

THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE REVOLUTION IS STEADILY ADVANCING

(An interview granted to "Viet Nam" Pictorial by Huynh Tan Phat, President of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, on the occasion of the 2nd anniversary of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam).

QUESTION : Mr. President, the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam has been signed for two years but gunfire still continues on the South Vietnamese battlefields. Could you please comment on the schemes of the US imperialists and the Saigon administration in the southern part of our country.

ANSWER : On the orders of Washington, the Nguyen Van Thieu administration is blatantly sabotaging the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam and frenziedly opposing the people's urgent aspirations for peace, independence, democracy, improvement of living standards, national reconciliation and concord.

Since the signing of the Paris Agreement the Nguyen Van Thieu clique has launched tens of thousands of nibbling operations on the liberated zone, carried out "pacification" campaigns, bulldozed thousands of villages and herded millions of people into strategic hamlets. Not only have they refused to return freedom to the 200,000 political detainees but they have also jailed over 50,000 more patriots and peace-loving people.

With regard to the US side, despite their commitments in the Paris Agreement, the Nixon administration in the past and the Ford administration at present have gone on with their milit-

ary involvement and intervention into the internal affairs of South Viet Nam and continued their "Vietnamization of the war". Over the past two years, the US has brought into South Viet Nam millions of tons of armaments, bombs and shells, and nearly 1,000 aircraft among them up-to-date F-4Es and supplied the Nguyen Van Thieu administration as aid with over 6,000,000,000 dollars.

It is very clear that the root cause of the tense situation at present in South Viet Nam is the US-Thieu's dark scheme to impose US neo-colonialism on South Viet Nam and perpetuate the division of our country.

QUESTION : Mr. President, could you let us know how those schemes and acts of the US-Thieu side have been countered by our South Vietnamese fellow-countrymen. What are the successes recorded by the PRG and South Vietnamese compatriots in the two years of struggle for the implementation of the Paris Agreement?

ANSWER : The South Vietnamese armed forces and people delivered well-deserved counter-blows to the transgressors of the Paris Agreement, smashed the land-grabbing and "pacification" operations of the Nguyen Van Thieu clique and firmly maintained the liberated area. From January 28,

1973 to the recent period, the South Vietnamese armed forces and people put out of action nearly half a million enemy troops. It is clear that the Americans' neo-colonialist war, which is based on the Saigon army trained and commanded by more than 20,000 US military advisors disguised as civilians, has been, in a very important way, defeated.

The vast liberated zone has been step by step set up and consolidated. Rice paddies have again turned verdant green. Many schools, medical stations, maternity houses... have been built. The revolutionary power, from the central to the grassroots levels, has done its best to develop production, culture, education and medical work and look after the moral and material life of the people.

Up to now, over 40 countries have established diplomatic relations with the PRG of the Republic of South Viet Nam.

Meanwhile, deep universal crisis is taking place in the area controlled by the Saigon administration: back-breaking taxes; the Saigon piastre has been devalued 18 times; millions of labouring people are becoming unemployed; life is tremendously hard for different sections of people. The Thieu administration has more and more shown its dictatorial and fascist

nature, strangling all democratic freedoms and repressing in a brutal way all those who demand peace, national concord, the implementation of the Paris Agreement and better living conditions. It may be said that never has the Nguyen Van Thieu gang been so isolated and weakened as now.

QUESTION : Please give us your opinion on the prospects of our people's struggle in the South for the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the completion of independence and democracy.

ANSWER : As they have sown the wind, the US-Thieu clique are reaping the whirlwind. The population in the area controlled by the Saigon administration cannot stand it any more. Over the past months, a powerful movement has emerged, embracing broad social groupings and demanding peace, food and clothing, democratic liberties, national reconciliation and concord, the application of the Paris Agreement, the overthrow of Nguyen Van Thieu and his like and the establishment in Saigon of an administration which is on the side of peace and national concord and will scrupulously implement the Paris Agreement.

These demands fully conform with the Paris Agreement, the March 22, 1974 6-point proposal and the October 8, 1974 statement of the PRG of the RVSN.