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NGUYEN THANH LE MEETS PRESS ON 25 SEPTEMBER

Paris VNA Version

Paris VNA in Vietnamese to VNA Hanoi 1000 GMT 26 Sep 68 B (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

[Text] Paris, 25 September--On 25 September, Comrade Nguyen Thanh Le, spokesman of the DRV Government representative, held a press conference to introduce the contents of the 23d session of the official conversations between the DRV and United States.

After recalling Minister Xuan Thuy's ideas unmasking the sophistry of the U.S. side, which tended to embellish its lackeys in Saigon and to slander the NPLSV, Comrade Nguyen Thanh Le further analyzed the real nature of the Thieu-Ky puppet administration, a group of country-sellers and traitors to the people, who are willing to act as running dogs for the Americans to massacre our compatriots and who exert efforts to serve the U.S. cruel war of aggression in South Vietnam. The U.S. side has tried to defend the puppet administration by saying that it is a reality. However it is an extremely vicious and dirty reality.

Answering questions posed by several newsmen, Comrade Nguyen Thanh Le pointed out: The continued bombing and other acts of war against the DRV by the United States are illegal acts which it cannot possibly justify. There are increasingly many people in the world, including the American people, who demand that the U.S. Government put an end to its aggression in Vietnam and that it, first of all, unconditionally cease its bombing of the DRV. Recently, Cambodian Chief of State Sihanouk and Mr Thant also voiced their demands that the United States put an immediate and unconditional halt to the bombing of North Vietnam.

If the United States wants to realistically show a serious attitude, it should first and foremost respond to the legitimate and reasonable demand of the Vietnamese people and world public opinion--namely, to unconditionally cease the bombing and all other acts of war so that the Paris talks may make progress, thus opening up prospects toward a peaceful solution to the Vietnam problem on the basis of respect for the Vietnamese people's basic national rights.

AFP Version

Paris AFP in French 1528 GMT 25 Sep 68 C (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

[Text] Paris--The Vietnamese problem does not fall within the competence of the United Nations, declared Nguyen Thanh Le, spokesman for the North Vietnamese delegation at the Paris talks, to correspondents who asked him questions during his press conference about the statement made day before yesterday by U Thant, secretary general of the United Nations.

U Thant has said that a resolution recommending the unconditional cessation of American bombing of North Vietnam would receive a majority of votes in the UN General Assembly. However, Le continued, we are happy to see that more and more countries and UN delegations have issued declarations supporting the Vietnamese people in their struggle and condemning the policy of aggression of the United States in Vietnam.

A correspondent then asked him if this attitude means that the Hanoi government does not want a resolution on the cessation of bombings to be put to a vote in the UN Assembly but is glad to see individual declarations by the various delegations. Le replied that he had nothing to add to his previous statement.

An American Catholic correspondent said that the whole of the Saigon press would like Richard Nixon to win against Hubert Humphrey in the U.S. presidential elections. Should one conclude from this, he asked amid laughter, that Hanoi would prefer Humphrey to be elected?

Le replied very seriously. The tastes of the puppet government depend on the money it could receive from one group or another. As for us, we do not interfere in internal American affairs.

In a brief prefatory expose, Le had commented in very lively terms on the polemic which developed during this morning's session about the representativeness of the Saigon government and of the NFLSV. The North Vietnamese spokesman compared the Saigon government to a poisonous snake and to a hunting dog. As for the NFLSV, he said that it now controls four-fifths of the territory and two-thirds of the population of South Vietnam.

U.S. AUTHOR COMMENTS ON VIETNAM WAR, TALKS

Bangkok WORLD in English 27 Sep 68 p 3 D

[Text] Douglas Pike, author of the book "The Viet Cong," said yesterday that President Ho Chi Minh of North Vietnam wanted to incorporate Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, and northeast Thailand into a federation of Indochina. Pike, who spent 8 years in Vietnam as a U.S. State Department research scholar on the Viet Cong, said he came to this conclusion after a close study of the pattern of the "liberation war" in South Vietnam.

At a press conference organized by the communist suppression operations command and the public relations department, Pike said the next President of the United States would not have much choice regarding the Vietnam war. "I do not believe the new U.S. President would make an about-face from the present policy," he said. He did not believe the Paris peace talks could bring about the end of the war but thought the United States would continue to talk, despite Hanoi's evasive tactics, in an attempt to induce it to deescalate.

AMERICANS CALL FOR END TO THE WAR IN VIETNAM

U.S. Students in Cuba

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 0217 GMT 27 Sep 68 B

[Text] Hanoi--A 30-member delegation of the Students for a Democratic Society recently called on the permanent mission of the NFLSV in Cuba, according to VNA's correspondent in Havana.

The representatives of the American students, many of whom have been sentenced to prison terms by the U.S. administration for their actions against the U.S. war in Vietnam, expressed the American people's solidarity with the valiant fight of the Vietnamese people against the U.S. Government's aggression.

They welcomed the big victories recorded by the South Vietnam People's Liberation Armed Forces in the current general offensive and widespread uprising. One of the student representatives, who asked that his name be withheld, said at the reception: We American youths and students do not fear prison, sacrifices or death. . . . We will carry through our struggle for an end to the U.S. dirty war of aggression in Vietnam and the establishment of noble and durable friendship and solidarity between the Vietnamese and American peoples.