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# Reds Claim Saigon Mutiny

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Delegates of the National Liberation Front at the Paris peace talks say there have been large-scale defections from the South Vietnamese army, including a mutiny by the 56th Regiment of Saigon, during the current North Vietnamese offensive, Marcus G. Raskin reported in today's editions of the Chicago Sun-Times.

In a copyright story from Paris, Raskin, a former member of the National Security Council under President Kennedy, said he obtained the information during a wide-ranging interview over the weekend with mem-

bers of the Viet Cong delegation.

Raskin now is a co-director of the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington.

Raskin reported the delegates told him that many of the 56th Regiment's 4000 men, including officers, refused to enter battle, and others joined the oncoming forces.

Raskin quoted Nguyen Thi Binh, head of the delegation and Viet Cong foreign minister, as saying the defections stemmed from the fact that the soldiers do not voluntarily support the regime of President Nguyen Van Thieu.

Thieu has turned South

Vietnam into a "vast concentration camp" where the armed forces and the police are the guards, Raskin said Mrs. Binh told him.

Raskin said Viet Cong figures showed that between 1969 and 1971, 26 per cent of the more than 3000 hamlets in South Vietnam were heavily damaged or destroyed. President Nixon, Mrs. Binh was quoted as saying, has "caused even more suffering" than former President Johnson.

*Associated Press*