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SOUTH VIETNAM

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REPORT ON LY VAN SAU 8 JULY PRESS CONFERENCE IN SANTIAGO

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[Text] Santiago, Chile, 8 Jul--Ly Van Sau, PRGRSV delegate to the Paris peace talks, said today in a press conference that: "Peace depends on Mr Nixon and whether or not he accepts our demand for total U.S. troop withdrawal before the end of this year."

Ly Van Sau was accompanied by Vietnamese journalist Nguyen Hoang Kinh from LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY. Both were introduced to the large group of Chilean reporters by the director of Chile's National Journalists Association, Alfredo Olivares, inside the National Congress building.

The basic characteristic of the PRGRSV representative's press conference was the atmosphere of solidarity and sympathy which developed among the mass media reporters, although they represent the widest divergency of political leanings.

Ly Van Sau began by extending greetings of the National Liberation Front war correspondents. He said: "Since our arrival in Chile we have felt the friendship and love of the Chilean people, made evident by our colleagues in Santiago and Valparaiso. In all circles we have found deep understanding of the patriotic struggle which is freeing our people, and the fraternal sympathy of the people and the leaders of President Allende's Popular Unity government."

He added: "Our people had to defend the Vietnam fatherland, defeating the Japanese invaders, the French colonialists supported by U.S. advisors, and now defeating the aggression of the United States.

"In order to have some idea of the barbarity of the Pentagon militarists, it is enough to recall that between 1965 and 1970 their planes dropped 10 million tons of bombs on our territory. This is equivalent to 770 atomic bombs of the type the United States used on Hiroshima.

"And one must not forget the chemical warfare which the United States has carried out against our fatherland. Their bombs and chemical agents have leveled 70 percent of our forest area and 40 percent of arable land. Not only have they caused irreparable damage to fields and forests but also an ecological change which will harm future generations.

"One of the chemical agents used by the U.S. aggressors," continued Ly Van Sau to the hushed audience of journalists, "is 245-T, which affects the human body like thalidomide. Deformed children have been born and they die at birth. The U.S. aggression has damaged our lands and cities, our women and Vietnamese children."

Ly Van Sau added: "But with all our strength and in all ways we have faced the U.S. aggression with the persevering struggle of all our people and we have achieved great victories, which have made the U.S. Government recognize the impossibility of a military victory for them."

He continued: "But this recognition of the facts by the whole world does not mean that the Nixon government is abandoning its aggressive maneuvers. They have now been masked by what is called Vietnamization.

"From cables yesterday we learned that Mr Nixon has not changed his aggressive policy. The U.S. ambassador to the puppet regime in Saigon, Ellsworth Bunker, provided a cynical but clear definition of the U.S. Vietnamization plan. Bunker said that Vietnamization consists of changing the color of the skin of the aggressors, that is, making Vietnamese fight Vietnamese."

Ly Van Sau explained: "To accomplish this they plan to use Saigon puppet troops advised by the Pentagon and supported by U.S. air and naval forces. With the sound defeat of 553,000 U.S. troops who could not defeat the Vietnamese people, it should be evident that the use of mercenary forces with the same goal will have the same result. This Yankee plan is a pipedream."

He continued: "Today you have important news for us. This is the official Chilean Government communique released by the Foreign Ministry in which Chile publically supports the PRGRSV's new seven-point peace plan presented in Paris on Thursday, 1 July.

"This is the fifth peace initiative presented by our government since the Paris meetings began in January 1969, and it reflects the most correct and honorable solution for our people, who have for 25 years been suffering the horrors of war and aggression committed by a country 1,000 times more powerful, and for the millions and millions of U.S. citizens who repudiate this aggression against us.

Ly Van Sau continued: "Our new peace initiative also reflects the wishes of all the people in the world. Peace depends on Mr Nixon, on the Government of the United States, if they accept our demand for the withdrawal of all U.S. troops before the end of the year.

"If they would only listen to the voice of reason, there would be serious negotiations in Paris, because our new proposal contains an honorable peace for all parties. No one wants peace more than we, who have had to victoriously face a war of barbarous aggression, whose cruelty and scope has startled the world."

Ly Van Sau said: "Mr Nixon himself has recognized the military defeat of his invading troops. Our people in the 4,000 years of our history have never harmed the U.S. people. We have never taken their territory or wealth."

"We are a peace-loving people but we are ready for any sacrifice, and will fight on as long as necessary to achieve our country's independence, peace, and prosperity," noted Ly Van Sau.

"The battle motto of our people is: Better to die free than live in slavery," emphasized the Vietnamese spokesmen to the newspaper, radio, television, and international news agencies representatives, who noted his words in an atmosphere of emotion unusual for journalists.

With this new initiative, said Ly Van Sau, our government offers the opportunity for an honorable peace. It is now up to Mr Nixon to speak.

Some moments passed following Ly Van Sau's address before the press regained emotional balance. Finally, a reporter asked Ly Van Sau's opinion on the spectacular publication in the U.S. press of the secret Pentagon documents concerning the aggression against Vietnam.

Ly Van Sau replied that the McNamara report "which caused such repercussions and which we were able to read in the Chilean press on our arrival, clearly demonstrates the correctness of our denunciations all these years. It shows that the United States prefabricated this war of aggression behind the back of its people, to meet its objectives of playing the international policeman who wants to impose himself on us by force.

