ALL FOR TOTAL VICTORY

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We joyously greet this new spring, the fourth spring season of the anti U.S. war of national salvation in North Vietnam, a time when the compatriots and troops of the entire country continue to perform meritorious actions on the battlefields and the beginning of a year of great victories.

The poetic lines saluting Tet at the start of spring, 1967, written by Chairman Ho, "Both regions fight well against the U.S. The good news is that victories bloom like flowers" have been transformed into reality.

Looking over the past year, we are endlessly happy and proud to note that the people's resistance forces in both regions of the country have rapidly increased in strength, stand imposingly at the front lines against the U.S., have defeated over a million troops of the U.S., the puppets, and the feudalists, and are triumphantly charging in to secure greater than ever victories.

"It has been clear that the U.S. is losing." That affirmation by Chairman Ho is a scientific summary of our great people's war over the past years.

The imperialist U.S. is the extremist agressor of the 20th century, the now fascist leading the forces of international reactionarism. They are extremely obstinate and crafty. There is no bold, insidious plot they will not cultivate in their efforts to succeed in their invasion of the southern region of our country, to transform that region into a new colony and add it to their chain of military defense installations in Asia and the Pacific, to suppress people's liberation movements, to block the success of Socialism in Southeast Asia, and prepare for a new world war.

But the imperialist U.S. has continuously failed since their intervention and invasion of South Vietnam.

The enslavement policy through U.S. neo-colonialism relied upon economic and military aid provided to bolster the dictator, Ngo Dinh Diem, who
was crushed and overthrown by the great struggle movement of our compatriots in South Vietnam who had been on top of the "general uprising" movement since 1959.

Following that, the U.S. strategy was based upon "special war" and relied upon puppet troops, puppet authorities, and a system of "strategic hamlets", etc., all of which ended in disastrous failure.

The overthrow of the dictatorial Ngo Dinh Diem regime and the bankruptcy of the "special war" strategy marked the beginning of heavy military and political defeat for U.S. imperialism.

Faced with serious failure, in 1965 the U.S. aggressor shifted from "special war" to limited war in hopes of extricating themselves from their perilous position in South Vietnam.

For nearly the past three years, the imperialist U. S. has poured in more than 500,000 U. S. and feudalist troops to coordinate with more than 500,000 puppet troops in hopes of eradicating this situation and re-taking the offensive on the battlefield. With over one million troops, armed with the finest modern warfare equipment, during the two dry seasons, 1965-1966 and 1966-1967, the U. S. invaders concentrated their strength into two "strategic offensives" in which they used extremely barbarous, vicious acts of war aimed at destroying the main forces of the Liberation Army, "pacifying" the countryside, stabilizing the political situation in the cities, and strengthening the puppet army and government. Accompanying the re-inforcement of their invasion of South Vietnam, the imperialist U.S. greatly intensified the war of destruction against the North. At the same time they spread spurious tales of "peace talks" hoping to fool world opinion and the American people.

But all of the U. S. invader's war plans, however meticulously calculated, when subjected to the realities of the battlefield, became confused and totally changed, causing the U.S. aggressor to be crushed at every turn.

The corrupt, bourgeois military methodology of the imperialist U. S. relies primarily upon weapons and technology. This cannot effectively compete with the way of a people's war which relies upon the individual who is acutely aware of the revolution. The U. S. invader impetuously sent an expeditionary force into South Vietnam hoping to accomplish their strategy of a quick war and a quick victory. But they fell into the infinite envelopment of the people's war; they were forced to fight in a kind of war with which they had no experience, on battlefields with no fixed lines, and were attacked from all points. As a result they were forced to carry on a long, draw-out, wasteful war. The more prolonged the war the more severely outlined are the contradictions of the enemy. In order for the enemy to mass his troops for an assault he must render his bases more vulnerable, give up secure lines of communications. He must then use most of his forces for defense and maintenance of rear services and protection of lines of
communication. Thus his troops are more dispersed and he becomes more vulnerable to en- circlement and destruction. This full circle of indecision and contradiction regarding enemy strategy (contradictions between offense and defense and concentration and dispersal), this coming and going will not stop and will ultimately result in increasing deficits among enemy troops and a weakening and loss of their spirit. Their combat posture has been weakened because neither their offensive or defensive strategies have been effective and they cannot avoid total failure.

