

STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF REGARDING THE UNCONDITIONAL CESSATION OF OF THE DEMOCRATIC

12/68

OVER the past fourteen years, in disregard of its pledge concerning the Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam, the United States has carried out an unceasing intervention and an aggression against the southern part of our country in an attempt to turn it into a U.S. neo-colony and military base and to prolong the partition of Viet Nam. Since the beginning of 1965, it has sent in a U.S. expeditionary corps and satellite troops to intensify the war of aggression in South Viet Nam; at the same time it has carried out air and naval bombardments against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in the hope of retrieving its defeats and extricating itself from the quagmire in the South and subduing the Vietnamese people.

Under the clear-sighted leadership of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, our southern compatriots have fought with admirable heroism, repeatedly dealt heavy blows at the enemy, recorded ever greater victories, especially since the general offensive and simultaneous uprisings of spring 1968, driving the U.S. imperialists deeply into a passive and defensive position, and further shaking the puppet administration and army.

The people in North Viet Nam have carried out a heroic fight against the war of destruction waged by the U.S. imperialists; the latter have thus failed to attain the objectives of this war, and have suffered very serious setbacks, losing over 3,200 modern aircraft. In the midst of war, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has continued to grow up, her economic and military potentials have been unceasingly strengthened, and the bloc of national unity has become more solid than ever.

The fraternal socialist countries, the peace-loving peoples in the world and the progressive people in the United States are standing on the side of justice, and resolutely supporting the Vietnamese people against the aggression of the U.S. imperialists, thus making them more and more isolated.

Confronted with an irretrievable situation in Viet Nam and big difficulties arising from the Viet Nam war, and under the pressure of world and American opinion, the U.S. Government has been compelled to declare a total cessation of air, naval and artillery bombardments against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

The fact that the United States has had to stop unconditionally the bombardments on the entire

territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam after piling up in four years monstrous crimes against the people in the North, and after blocking the Paris conversations for five months constitutes a great victory of the Vietnamese people in both zones. It is also a great victory of the socialist camp, the national liberation movement and the peace movement, a great victory of the people throughout the world including the progressive people in the United States.

After the unconditional cessation of U.S. bombardments on the entire territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam will discuss with the U.S. side "other problems of concern to the two sides" with a view to finding a political solution to the Viet Nam problem. In agreement with the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam declares its readiness to participate in a conference comprising the representatives of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the representatives of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the representatives of the United States and the representatives of the Saigon administration. The presence of the representatives of the Saigon administration at this conference does not mean that the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam recognizes that administration.

The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation is the organizer and leader of the South Vietnamese people in the struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation; it has liberated four-fifths of the South Viet Nam territory with over ten million inhabitants; it possesses mighty armed forces, and enjoys great prestige at home and abroad. It is the genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people; it is competent to settle all problems concerning South Viet Nam.

It is clear that the present Saigon administration is an instrument of the U.S. imperialist aggressors for carrying out neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam. It is pursuing a policy which runs counter to all legitimate aspirations of the South Vietnamese people. It represents nobody.

The stand of the Vietnamese people on a settlement of the Viet Nam problem is the four points



THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

U. S. BOMBARDMENTS ON THE ENTIRE TERRITORY REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation. That is a stand for independence and peace, consistent with the fundamental principles of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Vietnamese people firmly demand that the United States stop the war of aggression in Viet Nam, and give up for good all encroachments on the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. They firmly demand that the United States withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, liquidate all U.S. military bases there, and let the South Vietnamese people settle themselves their own affairs in accordance with the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, without foreign interference.

To reach a correct political settlement of the Viet Nam problem, the U.S. Government should give up all schemes of intervention and aggression against Viet Nam, and respect the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights. So long as the United States pursues its aggression against Viet Nam, the Vietnamese people will fight on till total victory.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam warmly commends the compatriots throughout the country who, united as one man, have fought with boundless heroism and recorded glorious victories. The fact that the United States has had to stop unconditionally the bombardments on the entire territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam constitutes a big victory, but it is only an initial victory in our entire people's struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation. The heavier the U.S. imperialists' defeats, the greater their cruelty and perfidy. They are still threatening North Viet Nam, intensifying their aggression against South Viet Nam and daily committing new crimes against our southern countrymen. The entire Vietnamese people are resolved to strengthen their unity, to heighten their vigilance, to overcome all hardships and sacrifices, to fight and to defeat the enemy in response to the appeal of President Ho Chi Minh and that of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation with a view to liberating the South, defending the

North, advancing toward the peaceful reunification of the country and contributing to the maintenance of peace in Asia and the world.

Let the armed forces and people of North Viet Nam develop their glorious fighting tradition, stand ready to smash all schemes of the U.S. imperialists against the North, and make every effort to fulfil the obligations of the great rear to the great front, thus making the North worthy of its role as the revolutionary base of the entire country!

Let our heroic South Vietnamese countrymen enhance their position of victory and strength in the period of general offensive and uprising, level all difficulties and obstacles, and resolutely fight to win total victory, build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam, and proceed toward the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam expresses its deep gratitude to the fraternal socialist countries, the peace- and justice-loving governments and peoples, the progressive people in the United States and the democratic organizations in the world for having constantly supported and assisted the Vietnamese people in their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam calls on brothers and friends all over the five continents to increase their support and assistance to the Vietnamese people till total victory, and to wage a resolute struggle to demand that the United States stop its aggression against Viet Nam, give up for good all encroachments on the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, liquidate all U.S. military bases there, and let the South Vietnamese people settle themselves their own affairs in accordance with the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, without foreign interference.

