Ten prodigious years
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Speech delivered by Chairman NGUYEN HUU THO of the Presidium of the N. F. L. C. C.

Speech delivered by lawyer TRINH DINH THAO, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces

Ten years of stubborn fighting and glorious victories

(TRAN NAM TRUNG, Minister of Defence, Provisional Revolutionary Government, Republic of South Vietnam)
Lawyer NGUYEN HUU THO
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SPEECH
Delivered by Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho of the Presidium of the N.F.L. C.C. at the grand meeting marking 10th anniversary of the N.F.L. (December 20, 1970)

Mrs and Messrs of the Presidium,
Mrs and Messrs Delegates and friends,
Dear compatriots and fighters,

Ten years ago, with the victories of the "concerted uprising" in 1959-1960 and in seething revolutionary mettle of the South Vietnamese people, the National Front for Liberation was founded, entrusted with the mission to lead the resistance war of the South Vietnamese people. That was a political event of paramount importance, having a far-reaching influence on the development of our people's fight against US aggression, for national salvation.

In the last ten years, under the glorious banner of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, our armed forces and people have united closely, fought with great valiancy, foiled all aggressive plans of the enemy and won ever bigger and all-sided victories.

On this glorious historic day, our heart filled with pride and confidence, we are resolved to push ahead with the victories recorded, and advance to new and yet bigger victories, in
order to fulfil meritoriously our national task and international obligation, and be worthy of the solicitude given us by President Ho Chi Minh, the great leader of the whole Vietnamese nation, and worthy of the trust placed in us by our blood-sealed countrymen and combatants in the North who have always stood shoulder to shoulder with us in the fight against the common enemy, and worthy of the valuable support, assistance and encouragement given us by our brothers and friends in all continents.

I

TEN YEARS OF UNION
AND COMBATS UNDER THE GLORIOUS BANNER
OF THE N.F.L. WERE WORTH TO THE SOUTH
VIETNAMESE PEOPLE GRAND
VICTORIES IN ALL DOMAINS

Since the signature of the Geneva Agreement on Viet Nam, immediately taking the place of French colonialists, the US imperialists impudently intervened to South Viet Nam, then undertook an armed aggression against our country in the hope to make it a military base and a US neo-colony.

They established the puppet Ngo Dinh Diem administration as instrument for savage repression of our people, pitilessly slaughtering the patriots, partisans of the peaceful reunification of our Fatherland. In 1959-1960, our compatriots rose up as one against this oppression. By political means matched to the armed struggle, the dong khoi (concerted uprising—Ed.) has foiled the unilateral war driven by the Americans with the complicity of Ngo Dinh Diem.
To save their seriously shaken rule, in 1961 the US imperialists started "special war" against the South Vietnamese people. They beefed up the puppet army and administration to control rural areas through a system of "strategic hamlets" and attempted to "search and destroy" the nascent revolutionary armed forces of the South Viet Nam. But the South Viet Nam armed forces and people defeated the enemy's State policy of "strategic hamlets" and trounced a sizeable part of the puppet army. The military victories coupled with the high tide of political struggle of the South Vietnamese people brought about the collapse of the dictatorial and fascist Ngo Dinh Diem regime and many stooge administrations of the US that succeeded it.

The "special war" strategy of the US imperialists thus failed ignominiously.

Extremely stubborn and bellicose by nature, the US imperialists in early 1965 massively sent US expeditionary troops to South Viet Nam, switched to the "local war" strategy and launched an air-naval war of destruction against the northern part of our country, and at the same time intensified their intervention and aggression in Laos while unceasingly threatening the independence and neutrality of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

With the deployment of more than one million US, puppet and satellite troops, the US launched two "dry-season strategic offensives" aimed mainly at "searching and destroying the main force units" of the People's Liberation Armed Forces in order to breaking the backbone of our resistance war. In response to the
The historic appeal of March 22, 1965 of the Front Central Committee, our armed forces and people dealt them hard blows in both the dry seasons of 1965-1966 and 1966-1967, obtained many big victories on all battlefields and drove half a million US troops into a very precarious situation.

In the northern part of our country, the US imperialists' war of destruction met with stiff riposte from our heroic countrymen and combatants. Every criminal step of war-escalation taken by the enemy was shattered.

At a time when we were winning repeated victories and the enemy sustaining successive setbacks, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation held an extraordinary Congress and adopted a Political Program of the Front. That Program is an appeal for national salvation and construction, faith-fully reflecting the will, aspiration and determination of all our people and combatants in the South, and is a torch blazing the path for the South Vietnamese people to attain complete victory.

In the light of the Front's Political Program and bringing into play their victorious and strong position and initiative, in Spring 1968 the South Viet Nam armed forces and people opened an earth-shaking general offensive and simultaneous uprising, dealt thunder blows at the US and its puppets, hit at a time almost all cities, province capitals, nerve organs, military bases and important supply bases of the enemy, wiped out or disbanded a big part of their forces, won victories of a strategic significance that shook the United States and the world. Those victories brought on a new situation on the battlefront, tipped the balance of forces in our favour, opened a new stage in our
people's fight, and created prerequisite for the complete victory of our armed forces and people.

