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MIA's

STATION COMMENTATOR DISCUSSES U.S. MIA ISSUE

OW311409 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 31 Aug 80

[From weekly feature "Vietnam Mailbag"]

[Text] [Announcer] A listener in Australia, Mr (Anthony Stonsen), mentioned in his letter the problem of Americans missing in the Vietnam War. He said he was sure that the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam knows the fate of at least 165 of the cases and probably acknowledged, if not custody, of at least another 1,100 men [sentence as heard]. We invite the commentator of our radio to the studio to talk with Mr (Anthony Stonsen).

[Station commentator] Hello Mr (Stonsen). Your doubts remind us of the charge made by U.S. Congressman Lester Wolff at a press conference in Washington on 30 January when he said that Vietnam is holding the remains of 400 U.S. servicemen at No 17 Ly Nam De Street in Hanoi. I remember the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry released information contradicting Lester Wolff's allegation. Yes, some of this information is about what a group of foreign reporters (?saw at) No 17 Ly Nam De Street. The group accompanied UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim on his visit to Hanoi early this month. After 2 hours inspecting the building, the reporters found nothing to indicate the compound had ever been used as a warehouse for men missing in action. They said everything in there suggested that it had served as a film studio for at least a decade.

[Announcer] Well, everybody here knows that it is an army film studio. I went there twice myself to watch films when I got invitation cards from a friend of mine who works there. Now could you tell Mr (Stonsen) something about what the Vietnamese side has been doing in connection with the MIA problem?

[Station commentator] I will be happy to do that. The first thing I want to tell Mr (Stonsen) is that although the United States has not fulfilled its commitment concerning the MIA's included in the Paris agreement on Vietnam, Vietnam has on (?seven) occasions handed over to the United States the remains of 73 Americans missing in action. Although we are now faced with problems caused by 30 years of war, we have set up relevant organizations and local offices at all levels with experts from at least four ministries to help seek information about the killed and missing in the war. We have also sent a delegation of Vietnamese specialists to Honolulu to exchange views with the U.S. specialists to accelerate the process of seeking information. Vietnam's good will has been acknowledged by the U.S. Government itself. In a press conference on 23 March 1977, U.S. President Carter said: The Vietnamese have not tied together economic allocations of American funds with the MIA question. We believe that they have acted in good faith.

[Announcer] So, what do you think of the current hullabaloo from Washington about the MIA's

[Station commentator] As we have said in our commentaries, Washington wants to sidetrack public opinion from the grave consequences of the Vietnam War both in the United States and in Australia, too. And they use the MIA issue to obstruct the normalization of relations between Vietnam and the United States. This problem is only one of many resulting from the U.S. war of aggression. There is human suffering in the United States and also in Australia as a result of the U.S. chemical warfare in South Vietnam. For the grave consequences of war, I mean the newly discovered tragedy of thousands of American Vietnam War veterans and thousands of others in Australia who have been exposed to toxic chemicals sprayed by the United States in South Vietnam during the war, the now notorious defoliant Agent Orange that the United States sprayed more than 100,000 tons of that defoliant in South Vietnam. * [sentence as heard]

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More than 2 million Vietnamese have been affected, 35,000 of whom died. In Australia, according to statistics published in the Canberra TIMES, at least 10 percent of newborn children of the Australian Vietnam War veterans are deformed because of the poisoning of their fathers.

[Announcer] Thank you very much for coming here and having this talk. Mr (Anthony Stonsen), we hope the conversation with our commentator is of some value to you.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ASSAILS U.S. MILITARY BUILDUP

OW011547 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 1 Sep 80

[Text] Today, 1 September, the SRV Foreign Ministry spokesman issued a statement condemning the United States for continuing to increase its armed forces and build military bases in the areas of the Horn of Africa, Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean. The statement reads:

The United States has recently continued to send many more warships and armed forces to the Arabian Sea and Horn of Africa, expanded and modernized its Diego Garcia military base and signed agreements on military cooperation with Oman, Somalia and Kenya allowing it to use military bases in these countries.

