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GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN'S 14 APR STATEMENT ON FRENCH 'INTERVENTION'

Saigon VIETNAM PRESS in English 12 Apr 75 Evening Edition SG

[Text] Saigon (VP) April 12--The press center this morning disseminated the RVN Government spokesman's statement on the French president's April 9, 1975 remark concerning the Vietnam issue, in which the RVN Government solemnly confirmed its peace stand on the basis of the Jan 27, 1973 Paris agreement.

According to the statement, on April 9, 1975, the French Government spokesman disseminated the French president's remarks made at the Cabinet Council concerning the Vietnam issue.

The Government of the Republic of Vietnam would like to make known the following points:

1. The Government of the Republic of Vietnam is a constitutional and legal government in South Vietnam. Its constitutionality and legality are entirely based on the Constitution of April 1, 1967, drafted and voted by the popularly-elected constituent assembly. Every national institution has been set up in conformity with the Constitution.

2. The Government of the Republic of Vietnam is a full member who signed the Paris agreement of January 27, 1973, on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam.

The RVN has always showed its goodwill in the implementation of articles and provisions of the agreement and has many a time set forth concrete proposals to implement the Paris agreement.

On April 4, 1975, in his address to the nation, the RVN president asserted the RVN constant stand: A peace solution for the Vietnam issue should be based on the Paris agreement, and the RVN is ready to return to the negotiating table to discuss with the other side on every matter within the framework of the agreement, including the establishment of the national council for reconciliation and concord and the general election.

3. Meanwhile, the communists have brutally and systematically violated all articles and provisions of the Paris agreement. Communist North Vietnam is openly trampling under foot the agreement by having infiltrated 20 general reserve division into the south and launched the present general offensive against the RVN. No one can deny this fact.

4. However, with its constant objective for the restoration of peace and happiness for the people, the RVN Government still advocates that a solution for the Vietnam war should be based on the Paris agreement. Therefore, the RVN welcomes every goodwill from anywhere aimed at scrupulously implementing the Paris agreement. But, to keep the Paris agreement effectively implemented, first of all, the communists' flagrant violations of the agreement must be condemned, and they should be forced to immediately stop their acts of aggression.

The RVN Government regrets that the French Government has not voiced out that essential matter. Moreover, the opinions made by the French Government were not objective and implied its intervention in Vietnam's internal affairs since it does not respect the constitutionality and legality of a friendly nation.

The RVN Government solemnly confirms its peace stand on the basis of the Paris agreement. With this stand, the RVN Government is ready to welcome every constructive opinion possible to contribute to the end of the war and restoration of just peace in South Vietnam.

PRGRSV, RVN VIEWS ON GISCARD'S SETTLEMENT PLAN

Paris LE MONDE in French 11 Apr 75 p 2 LD

[Unattributed report: "The Elysee General Secretary Has Explained the French Government's Position to the Hanoi and Saigon Ambassadors"]

[Excerpts] Elysee General Secretary Mr Pierre-Brossolette, after receiving Hanoi Ambassador Mr Vo Van Sung on Monday 7 April, received Saigon Ambassador Mr Nguyen Muy Quang on Wednesday afternoon after the Council of Ministers' meeting to explain to him French policy concerning Vietnam.

The Position of the PRGRSV

The two delegations at the La Celle-Saint-Cloud inter-Vietnamese conference commented on this [President Giscard d'Estaing's] statement.

The PRGRSV delegation spokesman said:

"Any effort to be constructive must be directed toward the realization of two legitimate demands, namely:

"One--the United States must cease all military involvement and all interference in South Vietnam's internal affairs.

"Two--it is necessary to overthrow the Nguyen Van Thieu clique, which constitutes the main obstacle to the settlement of South Vietnam's problems, and set up in Saigon an administration which is genuinely in favor of peace and independence, democracy and national harmony and which agrees to implement the Paris agreement seriously.

"The best course is for the United States to respond to these demands."

...And That of Saigon

Mr Nguyen Xuan Phong, interim head of the Republic of Vietnam (Saigon) delegation, made the following comment:

"The statement made today by the French Government concerning the settlement of the Vietnam conflict corresponds to the consistent position of the Republic of Vietnam delegation at the La Celle-Saint-Cloud conference which has never ceased to make repeated approaches and concrete proposals with exact dates for the formation of the national reconciliation council comprising three equal parts and for the organization of general elections in South Vietnam in order to realize the political process provided for by Article 12 of the Paris agreement.