The great victories of the armed forces and people in the South together with the glorious successes of these in the North have driven the US and its puppets deeper into their position of strategic defensive. The US imperialists were forced to stop unconditionally their bombardments on the whole territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, accepted the holding of the four-party conference in Paris with the participation of the delegation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, started " de-Americanizing " the war under the Johnson administration, and tacitly admitted that their "local war" strategy had been basically thwarted.

Our people's political and armed forces have consolidated and strengthened continually in the fight. The solidarity bloc in the national united Front has unceasingly expanded. Amidst the high tide of offensive and uprising of our armed forces and people, in April 1968 the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces was founded, marking a vigorous development of the patriotic movement of the broad masses of the urban population, and a big success of our consistent policy of great unity. It also represented a higher degree of isolation of the US imperialists and the puppet administration, their stooge.

From the great and all-round victories of our armed forces and people have emerged vast liberated areas from the southern bank of the Ben Hai river to Cape Ca Mau. In the liberated zone, we have carried out the Front's land policy, allotting more than two million hectares
to landless or poor peasants; we have guided the people in building a new life, boosting production, developing culture, education and medical work, improving their living conditions, developing the guerilla war to safeguard their life and property and oppose all schemes and acts of the enemy. To bring into full play the people's right to be master of their land, we have organized election of people's revolutionary committees at hamlet and village level, then at district, province and city levels. These committees represent a genuinely national and democratic administration born of the struggle of the masses, fighting for the people and serving their interests.

To meet the big requirements of the new stage of the fight, to further strengthen the national solidarity bloc and to perfect the system of revolutionary power in all of South Viet Nam, in early June 1969, the National Front for Liberation and the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces convened an all-South Viet Nam National Representatives' Congress. The Congress elected the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and an Advisory Council of the Government. This was a great and important political event marking a new and very glorious period in the fight full of sacrifices and hardships of our people and combatants to win back their sacred national rights and the right to self-determination. Since its founding, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam has been recognized by, and established diplomatic relations with, 26 countries in Asia, Europe, Africa and Latin America. It has also established relations with, or won the sympathy
of, many other countries. This has contributed to the constant heightening of the prestige of the resistance war of the South Viet Nam people.

Along with the big victories of our armed forces and people on the battlefield, on the international arena, the world people's front in support of the Vietnamese people's fight against US aggression has expanded continually. The whole progressive mankind has energetically condemned the extremely savage crimes and peace swindles of the US imperialists, vigorously supported our people's fight against US aggression, for national salvation, backed our correct stand enunciated in the ten-point overall solution and the eight point elaborations. The Governments and peoples of the socialist countries support our cause and accord to the South Vietnamese people increasing political support and material assistance. The governments and peoples of the peace-and-justice-loving countries and the democratic organizations and progressive people in the world have supported more and more actively our people's fight for national liberation. The American people have stood up to struggle resolutely against the criminal war of aggression of the US imperialists in Viet Nam, which has cost the US so many lives and so much wealth and done so much harm to the honour of the United States.

The aggressive plans of the US imperialists have failed bitterly one after another. Yet, by their nature they remain stubborn, bellicose and reckless.

Since taking office, Nixon while talking of "peace" and "humanity", has actually prolonged and stepped up the war, and committed
many more savage crimes against the Vietnamese people. He is feverishly carrying out the «Vietnamization of the war» policy, reinforcing the puppet army and accelerating the «pacification» plan with extremely brutal methods in an attempt to maintain the Thieu-Ky-Khiem puppet administration and use it as an instrument for materializing US neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam. The US and its puppets have perpetrated countless savage crimes in their repressive campaigns, burned and destroyed crops, razed hamlets and villages and plundered the people more brazenly than ever before. But, the more they repress, the stronger the people’s struggle. In the plains and mountain regions, our people and combatants have fought persistently and valiantly, stepped up the offensive and uprising, closely combined military attacks with political struggle and political agitation among enemy ranks, broken all attacks of incroachment by the US-puppets, wiped out or disbanded a great number of enemy troops, destroyed thousands of «strategic hamlets», built the revolutionary forces, regained the control of their many vast areas and inflicted a serious defeat on the enemy’s «pacification» program.

