

World Federation of Democratic Youth, the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, the Committee for Solidarity with the People of South Vietnam, the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Council, and many others have raised their voices to strongly protest against U.S. aggression in South Vietnam, and U.S. air attacks against North Vietnam, to express deep sympathy with our people, and strong support, both moral and material for the patriotic movement in South Vietnam. The meeting of the International Trade Union Committee for Solidarity with the Workers and People of South Vietnam and the International Conference for Solidarity with the People of Vietnam against U.S. Imperialist Aggression and for the Defence of Peace held in Hanoi were warm manifestations of the support extended by the world's peoples to our just struggle.

We are greatly moved and elated by the fact that in the recent months, even in the United States, the movement of opposition to the U.S. imperialists' attempts to step up the aggressive war in South Vietnam and to intensify acts of war against North Vietnam has been expanding steadily. This movement involves Americans from all walks of life: workers, youths, women, students, intellectuals, clergymen, Congressmen, newsmen... The forms of struggle are reaching a higher and higher level and becoming more and more varied: statement issued by the American Communist Party to condemn the U.S. aggressive policy in Vietnam; protest letter sent by 416 American professors and students to U.S. President Johnson; all-night demonstration by 4,200 professors and students; hunger strike by many groups of students and other people; intervention by hundreds of youths to prevent a U.S. ship from carrying troops and weapons to South Vietnam... We were deeply moved at Mrs. Helga Herz's valiant self-burning to protest against the U.S. policy of war in Vietnam, thus setting an example of noble sacrifice

for peace and friendship between the American and Vietnamese peoples. The American people's movement of opposition to the "dirty war" in Vietnam has influenced many U.S. politicians. Never before has the U.S. Government faced such strong opposition by the American people.

The entire Vietnamese people, the National Assembly and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam are sincerely grateful to the Governments and peoples of the fraternal socialist countries, to the Governments and peoples of the nationalist countries, and peace-loving people throughout the world for their sympathy and wholehearted support and assistance. We are resolved to do our utmost to further intensify the patriotic struggle, to uphold our revolutionary cause and at the same time to actively contribute to the cause of peace, national independence, democracy and socialism in the world.

Comrades Deputies,

The anti-U.S. struggle of our people has won unprecedented sympathy and support from the world's peoples — the peoples of the fraternal socialist countries and the peoples of Western countries including the United States. This is a fact of very great international significance. The struggle against U.S. imperialism has become a front comprising the socialist forces, nationalist forces and forces of world peace and democracy.

In the present epoch, the epoch of transition from capitalism to socialism on a world-wide scale this struggle, by its significance, its goal and its achievements, promotes the evolution of world events and influences international life. At the same time, this is a very complex struggle under many forms — military, political, economic and cultural — a struggle which is

particularly conspicuous in a number of centres as Vietnam, Indo-China, Berlin, Cuba, the Congo while in other places it is less visible, but nevertheless acute and bitter.

As they grow weaker and weaker under continual attacks from all sides, as they are nearing their collapse, the U.S. imperialists are more frantically embarking on the adventurist path of war provocation. That is why the socialist countries and the nationalist countries, the forces of peace and democracy must further unite, and spearhead their struggle at U.S. imperialism to win victories step by step and part by part until complete victory.

In this widespread and fierce struggle, the socialist countries extend their full support to the national liberation movement, to the anti-imperialist struggle in all fields — military, political and economic. The socialist countries should also do their utmost to support the nationalist countries in their struggle against colonialism, old and new, and its camouflaged forms, such as U.N. intervention.

In their struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, to win and preserve national independence, to build a self-supporting economy, the more the nationalist countries receive effective support and assistance in all fields from the socialist camp, the greater are their abilities to struggle powerfully and resolutely to the end in order to develop along the non-capitalist path, in conformity with their peoples' aspirations.

Our foreign policy

Comrades Deputies,

Obviously the peoples of the world are more and more united in their struggle against the aggressive and bellicose U.S. imperialists, to defend peace,

national independence, democracy and socialism. The Vietnamese people, from North to South, in solidarity with the world's peoples, are determined to struggle against U.S. imperialism in their own territory and in Asia, Africa and Latin America. That is why in the recent years, the foreign policy of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam has scored important successes. The whole world is warmly supporting the just and certainly victorious struggle of the Vietnamese people. Highly significant is the fact that since the U.S. imperialists staged the act of war against the northern part of our country on August 5, 1964, the Republic of Indonesia, the United Arab Republic, Tanzania, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and Ghana, have established diplomatic relations with the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. We are happy to see the international status of our country enhanced day by day. These achievements testify to the correctness of our foreign policy. More than ever, we must now spearhead our struggle at the U.S. imperialists, resolutely isolate them and defeat them. We must make great efforts to win ever stronger and more effective international sympathy and support for our people's patriotic struggle against U.S. aggression.

In response to the warm feelings of the world's peoples, we contribute all the more actively to the strengthening and expansion of the world peoples' front against the aggressive and bellicose U.S. imperialists.

We always struggle together with the peoples of the fraternal socialist countries for the consolidation of the unity of the socialist camp on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, for the sake of the common struggle against the manoeuvres of imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism, and in defence of the socialist camp and of world peace.

