

SAIGON COMMENTARIES FOCUS ON TERMS FOR PEACE

'Four No's' Reaffirmed

Saigon Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 20 Oct 72 S

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Consecutive consultations have been held at Independence Palace in the past week between the head of state and the legislators and representatives of various political parties who represent various strata of the people and many different and widespread tendencies. Although no official disclosure has been made regarding the substance of these consultations, they have provided a basis for visualizing the efforts being made to coordinate all the people and the entire nation.

This coordination is aimed at creating strength for action. What objectives should this action achieve? They have been set forth and reiterated by the president in his public statements since the Quang Tri victory and recently at the gathering of the rear defense college and high school student force.

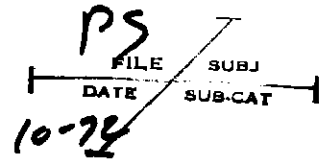
All our people and our entire nation have firmly established, once and for all, Vietnam's peace stand. This major peace issue and objective, which has guided our vigorous actions on all fronts, including the military and political ones, has become more prominent through the consultations between the president and our ambassadors to Paris and Washington, the names closely linked with our quest for peace.

More noteworthy is the fact that the Independence Palace gates were recently opened for a certainly important reporting session for a high-ranking U.S. political and military delegation, in the presence of our National Security Council members. It is reasonable to say that the semiofficial disclosures by authoritative legislative circles prior to and after the current contacts and consultations have shed some light on the substance and purpose of the movement to further strengthen the common coordination.

It will be recalled that in a meeting with the president on the night of 18 October, a member of the National Assembly delegation asked the president: "Please tell us whether you are under any pressure so the National Assembly can share it with you." President Thieu then stated that there was none. According to this National Assembly member, the president looked optimistic.

So one aspect of the political problem is clear. In regard to other aspects of the problem, it is known, through well-informed sources, that the president held many meetings during the past week to discuss the important problems which are closely connected with our entire country and people. And the main problem of peace is an internal affair of South Vietnam.

In this connection, the RVN has asserted that all problems referring to South Vietnam must be decided by the South Vietnamese people themselves, and no one has the right to intervene. Faced with their defeated aggression, the North Vietnamese communists have no reason and no right whatever to claim anything from the RVN side. Thus, our right to self-determination has been stressed and considered as the key in solving the war problem and in reestablishing peace.



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With this unswerving stand and determination, the RVN will never accept, a two-, three-, or four-segment government. All solutions must be decided by the South Vietnamese people. In recent days, and at a time when a U.S. delegation had arrived in Vietnam, this firm and unswerving stand was reaffirmed by President Thieu in his talks with members of the National Assembly, the Supreme Court, and political organizations at the Independence Palace.

Faced with the apparently rapid development of the situation, we can be sure of one thing: We are determined to oppose all forms of communist infiltration. Communism and the slaves serving under its bloodstained flag have been strongly opposed by the South Vietnamese people for the past more than 10 years. [Words indistinct] the world people have witnessed the hard and heroic struggle of the South Vietnamese people against the communists. An anticommunist people cannot live together with the communists. This explains why our people are determined to continue their fight. An anticommunist country cannot allow the communists to continue to trample on the lands and houses of its people, who have attained maturity through combat. This explains why the communists are bitterly defeated. The communists are the implacable enemies of our people.

To be worthy of the people's confidence our government cannot and does not have the right to accept the communists. As the South Vietnamese Government and people are closely united, the government's stand is also the aspiration of all our people.

Therefore, right now it is necessary to recall and stress once more to both our friends and enemy and make them realize that our four-no's stand is an unswerving one: we do not accept coalition with the communists, we do not share lands with the communists, we do not accept communist-type-neutrality, and we do not allow the communists to operate in South Vietnam under any form. This stand by itself alone does not allow the communists to dream of any political scheme regarding coalition.

As everyone knows, the so-called three-segment government is only a form of coalition. Everyone is aware of the communists' intention in setting forth this formula, which sharply contradicts the basic stand of the RVN Government and people. Indeed, the purpose of the three-segment government they have advocated is to seize power in the south and repress and enslave the South Vietnamese people. Therefore, the South Vietnamese must continue their struggle to destroy the communists.

If the communists have the least intention of reestablishing peace in the country, they must find some way other than the three-segment government maneuvers, which is strongly opposed by all South Vietnamese people, because it obviously would lead to the seizure of power and the communizing of the south. If the communists are eager for peace, they should understand that this is the best opportunity for them to rebuild the withered north, and they should not stubbornly stick to the absurd question of face and the intention to enslave the South Vietnamese people.

