

EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
Press and Information Section

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PRESS RELEASE

**VIETNAMESE AND GOVERNMENT SUPPORT WARSAW
TREATY PEACE INITIATIVE**

Over the past few years, warlike imperialist forces led by U.S. imperialism have engaged in an arms race on an unprecedented scale with the intention of achieving military supremacy and rekindling the cold war. This has placed world peace in an extremely dangerous situation and has threatened the independence and security of other nations.

Profoundly conscious of their responsibility for the existence of humanity the forces of peace and progress in the world are closing their ranks, struggling with might and main for the elimination of the danger of war and for the consolidation of world peace and international security. The member countries of the Warsaw Treaty, over the past years, have made many initiatives and advanced many constructive proposals in an effort to make the international atmosphere healthy and restore mutual trust and cooperation among nations in this context. It is necessary to underline the greatly important initiatives made by the Soviet Union with a view to maintaining peace and putting an end to the arms race, initiatives which have received warm welcome and enthusiastic responses from the world's people.

The Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty, meeting in Prague from January 4-5, made a new effort by putting forward important proposals, such as unilateral commitments by the nuclear powers like the Soviet commitment not to be the first to resort to nuclear weapons resumption or promotion of negotia-

tions for disarmament acceleration of dialogue towards agreements on a programme of armament reduction by stages, the early conclusion of a treaty completely banning all nuclear tests and, particularly, a treaty with the NATO not to use force of arms and to maintain peaceful relations. These are highly important initiatives. They constitute a necessary choice to make in order to repulse and remove, once for all the danger of war, especially nuclear war, and to safeguard and consolidate peace and security in Europe and the world as a whole. These initiatives clearly reflect the principled foreign policy of peace pursued by the Soviet Union and the socialist community, which is warmly acclaimed by broad sections of the world public for meeting the interests and the most earnest aspirations of the peoples of Europe and the world's people in general.

The Communist Party, the Government and the people of Vietnam, stemming from their foreign policy of peace, friendship and cooperation warmly hail and fully support these new initiatives of the member countries of the Warsaw Treaty. The United States and the NATO countries ought to take a serious attitude and give a positive response to them.

The Vietnamese people who, with their own blood, have foiled wars of aggression by imperialist, colonialist and expansionist forces in Southeast Asia, will strive untiringly for the defence of peace, against nuclear war, for disarmament in the world and for a peaceful, stable cooperative and prosperous Southeast Asia.

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