We warmly hail the victory scored by the Chinese people and their Liberation Army in checking the

Chinese people and their Liberation Army in checking the provocative acts of the U.S. imperialists and the Chiang Kai-shek reactionary clique. We resolutely support the Chinese people's struggle for the liberation of Taiwan, an integral part of the territory of the People's Republic of China.

We resolutely support the Korean people who are holding firm at the eastern outpost of the socialist camp, and are heroically struggling against the U.S. imperialist aggressors with a view to driving them out of South Korea, and peacefully reunifying their country.

We resolutely support the German Democratic Republic and the socialist countries party to the Warsaw Treaty in the struggle against the claims of the U.S. imperialists and the West German revanchists for a revision of postwar borders and for the supply of nuclear weapons to West Germany. We resolutely oppose all perfidious plots of the imperialist countries and the West German revanchists, like subversion, "peaceful evolution",... which create a grave danger of war menacing peace and security in Europe and the world.

We resolutely support the heroic Cuban people who are carrying out a staunch struggle against U.S. imperialist aggression and holding aloft the anti-U.S. imperialist banner in the Western Hemisphere. We resolutely support the legitimate 5-point demand put forward by Premier Fidel Castro to ensure the sovereignty, national independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cuba.

We resolutely support the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America in their struggle for recovering and preserving national independence. We are confident that the holding of the Second Afro-Asian Conference in June 1965 will make an important contribution to the strengthening of Afro-Asian solidarity against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism.

We warmly hail the recent victories of the Laotian patriotic forces and resolutely support the Laotian people in their struggle against U.S. imperialism and its henchmen in order to safeguard the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos, the Tripartite National Union Government, and peace and neutrality for Laos. We reaffirm once again our support for the reconvening of the 14-nation conference without any preconditions to ensure the implementation of the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos.

We resolutely support the just struggle waged by the Cambodian people, under the clear-sighted leadership of their Head of State, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, against brazen provocations by the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen, in order to defend the sovereignty, independence, neutrality, and territorial integrity of Cambodia. We fully support the proposal of the Royal Cambodian Government for the holding of an international conference to guarantee the peace, neutrality and territorial integrity of Cambodia.

We warmly welcome and support the resolutions of the Indo-Chinese Peoples' Conference held in Phnom Penh last March. This historic conference opened an era of consolidation of the fraternal solidarity among the peoples of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, in their common struggle against the U.S. imperialists, to defend national independence, peace and security in this part of the world. The Democratic Republic of Vietnam has made and will make every effort to develop good neighbour relations with the Kingdoms of Cambodia and Laos on the basis of the principles of peaceful co-existence: respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty, non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful co-existence.

We resolutely support the Indonesian people who, under the clear-sighted leadership of President Sukarno, are valiantly struggling to crush Malaysia, an

offspring of U.S.-British imperialism, we resolutely support the people of North Kalimantan who are valiantly struggling for freedom and independence. We warmly approve and support the decision taken by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia to withdraw from the U.N.O. and the endeavours made by the Indonesian Government and people in the struggle to defend national independence and to build a self-supporting economy.

We warmly hail the Japanese people who, under the leadership of the Japanese Communist Party, are undauntedly struggling against the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese monopoly capitalists, with a view to building an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous Japan and smashing the U.S. imperialists scheme in the illegal conclusion of the Japan-South Korea treaty which is aimed at pushing ahead the manoeuvre for the founding of the N.E.A.T.O. aggressive bloc.

We resolutely support the valiant struggle for self-liberation of the Congolese (Leopoldville) people and other African peoples against the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen, and are confident that this struggle will gain strength and will win glorious victory.

We fully sympathize with and support the valiant struggle of the peoples of the Arab countries against the collusion between U.S. imperialism and West Germany with their Israel stooges to threaten the national independence and security of these countries.

We resolutely support the ever widening struggle of the peoples of Venezuela, Colombia, Guatemala and other Latin American countries against U.S. imperialism, to drive the U.S. aggressors out of the Western Hemisphere, in their very "backyard", thus making an important contribution to the struggle against U.S. imperialism in the world.

Our objectives

Comrades Deputies,

We often say that the revolutionary cause of the Vietnamese people is closely linked to the revolutionary cause of the world's peoples. More than ever this has now proved to be correct, clear and vivid. The Vietnamese people are struggling against the U.S. imperialist aggressors, in the interests of their own revolutionary cause, and also of socialism, of the national liberation movement and world peace. On the other hand, the peoples of the socialist countries, nationalist countries and capitalist countries and peace-loving people the world over are extending us wholehearted support and assistance, because victory over the U.S. aggressors in the Vietnam battlefield not only benefits our people but also peace, national independence, democracy and socialism in the world.

Therefore the great international obligation of our people is, first of all, to fight resolutely to defeat the U.S. imperialist aggressors in our country. At the same time, we should do our best to give more information and better explanation about our anti-U.S. struggle to the governments and peoples of other countries and to the international organizations...

The contents and aim of this information and explanation is to tell the truth about the U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression and war and the just struggle of our people, our certain victory and its cause.

This task must be well done, the more so as among the people all over the world who sympathize with and support our cause, many want to know more about our country's situation or our people's struggle. On the other hand, the U.S. imperialists are using every possible means to deceive world opinion, to create misunderstanding and confusion about very simple

and clear facts. They are even so perfidious as to mix up wrong and right, calling black white; for instance they say that if they extend the war to the North, this is because the Democratic Republic of Vietnam has provoked the liberation struggle in the South...