In Saigon—Cholon, Hue, Da Nang and almost all other cities in South Viet Nam, the political movement has been surging powerfully and continually, drawing various strata of the people—students, pupils, workers and other labouring masses, disabled puppet army-men, women, religious believers, intellectuals, journalists, employees of private and public organs, industrialists and traders. The slogans of struggle are focussed on the demands for daily interests and democratic rights, peace,
national sovereignty and the right of self-determination of the South Viet Nam people, an end to the US aggressive war, withdrawal of US troops, overthrow of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique, formation of a government that stands for peace, independence, neutrality and democracy and that would seriously talk with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam so as to find a political solution to the South Viet Nam issue. These slogans spell out the earnest and most pressing aspirations of the townspeople of different tendencies. They are sharp indictments of the urban people against the US imperialists and the traitors, their henchmen. This movement, together with the military offensive of the People's Liberation Armed Forces and the uprisings of the rural people, has inflicted a serious failure on the «Vietnamization» of the war policy.

To retrieve the «Vietnamization of the war» policy from failure, the US imperialists have sent troops to invade Cambodia, thus openly trampling upon the independence, peace and neutrality of this Kingdom; intensified the special war in Laos, taken new military adventures against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, and expanded the war to the whole of Indochina. Faced with this new situation, the South Viet Nam armed forces and people, side by side with the armed forces and peoples in the North, have united and closely co-ordinated with the brother armed forces and peoples in Cambodia and Laos, attacked relentlessly and wiped out more and more troops of the US aggressors and their lackeys. Within a short period, the Khmer armed forces and people, under the leadership of the National United
Front of Kampuchea headed by Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, have recorded very big victories, gained the control of two-thirds of the country's territory and liberated over three million of its population. The Lao armed forces and people under the leadership of the Lao Patriotic Front led by Prince Souphanouvong, have repeatedly defeated the stooge army of the US on various battlefields. The Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference has strengthened the blood-sealed, militant solidarity between the three Indochinese peoples, created a posture of strategic offensive in each country, inflicted on the US imperialists and their lackeys repeated defeats and will certainly bring them to total failure.

The "Vietnamization" of the war manoeuvre is very pernicious and tricky, but it is a strategic move born of the US losing position, an undertaking full of irreconcilable contradictions and weaknesses. The more the US prolongs and expands the war, the weaker and more scattered its forces become. Political dissension in the South Viet Nam towns will grow ever more serious, the people's struggle will intensify, the stooge administration will grow more and more isolated, its inner contradictions will aggravate. The economy and finance of the puppet administration will be plunged into a graver crisis and chaos. The morale of the American and puppet troops will sink to a lower ebb. The anti-war movement in the United States is surging more powerfully; the US administration will be rent by deeper division. The US and its puppets are now facing more bitter isolation and condemnation in the world than ever before. The US imperialists' complete
defeat in Viet Nam and the rest of Indochina is unavoidable.

By persisting in and promoting the resistance war, by actively bringing into full play our strong and victorious posture, and by continuously and powerfully attacking the enemy in all fields, we will surely smash their new scheme and win bigger victories.

*Mrs and Messrs of the Presidium,*  
*Mrs and Messrs Delegates and friends,*  
*Dear compatriots and fighters,*

The tremendous victories we have recorded in our fight against the imperialist ringleader—an utterly obdurate and brutal enemy, the common enemy of mankind—stem from our correct military line and our revolutionary policies and methods. They stem from the invincible strength of the great nationwide unity bloc embracing workers, peasants, intellectuals, youth, women and people of various nationalities, religious bodies, patriotic industrialists and traders, democratic personalities, overseas Vietnamese and the Chinese residents who have sided with us in the fight against the common enemy. They are victories of our nation's tradition of indomitable struggle, from the heroism of our people who would rather sacrifice everything than to lose the country and be enslaved once again.

These victories are victories of the unreserved and wholehearted assistance given by our Northern kith and kin who have done all in their power to help South Viet Nam defeat the enemy. They are closely associated with the
care and concern of President Ho Chi Minh, the very beloved and esteemed leader of the whole nation.

These victories are closely associated with the firm militant solidarity of the Indochinese peoples, with the precious support and assistance of the socialist and nationalist countries, of the national liberation movements, and of the peace-and-justice-loving people all over the world including the progressive American people.

In the commemorative ceremony of this glorious historical day, the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, and the Advisory Council of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam:

—Warmly commend and praise the services rendered by the People's Liberation Armed Forces — regular and regional army, militiamen and guerrillas — who have shown a high degree of revolutionary heroism, great courage and resourcefulness, recorded outstanding achievements and military exploits, unceasingly built their strength ever steadier, given added lustre to their nature and tradition as a revolutionary army and worthy offspring of the heroic South Vietnamese people and Vietnamese nation.

—Extol the rural people who, united millions as one, have in spite of all hardships and sacrifices, staged continual uprisings against the enemy and step by step baffled their "Pacliification" plan, striven to build our political and military real power, to build, defend and broaden the liberated areas, wholeheartedly helped the People's Liberation Armed Forces,
actively contributed manpower and resources to the resistance, realized the slogan: “All for the battlefront, all for our victory over US aggression” and had a major share in the dramatic successes of our entire people and army.

