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NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

..... The attached letter dated 6 April 1972 from the Permanent Observer of the 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

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Letter dated 6 April 1972 from the Permanent Observer of the  
Republic of Viet-Nam to the United Nations addressed to the  
President of the Security Council

Under the instruction of my Government I have the honour to forward herewith to Your Excellency the Proclamation dated 4 April 1972 of the National Assembly, together with the communiqué issued 3 April 1972 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Viet-Nam, concerning the invasion by North Viet-Nam of the northernmost area of my country.

I would appreciate it very much if Your Excellency could arrange for the circulation of the above texts as official documents of the Security Council.

(Signed) NGUYEN HUU CHI  
Ambassador Extraordinary  
and Plenipotentiary

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PROCLAMATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM  
CONCERNING COMMUNIST NORTH VIET-NAM'S OPEN INVASION OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM

4 April 1972

In the last few days, the North Viet-Namese communists have overtly launched three divisions of their regular troops, identified as the 304th, 308th and 324th B, with the support of three artillery and anti-aircraft regiments, one heavy armoured regiment, and several surface-to-air missile units, across the 17th parallel to invade the Republic of Viet-Nam at the border zone.

By this aggressive and belligerent act, North Viet-Nam has blatantly violated the 1954 Geneva Agreements, of which it was a signatory, and unveiled its scheme of a military take-over of the Republic of Viet-Nam. North Viet-Nam is not interested in seriously negotiating a solution to the war, whereas the Republic of Viet-Nam is always searching for a just peace.

For the above reasons, we, the National Assembly of the Republic of Viet-Nam solemnly proclaim to the nation and to the world that:

(1) We strongly condemn the act of open aggression committed by the North Viet-Namese communists, by launching their troops across the demarcation line to invade the territory of the Republic of Viet-Nam, in flagrant violation of the 1954 Geneva Agreements, of which North Viet-Nam was a signatory;

(2) We denounce the barbarous action of the North Viet-Namese communists who, by their indiscriminate shellings, have caused death and destruction among our innocent fellow-countrymen;

(3) Our nation as a whole is firmly united behind the armed forces of the Republic of Viet-Nam in their fight to smash communist North Viet-Nam's invasion and to protect our independence and territorial integrity;

(4) We urgently appeal to the United Nations and to the peoples of all the peace-loving countries in the world to support the legitimate struggle of self-defence of the people and of the armed forces of the Republic of Viet-Nam and to take every necessary measure to force the North-Viet-Namese communists to stop their invasion and to withdraw all their troops and cadres to the north of the 17th parallel.

(Signed) . . .

The President of the Senate  
The President of the House  
of Representatives

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COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON 3 APRIL 1972 BY THE MINISTRY OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM

Over the past few days, many North Viet-Namese regular units have openly crossed the demilitarized zone to attack the Republic of Viet-Nam outposts in the demarcation area. Indiscriminate shellings of the densely populated areas by enemy long-range artillery and rockets have resulted in severe damage to the civilian population. Thousands of people had to flee to more secure areas in Quang Tri and Thua Thien provinces.

In addition to continuing infiltrations by North Viet-Namese communists, this attack is part of the enemy's offensive and attempt to occupy the territory of the Republic of Viet-Nam below the demarcation area.

The Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam strongly protests against this blatant invasion by communist North Viet-Nam and denounces it to world public opinion.

North Viet-Nam no longer disguised herself under the façade of the so-called "National Liberation Front of South Viet-Nam" and has overtly made use of her regular forces to attack South Viet-Nam through the DMZ. The attacking enemy forces have been identified as big units of the three North Viet-Namese divisions 304, 308, and 324 B, supported by three artillery regiments and anti-aircraft units, one tank regiment and several surface-to-air missile ranges.

This is eloquent evidence that North Viet-Nam is the real aggressor and the National Liberation Front was created only for the purpose of misleading world opinion.

North Viet-Nam has openly crossed the DMZ in flagrant violation of the 1954 Geneva Agreements and in disrespect for the secret understanding reached in 1968 at the time of the cessation of the American bombings over North Viet-Nam.

The DMZ, the symbol of a reasonable solution for the two zones pending a negotiated formula for the eventual peaceful reunification of Viet-Nam, is being trampled over by the communist North Viet-Namese, who used it as a starting-point for their invasion of South Viet-Nam.

The Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam strongly condemns the North Viet-Namese policy of armed aggression against the south.

While in Paris, the communist side turned down all serious discussions and used the peace talks as a propaganda forum, the North Viet-Namese communists have resorted to all forms of armed insurgency to undermine the political stability of South Viet-Nam and to occupy the South Viet-Namese territory.

Despite the many bitter failures during the past few years, communist North Viet-Nam is still bent on using force for a military victory instead of working toward a peaceful solution through negotiations.

The Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam appeals to all peoples and Governments in the world to condemn the action of the communist aggressors and to demand that North Viet-Nam withdraw immediately her armed forces back to the north. If North Viet-Nam keeps on with her aggressive policy, she will have to bear full responsibility for any consequences that might result from her action.

The communist aggressors have suffered severe casualties in their recent attacks. The people and the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam are determined to break off any offensive or bellicose actions of the enemy to protect the national territory and to consolidate peace in freedom.

