

EMBASSY OF THE  
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
United Kingdom

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12-14 Victoria Road,  
London, W8 5RD  
01-937 1912/8564  
Telex : 887361 Vietem G

We have pleasure in sending you two documents released by the first Summit Conference of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, held in Vientiane from 22 to 23 February, 1983;

- 1- Statement of the Summit Conference of Laos, Kampuchea, and Vietnam,
- 2- Statement of the presence of volunteers from the Vietnamese army in Kampuchea,

We hope you will find them of interest and use./.

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EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
Press and Information Section

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12 Victoria Road, London W8, Tel.01-937 1912

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## I- THE SUMMIT CONFERENCE OF LAOS, KAMPUCHEA AND VIETNAM,

The Summit Conference of Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was held in Vientiane from 22 to 23 February 1983. The Conference was attended by Kaysone Phomvihane, General Secretary of Lao People's Revolutionary Party and President of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Souphanouvong, Political Bureau member of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Heng Samrin, General Secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, and Chan Sy, Political Bureau member of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, Le Duan, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam and Pham Van Dong, Political Bureau member of the Central Committee and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Participating in the Conference were also the Foreign Ministers of the three countries and their high-ranking officials.

This was the first Party and State Summit Conference in the history of the relations between the three countries. It proceeded to exchanging views on the situation in the three countries and in the world. The Summit Conference examined ways and means to strengthen solidarity and all-round co-operation for the sake of socialist construction and national defence in their respective countries.

The Summit Conference ended successfully and released two documents : Statement of the Summit Conference of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam and Statement of the presence of volunteers from the Vietnamese army in Kampuchea.

## II- FAIR AND REASONABLE ANSWERS OF VIETNAM TO THE SO-CALLED "CHINA'S STAND ON THE KAMPUCHEAN PROBLEM",

1- China demands that Vietnam must unilaterally withdraw her volunteer forces from Kampuchea according to a time-table. Meanwhile China itself continues maintaining its threats to and interference in the three Indochinese countries' affairs and does not terminate its support for Pol Pot's clique and other reactionary groups' attempts to come back to slaughter the Kampuchean people. China's position is totally insolent.

2- China considers the withdrawal of Vietnam's volunteer forces from Kampuchea as a precondition for the normalization of relations with Vietnam. This position is completely absurd.

The relations between Vietnam and China have deteriorated due to China's own acts. China withheld aid from Vietnam in early 1978, and since 1975, it had used Pol Pot's clique to make war against Vietnam's Southwestern border. In February 1979, China itself, directly invaded Vietnam. The presence of Vietnam's volunteer forces in Kampuchea is to cope with the Chinese threat. Vietnam and Kampuchea have repeatedly declared that complete withdrawal of Vietnam's volunteer forces from Kampuchea will be carried out once the threat from China is lifted, and the peace and stability of Kampuchea are guaranteed.

3- China demands the setting up of a Coalition Government in Kampuchea. For her part, Vietnam considers the internal affairs of the Kampuchean people must be solved by the Kampucheans themselves. No country has the right to interfere in the affairs of other countries.

4- China demands that Kampuchea should be neutralized so that it will not be used against other countries. Vietnam is of the opinion that Kampuchea is the victim of foreign interference and invasion. Over the last forty years, Thailand has been used as a springboard for interference and invasion against the three Indochinese countries. Therefore it is reasonable to demand an end to the use of Thailand for this purpose. The three Indochinese countries demand that South East Asia be turned into a zone of peace and neutrality.

5- China demands the withdrawal of Vietnam's volunteer forces from Kampuchea as a precondition for the normalization of relations between China and the USSR. The USSR has rejected the linkage of the withdrawal of Vietnam's troops with the improvement of Sino-Soviet relations and firmly protested against the discussion of third countries' affairs. Vietnam highly appreciates the correct position of the USSR./.

III- THE RAISON D'ETRE OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT IS TO STRUGGLE ALONGSIDE THE PEOPLES OF ASIA, AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA FOR PEACE AND INDEPENDENCE AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND COLONIALISM,

From the speech delivered by Vietnamese Minister of Foreign Affairs Nguyen Co Thach at the Conference of the Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries in New Delhi on 11 February 1981.

After extending his greetings to India, the host country, "one of the cradles of human civilization", and "one of the renowned founders of the Non-Aligned Movement", the Vietnamese Minister went on to say :

"While we are extremely pleased with and proud of the bright prospects for the future (of the Non-Aligned Movement) we cannot but be surprised at the pessimistic utterances of imperialist and reactionary forces to the effect that the Non-Aligned Movement is facing a serious crisis and deep divisions. According to them, the cause of this situation is that our movement has deviated from its original objectives and is faced with the danger of losing its independent character, its neutral position between the two blocs.

