

All below (one exception) from NYT 28 Apr 75 (Malcolm W. Browne) and WXP 28 Apr 75 (H.D.S. Greenway and Philip A. McCombs).

- 21 Apr 75 - Thieu resigns; Huong becomes president.
 - "Comparative" lull in fighting begins. (WXP.)
- 25 Apr - PRG president, Nguyen Huu Tho, calls for U.S. to "abandon the ... puppet clique," saying it is "a Thieu administration without Thieu," according to PRG news agency in Hanoi. (WXP.)
- 26 Apr - Huong makes partial concession; does not resign but invites National Assembly to consider the problem. (NYT.)
 - Saigon is shelled "[tonight]." (NYT.)
- 27 Apr - 4 a.m., Saigon is shelled. (NYT 28 Apr 75, Fox Butterfield.)
 - 4:30 p.m., Huong resigns; announcement is made at 7 p.m., one hour before curfew. Power is transferred to Minh. (NYT.)
 - Heavy fighting, "ending a week-long lull," is reported all around Saigon tonight. (WXP.)

"Last week [week of 20-26 Apr], the United States was moving as swiftly as possible to meet all demands made by the Vietcong, both on Washington and on the Saigon Government. [See story for PRG demands.] In recent days, American officials here have made it plain that Washington intends to meet every Vietcong demand unconditionally, including the tacit surrender of the Saigon Government, to save lives. By means of many direct and indirect signals, Washington has been conveying to Hanoi and the Vietcong its willingness and eagerness to comply before the Communists' apparent deadline runs out." (NYT.)

"The secret Communist messages transmitted to the Americans have made it clear that the time frame for a political solution is short, however, sources said. One message was delivered last Saturday [19 Apr] or Sunday [20 Apr], and it demanded the resignation of Thieu by Wednesday [23 Apr]." (WXP 26 Apr 75, McCombs and Greenway.)

"The flow of people leaving South Vietnam, which started with a trickle nearly two weeks ago, developed tonight [20 Apr] into what military and diplomatic officials here considered the start of the major airlift sought by President Ford." (NYT 21 Apr 75, Andelman.)

See chronology, 19 Apr to 29 Apr 75, WXP 5 May 75, McCombs and Greenway.

"Defense Department officials concluded today [21 Apr 75] that the situation in South Vietnam was deteriorating so rapidly that the United States must plan on the immediate evacuation of all Americans and their dependents. The issue was under urgent consideration at the White House during the day, officials said, with [Kissinger] opposing proposals for complete evacuation of the 2,800 Americans and 1,200 Vietnamese dependents still in Saigon." (NYT 22 Apr, Finney.)

"In testimony before a Senate subcommittee, ^[25 Apr] Philip C. Habit, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, said ... 'Policy does not provide for complete withdrawal.' The Administration is still hoping for 'a negotiated solution, a controlled situation in South Vietnam.'" (NYT 26 Apr 75, Binder.)