

VIETNAM COURIER

July 28,

1969

No. 227

6th Year

Information Weekly — E.O. : 45 Tran Hung Dao Street, Hanoi — Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

Up to July 25, 1969:

3,310

U.S. PLANES SHOT DOWN IN NORTH VIET NAM

Two Crucial Issues

PRESIDENT Ho Chi Minh's appeal on the occasion of July 20 reaffirmed in clearest terms the Vietnamese people's position regarding the two crucial issues now under discussion within the Viet Nam settlement: the withdrawal of American troops and the holding of general elections in South Viet Nam.

Everybody knows how obstinate the ruling circles in Washington are on both subjects. Prompted by their desire to cling to South Viet Nam at any rate, they have been refusing to withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from there. Visibly trying to touch the chauvinistic string of the American people, Henry Cabot Lodge declared at the 25th session of the Paris Conference that such a withdrawal would be tantamount to a "capitulation". So, after having committed an armed aggression against South Viet Nam and occupied militarily her territory, the American imperialists are exacting a price for the cessation of such an aggression and occupation, and this price is precisely the permission given to them to impose their neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam by rather political methods.

To soothe the U.S. public opinion which has been pressing for the repatriation of the GIs, President Nixon recently opened a safety-valve by ordering that 25,000 U.S. troops be pulled out, which is in essence a "trickery", as President Ho Chi Minh put it in his appeal. This move, so loudly ballyhooed by Washington's propaganda machine, was also aimed at making people believe that the U.S. plan to "Vietnamize" the war was in

a groove. But nobody was taken in: if so many elite U.S. divisions had been badly trounced in South Viet Nam, how could puppet soldiers with no morale assume their combat burden?

President Ho Chi Minh has made unequivocally plain the Vietnamese people's demand: "The Vietnamese people firmly demand the withdrawal of all U.S. and satellite troops, not the withdrawal of only 25,000 or 250,000 or 500,000 men, but a total, complete, unconditional withdrawal."

TURNING to the question of future general elections in South Viet Nam, President Ho Chi Minh pointed out in his appeal: "After the total withdrawal of the U.S. and satellite troops and the complete liberation of South Viet Nam from foreign invasion, the Provisional Coalition Government, as provided for in the (NFL-Ed.) ten-point overall solution, will organize free and democratic general elections to enable the South Vietnamese people to determine themselves their own political regime, elect a constituent assembly, work out a Constitution and set up the official coalition government of South Viet Nam, without any foreign country being allowed to interfere". And he stressed: "So long as U.S. troops and the puppet administration remain in existence in South Viet Nam, really free and democratic general elections will be absolutely impossible."

(Continued page 2)

ALWAYS ON THE LOOK OUT FOR ENEMY PLANES!
(Young girls of Hanoi X factory self-defence unit)



South Viet Nam

Repeated PLAF Attacks in Saigon Periphery, South of DMZ and Western High Plateaux.

- ⊙ PLAF onset on My Tho town, on base of US Division 9 and on 6 sub-sectors: 700 enemy troops put out of action.
- ⊙ Enemy convoy on Highway No 13 ambushed: 62 vehicles destroyed, 200 GI casualties.
- ⊙ Many columns of US Airborne Division 101 intercepted at A Bia (Northwest): 280 GIs killed, 11 aircraft downed.
- ⊙ A Civil guard company wiped out southwest of Da Lat, 30 military vehicles wrecked on Road No 19 (East of Pleiku).

Page 4

- In "De-Americanizing" the War, Washington Admits U.S. Failure in South Viet Nam.

Page 5

- South Viet Nam and the Anniversary of the Signing of the 1954 Geneva Agreements

ON APOLLO 11

(A commentary by NHAN DAN on July 27, 1969)

In our time science and technique is making giant strides. In the conquest of the space, started by the Soviet Union, marvellous feats have been achieved in a very short time. The first socialist country succeeded on Oct. 4, 1957 in launching the first man-made satellite of the earth and on April 12, 1961 in performing the flight of Cosmonaut Gagarin, thus opening to man the way into the space. Since then, the Soviet Union has not ceased making valuable contributions to world science and technique for the knowledge of the cosmos and the celestial bodies of the solar system, from the moon which is close to our earth to Mars and Venus which are separated from the Earth by millions of kilometres.

