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1. Admiral Radford arrives in Saigon and confers with the President -

Saigon - At 16:30 on July 26, President Ngo dinh Diem received Admiral Radford at the Independence Palace. After visiting various Vietnamese and American organizations in the city, at 8:30 p.m., Admiral Radford attended a dinner offered in his honor by President Ngo dinh Diem at the Presidency.

(Dan Nguyen)

2. A delegation of U.S. professors visited Caisan -

Saigon - A delegation of U.S. professors left Saigon Tuesday morning for a tour to Caisan resettlement center under the guidance of Mr. Do trong Chu, Chargé de Mission, and Captain Nguyen, liaison officer at the Commissariat General for Refugees.

The delegation includes among others Dr. E.W. Weidner, professor of the Michigan State University, Mr. Trager, professor of the New York University, Mr. Fesler, professor of the Yale University, Mr. Walter W. Mode, professor of the Michigan State University.

On their arrival in Caisan, the visitors were received by the representatives of the Commissariat General for Refugees. They visited the canals I and III and refugee centers and houses.

In the afternoon, the delegation left for Thotnot to visit a hospital manned by the medical staff of the International Jaycee.

Then the delegation returned to Saigon at 19:00.

(La Gazette)

3. Presidential decree on paying fines in Vietnamese currency -

Saigon - President Ngo dinh Diem just signed a decree revising the Ordinance N° 5 dated April 19, 1951, changing the paying of fines as follows:

"Whilst waiting for the application of new laws on the paying of fines, as of the date of issuing of this decree, all payment of judicial fines will be made in Vietnamese piasters at the rate of 10 French francs for one Vietnamese piaster."

On this occasion it is recalled that although Vietnam was declared independent since 1949, all judicial fines were up to date calculated in French francs.

(Tin Dien)

4. First anniversary of anti-Communist campaign -

Saigon - Yesterday morning the ceremony marking the first anniversary of the Anti-Communist Drive took place in the ceremony room of the City Hall under the chairmanship of the Secretary for Information and Youth Tran chanh Thanh who is at the same time chairman of the Directive Board of the movement.

The City Prefect opened the ceremony pointing out the meaning of the campaign. The chairman of the prefectural committee indicated the activities and achievements of the Anti-Communist movement realized during the past year in the city area.

Then, Secretary Tran chanh Thanh stressed the success of the campaign which helped to reject the cunning general elections set up by the Communist Vietminh. He went on to point out the series of anti-Communist uprisings in Poland, Czechoslovakia and particularly in Tibet, saying that these events are indicative that the international Communism is nearing its end.

(Ngon Luan and 2 others)

5. French Military Mission to Vietnam -

Saigon, July 23^d - Authoritative source in the capital disclosed that the French Military Assistance Mission to Vietnam will include 400 officers and non-commissioned officers, 350 of them belong to the Air Force and the remainder to the Navy and Land force of the French army. The Land force officers are to be instructors in the Vietnamese Military Institute.

It is said that talks for the appointment of this French military assistance mission took place in Saigon in the recent weeks between the Vietnamese and French authorities. On this occasion it is recalled that the U.S. Military Assistance Mission (MAAG) to Vietnam counts at present about 800 officers and noncoms.

(Dan Chu)

6. An Army officer murdered in Soctrang -

Soctrang - At 4:00 a.m. on July 24, sub-lieutenant Sanh, commander of the Civil Guard in Caicon, Xuan Hoa village, Soctrang province, was murdered while he went on a patrol.

(Cang Nhan)

7. Rebels seized army car on Dalat highway -

Saigon, July 23 - About 30 well-armed rebels stopped all vehicles for 45 minutes on Dalat highway, at the kilometer-stone 107. They drove about 150 passengers including 1 National Army captain and 7 soldiers with 2 Catholic priests, to a spot where propaganda speeches were delivered and leaflets were distributed to the prisoners by a BinhXuyen unit commander. A Political commissar had signed the leaflets. It is said that this act was instigated by the Communist Vietminh.

At the signal given by whistle, the rebels fled to the woods after having taken away several documents and set fire to the car of the captain.

(reproduced by Dan Chu)
(from Liberty, July 24)

8. A land-owner beheaded in Cantho -

Cantho - At 7:00 p.m. on July 24, the inhabitants in Phu Huu village heard the calls for help from the house of land-owner Vo van Meo, 65 years.

According to the families of Mr. Vo van Meo, at this moment, a masked person went in the house with pistol in the hand and arrested Meo who was taken away. Next morning the beheaded body of Meo was found.

Investigation is under way.

(Cong Nhan)

9. Two hundred representatives of 30,000 merchants hold meeting in an attempt to stop the rise of commodities' prices -

Saigon - It is announced that on Sunday July 29, about 200 representatives of 30,000 merchants will hold meeting in the office of General Federation of Vietnamese Workers in an attempt to stop the rise of commodities' prices.

The agenda of this meeting includes the following:

- to seek the means to stop the rise in commodities' prices;
- to fix the prices between the distributors and retailers;
- to elect merchants' representatives to attend the Price Control Commission.

(Dan Nguyen)

10. A Vietcong craft seized in National waters -

ThuaThien - On July 2, the inhabitants in Quang An village, Thua-Thien province, seeing an unknown barge sailing northward to the Communist zone, chased and captured it. In the barge were Nguyen long Hiep, village commissar of the Vietcong in Hoa Phung district, Quang Nam, and Tran Tam, Communist partisan, also from Quang Nam, who were attempting to go north to report on the situation in the National zone. The barge and two prisoners were delivered by the population to the authorities.

