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V. HANOI CITES RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS  
IN CALL FOR "BORDER AREAS" ALERT

[Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese, 0430 GMT,  
18 November 1970]

[18 November Quan Doi Nhan Dan editorial: "Let us heighten our vigilance and be ready to smash all U.S. aggressors' adventurous acts"]

Being thoroughly aware of their functions and tasks, our People's Armed Forces have thus far heightened their vigilance and determination to fight and win, have wholeheartedly brought assistance to the heroic great frontline, and at the same time satisfactorily fulfilled the defense of the socialist North. The U.S. aggressors and their henchmen have resorted to very cunning tricks to recklessly infringe upon the national sovereignty and security of the northern part of our country. But through whatever means they may use to come, they have always been found out in time and appropriately punished by our People's Armed Forces.

Our People's Armed Forces have sunk many enemy ranger boats which have tried to violate our territorial waters, destroyed many groups of enemy rangers who tried to cross the borders to enter our territory,

and have downed 121 bandit aircraft over our airspace since the time when the imperialists were forced to completely and unconditionally end all air strikes against the North. On 13 November, with great vigilance and combat readiness, the armed forces and people of Ha Tinh registered a new exploit by downing a U.S. jet fighter RF-4C over Ha Tinh. Despite their bitter setbacks, but due to their extremely stubborn and warlike nature, the U.S. imperialists have continued to prolong the aggressive war against our country through the plan to Vietnamize-the-war and their pacification plans, thus creating extremely barbarous crimes against our compatriots.

Meanwhile, the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen have intensified their aggressive war in Cambodia and Laos. In North Viet-Nam, the U.S. imperialists have brazenly sent aircraft to infringe upon our air space, sent warships to infringe upon our territorial waters, and landed their rangers along the border areas with a view to undermining our people's socialist construction.

On the very day when the U.S. bandit aircraft was downed by the armed forces and people over Ha Tinh, the U.S. Defense Secretary brazenly threatened to counterattack our air defense positions should the U.S. aircraft continue to be downed over our country. Moreover, on 17 November, a spokesman of the U.S. State Department also loudly repeated the fabricated report that there was a secret agreement between North Viet-Nam and the United States referring to the U.S. air reconnaissance flights over the North. He also arrogantly stated that the United States will continue to send reconnaissance aircraft to illegally violate the airspace of the northern part of our country. U.S. news agencies and the puppet Saigon radio station have also spread rumors that the United States would resume the bombings against storage depots in North Viet-Nam.

It is obvious that the U.S. warlike clique is actively preparing for new adventurous acts against the North, with a view to intimidating our people, retrieving their setbacks and breaking the deadlock. Our armed forces and people strongly condemn the U.S. imperialists' arrogant attitude and are resolved to pitilessly punish any reconnaissance or provocative act of the U.S. imperialists against the airspace, territory or territorial waters of our country. If the U.S. imperialists recklessly resort to new military adventurous acts against the North, they will be vigorously counterattacked and will be held responsible for all serious consequences arising from their acts.

The aforementioned situation clearly shows that our people's anti-U.S. national salvation struggle is at a tense and fierce stage, requiring our People's Armed Forces to be ready for combat and for smashing all aggressive and destructive acts of the U.S. imperialists. To fight well

and to win resounding victories, our People's Armed Forces must heighten their fighting spirit and vigilance, must strive to improve their fighting capability, and be ready to fight the enemy anywhere and under any circumstances. Especially in Military Zone Four, the border areas and other important zones, all our armed forces, from the air defense, artillery, infantry units and people's militia forces to the engineering, transportation units and units in charge of defending storage depots, should look to and improve their plans in order to be ready to fight and destroy the enemy, and to effectively defend our strength. They should constantly train themselves, coordinate their activities, heighten the combat and command capabilities of their units, and further coordinate their forces in areas area (sic), thus insuring that under any circumstance, whenever the enemy comes, our armed forces will be able to immediately intercept and destroy him on the spot, thus preventing him from committing crimes against and causing damages to our people. Being the assault force in the anti-U.S. national salvation struggle, our cadres and soldiers are resolved to persistently step up the anti-U.S. national salvation resistance, and together with all our people smash all wicked schemes and reckless action of the U.S. aggressors, and lead the anti-U.S. national salvation resistance to complete victory.