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EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
PRESS AND INFORMATION SECTION

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**VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN'S
MARCH 21, 1979 STATEMENT DENOUNCING THE
CHINESE AGGRESSORS FOR CONTINUING TO
OCCUPY MANY AREAS OF VIETNAMESE TERRITORY**

On March 16 and 17, 1979, the Peking authorities claimed that their troops had all been withdrawn on March 16, 1979.

This claim is not true. It aims to deceive the people of China and the world who are closely following their words and actions.

The truth is that up to March 18, 1979, more than 10,000 Chinese aggressor troops still remained in three areas and at 16 points in the provinces of Lang Son, Cao Bang, Ha Tuyen, Hoang Lien Son and Lai Chau. At the areas north and northwest of That Khe (Lang Son province), two Chinese regiments remained stationed from ten to twenty kilometres inside Vietnamese territory. In all these areas, Chinese troops continue to commit crimes against the Vietnamese people. In Lang Son, in addition to marker-posts 41 and 45, the Chinese side has moved marker-post 33 deeper into Vietnamese territory 800 metres.

In the meantime, the Peking authorities have spoken of their desire for prompt negotiations in an attempt to deceive the public.

The Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam resolutely demands that the Peking authorities withdraw immediately and unconditionally all their aggressor troops to the other side of the historical border line which the two sides have agreed to respect, immediately stop all crimes against the Vietnamese people, and stop moving border marker-posts deeper into Vietnamese territory, and cease all other attempts at changing the historical border-line between the two countries./.

N O T E

from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to
the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
People's Republic of China

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam acknowledges receipt of the March 19, 1979 Note of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China and wishes to make clear the views of the Vietnamese side as follows :

1- Since February 17, 1979, the Chinese rulers have brazenly waged a war of aggression against Viet Nam. To defend the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of their fatherland, the Vietnamese people united as one man have risen up in a heroic fight, and dealt heavy blows at the aggressors. For the sake of peace and justice, broad sections of world public opinion have extended strong support to the Vietnamese people's struggle. The Chinese people and troops have also voiced ever stronger protests against the Peking rulers' aggressive war in Viet Nam.

In face of this situation, on March 5, 1979, the Chinese rulers had to declare that they would begin to bring home all their troops.

On the following day, March 6, 1979, the Vietnamese Government made clear its stand :

"The Chinese rulers having waged a war of aggression against Viet Nam must put a permanent end to their aggression, withdraw immediately, completely and unconditionally their troops to the other side of the historical border-line which the two sides have agreed to respect, and strictly respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Viet Nam.

If China really withdraws all its troops from the Vietnamese territory as it has stated, then, after the complete withdrawal of Chinese troops to the other side of the historical

border-line which the two sides have agreed to respect, the Vietnamese side will be prepared to enter immediately into talks with the Chinese side at the level of Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs on the restoration of normal relations between the two countries. The timing and place will be agreed upon between the two sides''.

On March 15, 1979, the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent to the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs a Note reaffirming its March 6, 1979 stand and giving further details on the timing, place and contents of the talks.

On March 17, 1979, the head of the Department for China of the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs met the acting Charge d'Affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Viet Nam to inquire about the Chinese answer to the March 15, 1979 Note of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry and he stressed that all Chinese troops must be brought home before the talks begin as mentioned by the Vietnamese side in the March 15, 1979, Note.

Through these three proposals of the Vietnamese side, world public opinion and the Chinese people realize that while using the self-defence right to fight back the aggression of the Chinese rulers in order to defend the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of their fatherland, the Vietnamese Government and people persistently advocate a negotiated settlement of all problems concerning the relations between the two countries.

2- On March 19, 1979, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent a reply to the March 15, 1979 Note of the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, expounding the Chinese views on the timing and place of the talks.

But an important question is : though various personalities of the Peking ruling circles have declared that China completed the withdrawal of troops on March 16, 1979, Chinese troops have so far remained stationed on the Vietnamese territory in 16 places and three sectors, some places from 10 to 20 kilometres deep inside Vietnamese territory. They have continued committing crimes against the Vietnamese people. The

Chinese side has also shifted a number of border-stones deep into Vietnamese land. It has also sent armed forces to embark on repeated violations of the Vietnamese territory.

From the above situation, it is clear that the Peking rulers do not match their deeds with their words. They are creating obstacles to an early start of the talks, at the same time, they have made continued threats of war of aggression against Viet Nam.

