

POWERS

Cambodia Incursion Denied

Saigon

South Vietnamese government forces lost 20 dead but killed 251 Communist soldiers in a two-day battle around Duc Hue, 35 miles northwest of Saigon, the Saigon command reported yesterday.

It denied that any members of the division-size South Vietnamese force crossed the Cambodian frontier as reported Tuesday by military sources. The border is only two miles from Duc Hue.

The command spokesman, Lieutenant Colonel Le Trung Hien denied "categorically" that Saigon troops had crossed into the so-called Parrot's Beak area of Cambodia, which reaches to within 35 miles of Saigon.

On Monday Hien announced a policy of "hot pursuit" which should allow Saigon forces to follow Communist troops over the Cambodian border in any running battle.

United Press
