

THE BATTALION

Thieu: Vietnam Ceasefire 'Disappointment'

SAIGON (AP) — President Nguyen Van Thieu said Wednesday the Vietnam ceasefire has been a "bitter disappointment" and that prospects for a lasting peace have all but disappeared.

In the same vein, North Vietnam accused South Vietnam of executing a new military plan with the help of the United States.

Thieu accused the Western world of shutting its eyes to South Vietnam's continuing plight and sacrificing the country to the Communists.

"In fact, there has been no cease-fire at all and, in fact, a full-scale war may soon be rekindled," Thieu said during a televised speech on the eve of South Vietnam's national day.

He charged North Vietnam and the Viet Cong with taking advantage of continuing talks in Paris between the two sides to prepare for another offensive in early 1974.

"Since the cease-fire, the Communists have infiltrated into the South another 100,000 North Vietnamese troops, and tens of thousands of others are on their way," Thieu said.

He claimed 300,000 North Vietnamese troops were left behind in the South after the Jan. 28 cease-fire.

"In the last month, the Communists have increased the tempo of their attacks and conducted

blatant land and people grabbing operations throughout the country," Thieu claimed.

While this was going on, he said, much of the world remained unknowing or pretended not to know, content to let South Vietnam carry the burden alone.

In Cambodia, government troops and Communist-led Khmer Rouge insurgents battled along the banks of two flood-swollen rivers north of Phnom Penh, field reporter said.

Rebel and government forces engaged in an artillery duel along a 12- to 15-mile stretch of the Tonle Sap northwest of the capital. About 14 miles to the northeast, insurgents increased their pressure on two government outposts on the banks of the Mekong River.

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Merrie Melodies and Looney Tunes

By TED BORISKIE

First there was "Tommy;" now with the release of "Quadrophenia" the Who have introduced another hero via the vehicle of rock opera. His name is Jimmy and he is absolutely nothing special, no new messiah, no old messiah, he's just another guy with perhaps a few more hangups than most.

Jimmy is some poor little schmuck who simply cannot relate to anything even though he tries harder. He tries so hard, in fact, he splits his personality into four parts, hence the title, a doubling of the split personality term, schizophrenia.

I never really liked "Tommy," at least I didn't appreciate it as much as I did "Sell Out," an earlier effort, or "Live at Leeds" and "Who's Next" which came later. In fact, the strength of "Who's Next" led me to believe that Townshend and company was the most inventive and original group around.

"Quadrophenia," like "Tommy," runs into trouble right off the bat with its length (two records). A double LP is an extremely shaky venture and some of the top names in the business have tried to release a successful double album set and failed. The big problem lies in the number of cuts the artist must record for the extra disc. There is too much tendency to throw in a couple of fillers without slaving the extra hours to produce more quality tunes. On the Beatles' white album it was "Why Don't We Do It in the Road" and "Revolution No. 9." On the Stones' "Exile on Main Street" it was "Shape Your Hips" and "On Down the Line." On "Tommy" it was "Underture" and "Sparks." "Quadrophenia" has a couple of dandy throwaways in "Helpless Dancer" and "The Rock."

The album kicks off with "I am

the Sea," a collection of the four main themes used throughout the set. The booklet that comes with the record notes that "Each theme represents a part of Jimmy's character, each character part is reflected by a member of the Who." So are the Who laying their souls bare to the world? Not quite, as the liner notes inform us "No one in this story is meant to represent anyone either living or dead, particularly not the Mum and Dad. Our Mums and Dads are all very nice and live in bungalows which we bought for them in the Outer Hebrides."

It seems instead that Jimmy is not a collection of the Who's collective personality but rather a personification of their four alter egos, as seen through the eyes of Pete Townsend, who wrote the entire thing.

So Jimmy turns out to be a speedfreak caught in the middle of the Mods and Rockers craze in London who naturally loses his mind. He goes through a series of maudlin jobs, a brief run-in with a rock group (guess WHO) and finally ends up on "the Rock," some deserted beach where he ends it all by throwing himself into the ocean.

The songs are helped along by a libretto, a first person prose piece (very well written) and a booklet with lotsa photos. All bases are covered so you are almost forced to look at the story the LP is telling. On this level it does not succeed quite as well as Tommy in that Jimmy, just a kid with a load of neurosis, is not as interesting as a new deaf, dumb and blind messiah who's a pinball wizard to boot.

In short, "Quadrophenia" is a series of ups and downs. At its best, as in "5:15" and "Sea and Sand," the Who play with the excitement of their best work but at its worst it is boring drudgery. Townshend again turns in a great effort as the group's lead guitarist while Keith Moon's maniacal drumming still somehow manages to blend nicely with John Entwistle's bass. Roger Daltry has sung better, in fact I would say this is the most uneven vocals I have ever heard from him. Perhaps it is his vocals which make some of the songs fail but he shines on enough cuts to keep me from writing him off completely.

If you liked "Tommy," you'll probably like this one, but if you have been spoiled by "Who's Next" "Quadrophenia" may come as a disappointment.

Thanks to Donnie and Mike of Budget Tapes and Records for the album for this review.

Meat Judges Take First Nationwide

A&M's senior meat judging team took first place in Kansas City Sunday from over 18 teams from throughout the nation.

Daryl Tatum, David Graf, Joe Behens, James Ratham, Ricky Marbach, Steve Jackson, Gary Jennings and Johnny Paugh qualified for judging.

Members of the Saddle and Sirolo Club beat the second place team, Kansas State, by 69 points. Tatum was overall high man and first in grading. Behrens and Ratham helped the team with its third and fourth places respectively and Ratham added to his honors by taking a first in pork judging.

The team will travel to Timberville, Va., this week and visit Madison, Wis. the following week. The team has a 4-0 record.

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