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INFORMATION

Friday, February 9, 1968  
8:10 a.m.

Mr. President:

In the midst of all this, Hanoi has just put out another Trinh interview in which they are more explicit than ever before about "promptly."

*But there is still plenty  
of ambiguity*

W. W. Rostow

FBIS 86

WWRostow:rlh

*Pres file*

TRINH INTERVIEW

HANOI VNA INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH 1445 GMT 8 FEB 68 B

(TEXT) HANOI--NGUYEN DUY TRINH, DRV FOREIGN MINISTER, TODAY GRANTED AN INTERVIEW (WORDS INDISTINCT), AFP SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN HANOI. FOLLOWING ARE THE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

QUESTION: THE VIETNAM WAR IS UNDERGOING NEW DEVELOPMENTS WITH THE PRESENT EVENTS IN SOUTH VIETNAM. WHAT ARE, IN THIS NEW (WORDS INDISTINCT), SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT?

ANSWER: IN ITS WAR OF AGGRESSION IN VIETNAM, THE UNITED STATES HAS GONE FROM DEFEAT TO DEFEAT, AND HAS BEEN DRIVEN INTO THE QUAGMIRE WITHOUT ANY HOPE OF GETTING OUT OF IT. OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS HZ PATRIOTIC ARMED FORCES IN THE SOUTH, ALONG WITH THE ?MASS) UPRISING OF MILLIOS OF PEOPLE, (?HAVE) LAUNCHZD (WORDS INDISTINCT) CORRECTLY COORDINATED ATTACKS THROUGHOUT SOUTH VIETNAM, WIPING OUT MANY ENEMY EFFECTIVELY, CONTROLLING SEVERAL CITIES AND NUMEROUS PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT TOWNS, AND LIBERATING IDE RURAL AREAS. THE ADMINISTRATIVE APPARATUS OF THZ PUPPET REGIME IS OLLAPSING AND THE PUPPET ARMY IS DISINTEGRATING BY BIG CHUNKS.

THE MARVELOUS FEAT OF THE HEROIC SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE HAS FILLED OUR ENTIRE PEOPLE WITH GREAT ENTHUSASM AND JUST PRIDE. IT HAS RECEIVED A WARM TRIBUTE FROM THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD.

SEETHING WITH HATRED AT THE MONSTROUS CRIMES OF THE U.S. AGGRESSORS AND THE THIEU KY TRAITOR CLIQUE, THE WHOLE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE, UNITED AS ONE MAN, ARE DETERMINED TO FORGE AHEAD IN THE IMPETUS OF THEIR VICTORIES AND TO CARRY ON THEIR FIGHT UNTIL COMPLETE REALIZATION OF THEIR SACRED NATIONAL RIGHTS.

(?THE POSITION OF OUR) PEOPLE IN THE SETTLEMENT OF THE VIETNAM PROBLEM (?IS VERY CLEAR): (PASSAGE INDISTINCT) FOR AGGRESSION AGAINST VIETNAM, IT MUST END THE AGGRESSION AND WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS FROM VIETNAM. THAT IS THE SPIRIT OF THE FOUR POINTS OF THE DRV GOVERNMENT AND THE POLITICAL PROGRAM OF THE NFLSV, WHICH CONFORM TO THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND THE MAIN CLAUSES OF THE 1954 GENEVA AGREEMENTS ON VIETNAM.

**PRESERVATION COPY**

IN MY 28 JANUARY 1967 STATEMENT, WHICH WAS FURTHER CLARIFIED BY THAT OF 29 DECEMBER LAST, I CLEARLY INDICATED THE WAY TO TALKS BETWEEN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND THE UNITED STATES. BROAD SECTIONS (70% OF WORLD PUBLIC) OPINION HAVE WARMLY HAILED OUR JUST POSITION AND SERIOUS ATTITUDE, BUT THE BELLICOSE U.S. RULING CIRCLES OBSTINATELY PERSIST IN THEIR AGGRESSIVE DESIGNS. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CLAIMS TO BE EXPLORING AND TRYING TO UNDERSTAND THE POSITION OF HANOI. IN FACT THAT IS A MANEUVER TO SOOTHE PUBLIC OPINION AND COVER UP ITS ATTEMPTS FOR CONTINUED ESCALATION OF THE AGGRESSIVE WAR IN VIETNAM. THE SO-CALLED SAN ANTONIO FORMULA IS BUT THE THEME OF A CONDITIONAL HALT IN THE BOMBING. OBVIOUSLY, THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT SERIOUSLY WANT TALKS TO SETTLE THE VIETNAM PROBLEM. IT MUST BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS OBSTINACY.

QUESTION: IN YOUR 29 DECEMBER 1967 SPEECH, YOU STATED IN PART: AFTER THE UNCONDITIONAL CESSATION OF THE BOMBINGS AND ALL OTHER ACTS OF WAR AGAINST THE DRV, THE DRV WILL HOLD TALKS WITH THE UNITED STATES ON RELEVANT PROBLEMS. WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY RELEVANT PROBLEMS?

ANSWER: THEY ARE QUESTIONS RELATED TO A SETTLEMENT OF THE VIETNAM PROBLEM ON THE BASIS OF THE 1954 GENEVA AGREEMENTS ON VIETNAM. THEY ARE ALSO OTHER QUESTIONS WHICH (WORDS INDISTINCT) BE RAISED BY EITHER SIDE.

QUESTION IT HAS BEEN SUBSEQUENTLY CLARIFIED THAT THE TALKS CAN BEGIN AFTER AN APPROPRIATE TIME FOLLOWING THE UNCONDITIONAL CESSATION OF THE BOMBINGS AND ALL OTHER ACTS OF WAR AGAINST THE DRV. COULD YOU CLARIFY FURTHER THE MEANING OF APPROPRIATE TIME?

ANSWER: THE TALKS WILL BEGIN AS SOON AS THE UNITED STATES HAS PROVED THAT IT HAS REALLY STOPPED UNCONDITIONALLY THE BOMBINGS AND ALL OTHER ACTS OF WAR AGAINST THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.

3 FEB 1921Z CF/WP

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