

(MORGAN GANDY)

SAIGON, 29200 (UPIS)--The Johnson Administration's reported ~~new~~ emphasis for ~~eye~~ non-aligned Southeast Asia ~~was immediately~~ was immediately regarded here as ~~eye~~ major policy shift.

"We thought the Americans came to Vietnam to stem the tide of Communism," ~~some~~ one Vietnamese intellectual pointedly said. "And here~~in~~ they are advocating neutralizing the ~~the~~ whole ~~the~~ South East Asia peninsula. Whatever happened to the domino theory?"

His view reflected the ~~stunning~~ stunning impact and ~~the~~ sizeable jolt to ~~the~~ Vietnamese political insiders of the ~~the~~ news dispatches of Vice President ~~Hub~~ Hubert Humphrey's Newsweek interview.

Some Vietnamese ~~news~~ language newspapers splashed banner headlines reading:

"United States completely agrees to the principle of ~~the~~ real independence and non-alignment of Vietnam."

The Chinh Luan (Right Opinion) newspaper, the second largest in circulation and considered to be associated with the American Central Intelligence Agency," carried under its banner headline ~~and~~ ^{it} three column subhead reading, "~~the~~ he (Vice President Humphrey) ~~disappointed~~ said said only god can reverse the situation in Vietnam because that country has all kinds of problems."

(More--Miller--BD)

first add--morgan gandy--saigon

x x x of problems x x x

2th

The pro-neutralist, pro-Buddhist newspapers carried banner headlines.

The major Catholic, anti-Communist newspaper carried only a three-column lead headline.

One newspaper representing the viewpoint of prominent Vietnamese generals did not even carry the story.

The French language newspaper inconspicuously placed the story on the front page, but ~~it wrote mostly~~ ^{eye stop} lead with the Vice President's remarks on containing, ~~but~~ ² but not isolating Communist China.

None of the newspapers ~~it~~ ^{ought} appeared to have time to write any editorial comments about the Vice President's remarks.

(More)

second add--morgan gandy--

Saigon

~~vice president's~~
x x x A remarks x x

The news dispatches ~~were~~ of the Vice President's remarks passed the government censors. ~~However,~~ the Vietnamese newspapers used the word "Khong Lien-Ket" ~~which means~~ literally "no relationships or alliances" ~~the word~~ "Trung Lap" ~~which means~~ "neutrality."

"We knew we could not get the word trung lap by the government censor," one Vietnamese newsman explained. "But the ~~two~~ words mean the same thing to the Vietnamese."

As the Vietnamese ~~newspapers~~ newspapers hit ~~the streets,~~ in the hot afternoon, a small cluster of politically-oriented Vietnamese businessmen bought ~~them~~ ^{Copies} and over ~~a~~ ice cream and coffee, one of them mused, ~~as~~ as he read the Vice President's statement, "It's fairly clear now. The current crisis in Vietnam is created by the Americans so they can find an excuse to ~~to~~ negotiate and get out of Vietnam."

The ~~other~~ others agreed and the conversation flitted to discussions about the disruptive demonstrations in the Northern provinces of south Vietnam--and the ones earlier this week in America.

(More-Miller--BD)

third add--morgan gandy--saigon

x x x in America. x x x

The Vietnamese political circles quickly equated the ~~Viet~~ Vice President Humphrey's statement with the ~~rise to power~~ eventual fall of Prime Minister's Nguyen Cao Ky's hardline anti-Communist government and Vietnam's ruling ten-man junta, and then the gradual--perhaps bloodily violent--~~rise to power~~ emergence of a pro-neutralist government and an eventual ~~withdrawal of~~ withdrawal of most--but perhaps not rptnot all--of the one quarter ~~million~~ million American combat troops.

"The Vietnamese government is really worried now," one source close the government explained. "The damned Americans really want to pull out of here. Ik/ did not rptnot believe that they'd ever do it."

A politically-interested wife of a Vietname low-ranking government ~~x~~ official explained, "If the American troops pull out of here the whole country will collapse. The students (in the northern provinces) are demonstrating and striking for a withdrawal of American troops. But, my God, if the Americans pull out of here how will their parents get the money to send ^{these} ~~these~~ kids ^{to} ~~to~~ school?"

(More--Miller--BD)

fourth add--morgan gandy--saigon

x x x to school x x x.

An American civilian explained that the great ~~danger~~
danger ^{is} in a neutralist government is that clandestine Communist
agents would exert more influence in that government than the
pro-American elements.

"The ~~AMERX~~ big question is whether the Americans pull out--
or get chucked out in a very dishonorable manner," he explained.

An American paratrooper, who last week was involved in
bloody battle with North Vietnamese soldiers, took a sip of
straight vodka, read the Vice President's statement and sighed,
"How can we give this place away when we have fought so hard!"

(End-Miller--BD)