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'COMMENTATOR' SCORES NEW PACIFICATION PLAN

Liberation Radio (Clandestine) in Vietnamese to South Vietnam 1400 GMT 25 Jan 69 S

[Commentary by Nguoi Binh Luan /The Commentator/ in QUAN GIAI PHONG: "Resolutely smash the U.S.-puppet accelerated pacification plan"]

[Text] Since early November 1968, the U.S.-puppets have concentrated their efforts on implementing their newly drawn-up accelerated pacification plan. Putting great hope in this new plot, both the U.S. bosses and the puppet lackeys have launched a noisy propaganda campaign.

Puppet President Nguyen Van Thieu boasted that in January 1969, puppet authorities would be present 1,000 additional hamlets with 7 million inhabitants and that in 1969, they would control all southern hamlets. Komer, deputy U.S. ambassador in charge of pacification, boasted before leaving South Vietnam that this control would be effective in February of this year.

But unfortunately for the U.S.-puppets, although January 1969 is almost over, their accelerated pacification plan--their greatest hope--is still sinking in the quagmire of defeat, in face of the initial heavy blows of our troops and people on all battlefields. Several days after these boastful statements were made, in face of initial bitter defeats, (Colby)--director of the pacification agency--had to conclude that although the 1969 pacification tasks would be heavy, their results would be small.

It is crystal clear that immediately after its premature delivery, the U.S.-puppet accelerated pacification plan faced the danger of an early death. Trembling before an imminent death and before the increasingly strong and widespread development of the revolutionary administration, in order to check the general offensive and uprisings of our troops and people, the U.S.-puppets have regarded the execution of their accelerated pacification plan as a problem of first importance, a vital problem for them, and a final battle, the winner of which will be the winner of the war. (AP on 1 December 1968)

The U.S. bosses, from Bunker to Komer, have returned to the United States to make reports. Several U.S. delegations have come to South Vietnam to conduct investigations. After convening the puppet Senate and lower house time and again, the Thieu-Ky-Huong lackeys have gone to Vung Tau to discuss new tricks in peace, they hoped. They have hurriedly set up the so-called pacification council.

According to the plan they have worked out, more than 5,000 pacification advisers, almost all of whom are U.S. intelligence officers, will go to provinces and districts to directly supervise the rounding up of 60,000 villain lackeys and 1,000 newly graduated puppet officers to build 600 pacification teams and organize 1,000 additional "armed propaganda" platoons and Phoenix teams in order to implement the accelerated pacification plan. They will use puppet regulars and reservists, and even U.S. mobile troops, and divide them into squads and platoons, then send them to oppress our people.

All these efforts are aimed at grabbing the contested areas, reoccupying a number of areas they have lost since early spring 1968, herding people in liberated areas into areas under their control, attacking our people's political bases and guerrilla movement, reestablishing their destroyed oppressive machinery in order to check the waves of general offensive and continuous uprisings of our armed forces and people, protecting their lairs in cities, protecting their military bases and strategic roads, and occupying a number of populated and rich rural areas in order to scrape up more manpower and wealth from our people.

## ARAB PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE IN CAIRO LAUDED

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East  
1604 GMT 28 Jan 69 B

[Text] South Vietnam January 28 LFA--Together with the other people in favour of justice, peace, and freedom in the world, the South Vietnamese people rejoice at the holding of the international conference in support of the Arab people in Cairo.

This is a splendid manifestation of the militant solidarity of the Afro-Asian peoples and other peoples in the world toward the just struggle of the Arab people for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and national liberation and against the aggressive scheme of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys--the Israeli reactionaries.

The history of the Arab people is one of long, arduous, and valiant struggle against imperialist invaders. The continual struggle waged by the Arab people in armed and other forms in the past compelled the British and French colonialists to withdraw their troops from many Arab countries and recognize the latter's independence. The Arab people are now continuing their struggle to consolidate and defend their independence. The just struggle of the Palestine people for national salvation has also developed.

But the Israeli reactionaries, instigated and backed by the U.S. and other imperialists, launched on June 5, 1967 an aggression against the Arab countries. Of late, the Israeli reactionaries in defiance of stern condemnation by Arab and world opinion, have, far from pulling out of the occupied areas, stepped up provocations against Arab countries in accordance with the U.S. plan. It is clear that the Israeli reactionaries and their master--the U.S. imperialists--are stubbornly pursuing their plan of aggression and war expansion, causing tension in the Middle and Near East.

