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Editorial

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Why We Should Not Open Trade With Hanoi ?

Twelve years after seizing power in Vietnam, Hanoi has succeeded in turning a country of 60 million people into one of the world's five poorest nations. Inflation has risen 900 percent, its budget deficit reached as high as 30 percent, its production stalled, and the population experienced near-starvation in the land that used to produce more than enough food to feed its people. Overall, the economy is heading toward bankruptcy. As usual among communist countries, Hanoi has been looking beyond its bloc for economic aid. And as usual, many Western observers have considered this as an opportunity to soften Hanoi's totalitarianism at the same time to offset the Soviet Union's influence over its Asian Cuba. Their wishful expectation will never be met, however, due to the very nature of communism as historically recorded since Lenin's promotion of his so-called New Economic Policy (NEP) and prediction that capitalist nations would willingly sell even the rope that would hang themselves.

Hanoi's present economic situation is expectable as a byproduct of its Marxist ideology, resulting in poor management and as a consequence shortages of commodities for all aspects of life. This is popular phenomenon only happened in communist countries including established regimes, such as Soviet Union's. Long line in front of state-run stores have become a way of life to people in the communist bloc. And as a result of shortages come black market and corruption. Worst of all, disillusion has widely spread not only among people but also among party members. The latters concern the leadership the most since they are the very people who help to maintain and consolidate the regime.

To further hamper the incorrigibly economic situation in Vietnam is Hanoi's maintenance of the world's fourth largest army financed by the Soviet Union at the annual rate of \$ 2 billion, two-fifths of the latter's total military aids to its satellites.

Turning to the West for assistance in solving economic problems has become a hallmark strategy to communist nations since Lenin. This has been successfully done time and again with the West's wishful belief in the so-called evolution of communism. How far has communism evolved? One can measure by the rate of nations conquered by communism since 1975. Meanwhile, once granting communist nations its economic aid, and in order to recover its capital and to avoid a possible worldwide depression, the West can no longer back out and must keeps on pumping more credit into these nation's disease-infested economies.

Hanoi is no exception in using the same strategy. Following Moscow's policy of "openness", it has pronounced its NEP carbon copy. In promoting the so-called international cooperation in order to solicit foreign trade and aid, Hanoi hopes to salvage its collapsing economy in order to recover its party members rapid deterioration which threatens not only its Soviet-backed regional expansionism policy but also the very existence of the regime.

Having had the experience with the Viet Cong, the Vietnamese people have realized the true goal behind this communist strategy promoted not for the sake of the people but for that of the regime's consolidation. The Vietnamese community everywhere in the free world are conducting a campaign to boycott any attempt to trade with Hanoi. We do not want to see our people's miseries being used by Hanoi to appeal for economic aid from the free world. What both Moscow and Hanoi have been pursuing is apparent: once the West responds to Hanoi's economic appeal, a pattern of "labor division" will be settled, in which the Soviet Union only has to provide military aid for Hanoi's eventual conquest of Southeast Asia.

Vietnamese Community In Paris Boycott Hanoi Musical Group

Viet Cong agents cancelled Hanoi's planned tour for its musical group after its failed opening performance in Paris due to pressure of dozen of Vietnamese groups here in mid-May, according to the groups' report.

In an attempt to counter the 1987 National Day organized by Vietnamese communities throughout Europe last Spring, Hanoi assembled a musical group for a tour scheduled to take place first in Paris then in other West European capitals.

Upon receiving information about the tour, several Vietnamese groups in Paris, such as the General Association of Vietnamese Students, the Association of Vietnamese Youth, and the Association of Former Naval Personnel and Merchantmarines, among others, called a meeting to outline collective actions against Hanoi's propaganda scheme masked by cultural performances.



♦Demonstrators confront Viet Cong agents (with X) before the planned opening performance.

The groups then distributed a letter to Vietnamese families in Paris, urging them to boycott the show. Meanwhile, members of local NUFRONLIV walked the streets distributing copies of the

letter to Parisians. Vietnamese communities from other French and European cities also contacted Paris for information for a concerted reaction.