"All the false arguments used by successive U.S. governments, such as the north's war against the south, Viet Cong terror, and communist aggression, are now being revealed to the U.S. and international public as further proof of the U.S. Government's lies and deception before the U.S. people.

"Because a certain U.S. soldier took pictures and his conscience obliged him to publish them, everybody came to know that on 16 May 1968 a company of a U.S. division carried out an operation in the village of Son My and--without a fight or military resistance--assassinated more than 500 defenseless Vietnamese women and children in just a few hours.

"We also learn now how Mr Nixon is saving from prison Lieutenant Calley, one of the Son My assassins. But we know that the main criminal is the U.S. Government.

"Some courageous U.S. journalists have given a more truthful image of the aggression perpetrated by their government: such journalists as Don Luce, who revealed that prisoners were locked in tiger cages. We are grateful to him for his humanitarianism."

"But there also exists the imperialist press," continued Ly Van Sau, "and it conceals the truth and performs the function of publishing the government's false arguments. But this, of course, is much more difficult to do now because millions and millions of U.S. people have come to understand the horror of the aggression perpetrated against our soldiers and martyred people."

Another journalist asked Ly Van Sau how his people viewed the international solidarity given them during these war years and what specific aspects of this solidarity were considered most important.

"We always consider our liberation struggle as part of the universal struggle for liberation carried by the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, and of humanity's struggle for peace, democracy and social progress," replied Ly Van Sau. "The banner of international solidarity has always been carried very high by our people," said the Vietnamese spokesman.

"Today," continued Ly Van Sau, "our small country has many friends and we have more and more U.S. friends who understand and support our struggle. Over the last few years we have been receiving moral, spiritual, political, and financial support and, above all, the unconditional support of the socialist countries."

"Latin America," noted Ly Van Sau, "gave us the exemplary solidarity of the Cuban Government and people, the militant solidarity of great numbers of youths, students, and statesmen.

"Today this solidarity consists of aiding our struggle within the country on the one hand, and on the other, in demanding support for our new peace initiative--a flexible proposal, full of sincerity and understanding. It consists of demanding that the Nixon government set a reasonable date for the withdrawal of the very last U.S. soldier from Vietnam within this year, and abandon its plan by to leave 100,000 or 150,000 U.S. troops on our soil, as it had done in South Korea."

"This Nixon plan," added Ly Van Sau, "has as its objectives to turn Vietnamese territory into a backbone of U.S. aggression in Indochina. We have already said that this represents a new form of intolerable imperialist domination. We will continue to fight until not one U.S. soldier remains in Vietnam, until the total withdrawal of all U.S. troops."

"Our peace proposal provides for a cease-fire, the security of the orderly withdrawal of the aggressors, and the release of all U.S. troops captured in the war."

Then the journalists emphasized Ly Van Sau's (?patriotism). The Vietnamese people's spokesman told them that in South Vietnam there are more than 40 revolutionary newspapers and magazines, published secretly or in liberated zones. He added, smiling: "We also have a radio and a news agency named **LIBERATION**."

He continued, with the same smile: "We do not work in large buildings or with modern rotary presses, and we work under difficult conditions, under the bombs of U.S. planes. Our papers have few pages, but no commercial announcements. We publish poems, reports, and stories."

Because of the voracious curiosity of his Latin American colleagues, Ly Van Sau took from his briefcase copies--some already yellowed with age--of newspapers and magazines of the South Vietnamese revolutionaries. Flashbulbs and cameras recorded one printed word which was repeated in logotypes, articles, and poems: **GIAI PHONG**, which means **LIBERATION**.

#### SOUTH VIETNAM GROUPS' STATEMENTS SUPPORT PRG PLAN

##### Liberation Peasants Association

Liberation Radio [Clandestine] in Vietnamese to South Vietnam 1100 GMT 11 Jul 71 S

[July 5 statement of South Vietnam Liberation Peasants Association]

[Text] On 1 July 1971, at the 119th plenary session of the Paris conference on Vietnam, PRG Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh read the PRG's seven-point statement based on the 10-point overall solution of 8 May 1969. This statement stresses the PRG's good will for peace and correct attitude and points out its proper proposals which are conducive to a peace solution for South Vietnam. Thus, this new important fact reveals the correct stand, serious attitude, and good will for peace of the NFLSV and PRG and reflects the South Vietnamese people's eager desire for an end to the war and for genuine peace.

To respond to the American and world peoples' desire for peace and to the PRG's correct, logical, and reasonable proposals, the Nixon government must withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from South Vietnam, must really respect the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination, and must allow the South Vietnamese to settle their own internal affairs without foreign interference. These seven concrete points are correct, logical, and reasonable proposals that will surely be welcomed and strongly supported by the Vietnamese, American progressives, and peace- and justice-loving people worldwide.

Over the past 2 years, the Nixon administration and the Thieu clique have stubbornly refused to seriously respond to these proper, logical, and reasonable proposals of the NFLSV, PRG, and South Vietnamese people and to the desire for peace of the U.S. and world peoples. Moreover, they have stubbornly carried out the Vistnamization policy to maintain U.S. neocolonialism, expanded the war to all of Indochina, continued encroaching on DRV territory, and striven to realize Nixon's doctrine of using Vietnamese to fight Vietnamese and Asians to fight Asians.

To achieve their cunning scheme, the U.S.-puppets have concentrated on implementing their pacification plan, launching fierce attacks in the southern countryside in order to scrape up human and material resources to satisfy the requirements of their Vietnamization scheme and to expand their aggressive war against Cambodia and Laos.