In the face of the present serious situation provoked by the U.S. imperialists and the Israeli reactionaries in the Middle and Near East, the progressive people in the world are determined, together with the Arab people, to check the bloody hands of the aggressors.

The international conference in support of the Arab people which opened in Cairo on January 25, 1969 is a demonstration of this determination and constitutes a severe warning to the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen.

As a companion in arms of the Arab people in the struggle against imperialism and old and new colonialism headed by the U.S. imperialists, the South Vietnamese people strongly condemn the aggressive and provocative acts of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys against the Arab countries and demand that the Israeli reactionaries withdraw all their troops from the areas they are occupying in Arab countries and respect the legitimate demands of the Palestine people.

The South Vietnamese people thoroughly supporting the just fight of the Arab people, are confident that the latter will finally drive out the aggressors, safeguard their independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and win victory.

The U.S.-puppets have actively implemented this plan, using all sorts of unprecedentedly brazen and cruel tricks. But they have failed right at the outset because, by nature, their accelerated pacification plan is full of the following contradictions which the U.S.-puppets have been unable to overcome:

1--First of all, this is a frantic counterattack undertaken by the enemy while he is being defeated and facing a very critical strategic situation. Obviously the accelerated pacification plan of the U.S.-puppets is aimed at launching frantic counterattacks in order to destroy the great achievements performed by our armed forces and people during the recent general offensive and uprising. But these are only desperate squirmings while they are being driven into a dead line.

In fact, their accelerated pacification plan is only a repetition of the pacification program our troops and people have continually defeated during the past 10 years: from the Staley-Taylor plan for pacifying South Vietnam in 18 months to the McNamara plan for pacifying key points. In particular, their two-prong "search and destroy" and "pacification" strategy--which 1.2 million troops and the entire puppet administration were mobilized to implement for years--was completely crushed during the early spring general offensive and uprisings. Not only has western public opinion felt pity for the Americans with such statements, but the entire pacification program is dying, is a big zero, has collapsed, and so forth. But Komer himself, the head of the pacification branch, has privately reported to Johnson that the pacification has taken a serious step backward (AP on 26 February 1968)

Not only has it inherited a series of increasingly heavy defeats, but the accelerated pacification plan has come into being at a moment when the situation is much more critical than when the previous pacification plan was started. Through the waves of general offensive and repeated uprisings of our troops and people in 1968, the U.S.-puppet strategic situation has been completely upset.

Having sustained heavy military, political, and diplomatic defeats, the enemy has been forced to return to a defensive and passive strategy, which runs counter to the goals of his aggression. But the U.S. imperialists have stubbornly clung to their tattered neocolonialist aggressive banner, like a man who is going to be drowned and who clings to the foam. The more he squirms, the more violently he is dragged by the waves of general offensive and uprisings of our troops and people toward the sea of defeats.

2--Contradictions between the designs and ambitions of the executive power and its deeply defeated and confused situation with their accelerated pacification plan, which was started in November 1968, they hope to control 80 percent of the southern population. But realities on the battlefield have countered their ambitions.

In Dien Ban, 10,000 U.S. and puppet soldiers have been unable to subdue 7,000 of our compatriots. In Saigon and its environs, where more than 100 U.S.-puppet battalions have been concentrated, they have been unable to check the increasingly strong development of our guerrilla movement. In Duc Hoa, Long An Province, they used force to muster 1,000 civil defense corpsmen; but through the fierce struggles of our compatriots in December, these men were completely dispersed.

In the past, they were unable to implement their pacification plan, although they used all U.S. soldiers as a protective force and used 90 percent of the puppet soldiers to "guard the house." Now with their desire to de-Americanize the war and unwilling to see the U.S. casualties increase day by day, the U.S. imperialists are trying to let the puppet soldiers assume a heavy responsibility on the battlefield.

But the puppet army is "an army unwilling to fight and incapable of fighting the Viet Cong," according to Schelesinger, former adviser to both Kennedy and Johnson. A high-ranking puppet pacification cadre admitted that this is an army of thieves whose morale is low. As for rural pacification cadres, most of them are draft dodgers who squander the money taken from the compatriots.

