

Viet Premier Says Students, Buddhists 'Play Reds' Game'

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SIAGON.

South Viet Nam's Premier Tran Van Huong charged in an interview yesterday that students and Buddhists apparently attempting to spark the overthrow of his 20-day-old civilian government were "playing the game of the Communists."

Mr. Huong's statement was the first condemnation of demonstrating Buddhists and students by a high-ranking government official since the days of the late President Ngo Dinh Diem, a Roman Catholic. It came only hours after a communique issued by a ranking Buddhist monk, Thich Tam Chau, asked Chief of State Phan Khac Suu and the High National Council to apply a "non-confidence vote" for the dismissal of the Huong government.

These statements were interpreted as an apparent declaration of war between the Premier and the Buddhist movement, which has been growing in militant political importance since initiating the overthrow of the Diem regime Nov. 1, 1963, and since the routing of Maj. Gen. Nguyen Khanh from the Presidency in late August.

Many Saigonese accept the prediction of a leading

Buddhist monk that bloodshed would prevail in the streets of the capital before the end of the year.

As students of four Saigon technical and high schools boycotted classes—a stone-throwing melee broke out in one school yesterday—the 63-year-old Premier said:

"This is only one phase in the over-all Communist program. Since I am determined to oppose communism, I am not surprised at them. If they are determined to subvert my country, I am determined to oppose it.

"The students are not aware they are playing into the hands of the Communists. It is the same way the Buddhist Institute is playing the game of the Communists."

Thich Tam Chau's statement, made public after a daylong meeting of the Buddhist hierarchy, said he was "not at all involved" in the formation of Premier Huong's Cabinet. The Buddhists and students have criticized the Cabinet's composition because some members of it formerly served in the Diem regime. The Buddhist leader's statement, however, made no mention of Saigon's current civil disorders.

rowing words of Benjamin Franklin in 1776, warned the South Vietnamese people that they "must hang together or hang separately" in their struggle against the Communist Viet Cong guerrillas. On the eve of his departure for Washington for a policy review, Gen. Taylor said in an interview taped for television viewers in the U. S. that the American attitude toward Viet Nam is one of "tolerance and understanding."

"This country never had a chance to govern itself in the past, and it is not surprising that there is some fumbling and uncertainty now," he said.

The students' protest the government reached its height yesterday at the fashionable Le Quy Don school, across the street from the U. S. Navy commissary. U. S. military policemen had to duck for shelter as students, who had barricaded themselves in their classrooms, hurled stones into the compound of the commissary, where most American were here to do their marketing.

Signs reading "To Hell with Huong" were put up by students.

Meanwhile, U. S. Ambassador Maxwell D. Taylor, bor-