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VO NGUYEN GIAP GIVES ADVICE TO NIXON ON POW RELEASE

East Berlin Domestic Television Service in German 2000 GMT 1 Jul 71 G

[Excerpt from undated Volker Ott interview in Hanoi with DRV Defense Minister Vo Nguyen Giap--recorded with German translation superimposed]

[Text] [Question] Nixon declared that he will keep American soldiers in Vietnam as long as there are American prisoners of war. On the other hand, as long as American GI's are stationed there, there will be more POW's. What advice would you give Nixon on escaping this dilemma?

[Answer] You are right. Nixon's statement is very contradictory. The longer the U.S. imperialists continue their aggressive war, the more U.S. POW's there will be. This is obvious. On this issue and on many others, there are many contradictions in the policy of the U.S. aggressors. They talk most impudently and constantly try to make black appear white. They continue to expand the war of aggression and say they want peace. They indiscriminately murder civilians while declaring they want to protect them. They are plunging the United States into a state of chaos and say they do this for the sake of saving U.S. prestige. They massacre patriots and commit crimes that are perfectly scandalous. They form an extremely brutal fascist administration composed of stooges and deliver great speeches about the people's right of self-determination. This idle talk, however, cannot justify the immoral acts committed by the United States. The people in the United States and the rest of the world cannot be deceived by this idle talk.

As for the POW question, the Vietnamese people long ago pointed out a way to solve this dilemma. It is very simple. If the U.S. imperialists completely end their aggression and finally withdraw from Vietnam, there will automatically be no more American prisoners of war. Had the United States waged no aggression against Vietnam, there would have been no American prisoners here. The result of the U.S. aggression is not only the deaths of thousands of young Americans, but the fact that even more of them are being captured. If the United States wishes that no U.S. soldiers be imprisoned, the only way out is to end U.S. aggression.

I would like to clearly emphasize that the imprisoned Americans are air pirates who were captured in our country while committing crimes. In treating these pirates, the DRV Government is constantly guided by its humane policy. Many of them are quite aware of their guilt. They intensely hate the American rulers who made them murder Vietnamese civilians and who continue the policy of aggression, thus prolonging their time of imprisonment. Many American politicians and citizens, including some families of the imprisoned soldiers, clearly realize this. They are actively fighting and demanding that the U.S. Government immediately end its war of aggression.

PRGRSV DELEGATE ANNOUNCES NEW PEACE INITIATIVE AT PARIS SESSION

VNA Report

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Hanoi VNA International Service in English 1652 GMT 1 Jul 71 B

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 1st--Today's 119th session of the Paris conference on Viet Nam was marked by the announcement by R.S.V.N. PRG head delegate Minister Nguyen Thi Binh of a new seven-point peace initiative of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam on the peaceful settlement of the South Viet Nam problem, according to our correspondent in Paris.

This seven-point statement deals with these questions: deadline for the total withdrawal of U.S. forces, power in South Viet Nam, Vietnamese armed forces in South Vietnam, peaceful reunification of Viet Nam and relations between the two zones, north and south, foreign policy of peace and neutrality of South Viet Nam, the damage caused by the United States to the Vietnamese people in both zones, and respect for and international guarantee of the accords that will be concluded.

After announcing the seven-point statement of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, Minister Nguyen Thi Binh said: "With this seven-point statement, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam has once again clearly shown its goodwill for peace. These correct proposals and this serious attitude will no doubt win the approval and vigorous support of freedom- and justice-loving governments and people the world over.

"We are firmly convinced that the South Viet Nam people, in the cities as well as in the countryside, will, together with the Provisional Revolutionary Government, struggle with all their strength to end the U.S. war of aggression, to bring about peace and independence to the fatherland, and to achieve the broad concord of the whole nation. We are confident that the North Viet Nam people will promote their union with the South Viet Nam people and will unreservedly support the correct proposals of the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. We firmly believe that the forces of freedom and peace in the United States, together with the Vietnamese people, will struggle for the end of the war in Viet Nam, in the interest of the Vietnamese people, the American people, and world peace.

"We call on the U.S. Government to give a serious response to the new initiative that we have put forward at this session so as to allow the Paris conference on Viet Nam to progress."

