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DRV STATEMENT HITS U.S. 'CAMBODIAN SCHEMES'

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 1716 GMT 31 Dec 67 B

[Text] Hanoi--The full text of a statement issued today by the DRV Government on the schemes of aggression being prepared by the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen against the Kingdom of Cambodia follows:

Despite vehement condemnation by public opinion in the world and in the United States itself, the U.S. imperialists continue to make slanderous allegations in an attempt to find a pretext for aggression against the Kingdom of Cambodia.

According to the American press, there are signs that U.S. ruling circles are about to put into effect their plan of aggression against Cambodia. It is also reported that General Westmoreland was invested with full power to cross Cambodia's borders and go as far as the Gulf of Thailand.

These statements smack of war and are duplicates of the ones used by the Hitlerite fascists in the past to pave the way for their aggression against European countries. Systematically violating the 1954 Geneva agreements on Indochina, the U.S. imperialists have long been resorting to all political, economic, and military measures in an attempt to turn the Indochinese countries into their new-type colonies and military bases.

With regard to Cambodia, they and their henchmen in South Vietnam and Thailand have encroached thousands of times on the borders and territory of this country in an effort to compel it to renounce its line of peace and neutrality. In utter contrast with the peace and justice-loving countries, the U.S. imperialists have brazenly declared that they do not recognize the present borders of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

This plan by the United States to provoke a war is a new dangerous development in the overall scheme of the territorial integrity of Cambodia, and to widen the war to all of Indochina. This is an extremely serious threat to peace in this part of the world, especially now when the U.S. aggressors are frantically stepping up their war in Vietnam.

It is general knowledge that the U.S. imperialist are bogging down in Vietnam. Now, should they be so reckless as to extend their war of aggression to Cambodia, they will sink even deeper in their quagmire and certainly meet with complete defeat.

Under the clear-sighted leadership of Cambodian Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, the Khmer people will never submit to the bombs and shells of the U.S. imperialists. In its statement made public on 26 December 1967, the Royal Government of Cambodia served a severe warning to the United States and solemnly declared: All Cambodian citizens are ready to fight in defense of the independence and territorial integrity of their fatherland. Moreover, Cambodia will immediately appeal for direct assistance from friendly countries and for volunteers of all lands to take part in the struggle against those who violate the sovereignty of Cambodia and all international laws.

As brothers and comrades in arms of the Khmer people, the other Indochinese peoples will stand shoulder to shoulder with them and will defeat their common enemy--the U.S. imperialists--to defend their respective national rights.

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The peoples in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the world and those governments that cherish peace and justice will take the side of justice and will give their strong sympathy and support to the Khmer people's cause of defending their independence and freedom.

As a signatory of the 1954 Geneva agreements on Cambodia, the DRV Government vehemently protests the aggressive schemes and acts of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys against the Kingdom of Cambodia and severely warns that the U.S. Government will have to bear full responsibility for all the consequences of its acts.

The DRV Government fully supports the just stand of the Royal Government of Cambodia as expounded in its 26 December 1967 statement. It is a sacred inalienable right of Cambodia that the government and people appeal for help from friendly countries in order to defeat the U.S. aggressors, whenever they deem it necessary.

The Vietnamese people are ready to do their best under all circumstances to respond to all demands of the royal government and people of Cambodia. The Vietnamese people firmly believe that the just struggle of the fraternal Khmer people will be crowned with glorious victory. For the Khmer people have justice on their side and enjoy the assistance of friendly countries and the powerful sympathy and support of all the peace-loving governments and peoples in the world.

U.S. AIR ACTIVITIES OVER DRV SPARK PROTEST

28 December

Paris AFP in English 2052 GMT 28 Dec 67 E (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

[Text] Hanoi--U.S. planes struck today some 12 miles west of the capital in their first raid against the Hanoi area in nine days. The target of the 20-minute attack is yet to be announced. The planes struck despite the poor weather conditions which have prevailed since 20 December.

29 December

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1500 GMT 29 Dec 67 B

[Text] This morning the army and people of Quang Ninh shot down one U.S. F-8. This was the 2,681 U.S. plane knocked down over North Vietnam

30 December

Hanoi in English to Southeast Asia 1010 GMT 31 Dec 67 B

[Text] On 30 December, the armed forces and people of Quang Binh, the Fourth Military Sector, brought down an F-120 U.S. aircraft. The total U.S. air losses over North Vietnam have now reached the 2,682 mark.

Ho Letter to Fourth Sector

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 1630 GMT 30 Dec 67 B

[Text] Hanoi--President Ho Chi Minh has sent a letter to the people, army men, and cadres in the Fourth Military Sector (southern part of North Vietnam) congratulating them on their victory in downing so far more than 1,000 U.S. aircraft as of 20 December. Among the planes downed on that day were two U.S. B-52 strategic bombers.

