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

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No. 16 - 30 December, 1980

MEMORANDUM ON CHINA'S HOSTILITY TO VIET NAM  
IN 1980

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Hanoi, VNA, December 29, The Foreign Ministry here today issued the following memorandum on China's hostility to Viet Nam in 1980.

In 1979, the Chinese authorities sustained bitter defeats in the aggression against Vietnam from both the Southwest and the North and in a series of other anti-Vietnamese activities. Sticking to their scheme of weakening and breaking Vietnam they stepped up their collusion with the U.S. imperialism in 1980 by intensifying hostile actions against Vietnam in many aspects and many ways.

1) Intensification of armed provocations on land, in the air and on the sea, continued occupation of Vietnamese territories, feverish war preparations and threat of another aggression.

Since the beginning of this year the Chinese authorities conducted more than 2,500 armed provocations along the Vietnamese border. On land, many Chinese units have repeatedly carried out ambushes and raids deep inside Vietnam, killing and kidnapping people, looting and causing destruction. The Chinese army from the other side of the border have regularly pounded with mortar and artillery fire on population centres, forest camps, hospitals, shops and schools along the Sino-Vietnamese border. Certain places were hit by a thousand shells

in a single day, and attacks were made on places as far as ten kilometres inside Vietnamese land. In these armed provocations, hundreds of civilians and border guards have been killed or wounded, many buildings destroyed and hundreds of hectares of forest and crop fields ravaged. Chinese troops have also taken away large numbers of cattle and other property of the people.

A particularly grave situation was the occupation of many hilltop positions along the border by the Chinese armed forces and their intrusion into dozens of places deep inside Vietnam, especially in the provinces of Lang Son, Cao Bang, Ha Tuyen and Hoang Lien Son. Their purpose is to control vast area in Vietnam, which are also used to spring regular attacks on the neighbourhoods. In many ways China has gradually extended their occupation of points previously seized from Vietnam and are continuing to take other places. On October 15, a regiment sized force, supported by heavy artillery, attacked and occupied a number of places in Xin An village, Xin Man District, Ha Tuyen Province.

Coupled with armed provocations and territorial expansion along the border on land, Chinese combat planes, in hundreds of flights, have intruded into Vietnam, sometimes entering as far as dozens of kilometres into Vietnam's air space. Meanwhile, Chinese armed vessels have made 6,000 entries into Vietnamese waters on a daily basis from Quang Ninh to the Truong Sa archipelago, engaged in provocative and spying activities, and disrupted normal activities of Vietnamese fishmen on Vietnamese territorial waters.

For many months now China has permanently posted 5 army corps in border areas and deployed 15 divisions very close to Vietnam, day and night weapons and war material have been moved close to the border, and gun emplacements have been supplied with more mortar and big cannon. Road systems have been extended or freshly built to link China to hilltops and enclaves occupied by Chinese forces along the border or inside Vietnam. Military airfields close to Vietnam have been enlarged and received many more fighter planes. China has also stepped up military buildup in

Hainan island and the Hoang Sa archipelago which it has seized from Vietnam, turning these places into springboards for future attacks. China has held long exercises for various armed services and combined exercises for regiments and army corps close to Vietnam both on land and on sea. Many responsible Chinese officials have repeated war threats against Vietnam. All these show that the Chinese authorities are trying to prepare for another war against Vietnam while resorting to war threats and military pressure along the border to undermine Vietnam's peaceful construction. These activities have caused a permanent tension and explosive situation along the border of the two countries.

2) Intensification of psychological warfare, division and subversive activities against Vietnam.

In a combination of slander, deception and psychological warfare China has crudely distorted the situation in Vietnam, attacking the line and policy of the Vietnamese Party and State and seeking to split Vietnam's national unity. China has continuously sent reactionary elements, among them many Chinese-trained Hoa, to mountainous areas in Vietnam's northern provinces for spying and subversive activities. Recently, special forces have been organized and sent to border communes allegedly to protect crops but actually to act as commandos in sabotage activities under various forms in border areas in Vietnam. More brazenly still China, beside giving aid and comfort to traitor Hoang Van Hoan, is seeking to recruit other Vietnamese reactionaries for new plot against Vietnam.

3) All kind of dirty tricks to divide Vietnam from Laos and Kampuchea and to put the ASEAN countries against Vietnam.

Resorting to customary slander and distortion the Chinese authorities have tried <sup>to</sup> sow division between Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, to sabotage the combatant solidarity between the three fraternal countries in the Indochina peninsula. At the same time they have increased their

collusion with the U.S. imperialist, strongly interfered into the internal affairs of Kampuchea, stepped up their sabotage and subversive activities against the Lao people. They tried by all means to push Thailand and other ASEAN countries to oppose Vietnam and other Indochinese countries aiming at weakening each country, thus facilitate their scheme of hegemonist expansion in Southeast Asia. They have hindered the tendency to dialogue between the ASEAN countries and the Indochinese countries. Their actions are running counter to the aspiration of the people in Southeast Asia and in other countries for peace and stability in the region and the rest of the world. It is clear that the hegemonistic, expansionist and aggressive policy of the Chinese authorities is against peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

#### 4) Undermining the Sin - Vietnamese talks

No progress has been made in the Sino-Vietnamese talks because of the arrogant stand and lack of good faith on the part of China. After many months since the end of 1979 and after repeatedly postponing the talks China unilaterally closed the second round of talks on March 6, 1980, saying that the third round would be conducted in Hanoi in the second half of the year.

The government and people of Vietnam, persistent in their policy to settle all problems between the two countries through negotiations have always desired to maintain and advance negotiations. In this spirit, the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry, in its notes to the Chinese Foreign Ministry on March 8 and September 12 this year, made clear Vietnam's view on the necessity to resume negotiations between the two countries and put forth concret<sup>proposal</sup> on the time for the beginning of the third round in the last six months of the year. China, however, has failed to keep its promise. It has stiffly rejected these constructive proposals. Moreover it has, by means of crude slander put the blame on Vietnam. It is thus clear that China itself has obstructed

negotiation with Vietnam. What is clear from these facts is that China, in 1980, continued to step up its hostility to Vietnam, causing greater tension in the relations between the two countries and gravely jeopardizing peace and stability in Southeast Asia. But despite its sinister military, political, economic and diplomatic moves and schemes against Vietnam, China has sustained successive setbacks and will fail completely.

The Armed forces and people of Vietnam, upholding the banner of peace, national independence and socialism and uniting millions as one man under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the party Central Committee headed by party Secretary Le Duan, are determined to advance steadily in the cause of socialist construction and national defence .

The government and people of Vietnam strongly denounce and sternly condemn the Chinese authorities for these hostile acts and schemes against Vietnam. We firmly demand that China put an immediate end to these acts and schemes, first of all by ending all armed provocations and territorial expansion on Vietnam's border, and putting an immediate stop to all war threat, war preparation and subversive activities against Vietnam.

In the interest of each people and for peace and stability in Southeast Asia, the government and people of Vietnam will persist in their stand to settle through negotiations all problems between Vietnam and China so as to normalize relations between the two countries and restore and promote the long standing friendship between the people of Vietnam and the Chinese people.

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