"Since its coming into being 20 years ago, the Non-Aligned Movement has overcome many trials and developed vigorously, and its international prestige has steadily grown. The Non-Aligned Movement has made a great contribution to the fierce struggle for political and economic independence, and helped to bring about the demise of colonialism and bar the road to neo-colonialism. It is now a general rule that after gaining political independence the nations chose a foreign policy of non-alignment in order to safeguard their national interests. Our movement, with less than 30 members at the beginning,

has now grown to encompass over 110 countries including almost all the developing nations of Asia, Africa and Latin America. The American war in Vietnam, the longest, biggest and most bloody war of aggression since the Second World War, which started right after the birth of the Non-Aligned Movement and stretched into the mid-seventies, was a major trial. Resolutely siding with the Vietnamese people's struggle against foreign aggression, the movement successfully weathered the storm and with the victory of the Vietnamese people made further advances and played an increasingly active role in settling international problems. The victory gained by the Vietnamese people in their patriotic war against US imperialism constitutes a victory for the forces of peace, national independence, democracy and socialism in the world."

"The post-Vietnam era has greatly facilitated the growth of the movement... A series of US military bases and military alliances such as SEATO and CENTO have disintegrated; many dictators supported by imperialism have been abolished, thus stepping up the struggle against the racists in Southern Africa; the oil war involving the oil-producing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America and the struggle of the nations for the establishment of a new international economic order have seriously weakened imperialism in the economic field and have curtailed its monopoly of economic weapons for use against the non-aligned countries.

"Since the Non-Aligned Movement comprises very diversified countries it is only natural that there should be differences of opinion among its members. This does not imply a split, still less a confrontation.

... How could we explain the great successes of the movement over the past twenty years if its life had only been governed by division and confrontation? The truth is that the movement suffers from no crisis, split or decline as claimed by the propaganda of the imperialists and reactionaries. On the contrary, it has steadily developed and is now stronger than ever before. This is a historical fact that no allegation can distort or deny.

"Worried by the growth of the Non-Aligned Movement, the imperialists and reactionary forces have tried everything to oppose it and gradually steer it into their orbit. This has been explicitly

stated by Z.Brzezinski, a strategist of US imperialism, in these terms : "Change can be channelled in our direction, and (...) internationally, change can be made compatible with our own underlying spiritual values" (Speech to a Meeting of the Trilateral Commission, Bonn, 25/10/1977).

"The imperialists and international reactionaries claim that they are most concerned with the development of the Non-Aligned Movement. They say that the movement has deviated from its course and that it should return to its original objectives and maintain its independent character namely neutrality between the two blocs. Some other people also claim that it should return to its original objectives and maintain its independent character, namely neutrality between the two blocs. Some other people also claim that the movement is in danger of being swayed towards one bloc to oppose the other, and that it may be losing its independent stance between the two military blocs. It is as though the present problems in international relations are born of disputes between the two blocs, and the ultimate objective of the movement is to stand neutral between them. This argument is in accordance with the "three worlds" theory of the Beijing hegemonists against the two super-powers, which is aimed at splitting our movement. But the realities of international relations have exposed this scheme.

"It is common knowledge that war made its appearance in human society in prehistoric times, and that all the major wars which have broken out in the 20th century, such as the two world wars, the Vietnam war, the Middle-East wars and the wars of aggression launched by China against India in 1962 and against Vietnam in 1979, and a series of other wars have nothing to do with the disputes between the two blocs. Still less can one trace the origin of colonialism and neo-colonialism to the disputes between the two blocs. Likewise, the the present struggle of the developing countries for a new international economic order cannot be considered a consequence of the dispute between the two blocs".

Nguyen Co Thach analysed the concrete situation in each region of the world and asked : Are the wars that have plagued Asia, Africa and Latin America all along the past 35 years wars between the two military blocs or are they waged by the imperialist and colonial

powers against the independence and sovereignty of the nations in these regions ? Was the struggle of the non-aligned countries against the SEATO and CENTO military blocs a deviation from the objective of the Non-Aligned Movement ? Was the support of the non-aligned countries for Vietnam against the US imperialists an indication that these countries, had sided with one bloc against the other ? Are the struggles of the Arab and Palestinian peoples against Israel, of the Iranian people against the United States, of the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa against racism and apartheid, of the peoples of El Salvador and the other Latin America peoples against military dictatorships and US intervention all consequences of the disputes between the two blocs and between the two super-powers ? It is because of the disputes between the two blocs and the two superpowers that Taiwan, Hongkong and Macao are not yet liberated ?

Nguyen Co Thach then laid bare the real issue lying behind the call for "opposition to the two superpowers" and a "neutral stance between the two military blocs".