**The Vietnamese people will surely be victorious !
The U.S. imperialist aggressors will inevitably be
defeated !**

**Long live peaceful, reunified, independent, de-
mocratic and prosperous Viet Nam !**

Hanoi, November 2, 1968

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STATEMENT BY THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE ON THE POLITICAL SETTLEMENT OF

FOR fourteen years now, in an attempt to materialize their scheme to turn South Viet Nam into a neo-colony and military base of the U.S., the U.S. imperialists have carried out a policy of aggression, the most ruthless in history, against the Vietnamese people, grossly trampling on the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam which have been recognized by the 1954 Geneva Agreements.

The U.S. imperialists have rigged up in South Viet Nam an extremely brutal puppet regime, and have tried by steel and fire to impose their domination on the South Vietnamese people.

However, united millions as one, the South Vietnamese people have risen up valiantly and have fought hard and perseveringly against the aggressors and the traitors. Under the glorious banner of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and with the wholehearted assistance of their compatriots in North Viet Nam and the firm and strong sympathy and support of friendly governments and of the whole world's people, the South Vietnamese people have repeatedly won ever bigger victories in their sacred war of resistance.

In an attempt to stave off their complete collapse, the U.S. imperialists have massively sent U.S. expeditionary troops for direct aggression against South Viet Nam, while conducting a war of destruction against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, thus perpetrating innumerable savage crimes everywhere in both zones of Viet Nam.

But, no brutal force can save the the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen from ignominious failures.

Fighting with matchless heroism, the armed forces and people in North Viet Nam have shot down over 3,200 U.S. aircraft, defeating the U.S. war of destruction and fulfilling its duty as the great rear to the great front.

The armed forces and people in South Viet Nam have foiled all the U.S. plans to intensify its war of aggression and, since early Spring this year, have been attacking and rising up continually and simultaneously, dealing thunder blows at the U.S.-puppets right in their hideouts, recording unprecedented big victories in all fields, changing the war situation and further driving the U.S.-puppets into a position of passiveness and collapse from which it is impossible for them to get up.

In face of the valiant and unflagging struggle and the victories of great significance in all fields of the armed forces and people throughout our country, and in face of the strong demand of the world's people including progressive people in the United States, the U.S. government has been compelled to agree to and effect an unconditional cessa-

tion of the bombardments on the whole territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. This is an extremely great victory of the people in all of Viet Nam and of the peace-loving people in the world.

This, however, does not mean that the U.S. imperialists have as yet given up their aggressive design against Viet Nam. They are obdurately stepping up their war in South Viet Nam and clinging to the puppet administration in the hope of maintaining their neo-colonialist rule in South Viet Nam and prolonging the partition of Viet Nam. They are stubbornly carrying on acts of encroachment on the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. They keep demanding a price for their stopping the war of destruction in North Viet Nam.

The South Vietnamese people and the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation resolutely demand that the U.S. **stop for good** all acts of encroachment on the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, put an end to its war of aggression in South Viet Nam, carry out all its pledges at the 1954 Geneva Conference on Viet Nam, and respect the imprescriptible national rights of the South Vietnamese people.

The South Vietnamese people cherish peace. But that must be a peace in independence and freedom. Representing this aspiration and resolve, and basing itself on its Political Programme, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation solemnly declares its stand regarding the political settlement of the South Viet Nam problem as follows:

1. South Viet Nam is resolved to struggle for the materialization of its sacred rights, namely independence, democracy, peace, neutrality, prosperity, and ultimate peaceful reunification of the Fatherland.
2. The U.S. imperialists must put an end to their war of aggression against Viet Nam, withdraw all their troops and troops of their satellites and all war means from South Viet Nam, and liquidate all U.S. military bases in South Viet Nam.
3. The internal affairs of the South Vietnamese people must be settled by the South Vietnamese people themselves in accordance with the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, without foreign interference; a broad national and democratic coalition government is to be set up and free general elections are to be held, in South Viet Nam.
4. The reunification of Viet Nam will be decided by the people in the two zones of Viet Nam, step by step, by peaceful means and on the basis of consultations and agreement between the two zones, without foreign interference.

As long as there is a single aggressor in our country, we must fight on to wipe him out.

Let our compatriots and fighters in the heroic South, under the glorious banner of the **National Front for Liberation**, unremittingly carry on their offensive and uprisings and resolutely march forward and win complete victory!

Let the armed forces and people in the North resolutely strive in the patriotic emulation to build socialism and fulfil their duty to their blood-sealed Southern compatriots! Let them always sharpen their vigilance, enhance their sense of self-reliance, and increase their strength and their preparedness in order to foil all new schemes of the enemy.

We believe that our people's struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation will enjoy ever stronger sympathy, support and assistance from the peoples of the fraternal countries and the peoples throughout the world including the progressive people in the United States.

Having gone through nearly one hundred years of colonialist yoke and more than twenty years of resistance to aggressive wars of imperialism, our people, more than anyone else, ardently cherish peace for national construction. But that must be **genuine peace in independence and freedom.**

For that reason, we firmly demand that:

— The U.S. Government put an end to its war of aggression against Viet Nam, renounce for good all acts of encroachment on the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam;

— All U.S. and satellite troops be withdrawn from South Viet Nam;

— The internal affairs of South Viet Nam be settled by the South Vietnamese people themselves in accordance with the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, without foreign interference;

— The reunification of Viet Nam be settled by the people of the two zones — South and North — without foreign interference.

Dear compatriots and fighters,

Ahead of us still lie many hardships and sacrifices. But our people's great struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation is vigorously advancing toward victory. The Fatherland is exhorting us to march on with a high mettle and completely defeat the U.S. aggressors!

The U.S. imperialists will surely be defeated!

Our people will surely win!

November 3, 1968