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QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND CO-OPERATION IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Letter dated 15 July 1982 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward herewith a report by the Viet Nam News Agency on the press conference held on 13 July 1982 in Hanoi by the Ministry of Culture of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on the counter-revolutionary activities of a spy group commanded by the Central Intelligence Agency.

I should be grateful if this note and its enclosure were circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 35 of the preliminary list.

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Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
to the United Nations

* A/37/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Report by the Viet Nam News Agency on the press conference
held on 13 July 1982 by the Ministry of Culture of the
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

HANOI VNA JULY 13 — A press conference was held at the International Club here this afternoon by the Information Department of the Ministry of Culture of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on the counter-revolutionary activities of a spy group led by Vo Dai Ton, an agent of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

Hundreds of Vietnamese and foreign news, photo and television reporters and Press Attaches of foreign Embassies in Ha Noi attended the conference.

Le Thanh Cong, Vice-Minister of Culture in charge of information, presided over the conference. He said that on his way of infiltration from Thailand via Laos into the Central Highlands of Viet Nam to conduct his counter-revolutionary activities against Viet Nam and the other Indochinese countries, Vo Dai Ton, Commander-in-chief of the so-called "Overseas Volunteer Force for the Restoration of Viet Nam" who headed a group of CIA-trained spies, was captured in an area on the Vietnamese-Lao border in early November 1981.

Before the liberation of South Viet Nam in 1975 Vo Dai Ton was Director of the Public Service Department of the Ministry of Information.

Before the national and international press, Vo Dai Ton confessed that he headed a reactionary politico-military organisation which tried to infiltrate into Viet Nam to sabotage the revolution in Viet Nam and the Indochinese countries in general.

He told the press that he had arrived in Thailand to study the roads of infiltration into Viet Nam via Laos. His first trip took place in May 1981, starting from Thailand, but at the Mekong river he had to turn back and return to Thailand. In their second trip made in mid-September 1981, Vo Dai Ton and his followers started from Thailand in the direction of Attopeu (Lao) and the Central Highlands (Viet Nam). One of the group, Vu Dinh Khoa was shot dead on Lao soil. Abandoned by their guides who are agents of the Lao bandit General Vang Pac, Vo Dai Ton and his companions tried to continue the trip but they were captured at the Lao-Viet border in early November 1981. Vo Dai Ton confessed that he had established contact and received assistance from a number of foreign espionage organisations and reactionary groups. He said that since his detention, he has "received kind treatment by the Vietnamese government".

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Wounding up the conference, Vice-Minister Le Thanh Cong said :

"The so-called 'Overseas Volunteer Force for the Restoration of Viet Nam' headed by Vo Dai Ton, like the other reactionary political organizations set up by the reactionary Vietnamese exiles in various countries, under the signboard of faked 'patriotism' was all instruments of the U.S. imperialists in collusion with the Chinese reactionaries and their henchmen who organise, supply and direct them for the purpose of opposing the revolution in Viet Nam, Laos and Kampuchea.

"The group of spies led by Vo Dai Ton planned to enter the central Viet Nam Highlands from Thailand via Laos with a view to linking up with the remnant reactionaries inside the country in an attempt to rally forces and build bases to oppose the Vietnamese revolution. This group has received active assistance and support in its infiltration plan from the Thai authorities and the Lao reactionary exiles.

"In spite of quite careful planning, their programs and methods of operation have been unable to escape failure because of the stable situation in Indochina and in face of the high vigilance of the people"
