

EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

Press and Information Section

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I - 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF VIETNAM'S NATIONAL DAY :

STATEMENT BY COMRADE LE DUAN, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL
COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM AT THE GRAND MEETING
HELD AT BA DINH SQUARE IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE AUGUST REVOLUTION AND THE NATIONAL DAY - SEPTEMBER 2.

Today, we gather here at the Ba Dinh Square where 40 years ago following the glorious triumph of the general insurrection of August 1945, President Ho Chi Minh read the proclamation of independence announcing to our compatriots throughout the country and the peoples of the world the birth of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the first worker-peasant State in South-East Asia.

That historic proclamation affirmed : "Vietnam has the right to freedom and independence and in fact has become a free and independent country. The entire Vietnamese People are determined to devote all their might and main, lives and property to preserve their freedom and independence".

Over the past 40 years, under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam founded and educated by great President Ho Chi Minh, our people have vigorously entered into a new era opened up by the August Revolution-the era of independence, freedom and socialism. Our nation has lived up to its oath of independence, fighting courageously overcoming all trials and hardships, achieving very glorious victories, developing the gains of the August Revolution, successfully defending and building our young republic.

Shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal peoples of the other two countries on the Indochinese peninsula, our people have defeated two atrocious wars of aggression waged by western imperialist forces, smashed the design of the french colonialists to reimpose their domination on our country, the frantic ambition of US imperialism, the ringleader of imperialism and the international gendarme, to crush our nation, to check and repulse the revolutionary currents of our times by inflicting a fatal counter-blow on the latter.

The two sacred resistance wars for national salvation waged by our people are typical examples of the struggle which has been taking place since the end of the 2nd World War against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism. They constitute an important part of the struggle of the revolutionary and progressive forces of the new times, and have contributed to further deepening the changes in the overall revolutionary situation in the world in favour of peace, national independence and socialism.

Following these resounding victories, our people have had to face the expansionist and hegemonist forces together with their henchmen. We have firmly defended our fatherland's frontiers at the same time, we have fulfilled our obligation in helping the Lao and Kampuchean Peoples to accomplish their cause of national liberation and to defend their countries, consolidating the alliance between the three brotherly countries in their common march on the path of socialism.

Since the liberation of the South and the reunification of the country, the cause of Socialist Revolution in the whole country has recorded successes of very great strategic importance.

The serious wounds of war have been healed, the national economy have been recovered and developed in certain aspects. Important material and technological bases of socialism have been or are being built. Exploitation of man by man has been basically abolished. The system of public ownership of the means of production has been established in a major part of the economy. The working

people's collective mastership has been incessantly realized and consolidated. Quick developments have been achieved in the fields of culture, education and public health. National defense and security are guaranteed, the material and cultural life of the people gradually improved. The last forty years constitute a period of glorious victories in struggle, a period of developments recorded at a speed unprecedented in the long history of our nation.

The great edifice that we have today is the result of the persistent and courageous process of struggle undertaken by many generations of Vietnamese, and is the direct outcome of the fight full of hardships and sacrifices waged by our people and combatants throughout the country during half a century under the party's glorious banner. Our people's victory of historic and epochal significance is associated with the whole-hearted and valuable assistance of the brotherly socialist countries, of the world's working class and progressive mankind. On this solemn commemorative occasion, on behalf of the Party and State, I warmly commend the excellent revolutionary heroism of our revolutionary people and armed forces. I warmly commend the undying merits of those heroes, martyrs compatriots and comrades who have courageously fought and sacrificed themselves for the independence and freedom of our Fatherland, for the socialist ideal, for the sacred obligation to the nation and for the lofty internationalist duty. I wish to extend our people greetings of solidarity, of profound love and gratitude to the brotherly peoples of Laos and Kampuchea, who have fought together with us in the same trench and shared weals and woes, recording great successes for the common revolutionary cause of the three Indochinese Countries.

I wish to express our sincere and deep gratitude to the Soviet Union, the great fatherland of V.I. Lenin, to the other brotherly socialist countries, to the communist and workers parties, to the friendly countries, the peace- and justice-loving peoples and the progressive mankind for their strong support and great assistance.

Comrades and friends,

The victorious struggle of the last forty years has brought our nation to a new height. Vietnam is today an independent and united state, ours, a victorious and heroic people. Our Party, the Communist Party of Vietnam, is a great Marxist-Leninist Party. Our people are fully spiritually and materially equipped to effectively safeguard every fruit of revolution, to successfully build a prosperous and powerful socialist Vietnam.

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam is a state of the working people. The working people's collective mastership is the nature of socialism in our country. In the period to come, all the abilities and intellects of our people must be concentrated on simultaneously and harmoniously waging the three revolutions, the key one being the scientific and technological revolution, realizing step by step the regime of collective mastership with a view to ensuring mastery for every working individual or collective on all planes - political, economic, cultural and social, through the whole process - from production to distribution and circulation, in the whole country and each locality down to the grassroot level, the sense of being masters of society, nature and selves must keep being further enhanced.