He said :

"The Beijing rulers have mouthed slogans against the two super-powers, but in point of fact they are colluding with US imperialism to oppose the Soviet Union and the forces of peace and national independence in the world. Beijing's noisy clamour for "opposition to the super-powers" and for "standing between the two military blocs" are obviously two parts of the same campaign against the Soviet Union and the other forces resolutely struggling for peace and national independence, including our Non-Aligned Movement.

"Loyal to their policy of non-alignment, the Vietnamese people resolutely side with the struggle of the peoples for peace, detente and disarmament... As non-aligned countries, we resolutely remain independent of military blocs and are determined not to join any military blocs. We do not stand by one bloc to oppose the other. But this should not be taken to mean that if one bloc is against our peace and independence we should let the criminal get away with it, and oppose other bloc even though it is sympathetic to our cause of peace and independence. The promoters of the theory of opposition to the two super-powers and taking a neutral stance between the two blocs actually want us to give up our struggle against the enemies of peace and national independence, and to oppose those countries which



support our struggle for peace and national independence. We resolutely oppose all forces within and outside the military blocs attempting to undermine world peace and the national independence of nations while we regard as our friends all forces within and outside those military blocs fighting for peace and national independence. These are the most general objectives that unite our movement. Though there are differences among us, these are only temporary and can be solved on the basis of discussion and mutual agreement, mutual respect for each other's sovereignty, equality, non-imposition on each other and non-interference from foreign countries.

"But a serious situation has arisen since the US imperialists and the Beijing reactionary forces are using members of the Non-Aligned Movement to sabotage it from within. Washington and Beijing deeply resent those forces within the movement which actively struggle for peace and national independence. They are attacking them in an attempt to turn the movement into an instrument to serve their own interests or, at least, to split and sabotage it. It is hardly surprising that they have conducted world-wide campaigns to discredit Cuba and Vietnam, and oppose the resolutions of the 6th Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement in Havana. Some members of the Non-Aligned Movement are rehashing the same allegations. Who are they ? At this forum, they have slanderously charged Vietnam with aggression although they themselves supported and assisted the US and China in their invasions of Vietnam. They demand the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea while favouring the continued presence of US forces in Southeast Asia and ignoring the occupation by Chinese troops of parts of Vietnam's territory. They, who have supported and joined the US in setting up such aggressive military blocs as SEATO and CENTO to oppose peace and the independence of the non-aligned countries, are now passing themselves off as the firmest defenders of the principles of non-alignment. They urge the withdrawal of foreign troops from Kampuchea and Afghanistan, yet they object to any mention of Diego Garcia.

"The legal governments of Kampuchea and Afghanistan have the right to request that troops be sent by fraternal countries to help them defend themselves against aggression and intervention by imperialist and other reactionary forces. The presence of foreign troops on Diego Garcia, on the contrary, is an occupation incompatible with Mauritian

sovereignty and a serious menace to peace and security in the Indian Ocean region. Afghanistan is an independent and sovereign nation and a full member of the Non-Aligned Movement. Yet, some people have raised the question of Afghanistan's membership despite protests by the legal government of this country. This is a violation of the sovereignty of a member country, which threatens to set a very dangerous precedent for the movement".

The Vietnamese Minister condemned those who had use "impolite and self-degrading" words to slander Cuba, which chairs the Non-Aligned Movement, and India, the host country to the Foreign Ministers' Conference. He stressed the need to defend Cuba and India, defend the resolutions of the Havana Summit Meeting defend the authentic non-aligned forces against the imperialists and reactionaries who are trying to sabotage the movement from within.

Dealing with the situation in Southeast Asia, Nguyen Co Thach pointed out : The unstable situation in Southeast Asia over the past 40 years stems neither from the "Kampuchean question" nor "the presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea", but from the wars launched by the colonialists and imperialists and by Beijing's use of Maoist rebels to oppose the governments and peoples in the region.

He went on :

"Facing enemies many times bigger than themselves, the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea have no alternative but to unite in order to fight and win together. The Vietnamese army stood shoulder to shoulder with the peoples of Laos and Kampuchea in the struggle against French colonialism as well as in the fight against US imperialism. Vietnamese troops withdrew from Laos and Kampuchea at the end of both the French colonialist war and the US war of aggression against the three Indochinese countries. This proves Vietnam's full respect for the independence and sovereignty of Laos and Kampuchea. This time, the presence of Vietnamese troops in Laos and Kampuchea is at the request of the governments of Laos and Kampuchea to assist them to cope with the threat from Beijing. This presence of Vietnamese troops is only temporary. They will be withdrawn once the danger from China is removed and with the agreement of Laos and Kampuchea.

"Like the militant solidarity and mutual assistance in the common struggle against the enemies of the Arab, African, Latin American and other peoples, the militant solidarity between the peoples of the three Indochinese countries exists only for the purpose of self-defence and is thus entirely justified.

