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U.S. WILL BE HEAVILY PUNISHED FOR WAR CRIMES

Liberation Radio (Clandestine) in Vietnamese to South Vietnam 1000 GMT 17 Mar 69 S

[Commentary: "By stubbornly pursuing the war and committing crimes, the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys will continue to be dealt heavy punitive blows"]

[Text] About 45,000 U.S.-puppet troops were annihilated and more than 400 U.S. and satellite bases attacked by our forces during the first 10 days of spring. When Nixon laments about U.S. casualties and when the U.S. military spokesman daily makes public the figures of allied bases and positions attacked by our forces, Cabot Lodge and his hireling Pham Dang Lam repeat the same old tune: "The Viet Cong have shelled populated, civilian areas."

The U.S.-puppets' quibbling about the shelling is simply a using-a-basket-to-conceal-an-
elephant game aiming simultaneously at concealing their heavy setbacks and ineffective defense against the attacks and uprisings by our combatants and people and denying their heinous crimes.

Everyone knows that during the past 15 years, the crimes committed by the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys, from the Diem-Nhu clique to the present Thieu-Ky-Huong clique, have been innumerable. Since early Ky Dau spring, they have perpetrated several hundred massacres and destroyed many hamlets and villages, such as in Tan Lac Tay, U Minh, My Thanh Dong, and other places, further deepening our people's hatred for them and commanding constant condemnation by world public opinion.

In Central Trung Bo, in 1 month, the U.S.-puppets forcibly concentrated more than 11,000 compatriots, most of them women, children, and weak old men, in a small area accommodating only 4,000 persons. During the period 12 February to 15 March, they committed the most barbarous crimes against our compatriots in the populated areas around Saigon by having B-52's drop as many as 17,000 tons of bombs on these areas in a 12-day period. These figures were the highest ever recorded. According to Western sources and the Saigon press, on (?9) March, B-52's on four occasions levelled a one-square-kilometer hamlet along Route 14. Through bombing and shelling, the U.S.-puppets destroyed Ho Nai and Dong Lap villages, Bien Hao Province. These places, close to a U.S. military base, had been considered secure by the enemy. Even the Catholic church in Dong Lap village became a crumbled ruin.

According to the Saigon daily TIENG NOI DAN TOC of 28 February, the U.S.-puppets destroyed several thousand houses belonging to Hoa Hao Buddhist followers in An Giang Province. In the heart of Saigon, they are brazenly repressing the peace movement of workers, high school and university students, Buddhists, and other strata of urbanites. They ordered the Venerable Thein Minh and some 60 students arrested. On 15 March, the venerable and 18 students were brought before a tribunal for trial and illegally sentenced to 10 years in prison at hard labor. By throwing Venerable Thein Minh and the students into jail, the U.S.-puppets hope to quench the peace movement among the Buddhists and compatriots, a movement which is developing right in their lairs.