

KHANH YIELDS, STUDENTS DON'T

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SAIGON.

Despite a promise South Vietnamese President Nguyen Khanh made yesterday that he would liberalize his one-man rule, Buddhist students early today renewed demonstrations against his regime.

It had been hoped Gen. Khanh's decision to compromise would avert a major crisis after five days of violent demonstrations. But two hours after soundtrucks and airplanes had broadcast the General's concessions, stu-

dents marched before the Presidential palace shouting "Down with Nguyen Khanh."

They were apparently angered by the fact that, even in announcing a relaxation of his rule, Gen. Khanh had warned "the government will take strong measures to defend the whole people. . . . If the state of disorder continues, guilty organizations will be tried in accordance with existing laws."

Gen. Khanh had met with a group of Buddhist leaders late last night and had come

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out of the conference to announce his concessions. This was only moments before midnight, the time set by his opponents for a decision under threat of further rioting.

The Buddhist leaders were apparently pleased with his concessions, but the students who are allied with the Buddhists against the regime were not.

"Ngo Dinh Diem used to make better promises to us than that," said one. He referred to the Vietnamese President desposed and slain last November.

A crowd of 20,000 or more student demonstrators, some yelling "Down with dictatorship," marched on the Presidential office building, which was guarded by only 50 unarmed police.

After his meeting with the handful of Buddhist leaders, Gen. Khanh conferred hastily with United States Ambassador Maxwell D. Taylor and Deputy Ambassador U. Alexis Johnson, who both left their residence after midnight without disclosing their destination.

Gen. Khanh saw the two American diplomats for an hour after spending more than an hour and a half with the Buddhists. There was no indication of the position Gen. Taylor and Mr. Johnson had taken on the compromises announced over the government radio and repeated at half-hour intervals.

Among the concessions by Gen. Khanh was an agreement to have the new constitution, which gives the President sweeping powers, rewritten by a special committee of religious and political leaders.

Gen. Khanh also agreed to permit a demonstration scheduled for today but previously banned by the gov-

ernment—although he warned that "all acts harming the security and honor of the country will be punished." He also promised that censorship will be entrusted to a press council and said "all mistakes committed by local authorities will be tried by a field court and sentences executed immediately.

Although yesterday's violence was the worst since the demonstrations began five days ago, government troops and police still did practically nothing to counter it in Saigon or in the three provincial cities where rioting broke out: Da Nang, Hue and Qui Nhon.

A woman was killed by a grenade explosion at Da Nang and an American officer there reported that at least three more Vietnamese had been killed and four wounded. A mob stoned the hotel where some 500 Americans are billeted; Da Nang, South Viet Nam's second largest city, is a major base for U. S. fighter planes.

Guards on the hotel roof reportedly fired warning shots over the heads of the mob, but not before at least 20 windows were broken. The woman who was killed was felled by the grenade blast when she tried to leave the hotel, where she worked.

The riots in the coastal city 375 miles northeast of Saigon apparently began with crowds of high school boys running through the streets, then quickly snowballed until one estimate placed the number of rioters at 15,000.

Next to the hotel is a Roman Catholic quarter of Da Nang, and the demonstrators—mostly Buddhists—fought Catholics in the streets with guns and grenades. More demonstrators marched on the city hall to denounce Gen. Khanh's regime and U. S. interference.

At nightfall, the government sent in a battalion of paratroopers to try to keep the marchers away from the Catholic quarter, but there was no sign of the harsh repression used to put down similar demonstrations last year against the Ngo Dinh Diem regime. Patrol boats cruised off shore yesterday, but that was all.

Still farther north—in the ancient religious capital of Hue, 400 miles from Saigon—a crowd estimated at up to 5,000 broke into a Catholic high school run by French priests, breaking windows and furniture.

In Qui Nhon, on the coast 260 miles northeast of Saigon, it was much the same story. A school was broken into and wrecked, and Catholics' houses and stores were burned. The crowds ran as high as 15,000, and the government clamped down with martial law and a 6 p. m. curfew.

Saigon itself was the scene of a riot and a counter-riot. In the morning, 2,000 Buddhist-led students wrecked the Information Ministry's ground floor offices, beat Vietnamese photographers who tried to take their pictures and condemned government censorship.