The reorganisation of production must be stepped up in order to make good use of labour, soil and the natural resources for the time ahead, agriculture should be in the forefront with attention focused on food and foodstuff production, agriculture must be brought another step closer to large-scale socialist production. A firm grip of socialist industrialization, the principal task of the whole transitional period, must be continued. Efforts must be made to maintain the right pace as planned in the construction of key heavy-industry

projects. A national economic mechanism, with a modern agro-industrial mechanism on a national scale as the keystone, must be established step by step, best endeavours have to be undertaken for construction at district level, making the district the subject to new distribution of labour, organisation of production life. We must resolutely renovate economic management, get rid of red tape and the subsidy regime, changing completely to cost-accounting and socialist business with the plans as keystones, build up a dynamic mechanism permitting the mobilization of all sources of reserves, directing all activities at increasing productivity, quality and effectiveness.

The party as the leader, the people as the master and the government as the administrator, this is the wholistic mechanism of our regime. The overall strength of the collective mastership regime must be exploited at all levels and in all branches in order to develop the economy, build up culture, perfect the new-type man, consolidate national defense and security, organise the people's life and ensure their livelihood.

With a good grip of the party's correct revolutionary line, bringing into full play the capabilities of creative labour of the people and the heroic combative spirit of the armed forces, we are successfully carrying out the two strategic tasks and realizing the revolutionary objectives set forth by the 5th Party Congress materializing the resolutions of the Party Central Committee, most recently the resolution of the 8th Plenum. With still greater efforts, let us go all out to successfully carry out the 1985 state plan, thus recording a worthy achievement to greet the forth coming 6th congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam, creating favourable conditions for our revolution to enter a new stage of development.

On behalf of the Party Central Committee, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers, I call upon all our compatriots and combatants, cadres at all levels, of all services, to bring into full play the glorious revolutionary tradition of our nation. To self-forgettingly work and staunchly struggle for a strong and prosperous Socialist Vietnam, making greater and greater contributions to the revolutionary cause of the world's people. Let our Party, Government and people do our utmost to strengthen our special alliance with Laos and Kampuchea, to upgrade our all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and with the socialist community as a whole. These constitutes an extremely important guarantee for our people's victory in national construction and defense.

We completely solidarize ourselves with the fraternal socialist countries and the whole progressive mankind in the struggle to avert and eliminate the danger of a nuclear holocaust brought about by the warlike imperialists' frenzied arms race, for the safeguard of peace and human life on our planet. Our people warmly welcome the Soviet Union's decision to unilaterally halt all nuclear tests and demand that the United States do likewise.

Together with other nations in Asia and the Pacific, we are determined to carry on the struggle aimed at foiling Washington and its allies' designs to turn this vast region into a theatre for military and political confrontations against the socialist and all other independence - and freedom - loving nations. We are convinced that Asia and the Pacific can and must become a region of peace.

We highly appraise the great role of the Non-aligned Movement with India as Chairman in the struggle against imperialism for peace, national independence and a new international economic order, we specially express our militant

solidarity with the brotherly Cuba and our strong support for the struggle for independence and freedom of the peoples of Nicaragua, El Salvador, South Africa, Namibia, Palestine, Lebanon and all other African, Asian and Latin American peoples.

Now as before, we persist in our policy of peace and friendship among nations, towards the neighbouring countries and the countries in the South-East Asian region as a whole. We are for putting an end to confrontations and entering into negotiations aimed at solving all disputes, we hope that the good-will proposals put forth by the Indochinese countries will meet with positive response from the parties concerned.

Our era is the era of victory of peace, national independence and socialism. Every act of aggression and intervention is bound to be punished. Those who go counter to the trend of our times will inevitably fail. At this historic square, the Vietnamese people once again strongly affirm their will and determination to mobilize all their spiritual and physical strength to safeguard their fatherland for which so many generations have fought and made sacrifices, to devote all their energy and talent to the cause of building a "more prosperous and more beautiful" country as was the wish of great Uncle Ho and as is the aspiration of them all.

Under the ever victorious banner of the party, let our people and combatants throughout the country, millions as one, carry on our courageous march forward.

STATEMENT BY MR. NGUYEN CO THACH, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AT THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES (Luanda 2 - 7 September 1985).

It is with great pleasure that the Delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam takes part in this Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries in Luanda, beautiful capital of the People's Republic of Angola, one of the frontline states in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and racism.

Being aware of the tremendous difficulties that the young republic of Angola has to grapple with, my delegation appraises highly the enormous efforts exerted by the Angolan Government and people in order to make our important gathering possible. The holding of this Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries in Luanda can be viewed as a vivid illustration of the great victories won by the people of Angola in the past ten years in its extremely fierce struggle for the defence of its homeland. By convening here in Luanda we are powerfully voicing the solidarity of the Non-Aligned Countries with the just cause of the peoples of Angola, of the frontline states, of Namibia and South Africa in their struggle against Apartheid.

We note with satisfaction the highly positive character of the two draft declarations of our conference. These documents provide a faithful and comprehensive reflection of the reality of struggle waged by the Non-Aligned movement and of the latter's concern for the most burning international and regional issues. Their contents are in full accordance with the noble objectives of our movement.

We should like to express our agreement with the draft political declaration, with the views stated regarding the questions of international peace and security and of the struggle against imperialism and reactionary forces in Southern Africa, Central America and the Caribbean, in the Middle East and Asia. Through its struggle which is a manifestation of its strongest support to the peoples fighting for their independence and freedom, the Vietnamese people stands unflinchingly by the side of the fraternal peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

We fully endorse the draft economic declaration which lays down the measures needed in order to foster the struggle for the establishment of a new International Economic Order, especially with regard to the monetary and commercial system and also in order to solve the problem of our external debt.