It is time for them to renounce this wicked scheme, which has been unmasked and strongly opposed by our people. [Words indistinct] they should renounce the dream of achieving a three-segment government in South Vietnam.

They should be clear-sighted and seize this opportunity we have reserved for them to achieve peace. This means they must withdraw all their troops from the three Indochinese countries toward the north and accept a cease-fire under international supervision. They should allow the South Vietnamese people themselves to solve South Vietnam's internal problems.

If the communists want to proceed toward reunification of the country, this must be solved in a peaceful manner, starting with an exchange of cultural and commercial activities between the two zones. Early this year the president of the Republic of Vietnam stated: The South Vietnamese people will decide their own political future through the election of the president of the republic.

The South Vietnamese people who have followed the communists by mistake but who agree to renounce violence, drop their daggers and grenades, and respect the basic principles of democracy, will be allowed to participate in this election.

In summary, the RVN president has created many opportunities to reassert before the world public and the people's representatives the iron determination of the South Vietnamese Government and people not to accept the communists. This determination is also the *raison d'etre* of South Vietnam.

So long as our people do not choose the path of surrender and submit to a foreign warlike ideology, so long as our people do not renounce their glorious struggle for their noble ideology and for their survival, no one should talk with us about a coalition with the communists. The three-segment government, by its nature and form, is only a (?maneuver), which the South Vietnamese people have never ceased to curse and resolutely smash.

Peace on RVN Terms

Saigon Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 20 Oct 72 S

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Peace is drawing near. It is no longer a question mark that disturbs our minds. It is a true fact. To speak correctly, peace will come.

Over the past 10 days successive and continuous efforts have been made to restore peace to this suffering country. From Washington to Paris and from Paris to Saigon, the public has sometimes become exhausted following the developments of the situation.

Some have spoken of peace by basing themselves on allegations or rumors and have thus acted like blindmen who touched an elephant to see what it looks like. The peace solution for Vietnam has been viewed in different ways and has taken on different sizes and shapes. Some have been bewitched by rumors and allegations. But rumors are always unreal and groundless. Meanwhile, public opinion has drawn an arbitrary conclusion from subjective views. As a result the public has played a trick on itself.

Peace is drawing near. This fact was stressed by President Nguyen Van Thieu on 12 October. However, we 17.5 million people in South Vietnam, the insiders, more than anyone else and more than ever, have watched and longed for peace amid rumors and groundless, unrealistic and long-winded allegations. Although this phase is regarded as the concluding part of the war and the beginning of peace, we who have been sacrificing our blood and bones and undergoing trials and hardships for a decade now to build our undertaking cannot dance with joy in the face of rumors or vague allegations.

Our people have accepted suffering and the sacrifice of their blood and bones because they want to decide their own fate and the progress of future generations. Thus, at present a clear-sighted and calm attitude is very necessary and urgent. If we are clear-sighted, we can assess the situation correctly and will not be driven into a defeated position. If we remain calm, we will not act incorrectly and will achieve the expected results.

The war has been prolonged [words indistinct]. But what is important is the last 5 minutes. We are now in the last 5 minutes of the war. Whether our country remains or is lost depends on our clear-sighted and calm attitude in our actions, our assessment of developments in the situation, and our full confidence in our unchangeable stand. This means that the future political system of our country cannot be described on the basis of the irrational and insolent desires of the communists; it must be decided by the 17.5 million South Vietnamese people themselves in accordance with the principle of respect for the national right to self-determination.

In Saigon these days, in addition to the meetings of the National Security Council and Council of Ministers, President Nguyen Van Thieu has conferred with the senators and deputies of both houses of the National Assembly, appealing to them to share the responsibilities with him. He has also consulted the opposition leaders and representatives of political parties.

This fact clearly shows that we have actually united closely not only to resist but also to smash all of the political maneuvers and coercive measures of the communists, which are principally aimed at taking over the south.

During his meeting with senators and house representatives the evening of 18 October, President Nguyen Van Thieu stressed that he is determined to oppose any three-faction solution, because this would cause us to lose our country. He also stated that the communists want to impose a three-segment government not only at the central level but also at the infrastructure, consisting of villages and hamlets in the rural areas.

According to a representative, in this meeting the president called upon the congress to cooperate closely with the government in all aspects to cope with the situation. The stand of the senators and house representatives, especially those of the opposition, is the same as that of the executive: that is, to oppose and not to accept a three-faction formula no matter in what form it may be presented.

This stand clearly shows the difference between opposition and antagonism; and no one else but the communists are antagonistic elements who follow the path of war in trying to achieve their objective.