"Beijing's refusal to sign treaties of non-aggression and peaceful coexistence with the three Indochinese countries indicates that it is bent on carrying out its policy of aggression and intervention against the three Indochinese countries.

"Along with Beijing, the ASEAN countries are raising a hue and cry about the danger of Vietnam invading Thailand and threatening peace and security in Southeast Asia. But facts throughout history and particularly during the past 30 years show that never have Vietnamese forces been present on Thai territory, while Thailand has invaded Vietnam three times, and Thailand and other ASEAN countries supported and even took part in the US war of aggression against Vietnam and other Indochinese countries. Now Thailand is joining Beijing - the NATO of the East - in opposing the three Indochinese States.

"The ASEAN countries make much noise about the danger of aggression from Vietnam and Kampuchea, but they have turned down the Indochinese countries' proposal for a non-aggression treaty and for the setting up of a demilitarized zone along the Thai-Kampuchean border. They want to use military pressure, economic blockade and political isolation to force the Indochinese countries to surrender. They are maintaining a state of confrontation between them and the Indochinese countries, and fuelling border instability to facilitate their intervention in the Indochinese countries, to get more US aid, and to benefit from the refugee problem, just as many ASEAN countries did during the US war of aggression against Vietnam.

"The ASEAN countries claim that they respect the United Nations Charter, and demand the implementation of the UN resolutions on Kampuchea. But the fact is that they themselves have trampled on this Charter by supporting and participating in the US war of aggression against the three Indochinese countries, by backing China's present policy of aggression and intervention against the Indochinese

countries and by supporting Indonesia's occupation of East Timor, at variance with the UN resolution on East Timor. Which principle in the UN Charter allows them to recognize and support the Pol Pot clique, guilty of genocide against the Kampuchean people ? Their demand for the implementation of the UN resolution on Kampuchea implies that the reviving Kampuchean people be forced to accept the return of an ousted genocidal regime to accomplish a mission assigned it by the Beijing expansionists. Their demand for the implementation of these resolutions also implies that the Beijing authorities have the right to conduct aggression and intervention against the three Indochinese countries, while the latter are denied the right to help one another resist aggression. So which side does this conference support - the Beijing aggressors or the non-aligned Indochinese peoples who are victims of aggression ? No ! the Non-Aligned Movement cannot support the aggressors against the non-aligned Indochinese countries. Nobody can prevent the three Indochinese countries from exercising their right to self-defence.

"The 6th Non-Aligned Summit in Havana in 1979 decided to leave the Kampuchea's seat vacant. The UN resolutions on Kampuchea are inconsistent with the Havana Summit's decision. The ASEAN countries, having failed to achieve their objective in Havana, are trying to impose the erroneous UN resolutions on the Non-Aligned Movement.

"The Indochinese countries hold that all Southeast Asian problem must be settled by the Southeast Asian countries themselves on the basis of equality, mutual agreement and non-interference from outside.

"There are only two courses of action to choose from - either to continue with confrontation and interference, as the ASEAN countries have done over the past two years, or to negotiate and settle issues raised by both sides on the basis of equality and mutual agreement. The first course can only harm peace and lead to instability in Southeast Asia, while the second would gradually bring about peace and stability in the region.

"The three Indochinese countries' proposal is aimed at negotiation and agreement.

"The ASEAN countries want to impose their will on the Indochinese countries. Over the past 35 years, France, the United States and China have followed one another in waging wars on the Indochinese countries to impose their will on them. Most recently China imposed the genocidal Pol Pot regime on the Kampuchean people. But all these attempts failed. The ASEAN countries should not harbour the illusion that they can impose their will on the Indochinese countries.

"The present conflict which is endangering peace and stability in Southeast Asia is a conflict between China and the Indochinese countries, not between the Indochinese countries and the ASEAN countries.

"The Indochinese countries call on the ASEAN States, in their own interests and in the interests of Southeast Asia as a whole, to cooperate with them with a view to ending confrontation and building a peaceful and stable Southeast Asia. The Indochinese countries call on the other non-aligned countries to help bring about reconciliation and an end to the confrontation among the Southeast Asian nations and to avoid taking any measures detrimental to peace in this region"./.

#### IV- MEETING BETWEEN PHAM VAN DONG, CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND MR. K.S. BAJBAI, SECRETARY TO THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF INDIA,

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong received K.S. Bajbai, Secretary to the Ministry of External Affairs of India and his party who were on a friendship visit to Vietnam as guests of the Foreign Ministry. At a reception held on Thursday (17-2), Chairman Pham Van Dong warmly praised the Indian Government's active preparations for the 7th Non-Aligned Summit Conference to be held in New Delhi in March. He said he believed that the correct stand, full of goodwill, of the Government of India would be a very important factor for the success of the conference. He stressed that as a member of the Non-Aligned Movement, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam would do its utmost to join other member countries in further promoting the Movement and in making it achieve ever bigger successes./.

