



NGUYEN VAN THIEU
President of the Republic of Viet-Nam

Saigon, January 25, 1975

Your Excellency,

On April 25 last year, I wrote to Your Excellency about the tense situation in South Viet-Nam following the capture of the Tong-Le-Chan base by North Vietnamese communist troops.

Since then the situation has considerably worsened because of the numerous and increasingly brazen violations of the Paris Agreement of January 27, 1973 by the communist side. It has reached a critical stage with the recent events in the Province of Phuoc-Long.

In fact, from December 14, 1974 on, important North Vietnamese troops at division strength, massively supported by tanks and artillery, were attacking and forcibly seizing the district towns in the Province of Phuoc-Long, a territory that is undisputably under the permanent control of the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam for many decades up to now. On January 7, 1975 communist troops

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His Excellency General AUGUSTO PINOCHET UGARTE
Supreme Chief of the Nation
SANTIAGO (Chile)

Director

overran the provincial capital Phuoc-Binh, after having subjected this city to heavy artillery barrages, in callous disregard of the fate of over 26,000 of its inhabitants, including many women, children, the sick and the wounded.

The communist capture of the Province of Phuoc Long which clearly belongs to the Republic of Viet-Nam constitutes a blatant, grave and large scale violation of the ceasefire-in-place ordered by the Paris Agreement. It also represents an intolerable challenge to all peace-loving countries and nations in the world.

The capture of Phuoc-Long by communist troops is by no means an isolated incident. It is a part of a communist plan aimed at deliberately and systematically destroying the Paris Agreement, through continuous and grave violations of the ceasefire by communist troops, through the communist unilateral boycott of the peace negotiations between Vietnamese parties as prescribed by the Paris Agreement, through the overt call made by the communist side for the overthrow of the legal Government of South Viet-Nam and the massive buildup of the communist military strength in South Viet-Nam.

If the Communists were allowed to carry out this plan with impunity, the Viet-Nam war would break out anew and peace in South-East Asia and in the world would be once again endangered.

The International Commission of Control and Supervision set up by the Paris Agreement is now thoroughly paralyzed due to the non-cooperation of the communist side. As to the Paris International Conference on Viet-Nam, given the present negative stance of its communist participants, there is no likelihood that this Conference can be reconvened in the near future.

Thus, while the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam maintains its correct position of strictly respecting and seriously implementing the Paris Agreement of January 27, 1973, it is duty-bound to defend its territory and population against Communist attacks and encroachments. I am convinced that this just position deserves the whole-hearted support of all the peace and freedom loving people in the world.

Therefore I wish to ask Your Excellency to strongly denounce and severely condemn the violations of the Paris Agreement perpetrated by the communist side in Viet-Nam. I also hope that Your Excellency will use your great influence to prevail upon the communist side to respect the ceasefire, return to the negotiating table and implement every provision of the Paris Agreement. Moreover, we would most appreciate Your Excellency's eventual statement of support for the just cause and the correct stand of the Republic of Viet-Nam.

All this would be indeed a valuable contribution to the restoration of peace in Viet-Nam and in South-East Asia.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

