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PLAF COMMAND ISSUES 11TH SPECIAL COMMUNIQUE

Liberation Radio (Clandestine) in Vietnamese to South Vietnam 1330 GMT 22 Dec 68 S

[PLAF Command's Special Communique No 11]

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12-68

[Text] In the enthusiastic atmosphere of the year-end days glowing with feats of arms with which to greet the NLF's eighth anniversary, our entire country is resounding to the magnificent epic of a year of general offensive and concerted uprisings which have shaken mountains and rivers and the entire world, a year of valiant struggle and glorious victories of our people who are determined to defeat U.S. aggression, an extremely great year in the heroic Vietnamese nation's antiaggression history.

On this occasion, our South Vietnam respectfully presents to President Ho the glorious achievements of a year of general offensive and concerted uprisings, the achievements filled with the truth that "nothing is more precious than independence and freedom." On the same occasion, our South Vietnam has the honor to report to all compatriots nationwide and all friends worldwide the news of victories overflowing with kith and kin north-south affection and noble international spirit. In 1968, more than ever, our southern armed forces and people scored great and overall victories. In the military field, according to still incomplete reports, we killed, wounded, or captured 630,000 enemy troops including more than 230,000 U.S. aggressors and satellite troops. In addition, tens of thousands of puppet troops deserted their ranks.

We annihilated or decimated a brigade, seven regiments or battle groups, and 187 battalions, destroyed 18 armored units and more than 750 U.S., puppet, and satellite companies, downed, destroyed or damaged 6,000 aircraft of various types, wrecked or damaged 13,500 military vehicles including more than 7,000 tanks or armored trucks, sank or set ablaze 1,000 battleships and transport vessels including 40 vessels of 10,000 or more tons. We destroyed more than 1,100 artillery pieces, burned more than 700 ammunition or gasoline depots, destroyed more than 700 bridges or sewers, and demolished or forced the surrender of more than 1,500 posts or military subsectors.

These achievements exceeded the total of comprehensive achievements in 1966 and 1967. The number of U.S. troops killed during this year is almost equal to the total of U.S. troops killed in 7 years, from 1961 to 1967. These figures themselves demonstrate the tremendous achievements of our armed forces and people during a great historic year. These achievements are more significant in the sense that they were scored by our armed forces and people at a moment when the enemy could have at his disposal more than 1 million U.S., puppet, and satellite troops and most of the enemy's seasoned army units suffered casualties amounting to 50 percent of its numerical strength.

All major cities, provincial cities, and towns, Saigon included--the last enemy lair-- were attacked on several occasions. Almost all the enemy's key organs, ranging from the central to the regional levels, were heavily attacked and damaged. All vital communication lines were repeatedly crippled. Meanwhile, all our three troop categories simultaneously participated in fighting and construction. The more they fought, the stronger they became and the greater the victories which they scored in the mountain and jungle areas, plains, and cities. They succeeded in completely frustrating the enemy's two-pronged, search-and-destroy, and pacification plans and smashing all his strategies, tactics, and large-scale operations.

The delegation is led by Mme Ha Que, member of the VWP Central Committee and deputy-head of its control board.

It was seen off by Nguyen Duy Trinh, Political Bureau member of the party CC, vice-premier; Tran Huu Duc, member of the party CC, minister of the Premier's office; Mme Nguyen Thi Thap, member of the party CC, president of the Vietnam Womens Union; Hoang Tung, alternate member of the party CC, president of the Vietnam-Cuba Friendship Association; Hoang Van Loi, vice-minister for foreign affairs; Tran Chi Hien, deputy-head of the foreign relations board of the party CC; and other high party and state officials.

The charge d'affaires and interim of the Republic of Cuba and staff members of the Cuban Embassy in Vietnam were also present.

