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U.S. REFUSES TO CAST OFF THIEU ADMINISTRATION

VNA on 121st Paris Session

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[Text] Hanoi VNA July 15--At the 121st session of the Paris conference on Viet Nam today, Minister Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, head of the R.S.V.N. P.R.G. delegation, noted that by refusing to set a deadline for the total withdrawal of its troops in 1971, the Nixon administration shows that it does not want to stop the war, that the contention on its desire to see a prompt release of the captured militarymen is but hypocrisy.

Many American political personalities and families of captured American militarymen also affirmed that if the U.S. Government refuses to accept the proposals of the P.R.G., the only reason is that it does not want to cast off the Nguyen Van Thieu puppet administration, she added.

Mme Nguyen Thi Binh said the Nixon administration is paying lip service to the "respect" for the South Vietnamese people's right to freely decide their political future, while, in fact, refusing to respond to the proposal embodied in the Point 2 of the P.R.G.'s peace initiative and continuing to support and protect the Nguyen Van Thieu dictatorial group. Thus, the Nixon administration is still scheming to force the South Vietnamese people to accept an administration rigged up by the U.S. in defiance of the people's aspiration.

Mme Nguyen Thi Binh went on: "We want peace to be soon restored so as to put an end to the mournings and sufferings which the U.S. war of aggression has caused to our people for decades now. We also do not want to see hundreds of thousands of American youths bogged down in South Viet Nam and killed or rendered invalid in an unjust war which runs counter to the legitimate interests of the American people. But, to realize this desire, there must be good will from both sides."

She then denounced the U.S. for stepping up sweeps and bombardments in Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia while seeking every possible means at the Paris conference to misconstrue the good will of the P.R.G.

"By prolonging its war of aggression and hampering serious negotiations, the Nixon administration is running counter to the interests of the U.S.A. and can not, in any way, shirk its responsibility for the impasse of this conference," Mme Nguyen Thi Binh concluded.

Speaking next, Minister Xuan Thuy, head of the D.R.V.N. Government delegation, pointed to the erroneous policy in President Nixon's July 6 statement that the United States "was actively participating negotiations just as it was actively participating in the programme of 'Vietnamisation' regardless of the results of negotiations."

"How can one seriously negotiate while pursuing the 'Vietnamization' of the war? Because 'Vietnamization' brings about the prolongation and expansion of the war, it means the seeking of a military victory so as to negotiate from a position of strength. It means also the deliberate maintenance in office of the U.S.-established Nguyen Van Thieu administration, which is the greatest obstacle to the progress of the Paris conference," Xuan Thuy emphasized, adding:

"This statement of Mr Nixon's further proves that his administration talks peace but makes war. In fact, since early July, the United States has continuously launched barbarous B-52 bombing raids in South Viet Nam and supported Saigon troops in many sweep operations. At the same time it pursued air attacks against many populous regions of North Viet Nam, particularly those near the 17th Parallel, thus violating its engagement to cease all encroachments on the sovereignty and security of the D.R.V.N. in Laos. The United States and its agents have opened nibbling attacks against the Plain of Jars and many other areas in southern Laos controlled by the Lao Patriotic Front. In Cambodia, the United States still supported and commanded Saigon troops in continuing operations of aggression, particularly in the Parrot Beak region."

Xuan Thuy said the Nixon administration for propaganda purposes, is distorting the good will of the P.R.G. and of the D.R.V.N. Government to minimize the important significance of the seven-point peace plan that is very correct, logical, and reasonable and that has won approval and support all over the world. Nevertheless, he noted, it can in no way tarnish the just cause of the resisting Vietnamese people.

"If Mr Nixon does not set a deadline for the total withdrawal in 1971 of U.S. forces", Xuan Thuy went on, "the American people and the families of American servicemen will come to the conclusion that the U.S. Government has deceived them. It is evident that every American new casualty or new prisoner on the Viet Nam battlefield will only serve immoral objectives, in contradiction with the interests of the United States and of the American people."

"The P.R.G. of the R.S.V.N. and the Government of the D.R.V.N. have shown their good will. It is now up to the Nixon administration to choose the path of peace or to continue the war, to let the American servicemen promptly and safely return home or to prolong the list of American casualties and prisoners", Xuan Thuy stressed in conclusion.

At today's session, the U.S. delegate and that of the Nguyen Van Thieu puppet administration again avoided responding seriously to the RSVN PRG's seven-point peace plan by setting forth perfidious contentions.

The U.S. delegate rehashed the absurd claim about "mutual troops withdrawal", and still schemed to maintain the Nguyen Van Thieu bellicose group.

The 122nd session will be held next Thursday, July 22, 1971.