U.S. military tactics such as helicopter and armored vehicle transport and connected bases have all gone bankrupt. The "strategic hemist" system of the U.S. and their puppets were also destroyed. The great quantity of troops, arms, and modern war equipment was insufficient to bolster the sagging spirit of the U.S. troops or the declining, disintegrating spirit of the puppet troops. Thus the combat effectiveness of the enemy troops was considerably lacking and their war making capability very low.

During the past two dry seasons the U.S. aggressor began hundreds of large and small operations. But they were not able to destroy even a company of the Liberation Army. On the other hand, thousands of U.S., puppet, and feudalist troops have been destroyed. Many U.S. battalions and companies have been completely obliterated. Both U.S. dry season "strategic offensives" failed to attain the goals established by them. The enemy failure during the second dry season was greater than during the first. The enemy troops not only failed miserably during the dry season, but during the rainy season of 1967 they were severely defeated in encounters with the Liberation Forces of South Vietnam.

Coming into winter-spring 1967-1968 finds the U.S. aggressor sinking more deeply into an immobile defensive posture. Expressing an air of the past year's victories, the military and people of South Vietnam are heroically and triumphantly charging in, assaulting the enemy militarily and politically, from the plains of the Cuu Long River to Tri - Thien, determined to win a great winter-spring victory. The contradictions and indecisiveness of enemy strategy and tactics have become more severe. The number of U.S. troops has become insufficient because they are spread so thin. They are always immobilized when faced with the strong attacks from every direction of the South Vietnamese Liberation Armed Forces. From the beginning of this winter-spring season, the U.S. aggressor and her henchmen have been hard hit both at the front and in rear areas which has caused heavy losses. According to as yet incomplete numbers, in two years of fighting the Americans, the military and people of South Vietnam have eliminated on the field of combat 300,000 enemy troops, among which nearly 300,000 were U.S. and feudalist. They have destroyed 120 U.S. and puppet battalions and 684 of their companies. They have shot down and destroyed 5,330 aircraft, destroyed 11,800 military vehicles, among which 5,200 were armored, and sunk 297 large and small warships.
The military failures on the part of the U.S. and her henchmen have caused their political situation to worsen. The U.S. invaders had hoped that bringing an expeditionary force into South Vietnam would make them the masters of the battlefield, bolster the puppet troops and government, and stabilize the political climate of the South. But their continuous failures have led to exactly the opposite results.

The presence of a U.S. expeditionary force in South Vietnam and the U.S. escalation policy has torn the mask from the neo-colonialism of the U.S. and exposed their traitorous henchmen. The dissention between the imperialist U.S. and her henchmen and the people of the South has presented extreme difficulties. U.S. and puppet policies of oppression, vicious terrorism, the draft, chasing people out of their homes, forced resettlement, land theft, currency inflation, and the rising cost of living together with the problems of a decadent society and culture have been heavily piled upon the heads of the people living in the cities and in the countryside temporarily occupied by the enemy. That stinging existence has reached a point where the masses say "We do not want to live as before". They demand a change in the system. The oppressors cannot suppress the people as they once did. In many areas of the cities the masses have stood up and cast off the yoke of oppression and became the masters of their own lives. The middle classes more and more turn toward the revolution. Some people whose vision was blurred and had illusions about U.S. support now are also gradually coming to hate the Americans and support the People's Liberation Front. The political struggle movement has feverishly expanded under political and economic slogans, a fact which has caused dissention in those regions which are temporarily occupied by the U.S. to become increasingly more serious. The internal strife among the U.S. henchmen continuously divisively and there was fierce conflict during and after the puppet "general elections." The puppet machinery at the township level is almost totally paralyzed. "Pacification" plans of the aggressor U.S. and her henchmen have ended in failure even though they employed every conceivable ruse to motivate the people. But the people poured a fiery storm of hatred on their heads, destroyed their "strategic hamlets", and continually killed the officials who worked on "pacification" of the countryside.

