

The Vietnamese RESISTANCE

September, 1987 ◆ A monthly publication of the National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam.

Editorial

WHY DO WE HAVE TO COUNTER THE VIETCONG'S ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL PLOY?

The Vietcong have put all of Vietnam under their subjugation for more than 12 years. During that time, they have tried to achieve an oft-proclaimed objective: "Move fast and forcibly to Socialism." In other words, the Vietcong regime has been aiming their efforts toward the establishment of an administrative machinery based on economic control to insure the power monopoly of the leadership and to carry out their "international obligations to the world proletariat," that is, to the expansionist policy of the Russian imperialists in the region.

Therefore, unlike a normal political economy, the objective of Communist economy, particularly the economy of the Vietcong, is not aimed at improving the welfare and standard of living of the people, or creating wealth for the nation within the world economic community. On the contrary, economy is used as an instrument for the repression of the people and for the consolidation of power: national resources are primarily used to satisfy the demands of the war and of the repressive campaigns undertaken by the party. Food rationing is a way to control and repress the people. A person whose food coupons have been taken away no longer has a place in society. He can no longer work, travel, have a place of residence, he is left to starve because food is only officially sold at state-managed stores. Moreover, it is known that, in Vietnam, nearly one half of the already severely limited national resources is taken up by the heavy burden of national defense. Most of the remaining resources is used for the maintenance of the special privileges of the rulers and the regime's security apparatus, as well as for export to other Communist countries - what the Vietcong called "repaying the debts owed the brotherly countries."

Without a clear perception of the true economic undercurrents in Vietnam today, one may not fully understand the reasons behind the continued resistance of the people against the government's economic policy, a passive resistance which at times erupted into sabotage activities against the economic policies and plans decreed by the regime and the party. More than any one else, the people fully realize that however hard they work, they will not be able to enjoy the fruits of their labor. The products of their labor are constantly pilfered by the regime and party through heavy taxes, through the policy of "purchase-confiscation" by which the people are forced to sell their products to the regime at the lowest

price paid in regime's bonds. And these resources thus seized from the people are not used for public services and utilities to improve the general welfare but are mostly used to serve the interests of the ruling class as stated above. Without an appreciation of the underlying causes for the continued resistance of the people, one may not fully understand why, after more than 12 years, the Vietcong still have not been able to achieve economic stability in Vietnam, even a relative stability as conceived in a socialist economy.

Because of the passive resistance of the people, the Vietcong are unable to mobilize sufficient national resources to consolidate the regime and to feed their war machinery.

They have had to look for outside help. One of the sources of help the Vietcong hope they can take advantage of is the Vietnamese overseas communities. Exploiting the feeling of the Vietnamese refugees toward their relatives still in Vietnam, they have set up shipping services to receive merchandises sent as gifts by the refugees to their relatives in Vietnam. More recently, after the 6th Party Congress, the bilking of the Vietnamese refugees has been officially adopted as a national policy. In implementation of that policy, the Vietcong regime has been encouraging the refugees to send back to Vietnam not only ordinary consumer goods, but tools and machinery as well, and especially foreign currency. At the same time, the regime's security apparatus are charged with organizing and managing all the steps of the transactions beginning with the reception of the merchandises, through transportation, distribution, and finally the "purchase-confiscation" of the merchandises, even though they realize that these transactions are considered illegal in a number of countries. The Vietnamese refugees communities have come aware of the Communist ploys. They know that most of their humanitarian gifts they send back to their families and relatives in Vietnam would end up in the hands of the brutal regime, and serve to help the regime repress their compatriots. That is why the Vietnamese overseas have reacted and have called the attention of the world to these illegal activities of the Vietcong, in order to prevent them from carrying out their plays. Without a clear recognition of the background and the underlying causes of the problem, one can not fully understand the spirit of total struggle of the Vietnamese people against the brutal regime of the Vietcong for the liberation of the country.

VIET CONG AGENT CAPTURED

The Resistance Armed Force of Song Be province has captured 1 Viet Cong security agent and killed two others in an ambush that took place in Dong Phu district. The security agents are particularly known for their cruelty to the people in the district.