"Unfortunately, all these proposals have been systematically rejected by the communist side which, with the present general offensive, clearly reveals that it has chosen a military solution instead of seeking, by real negotiations, a peaceful solution to the conflict based on the Paris agreement and the strict respect of the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination."

LPA VERSION OF NGUYEN HUU THO INTERVIEW WITH AFP

LPA From North Vietnam [Clandestine] in English to East Europe and the Far East
1504 GMT 7 Apr 75 BK

["Interview granted by President Nguyen Huu Tho to Mr Serge de Gunzbourg of AFP"--for the AFP version of this interview, see the item entitled "Nguyen Huu Tho Interviewed by AFP on Indochina Situation" published on pp L 14-15 in the 7 April Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT]

[Text] South Vietnam April 7 LPA--Question 1: What's the objective of the present offensive of the PRG? Is this a "generalized offensive"? Will you take advantage of it to install a capital in one of the localities henceforth put under the control of the PRG?

Answer: A Vietnamese proverb says "When too much water is accumulated, the bank will break?" The sweeping uprisings and attacks conducted at present by the people and the liberation armed forces should only be construed as the necessary riposte to the policy pursued by the United States and the Nguyen Van Thieu junta; the sabotage of the Paris agreement and the continuation of the war. They are also a natural development of the patriotic struggle waged by our people since the signing of the Paris agreement on Vietnam.

To depose the dictatorial, fascist, aggressive rule of the clique of Nguyen Van Thieu the only course for our people to take is to rise up with the support of the attacks by the People's Liberation Armed Forces to wrest back the right to be their own masters, and achieve genuine peace and national reconciliation and national concord at an early date.

Question 2: Do you still believe in the possibility of an implementation of the Paris agreement, or do you think that the problem of South Vietnam will be settled by military means?

Answer: It is the stand of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam as well as the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam to respect the Paris agreement scrupulously, and also to punish the United States and the Nguyen Van Thieu [clique] severely for their sabotage of the agreement. As the situation was getting worse and worse as a result of the actions of the United States and the Nguyen Van Thieu junta, the Provisional Revolutionary Government in its statements on October 8, 1974 and again on March 21 this year proposed a course to take to protect the Paris agreement and to settle the South Vietnam issue in the best possible manner. That means the United States must definitively and thoroughly terminate all military involvement and all intervention in the internal affairs of South Vietnam, that the Nguyen Van Thieu junta must be ousted, and that an administration must be set up in Saigon which sincerely wants peace, independence and national reconciliation and national concord, and will seriously implement the Paris agreement on Vietnam. The Provisional Revolutionary Government is prepared to talk with such an administration in order to arrive at a prompt solution to the affairs of South Vietnam.

Question 3: If President Thieu resigns will the PRG be prepared to do business with his successor, or will there be other persons in view (the Rev Tran Huu Thanh for example)?

Answer: I think an answer for your question can be found in the statement of March 21 of the Provisional Revolutionary Government which I just referred to. If the United States is seriously responsive to the demands contained in this statement the South Vietnam issue can be solved promptly for the benefit of the Vietnamese people, of peace in Southeast Asia, and of the United States as well. We have always based our stand and our attitude solely on the realities of South Vietnam, and our only purpose is to satisfy the legitimate interests and aspirations of the South Vietnamese people.

Question 4: If the PRG does not win a majority in the elections to be organized according to the formula provided for by the Paris agreement, will you accept the status of legal opposition (like the Communist Party in France for example)?

Answer: I do not wish to dot the I and cross the T. Anyway, I think I must make it clear that the PRG is not a political party. It is an administration with full authority and capacity to handle all external and domestic affairs and is the only authentic representative of the South Vietnamese people. Article 9 (B) of the Paris agreement says: "The South Vietnamese people shall decide themselves the political future of South Vietnam through genuinely free and democratic general elections..."

The National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government which have fought most resolutely for South Vietnam's independence and freedom will seriously respect all judgements made by the people in genuinely free and democratic elections.