Accompanying their failures and severe stalemate on the battlefields of the South have been serious losses in the U.S. imperialist war of destruction against the North. The so-called "pre-eminence of U.S. air power" has been deeply buried in the black earth by our military and civilians. The bombs of the U.S. aggressor have not only failed to move the determination of our people but have in fact heightened it. The compatriots and soldiers of the North will not retreat in the face of any sacrifice or adversity. They are determined to keep their promise to their blood brothers of the South and to stand shoulder to shoulder in combat until total victory is achieved in order to defend the North, liberate the South, and unify the Fatherland.
The failures of the U.S. aggressor in both regions of our country have had a profound effect upon the American political, economic, and financial situation and have weakened the position of the imperialist U.S. in the world community. The American people's anti-war demonstrations against the gang in power grow more each day. The eruption of demonstrations by American Negroes has caused serious difficulties for the U.S. ruling gang. Strikes by workers demanding improved living conditions continue to erupt and have badly influenced the economy, finances, and U.S. war effort in Vietnam. Anti-draft movements by American youth and anti-war movements by U.S. soldiers continually increase. The gang holding power in the U.S. is constantly faced with internal dissent and divisiveness. Deficit financing, increasing losses of gold reserves, rising costs of living, and a new crisis threatens the U.S. economy. All of those factors have caused the social unrest of U.S. imperialism to become fierce. The longer the U.S. invasion of Vietnam is drawn out, the more serious that unrest will become. The imperialist allies of the U.S. are taking advantage of the U.S. quagmire in Vietnam and her economic and financial difficulties by making great efforts to compete with the U.S. in order to re-capture markets and areas of influence long held by the U.S.

The imperialist U.S. has been more than ever isolated in the world. The false arguments of the gang holding power in the U.S. in regard to "peace talks" have not fooled anyone. Throughout their history of aggression the U.S. imperialists have never suffered the insults and charges as they do now. All people of conscience in the world, and even in the U.S., have raised their voices in protest against the U.S. invasion of Vietnam, have deplored the vicious crimes of the imperialist U.S., have demanded that they end the war, and have demanded the withdrawal of U.S. forces in order that the Vietnamese people can themselves determine their own fortunes.

While the U.S. aggressor and her henchmen have been bogged down and severely stalemated the resistance forces of our people have greatly and quickly expanded. The more our military and civilians fight the more they win, the greater becomes their energy, and the larger become their victories.

The victories won by our military and civilians in both regions of the country during the past year have been first of all victories of the anti-U.S. national salvation policy and the people's war policy. Those policies are the creative application of Marxism-Leninism to the realistic situation in Vietnam and the inheritance and development of our people's traditional heroism and war experience with external invasion, which has been long-standing. At the same time they assimilate selective revolutionary combat experiences of peoples of all countries. Through the process of fighting against the U.S. our military and civilians have constantly gained new experience and have generalized that experience into guiding principles for the conduct of a people's war against the imperialist U.S. invader. Firmly grasping the concept of "total resistance involving all of the people for a long period of time relies primarily upon the strength of the individual" and fully employing the strategic and tactical advantage of a people's
Our military and civilians have sufficiently expressed their basic strength, deeply penetrated the enemy's basic weaknesses, and have led the people's war to a level of development heretofore unknown.

From Tri-Thien to Ca Mau the compatriots and soldiers of the Liberation Armed Forces of South Vietnam have constantly maintained the initiative, continuously attacked the enemy militarily and politically, caused the failure of the enemy's war goals, and have succeeded in accomplishing our strategic goals which are destruction of the enemy, protection of the people, and liberation of the nation.

