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EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
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M E M O R A N D U M

by

the Press and Information Department of the
Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist
Republic of Viet Nam on the Chinese authorities'
feverish preparations for war against Viet Nam

1- A GREAT TEMPO OF WAR PREPARATIONS

- Big armed forces have been moved from the heartland to the border, and the number of divisions positioned along the border has been increased from 12 to 15. Squad-or platoon-sized forces posted at enclaves along the border have also been increased to companies or battalions.

- Many pieces of long-range artillery, rockets, tanks and other modern war means have been moved into the key areas including hill-top positions and entry points facing the areas of Hoanh Mo (Quang Ninh), Huu Nghi Quan and Ba Son (Lang Son), and elsewhere. Communications and command centres are working without let-up to supervise the deployment of troops and war materiel.

- The transportation of troops and war means to the border has been stepped up. Instead of the usual average of about 100 trucloads, 500 trucks are being used every day. Materiel is also transported by mules to remote mountain areas in preparation for deep thrusts by mountain units.

- Joint exercises have been conducted repeatedly by the armoured, artillery and air force. Early this month, a multi-service exercise was mounted on a length of more than 100 kilometres along the border from Quang Ninh to Lang Son.

- China is also plotting political riots inside Viet Nam. Chinese agents have infiltrated mountain areas in Cao Bang, Hoang Lien Son, Ha Tuyen and Lai Chau to induce or coerce minority nationals to cross over to China. "Minority ethnic teams" have crossed the border into Viet Nam to try to sow division and set up bases for reactionary activities. Anti-Viet Nam leaflets have been spread.

2. STEPPED UP ARMED PROVOCATIONS TO VIOLATE VIET NAM'S
TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY, WORSEN RELATIONS BETWEEN
CHINA AND VIET NAM, AND THREATEN VIET NAM'S SECURITY
AND PEACE IN

A/ On land : Activities by Chinese armed forces have taken place on a greater frequency and in a growingly serious manner. within less than a month, China conducted more than 100 artillery, rocket or infantry attacks on most of the districts in the six Vietnamese border provinces including population centres and border posts killing some 30 Vietnamese civilians and soldiers and wounding dozens of others. Fire attacks would last several hours on end. Certain areas would be attacked again and again, and there were days when many areas were attacked simultaneously. Many attacks were conducted by the infantry under fire support from China.

A number of typical cases :

- At 9.30 a.m. on September 23, a Chinese company, supported by militia, intruded into the area of Lung Thoang in Ngoc Khe village, Tra Linh district, Cao Bang province, one kilometre this side of the border. The Chinese troops fired at harvesting peasants. Mr. Tran Van Lu was wounded and was stabbed to death. Many other people were wounded. The raiders wantonly fired at the hamlet and broke into houses to loot.

- On September 28, an area in Muong Khuong district, Hoang Lien Son, was attacked with dozens of 82mm mortar rounds, and subsequently raided by hundreds of Chinese troops, who came so far as three kilometres into Vietnamese territory.

On the same day, Chinese troops lobbed dozens of artillery rounds into a regional army unit in Pa Vay Su village, Xin Man district, Ha Tuyen. Following that, dozens of Chinese troops crossed the border to attack this area.

- On October 1, 2, 3 and 5, the Chinese army fired dozens of mortar artillery and heavy machine gun rounds at the villages of Chi Ca and Pa Vay (Ha Tuyen), Cao Lau village in Cao Loc district (Lang Son) and Pha Long and Tung Chung villages, Muong Khuong district (Hoang Lien Son), killing a number of civilians, destroying many houses, and doing great damage to crops.

A Chinese company on October 6 assaulted a Vietnamese border unit in Xin Chai village, Bat Xat district (Hoang Lien Son). Another company, positioned on the other side of the border, supported the attacking unit by firing more than 50 mortar rounds and hundreds of bursts from heavy machine guns. Two Vietnamese guards were killed, many others wounded.

Also that day, following a fire attack on Ngoc Khe village in Trung Khanh district, and an intrusion by scouts, China sent almost 200 soldiers and militiamen, all armed across the border, at marker post 65 into Lung Thoang area to rob the population.

On October 11, a Chinese platoon attacked a Vietnamese border post at kilometre 6 between Lao Cai and Muong Khuong (Hoang Lien Son) the attackers killed a Vietnamese soldier and wounded a number of others.

