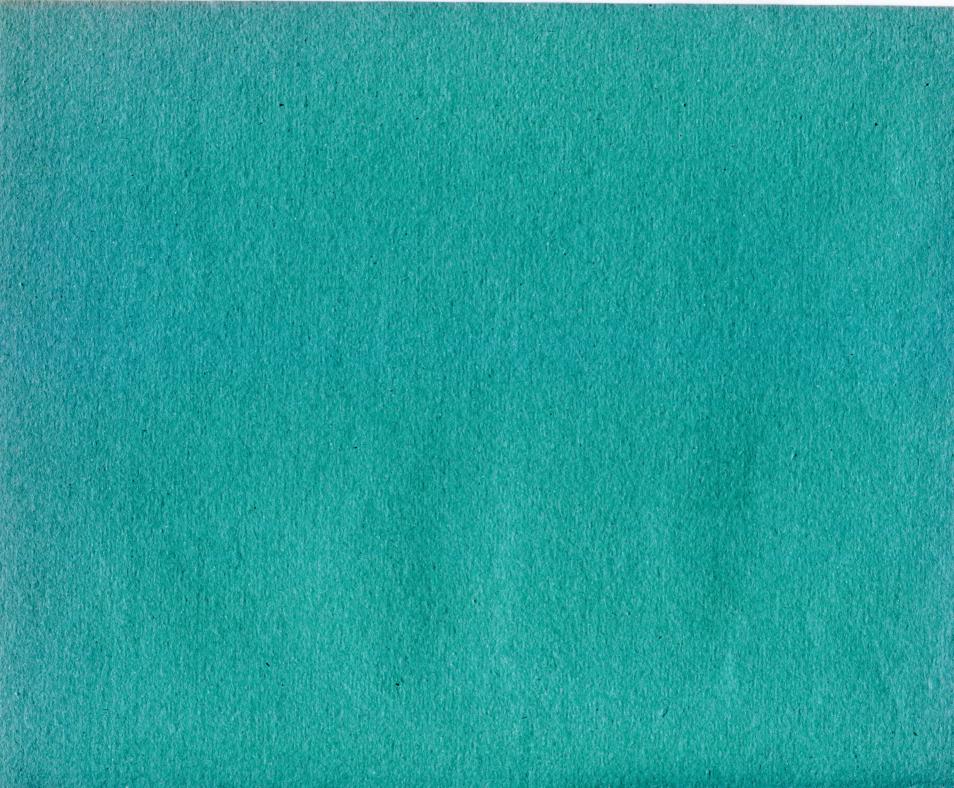


NVIN ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM 1945-1960

FOREIGN LANGUAGES PUBLISHING HOUSE



XVIII ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEMOGRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

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HANOI

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

The Fifteenth Anniversary of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam includes a message read by President Ho Chi Minh, the opening speech by Mr. Truong Chinh, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly, an address by Mr. Pham Van Dong, Prime Minister, speeches of congratulations by the delegations from the countries of the socialist camp delivered at the commemorative ceremony held in Hanoi on September 2, 1960, and a number of messages of congratulations from other countries including the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Guinea, the Republic of India, the Republic of Indonesia, and the Republic of Iraq.

It will introduce to the readers the achievements in every field — military, political, economic, cultural, diplomatic — scored by the Vietnamese people during the Resistance war against the French colonialists (1945 — 1954), as well as during the economic rehabilitation and present day socialist construction.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES PUBLISHING HOUSE HANOI — VIET NAM

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PART ONE

MESSAGE

By President HO CHI MINH at the commemorative meeting on the occasion of the Fifteenth Anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

Dear Compatriots,

Dear Comrades,

This is the first time in her history that Viet Nam celebrates such a grand, impresssive, lively and joyful National Day as today.

Today, more than 1,000 million brothers and sisters of the big socialist community headed by the great Soviet Union and millions of friends all over the world are sharing the joy of the Vietnamese people.

Celebrating the 15th anniversary of our great National Day, we are all the more turning our minds towards our compatriots in the South who are heroically fighting against the cruel U.S. — Diem regime. Let us convey the expression of our feelings of brotherhood to our Southern compatriots and pledge to them that our whole people will unite closely and fight perseveringly, and as a result, our Fatherland will certainly be reunified, the North and the South will certainly be reunited.

With the spirit of enthusiastic participation in patriotic emulation of all our people, with the disinterested assistance of the fraternal countries, the

building of socialism in the North will certainly be successful, and peaceful national reunification achieved.

On behalf of the Party and the Government, I appeal to all our compatriots:

- to unite more closely,
- to engage in emulation more enthusiastically,
- to fight more resolutely, in order to score more successes.

Long live peaceful, unified, independent, democratic, prosperous and strong Viet Nam!

Long live the solidarity between the socialist countries headed by the great Soviet Union!

Long live peace!

March forward, heroic people of Viet Nam!

OPENING SPEECH

By Chairman of the National Assembly
TRUONG CHINH at the commemorative meeting
on the occasion of the Fifteenth Anniversary
of the founding of the Democratic Republic of
Viet Nam

Dear Comrades, Dear Friends.

Today, we are meeting in the Capital City of Hanoi to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Present at this impressive commemorative meeting are President Ho Chi Minh, Vice-President Ton Duc Thang, the comrades members of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the members of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly, of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, and of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam · Fatherland Front, the comrades members of the Hanoi Party Committee and the members of the Administrative Committee of Hanoi, the representatives of mass organizations and the Army, a number of emulation heroes and emulation fighters, the representatives of families having rendered service to the Revolution, the representatives of various nationalities, of regrouped compatriots from the South and of Vietnamese nationals in foreign countries just returned to Viet Nam, etc.

May I warmly greet you all.

On this occasion, we have the pleasure and honour of welcoming our close brothers coming from far away to greet the 15th anniversary of our National Day and to attend the Third National Congress of the Party: the comrades members of the Party and Government Delegations of the brotherly socialist countries — the Soviet Union, China, People's Democratic of Korea, Mongolia, Albania, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, and Rumania —, the comrades members of the Delegations of the Communist Parties of India and Indonesia, and the comrade representative of the Communist Party of Canada.

Present at this meeting are also the comrades and other members of the Corps Diplomatique, the comrades heads of the various missions of technicians of brotherly countries, the representatives of the International Commission and of its Hanoi Branch, the members of the Delegations of the World Peace Council, of the Council of Asian-African Solidarity, of the China — Viet Nam Friendship Association and of the people of Kwantung Province (China), the representatives of the Burmese Ensemble, and foreign press correspondents.

May the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the National Assembly and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front warmly greet you all, comrades and friends.

On this grand festive day, our minds turn all the more to the heroic fighters who sacrificed their lives for the country. I propose that you all, comrades and friends, observe a minute of silence to recollect and express our gratitude to our dead heroic fighters, to come to a determination to struggle for the full materialization of their hopes and wishes and for the promotion of the revolutionary cause of our entire people, leading it to early complete success.

Comrades and Friends,

Fifteen years ago, the Vietnamese people under the leadership of our Party, made the August Revolution, seized State power, broke off the shackles of imperialism and the feudal puppet Court, and founded the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the first people's democratic State in a colonial country in the Southeast Asian area.

This great historic event sowed confusion and fear among the imperialists. They used all ways and means to stifle our new-born democratic republican system. But, responding to the appeal of President Ho Chi Minh, the Vietnamese people, the millions of them as one, took up arms and rose to wage the Resistance war, determined to safeguard and further develop the achievements of the August Revolution.

Following the protracted, arduous and heroic Resistance war against the French colonialists and the American interventionists, peace has been restored in Indo-China, on the basis of international recognition of the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam, as well as of Cambodia and Laos. But the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen, the Ngo Dinh Diem clique, have deliberately endeavoured to sabotage the Geneva Agreements in an attempt to divide our country indefinitely. Therefore, our compatriots throughout the country have united together to oppose them in order to achieve peaceful national reunification. Our compatriots in the South are fighting undauntedly against the U.S. - Diem cruel, fascist, dictatorial system, for everyday rights and democratic freedoms and peaceful reunification. Our compatriots in the North have been striving to heal the wounds of war, restore economy, complete the land reform and carry out socialist transformation and socialist construction; at the same time, they are endeavouring to consolidate the North into a strong and stable base for the struggle for the reunification of the Fatherland.

The history of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam over the past 15 years proves that even a weak and small nation, but closely united and stubbornly fighting under the leadership of a Marxist — Leninist Party against imperialism and its henchmen, can have full power to liberate itself and advance straight to socialism, building for itself a peaceful, free and happy life.

On the revolutionary path full of hardships and obstacles, we must on the one hand firmly grasp the guiding principles of protracted struggle and self-reliance, and on the other, enhance our solidarity with the countries of the socialist camp headed by the great Soviet Union, and at the same time strive to win the sympathy and support of all the forces of peace, democracy and national independence throughout the world.

On this occasion, we wish to convey the expression of our deep gratitude and our warm friendship to the people of the Soviet Union, China and the other socialist countries, to the people of France, of the Asian and African countries, of Latin America and to all peace-loving people all over the world.

Today, in celebrating the great victory of the August Revolution and the achievements in all spheres of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam over the past 15 years, let our compatriots advance forward enthusiastically, promoting their heroic traditions, overcoming difficulties and completing their revolutionary tasks in the new stage. We will certainly achieve even greater successes in the building of socialism in the North and in the struggle to reunify our cherished Fatherland.

With this firm confidence, may I declare opened the commemorative meeting on the occasion of the XVth anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

SPEECH

By Prime Minister PHAM VAN DONG at the ceremony commemorating

THE AUGUST REVOLUTION AND THE FOUNDING OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

Dear Comrades,

Dear Friends,

The August Revolution which led to the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam is the most important political event in the history of the Vietnamese nation, which opens up a new era in the life of the Vietnamese people, an era in which the working people stand up and take their destiny into their own hands, and build for themselves through their own efforts a free and happy life.

Twenty eight years after the great October Revolution, a national and democratic revolution led by the Party of the working class succeeded in a colonial and semi-feudal country, paving the way for further progress of the revolution. This is a great victory for the Vietnamese people and a great victory of

Marxism-Leninism.

The triumph of the August Revolution and the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam prove that in favourable international conditions, with the growth in strength of the Soviet Union, the formation and development of the socialist camp, an

oppressed people, a small and weak nation, is quite capable of overthrowing colonial rule, defeating imperialist aggression, liberating itself and building up for itself a new life. This is the great international signifiance of the August Revolution and of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

The August Revolution represented pages of the history of the Vietnamese people's most heroic struggle. It was the splendid culmination of one hundred years of undaunted revolutionary struggle by our people, and more especially fifteen years of national and democratic revolutionary struggle under the leadership of the Party. The August Revolution was the rising up of millions of people throughout our country, who were fed up with oppression and war, and were determined to smash the colonialist and feudal shackles, to win independence and democracy, paying the way for the advance of the Revolution. The August Revolution was a class struggle of very broad and far-reaching scope, it mobilized the most unfortunate strata of the population in Vietnamese society at that time, the broadest, most powerful, and most resolute forces, namely the masses of workers and peasants, and at the same time drew in all other strata, the urban petty-bourgeoisie, the national bourgeoisie, and patriotic and progressive personalities, to establish a national united front. The August Revolution was a genuine revolution, of great power and potentialities, because it lifted into the political arena the working people of our country, who were formerly oppressed and are now rising all the more powerfully to take power into their own hands, to become masters of their own destiny and of the whole nation, steadily advancing and building a new life for themselves and for the whole nation. The August Revolution was obviously a national people's democratic revolution marking a great victory, a new step in our people's revolutionary struggle, opening the way to the socialist revolution.

Only our Party, only the working class can mobilize such broad, powerful and resolute revolutionary forces, and only in this way can the revolution win victory, consolidate and develop its victory in order to move forward without cease. Ever since 1930, our Party has done much to mobilize, educate, organize and lead the masses for a persistent struggle for the national people's democratic revolution; at the same time, our Party has opened to the masses the prospect of advancing to socialist revolution, thereby increasing the ardour of the masses in the national democratic revolution. In the course of mobilizing forces for the revolution, our Party has unceasingly endeavoured to achieve and consolidate the leadership of the revolution by the working class, through its political party, the Communist Party, regarding this as a condition ensuring that the national and democratic revolution develops favourably, wins victory and paves the way for the ensuing socialist revolution.

The August Revolution led to the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the first people's democratic State in the history of Viet Nam and also the first people's democratic State in South-east Asia. A new era was opened up before our people.

Our Party has led the people in the previous revolutionary struggles and during the August Revolution to wrest power from the hands of the colonial rulers and their agents and place it in the hands of the people. The more radically the old power was eliminated and the more genuinely the newly established power belonged to the people, the more radical was the revolution, and the more strength and potentialities for development it acquired. The fundamental question of the revolution is the State power question: from its very foundation, our Party firmly grasped this main aim of the revolution; the Nghe Tinh Soviet movement eloquently expressed the direction of struggle followed by our Party and our people. All through the period of the mobilization of forces for the August

Revolution, our slogan had always been «to seize the opportunity, to overthrow the ruling clique, to win power and put it into the hands of the people ». Before the August General Insurrection, at the Party Congress, we very correctly and clear-sightedly set forth the aim of our struggle: « Opposition to aggression, complete independence, establishment of people's power ».

Under the leadership of the Party, the August Revolution led to a people's democratic State which is not a Republic with a bourgeois democratic regime, but a Republic with a people's democratic regime. As early as before the August Revolution, our people had chosen their path: «To by-pass the capitalist stage and to struggle to advance directly towards the path of socialism ». (1)

Looking back upon the great significance of the August Revolution, we realize all the more deeply how important this revolution is to our country; it ended one stage of revolutionary struggle and opened up a new stage of our people's advance from national and democratic revolution to socialist revolution.

THE FIRST FIFTEEN YEARS OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

* The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, child of the August Revolution, is a people's democratic State, built on the firm basis of the alliance between the working class, the peasantry and the urban pettybourgeoisie, essentially the alliance of the working class and the peasantry under the leadership of the working class. The task of the people's democratic State is to achieve the national democratic revolution, in order to advance to socialist revolution and to build socialism in our country.

Looking back over the past, we see that the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam represents the negation of all the regimes of oppression and exploitation under which our people have suffered, i. e. the eightyyear colonial rule and the feudal system which lasted for thousands of years. The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam is the expression of our people's will to recover and preserve national independence, to completely wipe out the feudal system which was hamstringing the progress of our society, and to pave the way for the advance of our country and our people.

To advance on which road?

There are two roads: the road of socialism and the

road of capitalism.

By making the August Revolution and founding the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam - the first people's democratic State in our history — our people, under the leadership of the Party, have chosen the

road to socialism.

Since its foundation, our Party has firmly maintained leadership in the revolution and in the whole course of the national democratic revolution, has guided our people along that road. In our country, the bourgeoisie and its parties have proved unable to lead the revolution, and in the course of the national democratic revolution, our Party has rallied and united with good elements of the national bourgeoisie. In the August Revolution, our Party succeeded in uniting the entire people in the Viet Minh Front, and brought the revolution to victory, resulting in the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

The August Revolution was a national people's democratic revolution, it led to the founding of a people's democratic State whose historic mission is to complete the national democratic revolution in order

⁽¹⁾ Quoted from the Political Programme of the Indochinese Communist Party.

to advance to socialist revolution and to build socialism. Therefore, in our country there is no possibility of development along capitalist lines.

This has been clearly proved by the past fifteen

years of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

During these fifteen years, in the first stage to fulfil the historic tasks of worker-peasant dictatorship, the people's democratic State waged the Resistance war against the imperialist aggressors to achieve national independence and carried out land reform to complete the democratic revolution. With the restoration of peace, the Vietnamese revolution entered a new stage: in the North, the people's democratic State has taken up the tasks of socialist revolution, while in the South, our people have been continuing and completing the national democratic revolution.

Immediately after the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam on September 2, 1945, in the last months of 1945 and in 1946, despite great and successive difficulties we rapidly organized the new State: the people's democratic State. The old State created by the colonialists and the feudalists was completely smashed and our people replaced it with a State of their own, created by the people and for the people, a genuine people's State. On September 8. 1945, the Provisional Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam decided to hold general elections to elect the National Assembly. On January 6, 1946, our entire people elected their true representa tives; two months later, the first National Assembly in our history met for the investiture of the definitive government and thereafter, it adopted the first Constitution of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Following the elections to the National Assembly, our people elected the People's Councils of villages and provinces, and the People's Councils set up the Administrative Committees at various levels.

Within only a few months, thanks to the people's revolutionary spirit and their enormous force, we set

up our new State, the people's democratic State. Our people had a National Assembly, a Government, elected administrative organs at different levels, which were the expression of our independence and national sovereignty, of our will to safeguard the fruit of the revolution.

