

CEASE-FIRE UNITS TAKE THEIR POSTS

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Communist Members Are
Virtually Stalemated by
Saigon Restrictions
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By CHARLES MOHR
Special to The New York Times

MY THO, South Vietnam, Tuesday, Feb. 6—International peace-keeping teams fanned out across Vietnam yesterday, but had not yet begun their work of monitoring violations of the cease-fire agreement.

As the teams moved into place in seven provincial centers, it became increasingly clear that the South Vietnamese Government had, in procedural matters, outmaneuvered and virtually stalemated the Communist delegates representing North Vietnam and the Vietcong.

The Communist members of the Four-Party Joint Military Commission were being shuttled to tightly guarded South Vietnamese military installations where they were invisible to the population and unable to make contact with civilians, and posed no political or propaganda threat.

Why the Communists had

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agreed to these arrangements was an open question, but it seemed possible that complaints about the arrangements might arise in future.

Informed American sources said, meanwhile, that it seemed likely that some American prisoners of war, both military and civilian, would be released sometime in the next few days at the town of An Loc, about 60 miles north of Saigon. The sources said that no precise timetable or plan had been agreed upon.

Teams of the International Commission for Control and Supervision moved out and set up regional headquarters in seven places in South Vietnam yesterday morning. The teams were made up of five to nine soldiers from each of the commission's four member countries—Canada, Hungary, Indonesia and Poland.

Later yesterday informed American officials said that teams of the Four-Party Joint Military Commission, consisting of officers and men from the United States, South Vietnam, North Vietnam and the Vietcong's Provisional Revolutionary Government, would also be in place in these seven regional headquarters by tonight.

The Seven Headquarters

The seven regional headquarters manned by the international commission and the military commission teams were at Hue, Da Nang, Pleiku, Phan Thiet, Bien Hoa, My Tho and Can Tho. Later, 26 smaller peace-keeping teams from both commissions are to be set up in smaller regional centers.

An example of yesterday's

movement was seen here at My Tho, in the Mekong delta 40 miles southwest of Saigon.

A United States Army bus with a white cross painted on its side brought 27 men, most of them officers, from the four-nation international commission from Saigon to My Tho, where they set up housekeeping in a little Vietnamese hotel called the Minh Canh.

Later in the day, American helicopters flew 45 North Vietnamese officers and enlisted men from Saigon to the headquarters of the South Vietnamese Army's Seventh Division at Dong Tam, a few miles west of My Tho. This tightly guarded base will serve as the headquarters in the region for

the Four-Party Military Commission.

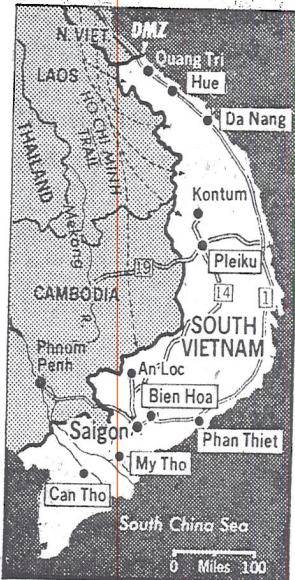
The Vietcong delegates did not arrive with the North Vietnamese, but sources in Saigon said they would be coming by evening. "Our only job today is to create accommodations for working," said Capt. Laszlo Horvath of the international commission.

The international commission and the military commission were bodies created by the Paris agreement to end the war in Vietnam and to share the responsibility for monitoring the cease-fire. The agreement is somewhat vague as to just how they are to work together but it seems clear that they must. The teams from both groups were six days behind schedule in setting up the regional headquarters.

Col. Robert Screaton, the 41-year-old leader of the Canadian team at My Tho, said when asked if it felt good to finally get on the ground that "being a professional soldier, my answer is yes—any advance is good."

The international commission team here was accessible, but members of the North Vietnamese contingent of the military commission at nearby Dong Tam were confined to the military compound, as were their top leaders at Saigon's Tan Son Nhut air base.

Thus far Saigon seems to have forestalled what it feared, a political impact brought forth by the presence of former enemy soldiers in Government areas. Nine residents of My Tho, questioned on the streets yesterday, had no idea that Vietcong or North Vietnamese officers were arriving in the area.



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Regional headquarters of truce units are in cities with names in panels.