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PAPER HAILS 25 NOVEMBER SONG MAO VICTORY

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[Text] Hanoi VNA December 1st--The Hanoi daily QUANG DOI NHAN DAN (PEOPLE'S ARMY) today warmly hailed the brilliant feat-of-arms of the P.L.A.F. in Binh Thuan Province who stormed the Song Mao military base on the night of November 25, wiping out all the enemy garrison composed of more than 1,000 U.S. and puppet soldiers.

Song Mao was an important position lying deep in the area under U.S.-puppet control, and defended by a strong infantry and armour force which was moreover supported by a detachment of the U.S. Air Mobile Cavalry Division.

During one hour after smashing their war into the base, the P.L.A.F. ranged freely, attacking both American and puppet troops, both infantry, artillery and mechanized units, completely wiping out a large live force of the enemy and destroying large quantities of his war materials. Among the enemy losses were one regimental command, one battalion and one infantry company, one squadron and one group of armour of the 44th Regiment of the puppet 23rd Division, one U.S. Air Cavalry company and more than 30 American advisers and technicians. The P.L.A.F. wrecked 4 artillery pieces, many storages and barracks, and seized a great deal of weaponry.

QUANG DOI NHAN DAN said: Following heavy setbacks they have sustained on all battlefronts in the southern part of central Vietnam since early spring this year, the U.S. aggressors have been exerting every effort to create a solid jumping-off place in Binh Thuan to pre-empt P.L.A.F. attacks. They threw into the area part of the U.S. Air Mobile Cavalry Division to join the puppet forces in carrying out clear and hold strategy and the so-called accelerated pacification program in the province. But, steadily developing their offensive, the P.L.A.F. have launched repeated attacks on Phan Thiet, the province capital, and the towns of Phan Ri and Phu Long, the headquarters of the Binh Thuan military sector and the Hoa Da military sub-sector...the population in many localities have risen up to break the enemy's control. The liberated zone has extended day after day and the people's revolutionary power has been strengthened. The U.S. aggressors could neither sweep the revolutionary forces nor provide security for their bases in Binh Thuan and the other provinces in the southern part of central Vietnam.