These were very important political events in our home and foreign policies.

Side by side with the setting up of the new State, laws were passed which protected the people's fundamental rights: laws on the abolition of head tax and every vestige of colonial rule; laws ensuring democratic liberties to the people, the right to vote and to stand for election; laws for the reduction of land rents, and interest rates, for an eight-hour working day; for equality between the various nationalities and equality between men and women; for the freedom of belief. At the same time, we attended to the solution of pressing economic and social problems in a most intensive way and by most practical measures.

Our people's struggle against foreign aggression was of the hardest and most heroic, and our victory was of the greatest.

French troops, with the support and assistance of British troops, brazenly invaded our country. Our southern countrymen were the first in the country to raise the banner of Resistance, heroically fighting the enemy with primitive weapons, bamboo sticks, to defend the Fatherland's independence. We wanted peace. Our Government signed with the French government the Preliminary Convention of March 6, 1946 and the Modus Vivendi of September 14, 1946. But the French imperialists wanted war, they had started aggression against our country, they were seeking by every trick to advance to the North, in an attempt to occupy our whole country.

On December 19, 1946 our people's nation-wide war of Resistance broke out.

On that day, President Ho Chi Minh called on the entire people to stand up to fight the enemy and save the country.

« We prefer to sacrifice everything rather than to lose our country and be enslaved.

« Fellow countrymen! We must stand up!

« Men and women, young and old, regardless of creed, political party or nationality, all the Vietnamese must stand up to fight the French colonialists to save their Fatherland. Those who have guns should use guns; those who have swords should use swords; those who have no swords should use hoes, spades, sticks; everyone has to do his utmost to fight the colonialists to save the country. »

« Even if we are to endure great sufferings and hardships in waging the Resistance war, with the determination to make sacrifices, success will be ours. »

The decisive factor for victory was our people's determination to fight and to win, the spirit of the historic appeal by President Ho Chi Minh.

Responding to the call of the Fatherland, our entire people stood up to wage a people's war of unprecedented scope in the history of our country: the whole country fought, everyone fought; they were fighting at the front, in the enemy's rear, by all possible means. The slogan "Resistance throughout the country, by the entire people, in every sphere" became a great reality, an heroic hymn of our people's patriotism and heroism. At the beginning of the war, we were weak and the enemy strong, but we grew stronger and stronger as we fought, while the enemy became weaker and weaker, and was finally defeated. The key factor was the mobilization of the immense power of the people to fight the enemy and at the same time, to build up our strength in the political, military, economic and cultural spheres. Our people's army grew up through fighting. Owing to these hard,

persistent and heroic efforts, we advanced from fighting with bomboo spikes to the battle of Dien Bien Phu, defeating the French Expeditionary Corps and foiling the American imperialists' scheme to prolong and extend the war in Indo-China. As President Ho Chi Minh said on the outbreak of hostilities: "The long Resistance war will win".

The hard, protracted and heroic Resistance war waged by our people is a great victory of our people and of the people's democratic State under the leadership of the Party. Our people has proved that in the world at present, a small and weak nation, if closely united and determined to fight, is quite capable of defeating the imperialist aggressors. The oppressed peoples of the world have drawn from our people's Resistance a valuable lesson. We have raised high the banner of fighting and defeating the imperialist aggressors. The Dien Bien Phu battle is the symbol of the oppressed people's resolute struggle against aggression, and their certain victory in that struggle.

While waging the Resistance war to complete the national revolution, we endeavoured to complete the democratic revolution. The founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the elimination of the monarchic regime of the Nguyen dynasty with all its administrative machinery, the establishment of a new State whose people's democratic character extended from the central government down to the village committees, all that constituted very heavy blows to the feudal system in our country; feudal political domination was ended forever: this was a big step forward of great importance in the anti-feudal revolution, in the democratic revolution. At that time we had a strong people's democratic State, which was performing the historic tasks of the worker peasant dictatorship. We continued to complete the democratic revolution, beginning with the reduction of land rents and interest rates, redistribution of communal land, temporary allotment of land belonging to the colonialists,

traitors and absentee owners, to advance to the land reform in order to eliminate land appropriation by the landlord class, give land to the tillers, raise the political supremacy of the peasants and consolidate the worker-peasant alliance.

Under the leadership of the working class, the national revolution and the democratic revolution were always closely connected and exerted mutual influence one upon the other. Marxism - Leninism has since long revealed the close relationship between these two revolutions. This relationship was proved by the rich realities of the Vietnamese revolution, especially during the Resistance. In order to step up the Resistance war, we had to rely upon the peasants, and in order to mobilize the peasants for still more active participation in the Resistance and to increase their force, we had to carry out the land reform, distributing land to the peasants. The land reform intensified the people's war effort, played an important part in the final victory and at the same time paved the way for our country's further advance. In the course of the national democratic revolution in our country, the peasants' enormous force and role became conspicuous. The peasants are the closest allies of the working class, workers and peasants are like twin brothers. The friendship between the workers and peasants built up through the national democratic revolution would become warmer and more lasting as we switched over the socialist revolution.

Our victory in the Resistance war led to the restoration of peace in our country and marked a new stage in our people's revolutionary cause.

Nine years after the August Revolution and the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, a fundamental change occurred in the course of the Vietnamese revolution: peace was restored; in the completely liberated North, the people's democratic revolution was fundamentally completed, the North moved to the transitional stage towards socialism, the

people's democratic State began to carry out the tasks of the dictatorship of the proletariat, becoming an instrument in the hands of the working class for the carrying out of the socialist revolution and the building of socialism; meanwhile, in the Southern part of our country, which was still under the imperialist and feudal yoke, our people continued to struggle to achieve the national people's democratic revolution throughout the country.

The last six years have seen great revolutionary changes in the North. After healing the war wounds and completing the national democratic revolution, the socialist transformation and the building of socialism were speeded up in the economic, cultural,

political and ideological fields.

By the end of this year, we will reach the set target, which is fundamental completion of the organization of agricultural co-operatives of a lower type, the organization of handicraft co-operatives and re-organization of small traders, and fundamental completion of the transformation of private capitalist industrial and trading establishments into joint State-private enterprises. Thus, by the end of this year, the socialist transformation in the North will have achieved successes of a decisive character.

During the last six years, the national economy has continuously been developed and consolidated. The percentage of State industry in the total value of industrial production was raised from something more than 13% to 43%, the percentage of State transport in the whole transport service was raised from 23% to 73%, the percentage of State trade and purchasing-marketing co-operatives in the total retail rose from 20% to 64%, and the percentage of State trade in the whole foreign trade rose from 93% to 99.8%. At present, the State economy occupies a predominant place in the main branches of the national economy and has been firmly established as the leading force in the national economy.

Coupled with the strengthening of the State economic sector and acceleration of socialist transformation, the various economic branches developed rapidly through the carrying out of the 1956 and 1957 State Plans and the Three-Year State Plan (1958-60).

Agriculture, the basis of the national economy, has undergone a fundamental change. Under the old regime, which lasted thousands of years, our people led a most miserable life, although there was no shortage of land in our country and our peasants were hard-working. Formerly in the North, rice shortage, especially in pre-harvest periods, was frequent scourge; it was unimaginable that the North could ever become self-sufficient in foodstuffs not to speak of having surplus production to be used for other purposes. During the last six years under the people's democratic regime, what was unimaginable has become hard fact: from the pre-war annual output of 2,400,000 tons rice production rose to 5,200,000 tons, with an average yield of 2.28 tons per hectare and a per capita production of 350 kilos.

On this basis, agriculture in the North is gradually emerging from its old lame state with rice as the only crop, to develop into a comprehensive agricultural economy with many branches. We have begun to develop the planting of tropical industrial crops and fruit trees which have great potentialities in our economy; cattle breeding, forest exploitation, fishery, salt extraction, side-occupations in the countryside are making progress and have attained achievements which by far surpass those of the pre-war period.

During the last six years, the North has seen the emergence of a national industry which could never have existed under the colonialist regime. In comparison with 1955, the total value of industrial and handicraft output in 1960 increased threefold, that of industrial output alone sevenfold, and that of State industry sixteenfold. We are endeavouring to develop the existing establishments or are

setting up the first establishments of many branches of heavy industry, such as electric power, engineering, mining and metallurgy, building materials, chemicals and fertilizers. Our country is now able to produce many kinds of machine-tools, different types of silk weaving machines, tile-making machines, a number of food processing machines, four-share ploughs, seagoing vessels, tug-boats, rolling stock, etc. Light industry, such as the textile, food, paper and sundries industries, are developing and, together with handicrafts, are producing over 25,000 varieties of goods. The value of imported consumer goods has been reduced approximately threefold as compared with 1955. In six years the per capita output has increased 3.5 times over for electricity, 3 times over for coal, 4 times over for cement, 6 times over for phosphate, 8 times over for textiles, by double for sugar and 0.5 for fish sauce.

In line with agricultural and industrial development, progress has been made in communications and transport, home and foreign trade, financial and monetary work. In a word, in the past period, the whole economy of the North has developed harmoniously, regularly and at a quick tempo.

Our efforts and achievements are also very great in the field of education. Illiteracy has been basically eliminated in the delta and the old content of education has been transformed. A socialist education has been set up, doubling the number of pupils receiving general education, increasing sixfold the number attending secondary vocational schools, and sevenfold the number of university students as compared with 1950. At the beginning of this school-year, school-children and students together made up 16% of the total population in the North, five times more than the total number of schoolchildren and students in the whole of Indo-China in 1939. Each year the number of university graduates is nearly twice as many as the

total number of undergraduates in the whole of Indo-China in the peak year under French domination. We are determined not to stop here and efforts will be made to bring about a still quicker and more powerful development in education.

A new art and literature, embracing many branches, whose first germs appeared in the war of Resistance, an art and literature reflecting the new life, heading towards socialism and with national particularities, is bearing promising flowers and fruit. At present, in north Viet Nam, culture, art and literature are going to the masses, are their close friends, satisfying their most profound requirements, encouraging everyone to go forward, to overcome difficulties and to struggle for the Fatherland and socialism.

Thanks to the efforts of the medical service, many epidemics chronic in the time of French domination have been wiped out, such as small-pox, plague, cholera, intermittent fever, etc., a number of social diseases such as malaria, trachoma, and skin diseases have been greatly reduced. The people's health is better protected: under French domination the annual death rate amounted to 3%; now it is only 0.5% or still lower in many localities. The proportion of deaths in childbirth has been reduced fivefold compared with the days of French domination, while infant mortality is reduced eightfold.

The rapidly developed physical culture and sports movement is becoming endowed with a broader and broader mass character and has contributed to the improvement of the people's health, to the reconstruction of the country and to the tightening of the bonds of friendship between our country and other countries.

The great achievements of economic development have resulted in the evident improvement of the material life of the working people in the North. Within six years, national income per head has nearly doubled, while real wages of workers and employees have increased 55%. Consumption per capita has

increased from 115 kg. to 172 kg. for rice, from 3.4 kg. to 7.4 kg. for meat, from 0.3 kg. to 1.3 kg. for sugar, from 3.5 m to 5.4 m for textiles, from 0.14 kg. to 1.4 kg. for paper.

However, at present, our people have not as yet done away with all their difficulties, they still have further to step up production, develop economy and culture in order ceaselessly to improve their livelihood.

Alongside economic and cultural transformation and development along socialist lines for a higher standard of living, ideological education has constantly increased the people's patriotism and socialist ardour and is gradually transforming the people of the North into new people, socialist working people, dedicating their creative labour to building a new life and making the North into a firm base for the struggle for national reunification.

The great achievements cited above cannot be divorced from the growth of the People's Democratic State, fulfilling the historic tasks of proletarian dictatorship. We have never ceased to strengthen our State, the sharp tool in the hands of the people, to transform the old and build the new, under the leadership of the working class. At present our State is stronger than ever; that strength is the strength of the worker-peasant alliance, the foundation of the State, the highest principle of proletarian dictatorship; that strength is the unity of the entire people, a unity which grows constantly firmer between the various strata of the people, between the nationalities, between religious and non-religious people, between the democratic parties. Our State enjoys the great confidence and the deep love and respect of our people because it is a State which is bringing independence, freedom and a better life to the people, because it is a State which shows devotion in serving the people, because every member of the State apparatus, from the highest official downwards is the faithful servant

of the people, and his highest honour is the dedication of his mental and physical strength to the nation and the people.

There has been a steady growth of the State in every field in the last six years, parallel with the socialist revolution in the North, with the broadening of democracy as regards the people and the severe repression of all enemies of the people. A success of historic significance of our people and our State is the new Constitution of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. Basing themselves on the Constitution, our people elected the National Assembly (second legislature) and at its first session, the National Assembly further strengthened the State apparatus. All these events of great political significance bear testimony to our concern for the strengthening of the people's democratic State, as an instrument for the promotion of our people's revolutionary cause, i. e. the building of socialism in the North and the achievement of national reunification.

The achievements of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam since the re-establishment of peace bear witness to the superiority of the socialist system. Agriculture in the North at present holds first place in South-east Asia for paddy yields and average output per capita. For the per capita output of a number of important industrial branches, the North has also drawn level with countries of relatively developed industry in South-east Asia. The average yearly increase of nearly 11% in agriculture and 30% in industry of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam is quite high and by far surpasses the average yearly increase of the South-east Asian countries. As for education in north Viet Nam, for the proportion of schoolchildren and students to the total population, it is an education which is developing at the highest tempo in South-east Asia.

The great progress achieved in all fields by the North, the result of which is the manifest improvement of the material and cultural life of the people, bear out even more sharply the enormous difference between the two zones in the political, economic and cultural fields as well as in the standard of living.

The South, where land is very fertile, had always been the granary of the whole nation, with an annual export of rice previously amounting to one million tons; it is now in sharp decline, with an average yield of about 12 quintals per hectare and an average annual output per capita of 230 kg of paddy, that is about two-thirds of that of the North.

Industrial and handicraft production in the South is being stifled: no way out from their state of stagnation. No new industrial bases are allowed to be built, yet many existing factories have to close down. Industries and handicrafts having close ties with the people's life, such as those producing textiles, sugar, salt, fish-sauce, matches, cigarettes, ice, beer, furniture, rubber goods, are also in sharp decline.

At present, in the South, over one million people are unemployed. The people's purchasing power is decreasing, the working people in towns and countryside are leading a hard life, the middle classes and the national bourgeoisie are subjected to unfair competition and are heading towards bankruptcy. Hundreds of thousands of children have no school to attend, 80 to 90% of candidates fail at the examinations, the content of education is retrograde and reactionary, the mother tongue is spurned while decadent culture and the «American way of life» become widespread, poisoning the minds of the youth and sowing countless social evils.

Since the re-establishment of peace. Northern and Southern societies have taken two different roads and, after six years, the gap separating them has become wider than that separating the sky from the earth. Life in the North is the light of early sunrise

while life in the South is the total darkness of the night. The root of that difference lies in the fact that the political system in the North is that of a people's democracy advancing powerfully to socialism, whereas the system in the South is an utterly reactionary, cruel and dark dictatorship, the instrument of the policy of aggression and war preparation of the U.S. imperialists in south Viet Nam.

The great achievements of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam over the last fifteen years spring from the inexhaustible forces of the people under the correct leadership of the Party headed by our revered and beloved President Ho Chi Minh.

In celebrating the fifteenth birthday of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, we warmly celebrate the brilliant victory of the August Revolution, the heroic feats of our people and army during the Resistance, the great achievements scored by our people in building a socialist north Viet Nam, and the heroic and strong patriotic movement of our compatriots in the South. We also warmly praise the great strength and victories of our people, a heroic people.

At present, in the North, our people are engaging in emulation to fulfil and overfulfil the Three-Year Plan and are preparing to shift over to the implementation of the first Five-Year Plan. We warmly praise the patriotism, socialist enthusiasm and creative labour of our people, of the workers in the factories and on the construction sites and of the peasants and co-operative members in the fields of our countryside, of the intellectual workers on the cultural, scientific and technical fronts, of the cadres and employees in Government offices; we also warmly praise our heroic People's Army and the other armed forces of our people for their unswerving loyalty to the Fatherland and to the cause of the revolution. On the occasion of this great national festival, our people express their confidence and determination to build the North, to strengthen it in

every respect, with a view to improving living standards, and to making of the North a solid base for the reunification of our Fatherland.

At the same time, our people are deeply conscious of the fact that every victory won by us is inseparable from the rapid growth of the socialist camp and from the generous and invaluable assistance of the Soviet Union, China and other fraternal socialist countries. This assistance is a very important factor in the victories of our people, in the past as well as in the future; it is also the fine expression of the unity, single-mindedness, co-operation and mutual assistance within the socialist camp headed by the great Soviet Union, on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and of lofty proletarian internationalism.

