nominal approval of the assembly. It will also be charged with devising an official name for the reunified country and approving a flag design.

The Saigon radio has reported that the authorities have ordered a general census of South Vietnam to facilitate the voting.

A broadcast today said that Huynh Tan Phat, president of the Provisional Revolutionary Government, presided at a meeting Friday at which it was decided that the census should provide reliable population data and "stimulate the people's awareness" of the coming elections.

The two Vietnams agreed last November that elections would be held in the first half of this year and that one representative would be elected to the national assembly for every 100,000 people. North Vietnam's population has been estimated at 24 million and South Vietnam's at 20 million.