

CLANDESTINE CORNER

RESEARCH SHEDS LIGHT ON VIETNAMESE CLANDESTINE



In the March "Clandestine Corner," we reported an almost classic example of a "black" propaganda station now operating in Vietnam. The station has been identified in press accounts, variously, as "Guom Thieng Ai Quoc" (The Sacred Sword of Patriotism) and Radio Liberation Army.

Typically, a "black" station stresses a nationalistic patriotism, but attacks the government structure of the ruling regime. It attempts to pit the people themselves against their leaders. In order to make its posture, a "peoples' secret station", credible, the "black" operation must also denounce the "enemy", though in fact it is that "enemy" that actually operates it.

Therefore, in this case, the propaganda outlet attacks not only the North Vietnamese and Chinese regimes, but the South Vietnamese and "interventionist" United States as well. In our earlier report on this station, we theorized that this "black" broadcaster was secretly run by the U.S. Army Psychological Warfare teams somewhere in the northern portion of South Vietnam. We rejected the station's broadcast claims of operating from the Hanoi area. We also reported the station formerly used two 41 m.b. frequencies, but possibly had moved one of these to 9,433 kc/s., where it had been noted on the West Coast.

With that summary, we can turn to some remarkable research by NASWA'er Bruce Churchill, which updates the facts given in our earlier accounts, corrects a few errors in the source report (Associated Press), and, in general, presents a fairly complete picture of this clandestine's current operations.

A recording of the 9,433 kc/s. outlet made by Churchill has been analyzed by a Vietnamese language specialist, who for various reasons will not be identified. It revealed that the heretofore unidentified station of this frequency is, indeed, our Vietnamese clandestine on a new channel.

The station now identifies as "Day la Tieng Noi cua Mat Tran Dan Quan Ai Quoc," or the Voice of Patriotic Militiamen's Front. Apparently the original identification, "Guom Thieng Ai Quoc," was dropped; the translator stated he felt this slogan was too "theatrical" to be effective with its intended North Vietnamese audience. The Radio Liberation Army ID, noted in press stories, was not heard and may have merely been a loose and not-too-accurate translation of the above identification.

VPMF signs on with an interval signal of drum and cymbals, followed by a Vietnamese folk tune. Then comes the following announcement in Vietnamese: "The Voice of Patriotic Militiamen's Front, broadcasting three times a day at 1200 to 1400, 1600 to 1700, 2100 to 2300 Hanoi Time over 41.57, 31.81, 331 meters, or 7,216 kc/s., 9,430 kc/s., 995 kc/s. The evening cast (sic) over medium wavelength is on 995 kc/s. at 2100 to 2300 Hanoi Time."

In translation summary form, the content of the program Churchill recorded was as follows: "Aims at liberating North Vietnam from Chinese domination, putting an end to an unjust war in South Vietnam, long range target is to build an independent, democratic and prosperous Vietnam, including all strata of people, men in the communist ranks who are dissatisfied with communist present policy. The Front's view is that man is not an animal, raised to serve the interests of a political party or serve a dictator. It fights old and new style colonialism, demands all international interventionist forces get out of Vietnam territory, demands the Hanoi regime hold peace talks so as to compel U.S. interventionists to stop barbaric bombings of Vietnamese population, calls on all big nations to exert influence to stop aggression by North Vietnam's troops against South Vietnam, denounces plot of China to foster war all over the world so as to dominate Southeast Asian countries. The Front will organize within and without the country, armed activist groups and cadres, teams at village levels to provide material and spiritual aid to victims of war and the belligerent Hanoi regime."

(Continued next page)

NASWA FRENCH - - - - -

SHORTWAVE CENTER - - - - -

AUGUST '67

CLANDESTINE CORNER (Continued)

The commentary, it was announced, we entitled "North Vietnam in the Face of Annihilation Threat Caused by the War in South Vietnam." It was written by one "Comrade Cao Danh" and read before the microphone by "Comrade Luu Giang."

The last five minutes of the broadcast consisted of dictation speed announcements; coded orders to agents and teams supposedly in South Vietnam, in areas designated by such terms as ANT6638, ZKC7532, etc. There were some names also mentioned in the coded orders.

Churchill's recording did not reveal the station announcing as being located in Hanoi, but did give "Hanoi Time." Other accounts say the station claims, falsely of course, to broadcast secretly from the North Vietnamese capital.

Despite the station's announced time schedule and frequency, Churchill heard the station on 9,433 kc/s., from 1400 GMT signon (2200 Hanoi Time), until signoff at approximately 1545 GMT (2345 Hanoi Time). On one occasion it did not sign on until 1500 GMT.

The data uncovered by Churchill strongly supports our earlier theory of "black" propaganda operation by U.S. psychwar elements. Its actual location is unknown, though as we have speculated before, it is likely in northern South Vietnam, possibly in the Hue-Phu Bai area. Obviously it is a rather powerful station.