

Diem Confident of Eventually Restoring Peace in South Vietnam

By ROBERT UDICK
Saigon—South Vietnam President Ngo Dinh Diem is confident his government will weather a storm raised by Buddhist leaders and go on to win over the Communist Vietcong.

"The government has never practiced a policy of religious discrimination," Diem said. "Thus I believe that finally all the political campaigns waged from within, as well as from without the country, under this false pretext will fall by themselves simply in view of the government's sincerity."

He made it clear that he intended to pursue both the hot and the cold war with his present team.

"In classic tradition," he said, "The Communists seek to isolate the president. Their tactics seek to cut from the president all people around him who are valuable."

"They charge that this is a family government, a corrupt government. There are those who charge that this government has lost the support of the people."

"But what counts funda-

mentally is this: How can they claim there is inept leadership when people without pay die for their country every day?"

"The charge is unreasonable and unwarranted," Diem said.

He also made clear reference to rumors here that some political groups might be angling for American support should they try to overthrow him.

"If ever there were Vietnamese politicians who would propose a kind of protectorate of the United States

over Vietnam in exchange for support for their intrigues, such actions would not fail to harm the friendship between the two countries," he said.

Anyone familiar with the present state of the problems of underdevelopment and the Communist would find it difficult to "intoxicate" the American public, he added.

"All the problems that I have faced since 1954 are problems of underdevelopment—technical, economic and social backwardness—with the feeling of humilia-

tion attached to that miserable condition, and the desire to rapidly emerge from it."

"Then there is disunity, with extremely virulent ideological passions which do not exist any more in advanced countries, and finally, the Communist subversive war."

Diem said he had little fear that the Vietcong would be able to infiltrate in large numbers. He said they have to select people they hope they can depend upon, and if they tried a massive infiltration many of their num-

bers would go over to the government's side.

Diem said he welcomed a change he had found in the attitude of the United States. He said it came about following the visit of Vice President Lyndon Johnson and the arrival of Ambassador Frederick Nolting, who will soon be replaced by Henry Cabot Lodge.

The new attitude was particularly welcome because of the support that came for the training and equipping of the civil guard and the village guards, he said.

"The newer the independence of a country—the more passionately are the people attached to it," Diem said.

In such countries, he said, it might happen that some leaders of the "bourgeois class and a certain number of intellectuals... are less sensitive to this deep popular feeling."

He said "their opinion as well as their attitude" does not "reflect the opinion of the popular masses."

Diem said the American

public should have a more "penetrating knowledge of Communists subversive war, a total and multifarious war, war which refuses actual combat but seeks instead the moral attrition of the opponent. A war which is fought on all fronts—political, economic, social, cultural, diplomatic and military, a war which is waged on a world scale although the spear's head is aimed only at a few, specific points of the globe."

Diem said "Another thing which must also be brought

to the knowledge of the American public, is the fact we are forging together in Vietnam the weapon capable of victoriously countering Communist subversive war; not only for the sake of Vietnam, but also for the sake of any other place where it might be waged."

"One must not forget either that here we have to deal with the best Communist guerrilla army which can exist in the present world, in terms of cleverness, experience and toughness."

Diem made the statement in a four-hour interview with United Press International on his government's position.

He was confident that within two to three years peace will have been restored in South Vietnam along with the population's full rights.

Position Stiffened
By saying his opponents operated under a "false pretext," he showed that his government's position has stiffened, and that it is prepared to meet any challenge of religious discrimination.

He showed as well that his government saw the Buddhist campaign as essentially a political one.

"Hypocritical people attack us," Diem said, "Just like the Pharisees. In addition to the hot war, I have to deal with a cold war."

10 Persons Die As Station Wagon Slams Into Truck

Toledo, Ohio—UP—An outing to a drive-in movie ended in violent death Wednesday night when ten persons, including eight young children, were killed in the worst traffic mishap in the memory of highway patrolmen.

The dead were identified as Felix Campos, 41, of Florida City, Fla.; his wife, Catherine; and their children, Joseph, about 10, Rosa, about 16, David, about 3, Teresa, about 5, and Maria; and Guadalupe Chico, 6, and his brothers, Raoul, 13, and Jaime, 7.

The Chicos were the children of Mr. and Mrs. Camilo Chico.