(All Papers)

11. A Vietcong unit commander joins the National authorities -

Quang Tri - An authoritative source disclosed that in Dong Hoi, on the northern side of the 17th parallel, on June 28, a Vietcong Civil Guard unit commander who could not stand the Vietcong oppressive rule and their inhuman suppression of land-owners, shot and killed 20 Vietcong troops and joined the National authorities, bringing with him two light machineguns MAT 49.

This man killed the Communists to avenge his parents who were killed by the Vietcong for being land-owners.

(All Papers)

12. Mr. Mac Alister, director of IRC, left Vietnam -

Saigon - Yesterday afternoon, July 26, Mr. Mac Alister, director of International Rescue Committee definitely left Vietnam for the United States. On this occasion, Mac Alister told Vietnam Presse the following:

"I am most pleased with the manner in which the projects we are interested in are operating. Being a private organization, we have concentrated on working with private Vietnamese organizations of students and intellectuals who are interested in making a constructive contribution to the development of the nation. Time is too short for me to comment on every individual project. However, I feel quite confident in asserting that they are all going well. In this connection, I am very glad that the majority of the programs which we have been assisting were created by Vietnamese. This speaks well for the initiative of many Vietnamese students and intellectuals and I believe that the continuity of these projects is already assured in the future.

It is difficult for me to summarize the impressions of Vietnam which I take with me. I will have to content myself by stating that among the chief impressions which I carry with me is the conviction that your great leader President Ngo dinh Diem and the Vietnamese people are determined to consolidate and strengthen your new freedom and independence.

.....

The people and the Government of Vietnam have shown the world that the spread of Communism is not inevitable. You have faced and conquered many problems in the last two years. I have every confidence that you will continue to solve the problems which still confront you by an ever widening application of the democratic process.

Finally, I should like to take this opportunity to express the appreciation of my wife and myself the courtesy and friendship which has been shown us during our sojourn in Vietnam. We look forward to keeping in touch with our new friends and assure you that we will do everything possible in America to communicate to our own countrymen the friendship which exists for America in Vietnam today."

(La Gazette)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

13. The U.S. is decided to strengthen the Pacific areas against Red aggression -

Manila - In his speech delivered on the occasion of christening the U.S. airbase in Cubi Point, Bataan, Admiral Arthur Radford, chairman of the Joint chiefs of staff, re-affirmed the determination of the U.S. to maintain powerful forces to discourage all Communist aggressive attempts against the free world. Said he: "This strong base indicates clearly that an enemy hoping to invade the Philippines, must first clear out the air space before attaining this country. We support the treaties concluded between our 2 countries not with empty words but with millions of dollars in building and equipment and also with the mobilization of thousands of Americans devoted to the cause of freedom."

According to Admiral Radford, this base is part of an adequate regional security system in the Pacific. It is part of the Philippines which is a vital member of SEATO. Dealing with the Red danger, Admiral Radford said that this new airbase is the corner stone of human progress and governmental autonomy in the Pacific region, stating: "Since long ago I was convinced that programs of defense and military cooperation are necessary to preserve national independence and cultural traditions."

(Cach Mang Quoc Gia & La Gazette)

14. Red Chinese troops invade Burma -

Rangoon - The Burmese newspaper The People disclosed yesterday that a Red Chinese army unit composed of more than 20 soldiers equipped with modern weapons invaded Makocha village, on the Burma-China border zone. The villagers fled away abandoning everything to the invading troops.

Replying to a Burmese protest against this violation of territory by armed troops, the Red Chinese said that these men were coming to Burma to look for a medicinal plant and promised to prevent such invasion from happening again.

(Ngon Luan & Troi Nam)

15. Soviet Russia delivers 200 additional jet planes to Red China -

Taipeh - The Central News Agency discloses that Soviet Russia just announced an imminent delivery of 200 additional MIG-17 jets to Red China to enable Peking reconquer the aerial supremacy over the Formosan straits.

The information adds that on its side, to help deter the Red menace, the U.S. will deliver to the Philippines 30 Sabre-86 jets together with many training, rescue and amphibious planes by the beginning of next year. This was disclosed by Admiral Radford on his recent visit to Manila.

(Ngon Luan & Troi Nam)

EDITORIAL COMMENT

16. Vacant lands in Eastern provinces should be distributed to farmers -

On the occasion of the launching of the pacification operation (Operation Truong tan Buu) in the Eastern provinces, the daily Dan Nguyen writes the following suggestion:

"Operation Truong tan Buu was begun a few days ago in the Eastern provinces. The operations commander, General Mai huu Xuan, solemnly indicates that the main aim of the operation is to annihilate reactionary, rebel, pirate, speculator and smuggler elements, to restore security to the populations. Parallel with this military action, administrative services are comforting the inhabitants and providing them with means to earn their living, safe from all trouble makers.

On this occasion we beg to submit a suggestion: to check all the lands which are still laid waste in the Eastern provinces. Thousands of hectares of land which, according to our investigation, are not public domains. Private foreign concerns were allowed, under the colonialist days, to own these lands which they did not cultivate. The land register books indicate the names of these concerns as owners. These people left Vietnam long ago for their native country. Thus, these lands may be now considered as vacant lands.

Based on Ordinance N° 28 dated April 30, 1956 and decree N° 67 on the declaration of vacant lands, we suggest that these lands -- which are abandoned years ago -- should be confiscated and re-distributed to farmers in these provinces. Is not it unlogical to let large areas of fertile land laid waste whilst a great number of farmers do not have enough land to till?

To distribute these vacant lands to farmers will contribute to make the people appreciate and support fuller the Truong tan Buu operation and will contribute to the national production. It will also lessen the burden the authorities have had to meet in helping the needy farmers."

(Dan Nguyen)