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# Thieu Says Hanoi Plans to Send Many

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SAIGON, South Vietnam, Saturday, Feb. 24—President Nguyen Van Thieu asserted yesterday that North Vietnam planned to infiltrate "millions of people" into South Vietnam to shift the power balance in the elections called for in the Paris peace accords.

Western sources seemed to be unaware of any captured Communist document, prisoner interrogation or other source of information to corroborate this charge. One source said that no such evidence existed.

Violations of the Vietnam cease-fire, meanwhile, continued to occur at a high rate, with no sign that real tranquility was close at hand.

The international machinery to enforce and observe the compliance with the cease-fire terms was still inoperative.

## Delay Linked to Infiltration

In a speech yesterday Mr. Thieu charged that the North Vietnamese and the Vietcong's Provisional Revolutionary Government were trying to drag out and postpone substantive negotiations on the political future of South Vietnam.

"They are still dragging on," he said, "in the hope that they could have enough time to disperse their North Vietnamese Army troops into the villages and hamlets in the countryside."

"Moreover," he added, "they are also planning to send 300,000 families south for these troops. They want to send millions of additional votes into the south by the emigration of millions of people from North Vietnam into South Vietnam. They also want to have more time to divide the nationalist ranks."

Mr. Thieu, standing under a yellow canopy in Tao Dan Park here, made his remarks at the

formal public inaugural of a political organization he convoked, known as the Peoples Front to Safeguard Peace and to Implement the Right of the People to Self-Determination. About 3,500 delegates heard him speak.

The front was created in the hope of achieving unity among non-Communist Vietnamese nationalists in the political struggle for control of the south. A broad cross section of opinion was represented, although many of those present were men appointed by or beholden to Mr. Thieu.

The An Quang Buddhist faction, which helped bring down four previous Vietnamese Governments and forced the military junta to hold elections in 1966, was not represented. Nor were former Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky and Gen. Duong Van Minh, who have become personal rivals of Mr. Thieu. Palace sources said all were invited but did not show up.

The broad thrust of President Thieu's speech was that the cease-fire had not brought peace to Vietnam and that the "Communists have instructed their cadres to continue their old strategy of taking over South Vietnam by political means supported by military means."

## Early Elections Backed

As he has in the past, Mr. Thieu asserted that he was eager for early national elections, possibly because he feels that the earlier they take place the stronger his position will be.

He said that there were still 300,000 North Vietnamese troops in South Vietnam. American officials in Washington have put the figure closer to 140,000.

If there are to be elections,

it is thought that Mr. Thieu would like to see them take place before the Vietcong can increase its presently limited and scattered control of population groups.

Bloodshed and controversy continued to mark the post cease-fire period in South Vietnam.

Government spokesmen at a press briefing said that there had been 168 more truce violations in the 30-hour period that ended at noon yesterday — a more or less "normal" number.

The Government said that there had been 4,620 such violations since the cease-fire there on Jan. 28 and attributed all of them to the Communist side, but impartial observers say that the origin of the incidents is complex and that both sides bear some blame.

## Units Clashed Near Pleiku

A sample of such incidents was a fight 12 miles northwest of Pleiku city yesterday morning in which the Government spokesman said that 10 Communists and 4 Government soldiers were killed.

The persistent fighting in this area grows out of a struggle for control of Route 14 from Pleiku to Kontum, which the Government freely conceded had been closed at the time of the cease-fire but now says it has reopened.

Several small teams of the four-nation International Commission of Control and Supervision of the cease-fire were preparing to move out into sub-regional headquarters in provincial South Vietnam, but there was no sign that the body was prepared to begin its assigned task of investigating violations.

Maj. Gen. Gilbert H. Woodward, the American delegate to the Four-Party Joint Military Commission, continued to complain that Communist delegates

## People to Vote in South

had frustrated and prevented investigations of the recent shooting down of an American helicopter flying on commission business.

At the same time General Woodward rejected a request by the chief Vietcong delegate to the Military Commission, Lieut. Gen. Tran Van Tra, that the commission investigate a Communist charge that Government planes had bombed the Highlands village of Duc Co west of Pleiku.

American sources said that

General Woodward had sent a letter to General Tra saying that there was "no purpose to be served" by such an investigation because the Communists had refused to complete two investigations demanded by the American and South Vietnamese side.

"Recent experience has shown there is little to be gained," General Woodward said, by investigating the Duc Co incident and that such an inquiry would be "wholly unproductive."