V- COMMENTARY ON THE 4th ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF  
THE TREATY OF PEACE, FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN  
VIETNAM AND KAMPUCHEA,

The Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation between Vietnam and Kampuchea was signed on a spring day four years ago. It marked a further development of friendship and militant solidarity between the two countries. Over the past four years like the vitality of Spring, the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation between Vietnam and Kampuchea has brought fine results. At the request of the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and in furtherance of that Treaty, Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea continue to fulfil their noble internationalist duty. Units of the Vietnamese volunteer army in Kampuchea aim at nothing but helping the Kampuchean people to defend their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and to cope with the threat from Peking. As twice in the past, Vietnamese troops will be withdrawn totally from Kampuchea when the threat from the Peking expansionists is over and when security and stability along the Thai-Kampuchean border are ensured. Last year, out of goodwill, the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam decided to withdraw a number of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Kampuchea and declared their intention to consider further Vietnamese troop withdrawals in the near future. The presence of Vietnamese volunteer troops in Kampuchea is legal and necessary. It does not threaten in any way the security of Thailand or of any other countries. This is a generally accepted truth. Vietnamese specialists working in Kampuchea have strictly observed local regulations and agreements reached between the two countries, Kampuchea has truly revived. **The** revolutionary administration has been consolidated and the national economy and culture gradually restored and developed. And Kampuchea's international prestige has been growing. What the Kampuchean people have achieved in all fields since the liberation demonstrates that the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea is the sole authentic representative of the Kampuchean people. The past years also have seen the constant growth of the solidarity between Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea. The Summit Meeting of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos which will be held in Spring 1983 will be an even higher development of the friendship and militant solidarity between these

three countries. It will promote the aggregate strength of the three peoples in the struggle against the common enemies and in national building and defence. The Peking administration and other reactionary forces are disturbed by the steady consolidation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea as well as by the growing solidarity of the three Indochinese peoples. They have sought by all means to oppose the revival of the Kampuchean people. Most recently, they feverishly campaigned for Sihanouk to be invited to the 7th Non-Aligned Summit in New Delhi. Their plots for winning support for the genocidal Pol Pot clique are undertaken in order to oppose to Kampuchea's revival, to block the trend towards dialogue between the Indochinese and the ASEAN countries, to break the basic principles of the Non-Aligned Movement and to divide its members. All these are desperate actions. The magazine Indochina Prospect published in the United States remarks that no one believes that even with Chinese backing the Pol Pot clique now skulking in Thailand can turn the tide. The situation in Kampuchea is irreversible. On the 4th Anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation between Vietnam and Kampuchea, the Vietnamese people once again affirm their resolve to strengthen the solidarity and comprehensive co-operation with the Kampuchean people and declare that they will fulfil their internationalist obligations. The friendship and militant solidarity between Vietnam and Kampuchea as well as between Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea constitute an invincible strength. It ensures victory for our just cause in the preservation of peace and stability in Southeast Asia./.

#### VI- PRESENTING ORDER OF FRIENDSHIP OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO B.V.A MEMBERS,

On the occasion of the Lunar New Year (11th February 1983), the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the United Kingdom, Mr. Dang Nghiem Bai held a reception to celebrate the Traditional Tet Festival and present the Order of Friendship of the Council of State of the SRV to Mrs. Florence Croasdell, a political activist and a former secretary of the Central Committee of the Britain Vietnam Association, Mrs. Mary Wheeldon, a warm hearted personality and a member of the BVA, and Mr. John Wheeldon, a post-officer and a member of the BVA Central Committee.

Participating in the Reception were more than 100 guests from the BVA, the Medical and Scientific Aid for Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, the North West Britain Vietnam Association, the World Peace Council of Great Britain, OXFAM, PLO, the African National Congress, SWAPO...

Also present at the celebration were Comrade Gordon McLennan, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Britain, Comrade Dadoo, Chairman of the Communist Party of South Africa, Mr. Alf Lomas, member of European Parliament, and a number of British MPs, Trade Union leaders, journalists as well as many Vietnamese residents in the United Kingdom.

Mr. Dang Nghiem Bai, in his speech, highly appreciated the Anglo-Vietnamese friendship and solidarity, and the great assistance and support given to Vietnam by the British people during the past years, especially by the members of the BVA.

Deeply moved, Mrs. Mary Wheeldon, Mrs. Florence Croasdell and Mr. John Wheeldon expressed their gratitude to the Government of the SRV for this great honour. They considered their supports for Vietnam were too small in comparison with the sacrifice which the Vietnamese people had rendered to the peoples the world over.

