

ZCZC SAG

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declaration 1 (normass/deepe)

(This is the last of a three-part review of developments from the ~~1966~~ 1966 Honolulu Conference to the second ~~1~~ one held last week-end).

SAIGON, JULY 22--The famous "Declaration of Honolulu" issued two and a half years ago, contained a four-pronged common commitment between ~~President Ly~~ Presidents Lyndon Johnson and Nguyen Van Thieu, representing the two Allied governments.

The second Honolulu Conference, just concluded by the two Presidents, has presumably reviewed progress made since then and clarified the differences between the two Allied objectives ~~reve~~ revealed in the original Declaration.

A ~~significanc~~ significant difference between the two Allied governments appeared ~~in early 1966~~ on the crucial issue of peace in the 1966 Declaration, which contained three separate sections-- the objectives of the American government, the objectives of the South Vietnamese government and the common commitments of the two governments.

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declaration 2 (normass/deepe)

The first common commitment was "defense <sup>AGAINST</sup> ~~o~~ aggression." The South Vietnamese government defined this in the positive—"to defeat the Viet Cong and those illegally fighting with them on our soil." The Vietnam <sup>ESE</sup> section did not ~~explicitly~~ explicitly commit its government to peace. The American government expressed <sup>US</sup> ~~this~~ objective ~~i~~ negatively in simply "preventing aggression" and to "remain determined no path to peace shall be unexplored."

In short, the South Vietnam goal was victory; the stated American goal was the dual one of fighting while seeking to negotiate. However, American military commanders openly exuded optimism the war could be won; Vice President Hubert Humphrey in a visit to Vietnam following the first Honolulu Conference stated publicly the same conclusion.

The Paris peace talks illustrate an advancement ~~towards~~ towards this goal outlined two years ago—but no one ~~is~~ at this time in Saigon is predicting whether South Vietnam is facing peace or more war.

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declaration 3 (normass/deepe)

<sup>INDICATES</sup>  
The current military status in South Vietnam ~~is now fresh with this~~

~~double insert~~

<sup>the</sup>  
1. ~~The~~ Communist Tet offensive into the cities and ~~its second wave~~  
~~into Saigon~~ constituted a partial ~~star~~ strategic and tactical defeat for  
the Communists.

"Since Tet the Communists have recovered at some times in a local  
sense, but in a strategic sense they have not ~~recove~~ recovered from their  
heavy casualties," one knowledgeable source explained. Currently, Allied  
commanders predict the Communists are attempting a strategic recovery in ~~order~~  
order to launch another offensive.

~~But~~ But, despite military losses, the Communists scored a  
psychological and political ~~victory~~ <sup>AT Tet</sup> victory, particularly in Washington and  
secondly in Saigon.

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declaration 4 (normass/deepe)

A second common objective was the "goal of self-government." The South Vietnamese government spelled this out as formulating a democratic constitution and creating an elected government. Despite internal disorders and charges of rigging the election, the Vietnamese government accomplished this with some measure of success on the surface. The legitimacy of the elected government is now the cornerstone of the political battle with the Communists, especially in negotiating a peace settlement. The Vietnamese constitution outlaws Communism; the elected two-house legislature and President are considered here as so anti-Communist they currently serve as an official brake on movement towards an internal accommodation with the Viet Cong—often discussed as an important part of a peace settlement.

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declaration 5 (normass/deepe)

Section 5

THE NATIONAL

However, the formal process of casting ballots in an election last year, did not win the government the desired popular support. Currently, while the Vietnamese government on the surface holds the legal foundations of power, the Communists are considered tunneling under its authority by attempting to spark a "general uprising." In the villages only several miles from Saigon, for example, the Communists are reportedly issuing ammunition and/or weapons to the peasants and the government's village chiefs have fled their offices for security in larger, more distant towns.

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declaration 6 (normass/deepe)

ALLIED

The other two common objectives are more difficult to assess: to work for a social revolution and to attack hunger, ignorance and disease. On the American ~~side~~ side, an unprecedented effort was made ~~in attempts~~ to help the Vietnamese government give its people normal services—such as education and public health—normally forgotten in the midst of a war. In one significant forward step, the Vietnamese government, with American aid, built enough schools and trained enough teachers to jump the number of primary age children in school from 58 per cent to 72 per cent. The government is likely to meet its goal of 85 per cent of the primary school age children in classrooms by the end of 1969. In 1954, when South Vietnam was granted independence, only five per cent of the primary school age children were enrolled in school, official statistics show. But, the pivotal land reform program—which the American government committed itself to in the Declaration of Honolulu—made virtually no progress during the last two and a half years. Just now, the Vietnamese government is again trying to direct its understrength administrative resources to the this problem; American advisors to the program have been reduced in number. And since, the escalation escalation of the war in 1965, an estimated one out of every four Vietnamese has become a "refugee" ~~in one sort or another at one time or another.~~

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yy nrm

declaration 7 (normass/deepe)

One serious problem faced ~~through~~ <sup>that</sup> by the American aid program was ~~the~~ supplies moved through the Vietnamese government apparatus--the Americans were served as technicians, planners and logisticians, but not managers or doers. The Vietnamese government ~~is~~ <sup>it</sup> itself was being proportionately weakened--more and more problems created by the war were thrust upon it ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> the same time the quantity and quality of its personnel were siphoned off to serve the Vietnamese army.

It also faced the problems of double subversion: Communist fifth-columnists within its administration and corruption, in which bribes and grafts to government officials negated the law of the land and the democratic principle that all Vietnamese were equal. ~~before the law.~~

Now, two and half years later, the newly-appointed Cabinet of Tran Van Huong has not ~~major~~ <sup>at</sup> made major ~~strides~~ <sup>PRESTIGIOUS</sup> strides in coping with the enormous problems of governing effectively. But, the ~~honest~~ Prime Minister has made the most important step of all--the first one--to correct the injustices and abuses that have prevented or negated ~~the~~ Vietnam's social revolution.

--end reuter