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LPA ON 'FAILURE' OF VIETNAMIZATION, NIXON DOCTRINE

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[LPA commentary: "Vietnamisation" Policy and "Nixon Doctrine" Doomed to Failure]

[Text] South Vietnam March 11 LPA--Having sustained heavy defeats in their "special war" and "limited war" in South Vietnam and their air and naval war of destruction against North Vietnam, the U.S. imperialists had been forced to declare to end totally and unconditionally their bombing and shelling over the whole territory of the DRV and to sit at the four-party conference in Paris to seek a solution for the Vietnam issue. The collapse of the "war escalation strategy" led Johnson to his "political grave." Nixon entered the White House at the moment when the U.S. imperialists sustained heavy setbacks in Vietnam and visibly weakened in both position and strength and their isolation was aggravating. They have lost prestige in the political sphere and met with serious economic and financial crisis. The U.S. failure in the war of aggression in Vietnam has upset its "global strategy."

Since Nixon came into office, he has eaten his promise to "end the war within 6 months" made in his 1968 presidential election campaign. He has tried his hardest to save the U.S. from failure through extremely brutal and perfidious military, political and diplomatic moves. The "Nixon doctrine" was put forth with a view to retrieving the U.S. prestige which was down the drain. This is a variant of the U.S. "global strategy" in the conditions when the balance of forces between the revolutionary forces and counterrevolutionary forces in the world has changed in a way more and more unfavorable to the U.S. Applying its so-called "new strategy for peace" and sure of its "military strength," the Nixon administration has spared no efforts to achieve some reconciliation between the big powers and to intimidate small countries in a bid to maintain its role of the international gendarme and its hegemony. The "Vietnamisation of the war" policy is the "Nixon doctrine" applied in Vietnam. It is essentially designed to make Vietnamese fight Vietnamese with U.S. weapons and dollars and under U.S. command. The "Vietnamisation" policy is the strict application of the "Nixon doctrine" of using military violence plus political deception against the nations. Compelled to pull out an important part of U.S. aggressor army which has weakened physically and disintegrated morally, Nixon has striven to beef up the Saigon puppet army by increasing its effectives and equipment, so as to use it to prolong and step up the war of aggression in South Vietnam with U.S. and naval support.

With their "pacification" operations to devastate villages and to herd the people into "strategic hamlets" with their fascist acts of repression and fraudulent election farces, the U.S. imperialists have maintained the traitor Nguyen Van Thieu and the coercive and repressive machine in Saigon as tools to materialize U.S. neo-colonialism. The "Vietnamisation of the war" policy has met with initial setbacks. Nixon has expanded the war to Cambodia and intensified the "special war" in Laos to its highest degree. The U.S. imperialists have used the Saigon puppet army, the Vang Pao "special force" and Thai mercenaries as main strategic forces on the battlefields in order to carry out the "Vietnamisation of the war" program in South Vietnam and the "Nixon doctrine" in Indochina.

Obviously, the "Vietnamisation" policy is a perfidious scheme which is not aimed at ending the war but at prolonging and intensifying it by means of the puppet armies and the U.S. air and naval forces. It is not meant to bring home all U.S. troops but to keep back an important force to permanently occupy South Vietnam as support for the Saigon puppet army to continue the U.S. war of aggression and turn South Vietnam into a military base and a new-type colony of the U.S. Using South Vietnam as the first important testing ground for the "Nixon doctrine" and the various strategies, tactics and new kinds of lethal weapons, Nixon is nurturing the illusion of winning a military victory and a position of strength. But after 3 years of test, the "Vietnamisation of the war" policy and the "Nixon doctrine" in Indochina have been seriously frustrated, causing more difficulties to the U.S. on the battlefields, in the United States and in the world.

The splendid victories recorded by the armed forces and peoples (?of the) Indochinese countries on Highway 9, in the high plateaux, the U Minh jungle area, northeastern Cambodia, the approaches to Phnom Penh, on Highways 6 and 7, in the Plain of Jars-Muong Suoi area, the Boloven Plateau etc...are stunning blows dealt at the typical operations of the "Vietnamisation" policy and the "Nixon doctrine" in Indochina.

Though having been driven into ever deeper impasse and more serious defeats, Nixon remains obdurate, bellicose and perfidious in intensifying the war of aggression in the Indochinese countries and hatching more tricky moves.