On May 30, hundreds of people gathered in front of the Maubert theater, Paris, where the performance was to be held, waving red-striped and yellow flags, a symbol of Free Vietnam, and explained to showgoers that the performance was organized by Hanoi and their participation would imply support for the repressive regime from which they had fled. Many among the would-be audience chose to take part in the protest instead, which resulted in the VC agents's decision to cancel not only the opening performance but also the entire European tour. ■



♦Protesters waving the nationalist flags in front of the Maubert theater (Paris, France) after forcing the Viet Cong to cancel their propaganda tour in Europe.

Clashes At Viet Cong Stores In Paris

Responding to the call for action against Viet Cong's money-raising scheme, on June 6th many community groups along with local NUFRONTLIV chapters waged a campaign to inform people of Hanoi's clandestine commercial offices which serve as conduit for the regime to transfer money and goods to Viet Nam. Protesters stood in front of these stores and distributed leaflets calling shoppers to boycott them. Paris police started to intervene after receiving complaints from the stores. However, after talking to the demonstrators, the police concluded that the protest was legal and peaceful thus should not be interfered. Daily protests caused business of the stores to slow down and VC agents became very frustrated.

In the morning of June 13, a larger protest was staged with more people participating. Within



• Protestors distributing leaflets in front of a sidewalk Cafe.

a mile radius, groups of people gathered at corners, bus stops, subway entrances, coffee houses to handout boycott flyers. The majority of shoppers decided to take their business elsewhere

instead of supporting the Ha Noi regime.

Then without warning, VC agents from Vina and VN Difusion stores rushed outside and attacked the crowd with hammers, fire extinguishers and tear gas. Two innocent bystanders suffered severe head injuries and police was summoned to the scene that subsequently arrested four persons from these stores.

News of the violence quickly spread in the community and infuriated many people. In the afternoon, the crowd grew twice larger. Tension kept rising as VC agents inside the stores screamed out provocations to the protesters, and again suddenly rushed outside attacking peaceful protesters. The melee lasted ten minutes before the police was called for the second time.

Local people have filed a complaint against the stores and demand they be closed down as public nuisance. ■



• Viet Cong agents attacking the demonstrators with fire extinguishers, iron pipe and tear gas.

Resistance Activities Reported By VRR

Long An People Evade Forced Labor Work

During the first two months of this year, members of Long An RAC successfully organized local people to evade forced labor work for an irrigation project in Long An province (about 30 miles west of Saigon). According to a report, residents of the Moc Hoa, Vinh Hung and Tan Thanh districts not only boycotted the project but also sought ways to sabotage already built parts.

(VRR, May 12, 1987)

History Classes For Youth In Minh Hai

The RAC of Minh Hai, a province about 160 miles south of Saigon, reported members of its committee in last February organized several history classes for local youth, using the text book published by the General Directorate of In-Land Affairs, "Heroes of Our Country". These classes were necessary for children growing up in the VC-controlled society since they upheld nationalistic values, contrary to



■ President Hoang Co Minh talking to khang chien quan in a training session.

the "internationalistic traits" advocated by the VC.

In the same area, VRR reported two persons on a motorcycle threw a hand grenade to a VC security post on Highway 1, wounding two agents and causing property damages. According to local residents, these men avenged on their behalf for having had their property confiscated by VC security agents.

(VRR, May 12, 1987)

Following are abbreviations being used in this news brief:

ARF	The Armed Resistance Forces.
ARU	The Armed Resistance Units.
ARVN	The Armed Forces of the Republic of Viet Nam.
CPV	Communist Party of Viet Nam.
GD/ILA	The General Directorate of In-Land Affairs.
GD/OA	The General Directorate of Overseas Affairs.
NRC	The National Resistance Council.
NUFRONLIV	The National United Front for the Liberation of Viet Nam.
RAC	The Resistance and Administration Committees.
RVN	The Republic of Viet Nam (formerly South Viet Nam).
VC	Viet cong (Vietnamese communist).
VRR	Vietnamese Resistance Radio.

Anti-Religion Campaign Boycott Urged In Dong Nai

The RAC of Dong Nai, province, 20 miles north of Saigon, reported members of its committee in March and April organized several meetings with residents of Thong Nhat, Long Dat and Xuyen Moc districts. The people voiced their complaints about VC anti-religious activities, especially government security agents' surveillance on local Catholics. The RAC then provided guidances on how to boycott the regime's "Religion Serves Socialism" campaign and at the same time distributed over four thousand flyers and other educational materials.

