

HANOI 15 MAY MASS RALLY GREET'S 'VICTORY OF NATION'

*Strategy / doctrine*

Leaders Present

[Editorial Report BK] Hanoi in Vietnamese to Vietnam at 2238 GMT on 14 May carries live reportage on the "mass rally and parade" being held in Hanoi to "greet the great victory of the nation," naming those Hanoi leaders attending as: Le Duan, Nguyen Luong Bang, Truong Chinh, Pham Van Dong, Vo Nguyen Giap, Nguyen Duy Trinh, Hoang Van Hoan, Tran Quoc Hoan, Le Van Luong, Xuan Thuy, Nguyen Phuong, Do Muoi, Phan Trong Tue, Song Hoa, Nguyen Lam, Dang Viet Chau, Nguyen Duc Thuan, Tran Dang Khoa, Y Vang, Yoang Minh Giam, Nguyen Thi Thap, Vu Quang, Priest Nguyen The Vinh, Venerable Thich Tri Do, Dr Tran Duy Hung, Nguyen Van Thien, PRGRSV representative Nguyen Van Thien and others.

Le Duan Text

Hanoi VNA in English 0812 GMT 15 May 75 OW

[Text of speech delivered by First Secretary of the VWP Central Committee Le Duan at the meeting held at Hang Day Stadium in Hanoi in 15 May to celebrate the national victory of the Vietnamese people]

[Text] Hanoi, VNA 15 May--Compatriots and combatants throughout the country; all party comrades; comrades and friends:

Today, with boundless joy, the 45 million people throughout Vietnam are jubilantly celebrating the great victory we have won in the general offensive and uprising this spring; in completely defeating the war of aggression and the neocolonialist rule of U.S. imperialism; in liberating the whole of the southern half of our country, so dear to our hearts; and in ending in a glorious manner the longest, most difficult, greatest patriotic war ever waged in our history of struggle against foreign aggression.

We hail our glorious fatherland, from now on definitively rid of the enslaving yoke of foreign countries and of the scourge of partition. We hail the beautiful land of Vietnam, from now on whole again from Lang Son to the Cape of Ca Mau, from now on completely independent and free, and independent and free forever.

We hail the new era in the 4,000-year history of our nation--an era of brilliant prospects for the development of a peaceful, independent, united, democratic, prosperous, and strong Vietnam, an era in which the working people have become the complete masters of their destiny and will pool their physical and mental efforts to build a plentiful and happy life of their own and for thousands of generations to come.

This glory belongs to the great President Ho Chi Minh, the outstanding national hero who brought glory to our land, the first vietnamese communist who founded and trained our party, who steered the ship of the Vietnamese revolution through many a storm to enable it to reach the shore of glory today! In this stirring atmosphere of total victory, our hearts are filled with great emotion at the memory of our beloved Uncle Ho, and we seem to hear again his teaching:

"No matter what difficulties and hardships lie ahead, our people are sure of total victory. The U.S. imperialists will certainly have to quit. Our fatherland will certainly be reunified. Our fellow countrymen in the south and in the north will certainly be reunited under one roof. We, a small nation, will have earned the signal honor of defeating through heroic struggle two big imperialisms--the French and the American--and of making a worthy contribution to the world national liberation movement."

We are very proud to have throughly carried out these recommendation of President Ho Chi Minh in his sacred testament.

This glory belongs to our heroes, compatriots, and comrades who have valiantly laid down their lives for the independence and freedom of the country, for the happiness of the people, for our sacred duty to the nation and our noble international obligation.

The fatherland and the people will forever remember the services of those heroes, the exemplary loyal sons and daughters of the people whose example of courage will shine eternally.

This glory belongs to the heroic people of Vietnam, in whose veins flows the blood of the Trung sisters; of Lady Trieu, Ly Thuong Kiet, and Tran Hung Dao; of Le Loi, Quang Trung; of Truong Cong Dinh, and Phan Dinh Phung; of Hoang Hoa Tham, (1), and who today under the banner of the party and of the great President Ho Chi Minh, have upheld their matchless revolutionary heroism and have braved untold difficulties and dangers to advance from the day of blood and fire of the Nghe-Tinh Soviet and of the Nam Ky uprising to the glorious victory of the August revolution, from the resounding victory at Dien Bien Phu which dealt a mortal blow to colonialism to the repeated victories over the many successive strategies of neocolonialism, and finally to the total victory of the marvelous general offensive and uprising in the spring of 1975.