— Glorify various social sections in Saigon-Cholon, Hue, Da Nang and the cities and areas still under the enemy temporary control who, united within an ever broader united front, have put up a valiant and persistent struggle against the US aggressors and the warlike and corrupt Thieu-Ky-Khiem puppet administration, for national and democratic rights and people’s welfare, for peace, an end to the US aggressive war, withdrawal of all American troops, replacement of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem triumvirate by a government favouring peace, independence and neutrality, serious negotiations with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, thereby contributing a suitable part to the big and all-sided gains of our people.

— Greatly appreciate the attitude of Vietnamese residents abroad who have constantly turned their thought towards the southern part of their beloved Fatherland, and their positive assistance to our entire people’s cause against the US imperialists for national salvation.

— Congratulate all the Vietnamese forces, organizations and patriots, irrespectives of their political tendencies and religious creeds, at home or abroad, those who, for many reasons, still remain in the puppet army or administration, and are coordinating actions for democratic rights, peace and national sovereignty.
On this memorable occasion from the great battlefront of the whole country, from amidst the flames of war, our people and liberation armed forces, the NFL, the Republic of South Viet Nam PRG and the Government Advisory Council extend to the Northern people and fighters, to the leaders of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the National Assembly, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam Government and the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, the deepest sympathy of the South Viet Nam bulwark and expound profound gratitude for their whole-hearted and all-out assistance in the past 16 years as well as in the former resistance war against the French colonialists, for their comradely coordinated actions with South Viet Nam against the common enemy of the nation, in fulfilment of their sacred duty as big rear of the whole country.

On the same occasion, the NFL and PRG of the Republic of South Viet Nam expressed deep gratitude toward the socialist countries for their valuable support and assistance to the South Vietnamese people's fight against US aggression for national salvation. We enthusiastically hail the big successes recorded by the fraternal Khmer and Lao army and people and are immensely grateful for the latter's firm support and joint efforts against the common enemy — the US imperialist aggressors and their stooges. We express sincere thanks for the sympathy and support of the governments and peoples of the peace-and justice-loving countries, democratic organizations and progressive personalities throughout the world and progressive Americans.
FURTHER STRENGTHEN AND BROADEN
NATION-WIDE SOLIDARITY, PERSISTENTLY
PUSH AHEAD THE FIGHT TILL FINAL VICTORY
FOR THE LIBERATION OF SOUTH VIET NAM
DEFENCE OF NORTH VIET NAM, TOWARD
NATIONAL PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION.

At present, under the impact of bitter reverses on the Indochinese battlefields, the warlike and stubborn Nixon administration is dragging out and broadening the aggressive war in South Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos, and scheming more adventurist acts against North Viet Nam.

Our entire army and people warmly welcome and respond to the December 10, 1970 Appeal of the Viet Nam Workers’ Party Central Committee and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam Government which they consider the sacred appeal of the Fatherland.

Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom.

For decades now, the South Vietnamese people have fought without fearing any sacrifices to wrest back their sacred national rights and the right to self-determination.

So long as the US imperialists continue their aggression the South Vietnamese people will continue to resist them with arms in hand. If the US imperialists continue their reckless acts of military adventure against the North of our country, we are resolved to mete out due punishment to them. That is our people’s sacred right to self-defence.
For the sake of real independence and genuine peace, we are determined to overcome all hardships and sacrifices and persist in the fight, however long it may be. No threat can intimidate us, no cunning manoeuvre can dupe us!

Our people have gone through twenty five years of war against imperialist aggression. More than anybody else, we are deeply attached to peace. We need peace to rebuild our devastated country. But the peace we want must be a genuine peace, in independence and freedom, based on the respect and guarantee for national rights and our right to self-determination, not a peace in enslavement, not a Nixonian "peace".

The ten-point overall solution formulated in the past and the eight-point initiative put forth on September 17, 1970 by the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam demonstrate our correct stand for peace.

We are ready to cease fire and stop the war when the South Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights are guaranteed. Our delegation to the Paris Conference declared on December 10, 1970:

"1. A cease-fire will be put into effect between the South Vietnamese People's Liberation Armed Forces and the army and military personnel of the US and foreign countries belonging to the US camp immediately after the US government has declared its readiness to operate the total withdrawal of American and foreign and military personnel from South Vietnam before June 30, 1971. The parties concerned will immediately discuss measures to see to the safety for the withdrawing troops and to the release of captured military."
2. A cease-fire will be enforced between the South Vietnamese People's Liberation Armed Forces and the armed forces of the Saigon administration immediately after the Republic of South Viet Nam PRG and a Saigon administration without Thieu-Ky-Khiem, which favours peace, independence, neutrality and democracy, have agreed upon the formation of a tripartite Provisional Coalition Government to be entrusted with organizing general elections as proposed in the September 17, 1970 statement of the PRG of the Republic of South Viet Nam.

3. The parties concerned will jointly decide on measures for the respect and strict implementation of the provisions agreed upon.”