#### BRIEFS

**SOUTH VIETNAMESE ART EXHIBIT**--An art exhibition by revolutionary artists in South Vietnam has been opened in Hanoi by the Vietnam Artists Association (North Vietnam) on the occasion of the eighth founding anniversary--20 December--of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation. This is the fourth exhibition of its kind held in North Vietnam so far. Premier Pham Van Dong and To Huu, secretary of the Vietnam Workers Party Central Committee, were present at the inauguration on December 17. Nguyen Phu Soan, acting head of the permanent presentation of the S.V.N.N.F.L. in North Vietnam, was also present on the occasion. On display were 800 paintings and photos of statues selected from among thousands of art works by 50 professional or amateur painters and sculptors operating on all fronts of the fight against the U.S. aggressors. Many of the paintings and pictures deal with the current general offensives and widespread uprisings of the South Vietnamese armed forces and people which started in early spring 1968. [Text] (Hanoi VNA International English 0309 GMT 19 Dec 68 B)

**HUNGARIAN DELEGATION**--A delegation of the Csepel Metallurgy and Engineering Plant recently paid a friendship visit to North Vietnam following an invitation extended by the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions to the Central Council of Hungarian Trade Unions. The delegation visited the Tran Hung Dao Engineering Plant with which the Csepel factory had sworn brotherhood and various industrial and agricultural establishments in Hanoi, Haiphong, Quang Ninh, and Thanh Hoa. Hoang Quoc Viet, president of trade unions, received and had a cordial talk with the delegation. The Hungarian guests have left for home. [Text] (Hanoi VNA International English 1723 GMT 22 Dec 68 B)

In the political field, our compatriots' concerted uprisings indicated a very great, creative progress in the process of the resolute, valiant, and stalwart general uprising of the southern people's revolution. Tens of millions of our compatriots resolutely arose to regain the right to be masters. This was an eloquent proof of the heroic bearing and earnest aspirations of our entire people who would rather die than be slaves. Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom.

Over the past year, the revolutionary whirlwind has vigorously heightened the indomitable spirit of various strata of our people, especially urban people, in their anti-U.S. national salvation struggle, forming millions of stalwart combatants and consolidating and developing the all-people solidarity bloc in the struggle to fulfill the sacred task of regaining independence and freedom for the fatherland.

Our people's concerted uprisings have comprehensively enhanced the NFLSV's prestige and influence among various strata of the people everywhere, including urban people. Adopting extremely inspiring forms of armed struggle, the NFLSV has mobilized tens of thousands of people to take up weapons and kill the enemy or to carry out combat-serving tasks, creating widespread people's war and proselyting networks which have permanently encircled and threatened the enemy and, with the shining just cause and powerful thrust of the great national salvation resistance, have disintegrated hundreds of thousands of puppet troops, initiating a constantly spreading antiwar movement among U.S. ranks. Through their widespread uprisings, our people have liberated and seized full mastership right over an additional 1,000 hamlets containing more than 2 million compatriots freed from enemy bondage.

Our people have established revolutionary administration in many villages, districts and provinces. These achievements constituted thunderous political blows directly striking the heads of the U.S.-puppets, disintegrating in chunks their bondage system, sweeping away the completely artificial "constitutional" and "legal" varnish daubed on the people-betraying and country-harming puppet apparatus of the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique, and fully exposing the shameless face of the traitorous clique, which represents no one.

Our newly built revolutionary administration is full of vigor and has clearly manifested the superiority of the revolutionary administration of the people and for the people which will certainly develop vigorously and comprehensively throughout the south and will direct the light of the revolution toward dispersing the dark, vicious clouds of the decayed, country-selling puppet administration.

The emergence of the Vietnam Alliance of National, Democratic, and Peace Forces has brought about an extremely important new development in our people's anti-U.S. national salvation front further dividing and isolating the enemy. The enemy's remaining political support comprises only a handful of tyrants who have incurred substantial blood debts with our people, a filthy reactionary clique surviving by relying on the U.S. imperialists' neocolonialist policy.

The alliance has rapidly broadened its ranks, becoming a great patriotic force with a shining just cause and closely siding with the NFLSV in the struggle to achieve the common objectives: to build an independent, democratic, peaceful, and neutral South Vietnam and proceed toward peaceful reunification of the country.