At present, by landing men on the moon, the United States has accomplished an outstanding exploit. It is the result of the work of many scientists and technicians, of tens of thousands of workers and of a great number of cosmonauts in the United States. It constitutes an important landmark in the conquest of the space by man. It cannot be viewed separately from the common achievements of human science, more especially from those of the Soviet Union in the field of cosmic science.

While correctly assessing the new feat of American science and technique, world progressive opinion has not failed to expose the Nixon administration's taking advantage of the landing of the two Americans on the moon to ballyhoo about U.S. "good will for peace". In the last

few days, by every means and tricks, the United States has been using the Apollo 11 performance for psywar purposes, at once "sensational" and crafty. After Apollo 11 had returned safely to the earth, Nixon commenced his tour round the globe to sell his 'peace' label in an attempt to cover up U.S. imperialistic war plans.

But the world peoples are not easily taken in. Fully aware of the true nature and reactionary policy of U.S. imperialism, they are looking not at the moon but at U.S. deeds on the earth. The fact is that the U.S. imperialists are carrying on their policy of oppression, exploitation, aggression and enslavement wherever they set foot. An eloquent proof of this can be found in the pursuance of the aggressive war by the U.S. which is daily committing extremely inhuman atrocities in South Viet Nam and stubbornly opposing the overall solution, so sensible and reasonable, put forward by the South Viet Nam NFL and Provisional Revolutionary Government.

The American government must understand that so long as the U.S. is not willing to withdraw unconditionally all American and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, to leave the South Vietnamese people to settle their own affairs without foreign interference, the Vietnamese people have to go on resisting U.S. aggression, and no display of force, no trickery whatsoever can weaken their resolve.

Some people may think that since the U.S. has been able to send men to the moon, there are hardly any problem on the earth it cannot solve. But the fact is that while U.S. science and technique has attained such heights in relation to the moon, the U.S. ruling circles are at a loss to find a way out of the general crisis and unavoidable collapse of the capitalist system, neither can they get the better of the Vietnamese people who are fighting, millions as one man, for independence and freedom. The greatest force on this earth is that of hundreds and thousands of millions of people closely united and struggling for a just cause, unerringly guided by a revolutionary, Marxist-Leninist line. No matter what economic and military potentials and what ultra-modern scientific and technical means may be used by the imperialists, if they are intended for the attainment of unjust objectives their dismal defeat is a certainty; this truth has been borne out by the U.S. war of aggression in Viet Nam. Everyone knows that the U.S. imperialists have been making tremendous efforts in this war, but their setbacks have been only proportionate to their endeavours. Obstinate persisting in an adventurist policy in the hope of gaining their unjust ends, they will inevitably heading towards complete failure and will have to bear the disastrous and unforeseeable consequences of such a policy, no matter what forces and what methods theirs may be.

Wheeler in South Viet Nam

AFTER a 4-day "fact-finding tour" in South Viet Nam, U.S. General E. Wheeler admitted that the "Vietnamization" of the war could not be completed within the time Nixon had hoped for (BBC, July 21).

Yet, before leaving Saigon, he had the cheek to proclaim that he had got a "fine impression" from his stay, and that although he had been a frequent visitor to South Vietnam over the past six years, the situation this time was by far the best ever.

One may recall that in his May 14 speech, Nixon had said: We have ruled out attempting to impose a purely military situation on the battlefield."

For his part, Clifford had

admitted that the Americans could not hope to get any more advantage through American military power and that it was high time they stopped getting involved (Los Angeles Times, June 22).

In other words, even Wheeler's superiors have had to admit the bankruptcy of the American "local war" in Viet Nam. And yet, this militarily desperate situation (Clifford's opinion) has been found by Wheeler "far better than 6 years ago. The psywar trick Wheeler is trying to perform in the hope of soothing American public opinion is but a farce!

The aim of Wheeler's tour in South Viet Nam is to give a further impetus to Nixon's war of aggression. Of the four days he spent there,

he set aside two for conferences with Thieu, Ky and Huong in order to "promote the Vietnamization of the war", that is, to carry on the American war of aggression through the use of puppet troops. Wheeler said explicitly that he had given no instructions to the American command to change any thing to the policy of bringing "maximum pressure" to bear. He also stressed that "the replacement of American troops will take a long time" (A.P., July 21).