After being explained on crimes the regime has committed against the people of Vietnam, the Viet Cong agent has shown his repentance, he was released and helped to go back to his home town to lead a normal life.

VIET CONG TAX COLLECTOR ELIMINATED

The only measure the Viet Cong regime could think of in order to patch the near-collapsed economic situation in Vietnam at the present time is to increase tax even higher. A new kind of tax was created: tax on goods that Vietnamese abroad sent to their relatives in Vietnam. However these changes in tax policies do not profit anyone but the tax agents at all level.

In Thuan Hai province, the Viet Cong tax office has initiated a program called "properties verification", also known as "make-the-bucks-program" to the tax agents. By assessing property value much higher than its real worth, and with their power to seize any "non declared" properties, the agents and their tax campaign became a real nightmare to the populace. Peoples rather let those tax adjusters have what they like than having their properties confiscated.

But the tax agents' greed is not always easy to satisfy, and Thuan Hai people have reacted accordingly. A tax agent named Nguyen Van Khan was killed by angry people last March because of his repressive and corrupted attitude during the campaign.



A unit of the Resistance Armed Forces in manoeuvre

cording to a Vietnamese Resistance Radio broadcast on July 2, 1987.

After being briefed on the policy and struggle of the National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam, the group decided to joint the Front, bringing with them 14 AK's, one M-16 rifle, one CKC, and several cases of ammunition.

POLITICAL AND MILITARY COURSE IN MINH HAI

RESISTANCE GROUP JOINS THE FRONT

A resistance group of 14 men led by a former Lieutenant of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces has rallied to the Resistance and Administration Committee of Minh Hai province, ac-

The RAC of Minh Hai province, in coordination with the local Armed Resistance Units, has organized two political and military training courses for 41 young people in the province. The courses, which outlined the mass mobilization and military tactics for the current phase of struggle, started in the beginning of April and ended in late May.

Also in Minh Hai province, the Youth Resistance Group and the RAC have distributed more than 3,000 propaganda leaflets and 40 documents explaining the just cause of the people's struggle and the treacherous nature of the VC. The leaflets were seen in the city of Bac Lieu, as well as in Vinh Loi, Gia Rai, and U Minh districts (VRR, July 2, 1987).



Khang Chien Quan on the Dong Tien Trail

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VISITS IN NORTH CALIFORNIA

Mr. Nguyen Kim, General Commissioner of the General Directorate of Overseas Affairs, and Mr. Ly Thai Hung, Commissioner for Overseas Vietnamese, have come to visit the NUFRONLIV Northern California Chapter in San Jose at 10 o'clock on August 9.

During the visit, the General Commissioner has briefed the chapter members on the great accomplishment of the resistance units in Vietnam as well as other activities undertaken in the country.

On the subject of maintaining our initiatives in all areas of our struggle, Mr. Ly Thai Hung also presented a number of concrete proposals. "One of the most important duties of our overseas members at this time is to attack



Mr. Nguyen Kim, General Commissary of Overseas Affairs

directly the cynical economic and financial scheme of the Vietcong," he said. Mr. Hung emphasized the role of the Vietnamese refugees in neutralizing the economic and financial scheme of the Communists. If that can be achieved, Mr. Hung said, the Vietcong would be cornered, they would not know where to turn, they would be weakened and their military apparatus would disintegrate and the whole people would then be able to deal them the final blows in a General Uprising as anticipated in the political program of the Front.

CU DINH BA NIXED BY VIET REFUGEES IN WEST GERMANY

On July 30, Cu Dinh Ba, the Vietnamese Communist ambassador to West Germany, was met with a jeering crowd of Vietnamese refugees at the gate of Bremen City Hall where he was to see Mayor Wedemeier and to seek economic aid for the bankrupt Hanoi

regime. The refugees denounced the deceitful and treacherous nature of the Hanoi regime. The local police finally managed to lead him through the crowd into the City Hall but the courtesy visit to the mayor barely



Viet refugees demonstrating against Cu Dinh Ba in Bremen City

lasted 30 minutes after which Ba had to be whisked through the back door to avoid the angry protesters. Representatives of the refugees were then invited in to see the mayor and the talk lasted more than an hour. In the course of the meeting, mayor Wedemeier has expressed his admiration for indomitable spirit of the Vietnamese people.

ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT FOR THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE COMMUNIST ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL PLOY

The campaign against the economic and financial ploy of the Vietcong is receiving ever greater support from people of all walks of life and has achieved great successes.

The campaign was initiated in Paris in the beginning of June. A total of 33 associations of Vietnamese refugees in and around the French capital have unanimously endorsed a Declaration against all forms of transactions and trade relations with the Vietcong. The declaration was the first in a series of similar efforts by Vietnamese refugees all over the world aimed at boycotting the Vietcong attempt to bilk foreign currency from overseas Vietnamese in order to stave off their bankruptcy. That has been adopted as an official policy at their Sixth Party Congress. The scheme consists in pressuring the Vietnamese refugees to send gifts and merchandise to Vietnam through channels that they have helped set up. The Vietcong also forced relatives of Vietnamese refugees to write letters suggesting sending of tools and machines which

then would have to be turned over to the authorities for local use or for resale to other Communist countries for much needed foreign currency.

This plot was immediately denounced by the Vietnamese people inside as well as outside the country, and a campaign against the Vietcong economic and financial scheme has been launched everywhere.

Vietnamese associations in Birmingham, England; Victoria, Queensland, Australia; Houston, Texas; Tokyo, Osaka, Japan, and elsewhere have adopted Declarations denouncing the Vietcong scheme aimed at bilking the Vietnamese refugees. They have also called on all free countries not to give aid or to establish trade relations with Hanoi because the Vietcong are not reliable trade partners, and because the aid would only be used for repression of the Vietnamese people.

RESISTANCE PERFORMANCE GROUP OF SOUTH CALIFORNIA CHAPTER MEETS WITH GREAT SUCCESS IN EUROPEAN TOUR

The Resistance Performance Group of the South California Chapter, with the cooperation of the Europe Chapter, has achieved outstanding successes in a month-long tour of several cities in Europe last August. The tour began with a performance in Toulouse, in the South of France, on July 30. The next stop were: Paris (France), Hoorn (Netherlands), Hamburg, Frankfurt, Bremen, Wiesbaden (West Germany), Aarhus (Denmark), Moss, Oslo, Trondheim, Bergen (Norway).

The purpose of the tour was to use songs and music to mobilize Vietnamese everywhere in support of the struggle for the liberation of the country led by the Front. In addition to the songs presented to the Vietnamese compatriots all over Europe, the Performance Group from the U.S. also brought to Europe a renewed spirit of struggle. It also provided opportunities for Front members everywhere to meet and to exchange experiences.

VIETNAM: A CASE OF INHUMANITY

*In this issue of the Vietnamese Resistance, we wish to introduce an article by Francois Nivolon, a correspondent from the French newspaper *Le Monde*.*

In this article, Francois Nivolon has exposed an aspect of the inhuman nature of the Vietcong regime vis-a-vis the Vietnamese people. This is a little known aspect that many visiting foreigners, including journalists either have seen or have not been allowed to see in Vietnam in the past ten years. We hope that, through the objective view of Francois Nivolon relating a story in which he was personally involved, the readers would have a keener understanding of the sufferings of the Vietnamese people under the present Vietcong regime, and of the determination of the Vietnamese people in their struggle against the Vietcong for the liberation of Vietnam.

The ubiquitous and omnipotent security apparatus in Vietnam has prevented me from committing a strictly humanitarian act: a visit to the sick bed of Dr. N., now an oc-

"Because they are simply inhuman, and there can be no other explanations for their conduct".

togenarian, in the suburbs of Ha Noi. I was his neighbor in Saigon for several years until 1975. Both he and his wife had considered me as their son.