Also, to celebrate 1987 Viet Nam National Day, representatives of local residents donated over 380

Once extensively covered by the world media, Vietnam has been neglected by news agencies since the 1975 communist takeover; as a consequence, the public both inside and outside the country hardly knows what has actually happened to the Vietnamese people except for speculations based on Hanoi's propaganda.

To offset the Viet Cong's suppression of information, the National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam has established in 1983 the Vietnamese Resistance Radio to inform the Vietnamese populace of the world and to bring news from within to the outside world.

Broadcasting eight hours daily on the 30m and 40m wavebands (13.3 Mhz and 7.4 Mhz), the VRR has effectively mobilized the populace into concerted resistance activities against the Hanoi regime.

Following are some excerpts from VRR daily news programs.

kilograms (about 750 lbs) of medicine and food to the committee members. A portion of the supplies was transferred to the local Armed Resistance Unit.

(VRR, June 6, 1987)

VC Convoy Ambushed In Kien Giang

In the same news release on May 12, VRR reported members of Kien Giang ARU last February ambushed a VC convoy on Highway 19 U Minh (about 100 miles south of Saigon), killing two VC soldiers, destroying two transport trucks. The Khang Chien Quan also took one AK-47 rifle, one K-54 handgun, some ammunitions, food and medicine. Before withdrawing to their base, ARU members left behind leaflets urging VC soldiers to leave the regime's army for the Resistance.

(VRR, May 12, 1987)

Q. In the June issue, I saw a letter urging Vietnamese people abroad to boycott the VC's money-raising efforts. Can you provide me more details about this matter?

A. After last year's VC Sixth Congress, the Vietnamese Communist Party has embarked on a campaign trying to salvage its collapsing economy by new economic tactics that will exploit even more for the benefits of the party and its rulers. To motivate workers, farmers and merchants, who saw no incentive to produce, the party loosened up its economic control at local level. Yet the regime still needs other ingredients for its scheme to succeed foreign currency, production goods and resources, and advanced technology. Hanoi is looking toward Western nations and overseas Vietnamese communities for solutions to the shortage problem in Vietnam.

Q. Wouldn't the regime's new economic measures, if successful, help the Vietnamese people?

A. Many Westerners think so because they fail to view the whole context. Let us take the Soviet Union for example. Western countries have cooperated with the Soviet Union in many "economic projects". Your government has provided the Soviet with valuable industrial assistance, such as the building of truck manufacturing facilities for the improvement of domestic goods transportation system and as a consequence the standard of living of Soviet people. In reality, from those assembly lines rolled out military trucks used to carry Soviet troops and weapons invading Afghanistan. You might as well replace the word "Soviet" by "Vietnamese" within the context of our dialogue.

Q. What are then the VC planning to exploit overseas Vietnamese?

A. It will make it more difficult for their relatives at home to receive consumption goods. Vietnamese

refugees will be encouraged or even schemed into sending money and production equipment. Hanoi claimed people at home need money and production means to take on the so-called constructive economic projects to improve their life. The VC will also utilize other techniques such as advertising special tours to our homeland or offering attractive investment in its well-camouflaged businesses abroad. That's only the beginning. Afterward, there will be industrial espionage, money laundering, among others.

Q. So how will you deal with Hanoi's money-raising efforts?

A. Our people here have been aware of the regime's program. They realize they should not send home money or production goods. We also urge our people boycott all business transaction or investment and travel plans set up and operated by VC agents, and least but not last is not to advertise for their business. That's what we, Vietnamese refugees, can do in countering Hanoi's exploitative plans to make money. Of course, you and your people can cooperate with us in this matter if you wish to do so.

Q. What we can do?

A. At first, you need to stay informed. Then you will contact your friends and relatives, and urge them to stay away from any business, education and cultural activity organized by the VC. Moreover, work against any attempt to establish any kind of relation in any area between your government and Hanoi. As concerned citizens of your country or as interested organizations, you should make clear to your government that any of such relation with Hanoi is not beneficial to your country and your people, thus it should not be encouraged. We welcome your efforts in this task. Remember, any help for the VC is not at all in the interests of our people at home. ■

Does The West Support Communism?