We must in time strongly and sharply expose the U.S. aggressors as a "thief crying: 'Stop thief'". We should arouse the world peoples' vigilance to these cunning tricks of the U.S. corsairs. One has to be careful when bandits speak of goodness and justice; they are only trying to enter your house without having to break the door.

We think that the world's peoples must be vigilant when President Johnson speaks of coming back to the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam! This is really ridiculous! Everybody knows that U.S. imperialism is the enemy of the Geneva Agreements, that the U.S. imperialists and their Saigon lackeys never officially recognized these Agreements, and even refused to officially recognize the International Commission for Supervision and Control of the implementation of the Geneva Agreements. At this very moment, they are more brazenly than ever trampling underfoot the Geneva Agreements on Vietnam. Nor have they ever observed the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Cambodia and the 1954 and 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos, and they are now stubbornly opposing the reconvening of a Geneva-type conference on Cambodia and Laos.

The U.S. imperialists are now compelled to speak of the Geneva Agreements on Vietnam, but they do so to distort completely the basic principles of the Agreements in an attempt to further their scheme of permanent partition of our country, considering the North and the South as two quite different countries! For their part, our Government and people have always been struggling to preserve the Geneva Agreements on Vietnam as well as those on Cambodia and Laos which we consider as the legal basis of the inalienable and sacred national rights of the three fraternal peoples.

President Johnson's speech of April 7, 1965 contains a series of contradictory contentions and this is irreconcilable: contradictions between the misleading words and the criminal deeds of the U.S. Government in Vietnam:

1. In his speech, President Johnson talked about peace, about ending the war, about "unconditional discussions". But it is the U.S. Government which is intensifying the aggressive war in the South, and extending the war to the North, and according to General Taylor's statement, there will be no limit to the "escalation" in the North!

2. President Johnson talked a lot about an "independent" South Vietnam "free from outside interference, tied to no alliance", "a military base for no foreign country". But it is the U.S. imperialists who are sticking to South Vietnam at all costs, bringing in more and more U.S. combat units, and staging attacks on the North precisely in an attempt to stick to the South. It is clear as daylight that the U.S. Government is the aggressor in South Vietnam, yet, it has the cheek to slanderously charge the North with "aggression" in the South!

President Johnson himself stated in his speech: "We will not withdraw either openly or under the cloak of a meaningless agreement!" This impudent assertion exposes the whole U.S. policy with regard to Vietnam; this is a challenge to world public opinion.

3. President Johnson also hypocritically talked about "economic development, raising the living standards", and about earmaking to this end 1,000 million dollars in an attempt to lure the South-East Asian peoples. But the fact is that the U.S. imperialists are daily sowing in Vietnam, Laos and other places the horrors of war, are committing countless crimes, and are even using toxic gases not only in war, but also to stamp out the anti-U.S. struggle of the people in towns and cities.

4. President Johnson threatened continued use of force. This threat does not make us flinch. The Vietnamese people are determined to fight and to win, they do not fear any difficulty or any enemy. The U.S. imperialists are being defeated, and will certainly suffer complete defeat.

In view of the pressure of public opinion in the United States and the world for the U.S. Government to withdraw its troops from South Vietnam, and to stop the war on the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, President Johnson has had to resort to a demagogic language, and this is a mere trick, a deceitful manoeuvre aimed at misleading public opinion, and soothing the ever broader and stronger opposition in the United States and in the world to the aggressive war in Vietnam.

That is the reason why the Vietnamese people and the world's peoples must heighten watchfulness in the face of the misleading trick: to talk about peace and negotiation with a view to intensifying the war, and also to slandering others as bellicose!

It is the unswerving policy of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam to strictly respect the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam, and to correctly implement their basic provisions as embodied in the following points:

1. Recognition of the basic national rights of the Vietnamese people: peace, independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity. According to the Geneva Agreements, the U.S. Government must withdraw from South Vietnam all U.S. troops, military personnel and weapons of all kinds, dismantle all U.S. military bases there, cancel its "military alliance" with South Vietnam. It must end its policy of intervention and aggression in South Vietnam. According to the Geneva Agreements, the U.S. Government must stop its acts of war against North Vietnam, end definitely all encroachments on the territory and sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

2. Pending the peaceful reunification of Vietnam, while Vietnam is still temporarily divided into two zones the military provisions of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam must be strictly respected: the two zones must refrain from joining any military alliance with foreign countries, there must be no foreign military bases, troops, and military personnel in their respective territory.

3. The affairs of South Vietnam must be settled by the South Vietnamese people themselves, in accordance with the programme of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation, without any foreign interference.

4. The peaceful reunification of Vietnam is to be settled by the Vietnamese people in both zones, without any foreign interference.

This stand will certainly enjoy the approval and support of all peace and justice-loving governments and peoples in the world.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam is of the view that the above-expounded stand is the basis for the soundest political settlement of the Vietnam question. If this basis is recognized, favourable conditions will be created for the peaceful settlement of the Vietnam question and it will be possible to consider the reconvening of an international conference along the pattern of the 1954 Geneva Conference on Vietnam.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam declares that any approach contrary to the above stand is inappropriate; any approach tending to secure a U.N. intervention in the Vietnam affair is also inappropriate because such approaches are basically at variance with the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam.