Under a situation where both the Americans and puppets are constantly filled with fear caused by the stormy general offensive and uprisings of our troops and people who are continuing to arise with a new mettle in all southern cities, and faced with the danger of total collapse, the puppet soldiers do not have the morale and courage to go on attacking the compatriots and grabbing land. Previously, a 59-man pacification team was unable to pacify a hamlet in half a year. How can it now pacify a hamlet in 1 month, since it has been divided into two or three groups?

In the past 7 or 8 years, the enemy had to replace troops and commanders several times, increase the military budget and the quantity of weapons several times, draw experiences from Malaysia and the Philippines, recapitulate the experiences of their defeats in South Vietnam, and concentrate efforts on implementing the [pacification] task several times. But they have failed again and again. Therefore, a task which cannot be fulfilled in a lifetime, as the U.S. press has complained, cannot be fulfilled in a few months.

3--Contradictions between concentrating troops to defend cities and deploying troops to occupy the countryside

The general offensive and uprisings of our troops and people have driven the U.S.-puppets into a vicious circle. Strongly attacked in the cities, the U.S.-puppets had to hurriedly concentrate U.S. troops and puppet troops--regulars and all rural pacification teams--in cities, turning the southern cities, including their Saigon capital, into huge strategic hamlets, as a French journalist has described. Yet, they have been unable to defend these cities.

Meanwhile, the revolutionary movement and guerrilla movement of our troops and people in the countryside and the Saigon environs have developed strongly, closely encircling the enemy's last lairs, supporting the strong uprising movement in cities, and forcing the enemy to defend cities and concurrently pursue his pacification task.

Suffering heavy losses from our troops and people, the U.S.-puppet troops and the villain oppressors of our people have become a tattered shield which lays the head bare as it tries to protect the breast, which leaves the countryside undefended if it wants to defend cities, and vice versa. Our threats have forced the enemy to redeploy his forces, thin his ranks, and face the state of being unable to defend the cities while at the same time fulfilling the pacification task.

4--Contradictions between their political designs and their brazen and cruel tricks

To maintain their neocolonialist policy, the U.S. imperialists are endeavoring to beautify the internally rotten mask of the Thieu-Ky-Huong puppet regime by spraying over it a layer of constitutionality and democracy. Thus, in carrying out their rural pacification plot, they have endeavored to win the people's hearts and minds with all sorts of deceitful and demagogic tricks.

But their nice names--agrovilles, strategic hamlets, newlife hamlets, and so forth--have been despised by our compatriots. Their cheap demagogic tricks have been unmasked by our people. A high-ranking puppet pacification cadre complained: "How can a bandit perform a good deed?" Komer added: "Security is the number one problem in implementing the accelerated pacification plan."

They use artillery and B-52's to fiercely bomb and fire at our liberated hamlets and they are even unable to control the strategic hamlets, trying to lower our people's morale. They use chemical poisons and napalm bombs to burn and destroy hundreds of hectares of ricefields and gardens. They send out their troops to rob our compatriots of their harvest yields. They use helicopters and ships to herd our people into their areas. They herd our compatriots from province to province, from district to district, in a brazen way. Unable to capture adults, they herd children into concentration camps, thus forcing the parents to follow their children.

Recently, arch traitor Nguyen Van Thieu launched a noisy 3-month propaganda campaign for the so-called "Phoenix Operation" to explain the puppet authorities' policy to the masses. His arguments were cunning ones, aimed at hiding the U.S.-puppets' wicked trick of stealthily infiltrating their spies into the contested areas and our liberated areas to conduct investigations, assassinations, and kidnappings, shake the morale of our people, and attack our people's revolutionary bases.

Thieu's lying mouth was strongly slapped by his U.S. bosses when NEWSWEEK on 6 January admitted that "the Phoenix Operation is an effort aimed at (?aiding) the results of the U.S.-Vietnamese intelligence task in spotting Viet Cong cadres in the NLF's basic organizations." But in accumulating more crimes, the U.S.-puppets have succeeded only in intensifying the fire of hatred of our troops and people and strengthening our people's determination to wipe them away.

In the past, when our people's revolutionary force began to grow, the Diem-Nhu clique trampled on [our people's] hatred, or so it said. But finally, it was powerless before the disintegration of its rural pacification program. Nowadays, in face of the unprecedented growth of our armed forces and people, in the fields of both position and power, the U.S.-puppets' cruel and cunning tricks are only their frantic squirmings while in a dead end, unable to save them from complete defeat.

