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NORTH VIETNAM

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✓ U.S. AIRCRAFT BOMB DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

✓ 21 November Report

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1115 GMT 21 Nov 70 S

[Text] Between 0230 and 0330 hours this morning, 21 November, the U.S. imperialists adventurously sent many flights of aircraft to intrude into DRV airspace over the provinces of Haiphong, Quang Ninh, Ha Tay, and Hoa Binh. The anti-aircraft troops and the armed forces and people in these localities appropriately punished the U.S. aggressors, downing 3 jets and 1 helicopter and damaging many others.

Between 0900 and 1000 hours this morning, the U.S. imperialists again successively sent many flights of aircraft to repeatedly strike at a number of populated areas, communications lines, and economic installations in the provinces of Quang Binh and Ha Tinh. The Quang Binh and Ha Tinh armed forces and people with high vigilance and combat readiness downed 2 U.S. jets. Thus, today, 21 November, the northern armed forces and people won great victories, downing 6 U.S. aircraft. This new armed exploit brought to 3,370 the total number of U.S. aircraft downed over the north.

✓ VPA High Command Communique

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0430 GMT 21 Nov 70 S

[Communique from the VPA High Command]

[Text] From 0230 to 0330 hours on 21 November 1970, the U.S. imperialists adventurously sent many aircraft to intrude into DRV airspace in Haiphong, Quang Ninh, Ha Tay, and Hoa Binh. The U.S. aircraft carried out provocative acts against and struck at a number of populated areas, causing some casualties among civilians. One aggressor pilot [detention] camp was also hit and a number of aggressor pilots were wounded. The armed forces and people in these localities resolutely punished the U.S. aggressors, downing 3 jets and 1 helicopter and damaging many others.

The VPA High Command warmly praises and cites the merit of the armed forces and people of the localities which highly demonstrated their vigilance, combat readiness, and determination to fight and win, which insured close unity and coordination, and which won glorious victory.

The VPA High Command sternly warns the U.S. imperialists that this was an extremely serious act of war which encroached upon DRV sovereignty and security. That if they continue to adventurously carry out provocative acts against and intrude upon the north, the northern armed forces and people and the armed forces and people throughout our country will certainly direct at them even more serious punishing actions.

The VPA High Command, 21 November 1970.

Foreign Ministry Statement

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1434 GMT 21 Nov 70 S

[Text] Here follows the statement by the DRV Foreign Ministry on U.S. air attacks against a number of populated areas in North Vietnam:

On 21 November 1970, the U.S. imperialists sent many flights of aircraft to encroach upon the airspace of Hai Phong, Quang Ninh, Ha Tay, Hoa Binh provinces, attacking a number of populated areas, causing death 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 Vietnam 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 6 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 Vietnam, and seriously threatening the work of the Paris conference on Vietnam.

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 Vietnam.

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 Vietnam, and at the same time put forth warlike, insolent arguments such as the United States will continue its reconnaissance flights over North Vietnam 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.

✓ Nguyen Thanh Le Statement

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 0600 GMT 22 Nov 70 B

[Text] Hanoi November 22--The delegation of the D.R.V.N. Government to the Paris conference on Vietnam yesterday issued a statement vehemently protesting against the U.S. for sending many groups of aircraft in many waves to violate the airspace of the D.R.V.N.

The statement categorically rejected the absurd and arrogant statement on November 21 by U.S. Defense Secretary M. Laird that these attacks were made as "reprisals" against the shooting at U.S. reconnaissance planes.

The statement said:

The massive bombing and strafing raids against many places in an extensive central area and in Quang Binh Province of the D.R.V.N. constitute an extremely serious act of war against the D.R.V.N., a brazen violation of its sovereignty and security, an impudent breach of the U.S. engagement of definitive and unconditional cessation of all bombardments and other acts of war against the D.R.V.N., a challenge to the Vietnamese people, to the Indochinese peoples, to the American people, and to peace- and justice-loving people the world over. This brazen act of the Nixon administration is part of a prepared plan against the D.R.V.N. that was revealed by the defense secretary on November 13, 1970 and by the U.S. delegate at the 92nd session of the Paris conference on Vietnam, on November 19, 1970.