Question 5: Since the talks taking place in the liberated zone of Cambodia at the end of December 1974 between a PRG delegation under President Huynh Tan Phat, and Mr Khieu Samphan, vice premier and minister of defense of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, has there been a coordination of the operations conducted in South Vietnam by the NPL and others conducted in Cambodia by the National United Front of Kampuchea?

Answer: The peoples of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are brothers and neighbours sharing the same destiny and fighting the same enemy. In their struggle for independence and freedom each nation relies mainly on her own strength and has her own line and methods. Of course Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos pay great attention to the strengthening of solidarity and assist one another with devotion, considering this solidarity and mutual assistance as an indispensable factor of victory. The South Vietnamese people are very pleased at the swift development of the situation in South Vietnam, in Cambodia, and in Laos, because the situation on the peninsula of Indochina has never been so good. The more we know our victory are secure, [as received] the more we will try to help one another in the interest of each nation and also in the interest of peace in Indochina and the rest of Southeast Asia.

Question 6: How do the DRV and the PRG stand in their relations to each other? Does the DRV give a military aid to the NPL?

Answer: The land of Vietnam is one; the people of Vietnam is one. Yet, pending the reunification of Vietnam by peaceful means and on the basis of discussion and agreement between North and South Vietnam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government has decided to build a South Vietnam of peace, independence, democracy and neutrality. The government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the compatriots in the North have given a devoted assistance to the Provisional Revolutionary Government and the people of South Vietnam in the struggle for this objective. This is an extremely magnificent expression of ardent national feelings when the country is threatened by aggression and division.

Question 7: How does the PRG manage to maintain its equal and friendly relations with the USSR and the People's Republic of China? Do you receive any military aid from these two great powers?

Answer: The struggle of the South Vietnamese people for peace and national independence has to sympathy and support of the socialist countries, the independent nationalist countries, and the progressive people of the world. The Soviet Union, China and the other socialist countries have accorded the South Vietnamese people an active, great and efficacious political, moral and material assistance. The people of the South Vietnam feel greatly indebted to these countries and to the various international and national organisations for their valuable support, and are deeply aware that their victories are inseparable from the sympathy and support of their friends on all continents.

The **Provisional** Revolutionary Government, steadfast in its foreign policy of independence, sovereignty and international solidarity, has tirelessly worked for stronger ties of friendship with all the friendly nations in the world.

Question 8: What's your opinion on the present attitude of the French Government to South Vietnam?

Answer: We note a new development in the relations between the Provisional Revolutionary Government and the French Government as seen in the establishment in France of a permanent representation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam; yet it is our view that such relations have not yet fully met the demand of the French people as well as the people of South Vietnam, especially in the light of the new situation in South Vietnam.

Question 9: When peace has been restored, will the RSV set up friendly relations with the United States, and will she accept U.S. economic aid?

Answer: The Provisional Revolutionary Government has declared in the program of action made public immediately after its foundation that it is ready to entertain diplomatic, economic, cultural and friendly relations with all countries including the United States, indifferent of political and social regimes and on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and of noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

The Provisional Revolutionary Government has also declared many times its readiness to enter into economic, scientific and technical cooperation with all countries and to accept aid in many fields, on the basis of the aforesaid principles. Regarding the United States, it is still impossible to set up political and economic relations with it because of this sole obstacle: the continuation on the U.S. Government's military involvement and intervention in the internal affairs of South Vietnam. I must denounce to public opinion the show on "humanitarian evacuation" staged by the Ford administration in the aim of continuing its intervention in South Vietnam and prompting its allies and satellites to come to the aid of the Nguyen Van Thieu junta.

As far as the people of the United States are concerned, we are very grateful for their valiant, persistent struggle against the war of aggression in South Vietnam, for the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Indochina, and in support of our efforts to defend the Paris agreement on Vietnam.

Question 10: What will become of the foreign interests, particularly the French investments, in South Vietnam when the war is over? Will the French language be taught at school as always?

Answer: The Provisional Revolutionary Government has consistently protected "the legitimate interests of foreign residents in South Vietnam" as has been stated in point 5 of its program of action made public on June 10, 1969. **This is not only what we will do. This is precisely what we have been doing.**

The case of the French nationals who are living in the zone of the Provisional Revolutionary Government will receive due and adequate consideration to protect their legitimate interests and to enable them to contribute to the reconstruction of South Vietnam in the interest of the promotion of the long-standing friendly relations between the people of Vietnam and the French people. Allow me, now, to take this occasion to express to the people of France the sincere gratitude of the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government for their vigorous sympathy and support for our patriotic struggle.

