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SUCCESS OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY
DEVOTED TO PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP AMONG PEOPLES

[Following is a translation of an article by Ung Van Khlem in the Vietnamese-language newspaper, Nhan Dan (People's Daily), Hanoi, 18 January 1963, page 1.]

Thirteen years ago, when our people's hard protracted resistance was approaching its climax, the fact that the Soviet Union, China, and other fraternal socialist countries officially recognized and established diplomatic relations with our country was greatly significant for our development. It contributed to pushing our resistance to a fast end, creating favorable conditions for expansion of our diplomatic activities, and raising the position of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam on the international scene.

Since then, the solidarity between our country and socialist countries has been further consolidated and strengthened; our relations in the political, economic, and cultural fields have been continuously improved. Such is a sound guarantee for the building of socialism in the north and for the struggle for reunification of the country. Our relations with Afro-Asian and other countries have been continuously expanded and consolidated.

The foreign policy of our party and state is aimed at tightening the bonds of friendship and cooperation with fraternal socialist countries and at strengthening the solidarity in the socialist camp. As to the Afro-Asian countries, our foreign policy is aimed at cooperation and friendship based on the five principles of peaceful coexistence and on the Bandung spirit. This correct foreign policy helps

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maintain our security; obtains the agreement and support of peoples throughout the world, especially the peoples of the Soviet Union, China, and other socialist countries, as well as the Afro-Asian countries, toward the building of socialism in the north and the struggle for reunification of our country; and at the same time contributes to the peaceful and progressive work of peoples throughout the world. The adoption of such a policy, in 1962, helped improve further our political, economic, and cultural relations with the Soviet Union, China, and other fraternal socialist countries.

Our people warmly welcomed the friendship visit of the Chinese National Assembly delegation, headed by comrade Peng Chan, assistant chief of the National Assembly Standing Committee and member of the Political Bureau of the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party of China. The delegation brought to us the warm affection of the people of great China, the affection of the neighbors that had fought with us and had shared with us both hardship and glory. At this moment, we are welcoming the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation, headed by comrade Andropov, member of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet and secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, which brings to our people the valuable affectionate feelings of the people of the mighty Soviet Union, the feelings of friends and beloved comrades who always support the Vietnamese people in their struggle against the Imperialists for national liberation and reconstruction. The visits of the Soviet Union and Chinese military delegations have also expressed the spirit of friendship among the armed forces of socialist countries. In the days to come, when we shall celebrate the new year, we shall welcome President Novotny, first secretary of

the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and President of the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia. His friendship visit will be an important event in the friendly fraternal relations between the Vietnam Lao Dong Party and the Czech Communist Party, and between our country and the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia.

Talks on economic and technical cooperation and on cultural exchange have proceeded in a spirit of mutual help and understanding. The content of such an exchange has become richer and richer and more related to the building of the material and technical foundation of socialism in our country. Missions from our country, the Soviet Union, China, and other socialist countries have helped strengthen mutual understanding, cooperation, and learning.

Socialist countries have joined us in coordinating our struggles in political affairs of individual states and of the world. We are glad to find that the fraternal countries agree to and support our people's struggle for peaceful reunification and patriotic movement against the fascist Ngo Dinh Diem regime and against the American Imperialists' armed intervention in the undeclared war in South Vietnam. On our part, our government and people have been actively supporting the peaceful foreign policies of the governments of the Soviet Union, China, and other socialist countries. We actively support the correct stand of the governments of the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Germany, regarding the signing of a German peace treaty and, on this basis, regarding normalization of the West Berlin situation, thus destroying the remnants of the Second World War and the threat of war in the heart of Europe. The people and government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam whole-heartedly support the Soviet Union's initiatives aimed at

banning the testing, making, and storing of nuclear and hydrogen weapons, and at achieving disarmament.

The people and government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam firmly ask for the restoration of the legal position of the People's Republic of China at the United Nations, protest against the U.S.-Chiang plot to land on the mainland coastal area, and ask that Americans withdraw from Formosa, a part and parcel of the territory of the People's Republic of China. The people and government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam completely support the Chinese government's stand calling for a solution of the Sino-Indian border problem through negotiations. The government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam believes that the logical proposals contained in the 24-10-62 statement and the measures taken on 21-11-62 by the government of the People's Republic of China are a good basis for both sides to solve their border problem by peaceful means, in conformity with the interests of China and India, and for the sake of Afro-Asian unity and of world peace.

The people and government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam completely support the correct stand of the government of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, aimed at pressing a withdrawal of all American troops from South Korea and at peacefully reunifying Korea.

Being fighting against the American Imperialist aggressors in South Vietnam, the Vietnamese people side with the fraternal Cuban people, whole-heartedly support the heroic Cuban people's struggle to protect their national sovereignty and the fruit of their revolution. At the same time, the people and government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam support the Soviet Union's lasting efforts to

maintain world peace and to help Cuba protect its revolutionary achievements against the American aggressors.

