

# SAIGON WILL OUST A WOMAN LEADER

MAY 17 1973

Antiwar Activist Will Be  
Turned Over to Vietcong

NYTimes

SAIGON, South Vietnam, May 16 (UPI)—A South Vietnamese antiwar leader will be turned over to the Communists because she had "close liaison with the Communists," a Government spokesman said today.

Mrs. Ngo Ba Thanh, the activist, has been detained for more than a year in the women's prison at nearby Thu Duc in an "attempt to slander a judge."

She was arrested while participating with other legislators protesting the election of October, 1971, in which President Nguyen Van Thieu was the only candidate.

Mrs. Thanh, 42 years old, headed the Association of Vietnamese Women for the Right to Life.

## Liaison Charged

The Government spokesman, Bui Bao Truc, said captured documents showed that Mrs. Thanh had "close liaison with the Communists."

"Therefore," he said, "the Government has decided to turn her over to the other side along with former house representative Tran Ngoc Chau, student leader Huynh Tan Mam and other pro-Communist agents."

Mrs. Thanh's name was not on the list of 5,081 persons described as pro-Communist agents being released as part of the civilian prisoner exchange with the Vietcong.

Mrs. Thanh became a lawyer after studying at the University of Paris and at the University of Barcelona. She received a master's degree in comparative

law from Columbia University in New York.

## Praise From Yale Group

More than 1,000 faculty members and students at Yale University petitioned the school's trustees unsuccessfully this month to award Mrs. Thanh an honorary degree. Their petition, signed by 60 prominent faculty members including the department chairmen of history and political science, declared that Mrs. Thanh exemplified "the integrity of peaceful dissent." The petition was turned down last Saturday.