In the March 19, 1979 Note of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Chinese side profusely talked about 'friendship', in fact, to cover up its acts of aggression, under the signboard of 'talks', it is trying to legalize its occupation of many areas of the Vietnamese territory. On the other hand, it has demanded that the Vietnamese side change the so-called 'erroneous policy of hostility to China', and 'stop armed provocations and encroachments against China'. These are insolent allegations calling black white and designed to place on the same footing the aggressor and the people fighting against aggression.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam wishes to affirm once again that : After the complete withdrawal of Chinese troops to the other side of the historical border-line which the two sides have agreed to respect, the Vietnamese side will be prepared to enter immediately into talks with the Chinese side to discuss urgent measures to maintain peace and stability in the border area on the basis of respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and the restoration of normal relations between the two countries.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam is constantly animated with good-will and the desire to preserve the traditional friendship between the Vietnamese and the Chinese people. If from now to March 28, 1979, all the Chinese troops are brought home, the Vietnamese side proposes to begin the talks on March 29, 1979, the meeting place will be alternatively Hanoi and Peking. With the first round of talks being held in Hanoi.

If the Chinese troops continue to occupy the Vietnamese territory, the Vietnamese army and people will resolutely use their legitimate self-defence right to defend the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of their fatherland. Responsibility for delaying the talks will rest entirely with the Chinese side.

Hanoi, March 21, 1979.

D O C U M E N T S

of the Helsinki International Emergency
Conference in support of Viet Nam

HANDS OFF VIET NAM !

Appeal of the International Emergency
Conference in Support of Viet Nam

The world is the deeply-disturbed witness of China's massive armed aggression unleashed by the leadership of the people's Republic of China against the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, a symbol of courage and steadfastness in its enormous sufferings in the name of the struggle for peace and independence.

This aggression, which is against the interest of the Chinese people themselves, is universally condemned.

The armed attack on Viet Nam is in gross violation of the UN Charter and the Generally-accepted rules of international law, which should be universally respected.

It is threat to detente and peaceful coexistence in international relations. It is a dangerous proof of the adventurism of the Chinese leadership, whose policies run the risk of plunging humanity into unprecedented disaster.

The invasion of the Chinese troops is stirring up angry

protest from all who, in denouncing the Chinese leaders' manoeuvres, are voicing their own resolute support for peace, freedom and independence for all countries.

We, representatives of public opinion for peace in over one hundred countries and thirty international organisations, meeting together at the International Emergency Conference in support of Viet Nam (Helsinki, 6-8 March, 1979) appeal to all peace-loving forces to intensify the widespread solidarity movement with Viet Nam urging the Chinese authorities to definitely put an end forthwith to their aggression, we call for unconditional withdrawal of all their troops from Viet Nam. Full sovereignty and territorial integrity of Viet Nam, just as that of all countries throughout the world must be respected. The extension of the Chinese war of aggression to the Lao people's Democratic Republic and other countries in the region must be prevented.

Today, as yesterday, there is but one watchword :
HANDS OFF VIET NAM !

A P P E A L
to the Chinese people

In reflecting the deep disquiet of world public opinion we, representatives of peace forces from more than one hundred countries and thirty international organisations, meeting as matter of emergency in Helsinki from 6-8 March 1979, have agreed to address the following appeal to the people of China:

Chinese leaders have unleashed a massive armed aggression against the people of Viet Nam - an independent, sovereign country and a friend of the Chinese people.

This aggression, which is costing many lives and considerable material losses, violates all norms of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. It is aimed not only against the Vietnamese people, but also against the very interests of the Chinese people themselves. It favours arms' manufacturers and enemies of world peace, detente and disarmament.

The signatories to this appeal harbour the best feelings of friendship for the Chinese people. Deeply convinced that you, the people of China, also cherish peace, we call upon you to stop the hand of the aggressor and demand that the leadership of your country forthwith and for all time halt the aggression and withdraw Chinese troops to the last man from Vietnamese soil and respect faithfully the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Viet Nam.

The Great Chinese people, with whom the peace forces have always shown their solidarity in the struggle for independence and freedom, must have it made quite clear to them that all the peoples of the world condemn this unjust war against the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, we strongly urge you, the people of China, and beg you to do all you possibly can to bring an end to this war, to safeguard peace in Asia and throughout the world. Mankind's most precious possession is peace./.

INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN OF SOLIDARITY
AND IN DEFENCE OF VIET NAM
(PROGRAMME OF ACTION)

All of us heard with horror and anxiety the news of the invasion of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam by Chinese troops. Many people have asked how they can help halt this aggression against Viet Nam which threatens world peace. It is the moral duty of all of us to mobilise and to organise the largest strata of world public opinion for this purpose.

In the past, the fights the Vietnamese have waged against colonialists and imperialist aggressors to gain their freedom and independence have been assisted by many millions of peace of and freedom loving people throughout the world. This moral and material assistance has helped not only the Vietnamese, but the cause of peace generally. The challenge is with us now. Once again we must mobilise to defend Viet Nam and the principles we hold dear.