Comrades Deputies,

On September 2, 1945, President Ho Chi Minh solemnly proclaimed our country's independence before our people and the peoples of the world. He said: "Vietnam has the right to enjoy freedom and independence and has actually become a free and independent country. The entire Vietnamese people are determined to devote all their moral and physical strength, their life and property to the preservation of this freedom and independence."

At present, when the U.S. imperialists are intensifying the aggressive war in South Vietnam, brazenly launching air attacks on North Vietnam, and violating the territory of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the Proclamation of independence and President Ho Chi Minh's Appeal resound all the more deeply in the hearts of our people and stimulate all of us to "devote all our moral and physical strength, our life and property" to the preservation of freedom and independence of the North, to the recovery of freedom and independence of the South and to eventually achieving peaceful reunification of the country.

The flames of hatred are burning in our hearts! The entire Vietnamese people are determined to fight more vigorously and valiantly than ever for the beloved Fatherland: to defend the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, homeland of socialism in our country, to liberate the South, to sweep all the invaders out of our territory, so that our land may become again green, our sky again bright and our people from the Red river valley to the Mekong delta may be re-united at an early date under the same roof! How beautiful and splendid our beloved Fatherland will be then!

U.S. aggressors, beware! During many thousand years of the history of the Vietnamese nation, each major trial was always followed by a new prodigious growth of our people who defeated the aggressors and

consolidated the country. Now more than ever our hearts are filled with national pride, deep attachment to our homeland and affection for our compatriots. Each of us is a staunch fighter, determined to fight to the end in a self-sacrificing spirit, to win a great victory in the patriotic struggle against the U.S. aggressors, to fulfil our international duty toward the peoples of the socialist countries and of the world, and to write down the most glorious pages of the glorious history of the Vietnamese nation!

In these grave hours, we feel all the closer to our southern brothers. Our Fatherland is very proud of the undaunted South and of its heroic sons who have been fighting with the utmost gallantry, who are worthy of the title of "Brass Citadel of the Fatherland", and who have recorded resounding feats which give international glory to the Vietnamese people! The people of the North pledge to be worthy of the expectation and confidence of the southern compatriots, to do their best in production and fighting, to develop the economy and strengthen national defence, to defend the North and to extend all-out support to the liberation of the South.

Dear compatriots! Under the glorious banner of the Party and of President Ho Chi Minh, let us steadily march forward as the victors, determined to defeat the U.S. imperialist aggressors to achieve a peaceful, reunified, independent, democratic and prosperous Vietnam, to contribute to the defence of the socialist camp and of peace in South-East Asia and the world.

Speech

by President Ho Chi Minh

(NATIONAL ASSEMBLY—3rd LEGISLATURE—2nd SESSION)

Hanoi, April 1965

Dear Comrades,

Our National Assembly is holding the present session in a very urgent situation but full of enthusiasm and confidence. The movement to oppose the United States and save the country is seething everywhere. Many great successes have been recorded in both North and South Viet Nam.

Over the past ten years, the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen have carried out an extremely ruthless war and have caused so much mourning to our compatriots in South Vietnam. Over the past few months, they have frenziedly expanded the war to North Vietnam. In defiance of the 1954 Geneva Agreements and international law, they have sent hundreds of aircraft and scores of warships to bomb and strafe North Vietnam repeatedly. Laying bare themselves their piratical farce, the U.S. aggressors are blatantly encroaching upon our country. They hope that by resorting to the force of weapons they can compel our 30 million compatriots to become their slaves. But they are grossly mistaken. They will certainly meet with ignominious defeat.

Our Vietnamese people is a heroic people. Over the past ten years or more, our 14 million compatriots in the South have overcome all hardships, made every sacrifice and struggled very valiantly. Starting with their bare hands, they have seized guns from the enemy to fight against the enemy, have recorded victory after victory and are launching continual attacks, inflicting upon the U.S. aggressors and the traitors ever greater defeats and causing them to be bogged down more and more deeply. The greater their defeats, the more frantically they resort to the most cruel

means such as using napalm bombs and toxic gases to massacre our compatriots in the South. It is because they are bogged down in South Vietnam that they have furiously attacked North Vietnam.

As the "thief crying stop thief" is a customary trick of theirs, the U.S. imperialists who are the aggressors, have impudently slandered North Vietnam as committing "aggression" in South Vietnam. The U.S. imperialists are precisely the saboteurs of peace, saboteurs of the Geneva Agreements, yet they have brazenly declared that because they wished to "restore peace" and "defend the Geneva Agreements" they brought U.S. troops to our country to carry out massacres and destruction.

The U.S. imperialists are precisely those who are devastating our country and killing our people, yet they hypocritically declared that they would give one billion dollars to the people in Vietnam and the other South-East Asian countries to "develop economy and improve their life".

U.S. President Johnson has also loudly threatened to resort to violence to subdue our people. This is a mere foolish illusion. Our people will never be subjugated.

The Taylor plan has been frustrated. The McNamara plan has also gone bankrupt. The "escalation" plan which the U.S. imperialists are now endeavouring to carry out in North Vietnam will certainly fail, too.