Dr. N. had his practice in Saigon since 1954. He was also engaged in politics and in the years 1973-1975 he was involved in the formation of an anti-Communist group. In June of 1975, he was arrested and sent to a re-education camp in North Vietnam. Released in 1976, he was not allowed to return to live in Saigon. Instead, he had to take up residence at a place design-

nated by the Hanoi regime Security service, in the suburbs of Hanoi, although his citizen's rights had been returned to him in 1980 and in April of 1981 he had been allowed to vote in the election for the National Assembly. In other words, legally, he had become a normal citizen. During this period, I was able to come and visit him several times. Each time, official permission was granted without much trouble, and each time I was accompanied by a few security cadres to watch over the conversation.

In December of 1986, Dr. N. had a severe stroke, resulting in partial paralysis. It was not known how much longer he could live. As soon as I came to Hanoi, I requested permission from the police so that I could come and visit him. In my application, I have given detailed biographical information on my old friend, and his address in the suburbs of Hanoi. I also stressed his precarious health condition and explained our relationship for the past several years.

In my request, I specifically mentioned that I would not insist on a private tête-à-tête with Dr. N., but I would be quite willing to have the companionship of the regime security agents on my trip to see my old friend. The purpose of the visit was to

convey the get-well wishes from his children in France, in addition to my own, to hand him certain family pictures, and to give him some coffee and powdered milk.

I waited for nine days in Hanoi and was finally told that my request had been rejected by the Ministry of Interior.

I wondered why a meeting between me and two sick and elderly people, in the presence of security agents, could be considered as threatening to the public security of the state of Vietnam.

Was my request turned down by the central government in Hanoi or was it rejected by a local policeman at the place of Dr. N.'s residence?

This may not be surprising because, it is often the case that you can encounter quite vicious policemen at the district and block levels. Perhaps



A prisoner in the Vietcong Goulag (Re-education camps)

my application had been turned down by such a policeman, through simple viciousness or envy of the "old capitalist".

Five years ago, the children of Dr. N. had applied for him and his wife to be reunited with them in France. But the Vietnamese government still refused to issue an exit visa to leave Vietnam.

These requirements had been publicly and clearly announced by the Hanoi regime six years ago. They are:

- The applicant must be outside draft age.

- The applicant must have full citizen's rights.

- The applicant is not working on a job that is indispensable for the state.

- The applicant does not hold any state secret.

Dr. N. has not practiced since April 30, 1975. He is now 80 years old. He has full voting rights. And certainly he is not a holder of any state secret. Why then does the Hanoi regime keep tormenting him?

Because they are simply inhuman!

And there can be no other explanations for their conduct.

FROM TOSHIBA TO NISHO IWAI

Two Japanese corporations were banned by the Japanese government from exporting products to 14 Communist countries, the Toshiba Machine Company for a period of one year, and C. Itoh and Co., a trading firm, for three months.

The recent Japanese shipments of sophisticated electronic technology to the Soviet Union, in violation of export control agreements, had caused great turmoil in world public opinion. The U.S. reacted sharply by threatening a 2-year ban on shipments of Toshiba products to the United States. Americans expressed their anger by smashing up Toshiba products.

Toshiba and its subsidiaries were fined by the Japanese government for violation of export control acts which banned the sale of 172 strategic and highly sophisticated technology to 14 countries in the Communist bloc. The Japanese export controls were similar to the controls imposed by the coordinating Committee in the West (COCOM) aimed at preventing the diversion of high technology to Communist countries.

Toshiba sold four highly sophisticated submarine technology machines to the Soviet Union and sent engineers to help install them at the Baltic Shipyard in Leningrad. The state-of-the-art machine tools enabled the Russians to produce subtly contoured marine propellers with reduced operating noise, making it harder for

the Russian undersea fleet to be detected.

The United States, after discovering the secret dealings, was alarmed because the new technology acquired by the Russians posed a threat to its own security as well as to the security of other countries. The noise reduction required closer monitoring of the movements of the Russian fleet.