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President Ho also commended them for capturing many U.S. air pirates, setting afire many U.S. warships, insuring transport and communication work under all circumstances, and recording successes in production.

The letter said: The U.S. aggressors are meeting with bitter failure. In their quandary, they will resort to many more barbarous measures. The armed forces and people in both zones of our country are winning greater and greater victories. Let the people, armymen, and cadres in the Fourth Military Sector always sharpen their vigilance, unite closely, produce and fight better, and march forward valiantly so as, together with the armed forces and people throughout the country, to defeat the U.S. aggressors completely.

1 January

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1432 GMT 1 Jan 68 B

[Text] At 1005 hours this morning, 1 January 1968, the U.S. bandits again sent their warplanes to intrude into the airspace of Thanh Hoa Province. Highly vigilant and determined to annihilate the aggressors, the people and armed forces in Thanh Hoa fought back fiercely and shot down one F-4. This feat-of-arms at the beginning of the year brings the total number of U.S. aircraft shot down over North Vietnam, up to today, 1 January 1968, to 2,683.

Foreign Ministry Protest

Hanoi in English to Southeast Asia 1009 GMT 2 Dec 68 B

[Text] The spokesman of the DRV Foreign Ministry has issued the following statement:

From 2000 hours 31 December 1967 to 1500 hours 1 January 1968, U.S. aircraft repeatedly intruded into the airspace of the DRV to conduct reconnaissance over Vinh Linh area and Quang Binh, Ha Tinh, Nghe An, and Ninh Binh provinces and attack a number of populated areas in Quang Xuong District, Thanh Hoa, and Hai Hau District, Nam Ha.

One F-4 jetplane of the United States was shot down by the armed forces and people in Thanh Hoa.

Like the bombardments of U.S. aircraft, warships, and artillery on 25 December 1967, this crime once again laid bare U.S. deceitfulness in the so-called suspension of the bombing of North Vietnam on the occasion of Christmas and New Year's Day. This is an insolent challenge to peace- and justice-loving public opinion in the world. But the more obdurately the U.S. imperialists escalate the war, the more they are isolated and the heavier punishing blows they will receive from the Vietnamese people.

Antiaircraft Action Roundup

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 1625 GMT 1 Jan 68 B

[Text] Hanoi--U.S. plane losses in its air war of destruction against North Vietnam have been increasing month by month and year by year. Of the nearly 2,700 planes lost over North Vietnam during the past three years, 1,063 were shot down in 1967 alone, half as many again as in 1966.

The number of planes downed in the last half of the year was double that in the first half.

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In the fight against the U.S. air pirates last year, Hanoi topped the scoreboard with 176 planes shot down to its credit.

The bloodiest day for the U.S. aggressors in 1967 was 19 November when they lost 19 planes over North Vietnam.

Three more types of planes were added to the list: the QH-50A pilotless helicopter, the F-4D fighter-bomber, and the B-52 strategic bomber.

The number of U.S. pilots captured in 1967 was also higher than in 1965 and 1966.

In particular, the militia and self-defense units shot down twice as many planes as in 1966. In one particular case, a militia team in Quynh Luu District, Nghe An province, shot down a plane with three rifle shots on 27 December. Earlier, on 19 November the militia in Vinh Linh area close to the demarcation line shot down a helicopter with two rifleshots.

In 1967 the North Vietnam armed forces and people on 65 occasions set fire to U.S. warships. This represents an eightfold increase over 1966.

VNA DENOUNCES LAOTIAN CHARGES OF INTRUSION

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 1612 GMT 29 Dec 67 B

[Text] Hanoi--Acting on U.S. orders, the Vientiane authorities recently fabricated a new tale of a general North Vietnamese offensive in Laos.

This is only an odious slander resorted to by the Vientiane authorities to cover up their defeats in nibbling operations against the area under NLHX control and shielding the fact that they are serving the U.S. scheme to dispatch American troops to Laos and expand the war in this region.

The Vietnam News Agency is authorized to resolutely refute this entirely groundless allegation of the Vientiane administration.

TWO MORE AMERICAN SERVICEMEN DESERT IN JAPAN

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 1614 GMT 29 Dec 67 B

[Text] Hanoi--According to foreign reports, two American soldiers recently deserted after a week of rest leave in Japan. UPI reported that the two soldiers failed to report for their flight back to Vietnam on 15 December. They are Frick S. Freeman of Conyers, Ga, and Harvey Mundy of Alton, Ill.

Four crewmen of the U.S. Seventh Fleet carrier Intrepid deserted 13 November to protest against the dirty war of the U.S. imperialists in Vietnam.