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SECOND LEAD VIET NAM (300)
BY MALCOLM W. BROWNE
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

SAIGON, VIET NAM, AUG. 25 (AP)-MAJ. GEN. NGUYEN KHANH RESIGNED TODAY AS PRESIDENT, CAPITULATING TO THE ANGRY DEMANDS OF STUDENTS AND BUDDHISTS FOR AN END TO DICTATORIAL RULE.

KHANH, 37, STEPPED DOWN ONLY NINE DAYS AFTER ELEVATING HIMSELF FROM PREMIER TO PRESIDENT. HE ALSO TORE UP A CONTROVERSIAL NEW CONSTITUTION GIVING HIM STRONGMAN POWER IN A NATIONAL EMERGENCY.

HOWEVER, KHANH STILL COMMANDS THE ARMY AND REMAINS HEAD OF THE GOVERNMENT.

JUBILANT BECAUSE THEY APPARENTLY BROUGHT KHANH TO KEEL, THOUSANDS OF DEMONSTRATORS MARCHED THROUGH SAIGON, CHEERING AS THEY PASSED THE HEADQUARTERS OF SEVERAL POLITICAL LEADERS.

KHANH'S ANNOUNCEMENT CAME AFTER MORE THAN 20,000 STUDENTS CONVERGED ON THE PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE BUILDING. IT WAS THE LARGEST ANTIGOVERNMENT OUTPOURING SINCE VIET NAM WON ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM FRANCE 10 YEARS AGO.

DEPUTY PREMIER NGUYEN XUAN OANH TOLD THE STUDENTS THIS AFTERNOON THAT KHANH WAS RESIGNING AND DISBANDING HIS JUNTA OF 60 ARMY OFFICERS. BEFORE IT IS DISSOLVED, HOWEVER, THE JUNTA WILL MEET TONIGHT TO ELECT A PREMIER, POSSIBLY KHANH.

BACK IN THE CONFUSED VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PICTURE WAS MAJ. GEN. DUONG VAN MINH, THE POPULAR BUDDHIST WHO LED THE OVERTHROW OF THE HATED DIEM REGIME LAST NOV. 1.

MINH, KNOWN AS "BIG MINH," WAS REMOVED AS FIGUREHEAD CHIEF OF STATE IN THE AUG. 16 SHAKEUP. A GOVERNMENT SOURCE SAID TODAY HE PROBABLY WILL BE BROUGHT BACK AS CARETAKER CHIEF OF STATE.

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KHANH ALSO OPENED THE DOOR TO CIVILIAN POLITICAL ACTIVITY. "BY SOME MEANS OR ANOTHER," HE TOLD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, "A RULING COUNCIL WITH THE SAME POWERS AS THE PRESENT JUNTA BUT MADE UP OF CIVILIANS WILL BE CREATED. THE CIVILIANS WILL BE PICKED FROM A BROAD SPECTRUM OF POLITICAL PARTIES AND GROUPS SO AS TO BE COMPLETELY REPRESENTATIVE."

ON SATURDAY, IN A DIRECT CONFRONTATION WITH THE STUDENT LEADERS, KHANH SAID FREE POLITICAL ACTIVITY WAS IMPOSSIBLE AS LONG AS THE COMMUNIST MENACE PERSISTED.

(YOPE)

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COMMUNISTS (SCHEDULED)

NEW DELHI, INDIA, AUG. 25 (REUTERS)-NATIONWIDE INDIAN COMMUNIST PARTY DEMONSTRATIONS OVER RISING FOOD PRICES ENTERED ITS SECOND DAY TODAY WITH REPORTS MORE THAN 1,500 ARRESTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO DATE.

SOME 100,000 PARTY MEMBERS, INCLUDING COMMUNIST LEADER S.A. DANGE, LAUNCHED A FIVE-DAY, NATIONWIDE PROTEST YESTERDAY HOPING TO GET THE BACKING OF ONE MILLION INDIANS.

THEIR STRATEGY CONSISTED OF COURTING ARREST IN PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATIONS AND PICKETED BANKS, STOCK EXCHANGES, WHOLESALE GRAIN MARKETS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

POLICE WERE WELL-PREPARED FOR THE PUBLICIZED PROTEST, AND ABOUT 200 COMMUNISTS WERE ARRESTED IN EARLY MORNING RAIDS IN SOUTH INDIA COMMUNITIES EVEN BEFORE THE DEMONSTRATIONS BEGAN.

IN MADRAS ALONE THERE WERE 632 PERSONS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY. MORE THAN 50 WERE PICKED UP DURING A MARCH ON NEW DELHI'S CENTRAL MARKET AND HUNDREDS MORE WERE ARRESTED AS THEY PICKETED GRAIN MARKETS AND STATE LEGISLATURE GATES IN LUCKNOW, BOMBAY, CALCUTTA AND ELSEWHERE.

NO VIOLENCE WAS REPORTED.

AS THE COMMUNISTS MOVED TO PICKET BANKS AND STOCK EXCHANGES TODAY, POLICE CO-ORDINATED THEIR ACTIONS FROM A CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS HERE, SET UP LAST WEEK AFTER A MEETING OF TOP POLICE OFFICIALS FROM THROUGHOUT THE NATION.

-(MORE)- GRB 5:57A

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FIRST ADD NEW DELHI COMMUNISTS X X X NATION.

THE GOVERNMENT, UNDER PRIME MINISTER LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI, CURRENTLY FACES A CRITICAL FOOD PROBLEM WITH THE WINTER HARVEST STILL MORE THAN A MONTH AWAY.

FOOD LINES HAVE ALREADY BEGUN TO FORM IN SOME COMMUNITIES AND THE COMMUNIST DEMONSTRATORS HOPE TO BE ABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE UNREST.

THE PROTEST IS SHASTRI'S FIRST TEST OF STRENGTH WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY SINCE ASSUMING OFFICE THREE MONTHS AGO AFTER THE DEATH OF PREMIER JAWAHARLAL NEHRU.

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MILITARY REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL STATEMENT

SAIGON DOMESTIC SERVICE IN VIETNAMESE 0800 25 AUG 64 S

(TEXT) THE MILITARY REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL MET ON THE MORNING OF 25 AUGUST AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE HIGH COMMAND OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ARMED FORCES AND DECIDED:

- 1--TO REVOKE THE 16 AUGUST 1964 CONSTITUTION;
- 2--TO CONVENE URGENTLY A MILITARY REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL SESSION TO ELECT A NEW CHIEF OF STATE;
- 3--TO DISSOLVE ITSELF AFTER THE ELECTION OF THE NEW CHIEF OF STATE IN ORDER TO DEVOTE ITSELF TO PURELY MILITARY TASKS AND TO LEADING THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ARMED FORCES IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS, NEUTRALISTS, COLONIALISTS, AND ALL FORMS OF DICTATORSHIP AND TREASON;
- 4--(TO ENTRUST) THE ELECTED CHIEF OF STATE WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CONVENING THE NATIONAL CONGRESS TO BUILD A NATIONAL STRUCTURE THAT CONFORMS TO THE ASPIRATIONS OF ALL THE PEOPLE AND RESTS ON THE BASIS OF THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS, NEUTRALISTS, COLONIALISTS, AND ALL FORMS OF DICTATORSHIP AND TREASON IN ORDER TO BUILD THE COUNTRY IN FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY;
- 5--THAT IN THE MEANTIME THE NATION'S ADMINISTRATION IS ENTRUSTED TO THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT.

SAIGON, 25 AUGUST 1964,

FOR THE MILITARY REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL; THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

25 AUG 625A FTB/GE