The U.S. imperialists may send in hundreds of thousands more U.S. officers and men and make all-out efforts to drag more troops of their satellite countries into this criminal war, but our army and people are resolved to fight and defeat them.

The statement of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation has upheld that heroic will. The appeal of the Vietnam Fatherland Front has clearly underlined that steel-like determination.

We love peace but we are not afraid of war. We are resolved to drive away the U.S. aggressors to defend the freedom, independence and territorial integrity of our Fatherland.

The people throughout our country are firmly confident that with their militant solidarity, valiant spirit and creativeness and with the sympathy and support of the world's people, they will certainly lead this great resistance war to complete victory.

Our people are very grateful to and highly value the fraternal solidarity and devoted assistance of the socialist countries, especially the Soviet Union and China, of the people in five continents who are actively supporting us in our struggle against the U.S. imperialist aggressors, the most cruel enemy of mankind.

With regard to the Laotian and Cambodian peoples who are valiantly struggling against U.S. imperialism and its henchmen our people constantly strengthen solidarity with them and unreservedly support them.

We warmly welcome the youth of various countries who have volunteered to go to Vietnam and join us in fighting the U.S. aggressors.

The American people have been duped by the propaganda of their government which has extorted from them billions of dollars to throw into the crater of war. Thousands of American youths—their sons and brothers—have met a tragic death or were pitifully wounded on the Vietnamese battlefields thousands of miles from the United States. At present, many mass organizations and personalities in the United States are demanding that their government stop at once the unjust war and withdraw at once U.S. troops from South Vietnam. Our people are resolved to drive away the U.S. imperialists, their sworn enemy. But we always express our friendship with the progressive American people.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam once again solemnly declares its unswerving stand, that is:

To resolutely defend Vietnam's independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity, Vietnam is one, the Vietnamese people is one, nobody is allowed to infringe upon this sacred right of our people. The U.S. imperialists must respect the Geneva Agreements and withdraw from South Vietnam! They must immediately stop the attacks on North Vietnam! That is the only measure to solve the problem of war in Vietnam, carry out the 1954 Geneva Agreements, and defend peace in Indo-China and South-East Asia. There is no other solution. That is the answer of our people and Government to the U.S. imperialists.

Dear Comrades,

Our people are living in an extremely glorious period of history. Our country has the great honour of being an outpost of the socialist camp and of the world's peoples who are struggling against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism.

Our people have fought and made sacrifices not only for the sake of their own freedom and independence, but also of the common freedom and independence of the other peoples and of peace in the world.

On the battlefield against the U.S. aggressors, our people's task is very heavy but also very glorious.

At present, to oppose the U.S. and save the country is the most sacred task of every Vietnamese patriot. Under the leadership of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation, the genuine and only representative of the South Vietnamese people, the heroic people and fighters in South Vietnam are marching forward to record ever greater successes so as to liberate the South and defend the North.

The armed forces and people in the North are eagerly engaged in emulation to build socialism while valiantly struggling to defend the North and wholeheartedly support the South.

I propose to the National Assembly to warmly support the statement of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation and the appeal of the Vietnam Fatherland Front! Warm welcome to our heroic compatriots and fighters in South Vietnam! Warm congratulations to our armed forces and people in North Vietnam now enthusiastically emulating with one another in production and fighting against the enemy to record new exploits!

I call on our compatriots and fighters: To constantly heighten their revolutionary heroism, vigilance and fighting spirit! To promote the "everyone redoubles his efforts" emulation movement, resolutely overcome all difficulties, endeavour to build and defend socialist North Vietnam, wholeheartedly support the patriotic struggle of our compatriots in the South!

Let all of us single-mindedly unite millions like one man and be determined to defeat the U.S. aggressors!

For the future of our Fatherland, for the happiness of our people, let all compatriots and fighters throughout the country valiantly march forward!

Resolution

of the National Assembly on the Government Report

(NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - 3rd LEGISLATURE - 2nd SESSION)

Hanoi, April 1965

The National Assembly (Third Legislature) of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam at its Second Session unanimously approved the report of the Government on the new situation and tasks of the Vietnamese people delivered by Prime Minister Pham Van Dong before the National Assembly.

I

Throughout the past 20 years, the U.S. imperialists have unceasingly and more and more frantically carried out their policy of intervention and aggression against our country as well as against Laos and Cambodia. Over the past ten years, they have most crudely violated the Geneva Agreements, directly interfered in the southern part of our country, set up a puppet administration and army and repressed most barbarously the patriotic movement in an attempt to transform the southern part of our country into a new-type colony and a military base of the United States.

During the past few years, the U.S. imperialists have waged an aggressive war in the southern part of our country and committed heinous crimes against our compatriots.

Our people in the South, developing to a high degree the heroic tradition of the nation, closely combining political and armed struggle, have smashed one after another all schemes and plans of the U.S. imperialists. Facing a ferocious and perfidious enemy,

they have risen up under the glorious banner of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation, resolutely carrying out a liberation war to save their country and their families. The more they fight the stronger they become, and the stronger they become, the more victories they win, whereas the more the U.S. imperialists fight, the greater their embarrassment, and the greater their embarrassment, the heavier their defeats. At present, the system of "strategic hamlets", the backbone of the rule of the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen, has been destroyed by four-fifths and is heading toward complete disintegration. The mercenary army in South Vietnam, the main instrument of the "special war" of the U.S. imperialists, has suffered heavy losses, is thrown into greater and greater bewilderment, confusion and disintegration. The towns and cities so far regarded by the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen as their safe rear, are beset with an effervescence of anti-U.S. struggles of the people. The puppet administration of the U.S. in South Vietnam has been toppled by repeated coups d'état and is torn by ever sharper inner contradictions.

