OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE IN VIETNAMESE AFFAIRS CONDEMNED

Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 24 Jun 78 p 4

[Editorial: "Imperialists: Hands Off Vietnam"]

[Text] Three years have elapsed since the people of Vietnam won their great victory over the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their hated servants. This opened the road for the realization of the lofty national aspirations of the entire people, both in the north and in the south. United Vietnam set to work for the peaceful construction of the country.

The U.S. imperialists did their utmost to break Vietnam, to put this country under their neocolonialist domination and turn it into an advanced place d'armes for aggressions against the other peoples of Asia. The entire military, economic and political potential of U.S. imperialism was used to bring to their knees and subjugate the heroic Vietnamese people. Over 6 million Americans took part directly or indirectly in this barbarous adventure, which has no precedent. The United States spent in Vietnam more than $145 billion, dispatched there the most "outstanding" generals of the Pentagon, the most trained soldiers, the most modern weapons and the most deadly poisons. The U.S. presidents, one after another, Eisenhower and Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon, invented and used all the strategies and "doctrines," implemented the policy of "Americanization" and "Vietnamization," the tactics of "scorched earth" and diplomatic tricks. But all this failed shamefully.

The Vietnamese people met the ferocities, barbarisms and trickeries of U.S. imperialism with their ardent patriotism, with their unflinching determination to fight, with their steel-like will to emerge victorious. The sacrifices the people of Vietnam made and the heroism they displayed in the struggle imposed on them by the imperialists are unprecedented. On the altar of victory they sacrificed the lives of millions of their finest sons, consumed all their material and spiritual energies, and the country was burned and scorched by the steel and fire of the bloody war.
The Vietnamese people enjoy the admiration, honor, respect and sympathy of all the peoples of the world for all these sacrifices and heroism, for this great and glorious contribution they made to the struggle of all the other freedom-loving peoples who have risen up against the aggressive policy of the imperialists.

Anyone who has no respect and gratitude for these superhuman sacrifices ought to be condemned.

The Albanian people, educated by their Workers Party Headed by Comrade Enver Hoxha, sincerely supported and fully backed the liberation struggle of the Vietnamese people against the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, wholeheartedly hailed their heroic victories and expressed their firm confidence in the triumph of their just cause. Our people, like all other peoples who supported the anti-imperialist and liberation struggle of the Vietnamese people, have desired that they might enjoy and consolidate the victories achieved with blood and sacrifices, live free and build their socialist homeland in peace.

But the conflicts created and the armed clashes on the Vietnamese-Cambodian border, stirred up by the foreigners, which have had many victims so far, have hindered the constructive peaceful work which had just begun in Indochina. All friends of Vietnam, including the Albanian people, have regretfully noted that the Vietnamese-Cambodian disagreements, instead of being solved in the spirit of friendship, mutual understanding and mutual interest, have become still more complicated as a result of foreign intervention.

The Albanian Workers Party has clearly expressed its viewpoint and stand in regard to this conflict. The editorial of ZERI I POPULLIT of 5 January this year, devoted to the events on the border between Cambodia and Vietnam, said that the Albanian people have stood for and stand for the conviction that the two neighboring countries and peoples, who fought together against imperialism and the same enemies, should stop any action which violates the noble interests of the two nations, the revolution and their freedom and should solve their disagreements by means of friendly talks. Our conviction has been and remains that this can be achieved through common efforts and good will.

But instead of the situation in that area becoming peaceful, it is aggravating and worsening more and more as a result of the new imperialist intrigues and plots of the superpowers. An atmosphere which promises no good has been created in regard to Vietnam. The freedom-loving peoples of the world are worried about the new events that are taking place, but they are convinced that the Vietnamese people, who have brilliant militant traditions and an indomitable spirit, will cope with and will overcome the new dangers and difficulties that have been created.
The hindering of the march of Vietnam on its road of independent development and peaceful construction affects and offends the consciousness of all peoples, of all those who want and respect the freedom and independence of the nations, the right of each country to decide its affairs.

Contradictory viewpoints may also exist between the neighboring countries on various questions. But we hold that this must not be a reason to create and stir up conflicts, that the just and correct road to solve disagreements is that of talks. To ask that questions be solved by imposing the views of one side through political, economic and other pressures is condemnable. This is a practice which the peoples long ago rejected.

Vietnam has its own political and ideological views. This is its own business. But we defend the rights of the people of Vietnam, the principle that each people decide for themselves the destinies of their own country, without outside interference. No one has the right to exert pressures and threats on them.

Those who choose such methods and do not agree to sit at the conference table to solve disagreements which may arise between neighboring countries are not right; they are weak in their arguments and are guilty. Therefore, anyone who thinks that he can impose his views and aims by means of pressure and blackmail should be certain that neither the Vietnamese people nor any free people accept.

Following the victory against U.S. imperialism and the reunification of the country, a new epoch began for the Vietnamese people, that of efforts to heal the numerous and grave wounds of the war, the period of socialist reconstruction and transformation. Now no one has the right to interfere in their internal affairs, to impede the solution of these tasks and to create difficulties for them. No one must interfere in the question of how Vietnam solves its own problems, how it treats the issues over which it is sovereign.

When outside pressures are exerted against Vietnam and efforts are made to dictate to it how to act and what to do in its own country, anyone can understand what is hidden behind the slogans and fine words "We support the freedom and independence of the peoples," "We render disinterested aid," "We observe the rights of nations," etc., which are used by the imperialists freely and carelessly.

Now the Vietnamese people are faced with new and great difficulties. But they have never been intimidated and subdued in the face of difficulties and pressures. They have learned how to resist and overcome them with determination, no matter how great they may be and whatever their source. Both in the past and at present, too, they enjoy the solidarity and sympathy of all the freedom-loving peoples, of all progressive forces. Those who stand loyal to proletarian internationalism consider it their duty to assist and support the Vietnamese people against the intrigues of the big powers and all those who willy-nilly support these powers.