The illegal dealings of Toshiba took place between December 1982 and June 1983 and the transaction amounted to \$26 million. In order to get through Japanese licensing officials, and to secure the unethical profits from the secret dealings, the model names of the equipment to be exported to the Soviet Union were renamed TDP instead of MBP-110, which was banned from export to the Soviet Union.

The Japanese people have always been admired for their patriotism. That patriotism was defied by the Toshiba Corporation.

Japan occupies a strategic position at the entrance of the Russian naval base at Vladivostok. A Japanese official once compared Japan to a gigantic aircraft carrier barring the route to the Russian fleet. In case of conflict, Japan, and Japanese youth would be the first target for the Russian fleet in their attempt to break through the Pacific Ocean.

But within a space of less than ten years, the Russians had already managed to turn around that obstacle by encamping themselves at Da Nang and Cam Ranh, leaving Japan behind and establishing a new jump-off point. The Russians are also pushing the Vietcong to continue to spread the war all over Indochina. A poorest country in the world, Vietnam is maintaining a fourth largest army in the world and keeping a permanent force of 140,000 men in Cambodia. The aggressive acts of the Vietcong, supported by the Russians, have caused anger in the world, especially among the countries in Southeast Asia. Because of the Vietcong aggression, and the continued occupation of Cambodia, several

countries have cut off aid to Hanoi and many have suspended all trade relations, including the ASEAN countries, in order to pressure the Vietcong to pull out of Cambodia. However, it is again Japanese businessmen, in the Nisho Iwai Company, who shamelessly engaged in secret trade dealings with the Vietcong, in complete disregard of the consequences to the security of the area and of the 70 million Vietnamese, Laotians, and Cambodians now suffering under the exploitation of one of the most cruel rulers in the history of mankind.

The Japanese businessmen, from Toshiba to Nisho Iwai, have committed actions which may cause more blood to be spilled in a future conflict, and in complete disregard of the present miseries of the peoples in three countries of Indochina under the brutal dictatorship of the Vietcong.

The democratic countries have tried to prevent diversion of sensitive technology to the Communists who could use these technologies to produce weapons for use against them. Obviously, this effort has not been as successful as they wished, because of the greed of certain people. Toshiba and Nisho Iwai, as well as some other companies, have put profits above the ideals of democracy and human rights, even above their national interests. This is certainly something that cannot be ignored if joint security of the democratic countries is to be maintained.

Another point that needs to be emphasized is that the Russian empire is not limited to the Soviet Union proper, or the Eastern Bloc. It also extends to other places, such as Vietnam. The trade dealings of the Nisho Iwai company with the Hanoi regime should be viewed seriously, because anything that is sold to Hanoi can also be diverted to the Soviet Union. In order to tighten control against diversion of high technology to the Soviet Union, the democratic countries also have to prevent their companies from trading with the present Vietcong regime in Vietnam.

OPENNESS AND THE LESSONS FROM HISTORY

Hanoi's 'Openness' following 'Glasnost' as advertised in Moscow presents another interesting aspect of a regime stained with crimes of atrocity and wars of aggression and annexation.

It is useful and interesting to refresh our memory with the sequence of events preceding the present 'Openness'. Historians will like to start with the lessons since April 30th 1975.

'NATIONAL RECONCILIATION', the Viet Cong way.

Right after the communists takeover, in a massive public gathering in Saigon on May 15th 1976, the leader of the new regime promised a policy of Clemency and National Reconciliation. The above promise ironically was implemented through a widespread system of concentration camps leading to the imprisonment of hundreds of thousands of South Vietnamese, including intellectuals, writers,

journalists, teachers, medical doctors... and whoever considered as hostile to the Communist takeover and capable of leading any opposition group.

Nguyen Huu Tho, president of the now defunct Provisionary Revolutionary Government, in an interview with the



The systematic demolition of churches is the most sustained policy of the VC.

Swedish television on October 15th, 1975, stated that about one million South Vietnamese had been subject to 're-education'.

Tiziano Terzani in his book "Giai Phong: The Fall And Liberation Of Saigon" (London 1976) cited 309,000 concentration camp prisoners, "according to first counts made by the Bo-doi at the end of June.."

