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III. XUAN THUY SUMMARIZES DRV PARIS POSITION IN PRAVDA INTERVIEW, THANKS RUSSIANS FOR SUPPORT

(Moscow Pravda 27 December 1970)

(V. Sedykh interview with DRV Government Delegation head at the Paris Conference Xuan Thuy: "The paths toward a peaceful settlement of the Viet-Nam problem")

The quadripartite talks on Viet-Nam began in Paris approximately two years ago. What have been the results of these talks? The head of the DRV Government Delegation at the Paris Conference Minister Xuan Thuy has given the following interview to Pravda's own correspondent in France.

Approximately 100 sessions have been held during the two years of the work of the quadripartite conference on Viet-Nam, but no progress has been achieved, Xuan Thuy stated. The point is that the Nixon administration is utilizing the talks as a cover for its "political strength" and is continuing to strive to capture South Viet-Nam, Laos, and Cambodia, a fact which also explains the Americans' continuation of the war in Viet-Nam and its extension to the whole of Indochina. The Nixon administration is not ceasing its provocative actions against North Viet-Nam. The most serious of these actions were the 21 and 22 November 1970 bombings of many populated regions of the DRV.

After November 1969 the United States lowered the level of the conference by refusing to appoint a new U.S. delegation head to replace the retired Cabot Lodge. A new appointment was made only eight months later and has not yielded significant changes: the U.S. delegation is continuing to defend the position characteristic of colonialists and aggressors.

President Nixon and other U.S. officials have recently been making extremely belligerent statements, threatening to launch new attacks against North Viet-Nam, and this is posing a serious danger to the work of the Paris Conference. At present two diametrically opposed positions are clashing at the Paris Conference. On the one hand, the position of defending independence and peace occupied by the DRV Government and PRGRSV Delegations and, on the other, the position of aggression and neocolonialism occupied by the U.S. side. It is difficult for the Paris Conference to emerge from the impasse in which it finds itself because to this day the United States has not abandoned its aggressive plans with respect to Viet-Nam and the other Indochinese countries.

Recalling the proposals submitted at the conference by the DRV and RSV Delegations, Xuan Thuy stated:

The DRV and RSV Delegations came to the Paris Conference full of goodwill, and they occupy a serious position. It is a long time since the DRV government submitted its four-point proposals. On 8 May 1969 the NFLSV proposed a ten-point global solution to the question. On 17 September 1970 Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh reported a new Eight-Point PRGRSV Peace Initiative. And finally, on 10 December this year, the PRGRSV Delegation made a three-point statement on the cease-fire question. This statement envisaged that, in the event of the U.S. administration announcing the total and unconditional withdrawal of U.S. and allied troops from South Viet-Nam by 30 June 1971, the sides would be able to embark on an immediate discussion of the question of releasing prisoners of war. At the 95th session of the Paris Conference the DRV government delegation reported that the deadline set for the withdrawal from South Viet-Nam of all U.S. forces and the forces of the other countries in the U.S. camp-- prior to 30 June 1971--was completely reasonable. If the United States disagrees with this deadline we proposed that it suggest another date which could be examined. However, the U.S. delegation has preferred not to respond to this proposal. Its silence only confirms the U.S. aspiration to continue the occupation of South Viet-Nam for a long time.

The PRGRSV proposal opens a path to a settlement of the following two fundamental problems. The first is that the United States, having committed aggression against Viet-Nam, must proceed to the total and unconditional withdrawal from South Viet-Nam of its forces and the forces of its allies. The second is that the United States must in practice respect the South Vietnamese population's right to self-determination and agree to the formation of a provisional tripartite coalition government intended to prepare the holding of free and democratic general elections in South Viet-Nam.

These proposals are fully in keeping with the South Vietnamese population's fundamental national rights and in keeping with the fundamental principles of the 1954 Geneva Accords on Viet-Nam. They are also in keeping with the interests of peace throughout the world and the U.S. people's interests.

Touching on the current difficulties in the Paris Conference's work, the Minister stated:

As everybody knows, the main cause of the impasse in the Paris Conference's work lies in the fact that the Nixon administration is intentionally striving to continue the war, implant neocolonialism in South Viet-Nam, and maintain there on a long-term basis the U.S. occupation regime, constantly threatening a resumption of attacks against North Viet-Nam. The Nixon administration's statements and actions testify that the United States is continuing to strive for a military victory on the battlefield, while at the conference table the U.S. side constantly rejects a peaceful solution

of the Viet-Nam problem on the basis of respect for the Vietnamese people's independence and freedom.

Nixon's 10 October 1970 statement again laid bare the true content of the military policy pursued by his administration. It is a question of blatant provocation against the DRV and of an impudent challenge to the socialist countries and all the peoples striving for peace and justice. The USSR Government expressed itself clearly in this respect in its 16 December 1970 statement.

For the Paris Conference's work to be successful, Xuan Thuy continued, the United States must give a serious answer to the ten-point proposal on a global solution and to the Eight-Point PRGRSV Peace Initiative.

The United States must: announce the withdrawal by 30 June 1971 of all U.S. and allied troops from South Viet-Nam; respect the South Vietnamese population's right to self-determination; agree to the formation of a provisional tripartite coalition government which would prepare the holding of free and democratic general elections in South Viet-Nam; and end acts of war and all other actions affecting DRV sovereignty and security.

