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1- PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE RELATIONS OF PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE
BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS OF INDOCHINESE AND ASEAN COUNTRIES FOR A
SOUTH EAST ASIA OF PEACE, STABILITY, FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION

During the last 40 years, South East Asia has always been a region without peace and stability. The tense and explosive situation at present poses a threat to regional peace and stability and is a cause of anxiety for many other countries in the world.

Since the end of the second Indochina war in 1975, the countries in the region, particularly in the two groups of Indochina and Asean, have made efforts to promote the relations of friendship and co-operation on the basis of the principle of peaceful co-existence among countries of different political and social systems. This is a trend towards positive developments, corresponding to the wishes of the peoples of the region and in accordance with the interest of peace and stability in the region and in the world.

Yet, between the two groups, there still exist differences of perception as to causes of the present tense and explosive situation in South East Asea and as to measures to be taken to eliminate those causes. These differences, however, cannot prevent the continued dialogues between the two groups which are aimed at step-by-step strengthening mutual understanding and mutual confidence to eliminate differences and joining efforts to seek ways to eliminate the causes of danger to the independence, sovereignty of nations and to peace and stability in the region as a whole.

Acting in this direction is in line with the final declaration of the Ministerial Conference of the non-aligned countries in New Delhi in January 1981, which urged all states in the region to undertake a dialogue which would lead to the resolution of differences among themselves and the establishment of durable peace and stability in the area, as well as the elimination of involvement and threats of intervention by outside powers.

In order to achieve the objectives of making South East Asia a region of peace, stability, friendship and co-operation, the

Indochinese and Asean countries should agree upon the following principles:

1- Respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of one another, non-aggression, equality, mutual benefits and peaceful co-existence between the two groups of Indochinese and Asean countries for a South East Asia of peace, stability, friendship and co-operation, respect for the right of each nation to freely determine and develop its political, social, economic and cultural system as well as its domestic and foreign policies in conformity with the objectives and principles of the non-aligned movement and the Charter of the United Nations.

The internal as well as external affairs of each country of the Indochinese and Asean groups are to be determined by its people without unilateral or collective, direct or indirect interference from foreign countries.

2- The settlement of disputes and differences among the countries of the Indochinese and Asean groups as well as other countries in the region by peaceful means and through negotiations is to be based on the spirit that the questions of South East Asia must be settled by South East Asian countries themselves in the principles of equality, friendship, mutual respect and understanding and taking into account one another's legitimate interests, mutual agreement, non-imposition of the will by one group on the other and non-interference from outside and without the use or threat of use of force in their relations.

Respect for the right of each of the Indochinese and Asean countries as well as other South East Asian countries to self-defence or collective defence in consistence with the principles of the non-aligned movement and the Charter of the United Nations. Collective defence agreements shall not be used by any country for its own interest at the expense of the countries in the region.

3- Bilateral and multilateral co-operation should be promoted and expanded in the fields of economy, science, technology, culture, sports and tourism, among countries of the Indochinese

and Asean groups and other South East Asian countries in the principles of equality and mutual benefits with a view to strengthening mutual understanding and trust as well as friendship and good-neighbourly relations in the interest of the national construction of each country in accordance with its own conditions.

The countries concerned in the region should co-operate in the exploitation of the Mekong river so as to develop their respective economies and contribute to the prosperity of the region as a whole.

4- Respect for the sovereignty over the national waters and the right to economic zone and continental shelf of the countries of the South China Sea.

Ensuring favourable conditions for the land-locked countries of the region on access to and from the sea, and guaranteeing them other interests of the sea in accordance with international law and practices.

The disputes over water zones and islands between countries of the South China Sea should be settled by peaceful means, through negotiations. Pending the settlement, the concerned parties undertake not to broaden the disputes. The countries in the region should consult together to find the ways for the co-operation among countries within and outside the region to discuss on the exploitation on sea and sea-bed resources on the basis of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit, on protection of environment against sea pollution, and on ensuring of international transportation and freedom of movement on sea and in the air-space over the South China Sea.

5- The independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity of the countries in the region must be respected by all countries outside the region. All pressures and threats from outside causing tension and confrontation between the countries in the region must be ended.

Countries in the region shall not let their territories be used by any country as bases for aggression and for direct

or indirect interference into other countries.

All countries in the region are willing to co-operate with countries outside the region and with international organisations and to receive their aids without political conditions. In all cases, the two groups, as well as that of other South East Asian countries with the countries outside the region must not jeopardize the security and interests of the other countries in the region, or oppose any third country.