In the course of our debate on the draft declarations of the Conference just as in previous conferences, a certain approach has been repeatedly put to us where by our Movement is said to have deviated from its original objectives which demands that we keep an equidistance between the two Super Powers, between the two world blocs.

Next year, in 1986, we shall celebrate the 25th founding anniversary of the Non-Aligned Movement, an international event of utmost dimension. Looking back a quarter of a century we realize the development of our Movement which, from a group of countries, and through a whole process of struggle and growth, has become a great and important force in the world.

If our Movement could develop as it has done up to the present and could score major successes this has been because we have abided by the correct orientation of our Movement's objectives and effectively met the aspirations of the Non-Aligned states, namely the struggle for peace and national independence, against imperialism, colonialism and racism.

Had we erred from our objectives how could our Movement have experienced such a powerful growth and successfully prevailed through the past 25 years. In the pursuit of our objectives, the crucial factor has been our ability to distinguish friends from foes and win the support of friends so as to defeat the enemies, and that is how we prevailed. A dangerous thing which would spell failure, and even disaster, would be to mistake foes for friends and vice-versa, to be unable to make one from the other. This is precisely what our enemies hope for in order to defeat us.

In Southern Africa who are the friends, who the enemies, who stands behind the racists that suppress the peoples of the region? In Central America and the Caribbean who opposes the peoples of Cuba, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Puerto Rico and other countries in the region? In the Middle East who supports Israel in its war against the Palestinians and the Arabs? Who imposed for more than a century its domination over Asian, African and Latin American countries, who has undertaken the most rapacious plunder of the natural resources of these countries and who is their biggest creditor? In South East Asia, who waged the most murderous and devastating war against the three Indochinese states? Who supports the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America in their struggle to regain their national independence? Without this valuable support the Vietnamese people just like the nations of these three continents could not have registered such victories as today.

Let us suppose that the United States were the only one to own the atomic bomb, what would become of the world? What would be the fate of the Asian, African and Latin American states, and of world peace? Our enemy is utterly ruthless. If we are to censure the victory of our objectives, we should strengthen our mutual solidarity and concurrently rally the sympathy and support of the world peoples struggling for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

We wish to entertain friendly relations with all countries in general and with the two Super Powers in particular. However we could not be friendly to a hostile country, nor could we conversely be hostile to a friendly country. Our attitude hinges moreover on that of the two Super Powers towards us.

The Americans have recently stated that concerning 85 percents of the questions debated by the United Nations the non-aligned countries have voted with the Soviet Union and that these countries are not independent. As for us this statistic points to a different reality namely that on 85 percents of the issues raised at the United Nations the Soviet Union has supported the non-aligned countries while the United States have gone against us. For the sake of balance, should we therefore reverse our votes or should we ask that the Soviet Union vote against us as do the United States? This would neither be general balance nor mental balance but sheer absurdity and suicide. The only balance possible would be to ask the Americans to vote with us as do the Soviets. Thus Apartheid and Zionism would lose their mainstay and it could lead to the end of state terrorism and of the Star War. Something which the Americans will certainly not accept.

A non-aligned country is not supposed to be part of any military alliance nor should it allow any foreign military base on its own territory. This nevertheless does not mean that one ought to remain neutral between the various military alliances. In Europe there exist two opposed military alliances but in Africa, in Latin America and in Asia there are only the imperialist military alliances and bases that the United States use to undertake their aggression and repression against the peoples fighting for their national independence. The countries of these regions should struggle against these military blocs. The non-aligned countries cannot adopt towards the military alliances in Asia, Africa and Latin America the same approach as the European non-aligned states towards the two opposed military alliances in Europe.

Our Conference is taking place at a time when the international community is about to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the foundation of the United Nations, the world's largest and most important tribunal. In our diverse and complex world, the United Nations with its activities over the past forty years has made a major contribution. We particularly appreciate the specialized agencies of the United Nations that have promoted international cooperation in the economic, scientific and technical, social and cultural fields and are assisting the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America in their national construction efforts.

The commemoration of the United Nations should however be linked to the causes that have presided over the genesis of this organization, namely the great victory of the world peoples over fascism and militarism in the Second world War with the sacrifice of twenty million Soviets and twenty million men in Europe, Asia, Africa and America. This great sacrifice of mankind in the struggle for peace, independence and equality among nations has led to the coming into being of this broadest organization in the world.

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The celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations would be meaningless if it were not associated to the struggle of the world people in the past for decades for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. The resolutions adopted by the United Nations during the last forty years have not brought about significant changes in the world. It is the struggle of the peoples themselves in the past four decades that has changed the face of the world and thereby provoked deep changes within the United Nations which reflects this struggle and legalized its outcome.

An important event has been the adoption by the United Nations 25 years ago of Resolution 1514 on the granting of independence to the colonized countries and peoples. One could not appreciate correctly the significance of this resolution if one did not clearly grasp the context of the international situation which led to this resolution. It is in fact the fruit of the bloody struggle of Asia, Africa and Latin America against colonialism for the reconquest of their national independence after 1945, especially the struggle of the three Indochinese countries, those of Cuba, India, Korea, Egypt, Algeria, Libya, Palestine, Irak, Madagascar, Congo, Guinea, Ghana and many other countries. It is also the result of the solidarity between states of Asia and Africa manifested during the historic Conference of Bandung whose thirtieth anniversary we have just celebrated.