These extremely dangerous new actions by the United States are seriously threatening the independence, sovereignty and security of Democratic Yemen, Socialist Ethiopia and other countries in the Arabian Peninsula, Horn of Africa and along the coast of the Indian Ocean. They are threatening peace and stability and causing tension in these areas. On 27 August 1980, the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen issued a statement vehemently denouncing these U.S. actions.

The SRV Foreign Ministry severely condemns the aforesaid U.S. actions and demands that the United States dismantle all its military bases and immediately withdraw its armed forces from the Arabian Sea, Horn of Africa and Indian Ocean.

The people and Government of the SRV, now as in the past, resolutely support the struggle of Democratic Yemen and Socialist Ethiopia against the dark designs and intimidatory military actions by the United States to protect their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and, fully support the struggle of the peoples in the Arabian Peninsula, Horn of Africa and Indian Ocean area against the U.S. military presence to turn these areas into a zone of peace without imperialist military bases and armed forces.

MEDIA COMMENT ON DENG, HAN NIANLONG 'BELLICOSE STATEMENTS'

VNA Account

OW301535 Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] Hanoi, 30 Aug. (VNA)--According to the FEBC, in an interview with an Italian journalist on August 29, Chinese Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping again declared that China reserves for itself the right to "counterattack Vietnam in self defence." A similar threat was uttered by Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Han Nianlong, in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE last week.

These bellicose statements were made at a moment when Beijing is stepping up provocations on the Sino-Vietnamese border and deliberately delaying the third round of the Vietnamese-Chinese talks. In July 1980, the Chinese side committed 180 armed provocations on land, 30 in the air, and hundreds of incursions in Vietnamese territorial waters. On the other hand, with Washington's consent, Beijing is pressing Thailand to keep up tension on the Thai borders with Kampuchea and Laos, blocking the trend towards negotiations and encouraging the confrontation between the Indochinese countries and other Southeast Asian countries.

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The warmongers in Beijing have exposed themselves as proponents of the policy of using violence to settle the relations among nations. They are the saboteurs of peace and stability in the region and the main obstacle to cooperation among Southeast Asian countries.

Hanoi Domestic Version

BK300244 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 29 Aug 80

[Text] According to a U.S. army radio in the Philippines, during an interview with an Italian journalist on 29 August, Chinese Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping again claimed the right to self-defense in counterattacking Vietnam. Last week, in an interview with the Japanese news agency KYODO, Chinese Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Han Nianlong also hurled a similar threat. Such frenzied and bellicose threats have been hurled at a time when the reactionary Beijing ruling circles have continued to intensify their provocative activities, causing tension along the Vietnam-China border, and have stubbornly delayed the third round of the Vietnam-China talks.

In July alone, the Zongnanhai warmongers staged 18 armed provocations on Vietnamese territory and 3 others in the air along with hundreds of encroachments on Vietnam's territorial waters by gunboats. [Figures as heard]

Moreover, the Chinese authorities in collusion with the U.S. imperialists have pressed Thailand to cause tension along the Thai-Kampuchean and Thai-Lao border areas and have sought every way to prevent a peaceful dialogue and to stir up hostility between the Indochinese countries and other ASEAN countries in Southeast Asia. These belligerent statements and acts of the reactionary Chinese authorities have been made at a time when broad segments of the world public have continually supported the proposals made by the three Indochinese countries in mid-July 1980. Many countries have proposed that UNGA discuss the problems of peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia in its coming meeting.

The Zhongnanhai warmongers are notoriously exposing themselves before world public opinion as those pursuing the policy of military force in their relations with other countries to sabotage peace and stability and prevent cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Hanoi English Report

OW301115 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 30 Aug 80

[Text] In recent days, the Chinese authorities have stepped up armed provocations against Vietnam along the common border. They have also instigated the Thai reactionaries to cause further tension on Thai-Kampuchea border areas and undermine the neighborly relations of friendship between Thailand and Laos.

As reported in a yesterday's broadcast of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Philippines, Deng Xiaoping told a Italian journalist that China still reserves the right to counterattack in self-defense against Vietnam. Deng said: The attack on Vietnam in February last year was ineffective because China was then too cautious and faced protest from many countries.

Deng Xiaoping's statement showed that the Chinese authorities have not given up their plan of invading Vietnam, undermining and three Indochinese countries and aggravating the tension in Southeast Asia.

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