Concluding his interview, Comrade Xuan Thuy stated:

The Vietnamese people have always enjoyed the support and fraternal aid of the Soviet Union in their struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. On 16 December 1970 the USSR Government published a statement fully supporting the 10 December appeal of the Viet-Nam Workers Party Central Committee and DRV government. On the Vietnamese people's behalf I would like to express my feelings of gratitude toward the Soviet people, the CPSU, and the Soviet government for their valuable support and aid. On the occasion of the New Year I would like to convey best wishes to the fraternal Soviet people. I wish them many remarkable successes in the cause of building a Communist society. May the fraternal friendship between the Vietnamese and Soviet peoples continue to grow stronger and flourish on the basis of Marxism-Leninism.

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(Moscow TASS International Service in English 0743 GMT, 27 Dec. 1970)

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In an interview to a Pravda Paris Correspondent Xuan Thuy said that the statements and actions of the Nixon administration show that the United States continues to desire a military victory in the battlefield, but at the conference table the American side refuses all the time from a peaceful settlement (as received) of the Vietnamese problem on the basis of respect for independence and freedom of the Vietnamese people.

There are two diametrically opposite stands now at the Paris Conference, the Minister said. On the one hand -- a stand of upholding independence and peace, taken by the delegations of the DRV government and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam; and on the other hand -- a stand of aggression and neo-colonialism, taken by the American side.

Xuan Thuy said that for successful work of the Paris Conference it is necessary that United States give a serious reply to the proposal on a Ten-Point global (sic) settlement and to the Eight-Point Peaceful Initiative of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam.

The United States must announce the withdrawal of all the troops of the United States and its allies from South Viet-Nam before June 30, 1971. It must respect the rights of the population of South Viet-Nam to selfdetermination, to agree to the establishment of a provisional three-sided coalition government which would prepare the holding of general, free and democratic elections in South Viet-Nam. The United States must end acts of war and any other actions affecting the sovereignty and security of the DRV.

The Minister stressed that in their struggle against the American aggression, for national salvation, the Vietnamese people have always enjoyed support and fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union. "May the fraternal friendship between the Vietnamese and Soviet peoples continue to grow and flourish on the basis of Marxism-Leninism", Xuan Thuy said, concluding his interview.

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ADMINISTRATIVE  
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Concluding his interview, Comrade Xuan Thuy stated:

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TASS  
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DATE / SUB-CAT.  
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Paris Conference

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PARIS TALKS

I. VNA REPORTS ON 97th SESSION OF PARIS PEACE TALKS

[Hanoi VNA International Service in English, 1626 GMT,  
30 December 1970]

At the 97th Session today of the Paris Conference on Viet-Nam, Minister Nguyen Thi Binh, head of the delegation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam, denounced the Nixon administration for obstinately pursuing the policy of "negotiation from the position of strength" and sticking to his stand of colonial aggression which wants that the South Vietnamese people accept the Thieu-Ky-Khieu puppet administration, the neo-colonialist rule of the United States.

Minister Nguyen Thi Binh severely condemned the recent bellicose declarations of U.S. President Nixon and Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird and the December 23 threats of bombing against North Viet-Nam if the South Vietnamese people strike hard at U.S. forces.

Minister Nguyen Thi Binh stressed:

"I deem it necessary to reassert once again that so long as the United States persists in its aggression against South Viet-Nam, the South Vietnamese people and their armed forces will continue to make use of their sacred and inviolable right of legitimate defense to deal return blows at the aggressors, wherever they may be."

Minister Nguyen Thi Binh also denounced the U.S. puppet troops for launching many ground and air raids during the recent Christmas truce while the liberation armed forces were strictly abiding by the truce order of the R.S.V.N. P.R.G.

Minister Nguyen Thi Binh concluded:

"Another year is drawing to its close. A new year will begin. While conveying to the American people their best wishes, the South Vietnamese people demand that the U.S. government give up its outmoded colonialist policy, put an immediate end to its war of aggression and respond seriously to the logical and reasonable proposals formulated by the R.S.V.N. P.R.G. with a view to effecting a cease-fire, putting an end to the war and restoring peace in South Viet-Nam."

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Speaking next, Minister Xuan Thuy, head of the D. R. V. N. Government Delegation, stressed: "Following the statements by President Nixon and Defense Secretary Melvin Laird, those by Secretary of State William Rogers at his press conference on December 23, 1970 give further proof that the Nixon administration is going deeper into the path of preparing new military adventures against the D. R. V. N. "

Refuting the so-called "understanding" and condemning Rogers' threats, Minister Xuan Thuy pointed out: "It is clear that in order to pave the way for new air attacks against the D. R. V. N., the Nixon administration is inventing absurd and cynical pretexts of all kinds."

He once again asserted that "the U. S. cessation of bombing and all other acts of war against the D. R. V. N. was total and unconditional. The fact that the army and people of North Viet-Nam resolutely defend their territory, territorial waters and air space against any violation of the sovereignty and security of the D. R. V. N. by the United States, that the South Viet-Nam Liberation Armed Forces attack the U. S. aggressors by any means, at any place on the territory of South Viet-Nam, comes within the Vietnamese people's sacred right of legitimate self-defense. "

"The United States must bear entire responsibility for all the serious consequences arising from its acts of war and aggression", Minister Xuan Thuy stressed.