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II. HOANG QUOC VIET'S POLITICAL REPORT TO VFF  
CALLS FOR "COMPLETE DEFEAT" OF U.S.

[Hanoi VNA International Service in English, 1548 GMT, 14 December 1973]

Hanoi VNA December 14-- The Third Congress of the Viet-Nam Fatherland Front opened here this morning to review the Front's activities over the past decade since its Second Congress, draw experiences, and lay down the tasks and works for the Front in the time to come and appoint a new Central Committee of the Front.

The Congress is attended by representatives of political parties, mass organizations, religious communities, nationalities, the Viet-Nam People's Army, organizations, members of the Front and State Organs.

Also present are the delegation of the South Viet-Nam National Front for Liberation and the delegation of the Viet-Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces which just came from South Viet-Nam, and the Special Representation of the Republic of South Viet-Nam in the DRV.

Among the members of the Presidium of the Congress were:

Ton Duc Thang, President of the DRV, President of the Presidium of the VNFFCC.

Truong Chinh, Political Bureau Member of the VNWPPC, Chairman of the DRV National Assembly Standing Committee,

Pham Van Dong, Political Bureau Member of the VNWPPC, Premier of the DRV Government,

Hoang Quoc Viet, Member of the VNWPPC, President of the Viet-Nam Federation of Trade Unions.

Also on the presidium were:

Nguyen Phu Soai, acting head of the Special Representation of the Republic of South Viet-Nam in the DRV,

Nguyen Van Ngoi, Head of the South Viet-Nam delegation, and Lam Van Tet, Head of the VNANDPF delegation.

Opening the Congress, President Ton Duc Thang warmly welcomed the delegates, especially the delegations of the South Viet-Nam National Front for Liberation and the Viet-Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces which had just come from the great front line to the North, bringing warm sentiments from the 17 million South Vietnamese people to the Congress.

He said: "Over the past several decades, our Front has always been cared for, fostered and guided by President Ho Chi Minh. Bowing in respect before the President's image, we express our boundless gratitude to him and pledge to constantly uphold his banner of great unity and to resolutely materialize well his sacred testament".

With deep emotion, all the attendants stood up in silent respect before President Ho Chi Minh's white plaster bust.

President Ton Duc Thang went on:

"Over the past ten years, under the clear-sighted leadership of the Viet-Nam Workers' Party, our people, united and of one mind, overcoming innumerable difficulties and hardships, have won great and basic victories in their resistance to U.S. aggression, for national salvation, and in their socialist construction.

"On this occasion, our Congress conveys to our countrymen and combatants in the heroic South our warmest sentiments. Our Southern compatriots have always upheld their deep patriotism and their spirit of noble self-sacrifice, fight persistently and valiantly for independence and freedom, for the reunification of the country. The South really deserves its name of 'Iron Fort of the Fatherland'!

"We warmly acclaim our heroic countrymen and combatants in the North who have defeated the U.S. imperialists' cruel war of destruction, wholeheartedly fulfilled the task of the great rear toward the great front line and striven hard to build socialism industriously and thriftily.

"We warmly welcome the valiant Lao and Cambodian peoples who have resolutely risen up to resist the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their henchmen and recorded extremely glorious exploits.

"We warmly welcome the brilliant achievements of the peoples of the fraternal countries in building socialism and communism. We warmly welcome the great achievements of people all over the world in their struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

"We sincerely thank our brothers and friends in all the five continents for their sympathy and valuable support and assistance to our people".

President Ton Duc Thang voiced the belief that "With the Party's independent, sovereign, correct and creative line, with the invincible strength of our great national unity, always upholding the spirit of self-reliance and enjoying the sympathy, great support and assistance of the fraternal socialist countries and the whole progressive mankind, our people will certainly inflict complete defeat on the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen and successfully build socialism in the North."

In his political report, Hoang Quoc Viet, Member of the Presidium of the Viet-Nam Fatherland Front's Central Committee, said that over the past ten years, under the clear-sighted leadership of the Viet-Nam Workers' Party and esteemed President Ho Chi Minh, the Viet-Nam Fatherland Front has made many efforts and worthy contributions to the glorious successes of our people.