On July 6 both the chairman and the president of Japan's Toshiba Corp. resigned for having failed to control activities of subsidiary companies that, for the last four years, sold high-tech machine tools to the Soviet Union. Their resignation occurred while a governmental investigation is under way concerning illegal sales of state-of-art electronic equipment to North Korea by Osaka-based firms including Tomei Shoji, Yamani Fisheries and Maritime Industries. These incidents happened while U.S. secretaries of state and defense met with the Australian authority to discuss security issue concerning Pacific Asia, especially Southern Pacific.

The Soviet establishment of its first largest overseas navy base in Cam Ranh Bay since 1979 has caused alarm among Asian nations as well as Australia and the United States. In addition, New Zealand's 1985 nuclear-free zone decision has weakened its ANZUS Treaty with the United States and Australia, and as a result, given the Soviets more elbowroom in the area.

The Soviet presence in the Pacific and the sales of sophisticated equipment by Japanese firms to Communist states pose a question on how much more aid Western nations have provided to the Communist world.

In addition to stealing Western high-tech inventions through industrial espionage, the

Soviet Union and its satellite countries have also been able to acquire modern electronic goods for military purpose by exploiting Western firms' competitive search for profits. The Toshiba incident is only one of several business deals taking place between private firms and Moscow. In the financial area, communist efforts are equally intensive. Western financial institutions each year lend Moscow approximately \$ 10 billion and these transactions are regarded by many governments as lawful.

The Soviet exports of its natural resources -crude oil, natural gas, diamonds, and gold - grosses \$ 25 to \$ 26 billion, enough to help pay for imported agricultural produce and farm equipment, or to meet foreign debt services. When world oil price recently fell, foreign currency shortage became a problem to the Kremlin.

Facing tremendous expenditures, including the yearly \$ 5 billion military aid to its satellite countries (Hanoi alone gets \$ 2 billion), Moscow felt compelled to resort to Western banking establishment for hard cash.

The Soviet presently operate a number of its in Western Europe Paris - based Eurobank (Banque Commerciale Pour l'Europe du Nord), Moscow Narody established in 1921 in London, the East-West United Bank founded in 1974 in Luxembourg, Donau in Vienna, and the Ost-West Handelsbank in Frankfurt. In

addition to covering up questionable fund transfers, these banks also accept inter-bank deposits of up to \$ 5 billion per year from other European banks, at an interest rate of 6.8 percent. Interbank deposit money may, therefore, be cleanly transferred to Moscow since such fund transferring is considered as a routine course of business.

In other words, Western European banks deposit into Moscow-controlled banks funds that could be used by the Soviet Union to finance activities outside the control of Western European governments. These activities may well include insurgencies in Indochina, Central America, Middle East and Africa.

Lenin's speculation that the free world would eventually be hanged by the rope it sold to to Communist bloc seems to fit the above picture. He also said to followers : "The fundamental of our diplomatic policy is to attract maximum credits from the capitalists while pursuing our goal (of destroying capitalism)".

Hanoi is now putting Lenin's lesson into practice. The regime is courting Western countries and Vietnamese refugees to extract hard cash and much needed goods to save its war machine. It will be no surprise if someday Japanese electronic equipment exported to Vietnam through a Viet Cong's import venture financed by a French bank will wind up being installed on Soviet ships in the Pacific.

**Open Letter From
The Phan Nhat Nam Committee
Calling For The Release Of The Author And
Others From Vietcong "Reeducation Camps".**

On behalf of the Phan Nhat Nam committee, we would like to extend to you our warmest greetings.

We are writing to call for your attention on a problem of great concern to all freedom-loving people in the world: the flagrant violation of human rights in Vietnam, and particularly the repression perpetrated by the Hanoi regime on writers and artists who continue to be targeted because of their daring will to speak out the truth and to uphold the tradition of artistic freedom.

The Hanoi regime always adopts a strict policy aimed at curtailing all forms of intellectual and creative activities in Vietnam. Any effort to deviate from this policy is brutally stamped out as in the case of the revolt of the intellectuals in 1956 in North Vietnam. The regime then proclaimed the necessity to impose its version of "cultural revolution" which gave the intellectuals no choice but to think and create along the line pre-set by the regime or risk being imprisoned. This policy became more systematic after the fall of South Vietnam in 1975, and is still enforced today.