Close coordination between conventional and guerrilla warfare and between military and political attacks has created a tremendous strength for the people's war. It has caused the enemy forces to be "spread as thinly as a guitar string", wasted incessantly and destroyed on the front lines and even in their rear areas which they considered "most secure", overwhelmed their spirits, immobilized, and stalemated. The assaults of the people's Liberation Armed Forces carried out with skill and cleverness have been mutually beneficial to the compatriots who rose up to destroy the "strategic hamlets", threw off oppression, and achieved the right to be their own masters and expand liberated areas. On the other hand, political battles fought with a spirit of "general uprising" by the people have created conditions favorable to the armed forces who can destroy the enemy and win great victories.

Together with their victories on the military front our compatriots in the South have also won great political victories. As a response to the new situation, in August 1967, a special session of the National Liberation Front Congress adopted a political resolution aimed at "uniting all of the people, defeating the invasion of the imperialist U.S., overthrowing their puppets, establishing a coalition government of the people which is truly democratic, building up an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral, and prosperous South Vietnam, which can peacefully progress towards unification of the Fatherland." That resolution together with the anti-U.S. national salvation policy, which is both proper and appropriate, is a source of great motivation and stimulation to all classes of people in the South and will cause them to unite, advance toward total defeat of the U.S. invader, and secure ultimate victory.

In the North, thanks to total assimilation and employment of the people's war policy, we have been able to motivate all of the people to shoot at U.S. planes and defeat the U.S. aggressor war of destruction. The united war effort between the masses and the armed forces and the operational co-operation between the regular army, local forces, and guerrilla militia units has created a network of fire that is all encompassing and burns them whether they come by land or sea and causes them to bear heavy losses. Aiming and shooting straight at the hated enemy, our military and civilians have fought heroically and valiantly, destroying more than 2700 planes of various types and taking alive many of the aggressor U.S. pilots. We have destroyed many U.S. and puppet warships and raider vessels, while at the same time standing ready to
crush every new military adventure they undertake.

Our people are determined to fight, actively increase production, and strengthen the economic relationships of the new production. They are determined to reinforce our economic and defense potential and fulfill their rear services obligations to the great front lines. In spite of constant, cruel enemy attacks our people continue to make great efforts to overcome difficulties and promote intensive cultivation to increase productivity. As of now there are thousands of co-operatives which have attained the goal of 5 tons of paddy per hectare annually and hundreds which have reached 7 - 8 tons per hectare. That eloquently illustrates the superiority of the economic relationship of the new production and the potential strength of our nation's agriculture. Local industry has forcefully expanded. Nearly one thousand small factories which have been built during past years in various areas have expressed the role of service to agriculture and the production of consumer goods has provided for the basic needs of the people. Lines of communications are clear under all conditions. Circulation and distribution tasks are increasing daily. They ensure that goods are delivered right into the hands of the consumer. On the education, supplementary education, and public health we continue to develop with a view toward service to successful production and combat.

The accomplishments and brilliant feats of battle which our military and civilians have achieved in both North and South Vietnam during the past years are victories for patriotism and revolutionary heroism, the guiding light in the lives and spirits of our people. Completely assimilating the teachings of Chairman Ho, which say, "Better to lose one's life and sacrifice all than to lose one's country or be a slave," "There is nothing more precious than freedom and independence," our compatriots and soldiers have fought with extraordinary heroism, overcome all difficulties, and led the anti-U.S. war of national salvation from one victory to another. On the battlefields, and in production as well, examples of brilliant revolutionary heroism have been abundant bringing great honor to the beautiful Fatherland. During the war the new Vietnamese with fine qualities has been created and matured. That is the heroic generation of people who will continue the brilliant revolution of the people.

On the international front our people are winning greater victories each day. The righteous war of our people has the ever broadening, strong sympathy and support of the peoples of the world. The peoples of our brother Socialist countries actively support and assist our people's anti-U.S. war of national salvation on every front. The progressive peoples of the world, including the progressive people of the U.S., fiercely deplore the imperialist U.S. invasion and sympathize and support the war for independence and freedom of our people. That valuable support and assistance is one important factor which has contributed to the great victories our peoples in both regions of the country have won during past years. We sincerely appreciate the support and assistance of our brethren and friends of five continents and swear to fulfill our international obligations in regard to the world struggle for
peace, independence for the people, democracy, and social progress.