With the embryo of defeat existing right from its inception, and because it is full of deep contradictions, obviously their accelerated pacification plan is only a passive plan in a new passive situation, a desperate plot in the plot of de-Americanizing the war, a tragically absurd hope, and a cunning psychological warfare trick of the U.S.-puppets. But this plan has run up against the great power of the general offensive and uprisings of our troops and people, which is developing through victories. Thus, no one is surprised by the 15 January admission by BBC, the loudspeaker which engages in commercial propaganda for the Americans, that the accelerated pacification plan has progressed slowly, even though it has given up its far-reaching goals.

In the past 2 months, throughly imbued with and strictly implementing the PLAF Command's order, all our troops and people have vigorously developed their initiative, continuously launching attacks and staging uprisings and dealing staggering blows at the U.S.-puppet accelerated pacification plan. All echelons of leadership and command have clearly realized the enemy's insidious schemes as well as the vulnerable points, weaknesses, and failure of his accelerated pacification plan. With the experience they have acquired over the past decade in frustrating the enemy's piratical, people-herding plan, all our people and PLAF are prepared to crush all schemes concocted by the enemy in his death throes.

Together with the people, our guerrilla, self-defense, and armed propaganda teams have punished many tyrants, annihilating many pacification teams, sweeping away many Phoenix teams, and breaking enemy pacification operations.

Our compatriots have waged a courageous, resolute, and multiform struggle against the enemy's people-herding, land-grabbing plan, highly developing their two-front, three-prong offensive impetus, continuing to arise, and regaining their mastership right over many additional rural and urban areas.

Our main force units and regional troops have annihilated many enemy military units engaged in providing round-the-clock support for pacification agents in fiercely contested areas and areas under temporary enemy control. They have also effectively supported the arising masses and created favorable conditions to step up the guerrilla war in the cities and their suburban areas and along strategic communications lines, where the enemy has concentrated forces on conducting the most intensive pacification operations.

Enthusiastic over their initial victories, heightening their vigilance in the face of the U.S.-puppets' very insidious, cruel schemes, and clearly realizing the inevitable failure of the U.S.-puppet accelerated pacification plan, all our armed forces and people will develop the guerrilla warfare movement more vigorously and comprehensively, highly develop their two-front, three-prong offensive impetus, annihilate pacification and Phoenix teams, strengthen their militant solidarity, and expose all enemy psychological warfare maneuvers.

The U.S.-puppet accelerated pacification plan will certainly be completely defeated by our armed forces and people.

#### DON HAU SLAMS U.S. CRIMES AGAINST BUDDHISM

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[Talk by the Venerable Thich Don Hau, former principal representative of the Vietnam Unified Buddhist Church of the Van Hanh Diocese in Thua Thieu-Hue and vice chairman of the Vietnam Alliance of National, Democratic, and Peace Forces on the occasion of the day of Buddha's illumination, Buddhist calendar year of 2512--recorded]

[Excerpt] It is recalled that the lackey Ngo Dinh Diem administration, in conjunction with the U.S. aggressors, plotted to perpetuate the partition of our country, massacring the resistance members and revolutionaries, oppressing patriotic Buddhists, and mistreating the southern people in a kind of earthly hell. On several occasions, the Buddhist Church exposed the truth with peaceful words in the hope of rapidly leading the administrative clique to the correct path. However, in the face of the Buddhist Church's peaceful attitude, it exaggeratedly and mercilessly terrorized, massacred, and buried alive our compatriots, coerced the Buddhists to give up their religion, and concentrated its opponents in concentration camps camouflaged under the names "agrovilles" and "land development centers." It became frenzied and cruel to such an extent that, on the one hand, it issued the Degree 10/59 declaring a state of war, and on the other hand, it sought to exterminate Buddhism by hauling down the Buddhist flag and banning Buddhist compatriots from celebrating Buddha's birthday.

The Buddhists resorted to all peaceful means such as nonviolence, hunger strikes, self-confinement, and even self-immolation, using their own bodies as a sacred torch in the hope of converting the Ngo Dinh Diem clique. But all these forms of struggle could not in the least stir those who had lost their conscience. For this reason, together with the city people, the Buddhists arose to overthrow the people-betraying and country-harming regime, paving the way for the urban masses' struggle for civil rights, democracy, and social justice.