The reality of the past 25 years clearly shows that the imperialist and colonialist countries do not respect this resolution. During this last quarter of a century the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America have shed their blood in order to implement this resolution.

Regardless of the UN resolutions, imperialism has launched over a hundred local wars against the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America, the longest and largest being that against the people of Vietnam. An amount of bombs and ammunition three times larger than the one used during the Second World War could not subjugate the Vietnamese people inspired in its struggle by the ideal that "Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom."

In commemorating the 25th anniversary of resolution 1514 we have to evoke the crimes of imperialism, colonialism, zionism and racism and pay tribute to the memory of tens of millions of men in Asia, Africa and Latin America who have given their lives for the independence and freedom of nations.

The holding in Luanda of our Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries coincides with the tenth anniversary of the victory of the revolution in Angola, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe and Cape Verde. This is an opportunity for us to witness the historic changes that have taken place in this effervescent region of the world. With the Victory of the frontline nations and of the peoples of Southern Africa, the success of the Ethiopian revolution and the revolutionary changes in many countries of North, West, East and Central Africa, the struggle in the African continent has moved into a new stage of development.

Looking back on the decade elapsed we can see the very important changes that have taken place in the political configuration of Africa, from North Africa to the Horn of Africa, from East Africa to West Africa and especially in Southern Africa. The struggle waged against Apartheid by the people of South Africa under the leadership of ANC and the struggle for independence carried out by the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO have made headway with renewed dynamism. Just as the crimes of the hitlerite fascists, the genocidal Pol Pot clique and the zionists, those of the South African

racists will go down in history as the most barbarous crimes against humanity. The Pretoria racists who earlier used to represent the shock force of imperialism directed against the peoples of Africa, are now battling with the flames of revolution in their very midst and an object of utter condemnation by the whole world. However they do not give up their schemes against the frontline nations.

When we discuss of the present economic problems we have to review the implementation of the UN resolutions on the declaration and programme of action for the establishment of a New International Economic Order as well as the Charter of the Economic Rights and Duties of the States. Ten years have elapsed since then. Not only have these resolutions not been acted upon, but the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America are confronted with ever more acute economic difficulties with their spiralling external debt, with famine spreading and threatening hundreds of millions of men and an ever wider gap between developing and Western countries. Moreover we have also to shoulder to bulk of the heavy consequences of economic crisis of Western countries.

In the face of such a reality we cannot rely on the UN resolutions or on the kindness of Western countries. We need a firm determination to build up our respective countries by our own efforts while at the same time uniting to carry out the struggle for the establishment of a new international economic order.

This year the Vietnamese people is celebrating the fortieth anniversary of the foundation of its own State. Whereas for the past forty years the peoples of the world have been allowed to enjoy peace, the peoples of Vietnam and of Indochina have been the victims of the longest and most violent local wars in the world. The three peoples of Indochina could not be brought to their knees by force. More than anyone else Vietnam as well as the Indochinese countries long for and have the right to enjoy peace. At present the conditions are ripe for peace and stability to be brought about in Southeast Asia and for a political solution to be reached on the Kampuchean question in accordance with the resolution of the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit held in New Delhi in 1983.

The joint communique adopted by the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the three Indochinese states last 15th and 16th August is an evidence of the good will and just position of these states who wish to settle the problems of Southeast Asia and Kampuchea by way of negotiations on the basis of mutual respect and understanding.

The recent talks held on the same issues by the Republic of Indonesia and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam representing respectively each of the two groups of states in Southeast Asia have marked an important development. Regardless of their different political systems and of their diverging views on Kampuchea and East Timor, Indonesia and Vietnam are bound by long-standing ties of friendship and their good relations serve as a bridge between the two groups of countries in this region of the world.

In the past four decades several international conferences have in fact been organized on the question of Indochina in 1954 on Laos in 1961-62 and on Vietnam in 1973. These conferences have led to the conclusion of the war in Indochina but have not brought about the setting up of a zone of peace in Southeast Asia. That is why after the 1954 Geneva Agreements imperialism had set up the SEATO military alliance in Southeast Asia against the three Indochinese

states. Following the 1961-62 Geneva Agreement on Laos imperialism used its military bases in some countries of the region to wage the fiercest war of aggression against the Indochinese states. After the 1973 Paris Agreement on Vietnam a big Asian nation used the Pol Pot clique and the territory of a neighbouring country to oppose these same states. If lasting peace is to be ensured a political solution of the Kampuchea problem should go together with the setting up of a zone of peace and stability in Southeast Asia on the basis of the principles of the 1955 Bandung Conference, the Declaration of the Asean Foreign Ministers' Conference in Kuala Lumpur in 1971, that of the Asean Summit in Bali in 1976 and on the basis of the seven principles governing relations among Southeast Asian states put forth by the Indochinese countries at the United Nations in 1921.