As for the U.S. side, following an unscheduled press conference in the White House on 5 October, President Nixon, in meeting U.S. POW families on Monday, 16 October, reconfirmed that he will never accept the imposition of any form of a communist government on the heads of the southern people; and that even though he will continue the negotiations to settle the Vietnam war, he will never betray his ally and abandon the POW's and those missing in action in Indochina and thus blacken the honor of the United States.

In view of this statement by the U.S. president and the ironlike and determined words of RVN President Nguyen Van Thieu, it is clear that no matter what high point the successive developments in peace efforts in Vietnam may reach, the three-faction maneuver of the communists can be considered as already dead right from its inception. Our only, rational task now is to firmly and persistently maintain our stand, as well as make incessant efforts to develop our initiative posture, take advantage of our victories, wipe out the enemy on the battlefield, smash his capability and potential for aggression, and create firm support for the government in order to restore the desired peace.

In this direction, we are looking at the future and are embarking toward its light. The rumors, deductions, and speculations here and there, of course, do not make us dizzy. On the contrary, they only make us more alert, clear-sighted in assessing the situation, calm in taking action, and increase the unity between the frontline and the rear and among the executive, legislature and judiciary--namely, among the 17.5 million people in the south--for quickly dropping the war curtain and pulling up the peace curtain for this country on the basis of our stand.

Play on Fear Condemned

Saigon Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 22 Oct 72 S

[Untitled commentary]

[Excerpts] If a somewhat excessive description is needed to help us get to the root of the problem, we should certainly have no hesitation in saying that, to the South Vietnamese people, peace is a longing which they nurture every hour and every minute, and that this longing has lasted for almost 15 years. No one must forget that our people have endured tragic sorrows through 15 years of resisting communist aggression without pleading for pity or asking for sympathy from anyone.

Our people have fought the communists and have experienced the violent destruction of the war with our heads raised, a brave and stalwart spirit, and the will to win and never to turn back. Faced with this rare and heroic example, the freedom-loving peoples--those who understand that their own freedom and prosperity depend on the survival of a Vietnam that is facing great storms--have the duty and obligation to join our people in the struggle to defend themselves.

Because of this, as long as the Vietnamese people can stand firm and proudly tread on the head of their vicious enemy to continue their existence, no one among our friends has the right to express fear and use this fear to cause trouble to our people's struggle to regain peace and protect freedom.

For the past 15 years, our successes have not been achieved by pleading with the enemy. Therefore, only those who live in a world of dreams can possibly think that a peace, which is longed for every hour and every minute, will be restored if our people's achievements--which have been built with bones and blood--are renounced and if, from our victorious position, we obediently kneel down and beg for a false and temporary peace, a peace in slavery, from our implacable enemy.

We have won victories through our own strength. We will have peace also through this strength. Since our victories were achieved by our perseverance in fighting the enemy, it is certain that peace can come only through our perseverance in protecting and developing our confidence in victory. Through perseverance, we will win. This is not only our motto but also a reason to live for we Vietnamese who are determined to fight the communists.

Because our people's confidence and determination are so clear, everyone around us, both friend and enemy, fully understand that now is the time for our people's right to self-determination to be absolutely respected, when perseverance is no longer a virtue among our friends in the present confrontation between aggression and anti-aggression.

Because of this, no one is surprised to learn that recently, upon arriving in the RVN capital to report on developments on the peace-seeking front, the high-ranking political and military delegation of the friendly United States confirmed that our people's will would be respected and that the U.S. people and Government would act in accordance with the South Vietnamese people's own decisions to help them seek an appropriate solution to end the current war. Therefore, it is more obvious than ever that the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination has risen above the turbulence on the battlefield and in the political arena to become a focal point and a key to all solutions concerning the future of our South Vietnam.

LIBERATION RADIO SAYS F-111 DOWNED BY RIFLES

Liberation Radio [Clandestine] in Vietnamese to South Vietnam 0930 GMT 20 Oct 72 S

[Article by Nguoi Ban Tia [the Sniper]: "The Top Lottery Prize"]

[Text] Some people hold that winning the top lottery prize does not necessarily mean being lucky or making substantial material gains. Rather, being down on one's luck under special, rare circumstances may sometimes be described as winning the top lottery prize.

Such people, might therefore assert that the U.S. swing-wing F-111 downed on 17 October over Vinh Phu, the 4,000th U.S. aircraft downed over the north, won the top prize indeed. The significance of its downing is complex. It created a tombstone, which may remain eternally, recording the tragic defeat of the powerful U.S. Air Force. It affixed an indelible stamp in the middle of the faces of Nixon and his cohorts, who for a long time have cherished illusions about the war of destruction against the north.