The whole Vietnamese people and the Government of the D.R.V.N. severely warn and condemn the Nixon administration for these extremely serious acts of war against the D.R.V.N. that gravely affect the Paris conference on Vietnam. If the U.S. aggressors persist in their violations of the sovereignty and security of the D.R.V.N., intruding into its territory, airspace, and territorial waters, the Vietnamese people and armed forces will deal them still heavier punishing blows. The Nixon administration must bear entire responsibility for all consequences arising from its hostile acts against the D.R.V.N.

✓ Nguyen Thanh Le Press Conference

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 1625 GMT 22 Nov 70 B

[Text] Hanoi VNA November 22--Nguyen Thanh Le, spokesman for the D.R.V.N. Government delegation to the Paris conference on Viet Nam, called a press conference Saturday afternoon to condemn the Nixon administration for sending aircraft into the airspace of the D.R.V.N. to bomb and strafe many populated areas, causing a number of civilian casualties, according to our correspondent in the French capital.

Nguyen Thanh Le read out a statement by the D.R.V.N. Government delegation to the Paris conference sternly denouncing to world public opinion the aforesaid acts of war of the Nixon administration. The statement said those acts seriously affected the Paris conference on Viet Nam and held the Nixon administration fully accountable for its hostile acts against the D.R.V.N.

With the use of a map, he showed to the journalists the raided areas and quoted latest reports as saying that six U.S. aircraft were downed in the D.R.V.N. territory on November 21.

He cited facts and figures testifying to Nixon's double-dealing policy of talking peace while dragging out and intensifying war.

In 1969, he said, there were 11,980 plane sorties to conduct 7,970 reconnaissance missions over the D.R.V.N., but in only the first 10 months of this year, the figures rose to 19,410 sorties and 11,180 missions. Also in the first 10 months of 1970, the number of raids rose to 1,021 as against 657 in the whole of 1969.

Nguyen Thanh Le drew particular attention to the air raids on November 21 which he described as very grave acts of war against the D.R.V.N.

Replying to questions about an "understanding" referred to lately by U.S. Defence Secretary Melvin Laird, Nguyen Thanh Le made it clear that there was absolutely no "understanding" between the representative of the D.R.V.N. Government and that of the U.S. Government concerning the cessation of the bombardments and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N. since November 1st, 1968.

He said: "It was because of its defeats in the war of destruction that the U.S. had to stop the bombardments unconditionally. The reconnaissance missions flown by U.S. aircraft over the D.R.V.N. are a violation of the sovereignty and security of the D.R.V.N. The people, government and army of the D.R.V.N. will never let such acts of war go unpunished. That is why those recon aircraft, manned or unmanned, and other U.S. planes violating the airspace of the D.R.V.N. have been duly punished by the armed forces and people of the D.R.V.N."

"Since November 1968, 127 U.S. planes have been shot down in the D.R.V.N.," he added.

PLAF Command Congratulations

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East
1628 GMT 22 Nov 70 B

[Text] South Viet Nam November 22 GPA--The Command of the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces today sends a message of congratulations to the High Command of the Viet Nam People's Army warmly hailing the brilliant success of the people and army in North Viet Nam in punishing the U.S. imperialists' criminal war acts against the D.R.V.N.

The message said:

The People's Liberation Armed Forces and the entire people of South Viet Nam warmly welcome the people and army in North Viet Nam who have shown high vigilance and combat readiness in their resolute fight to defend the great rear of the country, shooting down six aircraft and damaging many others, duly punishing the new and serious criminal war acts taken against the D.R.V.N. by the U.S. imperialists.