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NHAN DAN EDITORIAL CONDEMNS NIXON'S 'STUBBORN POSITION'

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[Text] Hanoi VNA October 27--"The Vietnamese people resolutely reject all justifications of the Nixon administration and energetically denounce its volte-face and stubborn position. The U.S. Government must bear full responsibility for the fact that the already complete agreement has not been signed and the war is dragging on in Vietnam."

Thus declared the daily NHAN DAN in its editorial today entitled, "For Independence and Freedom, Forward To Complete Victory Over U.S. Aggressors." The paper affirmed that "if the Nixon administration stubbornly continues its aggression and deceives public opinion, there will be no alternative for the Vietnamese people and the peoples in Indochina but to resolutely carry on their resistance till complete victory."

Full text of the editorial follows:

The October 26, 1972 statement of the DRV Government is a stern verdict laying bare the bad faith and stubborn position and aggressive design of the Nixon administration. At the same time, it is a reaffirmation of the iron determination of the Vietnamese people to surmount all difficulties and hardships, persist in step up the resistance against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, to defend at all costs their fundamental national rights.

Over the past four years, along with stepping up the fight against the extremely brutal war of aggression of the Nixon administration, the DRV Government and the Vietnamese people have consistently shown goodwill for an end to the war and a peaceful settlement of the Vietnam problem. The correct, logical and reasonable proposals of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam aimed at a peaceful settlement of the Vietnam problem on the basis of respect for the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people and the right of self-determination of the South Vietnamese people, have gained warm approval and support throughout the world. From a position of victory and initiative, recently the DRV Government made an important initiative, taking the negotiations in Paris out of the impasse. Through private meetings and the exchange of messages between the DRV Government and the Government of the United States, on October 22, 1972, the two sides completed the agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam.

The main issues of the agreement which have been agreed upon are the following:

The United States [is to] respect the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Vietnam as recognized by the 1954 Geneva agreements.

Twenty four hours after the signing of the agreement, a cease-fire shall be observed throughout South Vietnam. The United States will stop all its military activities, and end the bombing and mining in North Vietnam. Within 60 days, there will be a total withdrawal from South Vietnam of troops and military personnel of the United States and those of the foreign countries allied with the United States and the Saigon administration. The United States will not continue its military involvement or intervene in the internal affairs of South Vietnam. The return of all captured and detained personnel of the parties shall be carried out simultaneously with the U.S. troops withdrawal.

The principles for the exercise of the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination are as follows:

The South Vietnamese people shall decide themselves the political future of South Vietnam through genuinely free and democratic general elections under international supervision, the United States is not committed to any political tendency or to any personality in South Vietnam, and it does not seek to impose a pro-American regime in Saigon, national reconciliation and concord will be achieved, the democratic liberties of the people ensured, and administrative structure called the National Council of National Reconciliation and Concord of three equal segments will be set up.

The reunification of Vietnam shall be carried out step by step through peaceful means.

The Vietnamese and American sides shall strictly respect the Cambodian and Lao peoples' fundamental national rights as recognized by the 1954 Geneva agreements on Indochina and the 1962 Geneva agreements on Laos.

The ending of the war, the restoration of peace in Vietnam will create conditions for establishing a new, equal, and mutually beneficial relationship between the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the United States. The United States will contribute to healing the wounds of war and to post-war reconstruction in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and throughout Indochina.

It was agreed that October 31, 1972 is the date of the formal signing of the agreement.

That the two sides reached agreement on the said agreement reflects the big victories of the Vietnamese armed forces and people and is a positive outcome of the diplomatic struggle of the Vietnamese people.

In a word, all the conditions--including the contents, organisations, time and procedure of implementation--of the agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam have been agreed upon by the two sides and the agreement only waits to be signed. If the agreement is carried out peace will be restored on the basis of guaranteeing the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people, and this will be an extremely important contribution to world peace. The DRV Government is ready to sign that agreement with the United States Government, in spite of the fact that the U.S. side has many times proposed changes in what had been agreed upon and delayed the date of the signing. However, on October 23, 1972, the Nixon administration pretexted the so-called "difficulties in Saigon" to pose new, complicated problems and did not say anything about what [was] to be done to arrive at the signing of the agreement. At the same time, the United States ordered its henchmen Nguyen Van Thieu to make extremely arrogant declarations, opposing the points included in the agreement already agreed upon by the DRV Government and the Government of the United States.

What, then, is the meaning of the so-called "difficulties in Saigon" raised by the Nixon administration itself?

Everybody knows that the Saigon administration was created, and has been fostered and protected by the United States. It is a handful of traitors to the country and the people, a gang of warmongers and rotten rulers hated by the Vietnamese people and spurned by world opinion. The Americans themselves call this administration a "tail" or a "step child" of the United States. In its plan of aggression against Vietnam, the U.S. Government has used this administration as an instrument to conduct the war and realize U.S. neo-colonialism. This administration cannot decide anything without the approval and assistance of the U.S. Government. The Saigon administration is a reality in South Vietnam. But to say that the puppet Nguyen Van Thieu can oppose a decision of President Nixon is a mockery of truth and disregard for public opinion.

