

RHN
1/15/74

PS FILE / SUBJ.
DATE / SUB-CAT.
1/74

TEXT OF PRGRSV MILITARY SPOKESMAN'S 14 JAN COMMUNIQUE

Hanoi in Vietnamese to Vietnam 0000 GMT 15 Jan 74 S

[Text of 14 January PRGRSV Foreign Ministry spokesman communique]

[Text] From 6 thru 10 January 1974, along with its warlike statements, the Saigon administration, encouraged and assisted by the United States, committed 2,227 violations of the cease-fire, including 277 nibbling operations, 1,753 police or "pacification" operations, 78 artillery shellings, 119 air raids or armed reconnaissance flights, thus raising the total number of violations from 28 January 1973 to 10 January 1974 to 312,976, including 35,575 land-grabbing operations, 226,051 police or "pacification" operations, 35,824 artillery shellings and 15,526 air raids or armed reconnaissance flights.

It is worth noting that:

1. The Saigon administration accelerated its police or "pacification" operations, very barbarously repressing and terrorizing the compatriots in the plains of central Trung Bo. It mustered more than 500 newly commissioned Saigon officers along with thousands of police to conduct a "campaign to denounce the communists" in Quang Da, arrested and beat hundreds of compatriots in Quang Nam, including more than 30 children of ages from 12 to 15 who were drowned. In Quang Ngai, troops of the 4th regiment conducted military operations to nibble at Pho Quang and Pho An villages of Duc Pho district. In Binh Dinh, the 42d and 43d battalions conducted nibbling and sweep operations in Hoai Thanh and Hoai Huong villages, Hoai Nhon district, perpetrating many crimes against the people.

2. The Saigon army continued to use the air force to barbarously bomb and strafe PRGRSV-controlled areas, including the ICCS headquarters in Duc Co. On 7, 8 and 9 January, Saigon aircraft made more than 100 sorties to bomb and strafe the Ninh Hoa area in Chuong Thien Province.

On 10 and 11 January, Saigon aircraft made more than 30 sorties to bomb and strafe the area which had been chosen as the return site in Vo Dinh and southwestern (Si Ra Pan) in Kontum Province. On 11 January, Saigon aircraft made more than 70 sorties to bomb and destroy the ICCS headquarters in Duc Co district, Gia Lai Province, injuring many people and completely destroying the housing quarters of the ICCS members and employees, the garage and guest house.

On the same day, Saigon aircraft made 26 sorties to bomb Duc Nghiep, 7 kilometers east of Duc Co, which had been chosen as a site for the return of detained Saigon military and civilian personnel, killing two PRGRSV personnel who were making preparations for the return. The bombing destroyed the office of the delegates to the two-party JMC and the prisoners' house within the return site.

The PRGRSV Foreign Ministry spokesman sternly denounces and condemns these acts of the Saigon administration. The United States and the Saigon administration must bear full responsibility for all the consequences of their acts violating the agreement.