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SAIGON:

A statement issued to the Vietnamese armed forces on May 2nd by the Premier and Minister of National Defense, Ngo dinh Diem, reads as follows:

"Officers and Men:

Once again the Binh Xuyen rebels have attacked the Independence Palace, besieged the General Staff Headquarters and killed our fellow-countrymen. The National Army has counter-attacked with the greatest valor and its continuous action for twenty four hours has been recorded and broadcast in government communiques.

In the past twenty four hours, the National Army has occupied five solidly defended rebel posts in the city aside from other centers of lesser importance. Although the number is not yet known, prisoners were taken by the National Army and an important armament warehouse including thousands of guns and a considerable quantity of ammunition was seized.

These events have great importance since on an average of every two or three hours, the National Army snatched a post firmly established in the heart of the city where the heavy traffic made it particularly difficult.

Friends of the National Army, all of you, officers and men---have added a glorious page to our history. The National Army has demonstrated that it is worthy of an independent country, capable of quelling all rebellions and protecting our fellow countrymen and foreign nationals. The citizens of the capital have shown their admiration and sympathy for the National Army through their lively enthusiasm and moving gestures such as the distribution of cigarettes and drinks to the soldiers.

The accomplishments of the army have been internationally recognized.

The government, and I as Premier and Minister of National Defense, offer our heartiest congratulations to the National Army for their spirit and their victories over the rebels in Saigon.

Officers and men: The Vietnamese nation is proud of you. Our countrymen are grateful to you and assure you of their understanding and admiration. The Government and I place our confidence in you.

Friends, be resolute in protecting our countrymen, liberate them from assassins and restore order and security to the immortal capital of Viet Nam.

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A MESSAGE FROM PREMIER NGO DINH DIEM TO THE PEOPLE AND THE NATIONAL ARMY

SAIGON: MAY 3:

At the occasion of the rallying of five batallions of the Binh Xuyen forces to the National Army, Premier Ngo dinh Diem addressed the people and the National Army in the following terms:

"Compatriots, soldiers of the National Army:

I have the pleasure to inform you that the government and the people have just won an extremely important victory. Colonel Thai hoang Minh, commander-in-chief of the Binh Xuyen forces and five batallions with their weapons have broken with Le van Vie n, Lai van Sang and Lai huu Tai to
join the government and the people by asking to become part of the National Army.

This victory is extremely important, for the National Army succeeded in inflicting a loss of five battalions to the Binh Xuyen without firing a single shot or spilling a single drop of blood. The victory is all the more important in that it permits us to show misguided elements the right road for a just cause.

Soldiers of the National Army! To win over the rebels is a joy, but the joy is not as great as that of having found an ally!

Compatriots, overthrowing force is a joy, but that joy is not as great as that of having won the hearts of these men!

Colonel Thai hoang Minh, officers and men of the five Binh Xuyen battalions joining the nationalist cause: I accept your integration into the National Army on behalf of the government, the army and the people, we welcome you.

I take this occasion to make a new appeal to misguided elements, inviting them to rally to the national cause as soon as possible."

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RECENT MILITARY SUCCESSES OF THE VIETNAMESE ARMED FORCES
SAIGON: MAY 4th:

On May second, troops of the National Army crossed the Chinese arroyo, captured the headquarters of the Binh Xuyen, and occupied several enemy positions. On the third, they exploited these successes by taking over quantities of material by way of armed cars and bank notes. The people are friendly toward the National Army and everywhere there were touching scenes of people offering refreshments to the soldiers during battle.

On the morning of May 2nd, deputies of Colonel Thai hoang Minh, Chief of the General Staff of the Binh Xuyen, rallied to the Nationalist cause. Shortly before this, Colonel Minh had been arrested by the Binh Xuyen. Also, five battalions commanded by Thai hoang Minh disbanded and returned to the National lines in small groups.