Mrs. Joan Yuille, on behalf of the BVA, expressed the determination of the Association to do its utmost to strengthen the solidarity and friendship between the Vietnamese and British people .

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STATEMENT OF THE SUMMIT CONFERENCE  
OF LAOS, KAMPUCHEA AND VIETNAM

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The Summit Conference of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was held in Vientiane from 22 to 23 February 1983 and proceeded to exchanging views on the situation in their countries and in the world. The Summit Conference examined ways and means to strengthen solidarity and all-fields cooperation for the sake of socialist construction and national defence in their respective countries, the three parties made the following statement :

From generation to generation, the Lao, Kampuchean and Vietnamese peoples have lived in good neighbourhood and constantly consolidated their friendship through each one's struggle for existence and development.

In the past, colonialist, militarist, imperialist and expansionist forces used to interfere in the three countries of Indochina and make them victims of aggression. Previous and present aggressors as well consider the three countries one single theatre for their aggression, using one as a spring-board to invade the other two and sowing divisions among the three so as to rule them all.

The history of the three Peoples' struggle, especially since revolution in the three countries of Indochina was enlightened by great President Ho Chi Minh with Marxism-Leninism and the Communist Party of Indochina - Predecessor of the People's Revolutionary Party of Laos, the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and the Communist Party of Vietnam - was

founded, shows that militant alliance among them is a law of development of the three countries' revolutions, and a fundamental factor to defeating all enemies and regaining their independence and freedom. Whenever solidarity is jeopardized, each country's independence is in danger. The treason of the Pol Pot clique - henchmen of reactionary forces in Beijing ruling circles - seriously injured solidarity among the three peoples and caused to the Kampuchean people horrible suffering resulting from both genocide and intervention by expansionist and reactionary forces, annihilated the attainments of the Kampuchean revolution and threatened both Laos and Vietnam's independence and security.

Under the leadership of the genuine revolutionary party in each country, the three peoples, paying from their own blood, have restored and brought to a higher level their vital solidarity. At present, they are co-operating and assisting one another in carrying out, shoulder by shoulder, the task of national edification on the path of socialism, national defence, thereby sharing in the common struggle of peoples for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

For the time being, Chinese expansionists and hegemonists have not yet abandoned their aggression and annexation schemes against the three countries, neither have they given up their multifaced sabotaging activities against Lao, Vietnamese and Kampuchean revolutions, aiming at making them a spring-board for their hegemony all over South East Asia.

The new situation and tasks require from the three peoples of Indochina closer solidarity and cooperation in all fields. Bearing this in mind, the three parties pledged to :

- 1--Promote mutual solidarity and cooperation to assist one another in national edification and defence, contributing thereby to the cause of peace and stability in South East Asia and throughout the world without offending any other country.

2- Continuously strengthen solidarity and co-operation on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism. All problems concerning relations among the three countries will be settled through negotiations in a spirit of respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in internal affairs, mutual understanding, respect for each people's legitimate interests and for those of all the three peoples as well.

3- Develop long-term cooperation and mutual assistance among two or three parties in all fields in a spirit of friendship and brotherhood, free consent and on the basis of equality and mutual benefits.

4- Strengthen solidarity among the three peoples against any manoeuvre of division by enemies and any manifestation of big power chauvinism and narrow-minded nationalism, constantly educate the three countries' people on the traditional friendship and special relationship among them as well as against any activity susceptible of harming their friendship.

The above-mentioned principles which guide relations among the three Indochinese countries not only meet the interests of the three peoples, accord with their long-standing tradition of solidarity and friendship but also conform with the spirit of international agreements on Indochina and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of the Non-Aligned Movement.

They lead the parties concerned to agreeing on the following :

1- Summit Conferences of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam will be convened after leaders of the three countries consult with one another by way of conferences of Foreign Ministers of the three countries.

2- The conference of Foreign Ministers of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam will be held twice a year to deal with all problems concerning relations among the three countries during the interval between the two summit conferences.

3- A Committee for Economic Cooperation of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam will be established in each country to promote economic co-operation and co-ordination of national plans for economic development. The three committees will meet twice a year.

4- Whenever feasible, commissions will be set up for co-operation among the three countries in the specific sectors of economy, culture, science and technology, sports and physical education, etc...