Today, the day of triumph of the nation, from this historic place of Thang Long, the heart of the country, we send our boundless love and our warmest congratulations to our compatriots and comrades in the south where, riding head to the wind, they struggled for 30 straight years, unflinchingly and tirelessly, under the banner of the great cause of the National Front for Liberation of South Vietnam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, and raised the great storm that has finally blown away the enemy, adding fame to the glorious tradition of the "Iron fortress of the fatherland". Warmest congratulations to our compatriots in the heroic north who over the past decades have been building socialism with industry and thrift, fearing no difficulty, sparing no sacrifice, sent tens of thousands of their sons to the frontline to kill the aggressors, and defeated the war of destruction of the U.S. aggressors, firmly defending the north, powerful base of the revolution in the whole country.

This glory belongs to the heroic Vietnam people's armed forces, the revolutionary army of the people, completely "loyal to the country and the people and able to fulfil any task, overcome any hardship, and defeat any enemy, which beginning with wooden spears and matchlocks has grown up at a stupendous speed, like Phu Dong (2), into powerful contingents winning every one of the hundreds of battles launched across the land of Vietnam. We send our deepest love and the expression of our boundless pride to all the officers and men of the Vietnam Peoples' Army.

Our warmest congratulations to the officers and men of all the three categories and all the services of the armed forces who, during the 50 recent historic days, fought with peerless valor, great resourcefulness, and great force and swiftness, smashing the enemy to smithereens and winning resounding victories to give a still darker hue to the traditional "determined-to-fight-and-to-win" banner.

This glory belongs to our party, the experienced, staunch vanguard of the Vietnamese working class, faithful representative of the vital interests and legitimate aspirations of the people and the entire nation of Vietnam, the leader and organizer of all victories of the Vietnamese revolution. Our party has skillfully and successfully combined the revolutionary science of Marxism-Leninism--the culmination of mankind's knowledge--with the extraordinary revolutionary energy and the inexhaustible creativeness of our people, with the tradition and quintessence of our nation, to work out a correct, creative, independent and sovereign line, mobilize, foster and bring into play all potentials of the country, and all forces of the nation, and to combine these with the strength of our times in a great combined force, able to defeat all enemies. The Vietnamese communists, with their tradition of solidarity and unity, with their rock-like determination, their courage before all trials, have always marched in the van of the great struggle of the people, and have proved equal to the glorious tasks assigned them by history and the nation.

Our victory is the victory of the unbreakable solidarity of the three Indochinese peoples thoroughly tested in the flames of struggle against the common enemy. In this day of great joy, we hail the great victories of the fraternal peoples of Laos and Cambodia, and express to those companions-in-arms who have been fighting in the same trench as us our boundless gratitude and our unshakeable solidarity.

Our victory is also the victory of the forces of socialism, national independence, democracy and peace throughout the world, who have supported us in the struggle against aggressive U.S. imperialism. On behalf of the Vietnam Workers Party and the entire people of Vietnam, we express our most profound gratitude to the Soviet Union, China and the other fraternal socialist countries, and to all communist and workers' parties for the very great and precious support and assistance they have given out of their noble internationalist attachment to us. We sincerely thank the working class of all countries in the world, the nationalist countries, the various international democratic organizations, and the whole of progressive mankind for having provided a vigorous encouragement and support to our war of resistance for national salvation and to progressive people in the United States who out of their love for peace and justice have given their sympathy and support to our people's just struggle, we send our greeting of friendship.

The victory of our anti-U.S. war of resistance for national salvation is the victory of the banner of national independence, of patriotism, that has been tempered through thousands of glorious years of nationbuilding and national defence, and has been promoted to a new height by the party of the working class. "Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom." This truth has served as the bugle-call urging our people, generation after generation, to rush forward and chase out all invaders and traitors. From it our people have derived the irresistible strength to break the fetters of old colonialism and, today, the yoke of neo-colonialism.

This victory is the victory of socialism, the highest ideal of mankind and the most profound aspiration of the toiling people, which has become a reality over half of our country and reality for one-third of mankind, a regime in which the people have become real masters, a regime free of exploitation of man by man, a regime in which everyone lives in independence and freedom, has enough food and clothing, can afford education and enjoy a varied and healthy normal life. Such a regime is actually the source of the inexhaustible strength of the people in the north, and a great stimulus to our compatriots in the south.

There can be no genuine national independence unless the labouring people are freed from oppression and exploitation. Likewise, the labouring people cannot be freed from the yoke of oppression and exploitation so long as national independence has not been achieved. To the Vietnamese people, the bright avenue of national independence and socialism was opened up by the triumph of the August revolution and, then, by the historic victory at Dien Bien Phu.

