

On Formation of Indochinese CP

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 1520 GMT 15 Jan 70 B

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 15--The Indochinese Communist Party (now the Vietnam Workers Party) was founded on February 3, 1930, as a result of the merging of the then existing three communist groups in Vietnam. On February 18, 1930, Ngueyn Ai Quoc (name adopted by President Ho Chi Minh during his activities abroad) made this appeal to the Vietnamese nation:

Workers, peasants, soldiers, youth and pupils! Oppressed and exploited compatriots!
Sisters and brothers! Comrades!

Imperialist contradictions were the cause of the 1914-1918 world war. After this horrible slaughter, the world was divided into two camps: On one side, the revolutionary camp including the oppressed colonies and the exploited working class throughout the world. The vanguard force of this camp is the Soviet Union. On the other is the counterrevolutionary camp of international capitalism and imperialism whose general staff is the League of Nations.

During the war, various nations suffered untold losses in lives and properties. The French imperialists were the hardest hit. Therefore, in order to restore the capitalist forces in France, the French imperialists have resorted to every underhanded scheme to intensify their capitalist exploitation in Indochina. They set up new factories to exploit the workers with low wages. They plundered the peasants' land to establish plantations and drive them to utter misery. They levied new heavy taxes. They imposed public loans upon our people. In short, they brought our people to wretchedness.

They increased their military forces: firstly to strangle the Vietnamese revolution, secondly to prepare for a new imperialist war in the Pacific aimed at capturing new colonies, thirdly to suppress the Chinese revolution, fourthly to attack the Soviet Union for her assistance of the oppressed nations and the exploited working class.

World War II will break out. By then the French imperialists certainly drive [as received] our people to a more horrible slaughter. If we give them a free hand to prepare for this war, suppress the Chinese revolution and attack the Soviet Union, to stifle the Vietnamese revolution, it is tantamount to giving them a free hand to wipe our race off the earth and drown our nation in the Pacific.

However the French imperialists' barbarous oppression and ruthless exploitation have awakened our compatriots who have all realised that revolution is the only road to life, without it they will die out piecemeal. This is the reason why the Vietnamese revolutionary movement has grown ever stronger with each passing day: the workers refuse to work, the peasants demand land, the pupils go on strike, the traders boycott. Everywhere the masses have risen to oppose the French imperialists.

The Vietnamese revolution has frightened the French imperialists. On the one hand, they make use of French feudalists and comprador bourgeois in our country to oppress and exploit our people. On the other, they terrorise, arrest, jail, deport and kill a great number of Vietnamese revolutionaries. If the French imperialists think that they can suppress the Vietnamese revolution by means of terrorist acts, they are grossly mistaken.

Firstly, it is because the Vietnamese revolution is not isolated but enjoys the assistance of the world proletarian class in general and of the French working class in particular. Secondly, while the French imperialists are frenziedly carrying out terrorist acts, the Vietnamese Communists, formerly working separately, have now united into a single party, the Communist Party of Indochina, to lead our entire people in their revolution.

Workers, peasants, soldiers, youth, pupils! Oppressed and exploited compatriots!

The Communist Party of Indochina is founded. It is the party of the working class. It will help the proletarian class to lead the revolution in the struggle for the interests of all the oppressed and exploited people. Right we must join the party [as received], help it and follow it in order to implement the following slogans:

- 1--To overthrow French imperialism, feudalism and the reactionary Vietnamese capitalist class.
- 2--To make Indochina completely independent.
- 3--To establish a worker-peasant-soldier government.
- 4--To confiscate the banks and other enterprises belonging to the imperialists and put them under the control of the worker-peasant-soldier government.
- 5--To confiscate the whole of the plantations and property belonging to the imperialists and the Vietnamese reactionary capitalist class and distribute them to poor peasants.
- 6--To implement the eight-hour working day.
- 7--To abolish public loans and the poll-tax. To waive unjust taxes hitting the poor people.
- 8--To bring back all freedoms to the masses.
- 9--To carry out education for all the people.
- 10--To realize equality between man and woman.