On the same day, Chinese troops fired machine guns, automatic rifles, and mortars at peasants at eight places in Quang Hoa district (Cao Bang), Muong Khuong (Hoang Lien Son) and Xin Man (Ha Tuyen). One peasant was killed, many others wounded and great damage was done to houses and crops.

On October 15, a group of Chinese soldiers ambushed a Vietnamese patrol at Lung Cu area Dong Van district (Ha Tuyen). The raiders killed two Vietnamese guards.

On October 17, a Chinese company under artillery support crossed the border and attacked a Vietnamese unit in Xin Man district (Ha Tuyen) at a place more than one kilometre inside Vietnamese territory.

More serious were the repeated intrusions by Chinese scouts into Thuong Phung village, Meo Vac district (HaTuyen), Chinese force entered the village where they fired at civilians and border guards and did great damage to houses and crops, Chinese artillery on the other side of the border also attacked this village and the nearby village of Xin Cai for several hours on a length of 25 kilometres, two Vietnamese were killed, many others wounded, three of them seriously.

B/ On the sea :

Along with armed activities on land the Chinese authorities have used a big number of military vessels and other naval craft in

repeated incursions into Vietnamese territorial waters seriously threatening Vietnam's security in these areas as well as on its off-shore islands. In September Chinese naval craft made more than 600 single entries into Vietnamese territorial waters, in the first 20 days of this month the figure increased sharply to more than 100 of which almost 500 were concentrated on the area around Bach Long Vi island :

- On September 22 more than 20 Chinese vessels operated around the islands of Bach Long Vi, Vinh Thuc and Tran.

- On September 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29, the area around Bach Long Vi was violated by almost 100 Chinese vessels.

- On September 30, 30 Chinese vessels intruded into the areas around Bach Long Vi and Co To.

In the first five days of this month, almost 160 Chinese vessels violated Vietnamese waters around Bach Long Vi.

- From October 5 to 10, more than 250 Chinese vessels operated around Bach Long Vi, Thanh Lan, Tran and between buoys 0 and 2 on the Bac Luan river.

- From October 11 to 14, the area around Bach Long Vi was again violated by more than 70 Chinese vessels.

- From October 15 to 17, more than 120 Chinese violations were mounted around Bach Long Vi, Thanh Lan, Co To and Tran.

- Again, from October 18 to 21, more than 50 Chinese vessels entered Vietnamese waters around Bach Long Vi.

Attention must also be drawn to the fact that many of these violations on the sea were coupled with activities by Chinese combat aircraft. The Chinese authorities have also arrogantly established four 'danger zones' over international waters and Vietnamese waters around the Hoang Sa archipelago, banning all flights over these zones at a certain attitude, without fixing any deadline for the interdiction. That was a blatant violation of Viet Nam's territorial sovereignty, and a gross contravention of international law.

Most recently, they have set up many military installations on the Hoang Sa archipelago which they seized from Viet Nam in 1974.

All this unerringly point to frantic war preparations against Viet Nam.

C/ In the air :

China has recently moved a great number of bomber aircraft of various types to Hai Nam island. Chinese combat aircraft, meanwhile, have conducted frequent exercises along the Sino-Vietnamese border, while bombers trained in longrange, sea and night attacks. In September, Chinese aircraft made an average of 100 sorties a day. Most recently, the figure was raised to almost 200 many of which in Vietnamese air space.

- On October 18, many flights of Chinese combat planes intruded into Meo Vac district (Ha Tuyen) some 10 kilometres this side of the border.

- On October 19, 9 flights of Chinese combat planes flew over Bach Long Vi meanwhile two other flights intruded into Xin Man district (Ha Tuyen) 10 kilometres inside Viet Nam.

- On October 20, 2 flights of Chinese combat planes flew over Dinh Lap district (Lang Son) more than 10 kilometres behind the border.

3- REPEATED WAR THREATS.

Since late September, a number of Chinese leaders regardless of international law and the U.N. Charter and heedless of strong public protest in the world have claimed for themselves the right to 'teach Viet Nam a second lesson' repeatedly threatening Viet Nam with another invasion. On October 18, Chinese Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping and Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua from Peking and Paris made blatant charges and crude threats against Viet Nam saying that China would not let Viet Nam act at will, that Chinese would do what they said and would never change their stand and so on and so forth.

These threats made in the contest of actual war preparations were aimed at conditioning the public for new military adventures against Viet Nam.

4- PSYCHOLOGICAL WAR TO ROUSE THE CHINESE PEOPLE AND ARMY AGAINST VIET NAM.