In the past year, the relations between our country and the Afro-Asian countries, especially our neighbors, were developed nicely. We contributed to maintaining peace in South East Asia by defeating the American imperialists' plot aimed at turning Laos ^{into} their military base, and at creating tensions in the area. We raised to ambassadorial level our relations with the Kingdom of Laos, and actively took part in the success of the 1962 Geneva conference on Laos. The new development of our friendly relations with the Laotian people carries a very important meaning for the maintaining of peace and security in Indochina and South East Asia.

The government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam has pledged to carry out faithfully the 1962 Geneva agreement on Laos, and has asked that all parties concerned respect this agreement, and that the Americans honestly give up their policy of intervention and aggression in Laos. As an immediate need, America must withdraw all its troops and military personnel, as well as those of its allies, from Laos.

The government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam has supported and will be supporting all efforts of Premier Prince Souvanna Phouma and of the Laotian national union government to guide Laos on the road to peaceful neutrality, independence, unification, and prosperity.

The recent friendship visit of the delegation of ^{the} Laotian government, headed by Deputy Premier Phoumi Nosavan, helped consolidate the existing cooperative relations between our country and the Kingdom of Laos. The forthcoming visit of the King of Laos will further strengthen our mutual understanding and contribute to a further development of the relations between Vietnam and Laos.

The people and government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam continue to support the active peaceful neutralist policy of Cambodia, led by Chief of State Prince Sihanouk, and to ask that the South Vietnamese authorities and Thailand stop their provocative actions and violation of Cambodian territory. Our country was one of the first countries having actively agreed to Prince Sihanouk's suggestion regarding the signing of an agreement on Cambodia's neutrality.

The relations between our country and Cambodia have made new steps forward. The fact that our athletic team was warmly and whole-heartedly welcomed in Cambodia proves the above statement. The forthcoming visit here of the Cambodian athletic team will help consolidate and develop further the two countries' friendship.

In the past year, the relations between our country and other Afro-Asian countries were also developed and improved. We have established diplomatic relations on ambassadorial level with the democratic republic and people of Algeria and consulates general in the United Arab Republic and in the Arab Republic of Yemen.

We warmly applauded the Algerian people's great victory following seven years of hard struggle against the colonialists for their independence. Right after the birth of the Republic of Algeria, our government sent an envoy to Algeria to share the fraternal Algerian people's happiness on their day of independence, and to bring them the warm affection of their comrades in arms. The people and government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam will continue to support the Algerian people's struggle to consolidate their independence, to destroy the remnants of colonialism, and to build their new life; and will do our best to develop further the existing friendly relations between our two countries.

The people and government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam supported the proposal of the Republic of Indonesia to convene the second Afro-Asian conference, and whole-heartedly applauded the initial success of the Indonesian people, under the firm leadership of President Sukarno and of the Indonesian government, in their effort to regain control over West New Guinea.

As to the Arab Republic of Yemen, which had been struggling hard against the imperialists and their lackeys, we sent our official representative there to greet the newly-born republic.

Between our country and other Afro-Asian countries, there were friendly visits and consultations among delegations of friendship and economic, cultural, and athletic groups. Our relations in the economic and cultural fields are being developed further.

Along with other delegations, our delegates at the conferences held in the Afro-Asian region, such as the anti-atomic bomb conference in Tokyo, the Afro-Asian lawyers' conference at Konakry, the Colombo conference on economic cooperation, the Afro-Asian writers' conference in Cairo, and the Afro-Asian solidarity conference to be held soon in Tanganyika, actively contributed to the common struggle for the movement of national liberation and for world peace.

The Vietnamese people whole-heartedly agreed to and firmly supported the movements of national liberation and of defense of independence and sovereignty in African, Asian, and Latin American countries, such as the movements for independence in Cameroun, Angola, South Rhodesia, Brunei, etc.

Many African, Asian and Latin American countries were showing more support to our people's struggle for reunification of the country and to the patriotic move-

ment in South Vietnam. We remember well the Indonesian President's warm support to the patriotic movement in South Vietnam, as expressed during the visit in Indonesia of the National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam delegation. More leaders, such as President Salaf of the Arab Republic of Yemen, Premier Ben Bella of the Republic of Algeria, etc., more groups and progressive parties have agreed that the patriotic struggle of the people of South Vietnam served a good cause and opposed oppression and aggression, and have all condemned the American imperialists' undeclared war in South Vietnam.

Along with the support of the socialist countries, the above-mentioned support helped enhance the position in the world scene of the National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam, boost the prestige of our people's patriotic movement in the south, and encourage our people as a whole to struggle for the reunification of the country.

This age is one in which the socialist system is becoming a decisive factor for the fate of mankind, and in which the socialist force, along with other national liberation forces and the forces of peace and progress in the world, is defeating all the schemes of the imperialist warmongers, headed by the American imperialists. Imperialism shall be defeated. The road to its destruction is inevitable.

Under the banner of Marxism-Leninism, by resolutely carrying out the correct peaceful foreign policy of our party and government, which consists of strengthening our unity and solidarity with the Soviet Union, China and other fraternal countries; closely supporting the national liberation movement aimed at destroying colonialism, both old and new; firmly fighting for our own national interests; and at the same time contributing to the revolutionary work of the people of the world, aimed at

defending peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism, we will make
our diplomatic and foreign affairs work succeed even better in the coming year.

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