Nixon put forward the “cease-fire” offer at a time when nearly 400,000 American troops were daily committing atrocities against our people, while the warlike and rotten Thieu-Ky-Khiem puppet administration were persecuting and repressing the people, while the fundamental national rights and the right to self-determination of the South Vietnamese people have not yet been guaranteed. This would amount to legalizing the occupation of the US expeditionary army and the Thieu-Ky-Khiem puppet administration, and forcing the South Vietnamese people to surrender. We resolutely lay bare and reject the trick.

In the sacred fight for independence and freedom, the strength of nation-wide solidarity, is invincible. The very fine tradition of great unity has been a decisive factor for our splendid successes and a powerful inspiration for our people. In the past, at present and in the future, for the great cause of the nation, for the future of the generations to come, we stand for nati-
national unity, broad unity. We have made it possible for all Vietnamese to live in concord, animated with single purpose to thwart the scheme of the imperialists and their lackeys—the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique of traitors—to "Vietnamese the war" and pit Vietnamese against Vietnamese in a fratricidal war. After the restoration of peace, we will continue to uphold the broad unity of all sections of the people, give facilities and encouragement to everybody to make his best contribution to healing the wounds of war, restoring to normal the life of the people and building a prosperous and strong country...

This policy of great unity and general concord has found a very consistent expression in the Political Program of Action of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam as well as the ten-point overall solution and the September 17, 1970 eight-point initiative.

We always stand for ever broader solidarity among the people of all walks of life, political parties, mass organizations, nationalities, religions, patriotic personalities and all other people, irrespective of political tendencies, without taking account of their past records, provided that they favour peace, independence and neutrality and are ready to join in the fighting against the US imperialists and their flunkeys to recover our sacred national rights.

We are prepared to join hands and coordinate actions with all forces and individuals belonging to every political conviction and religion, at home and abroad, including personalities of the present Saigon administration, other than Thieu-Ky-Khiem and who are for peace, independence, democracy and neutrality,
and to enter into negotiation with them on an equal footing, in mutual respect, without coercion by either side on the other, so as to realize a peaceful, independent, democratic and neutral South Viet Nam. We welcome units or individuals — officers and men, police agents or office employees irrespective of their past records, who really want to return to the national fold, and will duly reward their services in their support for, or participation in, the struggle against the US aggressors, for national salvation. We are ready to support, and associate ourselves with, groupings breaking away from the US aggressors and the Thieu-Ky-Khiem triumvirate, and contract alliance with them in an eventuel coalition government.

To solve the internal affairs of South Viet Nam after the restoration of peace, we advocate a provisional coalition government consisting of these three elements:

— Members of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam.

— Members of the Saigon administration, excluding Thieu-Ky-Khiem, who really have at heart peace, independence, democracy and neutrality.

— People belonging to various groupings, different political inclinations and religious creeds including those who, due to political reasons, have had to seek refuge in other countries but approve peace, independence, democracy and neutrality.

The suggestion of such a Provisional Coalition Government composed of the said elements is an unquestionable proof of our logical and reasonable policy of broad unity and sincere
co-operation which has been endorsed by broad masses of people in South Viet Nam and the world over.

The Provisional Coalition Government will hold general elections on truly free and democratic principles, without foreign interference, without pressure from either side, to choose a National Assembly which will faithfully reflect the policy of national unity, work out a national and democratic constitution, and form the official coalition government which will expound the South Vietnamese people's will for peace, independence, democracy, national concord and neutrality.

We pursue a policy of militant solidarity and mutual support with the Kingdom of Laos and the Kingdom of Cambodia on the basis of reciprocal respect of each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. We are also for the establishment of diplomatic relations with all other countries, irrespective of their political regime, including the United States, on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence. We are willing to receive economic and technical aid without political strings attached from all other countries.

National unity is our people's most cherished aspiration. In continuation of our national historical tradition, in compliance with the fervent aspirations of our people in both zones, and on account of the present situation of our country, we believe in a gradual and peaceful reunification, on the basis of discussions and agreements between the two zones, without coercion from either side and without foreign interference.

Pending peaceful national reunification, normal relations will be restored between the two
zones on the basis of equality, mutual respect and respect of each other’s political regime, internal and foreign policies. The two zones will strive to widen economic and cultural exchanges and help each other in national development.

These evidently sound, logical and reasonable lines have been instrumental in strengthening our invincible national unity, frustrating “Vietnamization”, and winning ever greater sympathy and support from brothers and friends in all continents for our just cause.

On this 10th founding anniversary of the NFL, the South Vietnamese people, and our entire Vietnamese people are faced with important and very glorious revolutionary tasks.

President Ho Chi Minh has taught us: “The resistance war against US aggression for national salvation of our people may have to go through more hardships and sacrifices but will surely win total victory. The US imperialists will have to pull out. Our Fatherland will be reunified. Our compatriots in the North and the South will be re-united under the same roof”.