6- In order to implement effectively the above-mentioned principles, it is necessary to set up a permanent organ in charge of dialogue and consultations between the two groups of the Indochinese and Asean countries, with the participation of Burma. The composition of the organ will be agreed upon by the two sides, which can be one representative or a number of representatives from each side (such as one-one or two-two) and should be held to solve problems existing between the countries of the two groups or special meetings will be held as required by emergency situation or crisis.

7- The above-said principles will be taken as basis for the current dialogue and consultations aimed at reaching agreements in the form of an act or commitments between the two groups of the Indochinese and Asean countries, and other South-East Asian countries would be invited to participate./.

II- VIETNAM HEAD DELEGATE SPEAKS AT UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

September 30 - Ambassdor Ha Van Lau, Head of the Delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, on September 29, delivered his speech at the 36th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

He said:

The present session is being held at a particularly critical juncture when the gains achieved in international peace and detente

and the independence and security of nations are seriously challenged.

The Vietnamese delegate strongly condemned the U.S. warlike forces which are escalating the arms race, rekindling the winds of the cold war and sabotaging the process of international detente while using the signboard of fighting against international terrorism, discredit the just struggle of peoples for their independence and the support of the socialist countries for the liberation movements.

He said that added to the dangerous nature of the U.S. militarist policy is the collusion being increasingly developed between imperialism and hegemonism. The recent decision of the U.S. to sell sophisticated weapons to China, a new development in Sino-American collusion is causing genuine concern among Asian countries, especially those in South East Asia.

Ha Van Lau said:

The Vietnamese people value highly the programme of peace for the 80s put forward by President L.I. Brezhnev at the 26th Congress of the CPSU. We fully support the important peace initiatives put forth by the Soviet Union recently, including those introduced at the Assembly on the prevention of nuclear catastrophe. These initiatives with their sense of responsibility toward the destiny of peoples vividly reflect the principled peace policy of the Soviet state, aimed at cultivating a healthy international atmosphere and consolidating world peace and security...

He also welcomed the foreign policy of peace, independence and non-alignment of the Republic of India which is playing a major role in the settlement of international problems, and has become an important factor for peace and security in Asia and in the world. The Indian Government's recognition of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and its assistance extended to her suffering people in their national construction is an illustration of that judicious foreign policy. Turning to the situation in South East Asia, the Ambassador said: 'The present situation in South East Asia is still a matter of concern for the international community.'

Public opinion has more and more clearly realized where lies the main sources of the threat to the independence and security of South East Asia countries, and to peace and stability in the region.

He denounced the Beijing ruling circles in collusion with the U.S. for having unleashed a war of attrition against the Indochinese countries: Massing over 400,000 Chinese troops close to the Sino-Vietnamese border threatening time and again to launch a second invasion of Vietnam, increasing armed provocations along the Sino-Vietnamese and the Sino-Lao borders, rallying the traitors of the three Indochinese peoples, recruiting mercenaries to foment troubles and undertake subversive activities in their countries, stepping up the psychological warfare, launching a world wide propaganda campaign against Vietnam, and instigating economic blockade. All are aimed at pressuring Vietnam and other Indochinese countries to weaken and then to subjugate them. The Beijing authorities have unceasingly increased arms and food supplies to the remnant forces of the Pol Pot and various gangs of other Khmer reactionaries who are still taking refuge in the sanctuaries on the other side of the Kampuchean-Thai border. They have tried by every possible means to rally the Khmer reactionaries in ^X exile into the so-called United Front so as to cover up their continued use of the genocidal Pol Pot clique against the Kampuchean people.

It is necessary to emphasize that Beijing's hostile policy against the three Indochinese countries has been strongly encouraged by Washington. Continuing to play the China card, the U.S. warlike forces have openly called for political, economic, diplomatic and even military pressures to bleed Vietnam. But, those who want to use force to subjugate Vietnam and the rest of Indochina should learn the lessons of the recent past.

The Beijing circles have never given up their policy of interference and division against the South East Asian countries, giving assistance to the armed groups disguised as revolutionaries so that they may engage in acts of subversion, and protracted civil wars in these countries. China has never given up its unfounded territorial claims against almost all neighbouring countries on land

and sea and is still continuing its illegal occupation of territories of a number of countries in the region, including Vietnam's Hoang Sa (the **Paracels**) moreover, it has long considered the South China Sea to be within its own sea border and violated the sovereign rights of the littoral states over their exclusive economic zones and continental shelves.

