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## GREAT VICTORIES MARKED THIS LAST OCTOBER

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Last October, with the momentum of past success, the troops and the people of the North fought continuously and won continuously. From the first to 31st of October they shot down 45 enemy planes and six times they sank or damaged enemy warships and spyships. On 26 October, heroic Vinh Linh won a brilliant victory by damaging the big warship New Jersey.

The people's armed forces of Quang Binh, Vinh Linh, Ha Tinh, Nghe An, Thang Hoa, Haiphong, Vinh Phu, and Ha Tay used many ingenious strategies, defeating the enemy under all circumstances and severely punishing American air pirates and sea pirates. During the first days of the month, about ten American planes including F-105, F-4, RF-4C, A-4, A-6, and L-19 were destroyed. Two were shot down at night. Three American warships and spyships were damaged or sunk. On nine October, Vinh Linh achieved a great exploit by shooting down a reconnaissance plane F-19 with only four anti-aircraft rounds. This was the 3,200th American plane shot down in the North.

On 16 October, the heroic troops of Con Co Island fought bravely and with coordination. They shot down three American planes within one hour and received a letter from President Ho praising their exploit.

More significant, from 20 to 24 October, the troops and the people of the North scored many victories and shot down 19 American planes, an average of four planes per day. Of these nine were shot down by Quang Binh alone. The 20th was the most glorious day of the month. In one morning, Vinh Linh, Quang Binh, and Haiphong shot down seven American planes, and the troops of Con Co shot down an F-4 and a helicopter. Some of these craft were brought down with only

six bullets. The people's troops of Ha Tinh and Quang Binh distinguished themselves by shooting down six American planes during the three days of 20, 21, and 22 October. Some of these planes crashed down on-spot. This was the most successful period for rifles since December 1967. On 21 October, with its skill and genius the militia unit of village L., Cam Xuyen district (Ha Tinh), shot down an F-4 with only ten rifle bullets and shot down an RF-4C reconnaissance plane with only 34 machine gun bullets, bringing the number of American planes destroyed by Quang Binh militia to 100. On 22 October, the militia of the two districts of Bo Trach and Tuyen Hoa (Quang Binh) shot down three American planes within 50 minutes. This was the most successful day for the militia of the province. Of these planes, two F-4 were downed by the militia of two villages in Tuyen Hoa district and one of these two by female militia of village T. The following day (23 October) the troops of the North again punished American criminals by shooting down five planes. Of these, two were downed by Ha Tinh.

During the month of October the troops and the people of Military Region Four exhibited a spirit of courage and skillfully coordinated the local armed forces. They shot down 38 planes, bringing the number of American planes shot down in this Military Region Four to 1,456. They also sunk or damaged five American and rebel warships and spy ships. The armed forces of Military Region Four were closely united with the people and had a very strong determination to fight, to win, and to overcome all difficulties and hardships. They won many great victories. They shot down many American planes with a minimum number of bullets. On 20 October, many great battles took place in the military region. Vinh Linh, Con Co, Quang Binh, and Ha Tinh shot down American planes and damaged American ships including the big warship New Jersey, which was damaged by the artillery unit of Vinh Linh. The troops of Military Region Four are not only skillful fighters, but their performance in communications and transportation, as well as their work in civil defense, combined with their service to production and to the front line, were excellent. They truly deserved the high praise of the supreme command of the Vietnamese people's troops.

Emulating with the troops and people of Military Region Four, the troops and people of Thanh Hoa, Hanoi, Haiphong, Ha Tay, and Vinh Phu, with the people's air defense troops, shot down seven American unmanned reconnaissance planes as soon as they intruded into our air space.

In spite of heavy losses Americans are very obstinate and have not given up their plan of aggression against our country. The troops and people of the North exhibit a high spirit of combativeness, sharpen their sword of awareness, are prepared to destroy all the new schemes of the enemy, and join force with the people of the South to completely defeat American imperialists.

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