In carrying out his last wishes, the entire people and all the fighters from the mountains to the deltas, from the countryside to the cities will uphold the tradition of solidarity and unyielding struggle of our nation, build and develop our forces in all fields, persistently push ahead the war of resistance against the US imperialists and for national salvation, resolutely defeat the US “pacification” and “Vietnamization” plans, whose ultimate purpose is to impose neo-colonialism on South Vietnam, compel the US to withdraw immediately all the American and satellite troops and let
down the warlike Thieu-Ky-Khiem lackeys, establish a broad coalition government, realize peace, independence, democracy, neutrality and prosperity and eventual unity of the nation. Together with our fellowcountrymen throughout the land, we are determined to continue to stand shoulder to shoulder with the armies and peoples of fraternal Cambodia and Laos to push the US imperialists out of the Indochinese peninsula.

— The US aggressors will certainly be defeated!

— We shall surely be victorious!

— Let the South Vietnamese fighters and people valiantly march forward under the glorious banner of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation!
Lawyer TRINH DINH THAO

Chairman of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, Vice-President of the Advisory Council of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam.
SPEECH
Delivered by lawyer Trinh Dinh Thao, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Viet nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, at the meeting in celebration of the 10th founding anniversary of the South Viet nam National Front for Liberation.

Dear Mr. Lawyer President,
Dear delegates,
Dear friends,

In an atmosphere full of enthusiasm and resounding victories, the delegation of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces is very glad to attend the celebration of the 10th founding anniversary of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the organizer and leader of all victories of the 14 million South Vietnamese people's resistance war against US aggression, for national salvation.

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Alliance and all its organizations and members, we wish to convey to Mr. Lawyer President and the members of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation our most respectful and warmest greetings.

After the conclusion of the 1954 Geneva Agreements, every South Vietnamese hoped to
live a peaceful life, to enjoy family reunion, to live in peace, independence and freedom, and build the country. But, on orders of the US imperialist aggressors, the puppet administration and mercenary army savagely oppressed the South Vietnamese people of all strata. All the patriots and advocates of peace and democracy were ruthlessly persecuted or killed. Having no alternative, our countrymen rose up and waged a political struggle under various forms of uprising, engaging in both political and armed struggle to defend themselves in many vast areas of the South. With the victories of the “concerted uprising” in 1959, the South Vietnamese people were able to expand and step up their political and armed struggle, and waged an allround people’s war against the US aggression and its henchmen, thus bringing about the founding of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation on December 20, 1960.

Born from that revolutionary movement, the National Front for Liberation rallied under its banner of justice the South Vietnamese people of all strata, irrespective of age, sex, nationalities, religious beliefs and political tendencies, in a common struggle against the enemy to save the country.

It was the victories of our people in the “concerted uprising” and the birth of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation at that time that marked the initial, very important setback of the aggressive policy of the US imperialists; and a victory of paramount significance of our people, and opened the way for a still more powerful development of our people’s struggle against US aggression, for national salvation.
Dear Mr. Lawyer President,
Dear delegates,
Dear friends,

All along the past ten years since its founding, the National Front for Liberation under its banner of justice has mobilized and led the South Vietnamese people to take steady and vigorous steps forward. The South Vietnamese revolution has gone through radical changes; the US imperialists and their flunkeys have suffered one defeat after another, their aggressive will has met with an initial setback. On all battlefields, they are facing countless difficulties in all spheres—military, political, economic, financial—and in their domestic as well as foreign policy. They are facing difficulties not only in Viet Nam, but right in the United States and in the world. On the contrary, our people are dashing forward with the impetus of victories, and holding the initiative, are continually attacking the enemy militarily, politically and diplomatically, in the towns, the countryside and the mountain regions, with a view to winning still bigger victories.

As the war of resistance was recording big victories, a new, big, inspiring political event came to pass in August 1967, which was the proclamation of the Political Program of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation. Obviously, this is a program to fight the US aggression to save the country and liberate the nation, a program to unite the entire people, a program to build the country, a program to achieve peaceful national reunification, a program to unite with the world’s peoples in the struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.
The fully correct, reasonable and logical line and policies laid down in the Political Program have united still more closely and widely all strata of people and created a new, very important strength to bring the resistance war to yet bigger victories.

The promulgation of the Political Program of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation which inherits a long-standing tradition of national unity of our forefathers and of heroic and indomitable struggle of our nation, as well as the consistent line and deeds of the National Front for Liberation, have strongly encouraged all the South Vietnamese people to unite like one man and devote their might and main to the fight against the enemy to save the country. This is precisely the fundamental foundation of all the victories of the South Vietnamese revolution.

The victories of our armed forces and people in the fight against US aggression, for national salvation, especially the great and all-round victories of the general offensive and uprising since early Spring 1968 have driven the US aggressors into a position of failure, stalemate and serious collapse, forcing them to stop unconditionally their war of destruction against the northern part of our country, to agree to attend the four-party Paris conference on Viet Nam and to withdraw part of the US troops from South Viet Nam.