However, U.S. imperialism, the international gendarme, alarmed by the might of socialism and the national liberation movement which is mounting throughout the world, ousted the French colonialist and invaded the southern part of our country, turning it into a neo-colony and military bases of theirs. The scheme of the United States was to erase the gains of national independence and socialism of our people and, by so doing, to contain and eventually put down the national liberation struggle, contain and push back socialism in this region. As the U.S. imperialist themselves have admitted, Vietnam became the testing ground for the power and prestige of the United States. Vietnam became the area where the most ruthless head-on collision between the most warlike, the most stubborn aggressive imperialism, with the most powerful economic and military potential, on one side, and the forces of national independence, democracy and socialism of which the Vietnamese people are the shock force in the region, on the other [side] the victory of Vietnam, therefore, is not only a victory of national independence and socialism in Vietnam, but has also a great international significance, and a deep epochal character, it has upset the global strategy of U.S. imperialism. It has proved that the three revolutionary currents of our times are on the offensive, repulsing imperialism step by step and overthrowing it part by part.

Today, imperialism, even if it be U.S. imperialism, cannot grab a single square inch of any socialist country, nor push back the movement for national independence in the world, nor hinder the development toward socialism in accordance with the aspirations of the peoples of various countries.

In this context, the victory of Vietnam has opened a new stage of development, extremely favourable for the world revolutionary movement. Together with the great victory of the fraternal Lao and Cambodian peoples, our victory has made positive contributions to strengthening the forces of world socialism, and created new favourable conditions for the safeguarding of peace and national independence in Indochina and Southeast Asia.

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Our victory is the victory of a correct and creative revolutionary line and method, and of the correct and creative line of revolutionary war of our party. This revolutionary line and method consist (1) holding high the two banners of national independence and socialism (2) mobilizing the strength of our entire people, and combining our nation's might with that of our era, the strength existing in our country with that existing internationally, in order to create a great and all-round strength to fight and defeat U.S. imperialism.

The line of our revolutionary war in the stage of anti-U.S. struggle for national salvation consisted in constantly applying the strategy of offensive, and also in knowing how to defeat the enemy step by step, forcing him to de-escalate from one rung to another and finally defeating him. It consisted in combining military actions with political struggles, combining the attacks by the armed forces with mass uprisings, and seizing control with wiping out the enemy, and vice-versa.

It consisted in fighting the enemy on three fronts and in three strategic areas, namely the mountain areas, the rural areas, and the urban areas...

This line has encouraged and organized millions of people to rush to the front to destroy the enemy and save the country, thus giving to revolution war an impregnable position just as described in the book "Binh Thu Yeu Luoc" (Essentials of Military Art): (3) One man fights a battle, thousands fight a battle, thousands like one man in battle."

*7/7/75* This line is the creative application of the revolutionary military science of Marxism-Leninism to the realities of our country, the inheritance and development of the military art of our ancestors. This line has been worked out through the process of learning from and promoting the lessons of the August revolution and the anti-French resistance, and of generalizing and enhancing the inexhaustibly creative experiences of our people. In the light of this line the anti-U.S. struggle for national salvation of the people throughout our country has become the greatest epic of revolutionary war in Vietnam, which is radiant with so many glorious and outstanding exploits: the concerted uprising in 1960 which developed into the revolutionary war to defeat the "special war" strategy, the 1972 strategic offensive in the south and the great triumph over the strategic air blitz in 1972 which chased out the United States, and the general offensive and uprising in spring 1975 which toppled the puppet regime. In the latter campaign, within 50 days and nights of stormy offensives and powerful uprisings, we smashed the 1-million-odd army of the enemy, giving him no time to organize any significant resistance. This is the highest and most marvellous expression of the combined strategy of revolutionary war in South Vietnam. Compatriots and combatants, comrades and friends.

With the victory of the anti-U.S. war of resistance for national salvation an extremely brilliant page of our country's history has begun.

A new tremendous and very inspiring task is waiting for our 45 million people. That is to carry out thoroughly the testament of our great Uncle Ho. "Our entire party and people closely join their efforts to build a peaceful, reunified, independent, democratic and prosperous Vietnam, and make a worthy contribution to the world revolution, let us engage in construction and creative labour in order to bring about progress and a prosperity to our Vietnam, happiness and well-being to our people."