In the world, the just struggle of the South Vietnamese people is winning ever stronger support from the governments and people of many countries. The position and prestige of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation, the only genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people, is heightening day by day. Meanwhile, the U.S. imperialists are facing isolation and strong condemnation by world opinion.

In an attempt to extricate themselves from their impasse, of late the U.S. imperialists frenziedly plunged headlong into an extremely dangerous military adventure. On the one hand, they stepped up their aggressive war in South Vietnam, brought marines and strategic air force of the U.S. and troops of their satellites into South Vietnam, used napalm

and phosphorous bombs, chemicals and toxic gases to massacre our southern compatriots in a most barbarous manner. On the other, they used their air force and navy to carry out daily bombing and strafing attacks against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, a member of the socialist camp. It is clear that they are realizing step by step their plan of intensifying war in South Vietnam and expanding war to the northern part of our country.

The U.S. imperialists have trampled outright on the most basic provisions of the Geneva Agreements, brazenly violated international law, committed outrageous crimes against our Fatherland and openly challenged the people throughout the world. With their frenzied acts, the U.S. imperialists think they can intimidate our Vietnamese people and hope to extricate themselves from their predicament in South Vietnam. But they are grossly mistaken. Throughout thousands of years of their history, the Vietnamese people have never submitted to foreign aggressors. Today, over 30 million of our compatriots are uniting more closely and struggling more resolutely than ever against the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the clique of traitors, to defend their sacred Fatherland and safeguard their inalienable national rights. In that just struggle, our people are enjoying the sympathy and active support of the peoples of the brotherly socialist countries, the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America and peace- and justice-loving people all over the world including the American people. That is why the Vietnamese people will certainly win. The U.S. imperialists will inevitably fail. Even if they bring hundreds of thousands more U.S. troops to South Vietnam and expand further the war to the North, they decidedly cannot turn the tide but will only sink more and more deeply into the bog and will be inexorably doomed to complete failure.

The situation is becoming more and more serious. The common task of our people at the present time is to unite the entire people to fight against U.S. aggression for national salvation.

The National Assembly unanimously approves the policies laid down by the Government with a view to strengthening the economic and defence potential of the North, closely combining economy with national defence, heightening vigilance, increasing and firmly maintaining public order and security, mobilizing the people to make endeavours in their patriotic emulation movement, boost production and fight heroically, push ahead socialist construction and defend North Vietnam, and support with might and main the liberation struggle of our southern compatriots.

The National Assembly unanimously approves the foreign policy of the Government aimed at consolidating the unity and strengthening the forces of the socialist camp, wholeheartedly supporting the national liberation movement, uniting all forces of peace and progress in the world, spearheading the struggle against the U.S. imperialist aggressors and warmongers, contributing to winning victory for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

The National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam warmly welcomes the Statement of March 22, 1965 of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation, a statement shining with justice, full of national pride, boiling with the fire of struggle against U.S. imperialism and voicing the determination to fight and to win of the heroic South Vietnamese people. The Statement has exposed the schemes and crimes of the U.S. imperialists and at the same time called on the South Vietnamese people to unite the whole people, arm the whole people, undauntedly and heroically fight hard and strike accurately at the U.S.

imperialist aggressors and their henchmen with a view to liberating the South and defending the North.

The National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam warmly welcomes the Statement of March 27 and the Appeal of April 6, 1965 of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front responding to the above-said Statement of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation and calling on the people in North Vietnam "to boost production, build socialism and at the same time fight against U.S. aggression, to defend the North and support with might and main the patriotic struggle to liberate the South."

On behalf of the Vietnamese people, the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam sincerely thanks the National Assemblies, Governments and peoples of the fraternal socialist countries, of the countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and peace-loving people all over the world including the American people, for their sympathy with and support and assistance to the just struggle of the Vietnamese people. The National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam calls on all brothers and friends of the Vietnamese people, on all peace and justice-loving people in the world to continue to give still more vigorous support to the Vietnamese people. The Vietnamese people pledge to stand firmly on the frontline against U.S. imperialist aggression, devote all their fighting energy and forces to oppose the common enemy of mankind, for their own revolutionary cause and also for the cause of peace, national independence, democracy and social progress of the world's peoples.

The National Assembly declares that the unswerving stand of the National Assembly and Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and of the entire Vietnamese people is to respect the 1954 Geneva

Agreements on Vietnam and correctly implement the provisions of these agreements as embodied in the following points:

1. Recognition of the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people: independence, unity and territorial integrity. In strict conformity with the Geneva Agreements, the U.S. Government must withdraw its troops, military personnel, weapons, ammunition and other war materials from South Vietnam, dismantle all U.S. military bases there and cancel its "military alliance" with the stooge administration in South Vietnam and leave off all policies of intervention and aggression in South Vietnam. The U.S. Government must stop all acts of war against North Vietnam and completely end all acts of encroachment upon the territory and sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

2. Pending the realization of peaceful reunification of Vietnam and while Vietnam is temporarily divided into two zones, the military provisions of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam must be strictly respected: the two zones must refrain from joining any military alliance with foreign countries; allow no foreign military bases, troops or military personnel in their respective territory.

