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SUPPLEMENT



(Note: The following information has reference to the Ho Chi Minh Ministry which was formed on 4 November 1946.)

- VO Nguyen-Giap, Minister of National Defense, was born in 1912 in Quang-Binh in Annam. He came from a family of farmers. He got his Bachelor's degree and then became a Doctor of Law at the Universite Indochinoise in 1937. He was a professor of history in a private school at Thang-Long. When war broke out, VO Nguyen-Giap went to Russia where he attended several specialized schools and studied revolutionary agitation. He met HO Chi Minh in China when he got back from Moscow and took part with him in the meetings at Tsin Tsi (Chin-chi?) where he participated in the formation of the unified Revolutionary Front and rallied to the Viet Minh program. VO went back to Indo China in 1944 as head of guerrillas in the Caobang sector of upper Tongking and laid the groundwork for a generalized subversion by campaigns of political terrorism. After 9 March he contacted certain French elements leading guerrillas in the same region and worked out with them a program of action against the Japanese of which he didn't carry out a single part. HO Chi Minh made him Minister of the Interior in the first provisional Viet Nam cabinet. Intelligent, sincere, able, profoundly convinced of his beliefs, VO is outstanding for his convictions, his will and his sincerity. After HO Chi Minh he is certainly the most outstanding personality of the Viet Minh party, of which he is a very strong anti-French element. He was vice president of the Viet Nam delegation to the Conference at Dalat.

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- TRAN Dang Khoa (Tran Van Khoa), Minister of Communications, comes from Hue in Annam. Onetime student at L'Ecole des Ponts et Chausees, he had a career in Public Works and married a Frenchwoman. He worked in various parts of Annam and was, on 9 March, an engineer at Nhatrang. Although he has gone through a great change in his political beliefs, he was then supporting the regime of pro-Japanese Tran Trong Kim, who made him Chief Engineer of Public Works in Annam.

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He was a delegate to the Conference at Dalat.

3. TA Quang Bui, Undersecretary of National Defense, was principally known as one of the leaders of the Indo Chinese Scout movement and because of this, belonged to the group of which Professor Hoang Thuy was the intellectual chief. The strongly nationalistic tendencies of these circles led TA Quang Bui, together with other Scout leaders, to press for an understanding between Japan and Annam after 9 March 1945. He was leader of the Youth Movement (Jeunesse) in Annam. Because of this and his radical tendencies, he went over to the revolutionary regime. After 1 August, he took part in the political formation of Viet Minh. He was a member of the Viet Nam Delegation to the Conference at Fontainebleau.

4. CU Huy Can, Undersecretary of Agriculture, was born in Tongking on 31 May 1919. He studied at Hanoi at the Universite Indochinoise where he was known for his talents as a poet. He became an agricultural engineer but devoted much time to student movements with nationalistic inclinations. In 1942 he was active in Viet-Minh inspired nationalist organizations. Shortly after, he became one of the founders of the Viet Nam Dan Chu Dang (Popular Democratic Party of Viet Nam) which was part of the Viet Minh Front. [redacted] note: previous reports indicate that this was founded in 1940). In 1944 he was imprisoned and was not released until 9 March 1945 when he joined guerilla troops and distinguished himself by his intelligence and fervor. When the Viet Minh government came into power, HO Chi Minh called him and made him Minister without Portfolio on 1 September 1945. Later, he became Minister of Agriculture and has kept this position ever since. CU Huy Can is young, intelligent, enthusiastic and completely devoted to HO Chi Minh. He was a delegate to the Conference at Dalat.

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