In the northern part of our country, 1968 also is a year of extremely great victories. Our 17 million kith and kin compatriots have continuously crushed all the extremely barbarous escalation steps of the U.S. aggressors in their war of destruction against the north and, in the end, compelled them to unconditionally stop all their air, naval, and artillery bombardments over the entire DRV territory.

More than 3,250 U.S. aircraft were blown to bits. Thousands of aggressor pilots were killed or captured. Although the Americans spent dozens of billions of dollars, they gained nothing but the destruction of the U.S. Air Force and ignominious defeat. The U.S. aggressors were completely unable to materialize their scheme of sabotaging the building of socialism in the northern part of our country, shaking our compatriots' morale, and checking the aid from the vast rear base to the vast frontline.

In waging aggression against Vietnam, the Americans' aggressive undertaking has been partly smashed and all of their strategists have been disastrously defeated.

Meantime, our compatriots have braved bombings and strafings to develop industry, agriculture, culture, transportation, communications, and other branches with the most marvelous strength that has ever been known in any country at war. Endowed with the spirit "nothing is more valuable than independence and freedom," the great rear base has done its best to aid the frontline. The anti-U.S. national salvation struggle has more than ever strengthened the north-south brotherhood, and the Vietnamese people's will has become more unified than ever.

In the diplomatic field, our people's anti-U.S. national salvation struggle has long shone on all five continents. The NFLSV has increasingly and effectively taken part in important international political activities. Many countries have recognized NFLSV representative agencies, enhancing all the more the NFLSV's international prestige. In the last year, our armed forces and people's general offensive and uprisings shook the entire world and the United States.

Our people's ironlike determination to liberate the country has won the sympathy of hundreds of millions of people of various races and languages. The Front's political platform has increasingly brightened our people's just cause and correct stand and laid bare the aggressive and stubborn nature of the U.S. imperialists and the country-selling nature of the puppets their lackeys.

Our people's extremely heroic struggle has compelled the Americans to agree to talk with the Front in Paris. The NFLSV has received stronger support from the world which sees in it the promoter, organizer, and leader of the South Vietnamese people in their anti-U.S. national salvation struggle, the representative of aspirations for peace and national independence of the South Vietnamese people, which is fully qualified to discuss and solve all problems and political situations related to South Vietnam.

In the diplomatic field and on battlefields, the NFLSV, the genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people, has repeatedly attacked the U.S. aggressors while progressive mankind throughout the world, including peace-and justice-loving U.S. people, has unanimously demanded that the United States stop at once its war of aggression in Vietnam and pull back its troops. The year of 1968 is indeed a year crowned with glorious victories and heroic deeds in both parts of our country, a year in which our entire people have brightened as never before the truth: U.S. defeat is obvious.

The unprecedentedly great, comprehensive victories of our armed forces and people in the past year carried extremely important significance which not only greatly influences our people's over-all struggle, but also has intensive direct impact on the world people's revolutionary movement.

1--Our great, comprehensive victories in the past year have created a new strategy, new strength, and new abilities, which have outstandingly developed our people's combined strength in combat and offered favorable opportunities and steady premises to conduct successive concerted general offensives and uprisings to complete victory.

Sudden changes in the war situation have been clearly shown in the fact that the enemy has reeled back considerably to static defense in the south, and that his 1968 strategic search-destroy-and-pacify program had to be discarded in the early stages and suddenly replaced by his extremely passive clear-and-hold strategy.

Just after its birth, this strategy was shattered because it was replete with internal contradictions: contradictions between the aggressive war's need for a victory over the adversary through the launching of military attacks and the present passive strategy, contradictions between the U.S. troops' role of core forces in the war and the need for de-Americanizing the war to appease the U.S. situation, contradictions between the puppet armed forces' actual weakness and their responsibility for shouldering the war burden, contradictions between the concentration and dispersion of forces to protect the cities and to pacify and encroach on the rural areas at the same time, contradictions between the aggressors' lofty ambitions and the U.S.-puppet troops' sinking morale, hate for the war, desire for peace, and ineffectiveness, contradictions between the political objects of neocolonialism and its savage, brutal attacking maneuvers, and so forth. Despite its apparently vigorous outer defense lines, the enemy's defensive stance presented numerous gaps. As a result, he was driven into a position of being repeatedly attacked and strategically beleaguered on all battlefields, especially in the cities. Since the enemy's present military strategy is in a position of weakness replete with political, economic, and diplomatic difficulties in Vietnam, in the United States, and in the world, he is caught in a dilemma, unable to launch attacks and to defend his remaining positions resolutely.

