

# Statement by the signatories of the Warsaw Pact on the situation in Indo-China (Berlin, 2 December 1970)

**Caption:** On 2 December 1970, the signatories of the Warsaw Pact unanimously deplore the situation in Indo-China and the United States' imperialist policy in Vietnam.

**Source:** Correspondance de Politique Etrangère. dir. de publ. Département de Presse et d'Information du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères de la RDA. 16.12.1970, n° 35; Vol 10. Berlin. "Déclaration sur l'aggravation de la situation en Indochine", p. 271.

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## Statement on the deteriorating situation in Indo-China (Berlin, 2 December 1970)

The German Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the People's Republic of Hungary, the People's Republic of Poland, the Socialist Republic of Romania, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, represented at the meeting of the Warsaw Treaty Political Consultative Committee in Berlin, have reviewed the development of the situation in Indo-China.

The United States of America has recently committed new acts of aggression against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam by launching massive attacks against its territory.

These arrogant acts of American imperialism have generated deep outrage all over the world. Once again, the USA is showing its contempt for all generally accepted norms in relations between sovereign states, even going so far as to break its own promises. The American Administration's undertaking to cease bombing the territory of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam totally and unconditionally, which had led to the quadripartite negotiations on the settlement of the Vietnam problem beginning in Paris, has been cynically broken. The so-called programme for a peaceful settlement in Vietnam recently vaunted by the President of the USA has proved in reality to be nothing more than a smokescreen to enable it to continue and escalate its aggression.

The continuation of the criminal war in South Vietnam, the extension of the armed intervention in Laos, the contempt for Cambodia's neutrality and the aggression against it, together with the new air raids on the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, are all links in the same chain and elements of a policy designed to suppress the national liberation movement, to impose a brutal imperialist *diktat* and to use armed force to make these nations comply with the demands of imperialism.

It is by no means coincidental that the USA is, at the same time, stirring up tensions in the Far East. It is encouraging those forces in Japan which are committed to the rebirth of Japanese militarism and the resumption of its expansionist policy. The USA military, working with their puppets in Seoul, are organising constant provocations against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The USA is offering more and more military aid to Chiang Kai-shek and his followers, and it will not abandon its military bases on the Island of Taiwan, which is part of the People's Republic of China. Once again, it has prevented the People's Republic of China from regaining its legitimate rights in the United Nations Organisation.

Some circles in the USA think that they can achieve their imperialist goals more easily if they drag a large number of countries into their dangerous game of worsening the international situation. In actual fact, pursuit of this policy by the USA will bring only further failures and setbacks.

The American imperialist attempts to break the will of the Vietnamese people and to intimidate and subjugate them have failed. US policy has met with one of its greatest defeats. The more the USA extends its intervention, the more the brave people of Vietnam, supported by their Socialist sister countries and all the forces of liberty, will stiffen their resistance. The constructive proposals which the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam has put forward, and which are supported by the government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, offered — and still offer — the political leaders in the USA a way of ending the conflict and stopping the shameful colonialist venture into which they have plunged their own country. The total and unconditional withdrawal of American troops from South Vietnam within a specified period and the establishment of a provisional coalition government on the basis of proposals from the governments of the Republic of South Vietnam and the Democratic Republic of Vietnam are the real way to achieve a rapid political solution to the Vietnam problem.

The participants at this session vehemently condemn the USA's acts of aggression. They reaffirm their solidarity with the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, who are fighting for their freedom and independence and for their inviolable right to determine for themselves, without any foreign interference, how they wish their countries to develop in accordance with their national aspirations and interests. The Socialist countries, acting in the spirit of the principles of proletarian internationalism and in defence of the cause of peace and progress, will continue to provide the peoples of Indo-China with all possible support in

the future in their struggle against armed imperialist intervention.

They will, as they have done up to now, support the efforts of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam and the patriotic forces of Laos and Cambodia to achieve a political settlement in Indo-China as soon as possible.

The Socialist countries firmly believe that the just cause which the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia are defending will prevail. They call on governments, political organisations and mass organisations everywhere which hold dear the interests of peace and the freedom of nations to step up their support for the peoples fighting in Indo-China.