

Text of Tass Statement

Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, April 16—Following is a statement by Tass, the Soviet Government press agency, on the bombing of the Haiphong and Hanoi areas, as translated from the Russian by The New York Times:

On April 16, planes of the United States Air Force carried out new raids over the territory of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. The port city of Haiphong and the suburbs of Hanoi were bombed and strafed. There are victims among the civilian population and serious material damage has been inflicted.

The Soviet people wrathfully condemn these acts of aggression by the United States in Vietnam.

The continuing build-up of American air and naval forces in the Indochina region, the renewal of raids over the territory of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, and Washington's decision to interrupt the Paris talks indefinitely—all these are in irreconcilable contradiction with official declarations that the United States is seeking to achieve a peaceful settlement in the region.

No pretexts can conceal the fact that we are facing in reality a continuation and expansion of the crimes of the American military against the peoples of Indochina. This cannot but further aggravate not only the situation in Indochina, but the international situation as a whole.

It is quite evident that neither military pressure

within the framework of the notorious policy of Vietnamization of the war nor new threats and provocations will break the will of the courageous Vietnamese people and of the patriots of Laos and Cambodia, who are waging a just struggle for their national rights, freedom and independence.

The Soviet Union, subscribing unfailingly to the principles of internationalist solidarity, has been and will continue to be on the side of heroic Vietnam and all the Patriots of Indochina, by giving them the aid and support necessary to rebuff imperialist aggression.

Resolute demands are being voiced in the Soviet Union for a halt of American bombings and other acts of war against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. The only way of resolving the problem of Indochina is through negotiations without attempts at blackmail and imposed solutions.

The Telegraph Agency of the Soviet Union is authorized to state that Soviet ruling circles are closely following the development of the situation in connection with the new acts of aggression by the United States in Vietnam.

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