"Proceeding from the line and policy worked out by the Party's Third Congress, the Viet-Nam Fatherland Front has concentrated its efforts on mobilizing the entire people to carry out resolutely and successfully the two strategic tasks of the Vietnamese revolution: To resist the U.S. and save the country, and build socialism..."

He said that throughout the socialist North, the patriotic emulation movements of the various strata of people have mobilized millions of people to take part eagerly in the patriotic war against U.S. aggression and the socialist construction, from which more and more collective and individual heroes and emulation fighters in production and combat have emerged...

Carrying forward the revolutionary cause of the Viet Minh (Viet-Nam Independence League) and the Lien Viet (Viet-Nam National Union League) in the past, the Viet-Nam Fatherland Front has always maintained and developed its role as a firm prop for the people's democratic power. The political parties, mass organizations and committees of the

Front at all the levels have maintained close relations with the people of all strata and encouraged them to enhance their revolutionary will, for the fulfillment of the State plan for economic and cultural development in order to meet the requirements of the socialist transformation and socialist construction as well as the strengthening of national defense....

Hoang Quoc Viet said the Viet-Nam Fatherland Front exerted special efforts in strengthening the militant unity among the people in both zones of the country.

While performing its task toward the nation, the Front has unceasingly struggled for the strengthening of the solidarity between the Vietnamese people and the peoples all over the world in the common struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

Constantly following and resolutely supporting the revolutionary movement of the peoples in various countries in the world, we have taken many timely activities with a view to unceasingly consolidating and broadening friendly relations with international democratic organizations, progressive fronts and organizations and democratic personalities in many nationalist and capitalist countries including the United States, thus contributing to the strengthening and expansion of the world people's front against U.S.-led imperialism.

Hoang Quoc Viet said: "In the development of the fraternal friendship and militant solidarity among the peoples of the three Indochinese countries, we have made valuable contributions. The Viet-Nam Fatherland Front and (? all) of its member organizations actively contributed to the success of the Indochinese Peoples' Conference held in March 1965 at the initiative of Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. In the face of Nixon's maneuvers and acts to expand the war to the whole of Indochina and use Indochinese peoples to fight Indochinese, the Summit Conference of the Indochinese Peoples held in April 1970 and which ended in splendid success marked a new a very important development of the militant solidarity of the peoples of Viet-Nam, Laos and Cambodia".

He went on: "Under the clear-sighted leadership of the Viet-Nam Workers' Party and President Ho Chi Minh, over the past ten years, deep changes have taken place on our land. From a rotten colonialist and feudal regime, our people, closely united, are advancing steadily toward a splendid socialist regime.

"We are very happy to note that in the four thousand years of history of national construction and national defense, the unity and oneness of mind of our people have developed to their peak in the [words indistinct] stage of revolution.

"With regard to international solidarity, thanks to the correct foreign policy of the Party, our people have unceasingly strengthened and consolidated their unity with the Laos and Cambodian peoples as well as their solidarity with the peoples of the fraternal socialist countries and the world's peoples.

"It is this great solidarity -- internal and international -- that has given our people a very steady position, and tremendous source of strength in their resistance to the U.S. aggressors. With that strength, our countrymen and combatants in the North, together with those in the South, have defeated the U.S. war of destruction against the North, defeated their 'Special War', and are driving to bankruptcy their local war strategy in the South, bringing the resistance to U.S. aggression, for national salvation, to complete victory. A truth which is being demonstrated is that: A nation, with a population not very large and a territory not very vast, but guided by a correct political line, closely united, fighting heroically and enjoying the sympathy and active support and assistance of the peoples of the socialist countries and the rest of the world, is certainly capable of defeating the imperialist aggressors, be they the U.S. imperialists."

