

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION BULLETIN

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION DIVISION U.S.O.M.-SAIGON

NO. 9

DATE: November 5, 1963

Military Revolutionary Committee Takes Command

A Military Revolutionary Committee chaired by Major General Duong Van Minh and composed of some forty officers has taken command after a coup beginning about 1 p.m. Friday, November 1, in Saigon.

The Committee abolished the Presidency, dissolved the Cabinet and the newly elected National Assembly, and suspended the Oct. 26, 1956 Constitution. Their declaration denies aiming to set up a military dictatorship, and acknowledges democracy as the best weapon against communism. However, it speaks of the necessity "to adopt a form of democracy consistent with the discipline required by a nation at war". It states that the Armed Forces are for friendly diplomatic relations with neighboring countries, freedom of religion, press and expression and will honor all previous agreements and protect lives and properties of foreign residents. It allows "all non-communist political parties... to operate within the limits required by national defense security" and promises to "transfer political power to a popularly elected government, when the situation permits".

Martial law was declared throughout the country in order to maintain order and a curfew imposed with the death penalty for any looters.

Members of the Committee include:

Major General: Duong Van Minh - Chairman of Military Revolutionary Committee

Major General: Tran Van Don - Acting Chief General Staff

Major General: Nguyen Ngoc Le

Major General: Tran Van Minh

Brig. General: Mai Huu Xuan (now Major General), Prefect of Saigon
Director General of National Police

Brig. General: Tran Tu Oai (now Major General), Director General for Information

Brig. General: Le Van Nghiem

Brig. General: Nguyen Giac Ngo

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Brig. General: Le Van Kim

Brig. General: Nguyen Van La

Brig. General: Pham Xuan Chieu

Brig. General: Tran Thien Khiem

Brig. General: Ton That Dinh (now Major General), Military Governor
of Saigon

Brig. General: Tran Ngoc Tam

Colonel: Do Mau (now Brig. Gen.)

Colonel: Nguyen Khuong

Colonel: Duong Ngoc Lam

Lt.Colonel: Nguyen Van Thien

Lt.Colonel: Le Nguyen Khang

Lt.Colonel: Khong Van Tuyen

Lt.Colonel: Do Ngoc Nhuan

Major: Nguyen Ngoc Thiet

Others will be identified as soon as information is available. It was reported that the former Vice President Nguyen Ngoc Tho will be named Prime Minister of a care-taker government. Many other former officials of the Diem government have rallied to the side of the Military Revolutionary Committee. The Committee's statement requested all government employees and other officials to continue in their present assignments until further notice.

As an example of forthcoming government agency reorganization, the Ministry of Interior is being split into two agencies, with the security functions to be headed by Maj. Gen. Ton That Dinh and the administrative functions being transferred to the former Office of the Presidency. When additional details are available, they will be reported in future Public Administration Bulletins; and eventually a new organization chart of the central government, as well as a new list of Province Chiefs, will be issued.

COMPOSITION OF NEW GOVERNMENT

(by decree No 1-TTP of Nov. 4)

<u>Order</u>	<u>Names</u>	<u>Titles</u>	<u>Former Titles</u>
1	Duong Van Minh*	Chief of State	Commanding General Army Field Command
2	Nguyen Ngoc Tho	Prime Minister and concurrently minister of Economic and Financial Affairs	Vice-President of the Republic
3	Tran Van Don*	Minister of National Defense	Acting Chief of General Staff
4	Ton That Dinh*	Minister of Security and Military Governor of Saigon	Commander of Third Army Corps
5	Pham Dang Lam	Minister of Foreign Affairs	Secretary General at the Foreign Affairs Department
6	Tran Tu Cai*	Minister of Information	Psywar Director General
7	Pham Hoang Ho	Minister of Education	
8	Tran Ngoc Oanh	Minister of Telecommunications and Public Works	
9	Nguyen Le Giang	Minister of Labor	
10	Nguyen Van Mau	Minister of Justice	
11	Tran Le Quang	Minister of Rural Affairs	Secretary of State for Rural Affairs
12	Vuong Quang Truong	Minister of Public Health	Chief of Army Medical Service
13	Nguyen Huu Phi	Minister of Youth and Sports	Architect
14	Nguyen Thanh Cung	Secretary of State at the Premier's Office	
15	Luu Van Tinh	Secretary of State for Finance	
16	Luu Truong Thanh	Secretary of State for Economy	

(* refers to military officers)

According to Radio Vietnam November 5th

New Province Created

A new province called Hau Nghia was created on October 15, 1963 (South East). Its capital is Khiem Cuong, formerly named Bau Trai.

Hau Nghia province consists of 4 districts, 1 cantons and 24 villages:

Phu Duc (district hq: Trang Bang)	:	6 villages
Cu Chi (district hq: Tan An Hoi)	:	6 villages
Duc Hue (district hq: My Qui)	:	3 villages
Duc Hoa (district hq: Duc Hoa)	:	9 villages

The first 2 districts of the new province were taken from Tay Ninh and Binh Duong, while the last 2 were formerly part of Long An.

With the creation of Hau Nghia, Vietnam now has 42 provinces.

The name of the Chief of Hau Nghia province, population and area are not yet available, we will publish them as soon as they become known.