If the United States stubbornly continues the war, it will surely be unable to avoid heavy, shameful defeats. While the enemy's strategic situation is collapsing and stalemated in such a fashion, our strategic position has become more steadfast and stronger than ever. We have taken a new step to step up the offensive strategy of revolutionary war, bringing the war up to the cities and, at the same time, attacking and encircling the enemy permanently on all battlefields.

In terms of power, the balance of power between us and the enemy has undergone an important change, advantageous to us. The heavy losses, suffered on the battlefield last year, have forced the U.S. aggressors to exhaust their reserve and the puppet administration to order general mobilization in a vain effort to fill the gaps in their ranks and maintain the effectives they had at the beginning of the year. This wanton conscription has brought about the inevitable result that their organization has become increasingly loose and patched up, their morale has declined day by day. Their fighting capability is restricted, and their fighting efficiency in their defensive position has decreased, obviously, day by day. Meanwhile, they have had to fight an adversary whose military and political forces are developing strongly, both quantitatively and qualitatively, and whose three categories of troops are developing their great influence on the battlefield and exhibiting initiative in the strategic field. These factors have exerted strong effect upon the balance of power between us and the enemy, causing it to undergo a rapid change in a direction favorable to us and causing the large enemy force to become small and suffer ignominious defeat from our force, even when the enemy force is composed of millions of U.S., puppet, and satellite troops.

In the political and moral fields, this sudden change has manifested itself in the fact that the U.S. authorities have lost confidence in their military strategies to the point that their most warlike and braggard elements dare not raise a ballhoo about their fabricated victories. In fact, they have realized that they are being defeated, that the longer they fight the heavier defeats they will sustain, and that any of their presidents--Johnson or Nixon--will suffer ignominious defeat if he does not immediately stop the aggressive war in South Vietnam and withdraw all U.S. troops.

A defeatist atmosphere is developing among the enemy ranks. The aggressive spirit of the U.S. imperialists has been shaken. Meanwhile, the determination to fight and win of our armed forces and people has heightened day by day. No power, no matter how strong it may be, can stop our armed forces and people in their determination to launch the general offensive and simultaneous uprising movement to achieve peace, independence and freedom.

2--Our great and comprehensive victories last year upset the United States and the top U.S. warmongers right on the home political front. Our victories on the battlefield have helped the American people realize increasingly clearly the just cause and unity strength of our people as well as the crimes and stubbornness of the top U.S. aggressors. U.S. defeat in Vietnam has given birth to a series of contradictions between the American people and their administration and among the U.S. authorities themselves, thus causing the antiwar movement to develop daily and the hatred for the U.S. warmongers to increase daily. A number of U.S. authorities--including the President, defense secretary and field commander--have been removed. The U.S. Democratic Party has been ignominiously defeated in the race for the White House. The Republican Party and Nixon, the U.S. president-elect, have received a serious warning from the American people. The United States has become increasingly isolated in the world, even among its imperialist allies.

Moreover, the economic and financial difficulties, such as gold hemorrhage, dollar devaluation, inflation, tax increase, the deficit in the balance of payments, and so forth, have further aggravated the political difficulties, thus making the U.S. political situation constantly tense and unstable.

3--Our great, comprehensive achievements last year dealt a deadly blow at the Saigon puppet administration, making it irremediably more decayed and rotten, verging on complete collapse. Our attacks on the cities and provincial and district capitals have, at times, paralyzed the ruling machinery of the puppet administration. Struggles have been conducted more and more fiercely by the compatriots in the cities as well as in the rural areas still under temporary enemy control, demanding improved living conditions, expanded democracy, the overthrow of Thieu, Ky, and Huong, the establishment of a peace cabinet in order to hold serious talks with the NFLSV, and U.S. withdrawal so as to let the Vietnamese people settle themselves their internal affairs.

