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EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
PRESS AND INFORMATION SECTION

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P R E S S   R E L E A S E

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VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT REITERATES FULL SUPPORT  
FOR PALESTINIAN PEOPLE'S JUST STRUGGLE

Over the past two months, backed and encouraged by the U.S. imperialists, Israel has used large army forces to conduct a blatant and barbarous war of aggression against Lebanon in defiance of the condemnation by the progressive people throughout the world. This criminal act lies in the framework of the strategic alliance between the United States and Israel aimed at opposing the Palestinian People's resistance war. It grossly encroaches upon Lebanon's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, piling into Lebanon genocidal crimes against the people of Palestine and Lebanon, and seriously jeopardizing peace and security in the Middle East and the world as a whole.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam sternly condemns the above crimes of Israel and the United States, demands that they stop at once their invasion and all acts of intervention in Lebanon, withdraw immediately and unconditionally Israeli troops from Lebanon, and respect the legitimate national rights of the people of Palestine and other Arab countries.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam reaffirms its close solidarity with and firm support for the just and certainly victorious fight of the People of Palestine, Lebanon and other Arab countries against U.S. imperialism and Israel aimed at wresting back all areas occupied by Israel, restore the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people including the right to self-determination, the right to repatriate and set up an independent and sovereign Palestinian state under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (P.L.O), the genuine representative of the Palestinian people.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam warmly welcomes and fully supports President Leonid Brezhnev's Statement on the situation in Lebanon and in the Middle East, considering it a great encouragement to the People of Palestine, Lebanon and other Arab countries and a guarantee for peace and security in the region.

The people and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam are convinced that, though many difficulties and hardships still lie ahead, with their undaunted spirit of struggle and the sympathy and support of the Soviet Union, Vietnam and the other socialist countries, as well as of the whole progressive mankind, the just cause of the people of Palestine and other Arab countries will certainly win glorious victory.

HANOI, 26 JULY 1982