3. The internal affairs of South Vietnam must be settled by the South Vietnamese people themselves in accordance with the programme of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation without any foreign intervention.

The above stand constitutes the basis for the most correct political settlement of the Vietnam question. Only when this basis is recognized can there be favourable conditions to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Vietnam question. Only when this basis is recognized is it possible to consider the convening of an international conference along the pattern of the 1954 Geneva Conference on Vietnam.

The National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam exposes the so-called "peaceful solution" and "unconditional discussions" of extreme fraudulence in the speech of April 7, 1965 by U.S. President Lyndon Johnson which are aimed at covering up the odious aggressive features of the U.S. imperialists and deceiving the American people and the peoples of the world. The criminal acts committed by the U.S. imperialists in Vietnam so far have given and are giving the lie to such hypocritical words. In fact in the same speech, Johnson declared that the U.S. "will not withdraw either openly or under the cloak of a meaningless agreement" and will continue to use force in Vietnam. Certainly, the U.S. imperialists cannot deceive the people throughout our country and the world's peoples including the American people. The perfidious allegations of the U.S. aggressors only incense our people's indignation and strengthen their determination to oppose them resolutely.

III

In face of the present serious situation let our entire Vietnamese people recall the independence oath 20 years ago and march forward valiantly! Each of us must be a staunch fighter in the struggle against U.S. imperialism for national salvation.

Compatriots in the South! The Fatherland is very proud of you, the heroic South Vietnamese sons and daughters who are waging an extremely courageous struggle and are worth of the title "Brass Wall of the Fatherland". Let our southern compatriots, who have united, now unite still more closely, who are fighting, now fight still more closely, who are fighting, now fight still more vigorously and broadly. You are waging a patriotic struggle to free yourselves and to contribute to the defence of North Vietnam and the

safeguarding of peace in Asia and the world. That struggle is at the same time vigorously inspiring the peoples now struggling for independence and freedom.

Compatriots in the North! Let us carry forward the examples of heroism of the armed forces and people in Vinh Linh, Quang Binh, Ha Tinh, Nghe An, Thanh Hoa, Quang Ninh, Bach Long Vi..., strengthen our solidarity, heighten our vigilance and heroic determination, make greater efforts in the emulation movement to boost production, practise economy and increase our defence forces, resolutely push ahead the building of socialism and defend North Vietnam while supporting with might and main the Liberation struggle of our Southern compatriots!

Compatriots living abroad! Turn your thoughts to our beloved Fatherland, develop your patriotism, actively support and mobilize world opinion to support the just war conducted by our people against U.S. imperialist aggression.

Dear compatriots! The fight of the people throughout our country is a protracted and hard one, but with our close solidarity and determination to overcome all difficulties and fulfil all tasks assigned, we are sure to win final victory.

Under the glorious banner of the Vietnam Workers' Party and President Ho Chi Minh, let us march forward steadily as the victors, resolutely defeat U.S. imperialist aggression and advance toward the achievement of a peaceful, reunified, independent, democratic, prosperous and strong Vietnam, thus contributing to the defence of the socialist camp and the safeguarding of peace in South-East Asia and the world.

Appeal

**to the National Assemblies
of all countries in the world**

(NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - 3rd LEGISLATURE - 2nd SESSION)

Hanoi, April 1965

The National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, at its session held in Hanoi capital city from April 8 to 10, 1965, wishes to draw the attention of the National Assemblies of all countries in the world to the extremely serious situation in Vietnam created by the aggressive policy of the U.S. imperialists.

Over the past few years, the U.S. imperialists have been conducting an aggressive war in the southern part of our country. They have set up there a puppet administration to oppress and exploit our people and built a puppet army to serve as their mercenaries. By most savage and cruel means, they have herded our southern compatriots in disguised concentration camps called "strategic hamlets", launched repeated terror raids in which whole villages have been razed to the ground, dropped napalm bombs and noxious chemicals on densely populated areas to massacre the population and destroy crops and vegetation. Recently, they have even resorted to toxic gases as a war means.

To win and safeguard their right to live, our southern compatriots have risen up to fight against them and have won more and greater victories day by day. Faced with the danger of defeat, the U.S. government has increased its military and economic aid to the puppet administration in Saigon, brazenly introduced U.S. marines and strategic air force units together with troops of its satellite countries into South Vietnam to take part directly in the war there.

Meanwhile, in an attempt to extricate themselves from their impasse in South Vietnam, exert "pressure" on the North and "bolster up the morale" of their lackeys, the U.S. imperialists have sent aircraft and

warships for daily bombings and strafings of North Vietnam, repeatedly intruding into the airspace and territorial waters of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, in violation of all international law.

While frenziedly stepping up their aggressive war in South Vietnam and expanding it to North Vietnam, the U.S. imperialists have increased their intervention in Laos and carried out continuous provocation against Cambodia, revealing more cynically than ever their aggressive and cruel colonialist nature.

