010913 -- statement by spokesman of propaganda and information ministry of democratic kampuchea

Peking, January 9, 1978 (Xinhua) -- The spokesman of the ministry of propaganda and information of democratic kampuchea was authorized to issue a statement in Phnompenh on January 6, according to a broadcast of radio democratic kampuchea.

The statement says: "The Vietnamese party and government do not mention that the Vietnamese army has deeply broken into the territories of kampuchea. They talk only about what they call the 'regrettable conflict along the border between kampuchea and vietnam'." It says that in reality, the Vietnamese army has invaded kampuchea, "deeply broken into the territories, dozens of kilometres from the frontier".

It says, "Along road no. 7 in the east region, the Vietnamese army began their attacks and invasion in September 1977. In their first attacks, they occupied Memot, Krek and broken into the territories of kampuchea up to Phum Stung, 20 kilometres from the border." "They launched their second attacks on January 1, 1978, one day after the statement of the government of democratic kampuchea was issued. They have penetrated along road no. 7 up to the crossroad at Prathet, 30 kilometres from the border of kampuchea, and also both in the north and south along this road."

It says, "In Sway Rieng province, the Vietnamese army has broken into the territories of kampuchea along road no. 1 and road no. 13, deep in the north and south of road no. 1. Also in this region, in November 1977, the Vietnamese army launched surprise attacks and broke into the territories of kampuchea. "Along and in the south of road no. 1 the Vietnamese army has taken Bavet, Schiphou and entered up to Prasult, 30 kilometres from the border, only 10 kilometres east of Sway Rieng city." "Along road no. 13 and in the north of road no. 1, the Vietnamese aggressor army has attacked and occupied road no. 13 up to the village of Chak 10 kilometres north of Sway Rieng city."

It says: "In the provinces of Takeo and Kampot in the southwest region, in December 1977, the Vietnamese army also launched surprise attacks and deeply broke into the territories of kampuchea. "In the province of Takeo, the Vietnamese army has penetrated up to Romenh, more than 10 kilometres from the border between kampuchea and Vietnam, up to the district town of Koh Andet, 30 kilometres from the border and taken Tonloap and Kirivong, 15 kilometres from the border." "In the province of Kampot, the Vietnamese army has attacked and taken Phnom Lork, the village of Koh Chanloh and penetrated up to the district town of Kompong..."
the statement asks: is this what the Vietnamese party and government call "border conflict between Kampuchea and Viet Nam"?

It says that Viet Nam attempts to force Kampuchea to join in the "Indochina federation" under Vietnamese manipulation. The people and the nation of Kampuchea, like all the small nations and the peoples of the small countries world over, have their honour and dignity, cherish and defend their honour and dignity, wish to live in full independence and sovereignty, to be masters of their own destiny, cherish and defend their sovereignty and territorial integrity. In the past, the nation and the people of Kampuchea had suffered immense sacrifices during their struggle for liberation. The revolutionary army and the people of Kampuchea had made sacrifices to free themselves from one great power and certainly they do not intend to be enslaved and shackled by another, but to live in independence and sovereignty, in honour and dignity.

It says that as for the problem of negotiations that Viet Nam has raised, "they could be convened only when a favourable atmosphere of mutual confidence is created beforehand, that is, when Viet Nam stops its aggression against Kampuchea, withdraws its army from the territories of Kampuchea and stops carrying out its parasitical scheme to force Kampuchea to participate in its 'Indochina federation'".

The document recalled the history of the border issue between the two countries.

It charged that the Kampuchean side "violated the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Viet Nam."

It said that in the long period since May 1975, "the Kampuchean armed forces repeatedly intruded into the Vietnamese territory from one to six kilometres (in the attack on several places in Tan Bien District, Tay Ninh Province, on the night of September 25, 1977, up to the early morning the following day) and even 10 kilometres (in the December 1975 attack on the Sa Thay River Area, Gia Lai-Kontum Province)."

The document reaffirmed that the Vietnamese policy on Laos and Kampuchea is "to preserve and develop the social relationship between the Vietnamese people and the peoples of Laos and Kampuchea, strengthen the militant solidarity, mutual trust, long-term cooperation and mutual assistance in all fields in accordance with the principle of complete equality, respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and respect for each other's legitimate interest, so that the three countries, which have been associated with one another in the struggle for national liberation, will be associated with each other for ever in the building and defence of their respective countries, for the sake of each country's independence and prosperity."

It also reiterated that Viet Nam will "pledge their utmost efforts to defend and develop the special relationship between the two parties and peoples of Viet Nam and Kampuchea."

Referring to the approach to the settlement of the border issue between the two countries, it said: "the countries concerned should examine these problems in a spirit of equality, mutual respect, friendship and good neighbourliness, and settle them through negotiations.

"Proceeding from these criteria and taking into account in particular the favourable situation when Viet Nam and Kampuchea are now completely independent and free, we can affirm that all difficulties inherent in the border problem can be overcome in order to jointly establish a border of lasting friendship between neighbouring fraternal countries."

010915 -- Western countries' steel output falls in 1977.

Peking, January 9, 1978 (Xinhua) -- Steel output