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CFR ATTITUDE TOWARD DRV TALKS OFFER SCORED

Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1430 GMT 25 Jan 68 T

[Text] Dear friends, what do you think of this? Will the Chinese official press extensively report on the Vietnam issue? Perhaps some of you will say that it depends on the topics. Everyone is aware that the Vietnam issue is one of the major subjects of Chinese papers and magazines today. Nevertheless, friends, please don't make haste in drawing conclusions. If you read PEOPLE'S DAILY, WEN HUI PAO, or any other paper of the Mao Tse-tung group, you will be convinced that not a single word has been mentioned about the statement by Nguyen Duy Trinh, DRV foreign minister, on the eve of 1968.

However, the statement has aroused the greatest world reaction. In the statement, Nguyen Duy Trinh once again earnestly and clearly stated the DRV Government's stand on the peaceful settlement of the Vietnam issue, a stand which has been the constant concern of the whole world. The DRV foreign minister stressed that the DRV Government will begin talks with the U.S. Government only if the United States will unconditionally cease bombing of DRV territory and other hostile actions against the DRV.

Why is the Mao group unwilling to reveal this vital move and initiative in DRV politics to the Chinese people? Why do they not utter a single word in support of this initiative, although it is known that the Maoist elements always speak in support of Vietnam? (It seems that they do not want their government to take this opportunity to voice their support of Vietnam. Who can prove this?)

To give support to the Vietnamese people on the issue of a cease-fire under the conditions which conform to the very interests of the Vietnamese people is the task of all loyal friends of the Vietnamese people. This is the stand of the people of the USSR and other socialist nations, and all the peace-loving forces of the world. Friends, the Mao group has made clear an extraordinary point on the so-called support of Vietnam, and this viewpoint will be fully manifested whenever the subject of freeing the Vietnamese people from further losses and torture of war is mentioned.

Please recall how Peking responded to the first statement issued by the DRV a year ago in January 1967, saying that if the aggressors unconditionally suspend their air strikes and bombardment against the DRV the country would prepare to hold talks. At that time Peking rudely clamored "no talks should be initiated." Ignoring the Vietnamese people's will, the Maoist group leveled excessive abuses at those who favored peaceful negotiations. PEOPLE'S DAILY published an article which, in the eyes of foreign observers, was a rebuke directed at Hanoi.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

In spite of the fact that the peace initiative won full support of the NFLSV, PEOPLE'S DAILY has repeatedly claimed that such talks were nothing more than a big fraud.

According to PEOPLE'S DAILY, the DRV would be considered as selling out the interests of the 14 million Vietnamese people as soon as it entered into peaceful negotiations in exchange for a cessation of air raids. The Maoist group, lacking a sense of reality, has thus clearly indicated to the world that it is not the DRV Government which leads the Vietnamese patriots to wage the liberation struggle, but Peking that decides the main course of settling the Vietnam issue. The imperialists have lost no time in exploiting Peking's stand.

On the heels of Mao Tse-tung, Johnson hesitated in responding to the peace initiative. The U.S. aggressors have made a new move to escalate the war and the Maoist group did not conceal its attitude toward the DRV Government's peace initiative; the Maoist propaganda machinery even said that this proposal was not worth mentioning.

While at present all progressive people are acclaiming the DRV stand and demanding an immediate halt to the U.S. air raids, Peking once more clearly reiterated its stand. By seizing the opportunity of the visit of the South Vietnamese song and dance ensemble to China, the Maoist representatives declared to the world that any talk would be considered a hoax. From their viewpoint any attempt to solve the Vietnam issue through peaceful means will be interpreted as selling out the interest of struggling Vietnam.

As you have known, it is the Maoist group which pretends to aid Vietnam. In fact, it stabs the Vietnamese people in the back. The Maoist elements have again given a trump card to the American propagandists as they had done a year before. The Vietnamese war, says an overseas Chinese newspaper in Malaysia, has become a tool in the hands of Peking, as well as a means for stepping up Sino-American (? collaboration) in Southeast Asia.

BRIEFS

SOVIET-FRENCH PROTOCOL--The signing of a protocol at the first session of the mixed Soviet-French commission, set up in accordance with the maritime agreement between the USSR and France on 20 April 1967, took place on 18 January in Moscow at the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet. In a cooperative spirit, the commission discussed questions connected with bilateral maritime exchange, and outlined the basic ways for the development and improvement of (? ship) transportation of freight between the two countries. (Moscow in Morse to Ships 0800 GMT 24 Jan 68 L)

USSR-GDR PROTOCOL--A protocol on scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and the GDR was signed in Moscow. The agreement was signed for the Soviet Union by Deputy Premier Vladimir Kirillin, and for the GDR by Minister for Science and Technology Guenther Freyl. The agreement envisages the establishment of direct connections between the scientists of the two countries. They are to embark on mutual consultations for the coordination of long-term plans for the development of science and technology, and to jointly draft proposals for the extensive of cooperation. (East Berlin Domestic German 2100 GMT 25 Jan 68 L)