

RS
FILE / SUBJ.
DATE / SUB-CAT.
12/73

RSGN
12/22/73

SAIGON RADIO COMMENTARY ON PRESENCE OF DRV TROOPS
Saigon Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 22 Dec 73 S

[Commentary]

[Excerpts] After 18 years of fighting against the communists and a year of punishing them for violating the cease-fire, our people are proud that their country still exists. This is not the result of any miracle, and no one can take our places in molding our own destiny. Everything, first of all, must depend on us.

The RVN people still live in conditions of war and are still subjected to harsh trials and challenges because of the communist ambition to communize our country, and because the communists believe that they and big powers and superpowers can deprive us of the right to determine our destiny and the right to mold our future.

In the present situation in which war is still raging, peace is all the more valued and talked about. Much talk and speculation has been heard about peace in South Vietnam, particularly over the meeting between Mr Kissinger, the U.S. secretary of state, and North Vietnam's Le Duc Tho. But is it the type of peace we desire? Some naive people and political opportunists have believed, and are attempting to advocate, the type of peace favored by the communists. In reality, the RVN Armed Forces and people understand that their life is closely linked to the survival of their country. Therefore, we and not anyone else, must take charge of the future of our country. Outside maneuvers and big powers and superpowers cannot determine our future.

The restoration of the type of peace that we believe will sooner or later be restored is now being hindered by some 400,000 communist troops. Therefore, before one discusses anything about the present situation in our country, the first thing one must talk about is the presence of these 400,000 bloodthirsty butchers. If one wants to hold any discussion, one must admit the reality that the North Vietnamese communists are preparing for a strategic offensive to engulf us in war and conquer our country. This is an enormous hindrance to the restoration of peace and a means to destroy peace. Because war is not our goal, we have, under all circumstances, displayed our good will and constructive attitude so that a solution may be achieved concerning South Vietnam's internal affairs.