

CHART OF THE MOVEMENT OF SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE

More than ever, Vietnam is in great danger. Communist China's aggression on Vietnam's territory-land and sea, is getting worse and worse, especially on its exclusive economic zone, particularly the occupation of the islands of Paracels and Spratleys.

Inside Vietnam, from north to south, from the high plains of central Vietnam to the coast, Chinese companies strive, enjoying administrative autonomy as if they were in China.

Thousands of acres of forests located in strategic border areas are rented out to China for durations reaching up to almost 100 years, raising protests from even retired generals, concerned for the security of Vietnam.

Vietnam has placed itself in a position of literally power-sharing with China, worse than the vassalage situation to the Empire of the Middle centuries ago, reminding the one thousand year Chinese domination that was only ended in 1428 by Le Loi, who became Emperor of the posterior Le, after an obstinate and heroic struggle of 10 years that expelled the Chinese (Minh dynasty) from the country.

Their last invasion attempt in 1788-1789 was crushed by Emperor Quang Trung, often referred to by his name Nguyen Hue, who crushed the Chinese army (Thanh dynasty).

History can only remind us of the omnipresent danger of invasion by China with the current events, due to its expansionist politics in Southeast Asia where Vietnam, because of its geographic position, remains China's foremost victim.

Facing this urgency, the Vietnamese people has protested, demanding that the government efficiently defends the integrity of territory. The official answer was prompt. The repression was brutal. Protesters were astonished by the government's stand, which was total submission to China.

In the meantime, the Communist government continues to repress the people, violating basic human and citizen rights. Corruption remains systematic. The difference continues to grow between the "red capitalists", millionaires and billionaires in U.S. dollars, and farmers and blue collar workers who live under the poverty line along with the masses of unemployed city dwellers subsisting in poverty and despair.

The national economy, which consists of providing cheap labor to foreign investors is a pale comparison to other democracies in East Asia who have made giant progress toward the future such as Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia; and of course Japan and South Korea, who are among the wealthiest countries in the world. Between the current Vietnam-which was once the Pearl of the Far East-and its non-communist neighbors, the comparison is sad: oppression and poverty as opposed to democracy and prosperity!

We, patriotic and freedom loving Vietnamese residing overseas, strongly united in our determination with our compatriots at home, who in the north, have suffered for 70 years from the communist yoke, and in the south, from an anachronistic and against-nature regime, have decided to unite and fight the Vietnamese communist regime to regain the sacred right to self-determination of our people. It is only with that right regained that we can restore a democratic system capable of mobilizing the strength of the nation to defend and rebuild the country.

- 1- The socialist regime of the Vietnamese Communist Party (VCP) must be replaced with a democratic regime, established by free general elections, organized by an authority independent from the current government, under international control. All Vietnamese, residing in Vietnam as well as abroad, will have the right to participate in the elections.
- 2- We strongly recommend to voters to choose the republican regime that has been applied for more than 2 centuries in the greatest democracies, and for decades in most countries in the world. It is the only regime recognized to be the best at guarantying the respect of the will of the people, democracy, freedom, fraternity and equality of citizens.
- 3- Originated more than 2500 years ago in Greco-Roman Antiquity and having survived many unrests throughout history, democracy has forged the destiny of many countries for the better and saved people from tyrants and dictators. Despite the war, the South Democratic Republic of Vietnam, was able to maintain an era of democracy, freedom and prosperity to its population until April 1975, abandoned by its allies, succumbed to the fire of Vietnamese and international communists.
- 4- But the South Democratic Republic of Vietnam is not dead forever. Like the Phoenix that rose from its ashes, the 3rd Republic of Vietnam will emerge as the end of the communist regime is about to come. An end that will be unavoidable due to the hatred of an oppressed people toward their oppressors, of patriots toward the traitors to the nation, of the real

proletarians toward their former comrades who betrayed them by abandoning them to their atrocious poverty and worse, by exhibiting their wealth shamelessly.

- 5- A new era will emerge with the 3rd Republic of Vietnam, founded on national harmony, uniting all social classes without distinguishing religion, origin, past political allegiance and past. A general pardon will be granted to all with the sole exception of those who have attempted to drown the revolt in blood, .like South Africa country that had wisely reconciled its people to avoid its self-destruction after centuries of white domination.
- 6- The new Vietnam will be built on the modern democracy model, universally recognized as a guaranty of individual freedom and human and citizen rights. Vietnam will adopt a political system capable of maintaining stability of the regime without limiting the legitimate rights of the opposition to prevent any attempt of dictatorship or authoritarianism of one individual or of one political party. A presidential or parliamentary system or a system combining both will probably be the choice of the people, adapted to national realities.
- 7- In the rebuilding of the country, the primary task will be to transform the currently backward Vietnam, specializing in cheap labor for the manufacture of shoes and clothing, into a modern industrialized nation, producing new goods and services therefore increasing added value and hence improving living standards of workers.

The economic policy of the country will encourage free enterprise, competitiveness and innovation. Private ownership will be strictly respected.

The government will facilitate private ownership of land, habitat and production means for farmers and workers, putting an end to the chronic poverty and establishing a popular capitalism that will benefit the vast majority of the population.