HOLDING HIGH THE BANNER OF PEACEFUL NATIONAL REUNIFICATION

Today, in celebrating the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, let us cast our eyes back over the path covered and the successes we have achieved, to arrive at a clear understanding of the situation and our immediate task, to heighten our revolutionary will and our determination to struggle for a successful fulfilment of these revolutionary tasks.

Fifteen years ago, on this same day, President Ho Chi Minh spoke on behalf of 26 million Vietnamese, declaring to our people and to the world the establishment of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and stressing that:

"Viet Nam has the right to be a free and independent country and, in fact it is so already. The entire Vietnamese people are determined to mobilize all

their physical and mental strength, to sacrifice their lives and property in order to safeguard their

independance and liberty."

To defend their newly-won independence, our people carried out 8 to 9 years of Resistance war and finally defeated the French imperialist aggressors, and re-established peace on the basis of the recognition by the Geneva Conference of our country's sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity.

The Final Declaration of the Geneva Conference

clearly stipulates:

"The Conference declares that, so far as Viet Nam is concerned, the settlement of political problems, effected on the basis of respect for the principles of independence, unity and territorial integrity, shall permit the Vietnamese people to enjoy the fundamental freedoms, guaranteed by democratic institutions established as a result of free general elections by secret ballot. General elections shall be held in July 1956..."

"In their relations with Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam, each member of the Geneva Conference undertakes to respect the sovereignty, the independence, the unity and the territorial integrity of the above-mentioned States, and to refrain from any

interference in their internal affairs."

However, our country is still not reunified. The southern part of our country is being transformed into a colony of a new type and a military base of

the U.S., a danger of war in Indo-China.

Therefore, it is imperative that the entire Vietnamese nation strengthen their unity and struggle resolutely for the achievement of national reunification, and at the same time to contribute to the safeguarding of peace in Indo-China and the world.

Viet Nam is one. The Vietnamese nation is one. Viet Nam must be reunified. Such are the sacred interests and the iron will of the Vietnamese nation.

Viet Nam has been built by the Vietnamese people. Centuries of heroic struggle and creative labour of our forefathers have transformed our country into what it is today, so rich and beautiful, and with so many glorious traditions.

Our country spreads from the Nam Quan gate to the point of Ca Mau, from the China sea to the Cambodian and Laotian frontiers, with fertile land, 'golden forests and silver seas'.

The land of Viet Nam belongs to the Vietnamese people, the Red River basin and the North-western mountain and forests are ours, the lower reaches of the Mekong and the Tay Nguyen mountains and forests are ours. Our people have been masters of their country since the August Revolution, since the establishment of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Rivers may run dry, mountains wear away, but our people's will for national reunification will never falter. Our entire people are determined to struggle with tenacity for national reunification on the basis of independence, democracy and by peaceful means.

What does 'national reunification on the basis of independence and democracy' mean?

At present our country is temporarily divided into two zones, having two different political systems: the people's democratic system in the North, and a colonial and semi-feudal system of a new type in the South. In such condition, the political basis for national reunification must be very broad if it is to win the sympathy of all people both in north and south Viet Nam. This basis is independence and democracy. Independence means no interference from foreign imperialism and full exercise of national sovereignty. Democracy means eradication of dictatorship, and implementation of all democratic freedoms. National independence and democracy are closely connected. There can be no democratic freedoms

without national independence, and inversely, national independence cannot be guaranteed without democratic freedoms.

What is the meaning of national reunification by peaceful means?

Reunification by peaceful means excludes the use of war and violence, it means negotiations, agreements and mutual concessions. National reunification is the concern of the Vietnamese people, our compatriots in both zones. Representatives of both zones should meet, sit down together to discuss and settle all questions relating to national reunification.

Thus, the policy of national reunification on the basis of independence and democracy through peaceful means is a very correct policy, conforming to both sense and sentiment and to the present situation of our country. It is not only in harmony with the aspirations of our people but it meets the expectations of the peoples in South-east Asia and in the world. Peaceful means are linked with the basis of independence and democracy, and the basis for the achievement of peaceful national reunification can be nothing else than independence and democracy. And only on the basis of independence and democracy can the country be reunified through peaceful means.

The Geneva Agreements stipulated that free general elections should be organized in the two zones in July 1956, in order to reunify Viet Nam. Why were there no such elections at that time? The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has repeatedly sent notes to the south Viet Nam administration proposing that the two parties should meet and discuss all matters relating to national reunification and to the re-establishment of normal relations between the two zones. But up to now the south Viet Nam administration has consistently rejected these proposals which respond to both sense and sentiment. Why is

this so? It is because of the U.S. imperialists' desire to partition our country forever, to use south Viet Nam as a spring-board for aggression against the North, and to turn south Viet Nam into a military base in preparation for war. The slogan 'March to the North' of the U.S. and Ngo Dinh Diem is just like that of the U.S. and Syngman Rhee, or the criminal manœuvres of Adenauer to use war to blot out the German Democratic Republic and restore the old frontiers of Germany. In order to transform the Southern part of our country into their military base and to prepare for war, the U.S. imperialists have set up in south Viet Nam a most reactionary and cruel fascist dictatorial administration as their efficient instrument. For six years now our compatriots in south Viet Nam have been persistently developing their patriotic struggle against the U.S.-Diem regime, for peace, national independence, democratic freedoms, better living standards and peaceful national reunification, in accordance with the Geneva Agreements. This very widespread, deep-going and powerful struggle, in spite of its difficulties and hardships, will certainly be victorious and will succeed in removing the obstacle standing in the way of our people's cause of national reunification — the U.S.-Diem regime. The whole Vietnamese people warmly support the heroic struggle of our compatriots in south Viet Nam, the Brass Citadel of the Fatherland.

Peaceful reunification is a revolutionary struggle of our entire people, of the whole Vietnamese nation, it is the outcome of the building of socialism in the North and of the national and democratic revolution in the South. Peaceful reunification is the irresistible victory of the unity and struggle of all Vietnamese patriots.

Therefore, in order to achieve peaceful reunification, our people must further strengthen their unity and intensify their struggle, they must further develop the strength of the North in all respects, further promote the patriotic movement, and the movement for national democratic revolution in the South, and win greater sympathy and support from the people the world over.

The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam plays an extremely important part in this struggle for reunification in relation to our entire people and to the world. Our people will never forget the glorious pages of history of the August Revolution and of September 2, date of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. On that day, President Ho Chi Minh declared that Viet Nam had the right to be a free and independent country and in fact it is so already.

Today, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam holds aloft the banner on which are inscribed the deepest aspirations of the Vietnamese people, namely independence and freedom throughout the country, peace and national unity. Fifteen years ago, our people successfully carried out the August Revolution and founded the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. Our people's revolutionary struggle has since that time won many new and glorious victories and the strength of our people has greatly increased. At the same time, the world situation has developed in a direction favourable to our people's revolutionary cause. At present, our people are firmly confident in the victory of the cause of national reunification; no reactionary force can hold us back: we will certainly be successful in bringing about a peaceful, united, independent, democratic, prosperous and strong Viet Nam.

ADVANCING ON THE PATH OF BUILDING SOCIALISM IN NORTH VIET NAM

The advance of the North to socialism is the inevitable law of development of the Vietnamese revolution. For the last 30 years, the revolutionary

struggle of the Vietnamese people has been taking that direction under the Party leadership. It is the aspiration and the will of the workers and the toiling masses, which is gradually winning the sympathy of other strata of the people. In our country, the people turn towards socialism just as the sunflower turns to the sun, because only socialism can bring about complete liberation, a free and happy life to everyone, glory to the nation, wealth to the people and strength to the country. In our country, to be a patriot means to love socialism, patriotism is closely linked with socialism, and the communist is the most genuine patriot.

That is the reason why since the re-establishment of peace, the North has been advancing along the socialist path and, within a short period, has scored great achievements in socialist transformation as well as economic and cultural development, in the strengthening of the forces of the North and in the improvement of the people's life. These first splendid results encourage and instil greater enthusiasm in our people and urge them to make rapid strides along the socialist path.

Arising from the particularities of our country combined with the universal principles of Marxism-Leninism, the general line traced by our Party for socialist revolution in the North is as follows:

'To unite the entire people, to promote the ardent patriotism, and the traditions of heroic struggle and persistent labour of our people, at the same time to enhance international solidarity with the brotherly socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union in order to lead the North rapidly, powerfully and firmly to socialism, to build a new life in the North and to consolidate the North into a strong and stable base for the struggle for national reunification, contributing to the strengthening of the socialist camp, and to the safeguarding of peace in South-east Asia and in the world.

"To reach that aim, we must use the people's democratic State power to fulfil the historic tasks of the proletarian dictatorship in order to achieve socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts, small trade, and private capitalist industry and commerce; to develop the State economic sector, carry out socialist industrialization by giving priority to the rational development of heavy industry, at the same time striving to develop agriculture and light industry; to promote socialist revolution in ideology, culture and technique, to constantly raise the people's standard of living with a view to turning our country into a socialist country with modern industry, modern agriculture and advanced culture and science."

The general line is a compass directing the march forward of our people from a country backward in economy, culture and technique, with a low standard of living, to a socialist country with modern industry, modern agriculture, advanced culture and science, and with a happy and joyful life. Thus from a country that has just shaken off the yoke of colonialism and feudalism, we go straight on to socialism without passing through a period of capitalist development, by-passing such a long historical period of sacrifice and hardship. In this era, the era of the transition from capitalism to socialism, the era witnessing the growth of the mighty and ever-mightier world socialist system, the economically backward but politically avanced colonial countries, i.e., the countries having people's democratic State power, have full capacity, under the leadership of the working class, to carry out socialist revolution and build socialism after the achievement of the national democratic revolution.

The Party's general line is a torch that lights our way. Not only does it show us the direction to follow and the goal to attain, but it also points out the great policies which are the main content of the whole period of transition to socialism. These great policies

are: socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts, small trade, private capitalist industry and commerce, socialist industrialisation by giving priority to the rational development of heavy industry, at the same time developing agriculture and light industry, speeding up the socialist revolution in ideology, culture and technique. These great policies are closely connected, exert mutual influence and impel one another to advance.

To implement the above-mentioned great policies, we possess a sharp tool, the people's democratic State which is fulfilling the historic tasks of the proletarian dictatorship. We must spare no efforts in sharpening that invaluable tool. We must never cease to consolidate our State on the ever firmer basis of the worker-peasant alliance, and we must constantly strengthen the Party's leadership of the State.

We are fully capable of carrying out the Party's

general line, and good prospects lie ahead.

The North of our country is endowed with rich national resources and has an area of more than 162,000 square kilometres and 16 million people. To exploit the riches of our country for the service of economic development and for the building of socialism, we rely mainly upon the immense forces of our people, at the same time strengthening our co-operation and mutual assistance with the brotherly socialist countries in the spirit of proletarian internationalism.

The Party's general line encourages our people to struggle heroically, to overcome all difficulties to advance rapidly, powerfully and firmly on the road of building socialism in the North, raising the northern people's standard of living and strengthening the North in all respects in order to achieve peaceful national reunification.

Based on the general line and on the situation of north Viet Nam following the fulfilment of the Three-Year Plan, the first Five-Year Plan (1961 — 1965) will be effective in making the socialist cause of north Viet Nam advance an important step further. The first Five-Year Plan has the following fundamental tasks:

- 1. To strive to develop industry and agriculture, to give priority to development of heavy industry, at the same time to develop an all-sided agriculture, the food industry, and light industry, to develop communications and transport, to increase State trade and co-operative trade, to prepare the ground for turning our country into a socialist industrial and agricultural country.
- 2. To complete the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts, small trade, private capitalist industry and commerce, to consolidate and strengthen the State economic sector, to strengthen relations between the systems of ownership by the whole people and collective ownership, to extend the socialist relations of production to the whole national economy.
- 3. To raise the cultural standard and socialist consciousness of the people, to intensify the training and fostering of cadres for economic construction and of skilled workers, to enhance the capacity of the cadres, workers and toiling people in economic management, to drive forward scientific and technical work, the investigation of natural riches and basic research with a view to meeting the requirements of the development of socialist economy and culture.
- 4. To further raise the material and cultural standards of the working people, to ensure that everyone has adequate food, clothing, housing and opportunities for study; to develop public welfare, and to build a new life in town and countryside.
- 5. Side by side and in combination with economic and cultural development, efforts must be devoted to the consolidation of national defence, to the strengthening of public order and security, to the defence of socialist construction in the North.

Following are the main indices of the first Five-Year Plan, presented as an initial calculation.

In the coming five years, the projected value of total industrial output will increase by 148% as compared with 1960, in which industry producing means of production will increase by 215%, industry producing consumer goods by 110%. The average annual increase will be 25.8%.

The value of total agricultural output in five years will register an increase of 61% compared with 1960, in which food crop will increase by 42%, industrial crops by 239.6%, livestock breeding by 98.4%. The average annual increase will be 10%. By 1965, it is estimated that the proportion presented by the value of industrial output will be 51% of that of total industrial and agricultural output, while the proportion presented by the value of agricultural output will be 49%.

In five years, labour productivity in the various branches of State industry will increase by 54%, i. e. 9% per year on an average.

In five years, 125,000 specialized cadres of higher and middle levels will be trained, i.e. ten times as many as during the Three-Year Plan; the number of newly trained skilled workers will be 200,000. By 1965, the number of pupils in general educational schools will be 97.5% higher than in 1960, and the number of students will be 2.7 times greater.

As for improvement of the standard of living, efforts will be made to increase the real average income of workers and peasants by 30% compared with 1960.

The outstanding point in the coming Five-Year Plan is the first-step achievement of socialist industrialization and the greater development of industry and agriculture and of the entire national economy.

Socialist industrialization is the central task of the whole transitional period. Socialist industrialization

means the laying of the material and technical foundations of socialism. Priority will be given to the rational development of heavy industry, at the same time efforts will be made in developing agriculture and light industry; such is the direction for our struggle throughout the historic period of building a new economy and a new life.

To carry out socialist industrialization is to strongly and quickly develop the productive forces serving as the firm basis for socialist transformation, to consolidate the new relations of production and raise them to a higher level. Inversely, the new relations of production have the effect of stimulating the productive forces to develop powerfully and speedily. Socialist industrialization has the direct effect of strengthening the State economic sector, the leading force of the whole national economy.

In the next five years, we will endeavour to develop such branches of heavy industry of great necessity to us as electric power, iron and steel, mining, machine-building, building materials and chemical industries, at the same time paying attention to the development of such branches of light industry producing consumer goods as food industry, weaving and clothing industry, and branches of industry producing other goods of daily use.

To develop industry strongly and speedily, we must mobilize all our people's forces. On the one hand, we build large factories with modern technique hitherto undreamt of, such as the Thai Nguyen iron-steel centre, the Thac Ba hydro-power station, the Lam Thao and Bac Giang chemical fertilizer plants, the Haiphong ship-yard, the Hai Duong china-ware factory, the Van Diem sugar refinery, etc. On the other hand, we build factories of small and medium size with moderately modern technique or with rudimentary technique; at the same time we pay attention to the development of handicrafts on the basis of co-operation, with the aim of complementing

industry. This is the only method which can bring about a thorough development of all our potentialities, from central to local levels, employing all our wealth and mobilizing all our people's forces with the purpose of achieving an extensive, powerful and speedy development of our industry.

The present industrial development of our country is a process of endeavour and progress in the training of technical cadres and skilled workers, in surveying and extracting the abundant natural resources of the North. It is also a process of efforts and progress in raising labour productivity, reducing production costs, putting into effect the slogan of "greater, quicker, better and cheaper production", at the same time guaranteeing labour safety. It is a process of struggle waged by the working class, and by the organs responsible for the leadership of industry to speed up the rate of industrial development, to overfulfil the plan, thus marking an important step forward in the next five years.

Together with industry, efforts must be devoted to agricultural development. Agriculture is the basis of our national economy, the basis of industrial development. Such an assessment of the importance of agriculture is the result of a review of experiences in our country. Long-term industrialization in our country can only be carried out on the basis of a stable agriculture which is in constant process of all-sided and powerful development. Inversely, the stronger industry, particularly heavy industry, becomes, the greater the possibilities it provides for the equipment of agriculture and for the creation of favourable conditions for agricultural development. In the present natural and technical situation of our country, we encounter great difficulties in agricultural production; therefore we must redouble our efforts, heighten our will and determination to struggle and overcome all difficulties in order to bring agriculture to an ever higher development.