There are a large number of ways in which different bodies can act :

1- Disseminating the documents and conclusions of this International Emergency Conference in support of Viet Nam. To undertake in our own countries, in our own communities and in the various organisations of which we are members, such as political parties, trade unions, women's organisations, youth and students groups, peace and solidarity committees, religious circles, and professional, cultural and intellectual groups, action which will lead to this end.

2- Setting up of an international coordinating body for mobilisation of international opinion in defence of Viet Nam, which could, conference was prepared, namely by asking the World Peace Council and other international and national organisations to ensure that this task is implemented.

3- Activisation, revitalisation and setting up of national committees of solidarity and friendship and in defence of Viet Nam in every country of the world. These committees should immediately direct their attention :

- Influence their own governments and political parties to condemn the Chinese position and to use whatever influence those governments may have in trade, diplomacy or international forums such as the UN to force the Chinese to withdraw immediately, totally and unconditionally from Viet Nam.

- Organise campaigns of protest at Chinese diplomatic, trade and other representations in their countries.

- Launch campaigns against the supply of arms, military and strategic materials and against collaboration in the military field with the Chinese aggressor.

- Calling upon trade unions to review the handling of arms and war materials intended for China or coming from there with a view to a total boycott of these. A broadly based international trade union conference should be held to coordinate internationally trade union action in this campaign.

- Attempt to persuade the Chinese people and Chinese communities living throughout the world to oppose the militaristic activities of the current regime in China.

- An international commission of enquiry should be set up to investigate war crimes committed by the Chinese aggressors in Viet Nam.

- To use opportunities provided by such occasions as May Day, June 1st (the International Day of the child), and solidarity weeks which would be announced to draw attention to the situation created by the Chinese aggressor in Viet Nam and to implement actions determined by this conference.

4- Mass media and information campaigns are vital to the success of this mobilisation.

- All organisations supporting the defence of Viet Nam should call meetings, protests, rallies and seminars, collect and issue information by way of pamphlets, press releases, posters, films and other means of mass communication, preferably coordinated with national, regional or international committees.

- The mass media must be called to account to observe the spirit of the UNESCO declaration on mass media, but our movement must ensure alternative forms of communication to combat the campaign of lies and distortion which has been created by imperialist and Chinese propagandists.

- All journalists in particular should try to ensure that their employing organs reflect the objective truth about the nature of the Chinese aims in South-East Asia, rather than reporting in the interests of imperialist circles and multinational corporations which try to exploit the situation in order to create greater advantage and profits for themselves.

- Audio-visual material such as films, photographs, and posters must be supplied on a constant basis and distributed throughout the world.

- International and national organisations should, in coordination with the Vietnamese friends, send delegations to study the situation in Viet Nam and the rest of South-East Asia and report back to their countries. International and national organisations should sponsor tours by Vietnamese representatives to tell the truth about the situation in Viet Nam.

5- The people of Viet Nam require our material aid in order to enable them to carry out their struggle for freedom, independence territorial integrity and sovereignty.

The Vietnamese people only recently had to combat natural disasters which have destroyed crops and devastated villages, now must face this Chinese aggression.

- Priority in material assistance should be directed towards providing food, clothing and medicaments.

- The cultural heritage and national education of the Vietnamese people must be preserved, to this end, paper is urgently needed-particularly for children in schools.

- It is necessary to draw special attention to the horror and deprivation being created for the children of Viet Nam in this international year of the child.

- The time to commence post-war reconstruction in the areas ravaged by the Chinese aggressors is now. Different countries and solidarity movements as from now onwards should volunteer a commitment to help in the rebuilding of houses, schools, hospitals, kindergartens, etc. in these areas so that normal life can be quickly restored once victory has been achieved./.

AMBASSADOR HA VAN LAU ADDRESSES
UN SECURITY COUNCIL
(16th March, 1979)

Mr. President,

At previous sessions of the UN Security Council in February our delegation spoke in detail about the war of aggression waged by the rulers in Peking against the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, and about the origin and immediate causes of the war. Our delegation, having in mind the interests of nations, also proposed a correct solution to this problem in keeping with realities and the principles of the UN Charter.

But, as was pointed out right at the beginning of the current session by the Soviet and Czechoslovak Delegates, the United States and a number of other countries have deliberately posed the problem in a form of which we are aware : 'the situation in Southeast Asia and its consequences on peace and international security', their aim is to distract the Security Council from reality, and this has failed to bring the debate to any conclusion.

To day, the Council once again held a meeting to discuss the draft resolution proposed by the ASEAN countries. This resolution, on the one hand, reflects these countries' concern about the Chinese aggression against Viet Nam, but, on the other a plea of combining the aforesaid aggression with the so-called Kampuchean issue.