The period elapsed since the March 83 Seventh Summit has been a time of major test and trial for the Non-Aligned Movement. Our Movement with the very significant contribution of India as Chairman, has strengthened its solidarity in the struggle against imperialist and reactionary forces. It plays a more and more important role and its voice is increasingly heard in the common struggle for peace and independence in the world. With its vigorous growth our Movement has demonstrated its powerful vitality and its resolve to persevere in the pursuit of its noble objectives. The delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is firmly convinced of the exceptional growth to come of the Non-Aligned Movement, no reactionary force whatsoever being able to check its forward march. We shall succeed at this present Conference in the capital of Luanda and shall carry on our success even more steadily at the coming eighth Summit Conference.

- Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has talked with Vietnam New Agency on the results of the Conference of the Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned countries held recently in Luanda (Angola).

He said that the conference has truthfully reflected the reality of struggle and the trend of the Non-Aligned Movement against imperialism and colonialism, for peace, national independence and development, particularly the seething revolutionary spirit in front-line countries in Southern Africa.

III - FOR PEACE AND STABILITY IN SEA.

1/- VIETNAM FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO INDONESIA.

At the invitation of Indonesia's Foreign Minister, Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach paid an official visit to Indonesia from 22 to 28 August 1985.

During his stay in Indonesia, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach held talks with Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja on regional and international matters of mutual concern, exchanged points of view on measures aimed at strengthening the friendship and cooperation between the two countries. The talks took place in a constructive atmosphere of mutual understanding. The two sides examined the 5 point-proposal of Indonesia. Despite some differences, both sides were satisfied with the results of the talks and agreed to carry on further exchanges of views. Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach invited Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja to visit Vietnam. The invitation was accepted.

At a press conference held after the talks, the two Foreign Ministers stated that the talk took place in a constructive atmosphere and obtained good results and that they have agreed on the importance of the time factor of this crucial moment as well as the efforts of both countries for peace and stability in South East Asia.

During his stay in Indonesia, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach was received by president Suharto on August 25. Minister Nguyen Co Thach conveyed to the Indonesian President the compliments of General Secretary of Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam Le Duan, of president of the State council Truong Chinh and of Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong. In a cordial and warm atmosphere, President Suharto emphasized the importance of a peaceful and stable South East Asia. He stressed: "The basis for this peaceful, free and neutral zone is on the principles of the Bandung Conference and the Summit Conference of ASEAN countries in 1976". The President expressed his satisfaction at the development of good relations in all fields between the two countries and affirmed that Vietnam and Indonesia constituted a bridge between the two groups in the region. The two sides held that it was necessary to reach as early as possible a peaceful settlement for the Kampuchean question. The President held that in the time to come, the two countries should exchange points of view at high level, or between experts and research institutes.

2/ MESSAGE OF KAMPUCHEAN MINISTER HUN SEN ON THE OCCASION OF THE 40TH SESSION OF THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Mr. Hun Sen, Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of Kampuchea on 15 September 1985 sent a message to Mr. Perez de Cuellar, U.N. Secretary General and to the President of the 40th Session of the U.N. General Assembly. Following are excerpts of the message :

"History of the past 40 years has proved that the Indochinese peninsula, part of which is Kampuchea, was a hotbed of war, gravely ravaged by the successive acts of aggression of the French colonialists and the American

imperialists. From 1975 to 1978, the Pol Pot regime committed an unprecedented genocide in human history, making the Kampuchean people suffer untold hardships. World public opinion, including that of the American people themselves in particular, knew that the Pol Pot regime which was more barbarous than the Hitler regime, symbolized holocaust and gross violations of inalienable rights of humanity. Despite these realistic opinions, the governments of certain countries do their utmost to mobilize other governments to maintain the present of Pol Pot in international organizations, especially in those whose objective is to respect human rights and fundamental liberties.

Over the past six years, in strict conformity with the principles and objectives of the U.N. and the resolutions of the summits of the Non-Aligned Movement, the People's Republic of Kampuchea has fully exercised the Kampuchean people's right to self-determination, especially the right to live without the threat of massive extermination from the genocidal Pol Pot clique. The People's Republic of Kampuchea cannot flourish without the firm support of her people, the evidence is the great successes in all fields.

The results of the 11th Conference of Foreign Ministers of Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam, held recently in Phnom Penh, as well as the previous Conferences testify the goodwill of the Kampuchean people as well as other Indochinese peoples in view of finding a solution to the question of peace and stability in South East Asia and in Kampuchea through negotiations.

As we proposed at the 10th Conference of Indochinese Foreign Ministers held in January 1985 and reiterated at the 11th Conference held in August 1985, the "Kampuchean problem" can be solved with the following possibilities :

1- Even if the parties concerned cannot reach a political solution, the Vietnamese volunteer forces will continue to withdraw gradually from Kampuchea and the total withdrawal will be completed by 1990 and this means that the Kampuchean problem will be solved by itself without negotiated settlement.

2- If the parties concerned can reach a negotiated settlement, the date for total withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer forces can be earlier than proposed.

It is on the legal and solid foundations and the energetic support of the Kampuchean people that the People's Republic of Kampuchea can accept whatever above mentioned possibilities.

On the concept that "those in strong position have the right to make concessions to those in the weak one", the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea declares that it is ready to start direct or indirect negotiations with all Khmer opposition groups or individuals on the subject of carrying out national reconciliation on the basis of elimination of the Pol Pot clique as well as the holding of general elections after the total withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer forces from Kampuchea. In this direction, the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea welcomes all efforts and initiatives aimed at solving the question of peace and stability in South East Asia and in Kampuchea.

I would like Your Excellency, to circulate this text as an official document at the current session of the General Assembly.