- 8- A rice producer, Vietnam must improve quality of the rice, storage, conservation and transport. A thorough study of the world market of cereals and the commercialization of our production will be the main concerns of officials and private owners to increase revenues of rice farmers.

For the fishing industry, the main problem is of course the Chinese aggressions that need to be resolved through foreign diplomacy and national defense as hereafter mentioned.

- 9- Fond of peace and wishing to establish friendly relations with every country in the world on the basis of mutual respect of the interests and

sovereignty of each, in compliance with international law, the Vietnam of tomorrow will contribute to the preservation of security and peace in Southeast Asia, Asia and the world. To this end, Vietnam will seek cooperation and alliances with countries that share its foreign politic hereby presented.

- 10- Regarding the People's Republic of China (PRC), Vietnam solemnly reiterates its sovereignty on the islands of Paracels and Spratleys, recognized worldwide, including by China, for centuries. The illegal occupation by military aggression by Communist China of Paracels in 1974 and part of Spratleys in 1988 must end and the Vietnamese sovereignty reestablished. Any litigation on maritime space must be resolved in compliance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) of 1982 and not by violence.

The Vietnamese people always wish to be friend with the people of the world, especially of those from the neighboring countries and definitely the people of China with whom it is always ready to cooperate faithfully in respect of common interests. It was in that spirit that the Republic of China (Taiwan) was on friendly terms with the State and then the Republic of Vietnam from 1950 to 1975 for the benefits of both countries.

- 11- On the other side of the Pacific Ocean, the United States as well as the other countries of Asia remain friends of Vietnam despite the turmoil of history. The security and prosperity of this vast part of the world requires the collaboration of all those countries, a collaboration that needs to be defined in order to meet all regional specifics and needs and avoid reefs that often come with such an undertaking.

- 12- There was a time when war raged. But there is a time when peace must rule. However, due to its geopolitical situation and traumatized by many dramatic events, post-communist Vietnam will strive to preserve peace by deploying the maximum efforts to defend its sovereignty on land and sea. An efficient national defense strategy will be put in place as well as a vast resistance network covering the whole national territory will be organized, village to village, city to city, making an enemy occupation impossible due to the high casualties in human lives for the aggressor.

Though primarily based on its own forces, the defense of Vietnam will also benefit greatly from becoming part of a common defense agreement of South -East and East-Asia which will ensure security and peace-keeping in the region.

- 13- Another major task in the rebuilding of Vietnam will be the remodeling of the Vietnamese society that has been degraded and perverted to an extreme by decades of communist rule where the quest for money is the

ultimate goal in life. All means are acceptable, from systematic corruption from high to low ranks in the government apparatus to a multitude of crimes that go unpunished because the perpetrators are cadres of the communist party. There is no separation of powers because only one power exists: the Vietnamese Communist Party that benefits from the monstrous article 4 of the Vietnamese constitution which grants it with supreme power, even above the nation! A country without law and without rights, with legislative texts written and rules established to accommodate the interests of officials and to facilitate the repression of the people. The Socialist Republic of Vietnam is not a rule of law State. Street thugs are hired by the government to brutalize protesters or those suspected of protesting, including women, reminding of the scenes of the New York mobsters of the past. Mock courtrooms are regularly used throughout the country to silence priests, students, artists, journalists who have manifested their disagreement with the government or the communist party. The picture of Reverend Father Nguyen Van Ly, his mouth shamelessly covered by the hand of a police officer in front of a judge, unable to present his own defense, circulated, expressive of its own, throughout the world. That picture clearly describes freedom of religion in Vietnam.

14- Hence, remodeling Vietnamese society is a priority to be undertaken right after the end of the liberation from the communist yoke. The decontamination of morals, the rebuilding of values will change the unhealthy state of society. Culture that has been imprisoned in communist ideology will be freed. Freedom of expression and of thought will be given back to the people. Cultural and artistic creation will be strongly encouraged. Education will be cleared of all socialist-communist dogma and will recover its foundations established during the 1st Republic of Vietnam: humanism, openness to progress, science and technology, and the general public.

15- In addition, putting in place a national social program must accompany the remodeling of society though this requires extensive financial efforts. And only through national solidarity, can this task be achieved, step by step. A civilized country of the 21st century must have a national Social Security Program. And the 3rd Republic of Vietnam will have one.

Though the Vietnamese tradition of taking care of our elder remains admirable the current harsh economic reality renders that practice difficult to achieve for many families. Therefore, the nation will have to assume the responsibility of helping those citizens in need: elderly who have no income or are sick, handicapped citizens, unemployed people.

A health care system will also need to be in place, free of charge for those with low income.

More than any other sector, it is this building of a national social security and health care system that will require national solidarity in order to succeed. But once achieved, it will allow all Vietnamese to live a quality life, with dignity.

16- With the imminent danger of Chinese invasion and for the sake of the Vietnamese people, we ask that the leaders of the Vietnamese Communist Party promptly reconstitute the right of self-determination to them, a sacred right that the governments who signed the Paris Agreement of 1973 have recognized and guaranteed to the people of the Republic of Vietnam and to the entire Vietnam, leading to reunification.

History will judge. But at this very moment, the entire nation is reacting with firm resolve to save Vietnam and change its fate.

Paris, September 9, 2014

By the Movement for Self-Determination of the Vietnamese People

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