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IV. PRG JOINS DRV IN REJECTING
SECRETARY LAIRD'S STATEMENT

(Liberation Radio, clandestine, in Vietnamese to South Viet Nam, 0500 GMT, 17 November 1970)

(The Republic of South Viet Nam Provisional Revolutionary Government Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement on Secretary Laird's 13 November statement)

On 13 November 1970, after the northern armed forces and people had downed a U.S. spy aircraft in the DRV airspace, U.S. Defense Secretary Laird declared that the United States was "ready to take appropriate action in response to the firing at U.S. aircraft flying over North Viet Nam, to every important infiltration through the demilitarized zone, and to the shelling of South Vietnamese cities." This is an extremely warlike and insolent statement, which exposed the Americans' stubborn, aggressive nature.

As everyone knows, faced with serious defeats in the war of aggression in Viet Nam, protested against by the American people, and condemned by the world's peoples, in November 1968, the Americans were compelled to unconditionally end their war of destruction against the DRV. However, since then, U.S. has continued to send aircraft to regularly carry out spying activities over North Viet Nam and to bomb and strafe many localities in the North, thus brazenly encroaching upon the DRV's independence, sovereignty, and security. At the same time, the Americans have intensively prolonged the war of aggression in South Viet Nam through Vietnamization and have piled up more bloody crimes throughout South Viet Nam--in the mountain, rural, delta, and urban areas.

The Vietnamese people have punished the U.S. aggressive acts in Viet Nam. This is a just action, which fully conforms with a people's sacred right to self-defense. Arrogating the right to carry out espionage activities against the DRV and to freely occupy South Vietnamese cities and demanding that the Vietnamese people refrain from countering these U.S. acts, Laird's statement was at complete variance with international law and constitutes an insolent challenge to the Vietnamese people and to all peace-and justice-loving forces in the world.

The South Vietnamese people and the PRG fully and unanimously agree with the DRV Foreign Ministry spokesman's 14 November statement vehemently condemning Secretary Laird's statement.

For the struggle to liberate the South, to protect the North, and to proceed toward peaceful reunification of the fatherland, the South Vietnamese people are determined to persevere in and step up their sacred anti-U.S. national salvation resistance, to launch even more vigorous attacks against the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys, and to compel the Americans to end their aggression and to unconditionally withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam. No threat can shake the iron-firm determination of the South Vietnamese armed forces and people. None of the Americans' adventurous military acts against the DRV can avoid being appropriately punished by the armed forces and people in both parts of the country, nor can these acts save the Americans from total defeat in their war of aggression in South Viet Nam.

South Viet Nam, 16 November 1970