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I. DRV FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT
ON NOVEMBER 21 BOMBINGS

[Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese, 1434 GMT,
21 November 1970]

Here follows the statement by the DRV Foreign Ministry on U.S. air attacks against a number of populated areas in North Viet-Nam:

On 21 November 1970, the U.S. imperialists sent many flights of aircraft to encroach upon the airspace of Haiphong, Quang Ninh, Ha Tay, Hoa Binh provinces, attacking a number of populated areas causing dead and wounding a number of civilians, and firing rockets on a suburb of Hanoi.

A camp for detention of U.S. air pirates in North Viet-Nam was also hit by bullets and a number of them in the detention camp were injured.

On the same day, the U.S. imperialists also sent aircraft to attack several populated areas in Quang Binh and Ha Tinh provinces.

The army and people of the above localities fought with determination and courage and shot down six U.S. planes and damaged many others.

These were extremely serious acts of war by the U.S. imperialists, grossly infringing upon the sovereignty and security of the DRV, brazenly violating the U.S. pledge to totally halt the bombing of North Viet-Nam, and seriously threatening the work of the Paris Conference on Viet-Nam.

This constitutes a brazen provocation to justice- and peace-loving public opinion in the world, including American public opinion.

It is known to everyone that since being forced to unconditionally end the bombing and strafing of the territory of the DRV, the U.S. government still continues to send aircraft and warships to encroach upon the airspace and waters of the DRV, carrying out spying and provocative activities and launching attacks against many populated areas in North Viet-Nam.

In early May this year, the U.S. imperialists sent aircraft to launch large-scale attacks against a number of populated areas in Nghe An and Quang Binh provinces.

Recently, after a U.S. plane was shot down by the North Vietnamese Army and people, the Nixon administration on several occasions repeated

the fabrication that there is a tacit agreement between the DRV and the United States on U.S. reconnaissance flights over North Viet-Nam, and at the same time put forth warlike, insolent arguments such as the United States will continue its reconnaissance flights over North Viet-Nam to protect the lives of U.S. servicemen, the United States is prepared to take appropriate retaliatory action, the United States is ready to react in self-defense, and so forth.

These bandit arguments are aimed at concealing the scheme of continuing and intensifying acts of war against the DRV. The U.S. imperialists' recent acts of war against the DRV further expose their extremely warlike and stubborn aggressive face.

It is clear that the so-called five-point peace initiative presented by the Nixon administration is only aimed at fooling American and world public opinion and serving the U.S. imperialists' scheme of prolonging and widening the war of aggression against Indochina.

The DRV government issues a severe warning in view of these acts of war by the U.S. imperialists and firmly demands that the U.S. government completely end all acts of encroachment upon the sovereignty and security of the DRV. The U.S. government must bear full responsibility for all consequences arising from their adventurous acts.

The Vietnamese people are determined to punish all acts of encroachment by the U.S. imperialists against the sovereignty and security of the DRV and are resolved to crush all other adventurous acts by them. No frantic act nor insolent threat by the U.S. imperialists can shake the Vietnamese people's iron-like determination to persist in and step up their struggle against U.S. aggression for national salvation with a view to liberating the South, defending the North, and advancing toward peaceful reunification of their fatherland.

Hanoi, 21 November 1970.