The Phan Nhat Nam committee has been formed with the objective to inform the world about the repression by the Vietcong regime of Hanoi on Vietnamese writers and artists, repression that challenges even most basic civil rights. The committee has its name after Phan Nhat Nam, the writer known for his humanistic character and his belief in justice

and dignity of mankind, the same qualities for which he has been detained since 1975 by the regime. He has been tortured many times and has been put into solitary confinement since 1979 at the so-called "reeducation camp" Cam Thuy, in Thanh Hoa province.

Recently, Phan Nhat Nam was declared the winner of the 1987 Arts and Literature Award promulgated by the National Resistance Council of Vietnam for his last non-fiction novel "The War Prisoners and Peace", published in 1974.

Because of the author present situation, the Phan Nhat Nam committee was trusted by the National Resistance Council to receive the award on his behalf and to return it to him under more favorable circumstances.

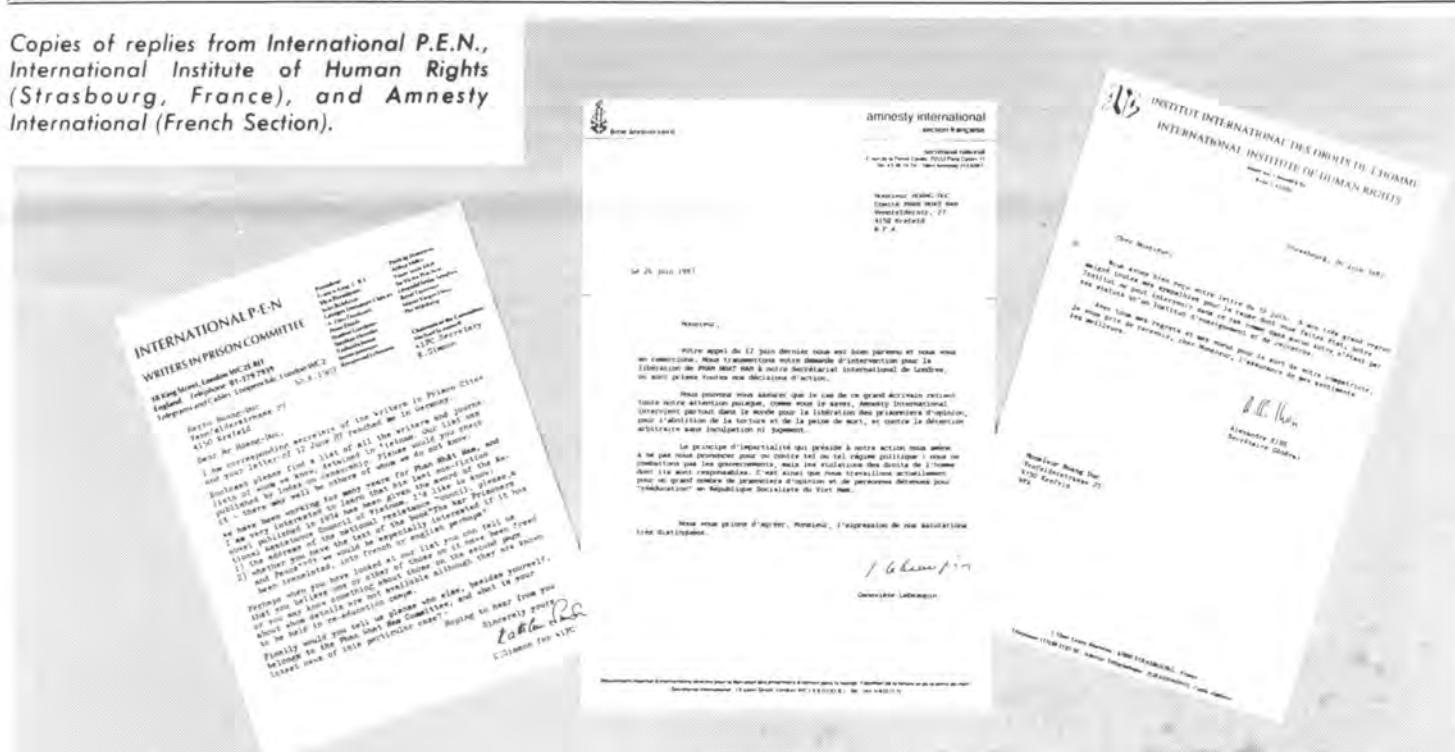
We are calling on you to demand the Hanoi regime to release unconditionally all Vietnamese writers and artists, especially Phan Nhat Nam, and let him go to a country of his choice to receive his award.