3/ COMMUNIQUE ON CHINESE ARMED PROVOCATIONS AGAINST VIETNAM

The Committee for Investigation of Chinese Expansionists and Hegemonists' War Crimes published on 24 September 1985 a communique condemning armed provocations carried out by China against Vietnam from late August to mid-September.

From 25 Aug to 12 Sept, Chinese artillery fired more than 120,000 shells of various calibres on many areas of Quang Ninh, Lang Son, Cao Bang, Ha Tuyen, Lai Chau provinces. In particular, during six consecutive days from 5 to 10 September, Vi Xuyen district (Ha Tuyen province) 15 km deep into Vietnam territory, was pounded with more than 50,000 artillery shells.

From 25 to 27 August when Vietnam and China exchanged prisoners, China did not carry out its commitment to refrain from hostile armed activities. It fired more than 2,000 artillery shells on Vietnamese territory.

Chinese infantry units, backed by artillery, intruded 20 times into Vietnamese territory. In particular, on 8 September, after the firing more than 30,000 shells, a Chinese infantry regiment attacked some heights situated in the North of Thanh Thuy commune, Vi Xuyen district.

Meanwhile, Chinese commandos were sent into Vietnam's border regions for sabotage, laying mines and killing Vietnamese cadres and local people. On 5 September, a group of Chinese commandos killed a Vietnamese civilian in Cooc Pang commune, Bao Lac district, Cao Bang province. On 9 September, Chinese commandos intruded into Apa-chai commune, Luong Te district, and killed two civilians.

In mid August, Chinese troops cast ^{mines} into Red River and Lo River of Vietnam. From 30 Aug. to 6 Sept, there were 10 explosions caused by Chinese mines in those rivers, killing 11 Vietnamese civilians and injuring 43 others.

These criminal acts of the Chinese authorities against Vietnam prove that China is still obstinately pursuing a multi-faceted war of sabotage against Vietnam while failing to respond to the reasonable and logical proposals put forth by Vietnam and other Indochinese countries to normalize the relations and restore friendship between these countries.

4/ VIETNAMESE PAPER NHAN DAN'S COMMENTARY ON THE BEIJING-BANGKOK SLANDERS AT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The Hanoi paper "Nhan Dan" on October 3, 1985 says that the Beijing-Bangkok slanders against Vietnam in the first day of the political discussion at the UN General Assembly has shown that they only use this forum to distort the reality in Kampuchea. In a commentary, the paper condemns Thailand and China for continuing their policy of confrontation and opposing peace and stability in the region. The paper points out that Thailand has colluded with

try to step up land grabbings and sabotage acts against Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea. The paper notes that the real threat to peace and security in South East Asia comes from the policy of expansionism and hegemonism of China in collusion with the US imperialists and other reactionary forces. The paper stresses : "The Vietnamese people always treasure friendship with the Chinese people. Vietnam is ready to normalise relations with China. However the Vietnamese people shall oppose all slanders and take appropriate response to all acts of land-grabbing and sabotage".

5/ US DELEGATION VISITS VIETNAM.

In accordance with the agreement between Vietnam and the United States, a four member delegation led by Richard Childress, who is in charge of political and military affairs of the US National Security Council paid a visit to Vietnam from 28 to 29 August 1985.

Deputy Foreign Minister Hoang Bich Son held talks with the delegation. The two sides exchanged points of view on the question of US missings in action and the schedule for Vietnam - US meeting at high level. Two sides held that this talk was useful and successful.

The delegation was received by Minister Vo Dong Giang on August 29, 1985.

The delegation also paid a visit to Laos and was received by Impong Khaynhavong, Lao Deputy Foreign Minister. The two sides exchanged points of view on the matters of mutual concern, including the US missings in action during the war in Laos.

A meeting at technical level on the MIA's issue took place in Hanoi from 26 to 27 September 1985.

IV - NEWS IN BRIEF :

1/- VIETNAMESE MILITARY DELEGATION'S VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION, MONGOLIA AND GDR.

- At the invitation of the Soviet Defence Ministry, a Vietnamese military delegation led by General Van Tien Dung, Politburo member of the C.C. of CPVN and Defence Minister paid a friendly and official visit to the Soviet Union from September 11 to 16, 1985. The delegation visited the Far East area of the Soviet Union, the Far East Red Flag military region and the Pacific fleet.

- The delegation visited Mongolia from September 19, to September 21, 1985 and was received by Jambyn Batrunkh, General Secretary of the C.C. of People's Revolutionary of Mongolia.

On September 17, Defence Minister Van Tien Dung held talks with his Mongolian counterpart J. Yondon. The two sides exchanged information on the progress of socialist construction and national defence in their respective countries ; the mutual cooperation and assistance between the two armies and the international situation of mutual concern. Two sides shared identical views on all matters raised in the talks and reaffirmed their determination to strengthen all-round cooperation between the two fraternal armies.

- The delegation paid an official friendly visit to G.D.P. from 24 to 28 September 1985. Defence Minister Van Tien Dung held talks with his G.D.P. Counterpart General E.Hoffmann. The two ministers highly valued their talks which helped to consolidate and strengthen the long-existing friendship between the peoples and armies of two countries.

