

904 Viet Cong Women Freed By South Vietnam

Saigon

South Vietnam yesterday released 904 women captured while serving with the Viet Cong.

The women, ranging from teen-agers to middle-aged, were flown from a camp at Can Tho in the Mekong Delta to Loc Ninh, the Communist-controlled town near the Cambodian border, where they were turned over to Viet Cong troops.

At Can Tho, they held towels over their faces to shield them from photographers trying to take pictures from a distance. Reporters were not allowed to talk to them.

CAPTURE

The women, the first female prisoners to be freed in the current exchanges of captives, were all captured in combat. Several thousand other women prisoners are still interned in camps throughout South Vietnam. Some have been at Can Tho

for years, in a specially segregated camp.

The 904 women were among 1604 prisoners released yesterday by South Vietnam.

Seven hundred more released North Vietnamese prisoners crossed the Thach Han river at Quang Tri yesterday — and promptly threw away clothing and crutches given to them while they were prisoners in South Vietnam.

A total of 3114 Viet Cong and North Vietnamese prisoners have been exchanged for 711 South Vietnamese soldiers since the transfers began on Monday. The two sides agreed to exchange 1020 South Vietnamese for 7000 Communists in the first week of the prisoner exchange.

EGGS

A crowd of 50 civilians threw eggs at the car of two North Vietnamese delegates on the Joint Military Com-

mission supervising the cease-fire at Hue yesterday.

The delegates were not hurt, but their uniforms were spattered.

The incident was the latest of a series against Communist members of the Joint Military Commission in South Vietnam.

Reuters