

iod of thirteen years, and know them very well.

Brunswickan

What did you think of Diem?

Duy

I think that Diem's first period of government was very good. He was the hero of South Viet Nam. Under him we could control all our areas. We could fight against Communism by ourselves. This is a very important point.

Van Khai

Lyndon Johnson, while Vice-President, said that he was the Winston Churchill of Asia.

Brunswickan

What were your reactions to the many coups d'état?

Van Khai

Many of these political upheavels were incited by the Americans, and others they directed behind the scenes. The Viet Cong might have taken advantage during these coups.

Brunswickan

Why would the Americans be involved in these coups?

Van Khai

When the government didn't do what it was told then it was overthrown.

Brunswickan

Has a difference been realized since the US has poured even more and more money into this project?

Van Khai

Because so much American money is spent in Viet Nam there is an economic crisis, a galloping inflation. The cost of living has gone up 100-200% because there is too much money and too few goods. Our economy is presently quite weak.

Brunswickan

What is your opinion of Ky?

Van Khai

Ky has been in for about sixteen months and it is the most stable government since the one of President Diem, three years ago.

Brunswickan

Does the US have a puppet government in South Viet Nam now?

Van Khai

I think they had one but not under Ky. He is quite an independent man.

Brunswickan



A Viet Cong draft-dodger?

Do you think that the North Vietnamese have an attitude of being on the winning side?

Duy

No. They fight only because they are forced to. Many flee. It is a terrible war because brother is fighting brother. I think that North Viet Nam does not really want to fight but that it is forced to by Peking.

Brunswickan

What was your reaction to the American bombing of the South Vietnamese village, by mistake?

Duy

My grandparents were in the village so that I can say there was a little unsatisfaction.

Brunswickan

What are your impressions of the articles in American magazines?

Van Khai

They over-emphasize their qualities and ignore our good aspects. For example it is widely reported that a victory is 'American', but a defeat 'South Vietnamese'. This is not true because our troops number nearly one million. Most of the operations are initiated by us with the Americans behind us. Mainly they help us out with weapons. The major victories are ours.

Duy

They have good reporters from the US, but they stay too short and use wrong pictures. They write an article only on one isolated aspect.

Brunswickan

Have the Buddhist monks who

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