

Thieu Rebuffs Talk of Coalition

Saigon

South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu today dismissed talk of a coalition government and called for a military victory over the Communists.

In a State of the Country message to a now powerless Congress, Thieu predicted another Communist offensive "this year. After this last fight, the war will fade away," he said.

As Thieu's speech was read to the Senate and National Assembly, the President himself was at Independence Palace to greet Major General Alexander Haig, a White House emissary sent by President Nixon to brief Thieu on latest

developments in secret Paris peace talks. Haig is also an aide to presidential advisor Henry Kissinger.

The 21-page message to Congress was harsher in tone than recent pronouncements by Thieu, but covered essentially familiar ground.

"Our last aim is to defeat the Communists, render them strengthless and force them to relinquish their ambition to take over South Vietnam," Thieu said. "Then peace will be guaranteed."

Thieu said South Vietnam and its allies wanted a cease-fire throughout Indochina, "but the Communists are afraid of it."

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