The causes of these achievements of the Front, Hoang Quoc Viet pointed out, are: A correct leading line, a firm worker-peasant alliance which serves as the groundwork of the Front, the timely heightening of political consciousness and fostering of the tradition of national union in every stage of the revolution, the correct style of work of the Front in accordance with the principles of negotiation, democracy, united action, respect for the independence of each member organization, and criticism and self-criticism with a view to common progress.

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Dealing with the present situation, Hoang Quoc Viet said:

"The great and basic victories of our entire people's patriotic war against U.S. aggression as well as in the socialist construction in the North are opening very splendid prospects for the revolution of our country.

"The U.S. imperialists' failure is already obvious. But the U.S. warmongering circles headed by Nixon do not yet give up their aggressive designs against Viet-Nam, Laos and Cambodia. They are feverishly carrying out their 'Vietnamization of the War' maneuver, stepping up 'Pacification' raids, pitting Vietnamese against the Vietnamese and sticking to the clique of traitors in Saigon headed by Nguyen Van Thieu in an attempt to turn the South of our country into a new-type colony and military base of the U.S. They are trying to step up the war of aggression in Laos, savagely bombing the Lao liberated zone, conducting nibbling attacks on the Plain of Jars-Xieng Khoang area controlled by the Lao Patriotic Forces. They are intensifying and expanding the war of aggression in Cambodia, ordering South Vietnamese puppet troops to conduct operations to massacre Khmer people, realizing Nixon's reactionary doctrine of using Indochinese against Indochinese, Asians against Asians. They have repeatedly encroached upon the independence and sovereignty of the DRV and are preparing new military adventures against the people in North Viet-Nam. Obviously, the Nixon Administration, very stubborn and bellicose, still harbours the illusion of winning a military victory with a view to subduing the Vietnamese people and the peoples of the other Indochinese countries, in implementation of its neocolonialist designs."

But, Hoang Quoc Viet said, "The more the U.S. imperialists stick to that policy and that doctrine, the heavier and more ignominious setbacks they will incur...."

He pointed to the tasks of the Fatherland Front in the time to come as follow:

"Under the leadership of the Viet-Nam Workers' Party, on the basis of the worker-peasant alliance, endeavor to strengthen the unity among the people of all strata, the democratic political parties, mass organizations, nationalities, religious communities and patriotic personalities, constantly consolidate and widen the national union, uphold the heroic mettle of the nation, bring into full play the people's right as collective masters and their revolutionary zeal, mobilize the entire people to push forward the patriotic emulation movement, with the resolve to completely defeat the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen, build socialism successfully, liberate the South, defend the North, proceed [with] the peaceful reunification of the country, and build a peaceful, reunified, independent, democratic and prosperous Viet-Nam."

Hoang Quoc Viet concluded:

"Over the past several decades, every time our National United Front held its congress we had the honor to meet Uncle Ho, who visited us and gave us solicitous recommendations on the works to be done by the Front to serve the Fatherland and the people. Today, we all turn our thoughts to beloved Uncle Ho, who founded and guided our Front, educate and trained us into revolutionary fighters. With all our profound gratitude to him we pledge to close our ranks around the Party's Central Committee, resolutely to materialize at all costs President Ho Chi Minh's 'ultimate wish' which is also the objective for which the Viet-Nam Fatherland Front is striving: To build a peaceful, reunified, independent, democratic and prosperous Viet-Nam and make a worthy contribution to the world revolution."

The political report concluded with, among other slogans, this behest from President Ho Chi Minh:

"Unity, unity, great unity! Success, success, great success!"

After Hoang Quoc Viet's political report, Truong Chinh read out the message of greetings to the Congress from the Central Committee of the Viet-Nam Workers' Party.

The Congress then heard the speeches delivered by Nguyen Van Ngoi, head of the South Viet-Nam NFL Delegation, who followed up by [reading] the message of greetings from the NFL's Central Committee, and by Lam Van Tet, head of the delegation of the Viet-Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, who also read out the message of greetings from the Alliance.

Both delegations offered embroidered scrolls to the Congress amid long applause.

During the breaks, delegates from various strata and nationalities affectionately crowded around President Ton Duc Thang and leading members of the Fatherland Front, who posed for photographs with them.