Remaining at your disposal for all additional information, we thank you for your prompt consideration of the matter.

Truly yours,

Hoang Duc,
Founding member.

Copies of replies from International P.E.N., International Institute of Human Rights (Strasbourg, France), and Amnesty International (French Section).





In The Wake of A "Gulag Tour"

Twenty-one Vietnamese refugees were arrested July 28 at the Heathrow International Airport upon their return from a one-month visits to Vietnam clandestinely organized by a Hanoi-controlled tourist agency. According to the Scotland Yard, these Vietnamese have violated the 1951 Geneva Convention that has granted them to political asylum right after they fled Vietnam. Suspected as Hanoi's agents, these persons might lose their refugee rights and could be returned to Vietnam if evidence found, according to British source.

Are these 21 Vietnamese Hanoi's agents or are they not? We are not in the position to conclude. However, the incident reveals one of the Viet Cong's most subtle tactics to undermine the refugee status of more than 1 million Vietnamese abroad as well as thousands still awaiting in desperation in Southeast Asian camps after their life-risking escape from Vietnam.

For years Hanoi accused Vietnamese refugees as "traitors," "illegal emigrants," "labor evaders," "remnants of the former Saigon puppet-government," and so on. However, after its last year's Sixth Party Congress, Hanoi, following Moscow's example, has changed its policy toward Vietnamese refugees who are now called "patriots... always thinking of their fatherland." The regime has gone as far as citing Ho Chi Minh as the first person to establish an "overseas Vietnamese community," implying that refugees are also those working for the communist state found by Ho.

Based on these facts, the Vietnamese community must warn the world public of Hanoi's master plan in this matter.

First of all, the Viet Cong regime is an inhuman political system that treats its people as enemy to be suppressed or means to be exploited for the building of a socialist state heading toward communism. This is the very reason many Vietnamese have risked their lives, leaving everything behind them in search of a place in the world where they could live as human beings. Never in Vietnam's war-torn history hundreds of thousands of people have had to flee their homeland despite risks to their lives and an uncertain future.

Second, after 12 years of socialism building, the leadership steering the entire economy toward bankruptcy and its population near-starvation. However, what most concerns the leadership is that it no longer can afford to finance its own repressive machine run by party members. Hanoi must find ways to restore its dispirited members' loyalty.

By allowing refugees to visit their homeland, Hanoi not only expects to collect foreign currency but also to propagandized its made-in-Hanoi "glory." Moreover, and this is what we want to emphasize based on the Heathrow Airport incident, Hanoi implicitly seeks to impress the world that some of the Vietnamese abroad are indeed "working" for its regime, that Western governments should further restrict admission of Vietnamese refugees into their countries, and as a consequence, the burden of thousands of refugees trapped in Southeast Asian camps will be left to these nations to solve. ■

The National United Front for the Liberation of Viet Nam (NUFRONLIV) was formed in 1980 by the Vietnamese people, inside Viet Nam and abroad to liberate their country from the Viet Cong, and to build a free and democratic nation. Under the leadership of President HOANG CO MINH, the National Resistance Council directs the three branches of NUFRONLIV, the General Directorate of In-land Affairs, the General Directorate of Overseas Affairs, and the Armed Resistance Forces in mobilizing the Vietnamese people in every way and by every means to overthrow the Viet Cong. Throughout the country, from North to South, the General Directorate of In-land Affairs has developed resistance network, in which mobilization activities are carried out under the protection of the Armed Resistance Forces. Directed by the General Directorate of Overseas Affairs, NUFRONLIV chapters have been formed and are active around the world wherever Vietnamese are resettled.

The following are addresses of NUFRONLIV overseas offices:

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Europe : Boite Postale 131, 92164 Antony Cedex, FRANCE.

To present background information on Vietnamese liberation struggle, "THE VIETNAMESE RESISTANCE" is published monthly by the overseas Directorate of Information, and sent to a selected readership. Also available are publications in Danish, French, German, Japanese, etc..., and "KHANG CHIEN", the most widely read monthly tabloid among the Vietnamese overseas.

To promote our just cause, your financial contributions are welcome. For subscription or contributions, please contact our Public Relations Office :

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