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# Lavish Civic Welcome Given Viet Nam Ruler

By JAMES K. ANDERSON

After a lavish civic welcome and dinner last night, Ngo Dinh Diem, president of Viet Nam, prepared today to leave Detroit for East Lansing to receive an honorary degree from Michigan State University.

Scheduled before his departure are tours of the United States Rubber Co. plant at 6600 Jefferson east and steel manufacturing at the Ford Motor Co. River Rouge plant.

Ngo, as he prefers to be called since that is his family name, arrived in Detroit late yesterday afternoon at the Wayne County Airport. A 20-vehicle motorcade took him to the City-County Building to meet Mayor Cobo and members of the City Council.

## GREETED AT AIRPORT

On hand to greet Ngo at the airport were Selden B. Daume, president of the Detroit Trust Co.; Mrs. Ruth E. Stevens, director of the Detroit Office of International Relations, and Har-

vey Bumgardner, assistant to the president of the Detroit Edison Co.

Outside Mayor Cobo's office a red carpet was laid out for the arrival of Ngo and his 10-member party.

In Cobo's office, the mayor presented Ngo with a medallion of the city's 250th anniversary and Frank Baird-Smith, chairman of the international service committee of the Detroit Rotary Club gave Ngo a club pennant.

Ngo told a press conference later that the nearly 1,000,000 refugees from Communist-ruled North Viet Nam are being resettled successfully in his country.

## CITES RED OFFENSIVE

However, he said, "there is a real Communist offensive in Southeast Asia by Communist China and the Viet Minh (Communists to the north of Viet Nam) are taking advantage of this."

Neighboring Laos and Cambodia have become neutral and the Communists are making these countries a springboard

for infiltration and propaganda into Viet Nam, he said.

American economic and military support "are absolutely necessary" for his country, Ngo said, because the "strength of Communism is in direct ratio to the internal situation in Viet Nam.

"If our economic situation is good, the Communists are weak, but if it is bad, they are strong."

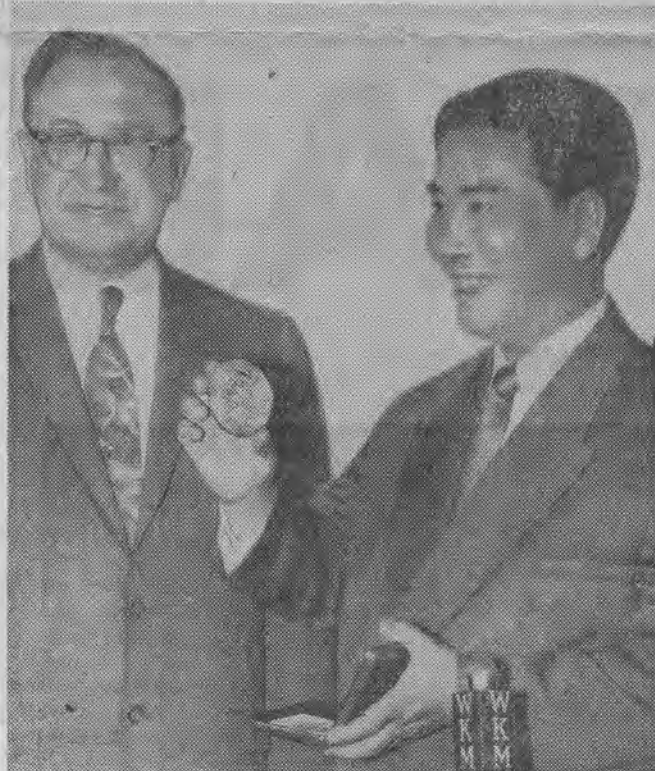
## ARMY OUTNUMBERED

Ngo said that Viet Nam's army is approximately 150,000 while the Communists to the north have 400,000 men under arms.

Ngo spoke through an interpreter, Tran Van Chuong, Vietnamese ambassador to the United States, who also translated his remarks at the civic dinner at the Statler Hotel last night.

"The name of Detroit is synonymous with great industrial development," Ngo told the dinner guests. "Your city is celebrated for lifting the standard of living of your working force. Maybe we will learn from Detroit that in raising the living standard of our people we will strengthen them against communism."

Speaking at the dinner, Cobo said, "we would have felt hurt in Detroit, Mr. Ngo, if you had not come here to visit us."



—News Photo

NGO DIEM SHOWS HIS DETROIT MEDALLION  
With His Official Host, Mayor Cobo, at Left