World opinion, including open political circles in the Asean countries, has realized clearer that the hegemonist and expansionist policy pursued by the Beijing authorities poses the greatest danger to peace and stability in the region.

After outlining the main achievements of the three Indochinese countries especially in the People's Republic of Kampuchea over the past three years, Ha Van Lau said:

"The continued recognition of the Pol Pot butchers as representatives of the Kampuchean people at the UN constitutes an insult to the soul of the three million murdered Khmers, innocent victims of Pol Pot's genocide, and to the suffering Kampuchean people who are reconstructing their country. This is a crude interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea and a violation of the Kampuchean people's right to self determination, running completely counter to the principles of the UN Charter. Such an attitude only encourages Chinese expansion and increases tension in South East Asia and prevents the UN from exercising its role in the settlement of the problem of peace and security in the region. Justice and law should put an end to this absurdity. The genocidal Pol Pot clique must be expelled from the UN and the seat be returned to the Council of State of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the sole authentic and legitimate representative of the Kampuchean people.

Some people said that the source of instability in South East Asia lies in the so-called Soviet expansionism and the Soviet-Vietnam relations. But realities in the last decades have shown that among the five permanent members of the security council, the Soviet Union is the only one which was not involved in any of the aggressive wars against the Indochinese and South East Asian countries. The Soviet Union has, on the contrary, been resolutely on the side of the

Indochinese peoples in their patriotic struggle against foreign aggression, thus contributing to the consolidation of the Indochinese countries' independence and security and the defence of peace and stability in South East Asia. It is also absolutely clear that the Soviet-Vietnamese relations do not threaten any third country.

At this moment, what is essential for the restoration of peace and stability in South East Asia is to bring an end to the policy of intervention, aggression and threat of war by the Chinese hegemonists in collusion with imperialists and other reactionaries against the independence, sovereignty and security of countries in the region. The key to the so-called Kampuchean problem, if there is one, is the resolution of the contradictions really existing between China and the three Indochinese countries, not of the fictitious contradiction between the Indochinese and the Asean countries. In the present circumstances, faced with the persisting serious threat to their national independence and security, the three Indochinese peoples have no other alternative than to, once again, unite with and assist one another in resisting the aggressor. This is the right of individual and collective legitimate selfdefence of the peoples in the Indochinese peninsula, totally consistent with the UN Charter.''

Concerning the presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea, Ambassador Ha Van Lau recalled that the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam as well as the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea have on many occasions declared that it is only of a temporary nature and is intended to counter the threat of China acting in collusion with the imperialists and is not the threat directed against a third country. These troops will be withdrawn once that threat has been removed and the two countries so agree. Right now, if peace and stability along the Thai-Kampuchean border is secured, Vietnam and Kampuchea would agree on a partial withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea. The three Indochinese countries have proposed the creation of a demilitarized zone along both sides of the Thai-Kampuchean border, with some form of international control to be agreed upon by both sides. The position of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea on this matter is clear: Any resolution

of the United Nations with regard to South East Asia is null and void if it violates the sovereignty of the countries in the region and if the UN continues to allow the Pol Pot genocidal clique and their consorts to usurp the seat of Kampuchea in this organization. Ambassador Ha Van Lau completely rejected the so-called international conference on Kampuchea and the ad hoc committee, a creation of the conference. On the relations between China and Vietnam, he deplored the rejection by China of the Vietnamese proposal to resume the bilateral talks unilaterally suspended by China more than one year ago. Concerning the relations between the Indochinese and Asean countries, he said:

'The Indochinese countries have no intention of imposing their views on the Asean countries, nor should the Asean countries nurture the illusion of imposing their views on the Indochinese countries. What's practical is to set aside differences, engage in a dialogue on the basis of equality, and on the principle that the problems of South East Asia should be settled by the South East Asian countries themselves through negotiation, without imposing one country's views on the other and without outside interference. This is the correct road to regional peace and stability, and the realization of peaceful coexistence between the two groups of countries. That approach will benefit the South East Asian peoples and world peace, in conformity with the Charter of the U.N. and the objectives of the non-aligned movement.'

'My delegation would like to bring to your attention the principles governing the peaceful coexistence between two groups of countries in Indochina and Asean for a South East Asia of peace, stability, friendship and co-operation presented before this session of the United Nations General Assembly by Mr. Phoune Sipaseuth, Vice Premier and Foreign Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic with the consent of the governments of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea. It is consonant with the realities in South East Asia and fully responds to the earnest aspirations of peoples in the region, and to the wishes expressed by many distinguished representatives at this assembly./.

