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The American public and even a number of persons in the ruling circles have exposed the war as deceitful and hold that it is important to withdraw not only 60,000 but also the 500,000 U.S. troops still staying in South Vietnam.

The paper continued: It is not fortuitous that the struggle against the U.S. aggressive war in Vietnam is constantly mounting in the U.S. The American people would certainly continue to struggle on until the Nixon clique stop their aggression in Vietnam, rapidly bring home all U.S. troops, and respect the sacred national rights of the Vietnamese people.

The vigorous struggle of the American people is causing panic to the U.S. ruling circles, Nixon and company are seeking every way and means to soothe down the movement. But all the deceitful and repressive acts of the Nixon clique only expose further their stubborn nature and isolation.

The American people have realized more and more clearly that the U.S. war of aggression against Vietnam is [word indistinct] and immoral war which is running counter to the interests of the United States.

The paper stressed: The American people, by holding high the banner of justice, persistently and vigorously struggling to check the criminal hands of the (?U.S. ruling circles) and smash their deceptive contentions, will certainly win glorious victory.

The Vietnamese people, acting upon President Ho Chi Minh's testament, persevering in and stepping up their fight against the U.S. aggressors, will certainly obtain ever greater victories and final victory. This is a strong backing provided by the Vietnamese people for the just struggle of the progressive people in the United States.

We shall win! The U.S. aggressors will be defeated!

CHIEN BINH: U.S. WAR PLANS SUFFER SETBACKS

Hanoi In Vietnamese to South Vietnam 0330 GMT 16 Oct 69 S

[Undated Chien Binh commentary in QUAN DOI NHAN DAN: "The U.S. aggressors have been continuously defeated in defense"]

[Text] When he assumed the U.S. Presidency early this year, Nixon had to take over the utterly messy heritage left over by Johnson in the war of aggression in Vietnam, the U.S. limited war strategy had sustained strategic setbacks. The more than 1.2 million U.S. puppet, and satellite troops had had to abandon the offensive strategy, being compelled to definitely retreat into a defensive position on all battlefields.

The war of destruction against the north, an important part of the U.S. limited war strategy, had been completely defeated. The Americans had had to rule out the possibility of winning a military victory as a principle for settling the Vietnam war and had to hold the four-sided Paris conference. In short, this was a "the American-have-been-obviously-defeated" heritage.

But, being very stubborn by nature, Nixon has not yet agreed to renounce his evil aggressive designs. His so-called new Vietnam policy consists in essence in continuing to maintain the U.S. neocolonialist policy of aggression in South Vietnam. He formulated and has enforced the policy of "taking the initiative in de-escalating from a position of strength and gradually de-Americanizing the war" in order to overcome difficulties and limit U.S. defeats while prosecuting the U.S. aggressive scheme in South Vietnam.

Realities emerging from the battlefield over the past 9 months, that is, since Nixon assumed the Presidency and took over the conduct of the war of aggression, have proven that his new plan has failed to help the Americans remedy their defeats. On the other hand, their military situation has continued to deteriorate irreversibly. In the recent past, the U.S. expeditionary army has striven to consolidate its defense system in the hope of stabilizing its defensive position on the battlefield.

Nixon knows only too well that if the Americans fail in their effort to stabilize their defensive position, the plan to consolidate the puppet army and administration and the plan to extend control over the densely populated areas and the strategically important areas with a view to gradually de-Americanizing the war of aggression--in short, the Nixon-formulated aggressive plan as a whole--can in no way be implemented but the situation has developed contrary to Nixon's expectation. Over the past 9 months, the U.S. defense system has been unable to prevent the southern armed forces and people from repeatedly unleashing many waves of large-scale vigorous, and continuous attacks in February, May, June, and August, in coordination with the increasingly widespread, vigorous development of guerrilla warfare. These repeated attacks have vigorously shaken the whole U.S. defense system.

The PIAF's resounding victories on various battlefields from Quang Tri to Ca Mau and from the highlands to the central Trung Bo coastal areas, especially in the Tri-Thien and Da Nang areas and in the Tay Ninh, Binh Long, Phuoc Long, and Long Khanh areas--which form the northern and northwestern gates to Saigon--have not only inflicted serious losses on the Americans and puppets, but also have created very serious problems for them.

Faced with the southern armed forces' and people's offensive thrust, the U.S. aggressors have had to repeatedly modify their reaction methods. But they have been unable to remedy their situation. Through Nixon's 9-month conduct of the war, the U.S. defensive positions have remained highly passive and unstable. The U.S.-erected defense belts, including the most heavily fortified ones directly manned by U.S. troops, have been repeatedly breached along the crucial sections.

The Americans and puppets have concentrated their forces on defending three areas--Saigon-Cholon, Da Nang, and Tri-Thien-Hue. But the fact is that the defense systems in these areas have been attacked most vigorously. The U.S. defense line in Saigon-Cholon, especially the inner and outer-most belts, has been regularly attacked and vigorously shaken. The defense line in Da Nang has been regularly threatened. Along the Tri-Thien defense line, the Americans have had to shrink and their forces have been obviously weakened.

The strength of U.S. mobile combat forces has seriously declined. The U.S. Air Cavalry Division--which once served as the strategic mobile unit on all battlefields and, subsequently, as the mobile unit in the 3d Tactical Region--has now been pinned down in defensive positions in the three provinces north and northwest of Saigon.

The Americal Division has sustained very serious losses. The 101st Airborne Division has been thinly spread and deployed in a disorderly fashion to cope with the situation. Faced with our attacks, the U.S. troops have concerned themselves mainly with on-the-spot reaction.