These repeated and vigorous offensive blows have made the power of the so-called Republic of Vietnam become powerless. In the face of our revolutionary offensive, the U.S.-puppet ranks are squabbling increasingly and the contradictions among the Vietnamese traitors have become increasingly acute. The enemy has more and more frenziedly conscripted people, exerted greater and greater efforts to repress people, and more and more intensively carried out every trick to grab the people's money and property.

Especially, the enemy's augmentation of the rice price has seriously harmed the interests of various strata of people. This situation has made our people seethe with greater hatred and become more and more enthusiastic and determined to arise to overthrow the country-selling lackey puppet administration. The collapse of the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique is inevitable in the face of the increasingly violent revolutionary storm.

4--Our great and comprehensive achievements last year have been a source of very strong encouragement for the world's revolutionary movement, in general, and for the peoples now struggling against the imperialists, especially the U.S. imperialists. Our achievements have made the world more and more clearly realize that in the present historic conditions, when a people, although small, have unitedly arisen in conformity with a correct policy, have been closely organized, and have resolutely fought for independence and freedom, such people are fully able to defeat any aggressive armed forces of colonialists or imperialists.

Never before has the U.S. imperialists' influence been so weakened as it is now. In the world, the number of those helping the Americans is more and more decreasing, and the number of those opposing the Americans is more and more increasing. The movement to oppose the Americans and support Vietnam is spreading more and more vigorously everywhere. Right on U.S. soil, the front to oppose the U.S. ruling clique and to support Vietnam is also expanding. These realities have shown that the political climate in Vietnam, the world, and right in the United States has become unsuitable for the U.S. neocolonialist tree, impeding its growth, and seriously mauling it with revolutionary storms. All this has increasingly magnified our last year's achievements.

Our achievements are great because they are the result of the process of a long, hard struggle and the extraordinary efforts and the extremely noble sacrifices of all our compatriots, and because they are the most concentrated symbol of our people's indomitable spirit. Our achievements are great because our armed forces and people have not only dared to fight, but have also known how to defeat the very impetuous imperialists who possess a large and modern aggressive armed force, the newest and most modern strategies, tactics, and technology, and the whole apparatus of the most concentrated capitalist military theories of present-day imperialism. The era in which imperialism ruled the roost is definitely a thing of the past.

The ringleader U.S. imperialists, although having much money and guns and being crafty and cruel, can by no means turn back the wheel of history. Vietnam has defeated the Americans. This is not only a source of confidence and pride for our people, but also a source of confidence and pride and a source of great encouragement for progressive people throughout the world.

Our southern armed forces and people have scored a year of great victories. These achievements are due to extremely important causes which are rapidly developing and making our achievements more and more brilliant. These causes are the revolutionary policies and the absolutely correct people's war lines of the NFLSV.

These policies have been based upon the pertinent and creative application of revolutionary theories to the concrete circumstances of the southern revolution and upon the crystallization and constant development of every experience acquired from the protracted revolutionary struggle and from the 9-year resistance of our people countrywide.

Basing themselves on these experiences, the heroic southern people have adopted correct strategies, tactics, and revolutionary offensive methods, thus acquiring an invincible, combined offensive strength. Most outstanding is the fact that in early spring this year, on the basis of an accurate assessment of our situation and that of the enemy, the NFLSV unleashed the general offensive and uprisings throughout the south, stimulating further the inevitable development of the all-out offensive strategy of the revolutionary war.

Through the great, all-out strategic offensive in late January and early February 1968, the southern revolution has made a big leap forward and increasingly developed. The NFLSV's revolutionary line has been the basic factor underlying all victories of the southern revolution.