5- The Statement shall not affect bilateral or multilateral treaties and agreements signed by each country. Stiffened by great friendship, special solidarity and all-fields co-operation among themselves, bolstered by solidarity and comprehensive co-operation with the Soviet Union and the socialist countries and united with the Non-Aligned countries and forces of peace and progress throughout the world, the three countries of Indochina have overcome most severe trials, won brilliant victories as is now the case and actively shared in the struggle for our time's common goals which are peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

The three peoples of Indochina, who underwent more than thirty years of strenuous war have no keener desire than peace to build up their countries and achieve wellbeing. They are determined to join the socialist countries, the Non-Aligned countries and the peace-loving and progressive peoples over the world in the struggle for the defence and consolidation of peace, against arms race, for disarmament and international detente. They warmly welcome and fully support the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries, particularly those proposals recently put forth at the meeting of the consultative political committee of the Warsaw Treaty countries, held in Prague in January, 1983.

The three countries of Indochina will constantly strengthen unity and comprehensive co-operation with the Soviet Union and the socialist countries, strive to contribute to the consolidation of the socialist community with the Soviet Union as the pillar. They give active support to movements for national liberation and independence in Asia, Africa and Latin America, support the struggle

of the working class and working people for wellbeing and democratic rights, as well as to peoples' struggle for peace. They are determined to intensify cooperation with the Non-Aligned countries in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, expansionism and hegemonism, racism, zionism and apartheid, for a new world economic order established on an equitable and rational basis. They warmly welcome the Seventh Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned countries to be held in New Delhi in March 1983 and are confident that its success will be an important contribution to the common struggle for peace, national independence and social progress in the world.

The three countries of Indochina are prepared to develop good relations with their neighbouring countries as well as with countries of different political and social systems on the basis of principles of peaceful co-existence.

The three peoples of Indochina have an age-old tradition of friendship with the Chinese people and always cherish that traditional friendship. The mutual assistance between the Chinese people and the three Indochinese peoples in their struggle for the revolutionary cause is a historical reality which cannot be denied. The present abnormal situation in the relations between the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam with the People's Republic of China is not caused by the three countries of Indochina. The three countries, persistent in their policy, will spare no efforts to restore normal relations with the People's Republic of China on the basis of co-existence in peace, for the interest of their countries and of the Chinese people.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam have consistently pursued a policy of peace, friendship and good neighbourhood in their relations with the ASEAN countries, in spite of obstacles created by international reactionaries in recent years. It has been shown with facts that relations of friendship and cooperation among the countries of Indochina and of the ASEAN are an important factor to preserving peace and stability in South East Asia. The

should settle all differences through negotiations in a spirit of good neighbourhood, co-exist in peace and cooperation in friendship with one another, they should not let outside countries interfere and divide them or use the territory of one against another and should work together to build South East Asia into a zone of peace, stability and cooperation.

The three countries of Indochina, with respect for their friendship with the American people, express their desire to have normal relations with the United States on the basis of equality, respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and non-interference in each country's internal affairs.

The three peoples of Indochina express their sincere gratitude to the Soviet Union, fraternal socialist countries, non-aligned countries, international organisations and friends all over the five continents for the valuable support and assistance they gave to their just cause and are confident that in the future they will give the three peoples of Indochina more support and assistance.

The combat of the three peoples of Indochina is today stauncher and its perspectives brighter than ever in spite of difficult and complicated circumstances it faces. Holding high the banner of peace and friendship their solidarity being combined to the force of the three revolutionary currents of our time, the three peoples of Indochina will certainly overcome all difficulties and trials, and step forward to achieve new and still greater victories in the building up and defence of their beloved motherlands, making worthy contributions to the struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress in South East Asia and in the whole world.

Vientiane, February 23, 1983.

STATEMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF  
VOLUNTEERS FROM THE VIETNAMESE ARMY IN KAMPUCHEA

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All through their long struggle for independence and freedom, the peoples of the three countries of Indochina have kept closely united, assisting one another and fighting shoulder to shoulder common enemies, Vietnamese volunteers twice fought in Kampuchea side by side with the Kampuchean People's Armed Forces against aggression by French colonialists and American imperialists and then withdrew when those aggressions were put to an end.

After the U.S. defeat in Indochina in 1975, reactionaries among the Beijing ruling circles have openly carried out against the three countries of Indochina a policy of hostility, using the Pol Pot clique to conduct the genocide of the Kampuchean people waging a war of aggression against Vietnam and sabotaging the independence and security of Laos, in an attempt to annex the three countries of Indochina and turn them into springboards for their expansion in Southeast Asia. Proceeding from the traditional militant solidarity between the peoples and exercising the sacred right to self-defence and in response to the request of the National United Front for Salvation of Kampuchea, volunteers from the Vietnamese army once again joined the people and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Kampuchea, overthrew the genocidal Pol Pot regime, frustrating thereby China's schemes.