On September 1, the military commission of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party ordered the 'conferment of

honorary titles' to the 143 units and individual that had perpetrated crimes during the invasion of Viet Nam in February last.

On October 13 and 15, the Kwangchow and Kunming great military regions made a show of 'ceremonies to confer honorary titles a' on units and individuals taking part in their recent aggression against Viet Nam to encourage them to make new exploits'.

The Chinese periodical Hongqi in its current edition carries an article by Chinese defence minister who praises the 'victories' of the Chinese army in seizing the Vietnamese Hoang Sa islands in 1974 and in the last February he even urged the Chinese army to prepare itself for a war which may break out sooner than expected for big attacks, even for a big nuclear war.

The Chinese authorities are also using those Chinese troops who perpetrated grave crimes against Vietnamese women, children and the old in rousing the Chinese people and army against Viet Nam. They have also ordered kept writers to produce cheap stories and plays to distort truth, balcken the image of Viet Nam and mislead the Chinese people.

To cover up their schemes and acts of war against Viet Nam and distract the world public which is watching for their new crimes, the Chinese authorities are intensifying their collusion with imperialism and other reactionary forces in making utterly vicious slanders against Viet Nam, while preparing for a new war against Viet Nam and threatening with war. They charge it with opening a big offensive in Kampuchea, firing on Thailand's territory and encroaching on Thailand's sovereignty while stepping up armed provocations in violation of Vietnamese sovereignty on land, on sea and in the air. They charge Viet Nam with armed provocations along the Chinese border while prolonging and undermining negotiation with Viet Nam. They charge Viet Nam with blocking talks while instigating Vietnamese to flee abroad and are exporting to Hong Kong and Southeast Asian countries those same people. They have lured into China by persuasion or coercion. They charge Viet Nam with continuing to drive its citizens away. They themselves and the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique must answer for the famine in Kampuchea. They try to shift the blame on Viet Nam and work hand in glove with imperialism and other reactionary forces to breathe life into Pol Pot - Ieng Sary and their likes for using them against the Kampuchean people.

The people and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam strongly and sternly denounce and condemn these recent criminal actions of the Chinese rulers. We firmly demand that China put an immediate end to preparations, all acts of provocation and all threats of war against Viet Nam.

It is only because of the Chinese authorities that the relations between Viet Nam and China have deteriorated to a serious extent. The Vietnamese people have consistently treasured their long standing friendship with the Chinese people and have patiently strived to settle through negotiations all problems in the relations between the two countries. We however are always on our guard and are ready to crush all military adventures by war mongering elements in the Chinese leadership.

The people and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam firmly believe that the peoples and

Governments of peace and justice loving countries including the Chinese people will continue supporting the just struggle of the Vietnamese people by taking timely actions to check all schemes and acts of war by the Chinese authorities.

If the Chinese authorities recklessly make war on Viet Nam again they will incur upon themselves still heavier defeat./.

PHNOM PENH PRESS CONFERENCE ON FOOD SHORTAGE
AND HUMANITARIAN AID

Hanoi VNA October 29.- The Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of Kampuchea held a press conference in Phnom Penh on October 26 on the food shortage in Kampuchea and on international humanitarian aid, reported S.P.K.

Speaking at the conference, which was attended by Kampuchean and foreign journalists and representatives of international organizations in Phnom Penh, Hau Nam Hong, assistant to Kampuchea's Foreign Minister, presented the report of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea on the food shortage in Kampuchea and on international humanitarian aid to the Kampuchean people. He spoke of the effective measures taken by the P.R.C.K. to overcome the food shontage.

After expressing sincere thanks to Viet Nam, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and international organizations for promptly sending a large volume of foods to the Kampuchean people. Hau Nam Hong categorically rejected all distortions of the situation in Kampuchea. He said : 'With the harvest of the current crop and the promotion of production next year the Kampuchean people will certainly overcome the food shortage. The People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea now controlling the whole territory of the country is handling the distribution and transport of food relief to all regions in Kampuchea'.

Hau Nam Hong strongly denounced the plot by imperialist and international reaction of using humanitarian aid as a pretext to lend a hand to the remnants of the Pol Pot - Ieng Sary clique and other reactionary forces in opposing the Kampuchean revolution. He sternly rejected the plan of giving 'aid to all parties' as well as the plan of bringing in 'charity relief' across the Thai - Kampuchean border put forwards by the U.S. side.

Copies of the report of the P.R.C.K. were distributed to diplomats, foreign journalists and representatives of international organizations present at the prese conference./.
