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SOUTH VIETNAM

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RVN FOREIGN MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE DENOUNCES COMMUNIST ATTACKS

Saigon Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 14 Mar 75 SG

[Text] The RVN Foreign Ministry today issued a communique making it known that in continuing to gravely and systematically violate the 27 January 1973 Paris agreement with the obvious aim of seeking to annex South Vietnam by force, the communist side is launching large-scale attacks in order to capture a number of RVN district capitals.

In Phu Bon, at 0750 hours on the morning of 8 March 1975, communist troops violently shelled and conducted human-wave attacks against the Thuan Man district capital. Although the RVN garrison units in charge of protecting the people living in the area resisted bravely, at 1150 hours on the same day, enemy troops captured this district capital. We as yet have no reports on the fate of the more than 20,000 civilians in this area.

In Quang Duc, at 0710 hours on 9 March 1975, after firing 10,000 assorted shells into the Duc Lap district capital, communist troops deployed a regiment to attack and overrun this district capital and, at the same time, attacked and captured the positions of (Dak Sak), Nui Lia and Dak Song, 5 to 15 kms south of Duc Lap district capital.

In Quang Tin, at 1130 hours on 10 March 1975, communist troops violently shelled and captured the Hau Duc district capital. Also in Quang Tin, at 1125 hours on 10 March 1975, communist troops relentlessly attacked the Tien Phuoc district capital, and at 1515 hours contact with this district capital was lost completely. At the same time, the Suoi Da post, 12 kms southwest of Tam Ky district capital in Quang Tin Province, was also attacked and overrun by communist troops.

In Binh Duong, at 0630 hours on the morning of 11 March, after violent shelling, communist troops supported by tanks launched many offensive waves against the Tri Tam district capital. The RVN garrison units resisted bravely, causing the enemy to suffer 60 men killed, 4 tanks destroyed and 35 weapons seized right at the beginning of the outbreak of the fighting. On 12 March, the communist troops relentlessly attacked the Tri Tam district capital, and at 1400 hours on the same day, this district capital was captured.

In Darlac, at 0800 hours on 12 March, communist troops violently shelled, attacked and captured the Buon Ho district capital, 40 kms northeast of Ban Me Thuot city.

These brutal attacks by communist troops have caused many losses in human lives and property to the people, and tens of thousands of civilians in Thuan Man, Duc Lap, Hau Duc, Tien Phuoc, Tri Tam and Buon Ho districts have been forced to abandon their homes and flee to seek refuge and protection from the RVN Government. At the same time, these attacks on the Thuan Man, Duc Lap, Hau Duc, Tien Phuoc, Tri Tam and Buon Ho district capitals are insolent challenges to public opinion at home and abroad, to the ICCS, and to the participants in the International Conference on Vietnam.

The RVN Government vehemently denounces and sternly condemns the communists' acts escalating the war, which have created an extremely grave situation in South Vietnam. In the face of the repeated and grave violations of the Paris agreement by the communist side, the RVN Government has decided to reserve for itself the right to apply all appropriate measures in order to protect the territorial integrity and the safety of the people in South Vietnam.

BRIEFS

AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR ARRIVES--Australia's first ambassador to North Vietnam, Mr David Wilson, arrived in Hanoi this morning to take up his new posting. Mr Wilson, on his arrival at Hanoi airport, told a Radio Australia reporter Paul Raffaele that his chief hope was to build on the already considerable relations existing between Australia and North Vietnam. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 13 Mar 75 OW]

GDR JOURNALISTS DELEGATION--Hanoi VNA March 11--A delegation of the journalists association of the German Democratic Republic headed by Harri Czepuch, its president, arrived here today for a visit at the invitation of the Vietnam Journalists Association (VJA). The delegation was welcomed at the Gia Lam airport by Hoang Tung, alternate member of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Workers Party and president of the VJA; Luu Qui Ky, secretary general of the VJA; and other Vietnamese journalists. GDR Ambassador Dieter Doering was also present on the occasion. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1554 GMT 11 Mar 75 BK] The delegation of the Journalists Association of the German Democratic Republic led by Harri Czepuch, its president, called on VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY here this afternoon. It attended a meeting held in its honour, visited a number of VNA sections and held talks with the board of directors on the strengthening of the friendship and fraternal cooperation between the journalists of the two countries. [Hanoi VNA in English 1803 GMT 13 Mar 75 BK]

SWEDISH COOPERATION MINISTER--Hanoi VNA March 13--Gertrude Sigurdson, minister of international cooperation for development of Sweden, arrived here yesterday for a visit to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. She is accompanied by Lennart Klackenborg, vice minister for foreign affairs, and a group of specialists of the Foreign Ministry and the Swedish International Development Authorities (SIDA). The guests were welcomed at Hanoi's Gia Lam Airport by Kha Vang Can, minister of light industry, and Nguyen Co Thach, vice minister for foreign affairs. Nguyen Van Tien, head of the Special Representation of the Republic of South Vietnam in the DRV, and Bo Kjellen, Swedish ambassador, were also present. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT 13 Mar 75 BK]

NGUYEN THANH BINH AT CEREMONY--A ceremony was recently held in Haiphong to launch a dredger we had bought from Czechoslovakia. Presiding over the ceremony were Minister of Water Conservancy Nguyen Thanh Binh and a representative of the Haiphong Municipal Administrative Committee. Present at the ceremony were the Czechoslovak ambassador and a number of Czechoslovak specialists. Czechoslovak specialists and Vietnamese cadres and workers are completing the assembling of engines and testing the dredger, called "Vietnam-Czechoslovak Friendship," to put it into use quickly. [Text] [Hanoi in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1100 GMT 12 Mar 75 SG]

GDR AID--Over 5 million marks of solidarity goods will be made available by the GDR this year for public health and education in the DRV. This was confirmed by Zahlbaum, secretary of the GDR-Vietnam Committee. [Hanoi International Service in English 0100 GMT 4 Mar 75 BK]