

LR
10/31/67

005900

NUE OPS
FILE SUBJ.
DATE SUB-CAT.
10/67
DV

URBAN BUDDHISTS' FIGHTING SPIRIT HALTED

Liberation Radio [Clandestine] in Vietnamese to South Vietnam 0900 GMT 31 Oct 67 S

[Commentary: "No force can check the fighting spirit of the bonzes, nuns, and Buddhist followers of the South Vietnamese urban centers"]

[Text] Despite the threats by Nguyen Ngoc Loan, bloodthirsty hangman of the Thieu-Ky clique, to prevent Buddhist compatriots from staging demonstrations, and despite the traitors' orders to police to be ready to intervene and to use clubs and tear gas, at 0830 on 29 October, some 2,000 Buddhist bonzes and followers took to the streets and marched to the office of reactionary Bonze Thich Tam Chau to demand restoration of the Vien Hoa Duc compound to the Buddhists of South Vietnam.

Since July 1967, when Nguyen Van Thieu signed a decree promulgating a new Buddhist charter worked out by reactionary Bonze Thich Tam Chau to divide, weaken, mislead, and take advantage of the Buddhists, a large Buddhist struggle movement has erupted in the various large and small cities in South Vietnam. Hundreds of demonstrations have been staged. Many bonzes have burned themselves to death, while many others have gone on hunger strikes in protest against the Thieu-Ky traitorous clique. A sea of flame and hatred is spreading quickly and is swallowing up the two men, Thieu and Ky.

6 November 1967

Kkk 7

SOUTH VIETNAM

Like mad dogs, the Thieu-Ky clique, which sometimes pretends to be ready to make concessions, has continued to carry out their wicked plots. A few days after they made empty promises, the Thieu-Ky clique resumed their barbarous repression. They seized the corpse of Nun Thich Hue Lac, who burned herself to death at the Vien Giac Pagoda, to prevent Buddhist compatriots from organizing a funeral. They brazenly invaded and search the An Quang Pagoda, seized thousands of issues of the newspaper IRANH DAY, organ of Buddhist circles in South Vietnam, and threatened to bring its publisher to trial. In addition to these repressive measures, they also used barbed wire to cordon off the An Quang Pagoda.

The Buddhist compatriots will not let themselves be intimidated by these terroristic measures, nor be fooled by the enemy's deceitful plots. Fifty bonzes and nuns gathered in front of a rebel administrative office in a Saigon suburb to demand the body of Nun Thich Hue Lac. Several hundred bonzes and nuns in Can Tho firmly struggled and 20 went on a hunger strike against the Thieu-Ky clique.

On 29 October, some 2,000 bonzes and Buddhist followers staged another demonstration in front of the An Quang Pagoda to protest terrorism. The Thieu-Ky clique ordered their police to pitilessly repress the Buddhists' struggle for restoration of the Vien Hoa Dao compound and to force a number of young Buddhists into the army. The Thieu-Ky clique's cruelty is really indescribable. They are actually devils who are thirsty for the Buddhists' blood. They continue to nurture hopes of bringing the Buddhists to their knees and transforming them into an instrument to serve their traitorous purposes.

Along with their partial mobilization decree and their scheme for devastating part of our rural areas, the barbarous repression of the most legitimate aspirations of the South Vietnamese Buddhists in recent days has even more clearly shown that the Thieu-Ky clique is the most wicked enemy of the Buddhist bonzes, nuns, and followers, as well as of all our people of all walks of life, including those in cities and the rural areas, rich or poor, religious people or atheists. The enemy mistakenly thinks that through violence he can bring the Buddhists to their knees. But throughout 13 years of struggle against the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen, the Buddhist compatriots have not ceased proving their unshakable fighting spirit and have always closely sided with compatriots in the struggle to defend their religion, against fascist dictatorship, and to prevent the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen from turning Buddhism into an instrument to serve the invaders and traitors. Our Buddhist compatriots' activities through various phases of our history have clearly proved this fact.

It is obvious that no violence can shake the Buddhist compatriots' hatred at the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen. The more they resort to violence to repress our Buddhist compatriots and people, the more our Buddhist compatriots and people will deal them crushing blows. The Diem-Nhu regime was toppled because they resorted to this extreme. The Thieu-Ky clique will also be toppled for the same reason. This is a fact that no force can alter.

2