PARIS RADIO INTERVIEWS PRGRSV FOREIGN MINISTER BINH

Paris Domestic Service in French 1820 GMT 11 Apr 75 LD

[Interview with Mrs Nguyen Thi Binh, foreign minister of the PRGRSV--recorded; time and place not given]

[Text] [Question] Mrs Binh, for many people the NFLSV and your government, the PRGRSV, are the communists, the Vietcong, and the Vietnamese communists, as people in Saigon call them. Do you accept this definition?

[Answer] Naturally I do not accept it, since that it is not true. You know that the liberation front of South Vietnam is like the PRG: it represents different political parties and all strata of the population of South Vietnam. We have three political parties, the Democratic Party, the Radical Socialist Party and the People's Revolutionary Party, and we have more than twenty mass organizations which represent all sections of the populations and the religious sects, as well as different nationalities.

[Question] Yes, but the communist party has a majority in your government, I think?

[Answer] The People's Revolutionary Party is a Marxist party; it is a big party, but it does not represent all the NFL and the FEC.

[Question] Are you yourself a member of the communist party? Are you a communist, Mrs Binh?

[Answer] I am not a party member; rather, I belong to the patriots.

[Question] You have no political leanings?

[Answer] On the contrary, I am for democracy, for the happiness of the people; but I think I will have time to choose a more concrete ideology later, when we have peace.

[Question] In your opinion, is there a great difference between the regime existing now in North Vietnam and that which you recommend for the south.

[Answer] Of course there is a difference. North Vietnam recommends socialism, while the PRG recommends a democratic regime. It could also be said that we recommend progressive democracy.

[Question] Liberal socialism?

[Answer] We have not yet used this word, liberal socialism. I do not know what the content of this liberal socialism constitutes. In any case, for us the demands, the democratic aspirations, of the population are specific truths.

[Question] So you say no to collectivist socialism, such as exists in the north?

[Answer] Yes, the PRG is not yet for, does not call for, socialism for the moment.

[Question] Do you think it will do so later?

[Answer] I cannot say in advance! At the moment, we have many problems. I think it is not yet time to discuss these questions.

[Question] What do you mean by a neutralist regime?

[Answer] Well, by neutrality we mean first that South Vietnam will not be a military base for any power and that we will not participate in military pacts. From the viewpoint of relations, we are ready to have relations with all governments without distinction to political systems.

[Question] Including the United States?

[Answer] It is clear that if the United States respects the Paris agreement and respects the sovereignty of our people, of our country, well we are ready to have cooperation, relations with all countries in the world.

For the moment we have a primary aim which we put before everything--our freedom, our national independence. There is another very deep aspiration of our people, and this is the reunification of our country. You know that Vietnam was always one nation, and our history dates back several millenia. Well, everyone, whether in the north or the south, aspires toward reunification. But, naturally, this problem cannot be brought up at the moment precisely because we are bearing in mind the differences between the north and the south. We must have time so that the population of the two zones can understand the political and economic position of each side and see how we can achieve this reunification. This is the situation. I am sure we will find the means.

From the economic viewpoint, it is our intention to set up a national economy; that is, we are doing everything to develop the economic capabilities of our country, and for this it is clear we need foreign aid and cooperation with other countries. I think we will be willing in this case to have foreign investments.

[Question] Would you accept private property? Would you respect it? Are you not going to nationalize everything?

[Answer] The question of private property--well, it exists in our liberated zone. We have respected it, and I think we will continue to respect it.

COMMITTEE TO VIEW CONDUCT OF COMMANDERS OF EVACUATING UNITS

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[Text] Saigon (VP) April 14 -- The ARVN Joint General Staff command has established a special investigation committee to consider exploits and faults of ranking generals, commanders of evacuating units, military spokesman Lt. Col. Le Trung Hien said this morning.

According to the spokesman, the ARVN Joint General Staff ordered that dossiers be completed prior to April 15 for consideration of the committee in accordance with emergency procedures.