This line has been based upon the unexcelled, courageous fighting spirit and the Herculean efforts of our southern armed forces and people. For the independence, freedom, democracy, peace, and reunification of the fatherland, our 14 million southern compatriots have developed their thoroughly revolutionary spirit, the indomitable tradition of the Vietnamese people, and unmatched Vietnamese revolutionary heroism.

In our country today, all rivers are rippling with Bach Dang waves [Bach Dang is the name of a river on which Vietnamese troops were victorious over Chinese invaders]; all localities are lit with the Dien Bien Phu fire; and all men are valiant combatants. Saigon, Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam, Ben Tre, Tra Vinh, Long An, Cu Chi, Long Tau River, Nam Luong River, roads nos 1, 4, 14, and 19, and thousands of other localities or rivers have achieved brilliant victories.

Fighting has transformed millions of ordinary persons into brilliant examples. Fourteen million hearts, overflowing with patriotism and boiled with hatred for the enemy, have created a year of glorious victories. One of the factors underlying these is the wholehearted aid of the socialist north, the firm, vast rear base of our entire country.

For the southern revolution and for the reunification of the fatherland, our 17 million with and kin northern compatriots have overcome countless sacrifices and hardships, supporting and aiding the south wholeheartedly and to the best of their ability. The northern part of our country is stronger than ever. The mutual, north-south love and piety have grown deeper than ever.

In their struggle, the Vietnamese people have enjoyed the sympathy, support, and great assistance of the socialist camp and the sympathy and increasingly vigorous support of the world's peoples, including Americans. Our people heartily thank our friends throughout the five continents who, for the just cause and peace and for our independence and freedom, have positively helped us, politically, morally, and materially to defeat the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression in Vietnam.

U.S. defeat is obvious. No reactionary force and no remedy can save the U.S. imperialists from disastrous defeat. However, as the most stubborn, most crafty, and most cruel archimperialists, they have not yet agreed to renounce their basic scheme of turning the southern part of our country into their neocolony.

In their stalemate, they have continued frenziedly to intensify the war and develop the puppet army in order to realize the so-called "de-Americanization" of the war and carry out the urgent pacification scheme designed to win over the people, grab land, and reimpose their yoke of bondage on a number of rural areas by conducting mopup operations, massacring people, resorting to psychological warfare and espionage warfare tricks, and carrying out every sinister scheme. Moreover, they have proven extremely stubborn at the Paris talks, trying to stall and sabotage the quadripartite conference which should have been held since 6 November 1968.

Enemy schemes are extremely sinister, but whether or not he can materialize them definitely does not depend on his own wish. The enemy is in a stalemated situation. His strength is disintegrating, his internal contradictions worsening, his morale sagging, and his determination shaken. These facts represent the tragic net tightening around the body of the fatally wounded ferocious U.S. animal. In the meantime, the valiant Vietnamese combatant is growing as fast as Phu Dong, is as strong as Tach Sanh [both are Vietnamese mythical figures], and, swinging his steel-like arm, is crushing all obstacles and moving toward the horizon of glorious victory.

Compatriots, cadres, and combatants: Our fatherland is undergoing the most difficult and most desperate, yet the greatest and most glorious, moments. At this juncture, every sacrifice and every effort in the frontline as well as in the rear base is extremely valuable and necessary for the struggle to win an early, complete victory over the most wicked enemy in the world and to accomplish soon the greatest resistance in the history of our country. For the independence and freedom of the fatherland, for our sacred responsibility to history, and for the glorious future of our entire people, let all our armed forces and people, thousands as one, take advantage of their victories to surge forward, continuously launch attacks, and stage uprisings with a determination to win complete victory.

Let all our armed forces and people persistently implement by all means President Ho's teaching: "As long as a single aggressor remains in our country, we must continue to fight and sweep him away."

Officers, policemen, and personnel of the Saigon puppet army and administration: All of our people are fighting shoulder-to-shoulder to annihilate the tyrannical, country-grabbing aggressors in order to protect the fatherland. The U.S. aggressors will certainly be defeated. The Thieu-Ky-Huong clique will certainly be overthrown. As Vietnamese offspring of the Lac and Hong families, you can neither run counter to the common struggle of the Vietnamese people, nor help the aggressors or provide them with more fuel to destroy your native land.

