



THE DAILY SKIFF

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SAIGON SURRENDERS

Minh capitulates to 'avoid bloodshed'



DUONG VAN MINH

SAIGON (AP)—South Vietnam declared unconditional surrender to the Viet Cong Wednesday, ending 30 years of warfare.

President Duong Van "Big" Minh spoke to the nation only hours after an armada of U.S. Marine helicopters had completed an emergency evacuation of nearly 900 Americans and thousands of Vietnamese from the besieged capital.

Minh, a retired general and neutralist, was named president Monday in a desperate and unsuccessful attempt to negotiate a peace with the Communist leaders.

In a five-minute radio address, Minh said, "The Republic of Vietnam policy is the policy of peace and reconciliation, aimed at saving the blood of our people. I ask all servicemen to stop firing and stay where you are. I also demand that soldiers of the Provisional Revolutionary Government Viet Cong stop firing and stay in place.

"We are here waiting for the Provisional Revolutionary Government, to hand over

authority in order to stop useless bloodshed."

Gen. Nguyen Huu Hanh, deputy chief of staff, then went on the air to order all South Vietnamese troops to carry out Minh's orders. "All commanders must be ready to enter into relations with commanders of the Provisional Revolutionary Government to carry out the cease-fire without bloodshed," he said.

As they spoke, Saigon fell silent and shellfire subsided along the northern rim where Viet Cong gunners had been bombarding the airport. Saigon police and militiamen remained at their posts indicating the Communist-led troops had not yet entered the city.

Some South Vietnamese officers complained that the evacuation of Americans had caused panic in the military, with many top army officers and most of the air force fleeing.

But it had been obvious that the capital would fall. More than a dozen North Vietnamese-Viet Cong divisions were ringing

Saigon, which was defended by less than one division of demoralized green troops.

Associated Press special correspondent Peter Arnett, touring the city, reported nervous soldiers fired occasionally into the air but he saw no dead or wounded. Soldiers near the radio station at the northeastern edge of town said Communist-led forces had moved up to the Saigon River bridge and were poised to enter the city.

Streets around the abandoned U.S. Embassy and ambassador's residence were littered with papers and broken furniture left behind by looters who charged in after the Americans left.

Americans going to assembly points for the emergency evacuation dodged random shots fired by bitter South Vietnamese soldiers and fought off desperate civilians trying to go with them.

In Washington, White House Deputy Press Secretary John Hushen said when asked for comment on Minh's announcement: "There will be no statement forthcoming from the White House tonight."

Asian land war held deadly entanglement

By FRED S. HOFFMAN
AP Military Writer

The Vietnam war experience has convinced many U.S. military men that there is much truth to the old maxim: "Never get involved in a land war in Asia."

"It showed that U.S. public opinion will not support a long and costly war in Asia because most Americans don't believe vital U.S. interests are at stake out there," said one Army general. "The North Vietnamese obviously were willing to pay the price in lives to win."

Most officers believe the Vietnam war was unwinnable as fought because of restrictions, many of them unprecedented, imposed by the White House and the Pentagon's civilian leadership. But they feel strongly, in looking back, that the war could have been won. They define winning as preserving South Vietnamese independence.

"The most important political-military lesson to come out of this war is that, if you're going to fight a war, you ought to listen to your professionals on how to fight a war, you ought to listen to your professionals on how to fight it," an Air Force general said.

Many U.S. military professionals still insist the U.S. objective of forcing North Vietnam to accept an independent South Vietnam could have been achieved.

—If civilian leaders had allowed massive bombing of North Vietnam from the beginning instead of escalating the air war so gradually that North Vietnam had time to install anti-aircraft defenses and, more importantly, adjust to the effects of bombing.

"Shock impact is the classic way of fighting a war, and we forfeited that," said a senior officer serving with the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

—If North Vietnamese ports had been mined from the outset instead of waiting until the last year of the war.

—If U.S. infantry, armor and artillery had been sent into Laos and Cambodia in force in the first year of U.S. involvement to cut the Ho Chi Minh supply trail and keep it cut and to deny the North Vietnamese sanctuaries where they rested, refitted and re-equipped their troops outside the South Vietnamese battle theater.

Late in the war, with U.S. ground troops excluded, South Vietnamese forces made a weak thrust at the Ho Chi Minh trail. Also late in the war, U.S. ground troops entered the Cambodian sanctuaries but were pulled out two months later because of strong protests in the United States.

There is widespread opinion that future policy makers should learn from what many regard as a Johnson administration blunder in attempting to fight the Vietnam war without national mobilization, without sharply increasing taxes, and without imposing price, wage and other economic controls.

"You can't fight a war of this size with business as usual," said a veteran Pentagon official.

Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, who exerted profound influence on Johnson administration policies, claimed back in the 1960s that the war was being waged without shaking up the lives of most Americans.



After 30 years—
'Peace and
reconciliation'

Surrender can mean peace Coalition needed for final accord

The surrender of South Vietnam to the Communists was an inevitable action that we hope will lead to final peace for that war-torn country.

We hope that reason finally will prevail and that the opposing factions in Vietnam will form a coalition government that can work together to reconcile differences and rebuild the country without any more bloodshed.

The wounds of the war will be long in healing, and the United States should work with the Vietnamese government—regardless of ideology—to heal those wounds. Many American bullets and many tons of American bombs and napalm helped open those wounds.

Some of the wounds will never heal, and some scars of hatred may never disappear, but we hope the United States will dedicate itself to rehabilitation and reconciliation—more fully than it ever did to achieving military victory.

We should not attach any strings to our aid, except to require that not another American dollar will be spent for weapons of war to be used in Vietnam. If the United States could spend billions of dollars devastating the country, it can certainly spend more dollars to help repair some of the damage.

The American intervention in Vietnam was never justifiable. American involvement used to mean arms and ammunition. But now, Vietnam needs American humanitarian help more than it ever could have needed our military help.

The United States should continue to do all it can to provide homes and help for refugees who have escaped and will escape from Vietnam, and to find homes for the orphans who have fled their country.

But we should also send food and medical help to those who have been left in Vietnam. The Vietnam experience has been one long

nightmare for the United States—an even longer one for the Vietnamese. We're finally out, as we should be, but we can still do something to ease the pain our presence helped cause.

—THE EDITORS

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TB-J ultimatum 'misunderstood'

By STEVE BUTTRY
Editor-in-chief

The administration clarified its position in regard to the Tom Brown-Jarvis program Monday night, withdrawing what some program members had perceived to be an ultimatum that threatened the program's existence.

The University is not requiring TB-J to make a formal commitment to follow University regulations, Dean of Students Elizabeth Proffer told a meeting of more than 60 members of the program Monday night.

Many members were still unsure of many points of contention after the meeting, but Proffer assured the program it would not be required to make a formal commitment not to advocate or encourage violations of University rules and not to recruit on the basis of opposition to University regulations.

Conversations between program members and administrators had led TB-J members to believe they were being required to make the commitment, or they would lose their privileges as a University program.

TB-J invited Proffer, Bob Neeb, director of Residential Living and Housing; Dr. Howard Wible, vice chancellor and provost; Edd Bivin, coordinator of residence hall operations; and Linda Hinson, area coordinator, to the meeting to explain the

administration's position.

Neeb had told the Daily Skiff last week that TB-J had to make a commitment or lose its right to select members and other privileges it enjoys as a University program. The presidents of the two dorms said they also had to make a commitment to enforce University rules and policies.

The conflict began a few weeks ago when the Office of Residential Living and Housing (ORLH) selected resident assistants for next year. Only one of the RAs for Tom Brown was from the program.

The other program members who had applied were rejected because they did not place a high enough priority on enforcing the rules—particularly in the areas of alcohol and visitation.

Tom Brown responded with a statement called the "Tom Brown Manifesto," asserting that serving students is a more important duty of RAs, and that Tom Brown should have the right to choose its own RAs.