The imperialist U.S. has failed severely, militarily and politically, in our country. But they remain obstinate and have not yet abandoned their invasion. Like a wild beast which has been badly wounded the U.S. invader is going mad before dying. They are making plans for escalating and broadening the war while at the same time they spread false rumors of "peace talks". The U.S. invader is applying pressure to the feudalists to increase the number of mercenaries to compensate for U.S. losses. This is aimed at escalating and broadening the invasion. They are intensely escalating their war of sabotage against the North to greater than ever levels of viciousness.

The U.S. warmongers also clamor for use of the army to strike north of the Demilitarized Zone and expansion of the war to Cambodia and Laos. It is obvious that the U.S. invader is making preparations for new military adventures and the expansion of the war throughout Indo-China in hopes of extricating himself from the quagmire, immobilization, and failure he faces in South Vietnam. Just as Chairman Ho has said, "It is clear that the U.S. has lost... Therefore, the imperialist U.S., though dead, is unrepenting" and has not yet abandoned its invasion plot. Therefore, the military and civilians of our entire country are more firmly united than ever, are always on the alert, and triumphantly assault determined to crush all of their plots.

"Thirty-one million of our compatriots in both regions, without regard to age or sex, are surely thirty-one million heroic Yankee killers who will save the nation and secure ultimate victory."

In answer to the grand appeal of Chairman Ho, the military and civilians of the heroic South are triumphantly attacking with a spirit of total sacrifice to defeat the U.S. invader. They are kicking aside all obstacles and difficulties to strike crushing blows at the country stealers and winning greater victories every day.

In emulation of the compatriots and soldiers of the South, the military and civilians in the North are actively intensifying production and combat, fulfilling their great responsibility of rear services to the front lines, and forcefully leading the anti-U.S. war of national salvation to total victory.

The people's armed forces have transformed the appeal of Chairman Ho into a determination of all the military to constantly maintain a spirit of alertness, make great efforts in combat, and strike more and more significant blows at the enemy whether he comes by air, sea, or land in order to crush all new military escalation adventures.

The workers continue to uphold the traditional bravery and determination of our people and express the vanguard role of the Vietnamese working class. Firmly understanding the concept of "the hammer in one hand, the gun in the other", they bring all their talent, effort, and creativity to bear on skillful production and combat, ensuring clear lines of communications under all
conditions, intensifying the buildup and development of local industry, contributing to the reinforcement of economic and defense potential, and totally defeating the U.S. invader.

The collectivized farmers actively intensify agricultural development. At the same time they continue to strengthen the economic relationships of the new production in the countryside, solidify the agricultural co-operatives, make great efforts in their struggle to attain an annual yield of five tons of paddy per hectare, and reach their goals of keeping two pigs on each hectare of cultivated acreage to ensure that our military and civilians will "eat well and win".

The intellectuals are bringing all their talent and creativity to bear on such problems as intensification of the technological revolution, service to agricultural and industrial production, service to communications and transportation, service to the war, service to the lives of the people, and are effectively contributing to the anti-U.S. war of national salvation.

All of our compatriots, young and old, male and female, are giving their all in patriotic emulation, actively contributing to the total defeat of the U.S. invader, accomplishing 1968 State plans, and continuously building up the technical and material bases of Socialism.

The anti-U.S. war of national salvation of our people has entered a decisive phase. "Adversity increases as victory approaches." The whole party, the entire military establishment, and all of our people are united as one heart. They do not mind difficulties or sacrifices; they fulfill all their responsibilities and do their work with a spirit of "giving all to totally defeat the U.S. invader."

The policies of our party are proper and our people are endlessly heroic. We have the sympathy and support of our brethren and friends on five continents. We will surely transform the Tet greetings by Chairman Ho at the beginning of spring 1968 into reality: "Advance! Total victory is surely ours!"