Turn your guns on and fire at the heads of the U.S. aggressors and the tyrants and return to and join the people in opposing the Americans for national salvation. Try to achieve a worker-peasant-serviceman alliance in order to defeat the U.S. aggressors, overthrow the puppet, lackey clique, and regain peace, independence, freedom, and the right to a decent livelihood. It is high time to arise and take timely actions in order to save the country, your families, and yourselves. All our southern armed forces and people singlemindedly vow to determinedly fight and win.

The South Vietnam PLAF Command, 20 December 1968

## U.S. ACCUSED OF VIOLATING 3-DAY CEASE-FIRE

Liberation Radio (Clandestine) in Vietnamese to South Vietnam 2330 GMT 24 Dec 68 S

[Commentary: "The NFLSV banner is the banner of just cause and certain victory"]

[Text] Twenty-five December is Christmas Day for all Catholics worldwide. Basing themselves on policies of national and religious unity, humanity, and respect for freedom of faith, the NFLSV and PLAF Command has ordered the PLAF to halt all military attacks throughout the south. This order has been strictly implemented by all our armed forces and people. From urban to rural areas, Catholic compatriots are deeply grateful to the Front and are proceeding with their Christmas preparations. All puppet, U.S., and satellite troops are free to visit their relatives and attend religious services in accordance with their faith.

In particular, in certain localities, such as eastern Nam Bo, the National Liberation Front Committee has planned to meet with representatives of the U.S. command in South Vietnam to discuss the release of U.S. POW's. Again, this humane and just action of the NFLSV has deeply moved our compatriots, Americans, and people worldwide, earning their gratitude.

Conversely, the U.S. imperialists and their stubborn, warlike Thieu-Ky-Huong lackeys have brazenly refused to comply with a 3-day cease-fire over Christmas, repeatedly sabotaging this order by launching fierce bombardments and mop-up operations against our compatriots. They have even resorted to the "confinement to barracks" trick and used bayonets and rifles to prevent puppet, U.S., and satellite troops from enjoying the sacred hours of peace granted them by the Front. The U.S.-Thieu-Ky-Huong clique has shamelessly betrayed and opposed its soldiers' aspirations. Once more, the U.S. imperialists and the stubborn Thieu-Ky-Huong clique have bared their cruel, warlike face.

Customarily, at Christmas U.S., puppet, and satellite troops should have peace, should be free to go to churches or to visit their relatives and friends. But their legitimate aspiration has not yet been fully realized. The Thieu-Ky-Huong clique--stubborn U.S. lackeys--is sabotaging peace. Not only is it sabotaging this sacred 3-day festival, but it is also endeavoring to delay the Paris conference by refusing to peacefully solve the South Vietnam problem. It continues accelerating the war, perpetrating extremely cruel acts with its urgent pacification plans and Phoenix operation in order to oppress and kill our compatriots, sending their troops further onto the path of death, shame, and crimes.

Celebrating this year's Christmas, Catholic believers, U.S., puppet, and satellite troops, peace-loving Americans, and all southern compatriots are highly indignant over and condemn the bellicose U.S. aggressors and the stubborn lackey Thieu-Ky-Huong clique, struggling resolutely to punish and overthrow them. The more indignant our people, U.S., puppet, and satellite troops, and Americans become with the U.S. aggressors and the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique, the more clearly they realize that the NFLSV's stand is just and correct. The Front has raised high, and is raising high, its banner of great national and religious solidarity. The Front has rallied and led the South Vietnamese people in successfully carrying out their great national salvation resistance struggle.

In order to have sacred Christmas holidays and to insure the right to enjoy peace, independence, and freedom, all our compatriots--Catholic and non-Catholic--and all U.S., puppet, and satellite troops have only one choice: To arise and aim the barrels of their rifles and all weapons in hand at the common enemy, defeat the U.S. aggressors, topple the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique, and achieve their determination to stage relentless attacks and uprisings in order to win, at all costs, final victory.