Born from that revolutionary high tide in the whole country, the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces has rallied all national, democratic, patriotic and peace forces in the cities and towns of South Viet Nam, and with great pleasure and honour, has
done its share in the South Vietnamese revolution besides the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation.

For many years, the South Vietnamese urban population of all strata and political tendencies, workers and other labouring people, students, pupils, writers, journalists, intellectuals, businessmen, religious followers, war disabled of the puppet army, many persons in the puppet administration, etc. have stood up against the US and its lackeys, boycotted the reactionary policies and schemes of the enemy, struggled for the national rights, democratic liberties and a higher livelihood, and risen up to punish cruel enemy agents, to break the enemy’s grip and to win back the right to be master of their land under many special and flexible forms. In recent months, in defiance of terrorism, oppression and imprisonment, many mass organizations in Saigon such as “the General Association of Saigon Students”, “the An Quang Budhist Sect”, “the Committee for the People’s Right to Live”, “the Women’s Movement for the Right to Live”, “the Committee for Improvement of Prison Regime”, “the People’s Front for Peace”, etc. have one after another held congresses and issued statements and proclamations demanding the withdrawal of all US troops, the formation of a government of national union for an early peaceful settlement of the South Viet Nam problem.

The very struggle in the South Viet Nam cities and towns has rocked the puppet administration to its foundation, upset the dens of the U.S.-puppets, trained and rallied our people into a broad united front, drawing even officers and men and personnel of the Saigon puppet administration, brought the common struggle
to new victories and inflicted more humiliating defeats on the enemy.

Allow us on this occasion to convey our congratulations on behalf of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces to all strata of the South Vietnamese urban population.

_Dear Mr. Lawyer President,
Dear delegates,
Dear friends,_

The victories of the sacred resistance war of the South Vietnamese people are quite evident. The ignominious defeats of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys are quite clear. But, extremely stubborn and bellicose by nature, the Nixon administration has not yet given up its aggressive design. They still are nurturing many ambitions in their policy of “Vietnamization” of the war. Plotting to drag out their aggressive war and maintain the U.S. military occupation of South Viet Nam, they have accelerated the “pacification” plan, stepped up brutal war moves and chemical warfare, committed massacres, ruthlessly oppressed the townspeople, etc. The Nixon administration has also recklessly invaded Cambodia, intensified the war in Laos and perpetrated innumerable crimes against the peoples on the Indochinese peninsula. Recently, they brazenly bombed, strafed and spread toxic chemicals on North Viet Nam, made insolent threats of war, and plotted to take odious acts against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and to use iron and steel to subdue our people.

But they are grossly mistaken!

No threat and no brutal and perfidious move of the U.S. imperialists can shake the iron-like
determination of the Vietnamese people, a people who have been struggling for a century against colonialism and imperialism to win back independence and freedom, and who gloriously defeated the French colonialists and the Japanese fascists, and are defeating the US imperialist aggressors and striding toward complete victory.

On this occasion, the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces reaffirms once again that acting upon the sacred Testament of the great President Ho Chi Minh and responding to the call from the heart of the Fatherland, we pledge to persist in and step up the fight against US aggression, for national salvation, till complete victory.

The Central Committee of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, together with all strata of the South Vietnamese urban population, pledges to do its best to bring into play the tradition of indomitable struggle of the Vietnamese nation, to fulfil its sacred duty as the fighter against US aggression, for national salvation, in the heart of South Viet Nam cities and towns. In concrete words, we will always heighten our vigilance over all divisive manoeuvres of the enemy, unite closely, participate more actively in the common struggle of the entire people against the US aggressors, for the withdrawal of all US troops from South Viet Nam, the cessation of the war, the restoration of peace, the overthrow of Thieu-Ky-Khiem and the formation of a peace cabinet with a view to establishing a coalition government and building an independent, democratic, peaceful and neutral regime in South Viet Nam. The Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces is
resolved to unite with the fraternal Lao people under the leadership of the Lao Patriotic Front headed by Prince Souphanouvong, and with the fraternal Cambodian people under the leadership of the National United Front of Kampuchea and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia headed by Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, to fight together and win together.

Dear Mr. Lawyer President,

Dear delegates,

Dear friends,

On the occasion of this glorious historic day of the nation, the Alliance Central Committee solemnly declares that the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces has united and will unite still more closely and co-operate with the National Front for Liberation, pledges to fight to realize at all costs the political program of the Alliance and the line of the NFL, bring the resistance war against US aggression, for national salvation to complete victory, and achieve these objectives: independence, democracy, peace, neutrality, and the ultimate peaceful reunification of the Fatherland, thus contributing to the struggle of the world’s peoples for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

We wish Mr. Lawyer President and the members of the Central Committee of the National Front for Liberation the best of health so as to lead our patriotic war against U.S. aggression to total victory.
Mr. TRAN NAM TRUNG
Minister of Defence, Provisional Revolutionary Government, Republic of South Viet Nam.
Ten Years of Stubborn Fighting and Glorious Victories

Tran Nam Trung
Minister of Defence, Provisional Revolutionary Government, Republic of South Viet Nam.