General Van Tien Dung was cordially received by E.Honecker, General Secretary of the United Worker's Party, President of the State Council and Chairman of the Defence Council of G.D.P. E.Honecker reaffirmed that : "In the past, as well as at present and in the future, the GDR has always stood by and given supports to the Vietnamese brothers in the national construction and defence". General Van Tien Dung expressed "sincere thanks to the people, army of the GDR for their great and precious supports to the Vietnamese people during the struggle against the American war of aggression and in the construction and defence of Vietnam at present".

2/- VIETNAM'S SUPPORT FOR SOVIET PEACE INITIATIVE.

Nguyen Huu Tho, National Assembly's Chairman has affirmed Vietnam full support for the statement made on July 29 by M.Gorbachyov, General Secretary of C.C. of CP of the USSR and other Soviet peace initiatives. Speaking at the presentation of the Lenin Prize in Kremlin on October 2, Nguyen Huu Tho expressed the Vietnamese people's gratitude to the party, government and the entire Soviet people for their wholehearted support to the Vietnamese people.

3/- TALKS BETWEEN VIETNAMESE AND SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTERS.

On the way to the conference of Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned countries, Mr. Nguyen Co Thach, alternate member of Politburo of CC of Communist Party of Vietnam, Foreign Minister stopped over in Moscow. He was cordially received by Mr. E.A.Shevanadze, Politburo member of CC of CP of the USSR, Foreign Minister on August 28, 1985.

In the talks, the two Ministers expressed satisfaction at the development of Soviet - Vietnam relations. The Vietnamese Minister fully supported the

peace-loving foreign policy of the Soviet Union, its peace initiatives aimed at preventing nuclear war, halting the arms race and banning arms race in outer space. Vietnam highly valued the unilateral decision of the Soviet Union to stop all nuclear tests. Minister E.A. Shevardnadze expressed the solidarity of the Soviet Union with Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in their struggle for peace, stability in SEA. The Soviet Union supports all efforts made by Vietnam and other Indochinese countries aimed at improving the situation in SEA.

4/- VIETNAM - SWEDEN :

The Swedish Parliament has approved the proposal put forth by the Swedish Government to grant for 300 million (US\$ 35 millions) of aid in the 1985-1986 Fiscal year. This aid will be used for the Bai Bang paper mill, the Children's Hospital in Hanoi and the restoration of other establishments in South Vietnam.

5/- DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR VIETNAM APPROVED BY U.N. COMMISSION.

The policy and Food Aid Programme Commission of the United Nations' World Food Programme met in Rome, Italy from 30th September to 11th October 1985 had approved two development aid projects for Vietnam with the fund totaling 28 million US Dollars. The two projects No.2779 and No.2780 are intended, the first one to provide uncontaminated drinking water, and the second to reforestate the areas which suffered greatly by toxic chemical agent during the American aggression war in Vietnam. The Government and people of Vietnam, especially, the people of Central Vietnam, where the two projects will be carried out, wish to thank all friendly countries for their support in approving these development aid projects.

6/- ISSUE OF NEW CURRENCY IN REPLACEMENT OF THE OLD.

Implementing the resolution of the Fifth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee on prices, wages and money, the Government has ordered the issue of new currency in replacement of the old at the rate of exchange of one new dong for ten old dong. This is part of the reform of economic management throughout the country. The authorization for the issue was given in a decree of the State Council of 13-9-85 and the modalities of application were determined by a decision of the Council of Ministers of the same day.

The present monetary measure assures great importance and direct significance regarding the renovation of economic mechanisms, the structure of prices and wages, and the consolidation of the socialist market. It facilitates transactions between government organs, business enterprises, and the people at large, and creates favourable conditions for the State to improve monetary circulation, accelerate the movement of funds, and use the currency as an instrument to serve national construction and the development of the economy. It will boost the socialist transformation and improve the management of the market and lead to market, money and price stability, together with positive changes in the mechanism of economic management. It will contribute to the

stabilization and consolidation of national finances.

The issue of the new currency in replacement of the old was to last from three to five days, beginning at noon on 14 September. In all regions of the country the operation was quickly carried out in accordance with the time limit and modalities set by the State, particularly in such provinces as Ho Chi Minh City, Hai Phong, Ben Tre, Thai Binh, Phu Khanh, Lam Dong, Song Be, Hai Hung, Minh Hai, Bac Lac, etc.

Five days after the order was given, the operation was completed.

Cadres and the people at large have welcomed the new measure and lent effective assistance to the authorities in carrying it out. They have exposed illicit activities by traffickers and rumour-mongers and participated in the effort to stabilize the market and prevent speculators from raising prices artificially.

Along with the issue of new currency, in all provinces and cities, the authorities have strengthened their management of market and prices and extended socialist trading activities. By 19 September, prices were again stable.

7/- EDUCATION IN REGIONS INHABITED BY MINORITY NATIONALITIES.

Between the Kinh majority and the minority nationalities in present-day Vietnam, there still exist discrepancies in their cultural and educational standards as a result of the obscurantist policy pursued by the old colonial regime.

Before the August Revolution in 1945, the illiteracy rate among the minorities was 100%. After the revolution, particular attention was paid to the development of education. The anti-illiteracy campaign and the movement for complementary (adult) education were vigorously promoted in all regions of the country.

