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**XVIII. - NOTE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM ADDRESSED
TO THE PARTIES TO THE PARIS INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON VIET-NAM, ON THE WAIVER
OF ENTRY AND EXIT VISAS FOR THE «CITIZENS»
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND
THE SELF-STYLED «PRG», JANUARY 7TH, 1974
(29-BNG).**

On December 28th, 1973, the so-called National Liberation Front of South Viet-Nam announced that it had concluded an agreement with the Government of the People's Republic of China regarding the waiver of visas for the «citizens» of both sides.

In the view of the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam, the People's Republic of China's action by bestowing upon the self-styled «PRG» the status of a government clearly constitutes an intervention in the internal affairs and an infringement upon the sovereignty of the Republic of Viet-Nam.

The People's Republic of China's action also constitutes a transgression of the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people and an attempt on the part of the People's Republic of China to impose its political tendency on the people of South Viet-Nam.

In this respect, the People's Republic of China's action constitutes a direct challenge to Article 9 of the Paris Agreement of January 27th, 1973 and Article 4 of the Act of the International Conference on Viet-Nam.

Furthermore, it could be construed that the People's Republic of China's aim in signing such an agreement is to introduce illegally its nationals into South Viet-Nam, with the purpose of directly helping the Communist side to prepare a new campaign of aggression against the Republic of Viet-Nam.

As the matter involves issues of major importance, the Government of

the Republic of Viet-Nam wishes to bring the attention of the Parties to the Act of the International Conference on Viet-Nam to the fact that on the basis of the Geneva Agreements of 1954, as well as the realities in South Viet-Nam, the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam remains the sole legal Government of Viet-Nam, south of the Demilitarized Zone, and as a sovereign state it has exclusive competence to control its territory and its nationals.

It follows that without its approval, no agreement related to the management of its domestic affairs or to its relations with other members of the international community can be considered as valid and binding. Therefore, the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam wishes to state formally that it considers as null and void the «agreement» concluded between the People's Republic of China and the so-called «PRG» concerning the waiver of entry and exit visas.

All foreign nationals who enter the territory of Viet-Nam, south of the Demilitarized Zone, must strictly abide by the laws and regulations of the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam. The Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam reserves the right to take appropriate measures against nationals of foreign countries who do not comply with the Republic of Viet-Nam's immigration and border control regulations.