To develop agriculture in an all-sided, strong and firm manner means to consider the production of foodstuffs, mainly paddy, as the central task which promotes the parallel advance of other agricultural branches. In the next five years, great and constant efforts will be required to raise the production of foodstuffs, with the purpose of satisfying all requirements arising from the people's life and from economy, at the same time pushing forward the planting of industrial crops, livestock breeding, fish-rearing, afforestation, and development of side-occupations in the countryside.

We possess adequate strength and possibilities to reach such goals. This strength is the millions of peasants who will be entirely organized into agricultural co-operatives, this strength is the people's democratic State which is devotedly helping the cooperatives and agricultural production. Our possibilities are the wide land of the North, the tropical climate favourable to agricultural production. To succeed in mobilizing the mighty forces of the cooperatives and of the people's democratic State for the exploitation of the rich potentialities of the North is the road to an all-sided, strong and stable production in agriculture, leading to a rich agricultural economy, bringing wealth to the co-operatives, laying a good basis for the development of industry, and for the carrying out of socialist industrialization.

Numerous difficulties lie ahead of us and must be overcome, and numerous problems are to be solved to develop agriculture: expanding the area of cultivable land, water, manure, traction, farm implements, seeds, insecticides, etc. These are basic problems which at present the co-operatives must solve according to local particularities, but mainly by relying on their own strength, the State, on the other hand, must study these problems and take measures to solve them basically on a comparatively long-term basis. The co-operatives and the State must endeavour to

combine their efforts, encourage and assist each other to accelerate agricultural production and enable it to develop all-sidedly, strongly and steadily.

While the State strives to do big, long-term works aimed at basically solving the fundamental problems of agriculture, the co-operatives must do everything within their power to promote agricultural production so that each year, each crop marks a new step forward in output, productivity, technique and working and living conditions. The State must mobilize all its forces to lead and help the co-operatives adequately and practically in this daily struggle. Responsible local organs in the provinces, districts or villages must consider agricultural production as their central and permanent task, upon which all forces must be concentrated.

We must enhance our spirit of struggle to overcome all difficulties and we must have firm confidence in our abilities and our strength. The experiences in the agricultural production, movement undertaken after the August Revolution, and throughout the Resistance war, and our recent experiences prove that we are able to work wonders, to make good although starting from scratch, to turn waste land into arable land and one-crop fields into two-crop fields, to ceaselessly raise output and productivity, and continually to develop agriculture in an all-sided, strong and firm manner.

The source of all successes in agricultural production is the correct understanding of the importance of agricultural production, which is the basis of industry and of the national economy, and which has great significance economically and politically, at the present time and in days to come.

Communications and transport, the arteries of the national economy, must be developed parallel with, and, to a certain extent, in advance of industrial and agricultural development. A painful legacy of the

former regime that we have not yet been able to eradicate is the lack of communications and transport, particularly in the midlands and highlands. At present, to develop our national economy harmoniously, to exploit the natural wealth throughout the North, to achieve a balanced development of industry and agriculture, to intensify the traffic between town and countryside, the delta and the highlands, our country and other countries, we must, in the interest of economic and other activities, endeavour to develop communications and transport in accordance with the scope and speed of economic development. An all-sided and balanced development must be achieved in communications and transport with due attention paid to roads, railways and waterways; air transport must begin to receive our attention; all possibilities and forces, all mechanized and semi-mechanized and rudimentary transport means of the State and people must be mobilized and rationally used.

The development of industry and agriculture, will gradually change the face of the North: new economic zones, industrial centres, State farm areas and towns will spring up one after another in the coastal regions, the delta, the midlands, the Viet Bac zone, the North-West region, as far as Vinh Linh. In the North, we are gradually transforming nature: the insalubrious state of the mountainous and jungle areas, of the 'unhealthy mountain region', will eventually be eradicated. Nowadays our people look at their country with the eye and the soul of an intelligent master, full of strength. Formerly, under the old regime, the bulk of our people, concentrated in the delta or scattered in remote highland spots, lived a hard life which only worsened day after day. At present, after breaking the shackles of imperialist and feudal rule, we can see the immense and priceless potentialities of the whole country, of the midlands and highlands rich in hilly land suitable to industrial crops and cattle-breeding, and rich in minerals for industry. The delta, the midlands and the highlands, with the difference of their soils and climates, are parts, which complement one another in a national economy having great possibilities and prospects for the development of industry and agriculture. To build socialism means to harness and transform nature; it means the establishment of industrial centres, State farm areas and towns in formerly deserted places; it means the exploitation of the natural wealth of the subsoil, the transformation of the Red River's floodwaters into hydro-electric power or their use for irrigating ricefields; it means the setting up of a network of communications criss-crossing the whole North; in brief, it means the development of production and of economy, and the building of a new life throughout north Viet Nam.

In this process, we will gradually distribute the productive forces in north Viet Nam in a rational way, make full use of the possibilities afforded by the wealth and manpower of our country, promote the economy in the plains, ensure a balanced development in the midland and highland regions, achieve the unity of the various nationalities, help the national minorities to catch up with the other nationalities in the country; such old revolutionary bases as the Viet Bac and such areas where glorious military victories were won as the North-West will be turned into strongly developed economic areas, enhancing the power of the North. This spectacle will give rise to great enthusiasm among all the fraternal nationalities in our country.

On the basis of the powerful development of the productive forces, we will strengthen the State economic sector and push forward the transformation of production relations. In the next five years we will complete the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts, small trade and private capitalist industry and commerce.

To complete socialist transformation of agriculture means to organize the entire peasantry into co-operatives of lower type, to transform co-operatives from lower to advanced type and to expand the size of cooperatives in order to increase their resources, to make it possible for them to undertake many branches and many trades; it means to put into practice the guiding principle of 'all-sided, strong and stable agricultural production'. The vertical of horizontal development of the co-operatives must be conducted parallel with the consolidation of the co-operatives in the fields of organization and management, and with the raising of their ideological level, translating into reality the slogan: "to practise diligence and thrift in the building of the co-operatives, to consider the co-operative as one's own home". Taking the co-operatives from the lower type to the advanced type, from small size to bigger size from a state of producing only rice to the undertaking of many branches and many trades, to performing all-sided agricultural production then gradually taking on handicrafts and industry, at the same time widening cultural activities and managing all the activities of a collective life in cooperatives, is indeed a process of great progress, and of overcoming many difficulties and obstacles. The material basis of this maturity is the constant development of the productive forces of the co-operatives; such development guarantees the development of production and the increase of the income of the cooperatives. Great attention must be paid at the same time to education in ideology and in good attitudes towards collective life, so that everybody, in the interests of the co-operatives, will endeavour to build them, to build a socialist economy in the countryside.

To complete the transformation of handicraft means to draw almost all handicraftsmen into the various forms of co-operative organization, to transform these co-operative organizations into co-operatives of advanced type, to consolidate and develop the co-operatives of advanced type on the basis of expanding their equipment and improving their techniques, to promote all the possibilities of the handicraft co-operatives in production and dealing business so that they may become an important complementary force of industry; it means, finally, to bring step by step fully qualified handicraft co-operatives into the local state industry.

To complete the transformation of the small traders means on the one hand to organize them into the various forms of co-operative activity within the system of State trade enterprises and marketing-purchasing co-operatives, and on the other hand to transfer to production as many small traders as possible; to organize them into handicraft, livestock breeding, or market-gardening co-operatives, or to introduce them into existing handicraft co-operatives or into State economic establishments.

To complete the transformation of private capitalist industry and commerce means that after transforming private capitalist enterprises into State capitalist enterprises (or into co-operative enterprises in a number of cases) to consolidate and improve them according to the principles of socialist business undertakings and at the same time to continue the ideological reeducation of the national bourgeoisie, to transform them gradually into working people.

To complete socialist transformation is to complete socialist revolution in the economic field, to turn the heterogeneous economy of the North into a homogeneous socialist economy, based on the systems of ownership by the whole people and collective ownership. That is a very important success of the socialist revolution: the disappearance of capitalist economy, capitalist business undertakings, and capitalist exploitation; and also the disappearance of small producers' economy in agriculture, handicrafts

and trade, the roots of capitalist economy. The effect and influence of that success will make themselves felt widely in every economic, political, social and

ideological field in the North.

The completion of socialist transformation brings homogeneity not only to the economy of the North but also to its society, that is, that the latter will be made up only of socialist working people: workers of State or co-operative enterprises, peasant co-op-members and brain workers. Ideological and moral solidarity and unity will be closer. The social and political foundations of the people's democratic State will be firmer and stronger.

Under the Party's leadership the people's democratic State, fulfilling the historic tasks of the proletarian dictatorship, must ensure the stable and favourable completion of socialist transformation as provided for in the fundamental clauses of the Constitution.

Socialist transformation is in harmony with the immediate and long-term interests of the people and consequently enjoys their sympathy, support and active participation. Relying on the immense force of the people the people's democratic State is always vigilant over all schemes of sabotage against socialist transformation and severely punishes all violations of the law, to guarantee the stable and favourable achievement of socialist transformation.

Socialist industrialization, and the laying of the material and technical foundations of socialism require a constant raising of the cultural, scientific and technical levels of our people. In our case, proceeding from an economically, culturally and technically backward country, to the building of a socialist economy with modern industry and agriculture, we must strive to gain time and constantly raise our cultural, scientific and technical levels.

On the cultural front, together with the development of general education among all our children, another problem of extreme importance and urgency is to give complementary general education up to the elementary level, then to the secondary, then the higher, to millions of cadres and working people in town and countryside. This is a task of the cultural revolution which has great significance and farreaching practical effects.

As regards the training of technical cadres and skilled workers, parallel with the manifold increase in the different kinds of universities, vocational secondary schools and schools attached to productive establishments for the training of technical personnel and skilled workers, we must organize very broadly technical and professional studies for those cadres and workers who cannot afford to leave their production bases and their jobs. Just as with complementary general education, this is an extremely necessary and urgent means of achieving complementary technical and professional education, an important factor in pushing forward the technical revolution in our country.

On the cultural, scientific and technical fronts, on the one hand, we have to deal with the urgent demands cited above, and on the other we must attend to solving such essential and basic problems as general education and elementary, secondary and higher vocational education. Another category of fundamental problems is the establishment and strengthening of institutions for the study of important and practical scientific and technical questions, which directly serve economic development and the State Plan.

All the problems referred to above — socialist industrialization, socialist transformation, cultural, scientific and technical development — aim at building socialism, increasing the force of the North in every field and raising the people's living standards.

To raise the people's living standards is the goal of our struggle. Since the re-establishment of peace, there has been noticeable improvement in the life of

our compatriots in the North. In the coming five years, with their own labour, our people will improve their material and cultural life a step further. Alongside economic development and the transformation of production relations, our national economy will gradually be able to mobilize and use all the labour power of the society in accordance with the capacity of all. That is a direction of prime importance for further economic development, for the securing of an appropriate income for all and for higher standards of living for each family. Under our regime, everyone must have a job, work, and produce, and the State must provide facilities and conditions for everyone to work and to live an ever better life. Socialist distribution is based on labour, we mobilize every toiler to raise labour productivity mainly through the improvement of technique in order to increase the amount of the social product and at the same time his own personal income. We encourage the socialist working men to compete in work and in production in the interests of socialism in the North, of national reunification and also in his own interests.

The better the life of our people in the North becomes materially and culturally, the richer it will be politically, sentimentally, and morally. Such is the life of socialist toilers, those who are translating into reality the most radiant ideal of mankind, those who carry forward the heroic traditions of the August Revolution and the Resistance, the builders of the socialist North, the fighters for national reunification.

To carry out the Party's general line in the transitional period, to fulfil the Five-Year Plan, a step in the laying of the material and technical foundations of socialism, to strengthen the North in all respects, to promote the role of the North in the cause of peaceful national reunification, our people's democratic

State must be strong, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam must be strong. Therefore, we have to endeavour to enhance the power of our people's democratic State, of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

The strength of the State is the strength of the people, their material strength, their unity, their fighting spirit. The last fifteen years have been fifteen years of unceasing growth in the strength of our State through the Resistance war, land reform and six years of building socialism in the North.

To make our State fit for still bigger undertakings, we must strengthen it, we must sharpen this essential weapon in the hands of the working class in order to complete socialist transformation and speed up socialist construction in the North.

To increase the strength of the State means to strengthen the political and social basis of the State, to strengthen the worker-peasant alliance, to strengthen the alliance between workers, peasants, brain workers and other toiling people, and to strengthen national unity. Our State is stronger than ever because ours is a people's State serving the people's interests, enjoying the people's confidence and love. In the years to come, the formerly heterogeneous economy of the North will become entirely socialist, the Northern society will be more homogeneous, so will our ideology be, and our solidarity and unity will become even closer. At the same time, economic and cultural development, industrial and agricultural development and socialist industrialization mean the strengthening of the material forces of the State.

Under our system, the strength of the State is the strength of the people. Relations between the State and the people must be intensified, democracy must be promoted, democratic life must be broadened, the masses must be mobilized to take part in the management of the State, in discussion of major questions relating to the life of the nation and the people.

Our State is genuinely democratic because it is a genuine people's State with the historic mission of mobilizing the people's forces to build a new society, a new life, and new people, who know how to work and to live in a socialist way. The development of the State in a process of the people's participation in the management of the State, of economy and life.

As a result of the above-cited principles and appreciations, we arrive at a realistic policy: to strengthen the State is to strengthen State organizations and activities, as provided for by the clauses and spirit of the Constitution. Of particular importance are the organizations and activities of the elected organs, organs bearing State power—the highest being the National Assembly and the People's Councils at the local level. To be in touch with the people, to mobilize them to take part in the management of the State, all these activities are carried out mainly through the organs referred to above.

To strengthen the State also means to strengthen the whole State apparatus, the organs in charge of economic and cultural management, of home affairs and other organs from central to local levels. At present, it is necessary to lay particular stress on the need to strengthen the organs of economic management, which are the parts of prime importance in the apparatus of the people's democratic State.

To strengthen the State apparatus means to improve its organization; to clearly define duties and powers, to heighten the sense of responsibility and discipline, to implement the principle of democratic centralism in organization and in activity. The strenthening of organization must go hand in hand with the expansion of the numbers of cadres; our work is growing in scope and is becoming more specialized technically and professionally; more and more cadres are needed with higher standards and ability.

To strengthen the people's democratic State means to strengthen socialist law aimed at defending socialist transformation, speeding up socialist construction, protecting the property of the State and the people, safeguarding the interests, promoting the creativeness and stimulating the ardour of every citizen, at the same time preventing, exposing and repressing in good time all plots and activities of sabotage against the fruits of the revolution and the peaceful labour of the people.

In order to strengthen the people's democratic State along the line mentioned above, we must strengthen the Party's leadership of the State. Ours is a people's democratic State led by the working class, and fulfilling the historic tasks of proletarian dictatorship. Therefore, we must strengthen the Party's leadership of the State in every field — political line, ideology and organization - and we must ensure closer relations between the Party and the State. To strengthen the Party's leadership of the State does not mean that the Party takes all State business on itself and overshadows the role of the State. On the contrary, the Party's leadership of the State aims at raising the position, role, prestige and influence of the State, at reinforcing State power, in brief, at enabling the State to fulfil its historic mission.

The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the people's democratic State enjoy the confidence and support of the people in the North and of our compatriots in the South, of all Vietnamese patriots. The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam was founded by the entire Vietnamese people fifteen years ago. At present, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam is holding high the banner of struggle for peaceful reunification of the country, for the achievement of a peaceful, united, independent, democratic, prosperous and strong Viet Nam.

Relying on the people's strength and support, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam is expanding relations with countries the world over, raising its international position, endeavouring to make its contribution to the cause of the people all over the world—the cause of peace, democracy, national independence and socialism.

OUR COUNTRY AND THE WORLD

Dear Comrades, Dear Friends.

Our country is part of the world; the revolutionary movement in our country is part of the world revolutionary movement. The revolutionary changes which have taken place over the past fifteen years in our country reflect the momentous revolutionary changes in the world. In the course of their revolutionary struggle, our people have always enjoyed the sympathy and warm support of the people all over the world. While carrying out the revolution to liberate themselves, our people have always striven to play their part in the cause of world revolution. The call issued by Karl Marx more than a century ago, "Workers of all countries, unite!" is deeply engraved in our people's hearts and souls.