Speaking next, Minister Xuan Thuy, head of the D.R.V.N. Government delegation, pointed out: "The seven-point proposal of the PRG of the R.S.V.N. perfectly reflects the South Viet Nam people's aspirations for independence, peace, neutrality, and democracy. It also perfectly reflects the entire Vietnamese people's aspirations for peace, independence, and national concord. It responds to the interests of both Viet Nam and the United States. It is an evidence of the PRG's goodwill desiring to reach an agreement with all parties to promptly restore peace in Viet Nam on the basis of respect for the Vietnamese people's sacred national rights and to create conditions for the United States to get out of the war in security and honour.

"Prompted by the four-point stand that the Government of the DRVN put forward as early as April 1965 and that was reaffirmed at the very beginning of this conference, we have wholeheartedly supported the 10-point overall solution, the eight-point and the three-point statements of the PRG of the R.S.V.N. Today, the delegation of the Government of the D.R.V.N. declares its full approval and support for the seven-point proposal of the PRG of the R.S.V.N.

"We respect the South Viet Nam people's aspirations for peace, independence, neutrality, and democracy. We share the views on the peaceful re-unification of Viet Nam and on the relationship between the north and the south zones as expounded in the seven points. We respect the independence, peace, neutrality, and territorial integrity of the kingdoms of Laos and Cambodia, and we strengthen the solidarity existing among the Indochinese peoples. We wish to live in peace and friendship with all the nations the world over."

Minister Xuan Thuy went on: "Throughout their national history, the Vietnamese people have upheld their traditions of undaunted struggle to defend their independence and freedom. As long as the United States pursues its war of aggression, the Vietnamese people will continue their fight till total victory. If the United States ends its aggression and war, the relations between Viet Nam and the United States will develop on a new basis, in the interests of both parties.

"The secret documents of the Pentagon recently published in the New York TIMES, the Washington POST, and many other American papers have proved that the pretexts alleged by the United States to intervene in and to make aggression against Viet Nam are utterly unjustified. Therefore, the United States cannot avoid the total and speedy withdrawal from South Viet Nam of U.S. forces and those of the other foreign countries in the U.S. camp and cannot refuse to respect the South Viet Nam people's right to self-determination and to stop backing the bellicose group in power headed by Nguyen Van Thieu. The people in the United States as well as the world's peoples know full well that the 'Vietnamization' of the war is a mistake indefinitely involving the United States in an unjust war and causing it increasing difficulties in the economic, social, and political fields.

"The best way for the United States to follow is to negotiate seriously, thus making the Paris conference on Viet Nam progress."

Lastly, Minister Xuan Thuy proposed that the U.S. delegation consider carefully the seven-point statement of Minister Madame Nguyen Thi Binh and give it a positive response so as to rapidly end the war, restore peace, settle the Viet Nam problem in a correct way in accordance with the interests of the Vietnamese and the American peoples and meeting the aspiration for peace and justice of the world's peoples.

Though promising to consider the PRG's new peace initiative, the U.S. delegate kept repeating Nixon's words proving that the U.S. still schemes to impose neo-colonialism on South Viet Nam.

The Saigon puppet administration's delegate also promised to consider the proposal, but through his prepared speech as well as his further comment, [he] repeated Nixon's and Nguyen Van Thieu's erroneous allegations.

Speaking again, Minister Nguyen Thi Binh emphasized that the U.S. delegation should consider carefully and respond positively to the above seven-point statement.

The 120th session of the Paris conference on Viet Nam will be held next Thursday, July 8, 1971.

#### Le Duc Tho-Kissinger Meeting

London REUTER in English 1916 GMT 1 Jul 71 X

[Text] Paris, July 1, REUTER--North Vietnamese Politburo member Le Duc Tho would be prepared to meet President Nixon's national security adviser Henry Kissinger if the American asked for a meeting, a North Vietnamese delegation spokesman said here today. The spokesman, Nguyen Thanh Le, was answering a question during a briefing after Thursday's session of the Vietnam peace talks here at which the Viet Cong made a new peace proposal. Kissinger is scheduled to visit Paris toward the end of next week. Le Duc Tho, who is acting as a special adviser to chief Hanoi negotiator Xuan Thuy, arrived here last Thursday.

## Text of Xuan Thuy Statement

[Following is English text of DRV opening statement by Xuan Thuy at 119th plenary session of Paris meetings, July 1, 1971, as released to press by Vietnamese Communists]

Ladies and gentlemen,

At this conference, the delegation of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the delegation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam have constantly shown their goodwill and have put forward many logical and reasonable proposals.