That is why, the difficulties raised by the U.S. Government are only an artificial pretext, a manoeuvre to cover the bad faith of the Nixon administration with regard to what they have agreed upon and committed itself to implement. This volte-face reflects the scheme of the ruling circles in the United States to prolong the negotiations in order to deceive opinion while stubbornly refusing to renounce their aggressive design and continuing the "Vietnamization of the war" policy and using their henchmen as a tool to carry out U.S. neo-colonialism in South Vietnam and Indochina. The Vietnamese people resolutely reject all justifications of the Nixon administration and energetically denounce their volte-face and stubborn position. The U.S. Government must bear full responsibility for the fact that the already complete peace agreement has not been signed and the war is dragging on in Vietnam.

Our people's fight against the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys has recorded tremendous successes. The war of aggression conducted by the U.S. in accordance with the "Nixon doctrine" has met with very heavy defeats in the last four years. In South Vietnam, the U.S. "Vietnamization" policy has suffered an initial grave setback, and the collapse of the Saigon puppet army and administration is unavoidable without the "re-Americanization" of the war on an unprecedentedly large scale by air and naval forces. The reactionary coup d'etat and the aggressive operation staged by the U.S. in Cambodia in 1970, far from saving the Lon Nol puppet administration from its predicament, has turned Cambodia into a hotbed of revolution charring the aggressors and the traitors. The massive operation launched by U.S. and Saigon puppet troops in the Highway 9-southern Laos area in 1971 as well as the nibbling attacks by the Vientiane rightist army and Thai mercenaries under U.S. command against the liberated areas controlled by the Lao patriotic forces have all ended in bitter failure. The barbarous air and naval war of destruction and the mining and blockade of the DRV's territorial waters by the U.S. have not in the least reduced the combat strength of the North Vietnamese people, and still less prevented them from assisting the heroic South Vietnamese people on the great front. On the contrary, they have caused great losses in lives and property to the U.S. The latter has resorted to many cruel war moves, and committed extremely savage crimes against the Vietnamese people and the other Indochinese peoples, but they cannot extricate themselves from their losing situation and quandary, nor change the situation which has become more and more favorable to the Vietnamese people and the other Indochinese peoples. At present, the great resistance war of the Vietnamese people as well as that of the heroic Lao and Cambodian peoples are developing vigorously, and facing very splendid prospects.

In this situation, the Nixon administration's refusal to end the war and its plot to deceive public opinion with the current negotiations have fully exposed to the American and world people the war-like, stubborn and crafty nature of U.S. imperialism. This is a grave crime of the Nixon administration against the Vietnamese people, the American people, and the peace-loving people all over the world. This ugly act of the Nixon administration will certainly be resolutely opposed by the American people, and strongly protested by public opinion in other countries.

Our people's fight is a just one. Our people's stand is correct. For more than four years now, we have always shown good will and a serious attitude in negotiations with a view to ending the war and restoring peace. But the peace which our people have been struggling for must be a genuine peace, peace in independence and freedom. Now as in the past and in the future never shall our people accept peace in slavery, peace under the U.S. neocolonialist rule.

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If the Nixon administration is willing to draw lessons from its defeats and to implement what it has agreed to, then the war will be stopped, peace will be re-established, the United States will get out of the war in honour, and the U.S. troops in South Vietnam as well as the captured U.S. army men will be repatriated in safety. On the contrary, if the Nixon administration stubbornly continues its aggression and deceives public opinion, the Vietnamese people and the other Indochinese people have no option but to resolutely continue their resistance till complete victory.

For the independence of the fatherland, for the freedom and happiness of all the future generations, for peace and justice, and for the revolutionary cause of the world people, the Vietnamese people, persistent and indomitable, have been conducting a long fight against the U.S. imperialist aggressors, and have won glorious victories. Now, we have more favourable conditions than ever before to step up the fight and obtain yet greater victories. In face of the U.S. imperialists' wicked schemes, the Vietnamese people deeply realize that if they do not continue their fight, they will not be able to liberate their country completely. So many of our combatants and people have fought and laid [down] their lives for the victories we have now.

It is our bounden and most sacred obligation to continue to fight and regain at all costs complete independence and freedom.

Faced with the cruel enemy, let our entire armed forces and people from the south to the north further enhance their unity, heighten their vigilance, brave all sacrifices and hardships, surmount all difficulties and obstacles, and be determined to fight and defeat the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their quislings. Acting upon the sacred testament of venerated Uncle Ho, let our combatants valiantly dash forward to wipe out the enemy and win victory! Let our people work with might and main to accomplish all their tasks in production, fighting and serving the fight. Our people are resolved to further cement their militant solidarity with the fraternal Lao and Cambodian peoples in the fight against the common enemy.

Our people have the great strength of the nation-wide militant solidarity. Our people have the clear-sighted leadership of the glorious Vietnam Workers' Party. Our people enjoy the vigorous support and great assistance of the fraternal socialist countries, the peace-loving people in the world including the progressive people in the United States. By persisting in and stepping up the fight in the military, political and diplomatic fields, our people will certainly win glorious victory and achieve the noble objectives in the present historic period: to liberate the south, defend and build the socialist north, and proceed to the peaceful reunification of the fatherland.