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# China Pulls Out Stops

By Marilyn Berger

Washington Post Staff Writer

PEKING, Dec. 27—The Chinese government today escalated the visibility of its support for the Vietnamese Communists with a supersized flag-bedecked, pompom-waving welcome for Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh, foreign minister of the Vietcong's Provisional Revolutionary Government.

Suspending its new guidelines on low-key receptions for foreign ministers, the government rolled out a colorful welcome mat for the representative of what is seen here as a revolutionary struggle that is held up as an object lesson for the Chinese people.

Although Mrs. Binh has been to Peking many times before, this is her first official visit. It is apparently designed to bolster the Vietcong's claim to legitimacy as one of the "two administrations" in South Vietnam, one of the issues that has been said to be a major source of contention in the Paris negotiations.

The thousands of dancing girls who greeted her, adding a splash of color to this otherwise drab city did not, however, detract from China's continuing support for a negotiated settlement of the Vietnam war. Diplomatic sources read this into an editorial in the People's Daily which today repeated that "if the U.S. government really wants to have the Vietnam issue settled, it must stop all its war acts in the whole of Vietnam, conduct negotiations in a serious manner and speedily sign the 'agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam.'"

When Mrs. Binh's plane touched down at Peking's airport, she was greeted by some 4,000 Chinese youths who shouted a "warm welcome" to the visiting dignitary.

After an 18-mile motorcade to the city, Mrs. Binh saw more of the same, this time with dancing girls in colorful costumes, some of them wield-

ing rifles in graceful dances.

Hundreds of kindergarten children had to wait for hours on the sidewalks in sub-freezing temperature for Mrs. Binh's motorcade. When it had passed, trucks and buses carting the demonstrators back home created one of the rare traffic jams in this virtually automobile-free city. Officials at the foreign ministry's information office said there were 50,000 lined up along Tienanmen Square in the center of the city.

When I asked my interpreter earlier in the day whether people were released from schools and work to fill

the streets and bleachers along the square, she said: "Well, this is part of the work."

The unspontaneous outpouring of support drew few directly anti-American slogans. Those put up in the streets did not mention the United States but some signs carried by what is known here as "the broad masses" spoke of the "struggle against U.S. imperialism." Similarly, the People's Daily editorial reaffirmed the all-out support and assistance of the Chinese people in the war "against U.S. aggression."

The editorial, which suggested that the struggle of the

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Vietnamese people is "worthy of learning by the Chinese people" also blamed the United States for making an "about-face" in delaying signing of the peace agreement on stopping the war in Vietnam and intensifying the hostilities.

The Chinese reception for Mrs. Binh, aside from reaffirming support for brother Communists in revolutionary struggle also seemed to be a vote of thanks for Mrs. Binh's kind words for Peking that were rare at the meeting last week in Moscow celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Soviet Union.

Officials at the Provisional Revolutionary Government's headquarters here say Mrs. Binh is expected to stay five to seven days. That would equal the length of her stay in Moscow which she visited on leaving Paris where she heads the Vietcong's delegation at the peace talks.

Throughout last night workers prepared for the festivities along Changan Avenue, keeping lights ablaze along the main artery of a city noted for such complete dedication to saving electricity that it remains perpetually in semi-darkness.