On Founding of Viet Minh

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 0536 GMT 16 Jan 70 B

(Documents on Vietnam Workers Party: /Letter From Abroad--1941/)

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 16--In May 1941, the Central Committee of the Indochinese Communist Party convened in Pac Bo (Cao Bang Province) decided on the new political line of the Party, founded the Viet Minh (Front for the Independence of Vietnam) and issued the slogan for national liberation.

In June 1941, Nguyen Ai Quoc (name adopted by President Ho Chi Minh during his activities abroad) made this appeal to the nation:

Elders! Patriotic personalities! Intellectuals, peasants, workers, traders, and soldiers! Dear compatriots!

Since France was defeated by Germany, its power has been completely ruined. Nevertheless, with regard to our people, French rulers have become even more ruthless in carrying out their policy of exploitation, repression, and massacre. In their foreign policy, they bow their heads and kneel down, cutting our land for Siam, without shame, they surrender our country to Japan. [sentence as received] As a result our people are writhing under a double yoke of oppression, reduced to the plight of draught animals for the French colonialists and slaves for the Japanese plunders. Alas! What sin have our people committed to be doomed to such a wretched plight!

Can we do nothing but wait for death in such a gloomy and piteous situation? No! Certainly not! The 20-million-odd sons and daughters of Lac Hong will never be reconciled to be kept as slaves. For nearly 80 years under the French invaders' iron heels we have unceasingly sacrificed ourselves, and struggled for national independence and freedom. The heroism of our predecessors, such as Phan Dinh Phung, Hoang Hoa Tham, and Luong Ngoc Quyen is still alive, the heroic feats of our revolutionaries in Thai Nguyen, Yen Bai, and Bac Son have testified to the determination of our compatriots to shed their blood as their glorious predecessors did, eager to annihilate the enemy. If we did not succeed, it was not because the French invaders were strong, but only because the situation was not yet ripe and our compatriots throughout the country were not yet of the same heart and mind.

Now, the opportunity has come for our liberation. France itself is unable to help the French colonialists rule our country. As for the Japanese, on the one hand they are bogged in China, on the other, hamstrung by the British and American forces. They certainly cannot use all their forces against us. If our entire people are united and single-minded, we are certainly able to smash the picked French and Japanese armies

Compatriots throughout the country! Rise up quickly! Let us follow the heroic example of the Chinese people! Rise up quickly and organize the association for national salvation to fight the French and the Japanese.

Dear compatriots! Some hundreds of years ago, when our country faced the danger of Mogul invasion, our elders under the Tran Dynasty rose up and ardently called on their sons and daughters throughout the country to rise as one in order to kill the enemy.

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Finally they saved their people and their good name will be carried into posterity for all time. The elders and patriotic personalities of our country should follow the example set by our forefathers in the glorious task of national salvation.

Rich people, soldiers, workers, peasants, intellectuals, employees, traders, youth, and women who warmly love your country! At the present time national liberation is the most important problem. Let us unite and we shall overthrow the Japanese and French and their lackeys and save people from the situation between boiling water and burning heat.

Dear compatriots! National salvation is the common cause to the whole of our people. Every Vietnamese must take a part in it. He who has money will contribute his money, he who has strength will contribute his strength, he who has talent will contribute his talent. As for me, I pledge to use all my modest abilities to follow you, and am ready for the last sacrifice.

Revolutionary fighters! The hour has struck! Raise aloft the banner of insurrection and guide the people throughout the country to overthrow the Japanese and French! The sacred call of the fatherland is resounding in your ears, the blood of our heroic predecessors who sacrificed their lives is seething in your hearts! The fighting spirit of the people is (?flaring) everywhere before you! Let us rise up quickly! Compatriots throughout the country, rise up quickly! Unite with each other, unify your action to overthrow the Japanese and the French.

Victory to Vietnam's revolution!

Victory to the world's revolution!