The administration responded April 7 with a letter claiming that RAs have a "dual role"—serving students and enforcing rules—and that the University will not hire staff members unless they will do both.

The last sentence of the letter said, "Certainly, if the community is to survive, it must operate within the policies of the University." Some members

took the sentence to be a threat. Discussions with administrators in the ensuing weeks continued until the members were told they would have to make the commitment.

Proffer sent a letter last Thursday to John Burton, president of Tom Brown, in an attempt to clarify the situation. Burton read the letter at the meeting.

In the letter, Proffer called the situation an "honest misunderstanding." She still said in the letter that the University "is asking for a commitment."

However, she said Monday, "I think you should make some kind of commitment to yourselves. I do think as a community you need to decide where to go, so your members will know. We're not asking for a blood oath."

"We're assuming that you're going to operate within the framework of the University."

In the letter to Burton, Proffer said, "Perhaps we do not need a formal commitment of any kind from you, but if you decide not to make a commitment, then we must assume that your continuance as a program is with that understanding (that TB-J will not "encourage members to

violate University standards" or interfere with enforcement.)"

Students and administrators discussed TB-J recruiting, visitation and the RA situation for about 90 minutes after Burton read the letter.

"There are some brick walls at this University," Neeb said, mentioning specifically the University's stance on alcohol and visitation. "It is futile to keep butting your heads against the walls," Neeb said, "but no one is denying you the right to stand back and butt your heads against them."

Students' energies would be better spent in "positive" ways, Neeb said.

Several students pounced on Neeb's brick wall analogy, including Jim Marston, who said, "It's going to take people like us to knock these walls down."

Neeb conceded that students could keep trying to push the walls down, but said, "I'm just asking you to recognize the reality that they're not going to move."

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Purple rifler named All-American

G. David Tubb, sophomore rifle shooter from Canadian, Tex., became the second Horned Frog rifler in history to earn All-American acclaim. TCU rifle coach George Beck was notified Friday of Tubb's selection to the All-American second team, one of two 10-member honor squads picked by the National Rifle Association, the administrative body for all competitive shooting in the U.S.

Tubb, four-time junior national high-power rifle champion, posted the Purple team's top average this year, and placed first in the sectional competition for the national championships held here in March. Last year Tubb was a member of the U.S. Palma team which fired a series of high-power matches in South Africa.

Selection of All-American candidates in riflery is a complicated procedure which involves many factors. Leadership abilities, team cooperation and above all academics are con-

sidered in the selection besides shooting ability.

Tubb is preparing for the Olympic trials scheduled for June 8-20 in Phoenix, Ariz. Later in the summer he plans to participate in the National Championships at Camp Perry, Ohio.

The TCU team travelled to San Antonio last weekend for the St. Mary's University Fiesta invitational. Tubb, Allen Cunniff, Susan Rieff and Bill Kovaric posted the number two team aggregate for the match finishing behind St. Mary's. Beck pointed out, however, that TCU and the University of Houston, two of the nation's top rifle teams, were using international shooting equipment, and in the international contest, TCU bested the Cougars by one point.

"We got the second place trophy for the match," Beck noted, "but the real contest was between ourselves and Houston. We have been training in international equipment all year. That is the future of collegiate

shooting. St. Mary's and most of the other teams were still using American-style gear. The day is approaching, however, when that will be outlawed." American-style equipment includes heavy leather jackets, cuffed slings, thick mits, and high-topped boots.

Cunniff paced the TCU Purple

team with a 560 performance and took third in individual competition at the San Antonio tournament. All-American Tubb took second in the kneeling and prone stages of the competition.

Meanwhile, TCU's first All-American rifle shooter, Sue Ann Sandusky, now a graduate student, journeyed to Lincoln,

Neb. and took the Nebraska State International Rifle crowns in ISU free and standard rifle. Her 584 performance in the latter event equalled the open national record set by dynamic John Foster in November at a match on the TCU range, and upped the women's record by a dozen points.

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