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Political Talk in Hanoi

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Hanoi

A representative of the Communists' Provisional Government for South Vietnam claimed great military successes for his side yesterday but insisted that it did not seek complete political control.

The representative, Nguyen Phu Soai, also said that his group wants no reprisals against individuals on Saigon's side. He said some Saigon officers who mutinied have been welcomed and allowed to keep their rank.

Soai is acting head of what is termed the revolutionary government's "Special Representation" in Hanoi. The delegation occupies a large house at 19 Hai Ba Trung, a street named for the Vietnamese sisters who led an uprising against the Han Chinese occupation in the first century A.D.

LINE

He held strictly to the political line of the seven-point peace program proposed by the revolutionary government in Paris last July. This calls for a "three-segment government of national concord" including elements from the present Saigon administration, the revolutionary government and other factions.

Asked what sort of people from the present government could take part, Soai said: "Those in Saigon — apart from Thieu — must decide. It is up to them. They must just favor a policy of peace, independence and neutrality and give up the warlike policy of repression and persecution."

Efforts to clarify the idea of a three-segment coalition in conversation with North Vietnamese officials over the last few days have been unavailing. Their emphasis is always on the basic demand that President Nguyen Van Thieu must go.

IMPRESSION

The impression is that the Communist side looks for an initiative from Saigon if Thieu is removed — an approach by other figures in the present Saigon government. No particular names are mentioned.

One American report corrected by Soai was that the revolutionary government had set up a seat of government in Quang Tri after its recent capture. This report was based on a radio broadcast by the Communist forces.

But Soai said the broadcast spoke only of a provincial organization. He said the revolutionary government has its seat and works "in all liberated areas of South Vietnam."

Soai, 48-years-old, comes from a South Vietnamese village about 12 miles from My Lai, site of the American massacre of civilians. He said he had been out of the south since 1966.

As he was interviewed, he referred to a large map of fighting and military dispo-

sitions in the south. It was evidently printed recently because it showed the situation in such places as An Loc, Kontum and Quang Tri.

"The Saigon army has been broken in many places," he said. "Of 13 divisions in the regular army, two have been put out of action — the Third Division in the north and the 22nd in the central highlands. Four others have been battered heavily."

"Morale is in a critical

state," he continued. "Desertion is high. Mutinies have reached the big units: the 56th Regiment, the whole regiment mutinied. Many civil guards and local forces have mutinied."

He said the "liberation forces" in the south killed or wounded 80,000 men in April and captured 10,000. As is the practice here, he spoke only of "liberation forces" and never mentioned the dominant role of the North Vietnamese army.