Yet, like a 'thief crying stop thief', the U.S. Government has shamelessly slandered the Democratic Republic of Vietnam as committing "aggression" in South Vietnam.

In his speech on April 7, 1965, U.S. President L. Johnson spoke of a "peaceful settlement", of "unconditional discussions" on the Vietnam problem, of a South Vietnam "free from outside interference, tied to no alliance, a military base for no other country".

But the truth is that at present the U.S. Government continues to introduce more U.S. combat units and intends to commit more troops of its satellite countries into South Vietnam, while continuing to send air and naval craft to bomb and strafe the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. President Johnson himself declared in his speech that the U.S. "will not withdraw, either openly or under the cloak of a meaningless agreement" and will continue to use "force" in Vietnam. It is clear that faced with the resolute resistance of the Vietnamese people and the strong pressure of public opinion at home and abroad, the U.S. Government had to talk "peace" in an attempt to dupe the people and lay the blame onto others, at the same time prepare public opinion for the intensification and expansion of the U.S. aggressive war in Vietnam and Indo-China. But we are firmly confident that the deceitful and self-contradictory contentions of the U.S. ruling circles can in no way deceive the Vietnamese people and the world's peoples, including the

American people; on the contrary they can only deepen the people's anger and make them still more determined to oppose the U.S. imperialists.

The truth is that over the past 20 years, the U.S. imperialists have constantly been pursuing their aggressive scheme against our country.

Over the past 10 years, the U.S. Government has systematically violated the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam, though the U.S. representative at the Geneva Conference had undertaken not to use violence to undermine the implementation of these agreements. In fact, all policies and actions carried out by the U.S. Government in this region are aimed at abolishing the legal basis and the important provisions of the Geneva Agreements, trampling upon the national rights of the Vietnamese people, duly recognized by other countries, namely independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity.

In short, the U.S. imperialists have committed in the southern part of our country most horrible crimes which human conscience cannot tolerate. Now, they are extending the war in an attempt to sabotage the peaceful labour of our people in the North.

The National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam energetically denounces to world opinion the aggressive policy of the U.S. imperialists and asserts that it is the root and direct cause of the present extremely serious situation in Vietnam and in South-East Asia as a whole.

The National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam solemnly declares that the entire Vietnamese people, closely united against U.S. imperialism for national salvation, are resolved to use their legitimate self-defence right and fulfil their sacred duty to defend the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Vietnam and contribute to the struggle of the world's peoples for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. With

the ever stronger sympathy and support of peace-loving people in the world, the just struggle of the Vietnamese people will certainly win complete victory.

In order to check the danger of an expanding war created by the U.S. imperialists and fraught with incalculable consequences, and restore peace in Vietnam on the basis of the recognition and realization of the basic national rights of the Vietnamese people, the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam unanimously approves of the stand of the D.R.V. Government which is to respect the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam and correctly implement the fundamental provisions of these agreements as embodied in the followings points :

1. Recognition of the basic national rights of the Vietnamese people : independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity. In strict conformity with the Geneva Agreements, the U.S. Government must withdraw its troops, military personnel, weapons, ammunition and other war materials from South Vietnam, dismantle all U.S. military bases there, cancel its military alliance with the South Vietnam administration, and at the same time stop all policies of intervention and aggression in South Vietnam. The U.S. Government must stop all its acts of war against North Vietnam and put a definite end to all acts of encroachment upon the territory and sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

2. Pending the realization of the peaceful reunification of Vietnam, while Vietnam is still temporarily divided in two, the military provisions of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam must be strictly respected : the two zones must refrain from joining any military alliance with foreign countries, and allow no foreign military bases, troops or military personnel on their respective territory.

3. The affairs of South Vietnam must be settled by the South Vietnamese people themselves in accordance with the program of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation without any foreign intervention.

4. The realization of the peaceful reunification of Vietnam must be settled by the people in the two zones without foreign intervention.

The National Assembly and Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam hold that the above stand constitutes the basis for the most correct political settlement of the Vietnam question. Only when this basis is recognized can there be favourable conditions to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Vietnam question; only then is it possible to consider the convening of an international conference along the pattern of the 1954 Geneva Conference on Vietnam.

The National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam firmly believes that this stand will certainly enjoy the sympathy and support from the National Assemblies and Governments of other countries and of peace and justice-loving people all over the world.

The National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam calls on and proposes to the National Assemblies of other countries in the world to communicate quickly and by every possible means the above-said situation and the stand of the D.R.V. National Assembly, Government and people to the deputies and to the peoples of all strata in their countries so that everybody can see the sinister aggressive design of the U.S. imperialists and take appropriate actions to support our just stand vigorously and at the same time to demand resolutely that the U.S. Government end at once its aggression in South Vietnam, stop all provocations, bombardments and attacks against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

On behalf of the entire Vietnamese people, the D.R.V. National Assembly expresses its sincere thanks for the precious support that the National Assemblies of other countries will certainly not fail to accord us and believes that their voices raised in defence of a just cause will help check the blood-stained hands of the U.S. imperialists and defend peace in Indo-China, South-East Asia and the world.

With their valiant fighting spirit and their tremendous efforts, with the valuable sympathy and support of the National Assemblies, Governments and peoples of other countries, the Vietnamese people will certainly win final victory.

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