At the present session, Minister Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, chief of the delegation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, has advanced seven points for the peaceful settlement of the Viet Nam problem. The seven-point proposal of the P.R.G. of the R.S.V.N. perfectly reflects the South Viet Nam people's aspirations for independence, peace, neutrality and democracy. It also perfectly reflects the entire Vietnamese people's aspirations for peace, independence, and national concord. It responds to the interests to both Viet Nam and the United States. It is an evidence of the P.R.G.'s goodwill desiring to reach an agreement with all parties to promptly restore peace in Viet Nam on the basis of respect for the Vietnamese people's sacred national rights and to create conditions for the United States to get out of the war in security and honour.

Exempted by the four-point stand that the Government of D.R.V.N. put forward as early as April, 1965 and that was reaffirmed at the very beginning of this conference, we have whole heartedly supported the 10-point overall solution, the 8-point and the 3-point statements of the P.R.G. of the R.S.V.N. Today, the delegation of the Government of the D.R.V.N. declares its full approval and support for the 7-point proposal of the P.R.G. of the R.S.V.N.

We respect the South Viet Nam people's aspirations for peace, independence, neutrality, and democracy. We share the views on the peaceful re-unification of Viet Nam and on the relationship between the north and the south zones as expounded in the seven points. We respect the independence, peace, neutrality, and territorial integrity of the kingdoms of Laos and Cambodia, and we strengthen the solidarity existing among the Indochinese peoples. We wish to live in peace and friendship with all the nations the world over.

Throughout their national history, the Vietnamese people have upheld their traditions of undaunted struggle to defend their independence and freedom. As long as the United States pursues its war of aggression, the Vietnamese people will continue their fight till total victory. If the United States ends its aggression and war, the relations between Viet Nam and the United States will develop on a new basis, to the interests of both parties. In this spirit, we do not like enmity; we want to see all U.S. forces rapidly withdraw from South Viet Nam in safety, so that every American serviceman participating in the war, including American pilots captured in North Viet Nam, may promptly return to his home.

The secret documents of the Pentagon recently published in the New York TIMES, the Washington POST, and many other American papers have proved that the pretexts alleged by the United States to intervene in and to make aggression against Viet Nam are utterly unjustified.

Therefore the United States cannot avoid the total withdrawal from South Viet Nam of U.S. forces and those of the other foreign countries in the U.S. camp and cannot refuse to respect the South Viet Nam people's right to self-determination and to stop backing the bellicose group in power headed by Nguyen Van Thieu. The people in the United States as well as in the world have clearly realized that the policy of "Vietnamization" is a mistake indefinitely involving the United States in an unjust war and causing it increasing difficulties in the economic, social, and political fields.

The best way for the United States to follow is to negotiate seriously, thus making the Paris conference on Viet Nam progress.

I propose the U.S. delegate to consider carefully the seven-point statement of Minister Madame Nguyen Thi Binh and to give it a positive response so as to rapidly end the war, to restore peace, to settle the Viet Nam problem in a correct way, conforming to the interests of the Vietnamese and the American peoples and meeting the aspirations for peace and justice of the world people.

#### Hanoi Reaction

Paris APP in French 2057 GMT 1 Jul 71 C--FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] Hanoi, 1 Jul--By AFP correspondent Joel Henri--The new PRG peace plan proposed at the Paris conference on Thursday has been received with great interest in Hanoi.

According to North Vietnamese sources, it is believed that the President of the United States cannot ignore this plan as he ignored earlier PRG proposals. This new initiative comes after a series of victorious offensives and counteroffensives by the Indochinese forces (southern Laos, Bolovens, Route 9, the battle of Snuol in Cambodia), and also at a moment in which the silent majority in South Vietnam and in the United States are wondering about the outcome of Vietnamization, and the illusion of the Guam doctrine.

It is said that, if President Nixon insists on his policy of aggression, he will become more isolated. Will he set a deadline in 1971 for the total withdrawal of American and allied troops, as requested by the PRG, and will he stop supporting the Saigon administration headed by Nguyen Van Thieu?

To these questions, Hanoi replies: We hold the initiative. We have full confidence in our capacity to resist. We are determined to respect President Ho's testament.

Diplomatic circles in Hanoi note the more open phrasing of the PRG proposals. The latest peace plan advocates the formation of a government of national concord--a more general term than the word coalition.

The PRG also suggests a negotiation scheme allowing for the definition of an independent and neutral Vietnam with which the United States could maintain political, economic and cultural relations--something which has never been so clearly expressed in an official document.

Observers note that this peace initiative was launched by the PRG 1 week after the return to Paris of Le Duc Tho, special advisor to the North Vietnamese delegation to the peace conference and member of the Workers Party, who has great political influence.