The main tactics adopted by the Americans in implementing their defense plan consist of deploying combined troop concentrations and conducting operations aimed at upsetting the enemy's preparations for launching attacks. But a series of battalion-sized troop concentrations have been repeatedly annihilated along their most heavily fortified belt in the Saigon-Cholon area, and the Americans have been unable to check the PLAF's attacks. This proves that the main defense tactics adopted by the Americans have failed.

To create conditions for the Americans to implement the plan "to take the initiative in de-escalating from a position of strength and gradually Vietnamizing the war," Nixon ordered Abrams to try by every means to carry out these three missions: to take every step to reduce U.S. casualties, to strengthen the puppet army, and to exert maximum military pressure on the battlefield in coordination with the diplomatic trick of demanding mutual troop withdrawal, in order to weaken the enemy.

Over the past 9 months, Abrams has urgently adopted a series of measures, intensifying the activities of the air force, artillery, and tanks and employing more firepower than assault forces in combat. According to the statistical data published in American papers, the volume of bombs by B-52's alone from early this year to the middle of August exceeded the total volume of bombs dropped on South Vietnam by U.S. aircraft of various types in the whole of 1968.

The Americans have expeditiously reequipped the puppet army, urging the Saigon Brackets to feverishly step up conscription. The Americans have conducted many maximum-pressure operations. But all these U.S. efforts have failed.

The U.S. troop casualty toll has not dropped. On the other hand, it has remained seriously high. Some 400,000 enemy, including 170,000 U.S. troops, have been put out of action since early this year. Even the statistical data revealed by American papers have shown that through Nixon's conduct of the war, the U.S. casualty toll has increased by 30 percent, compared with that recorded during the Johnson period.

Despite the fact that the puppet army has been supplemented with a number of civil self-defense corpsmen and has been provided with some additional equipment, this lackey army has become even more ramshackle. More than 70 percent of the strength of puppet army units are new recruits who have received only rapid training. As a result, the quality of puppet troops has increasingly declined. Moreover, puppet troops have sustained very serious losses, especially in the pilot de-Americanization areas, namely, those in the highlands and the Nam Bo Delta. The average monthly number of puppet troops annihilated or reported as deserting is 40,000.

AP on 4 October admitted: "The number of allied troops killed in action in the recent past has shown that the Saigon army's death toll has constantly risen, especially during the past 4 months when the U.S. command has laid emphasis on Vietnamizing the war."

Battlefield realities have bared the sheer illusory nature of the U.S. policy of exerting maximum military pressure in order to "weaken the Viet Cong." U.S. pressure operations, namely that conducted in A Bia, have become "suicidal, senseless, and irresponsible operations in which Americans troops have become sitting ducks at the gunpoints of the hunters--the communists," according to AP on 26 May. As American papers have pointed out, these operations have increased U.S. casualties so drastically that Abrams recently had to speak of "prudent self-defense reaction."

The U.S.-puppets' serious failures have greatly impeded and stalemated Nixon's active de-escalation from a strong position and gradual de-Americanization of the Vietnam war. Nixon wants to actively de-escalate the war, but he finds himself in an extremely passive position. As everybody still remembers, at the 19 June press conference, Nixon declared he would carry out a faster troop withdrawal plan than Clifford's. (Clifford's plan consisted of withdrawing 100,000 U.S. troops before the end of 1969, and all U.S. combat troops before the end of 1970)

However, Nixon could not achieve what he said. Through his two statements, he could only decide to withdraw 60,000 U.S. troops by the end of 1969. Nixon finds himself in a passive, stalemated position because the puppet troops are not as strong as Nixon expected in his plan; his diplomatic plan for peace can deceive no one as it is bankrupt and, therefore, cannot support his military plan; his difficulties are not decreasing but instead, are increasing. Time is not on his side. The U.S. people have increasingly opposed him. He wants to create a "definitely strong position."

However, after 9 months in which they conducted the war, the U.S.-puppets' situation on the battlefield is becoming worse and their position increasingly weaker; the U.S.-puppet defense is becoming increasingly passive, weaker, and is fraught with shortcomings. The U.S.-puppet troops' combat efficiency in defense is low. U.S. troops' morale has become a "great problem" and, "if Nixon delays withdrawing troops, uprisings in the army may become worse," according to THE STAR of 26 August. The puppets have been dealt increasingly serious blows. De-Americanization experiences have only made Nixon grow more anxious.

Meanwhile, the military and political forces of the South Vietnamese revolution continue to develop strongly. Their quality is increasingly high. They can fight strongly and protractedly. Reviewing the war situation in recent months, even U.S. newspapers have had to admit heavy U.S. defeats. The papers have also admitted that "the Viet Cong have proved capable of fighting the Americans for another 30 years," according to AP on 14 August.

In the past 9 months, the war situation has gone from bad to worse [words indistinct] the Americans have adjusted their military objectives and strategy. The U.S. aggressors have been unable to prevent their decline ever since their defeat of strategic significance in the great general offensive of the southern troops and people in early spring of Mau Than.

LAOTIANS' REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE LAUDED

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1450 GMT 12 Oct 69 B

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 12 October editorial: "The Laotian people's revolutionary struggle will certainly win"]

[Text] On 12 October 1945, Laos declared its independence after an uprising of the entire Laotian people, breaking away from the domination of the Japanese fascists and their hirelings. This historic day is an important turning point marking a phase of glorious victory in the Laotian people's revolutionary struggle against imperialist aggression and colonialism to gain independence and unification for their country.