

View in Saigon: Reds Won't Talk, They'll Fight for All-Out Victory

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SAIGON.

There's not the slightest hint or hope that Hanoi or the Liberation Front will negotiate on any terms, say specialists in Saigon who follow Communist affairs closely.

Both the North Vietnamese regime of President Ho Chi Minh and the Liberation Front—the political arm of the Communist Viet Cong guerrillas in South Viet Nam—have unequivocally rejected all overtures for peace talks to settle the Vietnamese war, the specialists say.

Hanoi and the Liberation Front, with the support of Red China, will drive for complete defeat and total humiliation of the United States in Viet Nam, politically and militarily, in an attempt to prove Peking's conviction of Communist invincibility in guerrilla-type "wars of liberation," the specialists believe.

[The Associated Press reported yesterday that President Ho, speaking Saturday to the National Assembly in Hanoi, called President Johnson's Vietnamese policies "the daydream of a madman."

["We love peace, but we are not afraid of war," Mr. Ho said. "Our people will never submit." He added that the North Vietnamese were "fighting heroically to defend the North and giving all-out support to the South." He called for a united Viet Nam as guaranteed by the 1954 Geneva accord. His remarks were quoted in a Peking broadcast monitored in Tokyo.]

In the last two weeks, both the Hanoi radio and the Liberation Front radio changed the terms of their objectives by vowing "to liberate the South, to defend the North and to work for the reunification of the North and South."

Their previous position had been to work for a "neutral" South Viet Nam—which American officials interpreted to mean a South Viet Nam

Communist Viet Cong guerrillas launched mortar attacks early today on a U. S. military headquarters in Quang Tri and on two Vietnamese military bivouacs outside that city just south of the 17th Parallel. Two U. S. servicemen, three Vietnamese soldiers and 30 civilians were wounded, a U. S. spokesman said. Several buildings in the U. S. compound were badly damaged and 25 barrels of fuel oil were set afire. Quang Tri is about 100 miles north of Da Nang air base. In Saigon, experts were assessing the war's diplomatic front.

swallowed by North Viet Nam within a decade.

The recent broadcasts indicate the Communists intend to skip this neutral phase and will push immediately for reunification, a policy diametrically opposed to the U. S. demand for an independent South Viet Nam.

Some observers predict that unless there is a drastic change in the political climate within South Viet Nam, which has been sliding into pro-Neutralist hands, the Communists will accomplish their aim within three years.

Only then, when the Communist subversives have wrecked the armed forces and the government and have gained virtually complete control of the countryside, will the Communists "negotiate," the observers believe. But the political settlement would amount to a surrender of the American position.

Communist China yesterday rejected two more peace overtures, telling Britain it would not welcome a visit by Patrick Gordon Walker and saying Secretary General U Thant of the United Nations would not be welcome either.

Former Foreign Secretary Gordon Walker had been named as a special representative to visit Peking, Hanoi and Saigon in an attempt to mediate the Viet Nam conflict. Mr. Thant had

been considering a peace mission to Southeast Asian capitals.

Peking, along with Hanoi and Moscow, earlier had denounced last week's proposal by President Johnson for "unconditional discussions" on Viet Nam, saying any talks would have to be with the Liberation Front, which is not recognized by the U. S. or South Viet Nam.

Moscow radio broadcast a new attack yesterday, calling the U. S. proposal a ruse by leaders who "wish to mask their aggression in some way to give the impression that they are reconsidering American policy while keeping on their previous course."

The broadcast, beamed to North America, added: "There is nothing to show that it was sincere."

The specialists on Communist affairs also saw an indication of Hanoi's hard line against negotiations in last week's government reshuffle. Vice-Premier Nguyen Duy Trinh, named the new Foreign Minister, and Dang Viet Chau, new Finance Minister, are both close friends of Truong Chinh, the most extreme proponent of the Peking line in North Viet Nam's Communist party.

The most immediate question in Saigon is whether the Russians will send air defense material to protect North Viet

Nam from U. S. air strikes. Most observers believe the threat of an invasion by Chinese troops has diminished.

Sources say the Soviet offer to send such material, made in February by visiting Premier Alexei Kosygin, included the condition that the Hanoi regime would negotiate a peace settlement.

The question is whether Hanoi now can persuade the Russians to withdraw this condition.

Despite the growing ascendancy of pro-Peking strength within the Viet Communist leadership, the specialists believe Hanoi will continue to maintain friendly relations with Russia, hoping to prevent an open Sino-Soviet break and, if possible, to pull the Russians closer to the Hanoi-Peking axis.

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