The great victory of the Soviet Union in the Second World War opened the way for the revolutionary movement in many countries to move on to a new stage. Our people, under the leadership of the Party, seized in time this most favourable opportunity to bring the August Revolution to success, to found the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, a people's democratic State which has the task of completing the national people's democratic revolution and advancing to the socialist revolution. Thanks to the assistance of the Red Army, the people of many countries in Eastern and Central Europe, under the leadership

of their respective communist and workers' parties, broke the shackles of fascism and founded people's democratic countries, socialist countries. Socialism was spreading beyond the boundaries of a single country to become a world system. The victory of the Chinese revolution and the founding of the Chinese People's Republic, which tipped the scales in favour of the socialist camp, constituted extremely important international events. The world socialist system, headed by the Soviet Union, has endeavoured to develop its forces rapidly in every respect and has gradually promoted its role, which now has a decisive character in the whole world situation. Thanks to the existence and the resolute support of the socialist camp, the national liberation movement has developed with a strength, scope, and tempo unprecedented in history. It has disintegrated the colonialist system and further weakened imperialism, which had begun to weaken as early as the October Revolution and which had become still weaker following the Second World War. At the same time, in the capitalist countries, the struggle of the working class was promoted in conditions more favourable than before. Co-ordinating all the afore-said movements and relying on the Soviet Union and the socialist camp as their solid mainstay, the people the world over are waging their extremely great and important struggle against aggressive and warmongering imperialism, above all U.S. imperialism, for the preservation and consolidation of world peace.

The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam is a member of the socialist camp in South-east Asia; on the other hand, the Southern part of our country has been turned by the U.S. imperialists and the Ngo Dinh Diem clique into a colony of a new type and a military base of the U.S. imperialists. The process of our people's revolutionary struggle is a process of struggle against the aggressive imperialists and their agents, advancing from national democratic revolu-

tion to socialist revolution. At present, our people continue their struggle against the aggressive U.S. imperialists and their agents in order to maintain peace, to build socialism in the North, to complete the national democratic revolution in the whole country and to reunify the Fatherland by peaceful means.

A Vietnamese proverb says: "He couldn't get rid of his old habits even if he was beaten to death". The nature of imperialism particularly U.S. imperialism, is aggression and warmongering. However, the balance of forces in the world has now changed in favour of socialism, national independence and world peace. Nowadays, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries are successfully building communism and socialism and have become an invincible force. Along with the peace-loving people all over the world, they are able to prevent war, to stay the bloodstained hands of the imperialists, preserve peace and save mankind from a new world war, a nuclear war. At the present time, the policy of peace and peaceful co-existence of the Soviet Union and the socialist camp, and the Soviet proposal for complete and general disarmament, fully meet the interests and aspirations of the people the world over, therefore they are receiving the deep sympathy and warm support of the people throughout the world. The Vietnamese people have clearly realized that their struggle against the aggressive and warmongering U.S. imperialists, for the maintenance of peace, the safeguarding of socialist construction in the North, the completion of the national democratic revolution in the whole country and the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland, is an integral part of the momentous struggle now taking place throughout the world against imperialism and all other reactionary forces, for peace, democracy, national independence and socialism.

The mainstay of this struggle is socialism; this is true in Viet Nam, this is also true throughout the

world; therefore, the Vietnamese people are striving to build socialism in the North so as to contribute to the strengthening of the socialist camp and to the consolidation of unity and single-mindedness of the socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union, on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. At the same time, the Vietnamese people endeavour to tighten their friendship with the nationalist countries in Asia and Africa, particularly with the neighbouring countries. They wholly sympathize with and warmly support the national liberation movement now in full swing throughout the world.

The imperialists, with the U.S. imperialists at their head, are cruel and treacherous, but the Vietnamese and the world's people are constantly heightening their vigilance, deepening their hatred for the imperialists and exerting ever more vigorous efforts to defeat them. Final victory will certainly belong to the people.

It is clear that the present era is not an era in which the imperialist countries can freely rule the roost in the world. The present era, as has been said in the Declaration of the Meeting of Representatives of the Communist and Worker's Parties of the socialist countries, held in Moscow in 1957, "is the transition from capitalism to socialism, which began with the Great October Socialist Revolution in Russia", it is the era "when socialism is on the upgrade, and imperialism is on the downgrade", it is the era "when the forces of peace have grown so strong that there is a practical possibility of averting war".

Today, in celebrating the fifteenth birthday of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, our people's mind turns to our Party, the organizer of the struggles and great victories of our nation over the past thirty years. Our Party enjoys the confidence and affection of the people because it has no other interests than those of the people and the Fatherland and because it has

always selflessly struggled for these noble interests. The Party is the mobilizing force, the organizer, educator and leader of our people in carrying out the national people's democratic revolution, in their advance to socialist revolution. Our Party is clearsighted, because Marxist-Leninist theory lights its path. The strength of our Party lies in its close ties with the masses. It makes constant progress and incessantly raises its capacities to the level of the requirements of the revolution, because it always promotes self-criticism and criticism. The members of our Party are loyal sons of the working class and the toiling people, who pledge to devote their lives to the interests of the people, to the glory of the Fatherland and to communism. The founder of our Party, the great leader of our Party and our nation, President Ho Chi Minh, is the finest image of our Party and our nation.

Our Party is the leader of the revolution of our people. The Party's lines and policies are of great importance for the whole country. Therefore, our people are very glad to welcome the forthcoming Party Congress. This Congress will mark a new step in the development of our people's revolutionary struggle, of the building of socialism in the North and of the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland. The Party Congress is a source of great encouragement to our people in their advance towards the fulfilment of the new tasks and the achievement of new successes.

Under the glorious banner of the Party, our entire people are resolved to strengthen their solidarity and strive for the building of socialism in the North, to advance towards the peaceful reunification of the country, the achievement of a peaceful, unified, independent, democratic, prosperous and strong Viet Nam, thereby contributing to the strengthening of the socialist camp and the safeguarding of peace in South-east Asia and the world.

PART TWO

GREETINGS FROM THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE SOVIET UNION

Dear Comrade Ho Chi Minh,
Dear Comrade Truong Chinh,
Dear Comrade Pham Van Dong,
Dear Comrades,
Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, the Soviet Council of Ministers and the working people of our country, I sincerely greet you and the Vietnamese people on the occasion of the 15th foundation anniversary of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. The Soviet people extend to you and to the Vietnamese people their warm greetings and wish you new and splendid successes in socialist building.

The August Revolution has been the most important political event in the heroic Vietnamese people's life, and has ushered in a new and glorious era in the history of Viet Nam.

The 15th foundation anniversary of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam is a great and happy festival not only for the Vietnamese working people but also for us Soviets — sincere and faithful friends of the Vietnamese people. Our hearts constantly beat in unison with yours during the years of heroic struggle against colonialism. In the Geneva Conference on

Indo-China, together with all the peace-loving forces in the world, the Soviet Union resolutely supported the legitimate demands and defended the interests of the heroic Vietnamese people. While your country was facing many difficulties owing to the war, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries helped the brother Vietnamese people. At present we are going hand in hand on the same road, and are closely united within the community of powerful socialist countries.

Under the leadership of their Party, the Vietnamese people have wrested back power from the oppressors and, for the first time in the centuries-old history of Indo-China, they have founded the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and won victory in the fierce war against the imperialists. People's power has liberated the creative forces of the working people and inspired them to achieve miraculous exploits in labour. In a short span of time, from a heap of ruins and rubble, the Vietnamese people have restored the economy of the young republic and are advancing on the path of steadily building the foundations of socialism.

In the course of six years of peaceful labour, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has scored big achievements in the economic, political and cultural fields, and is carrying out a deep-going socialist transformation in town and countryside. All the characteristics of colonialism, that is to say, economic backwardness, poverty, misery and diseases, are receding into the remote past. The Vietnamese people are successfully fulfilling their Three-Year Plan of economic development. All this fills the Vietnamese people's friends with an immense joy.

Dear Friends,

Your country has sufficient wealth to build a manysided national economy. The skilled and industrious Vietnamese people under the experienced leadership of their Party and Government, with President Ho Chi Minh at their head, will undoubtedly make full use of the big potentialities brought for building socialism which are brought to them by the people's democratic regime.

The Vietnamese people, within the community of socialist countries, have been closely cooperating with the Soviet Union and other brother countries, exchanging with them experiences in economy, technical matters and culture. The Soviet people are very happy to note that the relations of cooperation and fraternal mutual assistance between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam are developing fruitfully day by day. The unshakable friendship between our two countries is a splendid expression of the constant concern of the Soviet and Vietnamese people for strengthening the power of the socialist camp, in which relations among countries are founded on the basis of equality and mutual respect in accordance with the principle: "each for all and all for each". The Soviet Communist Party and Government of the Soviet Union which follow the great Marxist-Leninist theory and the principle of proletarian internationalism will continue to expand and strengthen this co-operation. An example of the new socialist relations between our two countries is the recently concluded agreement under which the Soviet Union will help the Vietnamese working people to develop production of tropical crops. We promise you that the Soviet people will help the brother Vietnamese people in all fields to realize the tasks mapped out in their first Five-Year Plan.

The successful building of socialism in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam is a firm guarantee for the success of the Vietnamese people's struggle for the peaceful reunification of their country. The Soviet people clearly understand that because the imperialists are deliberately maintaining Viet Nam's partition, the reunification of Viet Nam—corresponding to the nation-wide demand of the people throughout

the Vietnamese territory — has not yet been realized. Although he has launched bloody repressive campaigns against patriots in south Viet Nam, Ngo Dinh Diem, henchman of the United States, cannot quench the ever growing movement of the masses who are resolutely struggling for the reunification of the country by peaceful and democratic means as provided for by the Geneva Agreements. The schemes of the imperialist clique aimed at permanently partitioning Viet Nam and turning south Viet Nam into a military springboard for their use, have aroused the indignation of peace-loving mankind. The Soviet Government fully supports the measures taken by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam for normalization of relations between the North and South aimed at restoring the unity of the country.

Together with all other socialist countries, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam is carrying out a policy of peaceful co-existence, making a worthy contribution to the struggle for easing international tension. Your resolute struggle to ensure correct implementation of the Geneva Agreements, and safeguard peace in Indo-China and throughout the world, is winning the sympathy of ordinary people all over the world and is heightening the prestige of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in the world arena.

Dear Comrades,

The Soviet people and the working people of the whole socialist camp are paying great attention to the building of a lasting peace. The Soviet people are engaging in peaceful and creative labour to build a new society, a communist society. The Soviet national economy is undergoing an unprecedented development. Under the clearsighted leadership of the Soviet Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee with Comrade Krushchov at its head, the Soviet people have with their own hands built up a modern

industry and a vast mechanized agriculture. They have scored many outstanding achievements in the scientific, technical and cultural fields.

The Seven-Year Plan to develop the national economy is being carried out successfully. Industrial output has nearly doubled. Many great achievements have been scored by collective farmers in the development of agricultural production. The Soviet people are fully confident that the historic task set by our Party to be in the lead in the per capita production of all kinds of goods will undoubtedly be fulfilled.

The Soviet people's life is constantly improving. Everywhere in our country, the working day is being shortened without any decrease in the workers' and employees' wages. In the not too distant future, all taxes paid by the working people will be abolished and the shortest working day in the world will be enforced, guaranteeing the highest standard of living for the Soviet people.

Soviet scientists have become vanguard scientists in the use of atomic energy for peace and the conquest of the cosmos: as you know, recently the Soviet Union successfully launched a spaceship weighing 4.6 tons and carrying animals, and recovered it at the appointed place and time. We thank the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and Comrade Ho Chi Minh for having sent a special message hailing this striking achievement of the Soviet Government and people. This success has ushered in a new era in the conquest of the cosmos.

Economy, science and culture in all the socialist countries are developing at an unprecedented tempo. The creative labour of the people in our socialist camp is giving more and more irrefutable proof of the excellence of socialism over capitalism. That is why the working people of our country are firmly confident in the certain victory of socialism in the peaceful competition with capitalism which is nearing its last days. The foreign policy of the Soviet Union aims at

ensuring a lasting peace among nations, eliminating the cold war and ending the armaments race. This policy is winning warm support from the working people throughout the world because it reflects their fundamental interests.

The Soviet Union undertakes to create conditions for eliminating the possibilities of provoking war. The clear and concrete proposals of the Soviet Government on general and complete disarmament put forward in various speeches by Premier Khrushchov are the best way to create a favourable atmosphere in international relations. These proposals correspond to the demands of the whole of mankind, because the way to a lasting peace must be through peaceful co-existence and general and complete disarmament.

Under the pressure of the growing national liberation movement, the colonial system of imperialism is collapsing and nothing can save it from the path of destruction. The number of countries having won national independence is much greater than before. In the past 15 years nearly 1,400 million people in Asia and Africa have broken the shackles of colonialism.

The reactionary imperialist circles do not want to acknowledge that it is impossible to turn back the wheel of history. They are confusedly trying to save their monster child, which is the colonialist system. The Congolese people have just won back freedom from the colonialists' hand. Their just aspiration to enjoy independence has long been marred by the savage occupation of their land by those who have oppressed them. The United States and other Western imperialist powers are playing an ignominious role in the scheme of the Belgian colonialists of splitting this young republic in order to continue to plunder the Congolese people against aggressive imperialism and their determination to defend their independence and

territorial integrity are winning support from all progressive forces which will never let the colonialists strangle this young nation in Africa. The Soviet Union fully sympathizes with and supports the Congolese people.

The march of events in the international arena proves that no effort on the part of the reactionaries can save the rotten colonialist system.

The mass patriotic movement in south Korea, Japan and Turkey, and the heroic struggle of the Cuban people as well as the recent events in Laos, show that the people deeply hate the imperialist policy of the ruling circles in the United States and of their allies, because this policy does not correspond to the spirit of national dignity of the people.

These events show to what extent the crisis of imperialism has neared its climax.

Dear Friends,

We are living in the splendid era of transition from capitalism to socialism and are happy to take part directly in the building and strengthening of the world socialist system. The decisive influence of the socialist countries on the world political situation is for the first time a historic event ensuring for mankind the possibility of preventing a new world war. At present the overwhelming majority of people on the earth are making a stand for peace, and the forces of peace are developing at an unprecedented rate.

However, we Soviet people, as well as the working people of Viet Nam and the people of other peace-loving countries, have clearly seen the aggressive nature of imperialism and the design of the imperialists to render the world situation more strained, to suppress the freedom and independence of nations. That is why we must constantly heighten the vigilance of the nations and strive to expand the struggle

to preserve and strengthen peace. Only by the resolute and zealous action of all peace-loving forces is it possible to ensure peaceful co-existence.

Dear Comrades,

The 15th foundation anniversary of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam falls at the same time as another great event, the convening of the Viet Nam Workers' Party Third Congress.

Faithful to the immortal Marxist-Leninist theory, heroically struggling for the freedom and happiness of the Vietnamese people, for the international communist movement and world peace, the Viet Nam Workers' Party is worthy of the esteem of the entire Vietnamese people and of all communist and workers' parties in the world.

Dear Comrades,

I wish you and the entire Vietnamese people new big achievements in the struggle for socialist building in your country, for national reunification by peaceful means and a lasting peace the world over.

Hail to the 15-year old Democratic Republic of Viet Nam!

Glory to the heroic Viet Nam Workers' Party led by the Central Committee with Comrade Ho Chi Minh at its head!

Long live the ever unshakable friendship between the Soviet and Vietnamese peoples!

GREETINGS FROM THE PARTY AND **GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE** PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Dear President Ho Chi Minh, Dear Comrades and Friends,

We feel it a great honour and pleasure to attend the ceremony commemorating the fifteenth anniversary of the victorious revolution of the Vietnamese people. Allow us, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, the Government of the People's Republic of China and 650 million Chinese people, to send our heartfelt fraternal congratulations to the glorious Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the industrious Vietnamese people.

The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam was born fifteen years ago. At that time, great changes occurred in Viet Nam as well as in the world. Compared with the history of mankind, fifteen years is only a short span, but during this time, an important page in the history of humanity has been written. The victory of the anti-fascist struggle, with the Soviet Union as the main force, has opened a wide path for the revolutionary struggle of the world's people. Many countries have broken away from the capitalist system and the mighty socialist camp has been formed. Many oppressed peoples have successively risen up to break the chains of colonialism and semi-feudalism. This is a great epoch — the epoch of victory of the people. The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam came into being and has developed in this epoch. Today, together with the brotherly Vietnamese people, we welcome this great festival — the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. This makes us a hundred times more confident in the brilliant future of the struggle of the world's people against imperialism and for world peace and the progress of mankind.