Thus, three hundred and fifty Binh Xuyen fighters joined the National positions yesterday. The Cao Dai participated in the clean-up of the Chinese arroyo, and the Hoa Hao sect of Long Xuyen asked to participate. Every day the popular movement against the robbery and pirating of the Binh Xuyen grows. Binh Xuyen commandos deserted the Harbor Police Post that they had occupied but which could not be taken because it was in the French sector.

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BINH XUYEN STRONGHOLD SURRENDERS PEACEFULLY
SAIGON: MAY 7th:

The former police and security headquarters located on Catinat Street in the French zone which had been firmly held by the Binh Xuyen commandos has been peacefully occupied by Government authorities. When the Binh Xuyen rebellion started, the Government forces refrained from attacking the post and a Binh Xuyen company remained in possession until yesterday afternoon.
At 8:15 p.m. a special envoy of the Premier accompanied by the new director of the National Security forces of South Viet Nam, received the Binh Xuyen commandos rallying to the national cause. This peaceful surrender of the Catinat street garrison is the best reply to the argument that the government in South Viet Nam cannot stand unless it is based more broadly so as to include all elements.

The number of men rallied to the nationalist cause include 88 commandos under Captain Le van Tru. Arms recovered are as follows: 9 machine guns, several hundred revolvers and guns, ammunition sufficient for three fighting days, and approximately 50 cases of grenades and 20 cars.

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PROVINCIAL AND MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVES SUPPORT PREMIER DIEM
SAIGON: MAY 6:

It is reported from Saigon that an assembly of provincial and municipal representatives from all the provinces and the municipalities from the Central, the South, and the Southern mountain regions as well as representatives of refugees from the north passed a series of resolutions asking first that a national assembly be elected which will have the powers now held by the Chief of State. Second, that from now until this assembly can meet, Premier Ngo dinh Diem continue to retain full civil and military powers in order that he may restore public order and organize general elections in a maximum period of six months.

The Assembly formally registered its opposition to communism and communist plots and protested any colonialist attempts at establishing co-existence with communism. They aligned themselves with the free world bloc to safeguard the right of the people to self-determination. In a final vote of confidence, they paid tribute to the high patriotism and fighting spirit of the Vietnamese Armed Forces.

The Assembly resolutions were adopted by all members from the Center, the Southern Mountain regions, by refugees --representatives from the North, by ethnic minorities and by nine of the twenty two provinces from the South. It is expected that the resolutions will be adopted by many of the thirteen provinces not present at the time the resolutions were signed.

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FIRST RESULTS OF REFERENDUM
SAIGON:

The total number of replies to Premier Ngo dinh Diem's referendum asking for an opinion on general elections, unification of the Army, and a general government program, have to date reached 13,743. On April 30th alone, 6,877 replies were received of which five were incorrectly filled out. The replies of April 30th break down as follows:
1st question on general elections; 6,870 "for" and 2 "against"
2nd question on unification of the army; 6,870 "for" and 2 "against"
3rd question on a general government program; 6,871 "for" and 1 "against".
REGUFEES FROM NORTH CONTINUE EVACUATION AT ACCELERATED PACE

SAIGON:

A representative of the foreign press alleged there to be a panic in the refugee camps at Haiphong where 20,000 people are awaiting evacuation toward the South. The so-called panic was reportedly caused by wild rumors on the gravity of the situation at Saigon. This news has been labeled as absolutely false. Refugees from North Viet Nam are arriving at an accelerated pace at Saigon where the welcoming and rehabilitation services function normally in spite of fire at the headquarters of the Commissioner General for refugees.

On May the 2nd, more than 10,000 refugees arrived at Saigon aboard the transports "Marine Serpent", and "Marine Adder" and by the air lift.

BIG THREE MEETING IN PARIS

Mr. John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State flew to Paris to attend a meeting on the North Atlantic Council with British Foreign Secretary Harold MacMillan and French Foreign Minister, Antoine Pinay. They will also confer on the prospects for "big four talks" and an Austrian Independence Treaty. In addition, it is expected that the Western Big Three will meet to take up the situation in South Viet Nam in an effort to arrive at a united policy.

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