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"AUGUST REVOLUTION" DOCUMENT

APPEAL BY THE GENERAL COMMITTEE
OF THE VIET NAM FRONT
ON THE DAY OF THE PROCLAMATION
OF INDEPENDENCE

SEP 2, 1945

Compatriots!

On August 19, 1945, under the leadership of the Viet Minh Front, our whole people rose up to win back their independence.

At present, power is in our hands.

Complying with the people's wishes, the Provisional Government has assumed the management of the state. The Emperor has, of his own accord, abdicated to give way to the new government.

The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam is established. All the chains which have fettered our people are broken. Our compatriots throughout the country are living merry and happy days after the long French domination.

However our independence is still very fragile. To seize power is difficult, but to keep it is still more difficult. Our people throughout the country must unite closely together and be ready to struggle against all attempts at aggression.

At present, all those who love the country have the possibility to serve it. Each of us serves it according to his means in money, labour or knowledge. All must bring their contributions to the building of an independent Viet Nam.

The resolute struggle waged by the Viet Minh League through the last few years, the innumerable sacrifices and sufferings it has undergone have

brought about the present results. Success could not turn the heads of the Viet Minh combatants, nor could failure discourage them. At present, the Revolutionary power has been set up, but the Viet Minh Front does not consider its tasks as fulfilled. It is well aware that our Democratic Republic of Viet Nam will have to face numerous other dangers and difficulties, it still has to cope with the French manoeuvres aimed to re-establish their domination, and many other obstacles that hinder our advance.

In consequence, the General Committee of the Viet Minh Front is determined to see to it that, under its leadership, our compatriots will overcome all obstacles to safeguard our independence.

Let all strata of the population, all patriotic organizations unite closely together!

Let them never be divided either in ordinary times or in the face of danger! Let them show to the world that our people, who have united for the conquest of power, will always remain united in defence of their power, even at the cost of their lives.

Do not depend on others. It is for our people to strengthen their own freedom and happiness. All of us must support the Provisional Government and carry out its orders.

The French are on the lookout for the opportunity to come back to Indochina to enslave us once more. We must be ready to smash all their savage attempts at aggression. We must resolutely brush aside all their deceptive promises. We must extirpate the French colonialist regime.

Unity, struggle, strengthening of independence, such are our watchwords for the present time.

Long live a free Viet Nam!

Long live the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam!