SMASH THE BIG U.S.-SOVIET CONSPIRACY!

SMASH THE BIG U.S.-SOVIET CONSPIRACY!

by Observer of Renmin Ribao (People's Daily)

(February 20, 1967)

FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS PEKING 1967

Quotation from Chairman Mao Tse-tung

"Lifting a rock only to drop it on one's own feet" is a Chinese folk saying to describe the behaviour of certain fools. The reactionaries in all countries are fools of this kind. In the final analysis, their persecution of the revolutionary people only serves to accelerate the people's revolutions on a broader and more intense scale.

— Speech at the Meeting of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. in Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution (November 6, 1957)

Printed in the People's Republic of China

HE Vietnam situation is now crucial.

Working hand in glove, imperialism, modern revisionism and the reactionaries, with increasing arrogance, are exerting military and political pressure on the Vietnamese people more flagrantly than ever in an attempt to force them to their knees. A new big conspiracy vainly aimed at strangling the Vietnamese people's struggle to resist U.S. aggression and save their country is being vigorously pushed ahead.

Of late, the chieftains of U.S. imperialism have seized on the Spring Festival "truce" on the Vietnam battlefield to advance their plot of "forcing peace talks through bombing". Johnson, Rusk and their like have clamoured in chorus that "our pressure [on the Vietnamese people] must be—and will be—sustained", that the Vietnamese people must "answer promptly by a corresponding and appropriate de-escalation", and that only thus would the United States be "prepared

to order" a cessation of the bombing of north Vietnam. They went so far as to give orders to the Vietnamese people that the south Vietnamese people's armed forces must "lay down their arms" and "must withdraw [from the south]".

While this was going on, Kosygin flew into Britain. Upon his arrival in London, he made a great fanfare and declared that if the United States would only "stop bombing the Democratic Republic of Vietnam", the various sides concerned would "come to the conference table". After the conclusion of his talks with Kosygin, British Prime Minister Wilson gleefully announced: "There is an initiative — a plan — which would bring peace tomorrow." The joint communique on the Soviet-British talks did not say a single word about the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, nor a single word about U.S. imperialism's crime of aggression in Vietnam; but, without distinguishing right from wrong, it called for "the earliest possible end of the Vietnam war".

Throughout the London talks between Kosygin and Wilson, Johnson exercised remote control from the other side of the Atlantic and kept in close touch with them. The Soviet-British talks were actually a triple U.S.-Soviet-British intrigue to extinguish the revolutionary flames in Vietnam and promote the U.S. "peace talks" fraud.

These facts have once again proved that the Soviet revisionist ruling clique is a group of shameless renegades betraying the Vietnamese revolution, the number one accomplice in encouraging U.S. expansion of its aggression and the most sinister enemy of the Vietnamese people's cause of resisting U.S. aggression and saving their country.

Bombing is the sole "magic weapon" used by U.S. imperialism and the Soviet revisionist ruling clique in trying to force capitulation on the Vietnamese people. All the noise they make boils down to one sentence: if Vietnam accepts the U.S. terms for "peace talks", the United States will halt its bombing of north Vietnam temporarily; otherwise, the bombing will go on.

This is outright gangster logic, blackmail pure and simple!

Can it be that suspension of the U.S. bombing of the north is the crux of the Vietnam question? Certainly not. The Vietnam question lies in the fact that the United States has invaded south Vietnam with several hundred thousand troops and engaged in a barbarous colonial war there. It was because of the defeats in the south that the U.S. aggressors began bombing north Vietnam and extended the flames of war to the whole country. Therefore, the crux of the Vietnam question is not whether the United States bombs the north or not. It is that the U.S. aggressive forces must get out of Vietnam and U.S. aggression against the whole of Vietnam must be stopped so that the Vietnamese people can settle their own problems by themselves. So long as the United States continues its forcible occupation of south Vietnam, it remains the aggressor, whether it bombs the north, resumes bombing or suspends bombing or stops it "permanently". The U.S. aggressor, hanging on in the south as it does, has soared to the heights of shamelessness and impudence in seeking to force Vietnam to surrender by using a few bombs.

Aided and abetted by the Soviet revisionist ruling clique, U.S. imperialism has become more and more insatiable and has raised its price on the question of suspension of bombing. For some time the United States said it would stop bombing if the Vietnamese side only gave a "hint" of agreeing to "peace talks". Now it is brashly calling for the "principle of reciprocity". It can stop the bombing, it says, but the Vietnamese people must make "concessions", that is, the people in south Vietnam must "de-escalate" the war while the people in the north must stop supporting their compatriots in the south.

What a "principle of reciprocity"! The United States is the aggressor while the Vietnamese people are the victims of aggression. "Reciprocity" is completely out of the question here. The Vietnamese people have not sent a single soldier to invade or occupy the south in the United States nor a single plane to bomb its north. It is the U.S. bandits who have crossed the ocean to invade the land of

the Vietnamese, killing, burning and bombing indiscriminately. Indeed, if there is any "principle of reciprocity" to be applied, it is that the U.S. bandits must get out of Vietnam lock, stock and barrel and all U.S. armed forces must be withdrawn from that country.

The so-called principle of reciprocity advanced by U.S. imperialism is a gangster "principle": aggression is justified while resistance is criminal. According to this "principle", the United States has the right to hang on in south Vietnam while the Vietnamese people have no right to kick the aggressor out. According to this "principle". the United States can carry on a brutal war of aggression in Vietnam while the Vietnamese people are not allowed to defend their own territory. According to this "principle", the United States can massacre the people in south Vietnam while the people in the north are not allowed to support their kith and kin. According to this "principle", the United States can cut Vietnam into two and keep it permanently divided, while the 31 million Vietnamese people are not allowed to reunify their fatherland. What outrageous

logic! In this day and age, how can the United States be allowed to do as it pleases with the heroic Vietnamese people?

It should be especially pointed out that the "peace talks" moves by U.S. imperialism with the help of the Soviet revisionist ruling clique are centred on one point: to try to force north Vietnam to stop assisting the south Vietnamese people's heroic struggle and abandon its 14 million compatriots and half of the country in exchange for a cessation of U.S. bombing of the north.

This manoeuvre of U.S. imperialism and Soviet revisionism is a big, diabolical conspiracy, a monstrous and intolerable insult to the entire people of Vietnam!

The Vietnamese nation is a single entity. The people in north and south Vietnam are kith and kin bound by flesh and blood. To achieve the complete independence of Vietnam and the reunification of the country is the sacred national aspiration of the 31 million Vietnamese people for which they have valiantly struggled for years at great sacrifice to themselves. No power on earth can forcefully separate the south and north Viet-

namese people, force the Vietnamese people to give up their sacred national aspiration, force such heroic people to go down on their knees before the U.S. aggressors. So long as the U.S. aggressors remain on Vietnamese soil, the south Vietnamese people will never cease their struggle and the north Vietnamese people will have every right to render any form of aid to the struggle of the people in the south until every single U.S. aggressor is driven out of their land.

The loss of south Vietnam inevitably means the loss of north Vietnam. U.S. imperialism's smug calculation is: first of all to use "peace talks" to bind north Vietnam hand and foot so that it can go all out to do what it likes in south Vietnam. And once this U.S. imperialist beast heals its wounds, it will some day spring upon north Vietnam. U.S. imperialism's principle of dealing with the revolutionary people has always been: annihilate them without fail when it can, and annihilate them in the future if it cannot do so for the time being. This is the conclusion reached by the revolutionary peo-

ple of all countries at the heavy cost of their blood.

The truculence of the U.S. aggressors in no way indicates their strength. Precisely the opposite. In its war of aggression in Vietnam, U.S. imperialism has proved very weak and in a very passive and difficult position. The Johnson Administration has to use the bombing of north Vietnam as blackmail to promote its "peace talks" fraud. Isn't this very fact proof that it is at the end of its rope on the south Vietnam battlefield, that it has suffered defeat there?

The difficulties faced by U.S. imperialism in its war of aggression in Vietnam are insurmountably fatal. Fundamentally speaking, they are predetermined by the injustice, barbarity and reactionary nature of the war of aggression it has launched. U.S. imperialism suffers from having a far-flung front, insufficient troop strength, low morale, ineffective command and difficult transport. At home, the American people's movement against the war of aggression in Vietnam has mounted to unprecedented heights while strife inside the ruling clique has grown in intensity. In-

ternationally, U.S. imperialism is isolated because its unjust cause has little support. Nearly one-sixth of the total U.S. troop strength has been thrown into the south Vietnam theatre and is now encircled ring upon ring by the south Vietnamese people. The U.S. aggressor is a cornered beast in south Vietnam today. The longer the war lasts, the greater, deeper and more insoluble will be the difficulties confronting U.S. imperialism.

Chairman Mao teaches us:

The difficulties of the reactionary forces are insurmountable because they are forces on the verge of death and have no future. Our difficulties can be overcome because we are new and rising forces and have a bright future.¹

In this sacred national-liberation war the Vietnamese people, too, will inevitably meet with one difficulty or another. But these are difficulties on their way forward towards

victory and definitely can be overcome. The characteristics of the Vietnamese war of resistance to U.S. aggression and for national salvation decide the protracted nature of the war. The Vietnamese people have all the favourable conditions for fighting a protracted war on their side, while what U.S. imperialism most fears is that the war will drag on. So long as the Vietnamese people pin down the several hundred thousand U.S. aggressor troops by a protracted war and develop their all-nation war of resistance to U.S. aggression and for national salvation, they can certainly deal the U.S. aggressors the death blow and win final victory.

President Ho Chi Minh has said in his celebrated Appeal:

They may use thousands of aircraft for intensified attacks against north Vietnam. But never will they be able to break the iron will of the heroic Vietnamese people to fight against U.S. aggression, for national salvation. . . . The war may last still 5, 10, 20 years or longer. Hanoi, Haiphong and other cities, and enterprises may be

¹ Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung, Foreign Languages Press, Peking, 1961, Vol. IV, p. 125.

destroyed, but the Vietnamese people will not be intimidated! Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom. When victory day comes, our people will rebuild our country and endow it with bigger and more beautiful constructions.

This expresses the firm position and heroic spirit of the 31 million Vietnamese people to defy sacrifice and persist in the war of resistance.

The Chinese people, who are carrying out the vigorous great proletarian cultural revolution, are closely following the development of the Vietnamese situation. We resolutely oppose the big conspiracy hatched jointly by the U.S. imperialists and the Soviet revisionists to stamp out the raging revolutionary fire in Vietnam. Armed with the thought of Mao Tse-tung, the Chinese people have always adhered to the principles of proletarian internationalism, have always regarded the struggle of the Vietnamese people as their own and have always given the fraternal Vietnamese people all-out support and assistance. The 700 million Chinese peo-

ple stand on the side of the heroic Vietnamese people for ever, pledge their strong backing to the Vietnamese people, will never hesitate to make the greatest national sacrifice, and are determined to support the Vietnamese people to carry their war of resistance to U.S. aggression and for national salvation through to the end!

粉碎美苏的一个大阴谋!

外文出版社出版(北京) 1967年袖珍本第一版 编号: (英)3050-1641 00007 3-E-727Pc