After the Pol Pot clique was ousted, reactionaries among the Beijing ruling circles, in collusion with US imperialists and other reactionary forces, still went on with their policy of hostility against the three countries of Indochina. They launched a war of aggression against Vietnam in February, 1979, use Thai territory as a sanctuary where the Pol Pot remnants and other Khmer reactionaries are nurtured and supplied with weapons to commit infiltration, destruction and subversion against the revival of the Kampuchea people, they also unceasingly step up provocations and tension along the Thai-Kampuchean, Thai-Lao and Sino-Vietnamese borders and conduct

a multifaced war of sabotage against the Indochinese countries, thus jeopardizing peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

In these circumstances and accordingly to the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation signed in February 1979 by the two countries, the government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, requested volunteers from the Vietnamese Army to stay on in Kampuchea to fulfil their internationalist obligations, assist the people and the armed forces of Kampuchea for national construction and defence against intervention by reactionaries among the Beijing ruling circles and other reactionary forces. The presence of the volunteers from the Vietnamese army in Kampuchea meets the interests and keen aspirations of the Kampuchean people and completely conforms with the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement and the U.N. Charter on the right of nations to help each other for the purpose of self-defence.

In the past, volunteers from the Vietnamese army together with armed forces of Kampuchea and Laos defeated the wars of aggression conducted by colonialists and imperialists against the three countries of Indochina, thus eradicating the source of threat to peace and security of the peoples in Southeast Asia. Recently, for the third time they were sent to Kampuchea, this is a response to the need for solidarity and mutual assistance to cope with the danger of intervention and aggression from outside and not a threat to any country. Volunteers from the Vietnamese army are staying in Kampuchea at the request of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, they will return home at its request.

The presence of the Vietnamese volunteers in Kampuchea in the last four years has contributed to defeating attempts of reactionaries among the Beijing ruling circles acting in collusion with US imperialists and other reactionary forces. Within a short period of time, the people of Kampuchea, with intelligence, braveness and creative genius, have recorded great achievements in their national reconstruction and defence, the armed forces of Kampuchea have been unceasingly consolidated. The People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam are determined to strengthen their solidarity and cooperation so as to contribute to the defence of peace and security of the three countries of Indochina.



Proceeding from their constant position on the presence of the Vietnamese volunteers in Kampuchea and taking account of the present situation, the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam agreed on the following :

1- All volunteers from the Vietnamese army would be withdrawn from Kampuchea after the threat by reactionaries among the Beijing circles and other reactionary forces as well as the using of Thai territory against the People's Republic of Kampuchea and all support for the Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionaries will cease completely and peace and security of Kampuchea, particularly along the Kampuchean-Thai border will be assured.

2- Each year a partial withdrawal of volunteers from the Vietnamese army from Kampuchea will be decided upon with due consideration of the security of Kampuchea.

3- Following the withdrawal in 1982, some more units of Vietnamese volunteers will be withdrawn from Kampuchea in 1983.

4- In case the withdrawal of volunteers from the Vietnamese army from Kampuchea is taken advantage of at the expense of peace and security of Kampuchea, the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea will consult with the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, as provided in the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between the two countries.

The Kampuchean people will keep forever in its memories the service given them by volunteer-officers and soldiers from the Vietnamese army who, guided by the spirit of noble internationalism, spare no sacrifices to assist the Kampuchean people in fighting intervention by outside reactionary forces and their henchmen, i.e. the genocidal Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionaries, creating thereby favourable conditions for the revival and national reconstruction of the Kampuchea people.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic highly appreciates and warmly welcomes the above-mentioned decision of the People's Republic

of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and considers it a token of goodwill and an important new contribution to peace and security of the three countries of Indochina and to peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

The Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea reaffirms its determination to build an independent, peaceful and non-aligned Kampuchea. Once again, it declares that those Kampuchean who are in the ranks of the Pol Pot and other Khmer reactionary cliques, or who collaborate either directly or indirectly with them against the revival of the Kampuchean people, in service of the hegemonistic schemes of the reactionary clique in the Beijing ruling circles and international reactionary forces, will be vested with citizen-right including the right to stand for election and to vote in free elections as stipulated in the constitution if they leave the Pol Pot and other Khmer reactionary forces, give up their collaboration with them and respect the constitution of People's Republic of Kampuchea. Foreigners will be invited to observe the free elections in Kampuchea.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam highly appreciate the above-mentioned judicious policy of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam consistently pursue the policy of peace, friendship and cooperation with neighbouring countries and all others. In this spirit, they once again reiterate their proposals on concluding non-aggression treaties and normalising relations with China and the ASEAN countries on the basis of principles of peaceful coexistence and organising an international conference on Southeast Asia to solve problems concerning peace and stability in the area.

Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam are confident that with the efforts by all parties concerned, Southeast Asia, which has been under a state of tension for over thirty years now, will become a zone of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation, with no foreign military bases, no foreign troops and foreign intervention, in accordance with the interest and aspirations of the peoples in Southeast Asia and in the world./.

Vientiane, February 23, 1983.