

SFChronicle MAY 23 1974

Reds Push To 18 Miles Of Saigon

Saigon

Communist troops carried their Saigon-area offensive to within 18 miles of the capital yesterday, shelling defense posts outside the provincial capital of Phu Cuong just before South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu visited the city.

Thieu was in Phu Cuong for a visit to war refugees and to look at the battlefield.

He also went to Lai Khe to boost the morale of the Fifth Infantry Division and flew over Phu Giao, bombarded by more than 1000 shells in the past two days.

United Press

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France Agrees To a Red Viet Paris Delegation

Paris

The French government yesterday agreed to allow the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam to set up a permanent delegation in Paris.

While expressing pleasure at this "first step toward normal relations," delegation chief Phan Van Ba indicated the PRG had hoped for full diplomatic relations with France, on an equal footing with the South Vietnamese (Saigon) government.

Agency France