Hoping that the UN Security Council can make a positive contribution to working out a correct solution on a sound basis I again want to briefly present to the council my Government's views on the present situation in Indochina and Southeast Asia.

1- What has happened in the recent past is quite obvious:

- The Chinese authorities' war of aggression against Viet Nam has completely exposed their expansionism, big-nation hegemonism and reactionary policy. That policy constitutes a great danger to peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world.

Suffering from hard and well-deserved retaliation by the Vietnamese people, strong protests by the world and strong opposition by the Chinese people and soldiers, the Peking authorities have been forced to take their troops home. Yet, they openly threaten to carry out new military adventures against Viet Nam. Though the war of aggression was partly defeated, the danger of a new war has not been eliminated.

Meanwhile, the Peking authorities continue supplying ammunition to the Pol Pot - Ieng Sary regime overthrown by the Kampuchean people, to interfere in the internal affairs of Kampuchea, and prevent the Kampuchean people from rebuilding their country.

At the same time, the Peking authorities are feverishly stepping up their activities of interference in the internal affairs of Laos, concentrating their troops along its border to menace the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of that country. They are preparing a war of aggression against Laos, sowing discord between Laos, Viet Nam and Kampuchea, and sabotaging peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

- The Pol Pot - Ieng Sary clique, the henchmen of Peking, the greatest criminal butcher of our time, and the saboteur of peace and stability in Southeast Asia, has been toppled by the Kampuchean people. A new regime has been firmly set up in Kampuchea with policies of peace, friendship and international cooperation. It enjoys the support of the Kampuchean people, and constitutes a positive factor for peace and stability in Southeast Asia. This fact is irreversible.

It is obvious that the only problem in Southeast Asia is that of Chinese aggression against Viet Nam, of Chinese interference in Kampuchea and threats of violence against Laos. There is no such thing as the so-called Kampuchean issue. All attempts to link Chinese aggression against Viet Nam and demands for a withdrawal of Chinese troops with the Kampuchean question are aimed at covering up Chinese aggression. Broad world opinion has strongly condemned the Peking authorities' aggression against Viet Nam, their continued interference in Kampuchea's internal and their increased military threat to Laos.

The Peking authorities have lined up with the United States, stuck with the political corpse of the Pol Pot regime overthrown by the Kampuchean people, and used the mouthpiece of the criminal Pol Pot clique to cover up their aggression against Viet Nam, their expansionist and hegemonistic policy in Southeast Asia, and to oppose the Kampuchean people's right to settle their internal affairs by themselves in the spirit of the UN Charter.

For this reason, China and the United States have so far denied the people's revolutionary council of Kampuchea - the only genuine and authentic representative of the Kampuchean people - the right of access to the UN Security Council.

2- The collusion between the Peking reactionaries and the United States is taking place on a world scale. The Peking authorities have joined hands with the United States and reactionary forces to oppose the Arab, African, Latin American and Asian peoples.

They are the accomplices of the reactionary cliques opposed to the Chilean, Iranian, and South African peoples and liberation movements. Recently they have cooperated in their criminal war of aggression against the Vietnamese people. The present collusion at the UN Security Council between Peking, which is invading Viet Nam, and the United States, which had previously committed barbarous crimes in South Viet Nam, is a manifestation of their global collusion to oppose justice throughout the world.

Over the past 30 years, the United States has used the UN Security Council as an instrument to serve its imperialist interests, and to oppose the people of the world. The Soviet Union has many times used its right of veto to oppose the United States's schemes and to support the national liberation struggles against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, the Soviet Union's veto is a great support for the world people's just struggle against imperialism and international reaction.

The UN Security Council, with its responsibility for maintaining peace and international security, should vehemently condemn the Chinese authorities' war policies, and force them to permanently cease their aggression against Viet Nam, immediately, completely and unconditionally bring their troops home, stop all their criminal acts against Viet Nam, fully respect Viet Nam's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, stop their interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea and Laos, and put an end to their military menace to Laos. That is the legitimate demand of the Vietnamese, Lao and Kampuchean peoples, of the Southeast Asian peoples, and of peace and justice - loving peoples throughout the world.

If the UN Security Council is unable to achieve anything constructive, it should at least refrain from any move to encourage the Peking reactionaries to oppose the peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Kampuchea, and to undermine peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world.

3- The ASEAN countries formerly backed the United States war of aggression against Viet Nam, Laos and Kampuchea. They owe a debt to these countries. But Viet Nam is willing to forget the past. In the interests of peace and stability in Southeast Asia, the ASEAN countries should look to the future, and should not follow the wrong path a second time by joining with the Peking reactionaries to oppose the peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Kampuchea. The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam is ready to cooperate with the ASEAN countries to struggle for the building of Southeast Asia into a region of peace, independence, freedom, neutrality, stability and prosperity./.
