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S. VIETNAM LAWYER: U.S., SAIGON UNDERMINING PARIS ACCORD

Hanoi International Service in Mandarin 0330 GMT 31 Dec 73 B

[Text] Dear listeners: Lawyer (Vu Xuan Phat), secretary general of the Vietnam Legal Workers Association, recently wrote an article in NHAN DAN analyzing who is undermining the Paris agreement. He said: The allegation that both sides are violating the Paris agreement is legally groundless and worthless. From official U.S. statements and comments we can see that it is the United States that has been intending to undermine the Paris agreement. On 23 January, when the Paris agreement was being drafted, Nixon said in a speech that the United States would continue to recognize the Saigon regime as the only legitimate government in South Vietnam. The next day, at a press conference, Kissinger said that the Paris agreement was not binding to the U.S. Armed Forces. The U.S. State Department also made the following [word indistinct] interpretation of the basic provisions of the agreement on the question of Vietnam: The Vietnamese government recognized by the United States--the Nguyen Van Thieu administration--will continue to exist and its propaganda machinery and its leaders will continue to carry out their activities without any change in the future.

On 24 January, Nguyen Van Thieu himself said in a broadcast speech that he would never recognize the existence of two governments in South Vietnam. At the end of his speech, he promised to abide by the Paris agreement, but he also said that this was only an agreement on ending the war.

Apparently, the United States and Nguyen Van Thieu had the intention of undermining the Paris agreement even before they signed it. They have tried their best to distort the contents of the agreement even to the extent of changing them. They have denied the sacred right of self-determination of the South Vietnamese people. They have also denied that in South Vietnam there exist two administrations, two armed forces, two areas under different administration, and three political forces. They have always denied the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people recognized by the 1954 Geneva agreements and Article 1 of the Paris agreement that the United States and other nations must abide by.

Lawyer (Vu Xuan Phat) said: In the past year the United States and Nguyen Van Thieu have gradually stepped up their sabotage of the (cease-fire). After the cease-fire took effect, the Nguyen Van Thieu administration has incessantly launched nibbling attacks on the liberated areas and carried out "mop-up" activities. The unlawful actions of the United States and Nguyen Van Thieu are increasing in number and becoming more and more serious.

The Sacramento joint communique issued by the United States and Nguyen Van Thieu on 3 April reaffirmed the Nixon doctrine. From this communique, it is obvious that they intend to sabotage the Paris agreement. The joint communique pointed out that President Nixon discussed the question of defending the security of South Vietnam with the Nixon doctrine in the back of his mind.

After returning from the United States to Saigon, Nguyen Van Thieu claimed that the Nixon doctrine was as valid as before. Saigon troops are in fact making use of American weapons in engaging in war; they are commanded by 24,000 U.S. military advisors and personnel, and are supported by U.S. Armed Forces and warships in various localities in Indochina. Strategically, this is a continuation of the Vietnamization of the war.