Born from the high tide of the people's revolution, the South Viet Nam NFL is the genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people; it has united, mobilised, organised and led the South Vietnamese armed forces and people, in rising up heroically, millions as one man, to wage an unyielding and persistent struggle against the US imperialist aggressors and the gang of national traitors.

Over the past 16 years, blinded by their aggressive nature and complacent over their vast financial resources and military power, the US imperialists have obdurately carried out the cruelest policies of aggression in history against the Vietnamese people. They have grossly trampled upon the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam which have been recognised under
the 1954 Geneva Agreements. They have main-
tained in South Viet Nam an extremely brutal, 
anti-national, anti-popular puppet administra-
tion, and massively brought in US expedi-
tionary and satellite troops for cold blooded 
massacres of South Vietnamese civilians, in a 
bid to bring the local people under their sway 
and turn the Southern part of our country into 
a new-type colony and military base for 
aggression in Indochina and Southeast Asia. 
The US aggressors and their lackeys have 
perpetrated innumerable shocking crimes in 
Viet Nam. 

In the past decade, under the glorious unite-
and-fight banner of the South Viet Nam NFL, 
with the all-out assistance of their fellow-
countrymen in socialist North Viet Nam and 
with the firm and strong approval and support 
of friendly governments and the whole of 
progressive mankind, the South Viet Nam 
Liberation armed forces and people have gone 
from one great victory to another in their anti-
US fight for national salvation—the greatest 
War of Resistance in the history of the struggle 
of the Vietnamese nation against foreign 
aggression.

With their tradition of staunch and undaunted 
struggle, the South Vietnamese people, deter-
mined not to lose their country, not to be 
enslaved, have firmly risen up to fight and 
defeat the U.S. aggressors. Under the glorious 
banner of the South Viet Nam N.F.L., our 
amined forces and people have strengthened 
unity and the more they fight, the stronger 
they become and the greater their victories, 
and are sure to win final victory.

"The war may last another 5, 10, 20 years or 
longer," but the South Viet Nam armed forces
and people have elected to well deserve the pride, confidence and all-out assistance of their fellow-countrymen in socialist North Viet Nam and are determined to "fight so the Yanks quit and the puppets topple" in order to liberate the South, defend the North and move towards national reunification, thereby contributing a worthy share to the revolutionary cause of the brotherly peoples of Cambodia and Laos and to the world revolution. The aggressor and the traitors will certainly be defeated. Our glorious victory and the heavy failure of the U.S. aggressors and their stooges in the past decade are the confirmation that the complete victory of the South Viet Nam armed forces and people and of the Vietnamese nation as a whole is a historic certainty and that the final doom of the aggressors and the traitors is unavoidable.

I

GREAT VICTORIES OF OUR ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE, HEAVY SETBACKS OF THE US AGGRESSORS

The past 10 years have witnessed the hardest and most formidable trials for the South Vietnamese people and for the Vietnamese nation as a whole. Rising up from U.S.-puppet bondage in a struggle for self-liberation, the South Vietnamese people have successively frustrated all the schemes, acts and forms of war the US imperialists could devise.
At the end of 1959, while the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys were gloating over the illusion that with their fascists, high-handed policies and their savagery they had succeeded in "pacifying" South Viet Nam and turning it into a new-type colony and a solid military base for aggression to pave the way for attacks against the North, the South Vietnamese people simultaneously rose up against them. A combination of political and armed struggle, this concerted uprising drove the U.S.-puppets into tight straits and scored big gains. *U.S. neocolonialism, helilifted into South Viet Nam, had a foretaste of its major strategic failure.*

To shore up their tottering rule, from 1961, the US imperialists resorted to a "special war" as a means to slaughter our people. They poured money and weapons into South Viet Nam, built a larger puppet army, revamped the puppet administration, made frantic efforts to regroup our people into "strategic hamlets", increased "pacification", terror and massacres, all to save their neo-colonialist regime. However, the "special war" strategy—an aggressive war strategy befitting neo-colonialism—far from being "saved", engulfed the US imperialist and their lackeys in still greater difficulties, impasse and setbacks.

Under the N.F.L. leadership and on a vast political basis, our people built their own liberation armed forces comprising three arms which grew up constantly and, combining political and armed struggle fighting jobs and agitation work among enemy fronts, were firmly resolved to defeat their "special war". Our armed forces and people described thousands of "strategic hamlets", fulfilled the Staley-Taylor and Johnson-McNamara plans for "pacifi-