Our people have made uncountable sacrifices and overcome untold hardships and difficulties to retrieve our country, this country belongs to our people.

Let us prove ourselves worthy of our great homeland, of our heroic people, of so many heroes who have bid down their lives, of the great sacrifices of our people. Let us be worthy of the "boundless love" left us by Uncle Ho. Let us prove ourselves worthy of being the real masters of the country. Let our compatriots in the north step up socialist construction. Let our compatriots in the south unite and strive to build there a fine national democratic regime, a prosperous national and democratic economy, a progressive and healthy national and democratic culture.

In the spirit of national reconciliation and concord, our people have shown immense leniency to all those who have strayed from the right path and who are now returning to the people, no matter what was their past. Provided they sincerely mend their ways and sincerely devote their ability to the service of the homeland, their position among the people will be guaranteed, and all humiliation caused to them by the criminals who are the U.S. imperialists will be washed away.

After so many years of war, our people have today won the full right to build their country in peace, in the south as well as in the north. Let our compatriots in the whole country start a stirring movement of labour.

By our creative labour, we will rapidly heal the wounds of war, restore and develop the economy, improve our living conditions. By creative labour, we will shake off all vestiges of the parasitic life and the showy prosperity generated in South Vietnam by our vicious enemy.

By creative labour, we will transform the abundant resources of our land into inexhaustible sources of riches of our people, into modern agriculture, modern industry and advanced culture and science. Creative labour will not only embellish our homeland and bring to our people a happy and ever happier life, but will also transform the Vietnamese into new men and women, the collective masters, masters on nature and society, masters of their own lives.

As a people who have made tremendous sacrifices to win peace, national independence, democracy and social progress, the Vietnamese people are determined to stand shoulder to shoulder with the other peoples throughout the world to safeguard peace, to struggle tirelessly for national independence, democracy and social progress and develop friendly relations with all countries on the basis of equality, mutual respect, mutual benefit and peaceful coexistence.

We shall do our best to strengthen solidarity and increase mutual support and assistance, with the fraternal socialist countries and the international communist and workers' movement in the spirit of proletarian internationalism, in order to win ever more splendid successes for the lofty ideal of Marxism-Leninism.

We pledge to enhance the unshakeable militant friendship between the Vietnamese people and the people in our two fraternal neighbour countries--Laos and Cambodia--on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, for the sake of the security, growth and prosperity of each people, and for lasting and stable peace in this part of the world.

We shall persist in our policy of strengthening solidarity and friendship with our neighbours in Southeast Asia and the countries of the Third World, in their struggle to regain and maintain national independence, consolidate sovereignty, and oppose all schemes and manoeuvres of imperialism and old and new colonialism.

Compatriots and combatants, comrades and friends: In the 4,000 years of our nation's history, the last 100 years were the hardest and fiercest period of our struggle against foreign aggression, but they were at the same time the period of our most glorious victories.

Our people have overthrown the domination of the Japanese fascists, the old colonialism of France and the neo-colonialism of the United States, joined the ranks of the vanguard nation of the world, and has won the esteem and respect of the whole of progressive mankind. A nation which has recorded such splendid exploits deserves to enjoy peace, freedom and happiness. Such a nation surely has enough determination and energy, strength and talent to overcome all difficulties, and attain the high peaks of our time, to turn their poor and backward country heavily devastated by war, and in which U.S. imperialism has sown so many crimes, into a civilized, prosperous and powerful country, an inviolable bastion of national independence, democracy and socialism in Indochina and Southeast Asia.

With boundless pride, with confidence in our certain success, let our entire party, our entire people and our entire army march forward! A splendid future is awaiting us!

Long live a peaceful, independent, reunified, democratic and prosperous Vietnam!

Long life the Vietnam Workers Party!

President Ho Chi Minh lives forever in our cause!

#### Footnotes

(1) The Trung sisters: leaders of the national uprising in 40-43 A.D. against northern invaders.

--Lady Trieu: leader of another uprising against northern invaders in 248 A.D.

--Ly Thuong Kiet: 11th century general.

--Tran Hung Dao: 13th century general, later king.

--Le Loi: a general of the 15th century, and later king.

--Quang Trung: leader of the Tay Son insurgent peasants and, later king, 18th century.

--Phan Dinh Phung, Hoang Hoa Tham, Truong Cong Dinh: patriotic scholars who led resistance movements in the early days of the French conquest.

(2) Phu Dong, legendary character who routed an invading army with his fire-breathing iron horse.

I (3) "Essentials of Military Art," by Tran Hung Dao.