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NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The attached letter dated 11 August 1975 from the Permanent Observer of the Republic of South Viet-Nam and the Permanent Observer of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam was addressed to the President of the Security Council with the request that it be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Letter dated 11 August 1975 from the Permanent Observer of  
the Republic of South Viet-Nam and the Permanent Observer  
of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam addressed to the  
President of the Security Council

We have the honour to send to you herewith the text of the Declaration dated 11 August of Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi, Permanent Observer of the Republic of South Viet-Nam, and Ambassador Nguyen Van Luu, Permanent Observer of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam, concerning the United States veto of the application for admission to the United Nations submitted by the Republic of South Viet-Nam and the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam, at the 1836th meeting of the Security Council on 11 August 1975.

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this declaration circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dinh Ba Thi  
Permanent Observer  
of the Republic of  
South Viet-Nam

(Signed) Nguyen Van Luu  
Permanent Observer  
of the Democratic Republic  
of Viet-Nam

Statement by Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi, Permanent Observer of the  
Republic of South Viet-Nam and Ambassador Nguyen Van Luu,  
Permanent Observer of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam  
on 11 August 1975

1. Almost all the members of the Security Council have voted to recommend the applications of the Republic of South Viet-Nam (RSVN) and of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam (DRVN) to the General Assembly. This constitutes a new victory for the just cause of the Viet-Nameese people. However, the United States Government has decided to veto it. This act is obviously contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, particularly to the principles referred to in its Preamble and Article 4.

In order to justify its veto, the United States Government has tried to link the question of South Korea to the admission of the RSVN and the DRVN. But this is an illogical, absurd and unjustifiable position. Everyone knows that the question of South Korea has been discussed many times in the past, in 1949, 1955, 1957 and 1958. And every time the Security Council rejected it. The United States knows very well that if there were nothing new in this question, the application of South Korea would also be rejected, especially after the consensus achieved during the twenty-eighth United Nations General Assembly on the reunification of Korea.

In its attempt to link the two questions, the United States has gone out of its way to oppose the practice of the United Nations on the admission of the two parts of a divided country. The United Nations has so far admitted the two parts of a divided country when they both agreed on entering the United Nations.

For these reasons, all fair-minded people can conclude that the aim of the United States is to deliberately prevent the admission of the RSVN and the DRVN to the United Nations. The question of South Korea only serves as a pretext to justify their action. Under these circumstances, the phrase "universality" proclaimed repeatedly by the United States representative is but hypocritical.

The fact that the United States tried to pose a condition to the admission of the RSVN and the DRVN although the latter have satisfied all the obligations required by the United Nations Charter and have obtained the approval of almost all the members of the Security Council, is only an attempt to impose upon other countries a practice, if not a right, to make a discrimination today against the RSVN and the DRVN, and tomorrow against all other countries which victoriously fight against the United States neo-colonialist aggression.

2. The Viet-Nameese people have just come out of a long and hard war in which the United States has caused much suffering, mourning, misery and destruction. But the Viet-Nameese people are for peace, freedom and justice; they, therefore, are not hostile to the United States Government. We have declared that we are willing to establish normal relations with the United States Government on the basis of the Paris Agreement so as to create favourable conditions for the

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development of friendly relations between the American and Viet-Nameese peoples. We have also declared that we are prepared in this spirit to resolve with the United States Government all the remaining questions.

In such conditions, the United States Government should respond with an appropriate attitude. The United States officials have often claimed that they have kept an "open mind", but what have they done so far?

They have not only refused to fulfil their obligation under article 21 of the Paris Agreement concerning the healing of the war wounds and the reconstruction in Viet-Nam, but also tried to prevent the aid by the good-willed Americans to the Viet-Nameese people. They have practically imposed an embargo on trade with Viet-Nam and have now tried by every means to prevent the RSVN and the DRVN from entering the United Nations to join with all other members of this world organization to work for peace, freedom and friendship among nations.

It is clear that the United States Government has pursued a hostile policy towards the Viet-Nameese people, a policy they have carried out for over 20 years now. According to Newsweek, 4 August 1975, President Gerald Ford did not want to "reopen the wound" on Viet-Nam, but by adopting a systematic, hostile policy towards Viet-Nam and opposing at all cost the admission of the RSVN and the DRVN to the United Nations, is the United States Government not reopening the wound of the American conscience?

3. As we have said on many occasions, we are convinced that after the United States veto, the forthcoming General Assembly of the United Nations will demonstrate a strong support of the great majority of the countries to the admission of the RSVN and the DRVN and refer the question back to the Security Council.

The vote taken today in the Security Council has clearly shown the isolation of the United States. The more the United States Government pursues its hostile policy towards Viet-Nam, the stronger the protest it will meet.

On this occasion, we wish to express our warm thanks to all countries, especially members of the Security Council which have supported the admission of the RSVN and the DRVN to the United Nations.

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