The Vietnamese people have a long tradition of revolutionary struggle. For nearly a hundred years, they waged a heroic struggle against the rule of French colonialism, and finally, in August 1945, won victory in the revolution under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and President Ho Chi Minh. However, less than a month after the birth of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the French colonialists, supported by U.S. and British imperialism, unleashed an all out armed attack on the Republic. The Vietnamese people, rallying closely around the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and President Ho Chi Minh, waged an arduous war of resistance against France under the most trying conditions. They seized weapons from the enemy to arm themselves, made their small and weak forces big and strong, liberated most of their homeland and won the world-shaking victory in the Dien Bien Phu campaign. They finally compelled the French colonialists to sit round the table and negotiate with the representatives of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam at Geneva, and conclude an agreement on the cessation of hostilites and a political settlement. On the basis of recognition of the national interests of the Indo-Chinese people, the Geneva Conference restored peace in Indo-China and put an end to the war unleashed by imperialism. This was a major victory of the Vietnamese people and the Indo-Chinese people as a whole in their fight for independence and national liberation. This was also a victory of the forces of peace throughout the world over the forces of war.

The victory won by the Vietnamese people in their war of resistance created conditions for their carrying out the socialist revolution and socialist construction in the North. After the armistice, the people in north Viet Nam, under the correct leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, laboured selflessly, and rapidly re-habilitated their national economy, long despoiled by colonialism and ravaged by war. They have developed state-owned enterprises and completed land reform, and since 1958, have undertaken the socialist transformation of agriculture, the handicraft industry, capitalist industry and commerce, and the Three-Year Plan for the development and transformation of the economy and the development of culture, thereby laying a solid material basis for socialist construction in north Viet Nam. In north Viet Nam, the gross output value of state-owned industry in 1959 was more than 17 times that of 1955. Last year the output of rice, the main crop in the North, was more than double that of the prewar record year of 1939. On the cultural front, illiteracy in the North has in the main been wiped out. Spare-time study has become a popular movement among workers and employees. At the same time, the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Vietnamese Government have accomplished much on the political and ideological fronts. The debate on the two roads — the socialist and the capitalist roads, conducted in the countryside in 1959 and 1960 and the rectification campaign among the cadres and their training, have further strengthened the determination and confidence of the people and cadres in north Viet Nam in building socialism and unifying their country, while at the same time speeding up socialist transformation.

The people of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam have been carrying out socialist revolution and socialist construction under very difficult conditions. But, instead of bowing to difficulties, the heroic Vietnamese people, under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and President Ho Chi Minh, have set themselves the lofty aim of building Viet Nam into a peaceful, unified, independent, democratic, strong and prosperous country, have brought into full play their fine tradition of industry, thrift, and self-reliance and have finally built up a socialist state, starting from a basis of backwardness and poverty. Their brilliant achievements in the past fifteen years are of major international significance. They are shining examples of the triumph of Marxism-Leninism in a colonial country.

The great successes achieved by the Vietnamese people in north Viet Nam have enhanced their confidence in the possibilities of peacefully reunifying their Motherland. The 1954 Geneva Agreements provided for the reunification of Viet Nam by general elections to be held throughout the country. But the south Viet Nam authorities dominated by the U.S. imperialists have turned a deaf ear to all sensible proposals made by the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and refused to negotiate with her government regarding the holding of free general elections. The U.S. imperialists have also sabotaged the stipulations of the Geneva Agreements on ending all hostile acts, and since the cease-fire have continued illegally sending numerous personnel of the "U.S. military advisors' mission", and shipping big quantities of ammunition to south Viet Nam in order to transform it into a colony and military base for aggression against the South-east Asian countries.

Under the rule of U.S. imperialism and the Ngo Dinh Diem clique, the people in south Viet Nam are leading a wretched life. They have risen successively in various places in struggle against U.S. imperialism for their survival and freedom, against aggression and for independence, and are forging a broad united front embracing all strata, all areas and all nationalities. They are sounding the knell for the reactionary rule of U.S. imperialism and its jackals. The days of the U.S.—Ngo Dinh Diem clique are numbered. Its adherents will eventually be drowned in the surging tide of the Vietnamese people's struggle. There is no force capable of thwarting the firm will of the entire Vietnamese people for the peaceful reunification of their country.

Under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Vietnamese people have constantly abided by the principle of proletarian internationalism and indefatigably contributed to strengthening the solidarity of the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union. Situated in the south-eastern part of that camp, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has been resolutely fighting against the aggressive and warlike policy of the U.S. imperialists and has shared greatly in the defence of peace in Indo-China and Asia. The brilliant successes achieved by the Vietnamese people during nine years of armed struggle against the French colonialists, and six years of economic rehabilitation and construction, have been conducive to the consolidation of the socialist camp, to the firm maintenance of the southern front of the socialist camp and have encouraged the oppressed peoples to fight for national independence and freedom. These contributions by the Vietnamese people to world peace and the progress of mankind have aroused the great admiration of the peace-loving people of the world, and their just struggle will receive the constant and strong support of the socialist countries and of people throughout the world.

The Chinese people and Vietnamese people have, by tradition, always felt a warm friendship towards each other. They have always supported each other and shown mutual sympathy in their long struggle against imperialism. Many outstanding sons and daughters of Viet Nam sacrificed their lives or were persecuted by the reactionaries while fighting for the Chinese Revolution. They have contributed a valuable part to the strengthening of Sino-Vietnamese friendship. Following the liberation of our two countries, this friendship has been developed in all fields and on a new basis. Our two countries are closely united in the great socialist family headed by the Soviet Union. We are co-operating and assisting each other in the struggle against U.S. imperialism and for the defence of peace in South-east Asia and the world, as well as in socialist construction. In the past few years, political, economic, cultural, scientific and technical co-operation between our two countries has developed considerably. On behalf of the Chinese people. I extend our gratitude to the Vietnamese people for their wholehearted assistance during the testing days of the Chinese Revolution and their valuable support for our socialist construction.

The present situation in the world is very favourable to us. Our socialist camp is becoming more prosperous with every passing day, and the economy of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries has developed powerfully, while the imperialist camp is fraught with contradictions and difficulties. An increasing number of people in Asia, Africa and Latin America who have seen the rotten nature of imperialism and colonialism, have successively risen up. The people of south Korea, Turkey, Japan, Laos and south Viet Nam have stood up and struggled against the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen and have dealt telling blows to the U.S. imperialists' aggressive and bellicose policy.

Our socialist countries have constantly carried out a foreign policy of peace and of championing peaceful co-existence between countries of differing social systems. Together with other socialist countries, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has unremittingly contributed her efforts to the realization of this common goal. At present, she has established friendly relations with several peaceable and neutral countries in Asia and Africa and is expanding friendly relations with other peace-loving nations. This is a great victory for the foreign policy of peace of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Over the past fifteen years, under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Vietnamese people have travelled along a difficult but glorious road and have carried the day. At present, they have ahead of them the huge and hard task of building socialism in north Viet Nam and peacefully reunifying their Motherland. We are confident that under the correct leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and President Ho Chi Minh, the Vietnamese people will certainly triumph in their struggle to defend peace, reunify the country and build socialism.

Long live the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam! Long live the unshakable friendship between China and Viet Nam!

Long live the great solidarity of the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union!

Long live world peace!

Long live the Viet Nam Workers' Party!

Long live President Ho Chi Minh!

GREETINGS FROM THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

Dear Comrade President, Dear Comrades, Dear Friends,

In this great celebration, the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, I am very happy to convey the warm greetings and best wishes of the Albanian people, the Central Committee of the Albanian Workers' Party, the Government of the People's Republic of Albanian and Comrade Enver Hodja personally, to the heroic fraternal Vietnamese people and their outstanding leader, comrade Ho Chi Minh.

The Albanian people have followed with particular attention and great sympathy the sacred, long struggle waged by the Vietnamese people against the colonialists to win complete freedom and build a happy life. The Albanian people are always elated at every achievement of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, at the great upsurge for economic and cultural construction, at the socialist transformation which is proceeding daily in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. The elimination of the backward state left behind by the cruel colonialist yoke, the restoration in a short time (1955-1957) of a wrecked economy, the co-operative organisation of agricultural economy on a large scale, and the promoting of the building of

a new socialist industry have voiced most clearly the great creative potentialities of the hard-working Vietnamese people, and testified most clearly to the correct Marxist-Leninist path followed by the Viet Nam Workers' Party under the clearsighted and resolute leadership of comrade Ho Chi Minh, President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the close friend of the Albanian people.

The Three-Year Plan (1958-1960) has laid a firm basis for further development of socialist economy and culture: at present, there are 30,000 agricultural co-operatives embracing one half of peasants' households. Seventy per cent of individual craftsmen have joined collective work groups. At the beginning of this year, the transformation of capitalist industry and commerce had been fundamentally achieved. Besides, the industrial output of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in the first half of 1960 increased by more than 7 per cent as compared with 1955 as a whole.

We firmly believe that the north Vietnamese people will certainly and steadily march toward a happy future like the other brother countries in the socialist camp headed by the glorious Soviet Union - our dear friend and common guardian. The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam will resolutely carry on its just struggle for the implementation of the Geneva Agreements and the peaceful reunification of the country, which are being obstructed by the U.S. imperialists. The reactionary Ngo Dinh Diem clique has sold south Viet Nam to the American imperialists, turned it into an aggressive military base, and undermined south Viet Nam economy and culture, ceaselessly submerging the southern people under misfortune and humiliations. The imperialists and their henchmen are manœuvring to make south Viet Nam join the aggressive S. E. A. T. O. bloc with a view to deepening the hatred between south Viet Nam and the peaceloving Asian peoples, and to turn south Viet Nam into

a reliable tool to realize their aggressive aims. That is precisely why they are hindering the reunification of Viet Nam into one democratic state. The imperialists headed by their U.S. rulers, are manœuvring to impose their yoke upon the peoples, creating new hotbeds of war to threaten world peace. That is why they kindled the Korean war in which, as is wellknown, they suffered great and shameful failures in the political and economic fields, thanks to the resolute resistance waged by the Korean people and the blood sacrificed by the heroic Chinese Volunteers. They want to maintain their rule over Taiwan, an integral part of the territory of the People's Republic of China. Availing themselves of the voting procedure of the United Nations Organization, they are preventing the People's Republic of China from joining it though it is well-known that no issue of great international significance can be solved without her participation. They want to undermine the Cuban people's freedom, infringe upon the independence of the newborn Republic of Congo, and suppress the national movement in Laos.

But they will never be able to realize their perfidious schemes, because of the existence of the great invincible Soviet Union, and great People's China, because the socialist camp has long since proved its supremacy over the capitalist camp, and because the movement for national liberation of the oppressed peoples has developed unceasingly and the world peace movement is winning over millions of toiling people throughout the world.

We are convinced that, together with the other peoples in the great socialist family, the Vietnamese people will score many new successes on their path toward socialism, and in their struggle against the imperialists and revisionists, who are plotting to split the monolithic bloc of our brother countries and Parties.

The Albanian people have always pursued a policy of peaceful co-existence among nations with differing social systems and are sparing no efforts in maintaining peace and oppose U.S. imperialism — the cruellest enemy of all nations.

Our Party, Government and people always warmly and unanimously support the proposals of the Soviet Union on general and complete disarmament, on the elimination of the aftermath of the Second World War, on the conclusion of a peace treaty with the two German states, on the West Berlin problem, and other

problems.

Our Party and people pay particular attention to the problem of struggling against the revisionists, first of all the revisionists in Yugoslavia. This, as already stressed in the Declaration of the Moscow Conference, is because revisionism constitutes the main danger for the international communist and workers' movement. The Yugoslav revisionists are none other than servants of U.S. imperialism. They are leaving no stone unturned to undermine the unity of the socialist camp, and wreck the forces of the international communist and workers' movement. By way of espionage, sabotage, provocation and terrorism, the Yugoslav revisionists are constantly indulging in provocative acts against our country in an attempt to make it their own. Faced with the solid unity of the socialist camp led by the Soviet Union, up till now and henceforth, the Yugoslav revisionists and their masters, U.S. imperialism, have failed and will fail in all their perfidious schemes to impede the advance of socialism and communism.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

The Albanian people, united around the Albanian Workers' Party headed by Comrade Enver Hodja, are successfully building a happy socialist life. United within a broad patriotic movement, our toiling people are determined to fulfil the second Five-Year Plan

ahead of schedule to welcome the Fifth Congress of the Albanian Workers' Party. Our industrial output at the present time is 22.5 times that of 1938, therefore we are said to be living in a country where a year is made up of only 16 days. The patriotic peasants have engaged on Lenin's co-operative path and are about to achieve agricultural collectivization in the whole country. The cultural revolution has spread far and wide among the entire people, illiteracy has been wiped out, the network of schools extended to the remotest areas in Albania, and many scientific, art, cultural and other works have been produced. The people's living standard has noticeably improved.

In these jubilant days for the Vietnamese people, we wish you, comrades and friends, new successes in socialist construction and in your strenuous struggle for national reunification. We pledge that the Albanian people, at the opposite outpost of the socialist camp, will unceasingly struggle to preserve the purity of Marxism-Leninism, and against our arch enemy - the U.S. imperialists and the revisionists in Yugoslavia. We will defend the unshakable unity of mind in the socialist camp and cherish it like the apple of our eye. Under the leadership of the Albanian Workers' Party, the Albanian people will always remain vigilant; hoes and rifles in hands, they will certainly contribute victoriously to the struggle for the cause of peace and complete victory of socialism and communism.

Glory to the heroic Vietnamese people!

Long live the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the tested leader of the Vietnamese people, headed by comrade Ho Chi Minh!

Long live the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam!

Long live the unity of the socialist camp led by the Soviet Union, and the lasting friendship between our two peoples!

Long live world peace!

GREETINGS FROM THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

Dear Comrades, Dear Friends,

On this happy day for the Vietnamese people, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and our working people, I convey to the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Vietnamese people, dearest greetings and wishes for new and greater successes in the building of socialism and the struggle for peaceful reunification of your country still divided by the U.S. imperialists.

The Bulgarian people followed with great interest and profound sympathy the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party to set up people's democratic power in Viet Nam fifteen years ago, as well as their nine-year armed struggle which ended in 1954 with the heroic Dien Bien Phu victory over the French colonialists. With all that, you have consolidated your national independence and opened the way for the new development of socialism.

In a very short historical period of peaceful development, the heroic Vietnamese people have mobilized

their whole force and creative spirit to rid their country of obscurantism and the great misery created by the so-called Western "civilizers".

Fundamental changes have been realized in the social and political life of the country. Land reform was carried out, and land distributed to the tillers.

The great successes scored in the development of the national economy and the raising of the people's material and cultural level, as well as the enthusiastic spirit of the working people of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, constitute a firm guarantee for the fulfilment and overfulfilment of the first Three-Year Economic Plan aimed at doubling the agricultural production and increasing the industrial production by 78 per cent over 1957.

Under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Bulgarian people are striving to realize the third Five-Year Plan focussed upon great aims for our country. In the People's Republic of Bulgaria, socialism has triumphed: in towns as well as in countryside, and in social, political, economic and cultural fields. The national income has increased by two and a half times over 1939. In 1959, the economic plan was fulfilled: in industry it was 24.9 per cent and in rural economy 18.1 per cent more than in 1958. In the first half of 1960, industrial production reached 102.2 per cent, and the co-operative fields have given a rich crop.

From a backward agricultural country, the People's Republic of Bulgaria was turned into an industrial — agricultural country with a developed socialist industry and a co-operative and mechanized agricultural economy.

During the last sixteen years, there have been important changes in education, science, art and culture. A new socialist intelligentsia has been

trained — engineers and mechanics, physicians, teachers, agronomists, economists, etc. Extensive work has been carried out to re-educate the working people according to the socialist spirit. Health measures with a wide scope have been put into practice. All the above-mentioned achievements have brought to the Bulgarians a better and finer life.

Our two countries have recorded great successes because they are both members of the great socialist family headed by the mighty Soviet Union, which has assisted our peoples morally and materially, and passed on to us historical experiences universally applicable in the building of socialism. These successes have been achieved also thanks to the guidance of our Marxist-Leninist Parties — the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Bulgarian Communist Party — which have been tempered in struggle and have made the thoughts of Marx, Engels and Lenin a living cause.

We welcome the logical Leninist international policy implemented by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the latter's efforts to safeguard and strengthen world peace.

At present, the forces of peace throughout the world are more numerous and powerful than those of war, and their number is constantly increasing. A real possibility for preventing a new war exists. The socialist camp will be able to bring the aggressors to reason if ever they dare disturb our peaceful labour. The advocates of cold war have had to recognize the existence of the socialist camp, which is becoming more and more powerful, economically and militarily. However, there still remains some forces which are attempting to drag the world into a new world war. That is why our people must heighten their revolutionary vigilance and, if need be, deal deadly blows at the aggressors.

Dear Comrades,

Once more we wish you new and greater successes in socialist construction, in the building of a better and happier life for the brother Vietnamese people, as well as in your struggle for the peaceful reunification of the country.

Long live the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam! Long live the unshakable friendship and the everfirmer co-operation between our two countries!

Long live the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union!

Long live world peace!