'RELIGIOUS FREEDOM'

Along with the promise of National Reconciliation, Hanoi constantly claimed to respect freedom of religious beliefs and practices. The implementa-



tion of Hanoi's claim turned out to be the imprisonment and liquidation of many prominent religious leaders, including Archbishop Nguyen Van Thuan, Reverend Hoang Quynh, Buddhist venerable Thich Duc Nhuan, Reverend Tran Huu Thanh etc.. The rigorous application of Hanoi's religious policy resulted in the ousting of Catholic and Buddhist clergy and religious from their monasteries to work in production camps (labor camps) and the severe limit on recruitment of new trainees to fill in the depleted rank of the religious structure... The policy of religious persecution has met strong waves of protest. Typical of these were the self-immolation by 12 Buddhist priests and nuns in Duoc Su pagoda, Phung Hiep village, Can Tho province. A resolution by the Catholic Bishops of Australia in May 1976 condemned the persecution of Archbishop Nguyen Van Thuan by the Hanoi's authority.

Despite all the above tragedies, many former anti-war writers happily acclaimed: "No evidence of a blood bath after all!"

The lack of strong international condemnation encouraged the Hanoi's regime to consolidate its oppressive machine through dictatorial measures. This included economic policies to strangle the Vietnamese people at home to subdue any forceful domestic opposition, and military adventures to annex the weaker neighbors in Indochina.

After the war ended in 1975 the Vietnamese people should have had the right to enjoy peace and to rebuild the country. Instead, in May 1976

Hanoi issued a decree maintaining the armed forces in a state of readiness. The Communist military apparatus openly told the Vietnamese people that their next task will be in Thailand.

Alarmed by Hanoi intention, in September 1976, the ASEAN countries unanimously supported Hanoi's application for a membership in the United Nations. Their probable hope was that this friendly act would induce Hanoi to follow a peaceful path in Southeast Asia. As it turned out, neither the U.N. seat nor the restraint by the International Community could serve as an effective brake to stop Hanoi's inclination to war.

Late in 1979, Hanoi launched an all out invasion of Cambodia, ignoring the uproar of condemnation by the entire free world. Hanoi has spread an expedition force of 200,000 well-armed men in Cambodia and 40,000 in Laos. Every month, thousands of poverty stricken Vietnamese are being transferred from North Vietnam to Cambodia, in a grand scheme to colonize and annex this unfortunate country.

The main issue to look at is this: For a regime fully committed to all acts of crimes and treachery

peasants in the surrounding area who converged on the monastery ground in an attempt to protect their religious leaders. The whole hostile conflict ended up with the arrests of priests and clergy members and the death of a number of peasants,

It has been a common practice for 'OPENNESS' in Nguyen Van Linh's style to be accompanied by such contre-temps in Thu Duc, because 'OPENNESS' is not much for domestic consumption anyway. The Vietnamese people have learned to understand all these Communist cheating. As for international consumption, 'OPENNESS' promised great audience. After all, who knows about DONG CONG MONASTERY? Who cares about Archbishop Nguyen Van Thuan or thousand of other religious leaders, and the 309,000 political prisoners, or even more of these in the concentration camps?

The history of Communist expansion and domination has been marked by series of wars of aggression, political, economic and civil right suppressions, massacres, religious persecutions, interlaced by brief 'Entre-acts' -such as the convenient pact of non aggression with fascist Germany in 1939- the great "Detente" in the 70's and 'Glasnost' in 1987.

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against its own people, and vigorously engaged in devastating wars of aggression against neighboring countries. What is the real meaning of 'OPENNESS'?