III- VIETNAMESE PROFESSOR BLASTS U.S. FABRICATION ABOUT CHEMICAL WARFARE

Hanoi, VNA October 7 - "The US is not morally qualified to raise the question of chemical warfare at the United Nations: It is easy to slander but difficult to prove" wrote professor Ton That Tung in a recent article of the Hanoi daily "Nhan Dan" he wrote:

"Of late, the US State Department declared that it had evidence of the use of chemical weapons by the Soviet Union, Vietnam and Laos during military operations in Afghanistan, Kampuchea and Laos. It specified that these chemicals are mycotoxines derived mainly from nivalenon and the T2-toxine nivalenon was discovered in 1968 by a Japanese named Takashi Tatsumo and reported in a publication of the cancer research in the United States in the same year. Its origin was traced back to the poisoning of 25 young Japanese after eating mouldy wheat which caused vomitment and dizziness. A Japanese researcher, Tsunoda, later found in this mouldy wheat a poisonous fungus called fusarium nivale belonging to the fusarium species secreted by fusarium nivale is named nivalenon of which the chemical nomenclature is not yet known. Some believe it is a butenolide which can be detected by the method of thinlayer chromatography or gas chromatography and may be used in the form of acetate or hydronivalenon. The lethal dose for mice is estimated at 40 microgrammes for every ten grammes of weight.

T2 is the toxine found in a large number of fungi of the fusarium SP. species such as F. equisiti, F. scirpi and F. fricinctum. It was discovered by J.R. Bamburg in 1968 and published by the toxine belongs to the group of scirpene whose chemical formula was discovered by the Wisoons in university.

It is extracted from the T20F the tricinatum fungus which lives on the leaves of maize and if fed to animals causes diarrhoea and loss of weight. Ironically enough, this substance is classed as a state secret while it can be bought easily in the United States at 75 dollars a bag.

We who were the first to study the effects of the US chemical warfare in Vietnam, cannot but wonder at the inconsideration with which the White House has concluded on chemical warfare by basing itself only on a few samples of mycotoxines it had gathered hastily leaving unanswered the following fundamental questions:

1/ In what areas have these toxines been dropped and what are the clinical symptoms and toxicological analyses on the victims?

2/ Is there any proof that these toxines do not exist in nature and by what means and from where have they been dropped?

3/ How have been the results of the studies on these fungi in the sprayed regions?

4/ What have been their effects on the environment and the flora and fauna in the sprayed areas?

5/ What are their effects on man?

6/ Since these toxines are freely circulated on the market how can one guarantee that the collection of samples has been scientifically correct?

That is why, we as well as a number of American scientists are deeply shocked by the Statement of the White House. In fact, it has used some very dubious samples to formulate conclusion on a very complicated question.

On the other hand, we declare that the US administration is not morally qualified to raise the question because the US has been universally condemned for its brutal chemical warfare for eight years on end in Vietnam. We have been able to demonstrate (and our conclusions have been substantiated by many scientists in Europe and America) that the herbicides sprayed by the US on Vietnam have

1/ Caused extensive damage to the forests, crop fields and the nature in Vietnam.

2/ Left dreadful effects on the civilian populations: Scarriages, stillborns, abortions, deformedities, nervous complaints and cancer.

Ever since 1970 the successive US administrations have contended that these herbicides did not affect man's health nor the environment even though only recently the US Department of Health has declared that the number of Vietnam veterans in the United States affected by the defoliants is many times bigger than the previously published figure of 1.000.

On the other hand, we wish to draw public attention to the fact that current intensified US campaign of slander against the Soviet Union about chemical warfare may be designed to cover the US effort to considerably increase its stockpile of chemical weapons and particularly the new weapon called 'benary weapon'. This is a kind of gun using ammunition consisting of two chemical bottles which when fired, would mix up to form toxic gases like VX, sarin and soman especially directed against the human nervous system. Peace on earth cannot be built on lies and threats but only through mutual understanding, meetings and negotiations. Still less can it be achieved by means of chemical weapons and the neutron bombs. The present nuclear arsenal is well stocked enough to have a destruct power equal to that of one million atomic bombs of the type dropped on Hiroshima, that is enough to completely wipe the human race off the face of our planet./.