GREETINGS FROM THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Dear Comrades,

On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia and the Czechoslovak people, I convey to the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Vietnamese people, the sincere fraternal greetings and warmest congratulations.

Vietnamese people, led by the Communists of their country, got rid of the domination of the French colonialists and Japanese invaders to reconquer national independence. This day became the most important turning-point in the history of your nation. It ushered in a new epoch in the history of Viet Nam, the epoch of a happy life for the working people. The French colonialists tried in vain to check the peaceful and democratic evolution of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, and re-establish their domination. During a nine-year war, in spite of many sacrifices, the heroic Vietnamese people had defended their freedom and national independence against the French colonialists equipped with modern arms.

After the restoration of peace, the Vietnamese people, by their devoted and unremitting work, and supported by the other countries of the socialist camp, scored great successes in the reconstruction of their national economy as well as in the new development of their country in every field, thus remedying in a short space of time the damage caused by a long-term war and the consequences of the colonial regime to which they were submitted during scores of years.

Now, the Vietnamese people, led by the Viet Nam Workers' Party and in co-operation with the Soviet Union and the other brother socialist countries, have successfully achieved the tasks of the 1960 economic plan — the last year of their Three-Year Plan of economic and cultural development. The fulfilment of the aims set by the Three-Year Plan, and more especially of the first Five-Year Plan for national economic development which is in preparation, will make a fundamental contribution to the development of socialist economy and culture as well as to the setting up of the socialist regime in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

The Czechoslovak people rejoice at the important successes scored by the working people of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in the development of agriculture and industry as well as in the raising of their living standard. Within only a few years after the restoration of peace in Indo-China, the country has undergone fundamental changes. With the help of the socialist countries, chiefly the Soviet Union, a backward agricultural country, the result of colonialism, is building her national industry at a rapid tempo. From 1955 to 1959 alone, production increased four times over, the making of consumer goods by 2.8, and State industrial production 17 times over.

Now, thanks to the correct policy of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Vietnamese countryside and industry have undergone fundamental transformations,

aimed at building socialism in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. The successes scored in agricultural production by the co-operative movement in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam are of great value. In a relatively short time, more than 34,000 new agricultural co-operatives, embracing 55 per cent of peasant households, have been founded.

The Czechoslovak working people and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia feel a profound friendship and sympathy for the Vietnamese people, and fully support their just struggle for a unified, democratic and independent Viet Nam.

The U.S. imperialists, who are fostering the Ngo Dinh Diem clique in south Viet Nam, have put serious obstacles in the way of the peaceful reunification of Viet Nam on the basis of the Geneva Agreements on Indo-China. The efforts of the Vietnamese people and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, aimed at settling the most important problem for the Vietnamese nation — the problem of reunifying Viet Nam by peaceful and democratic means — are enjoying the support of the whole of peace-loving mankind, because these efforts will lead to the elimination of the danger of war engendered by the Ngo Dinh Diem clique, stooges of the U.S.

The peaceful foreign policy of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has contributed greatly to the cause of peaceful co-existence, and to the establishment of good relations between the South-east Asian countries. The foreign policy of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, aimed at strengthening peace and security among the South-east Asian countries and the world over, enjoys full support from the countries of the socialist camp and all forces of peace in the world.

The political, economic and cultural relations between the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia are becoming more and more extensive. The co-operation between our countries, based on the thorough applying of the principle of mutual assistance and advantages, helps the development of the national economy of the two countries — which is in the interest of strengthening the world socialist system — and represents an expression of proletarian internationalism.

Our two peoples, members of the great socialist family headed by the Soviet Union, are bound together by unshakable relations of friendship and brotherhood and by our common efforts in the struggle to build socialism and defend world peace. We are determined to pursue this path together with the great Soviet Union and the other brother countries of the world socialist system. The socialist camp, the firmest bulwark of peace, is, together with all friends of peace in the world, able to ensure a lasting peace.

It is with joy that the Czechoslovak working people hear about the successes scored by Viet Nam in her economic and cultural development. They are as delighted at the good results obtained by the Vietnamese working people as at their own. They consider the efforts of the Vietnamese people as a brilliant example for the nations which are fighting colonialist slavery.

The Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia desires a still more effective development of co-operation and mutual assistance in economic and cultural relations, in the interest of the people of the two countries and of the whole socialist camp.

Allow me, dear friends, to extend to you warm and fraternal greetings from the Czechoslovak people and our wishes for new successes in the building of socialism in your country.

Long live the prosperous Democratic Republic of Viet Nam!

Long live the great and invincible socialist camp! Long live world peace!

GREETINGS FROM THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Dear Comrades,

Dear Friends,

We are very happy to convey to the Vietnamese people and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam the warmest wishes and brotherly greetings in the struggle from Comrade President Wilhem Pieck, the Central Committee of the German United Socialist Party, the Government, the Fatherland Front of the German Democratic Republic and the German people, on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Though our two peoples are thousands of miles apart, but we are linked together by fraternal relationship in the common struggle for peace and socialism.

Both our countries are integral parts of the camp of peace and socialism headed by the mighty Soviet Union. The iron-like unity, the unshakable friendship and the fraternal co-operation among the socialist countries which are advancing under the invincible banner of Marxism-Leninism, constitute an inexhaustible source of strength.

The working people of the German Democratic Republic heartily admire the great achievements recorded by the working people of the Democratic

Republic of Viet Nam in building socialism. These successes have been obtained, thanks to the Viet Nam Workers' Party which is leading the Vietnamese people to the highest and most brilliant peak of socialism, peace, welfare and happiness.

Every step forward you make in building socialism constitute a success in the struggle to defend peace and that is the most important thing in the life of the

peoples.

Dear Friends,

You may be sure that the working people of the German Democratic Republic, your friends and comrades-in-arms, will always side with you.

The untiring struggle full of sacrifices, by the peoples to safeguard and maintain peace, has recorded important successes. The events in south Korea. Turkey, Japan and Laos have proved that the U.S. aggressive imperialists' trees cannot grow upright; their policy has met with ever stronger resistance in south Viet Nam. The peoples in Asia, Africa and Latin America who are fighting to win back national independence are leaning on the growing forces and supremacy of the socialist camp, the camp which is now having a decisive influence on the development of the world situation, thus providing great possibilities for averting imperialist wars and defending peace.

The policy of peaceful co-existence between countries with different social systems is becoming more and more successful.

However, the peoples should heighten their vigilance because there remain imperialist forces in the world which always benefit from creating tensions and following a policy of war.

We should strengthen the struggle for general and complete disarmament. We should oppose the aggressive policy of the U.S. imperialists who are using their stooges such as Adenauer in West Germany and Ngo Dinh Diem in south Viet Nam in an attempt to hinder the advance of history. A policy of persecution and repression of all patriotic people is being pursued in south Viet Nam. The Ngo Dinh Diem clique is completely dependent on the U.S. But U.S. dollars and guns cannot save the reactionary regime there from collapse. The Vietnamese people's demand that the Geneva Agreements — the international legal basis for attaining the democratic and peaceful reunification of the whole of Viet Nam — will finally be carried out, should not in any way be disregarded. We are all the more sensitive to this demand because Germany itself is still divided. In West Germany, the aggressive forces of German imperialism and militarism, having come back to power with the support of U.S. imperialism, are trying to perpetuate Germany's partition and turn West Germany into a U.S. war base. The equipping of the Bundeswehr with atomic weapons constitutes a threat to peace in Europe and throughout the world.

The Adenauer government wants to expand the North Atlantic Treaty Organization bloc throughout Germany by means of forces, and for this reason has sabotaged the peaceful reunification of Germany.

Therefore, we consider the problems of averting the danger of war and the elimination of West German militarism as questions of vital importance forces, opposing the imperialist war plots hatched by the militarists in West Germany. The Socialist Unity Party of Germany stands on a peace platform to save the people of Germany and serve their interests.

We demand the signing of a peace treaty between the two German States. This treaty will compel the warseeking West German militarists to submit, and pave the way for the establishment of a federation between the German Democratic Republic and West Germany. The German Democratic Republic is a workers' and peasants' State; the working people in our country are bringing socialism to success. Together with the carrying out of the Seven-Year Plan, the consolidation of the German Democratic Republic as a firm base for the peace-loving German people will contribute the most important part to our struggle for the re-establishment of a unified, peaceful and democratic Germany. In this struggle, we have always enjoyed the brotherly support of the labouring people of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. We are very grateful to you.

We greatly rejoice at the continued development of relations between the German Democratic Republic and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, which are based on the lofty principles of proletarian internationalism.

The Central Executive Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the Government and people of the Democratic Republic of Germany wish the brotherly working people of Viet Nam many new and great successes in laying the foundations of socialism and in struggling to reunify the country and defend peace.

Long live the everlasting friendship between the German people and the Vietnamese people!

Long live the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the D.R.V.N. !

Long live President Ho Chi Minh, our beloved and respected friend and comrade!

Long live the iron-like unified bloc of the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union!

Long live world peace!

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GREETINGS FROM THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY

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Dear Comrades,

Dear Friends,

On this great celebration, the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, we convey to you the warmest and most sincere greetings from the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, the Government and labouring people of the People's Republic of Hungary.

The heroic and historic victories scored by the Vietnamese people under the Vietnamese Communist Party in the struggle for national independence and freedom are well known to the Hungarian people. We are also well aware of the great historic role of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in the International Workers' Movement and in the progress of mankind. Therefore the people in our country have closely followed and greatly rejoiced at the splendid achievements of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in the building of socialism.

Though the People's Republic of Hungary and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam are thousands of miles apart, we are not separated from each other by this long distance. On the contrary, it demonstrates the enormous size of the peace camp now engaging in

socialist construction. The brotherhood and close cooperation between the people of our countries prove that the socialist ideal is really great. This ideal can gather together the peoples of the earth to attain this fine goal.

With their glorious victory over the French imperialists, the Vietnamese people have written in the history of our era one of the finest pages in the struggle against imperialism. In the determined struggle of the heroic Vietnamese people our hearts beat in unison with theirs in all events and we shared our Vietnamese brothers' and sisters' joy when we heard that their victory flag had been hoisted over the Dien Bien Phu entrenched camp. Dien Bien Phu has become the symbol of the heroic struggle of a freedomloving and indomitable nation.

The colonialists' dirty war was brought to bitter failure. However, the Vietnamese people's victory is not yet complete, their country is still divided into two zones. The imperialists' shadows darkening the area south of the 17th Parallel compel our Vietnamese brothers to be vigilant and make great efforts.

The U.S. imperialists have replaced the decadent French colonialists and turned south Viet Nam into a base for their rash aggressive war. The imperialists and their lackeys in the South have been seeking by every means to hinder the implementation of the Geneva Agreements which provide that the Vietnamese people have the right to realize their aspiration in conformity with the fundamental interest of their nation and world peace. As a result, this international problem has, so far, not yet been settled.

Ngo Dinh Diem, that notorious reactionary diehard is doing what a Vietnamese proverb describes as 'bringing snakes home to bite one's own chickens'. He has brought the imperialist monster to south Viet

Nam. Therefore the south Vietnamese people have known untold sufferings caused by the U.S. - Diem policy of terror and barbarous massacre. Under their rule, massacres called purges recur continuously and their special military courts have decapitated many patriots. To Auchwitz, Buchenwald and Dachau concentration camps, known to the world as symbols of horrible murders perpetrated by barbarous fascists, there must be added the name of Phu Loi. The Hungarian people are highly indignant at the cruel acts of the Ngo Dinh Diem clique and the imperialists. The people and Government of the People's Republic of Hungary agree with and fully support the people and Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in their struggle for the implementation of the Geneva Agreements.

Dear Comrades,

Dear Friends.

We are very happy to attend the commemorative ceremony of the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. We are all the more happy at your splendid achievements in the rehabilitation and construction of your country in every respect. The Exhibition on Fifteen Years' achievements of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has illustrated to us what we have heard or read in newspapers and books.

On our return home, we will not forget to report to the Hungarian people what we have heard and seen in your country and we firmly believe that this will help the people of our two countries to understand each other better, and the friendship between our two countries to develop further. The Hungarian people have engraved in their hearts the picture of Comrade Ho Chi Minh, the great son of the Vietnamese people they had the opportunity to meet in 1957 on his visit to Hungary. The Hungarian children deeply love and will never forget old Father Ho. All the people in our country — old and young alike — rejoice at the warm brotherhood extended to them by the Vietnamese people and their leader. We firmly believe that the relations between our two countries will be further consolidated and developed day by day in the interest of both peoples and the socialist camp as a whole.

GREETINGS FROM THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Dear Comrades,
Dear Friends,

On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the founding of the glorious Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Korean Labour Party, the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people, I convey to you and the Vietnamese people warmest greetings and fraternal salutations.

The Vietnamese people were successful in the August Revolution and have firmly held State power. During the past 15 years, under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party headed by Comrade Ho Chi Minh, they have recorded brilliant achievements in the hard but glorious struggle for freedom, independence and the building of a new society.

The heroic Vietnamese people won a historic victory in the Resistance war against the imperialist invaders which lasted more than eight years. Not only did they heal the war wounds in a short period immediately after the armistice, but also achieved democratic reforms and scored great achievements in the building of socialism.

At present, in Vietnamese towns as well as in the countryside the transformation of production relations into socialist production relations is strongly pushed forward with an ever-increasing speed, and production is developing unceasingly.

Industrial production has increased more than fourfold in 1955, the first year following the armistice,

and the total output of rice increased by 47 per cent in five years after the war, and has risen to 5,200,000 tons.

In accordance with the economic plan, the people's livelihood is rising day by day; science and culture have been developing strongly.

The Vietnamese people have been tempered in their struggle to build a new society, and the unity between the leading Party and the people has become closer than ever before.

All the achievements recorded by the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam are the splendid outcome of the correct leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the brilliant results of the creative labour of the Vietnamese people closely united around the Party, and a magnificent success of Marxism-Leninism.

In Viet Nam the achievements recorded in socialist construction will further strengthen the belief in final victory of the Vietnamese people who are struggling for national reunification and independence. They have also greatly encouraged the people in south Viet Nam who, in spite of cruel repression by the U. S. imperialists and the Ngo Dinh Diem clique, are struggling resolutely for national reunification and independence and against all suppression of political rights, oppression and misery.

The Korean people, who are also suffering from national partition, regard as their own the struggle of the Vietnamese people to drive the U.S. imperialists — our common enemy — out of their territory and achieve peaceful reunification of their Fatherland.

The Government and people of the Korean People's Democratic Republic, together with other peace-loving countries and people in the world, have actively supported the constant efforts of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam for the peaceful reunification of their country, and energetically condemn the aggressive policy of the U. S. imperialists.

The 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indo-China must be scrupulously carried out. Viet Nam must be reunified on a democratic basis.

The Korean people also celebrated the 15th anniversary of their Liberation Day on August 15, and reviewed the brilliant achievements scored by them under the leadership of the Korean Workers' Party headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Our country was savagely destroyed by the threeyear war launched by the U.S. imperialists. Now it has become a socialist industrial-agricultural country with an independent economic basis.

Socialist production relations obtain in all national economic fields, and State industry occupies 74 per cent of the gross value of industry.

At present, our industrial output for 20 days equals that of the whole year 1946, immediately after the liberation.

Based on the achievements scored in socialist construction, our Party and people are, preparing the Seven-Year Plan (1961 — 1967) to develop national economy, a determined step in the social industrialization of our country, aimed at turning it into a developed industrial one and raising the people's livelihood to a level marking a new era.

In 1967, we shall produce 17 thousand million kws. of electric power, more than 23 million tons of anthracite, 2,500,000 tons of steel, 4,300,000 tons of cement, 1,500,000 tons of chemical fertilizers and 500 million metres of textiles.

The Korean people firmly believe that the day when they will be able to enjoy a happy life in a unified country is coming nearer day by day. They are struggling harder and harder to increase the speed of socialist construction and rapidly realize national reunification.

Everywhere in our country, from town to countryside, from factories to mines, the people are raising their voice to demand the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. army and peaceful national reunification, thus the struggle of the south Korean people to change the present political regime and build a new society is becoming more and more widely developed.

Due to the heroic struggle of the south Korean people, the basis of the colonial domination by the U.S. imperialists in south Korea is being struck at the roots, and the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys are facing a disordered political situation and an irremediable economic crisis.

Nevertheless, the U.S. imperialists are still clinging to south Korea and are widely and feverishly manœuvring to maintain their rotten domination there.

However, the schemes and frenzied activities of the enemy cannot check the advance of our people, who are struggling for a just cause, strongly supported and encouraged by the camp of peace and socialism headed by the great Soviet Union.

It is certain that our two peoples will finally succeed in driving the U.S. troops from our respective territories and achieve national reunification.