The Chicos and Campos were migrant farm workers employed by Emil Webert of near Elmore. A neighbor, Clayton Magisig, said the two families just arrived at Webert's farm this week.

Attempted To Pass
A station wagon containing the victims was attempting to pass a tractor-trailer on a straight stretch of Ohio 51 about 10 miles southeast of here and five miles north of Elmore when it slammed head-on into another tractor-trailer operated by Charles Strong, 38, of Swanton, Ohio.

Strong was released after treatment for minor injuries at a hospital here.

Mr. and Mrs. Campos and their daughter Maria were pronounced dead at the scene. The others were dead on arrival at St. Charles hospital except for Guadalupe Chico, who died 25 minutes after he was admitted, and Teresa Campos, who died several hours later of head and spine injuries.

Disarmament Talks Recalled

Geneva—UP—The Geneva disarmament conference went into recess today to permit its American and Russian chairmen to attend the conclusion of a nuclear test ban treaty in Moscow on Monday. It will meet again Aug. 12.

U.S. spokesmen here said both American delegate Charles C. Stelle and Soviet Ambassador Semyon K. Tsarapkin will go to Moscow for the signing of the treaty outlawing nuclear tests everywhere but under ground. Stelle will leave Friday.

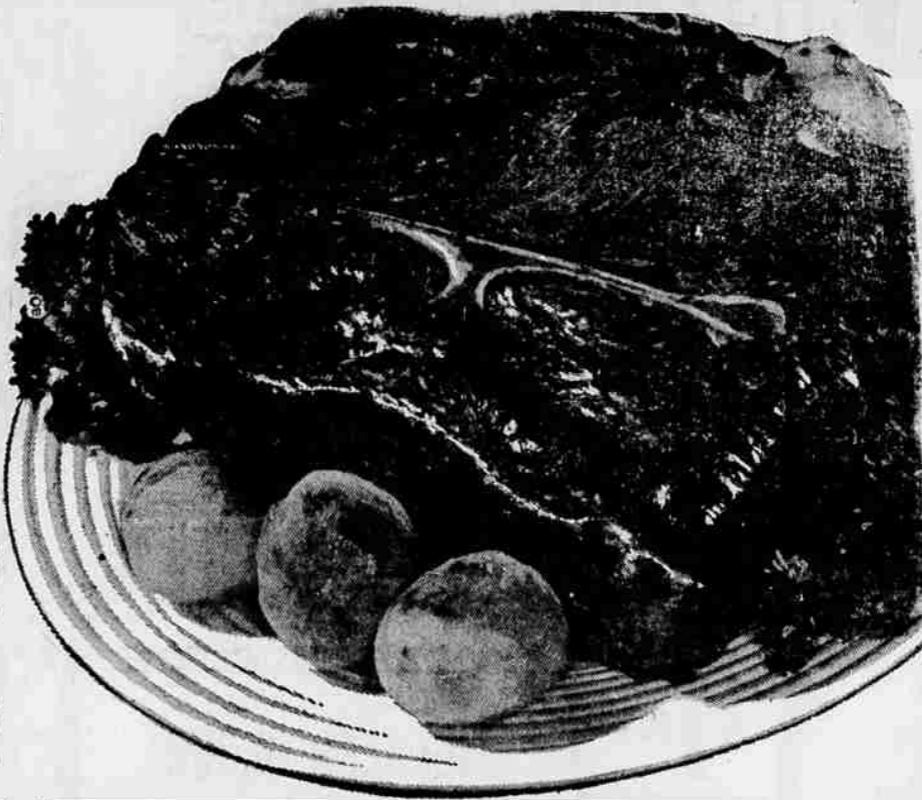
A Western spokesman said Stelle and Tsarapkin will confer in Moscow on the sidelines of the East-West foreign ministers meeting in an effort to agree on which cold war issues to discuss next in Geneva.

The Geneva conference resumed last Tuesday for the first time since June 21. But it was unable to get off the ground because both sides were awaiting the result of the scheduled "Big Three" meeting in Moscow.

Spokesmen at the 17-nation conference have expressed cautious optimism about the prospects for the Geneva talks scheduled to follow treaty signing ceremonies in the Kremlin. The draft treaty already has been initiated.

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