Not long after Nguyen Van Linh's much publicized gesture of 'Glasnost', an incident in Thu Duc (9 miles from Saigon) brought home again the true nature of the Communist regime. It started with the harassment of the Catholic clergy in DONG CONG MONASTERY by the secret service, leading to the protests by the Catholic

These 'entre-acts' served as much needed breathing space for the survival of Communist regime. The explanation of this phenomenon is rather simple: The oppressive and brutal nature of communist dictators, along with the terror tactics used to subdue the population and to consolidate the dictatorial power always resulted in great economic failures. The poverty-stricken people may be strictly and brutally controlled, but it is impossible to make them work efficiently to support the ruling class. The more oppressive the regime is, the greater the economic failure is. Vietnam is a typical showcase: Her people know better that any amelioration of the economy shall benefit the regime in its repression and expansion scheme, but not the people welfare. In that context, one must understand that 'Glasnost' in Nguyen Van Linh style only served as an emergency bail out for the regime. It promises international cooperation in exchange for economic aid and financial credit.

At this point of time, the regime motto is: "Rescuing the regime first, expansion and conquest later".



Dialogue

Question: *Last month, the United States sent a delegation headed by Ret. Gen. Vessey to Hanoi to discuss the issue of the M.I.A.'s. What do you think of this development?*

Answer : You mean you want to know my opinion on how that problem can be solved?

Question: *Just tell us what you think generally about the U.S. policy concerning the search for the M.I.A.'s which, I believe, has been going on for the last 12 years?*

Answer : Twelve years or even more is beside the point because I believe that, however long it may take, the government has the duty to keep searching for the M.I.A.'s, those missing while carrying out their duties for the country. It is not only a duty, it is also a moral obligation. And on that basis, I think the continued search for the M.I.A.'s by the U.S. government deserves admiration and respect. But the problem is much more complicated when it comes to the conflict in Indochina because the Vietcong, as is known, do not have the same humanitarian considerations as we do.

Question: *Don't you think it is feasible to negotiate with the Vietcong in order to get their cooperation in the search for the M.I.A.'s?*

Answer : I don't think it is a good way to solve the issue and moreover I don't think a solution to the M.I.A.'s issue could be achieved by talking with the Vietcong on a humanitarian basis. You may recall that last year the French government has had to "pay" for the remains of French soldiers killed and buried in Vietnam after the Vietcong threatened to raze the Lang Cha Ca cemetery where many of them were buried? And remember that France maintains diplomatic, even friendly, relations with the Vietcong. The Vietcong will not cooperate with anybody anywhere, and in any humanitarian issue, unless it is profitable to them in some way. If I am not mistaken, the right way as I am told to deal with the kidnappers or hijackers is never to

give in to their demands because to do so is to encourage them to commit more terrorist acts in the future.

Question: *Do you mean that Hanoi is now carrying out the same tactic with regard to the United States, and the American M.I.A.'s are now being used as hostages in Indochina?*

Answer : We must never lose sight of the terroristic nature of the Vietcong regime. Two years ago, when they had become desperate because of their diplomatic and economic blockage by the international community resulting from their occupation of Kampuchea, they announced that the M.I.A. issue could be definitely solved within two years. And they have posed the conditions: that the U.S. should agree to establish diplomatic relations with them and to pay war reparations.

This time, on the occasion of the arrival of the Vessey delegation in Hanoi, the Vietcong have slightly modified their position. When the Americans proposed the setting up of a permanent technical mission in Hanoi for the search of the M.I.A.'s, Hanoi also made the counter-proposal that they should also be allowed to set up permanent liaison mission in the U.S. (What is it for, one wonders! Do they want to search for their own M.I.A.'s in the U.S?) Even if a U.S. permanent mission is set up in Hanoi, it is doubtful that such a mission would be useful if Hanoi continues to procrastinate. What other conditions would they propose in return for their 'sincere' cooperation in the search for the M.I.A.'s? Raise the level of the liaison mission? economic aid? Humanitarian aid to the war victims? On the last issue, I heard that the Vessey delegation has promised to give serious consideration. To agree to that condition would be paramount to an admission that the U.S. had intervened in the Vietnam War as invaders and not as freedom fighters coming to the aid of a free country, victim of communist aggression. This is exactly what the Vietcong hope to achieve in order to justify their aggressions, past and present. The answer lies in the question.

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.

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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.

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