The Korean people are sparing and will continue to spare no effort to strengthen the unity and solidarity of the socialist camp headed by the great Soviet Union, and will always stand shoulder to shoulder with the brotherly Vietnamese people.

Our two peoples stand together in the great socialist family and, together, are struggling for national reunification and independence and for the triumph of socialism.

I wish the brotherly Vietnamese people still greater successes in their struggle for peace, reunification, independence, democracy and socialism.

Long live the glorious Democratic Republic of Viet Nam!

Long live the friendship and fraternal solidarity between the Korean and Vietnamese peoples!

GREETINGS FROM THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC OF MONGOLIA

Dear Comrades, Dear Friends,

On the occasion of your great National Day, the 15th glorious anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, on behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of Mongolia and of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, I convey our best greetings to you and the brotherly Vietnamese people.

Our delegation sincerely thanks the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam for inviting us to visit your country and enjoy together with you the anniversary of this glorious day.

Fifteen years ago, thanks to the victory of the August Revolution, the heroic Vietnamese people, after having freed Viet Nam from the heavy feudal and colonial yoke, reconquered their freedom and independence and set up people's power in north Viet Nam.

Our people, together will all the peace-loving people, warmly greet the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam which is the Vietnamese people's great victory.

In the past fifteen years, under the clearsighted leadership of the glorious Viet Nam Workers' Party headed by Comrade Ho Chi Minh, an outstanding militant of the international workers' and communist

movement, the Vietnamese people have scored splendid achievements in socialist construction and in their struggle against imperialism for the defence

of peace in the East and the world over.

In the heroic struggle against reactionary imperialist forces to defend the revolutionary achievements, the heroic Vietnamese people have in a short period, liquidated the heavy consequences of war, successfully achieved land reform, and laid the foundation for the fulfilment of the Three-Year Economic Plan

which is being successfully achieved.

In the first half of 1960, the brotherly Vietnamese people scored brilliant results in the achievement of the State plan, and are continuing to do so. It was also in the same period that the socialist transformation of private capitalist industry and commerce was, in the main, completed, and industrial output reached 101 per cent. Agricultural transformation is also being carried out with despatch: by May Ist 1960, there were in north Viet Nam nearly 34,000 agricultural producers' co-operatives, comprising 55 per cent of toiling peasants' households.

On the basis of a rapid industrial and agricultural development, the living standard of the working people of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has

constantly risen.

The Mongolian people greatly rejoice at the outstanding achievements of a brother people in economic and cultural development. These great achievements constitute a firm guarantee for the reunification of your country and are a valuable contribution to the strengthening of the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union — our common friend — and to make it grow rapidly day by day.

Dear Comrades,

Formerly, the Mongolian people as well as the Vietnamese people endured the rigours of a foreign aggressor's colonial yoke. It was only after the

victory of the 1921 people's revolution, due to the direct influence of the great October Revolution, that our people reconquered freedom and independence and established genuine people's power. The success of Marxism-Leninism in our country has created historical changes in our people's life in every field.

From being a backward livestock breeding country Mongolia has become an agricultural-industrial country with a firm socialist economic basis. This is the main result of the realization of great ideas in socialist construction. Our young industry occupies nearly half the gross output of the industrial and agricultural yield in our country. In the last two years alone, gross output of industry increased by 28 per cent; in the first half of 1960 it increased by 22.1 per cent over the first half of 1959. Now, our young industry's daily output is 1.4 times the output of the whole year 1930. In recent years, thanks to the ever increasing fraternal help of the mighty Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and other socialist countries, our industry has been developing at a considerable rate. We trust it will develop strongly in the period to come. According to the plan, by 1965 it will occupy more than half the industrial and agricultural output of the country.

In 1959, by successfully achieving the agricultural co-operation, our country gained a further historic victory in the building of socialism. At present there are 99.3 per cent of the total peasant households in agricultural co-operatives. We have thus solved one of the biggest difficulties in the socialist revolution

in our country.

With the success of the co-operative system, with the attainment of socialist production relations, the People's Republic of Mongolia has stepped into a historical period of new development — a period of extending the building of socialism in our country.

Thanks to the success of the system of co-operation, our agriculture is becoming more prosperous day by

day, yesterday's individual peasant is now master of his field, livestock and co-operative, and is struggling for socialism. The socialist sectors in agriculture (State farms, co-operatives, mechanized cattle-breeding stations) every year successfully achieve the plan for increasing the number of State livestock.

In fact, it can be said that in Mongolia, now, the agricultural branch ranks second after that of cattle-breeding. In 1960, our State farms have supplied many countries with nearly 7 million poods of grain. We trust that we will have twice the amount we had

in 1959.

Thanks to the successes of socialist industry and agriculture, the modern branches of communications and transport, education and public health are also developing. We have a network of schools and people's education centres. Illiteracy has been basically liquidated. A system of secondary and elementary people's education has been set up for children of school age. In Mongolia one inhabitant out of seven goes to school.

Our People's Government pays great attention to the people's health. There are eight physicians for 10,000 inhabitants. Thanks to the improvement of the working people's livelihood the average yearly

increase in the population is three per cent.

Our people have met with difficulties and hardships, but we have won historical success. This has been written down in the new constitution of the People's Republic of Mongolia and approved by the ordinary session of our National Assembly held in July 1960. We are full of gratitude towards the glorious Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party — the clearsighted leader of our victories. We are grateful to the mighty Soviet Union and the other socialist countries for their noble fraternal assistance.

At present the Mongolian people are more closely united than ever around the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and the

People's Government. With growing strength and warm patriotism they are working to achieve successfully the tasks of the last crucial year of the 1958-1960 plan of development of the People's Republic of Mongolia. The realization of these tasks will mark a further important step in our progress.

Dear Comrades,

The friendship and co-operation between our countries are consolidating and developing year by year for our people's interest and happiness, and for the strengthening of peace in Asia and the world over.

The Mongolian people highly esteem this friendship, and firmly believe that it will develop and will be unceasingly consolidated.

On this happy day we are confident that though the imperialists are seeking to undermine the Geneva Agreements, the heroic and industrious Vietnamese people will succeed in reunifying their beloved Fatherland and will make substantial contributions to the cause of peace in Asia and the world.

I wholeheartedly wish you great successes in the building of socialism in your country, in the peaceful reunification of your Fatherland and in the struggle for world peace.

Long live the industrious and heroic Vietnamese people!

Long live the unshakable fraternal friendship between the Vietnamese people and the Mongolian people!

Long live the fraternal friendship and unity of mind between the socialist countries headed by the great Soviet Union!

Long live world peace!

GREETINGS FROM THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF POLAND

Dear Comrades,
Dear Friends.

We are very happy to be in the brotherly Democratic Republic of Viet Nam on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the proclamation of her independence. We rejoice at celebrating together with the Vietnamese people this joyful festival, common to all countries of the socialist community including Poland.

The Vietnamese people had for more than half of this period to wage a bloody and heroic struggle to safeguard her freedom and national independence.

The Polish people have many a time struggled for freedom and independence, that is why the fate of the Vietnamese people has been and is particularly close to us though our two countries are far distant from each other.

We have followed the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people against colonialism and imperialism with great interest, emotion and sincere sympathy. Our people always joined actively with progressive mankind to show their indignation at the dirty war waged by the French colonialists and to demand an end to it.

Together with the Vietnamese people, we rejoice at their victory.

Due to the protracted war which devastated almost the whole of its economy, the Vietnamese people met with innumerable difficulties in embarking on their peaceful labour immediately after the victory of the Resistance war. We therefore esteem all the more your great successes scored in socialist construction. Our people are very elated at the achievements of the Vietnamese people under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and Comrade Ho Chi Minh.

At present, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam is realizing the dream of her people's finest sons—that is to build a free and happy socialist society.

It is a pity that the whole of the Vietnamese people cannot join in this great work. In the South, a semi-colonial, dependent and oppressive regime still prevails.

Poland decided to participate in the International Commission for Control and Supervision set up in furtherance of the Geneva Agreements, in order to contribute in this way to the consolidation of peace in Indo-China and the reunification of Viet Nam. But the ruling circles of the United States, pursuing their political and strategic aims, first of all, that of maintaining their bases in Indo-China, are actively propping up the unpopular Ngo Dinh Diem Government who are sabotaging the Geneva Agreements and have rejected all proposals of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam Government aimed at reunifying the country.

As a result, it has not yet been possible to achieve the peaceful reunification of Viet Nam. Recently, many resolutions passed by majority votes by the International Commission for Control and Supervision, in spite of the opposition of the Polish Delegation and though running counter to the spirit of the Geneva Agreements, have neither helped in the normalisation of the situation nor in the reunification of Viet Nam.

However we are convinced that ultimate victory will not be for Diem and the imperialist forces supporting him, but will be that of the whole Vietnamese people.

Your example stimulates your southern brothers, giving them courage and hope and inspiring them to struggle against all those who are impeding the peaceful reunification of your country.

We are very happy to see that the relations between the People's Republic of Poland and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam are developing on the basis of mutual benefits and are contributing to speeding up socialist construction in our countries.

As with us, the source of your success lies in the fact that your country is also part of the great family of countries which are building socialism on the basis of mutual assistance in the light of Marxist-Leninist ideas. We are well aware that your country would develop in a more comprehensive manner if Viet Nam were not divided, if your people were not cut asunder.

Your struggle for peaceful national reunification is fully supported by our Government and people.

The development of the international situation confirms the complete failure of the imperialist powers' colonial policy aimed at oppressing the peoples. The peoples have also risen against the aggressive policy of Western circles aimed at maintaining the cold war and the arms race.

At present, the force of the Soviet Union and the socialist camp as a whole have become strong enough to cope effectively with the enemies of peace. Today, imperialism is no longer the decisive force in the world, therefore war is no longer inevitable. The force and the unity of our camp, coupled with the determination of millions of people throughout the world, are becoming more and more effective in staying the forces of war.

The policy of peace adopted by your Party enjoyed the Vietnamese people's full support during the recent elections to the National Assembly. Your great efforts and successes scored in peaceful socialist construction have effectively contributed to the strength of our camp and the struggle for world peace. Today, on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, I have the great honour to convey to you, on behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of Poland, of the Polish Unified Workers' Party and of the entire Polish people, our most heartfelt wishes for further successes in socialist construction and in the reunification of your beautiful Fatherland.

Long live the friendship between the Vietnamese and Polish peoples!

Long live the unshakable unity and solidarity among the socialist countries!

Long live peace!

GREETINGS FROM THE PARTY AND **GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE** PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF RUMANIA

Dear Comrades and Friends,

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party, the Government of the People's Republic of Rumania and the entire Rumanian people, I bring to the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the entire Vietnamese people, our heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Demo-

cratic Republic of Viet Nam.

On September 2nd, 1945, President Ho Chi Minh solemnly declared, "The Vietnamese people have the right to be free and independent, and in fact they are so already". This great event occurred when the Soviet army had just triumphed over the Japanese imperialists and when the broad masses of the Vietnamese people, under the leadership of the Communist Party, had risen up and carried through the August Revolution, it was the brilliant outcome of a long and hard struggle for peace waged by the Vietnamese people, and opened up a new era in the centuries-old history of Viet Nam.

Our people followed with deep sympathy and admiration the heroic struggle full of sacrifice waged by the Vietnamese people in the following years to defend the achievements obtained by the Revolution and to thwart the colonialist forces which strove by hook or by crook to re-establish their domination.

After having smashed the chains of bondage imposed by an alien country upon the North of their Fatherland, the Vietnamese people - imbued with the same inexhaustible energy they had shown during the Resistance - switched over to the re-habilitation of their economy shattered by the war, in order to eliminate the state of economic backwardnes shaqueathed by the colonialists, to raise the living standard of the people and to build socialism. The successes recorded by the working people of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in socialist construction have proved the great abilities of a nation which has won freedom, and constitute a firm guarantee for an ever brighter future. These achievements were the outcome of the great experience in the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, and of the close links between the Vietnamese people and their Party and Government. Like the other people's democracies, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam is favoured with the co-operation and assistance of the Soviet Union and the brother countries in our socialist camp.

While in north Viet Nam the people are leading a new life in freedom, their compatriots in the south are living under the incubus of misery, terror and colonialist domination. The Rumanian people sincerely hope that the Vietnamese people will soon realize their deep national aspiration and that Viet Nam will be reunified at an early date on the basis of peace and democracy. We wish you brilliant success in your endeavour to attain this lofty goal, which is entirely in accordance with the aspirations of the whole Vietnamese people and in the interest of security and order in South-east Asia and of world peace.

Dear Comrades,

Applying in a practical way the Leninist line of the Rumanian Workers' Party, during the past sixteen years since the day our country was freed from fascist shackles, our people have achieved great successes in their work of building a socialist society. In the People's Republic of Rumanian, economic bases for socialism have been established and the system of exploitation of man by man definitely abolished. The Third Congress of the Rumanian Workers' Party held last summer, was the landmark for a new stage—that of completion of socialist construction. The historic resolutions taken during this Congress have encouraged the toiling people of our country to devote themselves heart and soul to fulfilling the indices established in the Six-Year Plan aimed at bringing our socialist economy and culture to a higher level.

Our two peoples are sealed together by a fraternal friendship based on our common struggle for peace and socialism — a friendship which is developing day by day. The visits made by Party and Government leaders of both our countries have played an important part in strengthening the co-operation and assistance between the People's Republic of Rumanian and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Our two peoples have contributed their best to the consolidation of solidarity and unity of mind of the great socialist camp. This solidarity and unity is a firm guarantee for the advance of both our countries on the socialist path and also a decisive factor for the progress of mankind and the defence of world peace.

The main particularity of present international life is that the world balance of forces is favourable for peace and not for the warmongers. At present, practical conditions exist for applying Lenin's policy of peaceful co-existence to prevent a new war. The development of the present situation in the world has fully proved the correctness of this policy. The important tasks of the whole socialist camp and all the communist and workers' parties are resolutely to struggle for the defence of world peace in order to smash the aggressive schemes of the imperialist circles headed by the U.S. imperialists, and to struggle tirelessly to rally all peace-loving forces in the world in a broad

united front. The People's Republic of Rumania, side by side with the great Soviet Union and other socialist countries, is strictly carrying out a policy of peaceful co-existence and demanding the execution of the plan for complete and general disarmament. The People's Republic of Rumania is resolutely struggling for the complete victory of the ideal of peace and socialism.

Dear Comrades,

The Rumanian people participate will all their heart and soul in the great festival of the Vietnamese people. As faithful friends and brothers, we share your joy.

We wish you further successes in your work of socialist construction and in your struggle for the peaceful reunification of your country and the defence of peace in South-east Asia and all over the world.

Long live the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam!

Long live the Viet Nam Workers' Party headed by President Ho Chi Minh!

Long live the friendship between the Rumanian people and the Vietnamese people!

Long live the monolithic solidarity of the socialist camp!

Long live world peace!

PART THREE

His Excellency HO CHI MINH President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam HANOI

On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the people of Cambodia join me in sending our warmest felicitations as well as our best wishes for the prosperity of the Vietnamese people. I am very pleased to express our admiration for the remarkable progress realized under your leadership by the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and her people. I am strongly persuaded that the strengthening of friendship between our two countries will contribute to the safeguarding of peace in south-east Asia and the world.

NORODOM SIHANOUK Head of State of Cambodia

His Excellency HO CHI MINH President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam HANOI

On the occasion of the anniversary of the glorious liberation of your country, the Government and the people of Guinea send you their warmest felicitations. Under your dynamic impulsion we are persuaded that our common determination will contribute to the necessary emancipation of the Afro-Asian peoples. I myself wish you, symbol of Viet Nam's freedom, longevity and prosperity. High consideration.

SEKOU TOURE
President of the Republic of Guinea

His Excellency HO CHI MINH President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam HANOI

On the occasion of the National Day of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the Government and the people of India join me in sending to Your Excellency our most cordial felicitations as well as our best wishes for Your Excellency's health and welfare and for the progress and prosperity of your people.

Dr. RAJENDRA PRASAD
President of the Republic of India

His Excellency HO CHI MINH President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam HANOI

On the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of National Day of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, on behalf of the people of Indonesia and myself, I wish to convey to Your Excellency and through Your Excellency to the people of Viet Nam most cordial congratulations and best wishes.

SUKARNO
President of the Republic of Indonesia

His Excellency Dr. HO CHI MINH President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam HANOI

It gives me pleasure to avail myself on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic to extend to Your Excellency my sincere felicitations, wishing Your Excellency health and happiness and the friendly people of Democratic Viet Nam success and prosperity.

MOHAMED NAJIB EL RUBAI

President of the Council of Sovereignty
of the Republic of Iraq