Through interviews, addresses and statements including the "eight-point peace plan," Nixon has tried his hardest to varnish U.S. imperialists with a new paint and rehashed his psychological gimmicks. He noisily trumpeted his so-called objective of building a world structure of peace and justice, an era of peaceful negotiations and an open world of peace, equality and independence for all countries...He also loudly clamored that he doesn't want walls of any kind between nations, and that peoples of countries with different systems and different values can live together and understand each other. He pleaded that he doesn't seek to occupy the territory of any other country nor establish its domination anywhere. He boasted that he had created opportunities for the future generations to live in a peaceful world. Concerning the Vietnam and Indochina issue, Nixon cynically claimed that the U.S. is ending its involvement, that this war may be considered as having terminated and that the Indochinese people must have the right to decide their own fate without foreign interference.

He had the cheek to rave that the primary objective of the U.S. is a "negotiated settlement" and urged that his "eight-point peace plan" be made a basis to settle the Vietnam issue. However, public opinion in the United States has exposed Nixon's "eight-points plan" as an electioneering move and his purpose is not to lead the U.S. out of the dirty war that has shaken the U.S. regime to its foundation, but to silence his political opponents in the Democratic Party and to create a smokescreen for his scheme to prolong the war.

While clamoring about his "good will for peace" Nixon intensively steps up the war of aggression against the Indochinese countries. U.S. Defence Secretary M. Laird, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff T. Moorer, the secretaries of U.S. Army and Air Force and Navy and many other generals and high-ranking officers have made trips to Saigon, Phnom Penh, Vientiane and Bangkok and other satellite countries to force them to share the U.S. burden of war.

The Nixon administration has massively increased its air force and navy in South-east Asia by sending dozens of B-52 strategic bombers to Guam and Thailand and aircraft carriers to the Vietnamese waters to carry out "the fiercest ever air war against both North and South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia."

To soothe public opinion in the United States and the world who are more and more sternly condemning the Nixon administration's increasing use of air power against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and urging the U.S. to withdraw immediately all U.S. troops from South Vietnam, Nixon insolently claimed the right to continue his bombing in North Vietnam as long as the U.S. POW's are detained and even threatened that as long as the negotiations make no progress and the POW's are in jail in Vietnam, it is necessary to maintain the U.S. presence there.

In defiance of the strong protest by the people of all strata in the cities and throughout South Vietnam, Nixon has obdurately maintained the traitor Nguyen Van Thieu and his repressive and coercive machine to step up the "pacification" plan to herd the people into "strategic hamlets" and other detention camps, and to intensify the repression and massacre of the urban people, massively arrest and imprison intellectuals and students, keep tens of thousands of patriots in thousands of "tiger-cage" prisons. While Nixon is ballyhooing that the "U.S. primary objective" is a "negotiated settlement" the U.S. imperialists have repeatedly resorted to acts of provocation and systematic sabotage of the Paris conference on Vietnam. They have eluded a response to the correct, fair and reasonable seven-point proposal of the PRGRSV and demanded the Vietnamese people to surrender their weapons and give up their patriotic resistance and their right to be master of their own country in order to accept U.S. neo-colonialism defined in Nixon's eight-point plan.

All the cunning and perfidious schemes of Nixon which are aimed at making black white can not cover up his extremely warlike and aggressive neo-colonialist nature. Nixon has revealed his nature of a cruel and perfidious international gendarme when he boasted that: "The U.S. remains a Pacific power" that "the U.S. has not abandoned Asia" and "the U.S. deems it necessary to continue its role in the world," but the time when the U.S. imperialists could have things their way has definitively gone. At a press conference held in Kansas City on July 6, 1971, Nixon himself admitted that the U.S. no longer retains its domineering position as in the past. The war of aggression in Vietnam has smashed the U.S. imperialists' dream of "world hegemony," the "Vietnamization of the war" policy and the "Nixon doctrine" were from the position of weakness and serious setbacks of the U.S. in South Vietnam and Indochina. The more stubbornly the U.S. imperialists cling to their criminal path of aggression, the more ignominious their setbacks will be.

The only correct way to restore peace in accordance with the three Indochinese peoples' aspirations, the American people's interests and the peace-and justice-loving people's demands is for the U.S. to end its war of aggression, scrupulously respect the fundamental national rights of the Indochinese peoples. The U.S. Government must respond to the two key points of the seven-point peace initiative of the PRGRSV, the five-point political solution of the Lao Patriotic Front, the five-point statement of Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk and the political program of the National United Front of Kampuchea. This is the way for the U.S. to end its bankrupted war of aggression in honour. No military adventure no deceitful move of the U.S. can save the "Vietnamization of the war" policy and the Nixon doctrine from bankruptcy.