Wheeler's actions are only further evidence of the Nixon clique's obduracy. In spite of their heavy setbacks, the American aggressors still show the greatest mulishness.

Quan Doi Nhan Dan (People's Army), July 23, 1969

AT the 27th session of the Paris Conference, Mr. Xuan Thuy, head of the DRVN government delegation, once again emphasized that the U.S. policy of intervention and aggression was the deep root and immediate cause of the serious situation obtaining now in Viet Nam. There lies the knot of the Viet Nam problem, he said, so a sound settlement requires the removal of this knot.

The DRVN envoy reaffirmed that in fighting against U.S. aggression, the Vietnamese people were only acting by their legitimate right to self-defence. The U.S. demand for "mutual troops withdrawal" was many times

why it should not take these ten points as a basis for a settlement conducive to a prompt cessation of the war and early return of peace in South Viet Nam.

The speech delivered by Mrs Nguyen Thi Binh, head of the South Viet Nam Republic PRG, also highlighted the soundness of the NFL proposal and the U.S. manoeuvres aimed at eluding this offer, especially the tricky 'withdrawal of 25,000 GIs' from South Viet Nam and the 'free election' proposal of Nguyen Van Thieu.

Concerning the recent South Viet Nam tour of General Wheeler, U.S. Joint Chief of Staffs, the South

27th Plenary Session of Paris Conference
on Viet Nam (July 24, 1969)

Mr. XUAN THUY: "The honour of the United States lies precisely in an end to the war of aggression in Viet Nam"

condemned and rejected by the DRVN delegation as utterly unreasonable.

After recalling the Vietnamese people's position as it was expounded in President Ho Chi Minh's appeal on the occasion of July 20 concerning the withdrawal of American troops and the holding of general elections in South Viet Nam, the DRVN chief negotiator declared that the honour of the United States lay precisely in an end to this tragedy that the Viet Nam war was, and which was brought about by the United States.

Once again, he rejected the 'free elections' in South Viet Nam proposed by Nguyen Van Thieu under U.S. instigation. In reaffirming the DRVN government unreserved support for the 10-point overall solution put forward by the NFL, he concluded that if the Nixon administration really wanted peace, there would be no reason

Viet Nam Republic representative said that President Nixon had sent him to South Viet Nam to drive ahead the implementation of the 'maximum military pressure' policy on the South Vietnamese people. Wheeler boasted that the U.S. strategy now applied in South Viet Nam was a sound one and he advocated that U.S. forces should continue their offensive operations. He also declared that the plan to 'Vietnamize' the war must be 'spaced' and that therefore, by the end of 1970, the U.S. would not be able to pull out all its troops from South Viet Nam; as regards U.S. naval and air forces, they should station for a longer time in South Viet Nam to back the puppet army, Wheeler recommended.

All this exposed the duplicity of U.S. protestations of its 'good will for peace', Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh concluded.

TWO CRUCIAL ISSUES

(continued from page 1)

In the light of such a position, all American proposals regarding "free elections" "electoral committee", etc... are but useless attempts to keep in office a "Government" faithful to Washington. Indeed, if Nguyen Van Thieu's "free elections" should be held according to American plans, none other than the Saigon administration would be entrusted with the responsibility for the organization of these elections and the puppet army with the job of keeping order during the electoral period whereas members of the Resistance willing to take part in the elections would have to lay down their weapons and accept the Constitution of the traitors.

The rejection of the Nguyen Van Thieu "6-point proposal"

by the Vietnamese people has been called for their legitimate firmness in the defence of the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination and the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights.

PRESIDENT Ho Chi Minh's appeal has shown the way to the Vietnamese people in the present stage of their struggle to liberate the South, defend the North and achieve the ultimate reunification of the country. At the same time, it has cast a crude light on the sinister designs of the American neo-colonialists. But whatever their schemes, as President Ho Chi Minh has remarked, their defeat is a foregone conclusion, and our fighters and countrymen are resolved to march forward, with unswerving confidence in their total victory.