At present the educational gap between the majority nationality and the ethnic minorities has been narrowed down. Among the latter, an intelligentsia has taken shape. About fifty people of the Tay, Thai, Khmer, Muong and other nationalities have gone through post-graduate education. College graduates among them number nearly one thousand. In administrative departments and scientific-technical institutions, many cadres spring from ethnic minorities.

At present, in every province there are training schools for kindergarten and junior high-school teachers. In some provinces there are teachers' junior colleges. In Bac Thai province there is the Viet Bac teachers' training college. In the university at Da Lat, there is a teachers' training department for the Central Highlands.

While in the school-year 1945-46, there were only about 100 school-teachers of ethnic-minority stock, this number has increased to more than 30,000 by the year 1984-85. Among them are nearly 10,000 kindergarten teachers, 14,000 primary-school teachers, 5,200 junior high-school teachers, and 1,100 senior high-school teachers.

In every village and hamlet of the ethnic minorities there is a general-education school. Starting from 1958, a system of boarding-schools has been organized for youngsters of the minorities with special aptitudes. As well as tuition, they receive board and lodging free of charge.

Besides instruction in the language and script of each minority nationality, the Viet language and scripture taught in all general-education schools and have more and more become the medium of intercourse among all nationalities.

Between 1957 and 1984, 520 books totalling 8,157,500 copies were published in the Tay Nung, Thai, F'rong, Khmer, Hoa as well as Viet languages.

Numbers of students of minority stocks in general-education schools.

- Student-population ratio for a number of minorities :

<u>Year</u>	<u>Tay</u>	<u>Muong</u>	<u>Nung</u>	<u>Thai</u>	<u>F'rong</u>
1945-46	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1%	0
1954-55	4.7%	4.8%	3.9%	1.6%	0.2%
1984-85	29 %	24 %	21 %	20.2%	5.6%

- Numbers of students and student-population ratio for ethnic minorities as whole

<u>Year</u>	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Junior high</u>	<u>Senior high</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
1958-59	65,000	3,800	205	2.8%
1984-85	619,974	174,255	31,028	16.3%

8/- KAMPUCHEA TERRITORY VIOLATED BY THAILAND.

Hanoi, October 1st, according to SPE the Kampuchean news Agency, during the month of September 1985, Thai forces violated more than 1,000 times Kampuchean territory.

Thai aircraft made 55 flights over Kampuchean airspace conducting reconnaissances over the regions of Ampil, Poi pet, Dang kum, Komriens, Odar and Srat deng.

On the sea, Thai vessels violated 800 times Kampuchean territorial waters around the islands of Koh Kong and Koh Tang.

On the border areas, Thai troops deliberately made 160 incursions into Kampuchean soil in the regions of Kaup and Dang Kunh; Pailin, Odar, Ta sanh (Battambang province) and Sradeng (Pursat province).

Thai land also helped a great number of Khmer reactionaries to infiltrate into Kampuchean territories to conduct sabotage activities. They were duly punished by the Kampuchean local people and People's armed forces. 864 were put out of action ; 600 surrendered to the Kampuchean government./.

9/- VIETNAM'S PROTEST AGAINST ISRAEL'S AIR RAID ON TUNISIA.

A spokesman for Vietnam's Foreign Ministry on October 3, 1985 issued a statement condemning Israeli air raid on Tunis, Tunisia. The statement says : "This is an aggressive and criminal act against the independence and territorial integrity of Tunisia, and against the patriotic Palestinian forces. It is a gross violation of International law and an insolent challenge to the Arab and African countries and all others in the Non-Aligned Movement as well as to the just and peace loving forces the world over. The statement demands Israel to stop all its aggressive and expansionist acts in the Middle East and strictly respect independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Tunisia and other Arab countries as well as the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people. The Vietnamese people and Government reaffirm their strong support for the struggle of the Tunisian and other Arab peoples as well as the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of FLO against zionism, for their sacred national rights./.

10/- UNPRECEDENTED TYPHOON STRUCK HUE CITY.

On October 18, typhoon No.8 struck Binh Tri Thien province, especially Hue city (central Vietnam) at night with strong wind and gale, causing unprecedented damages to life and properties of the local people.

According to preliminary data :

- Hundreds of people killed, missing or wounded,
- 95% of thatched houses collapsed ; all tiles and corrugated iron roofs blown away, many brick houses damaged. Ten of thousand of families are without shelters.
- Almost all schools, hospitals, and factories were heavily damaged ;
- Many fishing boats and nets were lost ;
- 85% of old trees were blown down ;
- The highway no. 1 had damages in 7 parts ; some damages are 3 kilometres long and 1.5 metre under water ;
- 150,000 hectares of rice and most of cash crops were lost.
- Many parts of sea-dike were broken let in salty water to cultivated land,

Before this damaging typhoon, the heavy rains and typhoons (No.3 and 4) in mid September and typhoon No.7 in early October 1985 have seriously affected 9 provinces especially Ha Nam Ninh, Binh Tri Thien, Thanh Hoa, and Ha Son Binh.

- 93 killed,
- 48,300 houses, schools, healthcenters, kindergartens destroyed,
- 480,000 hectares paddy and subsidiary food flooded,
- A great deal of properties and means of production washed away,
- Approximate total food loss : 575,000 tons paddy,
- Total seriously affected population : 1.9 million.

The Government, local administrations and people are making big efforts to overcome this natural disaster. Many friendly governments and international as well as humanitarian organizations have given emergency aid to the local people.