

'We Must Fight the Communists

Associated Press

Following are excerpts from an unofficial translation of President Nguyen Van Thieu's address to the South Vietnamese nation yesterday:

A cease-fire may take place before the U.S. presidential election. If not, it may take place just a few months after the election, because the Communists are now exhausted . . .

I call on all political parties and religious groups to join the administration in thwarting Communist preparations for a cease-fire and the attempts to violate the cease-fire, if it unfortunately occurs . . .

Political parties and religious groups should unite in

the face of the Communists' deceitful propaganda allegations aimed at dividing our ranks, especially our superstructure . . .

I hold the three-segment formula to be absurd and baseless, and a disguised coalition government. I hold that the formation of a three-segment government would be an imposition. How can we accept such disguised coalition government after fighting for decades? . . .

The Communists have claimed that I am an impediment to peace. This is not true, because I have already said that I, as an individual, will be ready to step down when a guaranteed peace has been restored. Only then shall I make a personal

sacrifice for the compatriots. But as a president, I will not give in to the Communists before a guaranteed peace is achieved.

Our peace and cease-fire stand remains unchanged. We are not afraid of peace and a cease-fire. We must happily welcome a just peace and a serious cease-fire, because the sooner peace comes, the less our compatriots will suffer . . .

The Communists agree to, and even beg for a cease-fire because they are weak militarily. When the fighting ceases, we 17.5 million Southern people must smash the Communist violations of the cease-fire and all their insidious designs. Only we, and not the world,

can effectively guarantee our peace from our position of military strength.

I want to see that the South will not be dominated, sooner or later, by the Communists.

The war must be settled by the Republic of Vietnam and the North Vietnamese Communists and their stooges called the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam.

While advancing a three-segment government, the Communists have implored the United States to agree to a cease-fire so they can claim territory allegedly under their control. They think that as the U.S. presidential election is nearing, the U.S. president may be a

THE WASHINGTON POST Wednesday, Oct. 25, 1972 A 19

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little easy-going, and that if he is re-elected, he would get more difficult to deal with . . .

The Communists are feverishly negotiating a cease-fire with the United States at the Paris peace talks with the aim of driving the Americans out of the Republic of Vietnam . . .

We do not avoid a cease-fire. We are unafraid of a cease-fire, but it must be a serious cease-fire. The North Vietnamese Communist troops must go home to North Vietnam, not just withdraw to Laos and Cambodia, from which they could renew their attacks against South Vietnam . . .

I have asked Dr. Kissinger

to ask the Communists what they want. The final decision must be ours. No one may sign a cease-fire agreement without the Republic of Vietnam's consent. The final decision must be reached when we and the Communist side sit down together . . .

We and the U.S. representatives have only held exploratory talks. Nothing has been signed yet . . .

We are fighting against the National Liberation Front. We'll talk with the front after the North Vietnamese troops have been withdrawn . . .

Each nation has its own interests and each person has his own interests. No criticism and no press arti-

cles can affect my stand. I urge the press, domestic and foreign, to cooperate sincerely with us and not print groundless news which threatens our security . . .

I urge all compatriots to remain vigilant against the Communists' deceitful propaganda. The compatriots and fellow combatants may discard me at any time, but I will never fail you . . .

The Communists want a cease-fire now in order to retain as much territory as they can . . .

Documents urge the Communist cadres and troops to prepare flags so they can hoist them whenever a cease-fire goes into effect. These documents set forth

the military, political and subversive activities to be carried out in the period after a cease-fire. These activities will be aimed at seizing power . . .

When the Communists are asked about the future regime they propose for the South, they insist on a parliamentary system under which they will try by all means to infiltrate our ranks through chaos and by the repeated holding of parliamentary elections . . .

Those to whom the Communists promise the presidency or any other posts should not resign themselves to serving the Communists and should not be fooled by the Communists.