

VIỆT NAM ĐỘC LẬP : No 201, Jan. 5, 1945

Propaganda Organ of Viet Minh in Cao-Bác-Lang

1) Greeting the Year 1945 : The Propaganda Unit of the Vietnam Liberation Army comes into being.

Looking back at the previous year.

The year 1944 was a very important year in the world war against fascism for the liberation of the peoples in the world. In 1944 the Red Army and the British-American forces gained ^{great} ~~big~~ victories over the German forces and liberated 12 countries invaded by Germany.

In 1944, in the war against Japan in Asia, the American forces obtained big victories in the Pacific and recently the Allied forces have made much progress in Burma.

Looking towards the New Year.

Thanks to great victories made by the Allied Forces and the national liberation movements all over the world, the year 1945 will be the one which witnesses the liquidation of the fascist Germany and disastrous defeats of Japan in the battlefields in Asia.

The year 1945 will also be the year of victories of our national liberation revolution, if we spare no effort in fighting.

The Propaganda Unit of the VLA.

The year 1945 will bring favourable opportunities to the VLA in marching forwards to fight the Japanese and French fascists. In order to hold the opportunities successfully we must propagate and encourage the Vietnamese people to eagerly prepare for the opportunities on our side, and make the Allied countries to pay attention to us, thus assisting us on the other side.

The Propaganda Unit of the VLA is itself carrying out armed actions to implement that propaganda task.

Below are two reports that have recently sent to our newspaper by the Propaganda Unit of the VLA.

Report No 1 : On Nov., 11 lunar calendar or Dec. 25 solar calendar, a strange army which no one knew where ~~they~~ it came from and what sort of army it was, moved to the station Phay-Khat, commune Kim Mai, district Nguyen Binh. After that, the French chief army officer and all 17 soldiers brought out all weapons from the station and declared to the villagers that they would take side with revolution to fight Japan, then disappeared with the strange army.

On the same day, the most active Vietnamese traitor in the district Kim Mai (the commune BSi) vanished.

Report No 2: In the morning on Nov. 12 lunar calendar or Oct. 26 solar calendar, at 7.14, the Propaganda Unit (PU) of the VLA moved to the army station Na-Ngan, commune Cai-Ly, near Bel-Air. They raised the red flag with star, claimed themselves revolution army which came here to capture the weapons of the French fascists, and declared that the Vietnam revolutionary army would not open fire at the Vietnamese soldiers and called the Vietnamese soldiers to surrender.

The army officer and three soldiers who opposed were shot dead at the spot by rifles and machine guns, one soldier was wounded.

The PU captured all weapons at the station and gathered the soldiers totalling 15 militia-men (except 2 who fled), opening the party ^{between} the soldiers and the revolutionaries. At the same time, the unit dispatched its members to spread leaflets and slogans everywhere at the station.

A number of ~~female~~ armed women also participated to help clear the battlefield and carry out propaganda in

In a funeral, a number of members of the organization "protecting the innocent, killing the brutal", coming from nowhere suddenly, called the people to keep quiet and declared that they had come there to kill secret inspectors. At the same time gunshots were heard, ~~and~~ killing the capable inspector named Toai.

2. In the morning of Dec. 3, a great number of leaflets and slogans were seen in Mác-hai (Cao Bàng), calling the soldiers to turn their guns, to follow the revolution and the French to take hands with the Viet Min to fight Japan.

Notice:

the people and the soldiers.

At 8 o'clock, the P.U. withdrew from the station, singing ^{liberation} military song on the way.

2/ A Letter from the ^{Viet Minh} Inter-province Committee and Journalists to the P.U. of the V.L.A.

The Viet Minh Inter-province Committee and the newspaper Viet Nam Doi Lap send a joint greeting to the P.U. of the V.L.A. and wish the unit achieve continuous success in the task of propaganda and armed struggle.

The year 1945 will be the victorious year of our national liberation revolution. In order to win, we must have the participation of the entire people in the fighting and assistance from the Allied countries. Therefore we have to propagate and ~~campaign~~ call the entire people to prepare for the coming fierce fighting on one side, and to call the Allied countries and the anti-fascist world to pay attention and help us.

The task of propaganda and campaigning has been assigned to you who have shown that you deserve the credit of the organization.

On behalf of the organization, we praise your spirit for national salvation and call other people in the organization and in Viet Nam to follow your example to move forward.

With the year 1945 we have begun the ^{course of} armed struggle against the Japanese and French fascists. On this course, you are the vanguard, the courageous and able vanguard which marks forward in the correct political line of the organization. This is the victorious course.

Our best greetings to the successful new year!

The V. M. Inter-province Committee
and the Newspaper V. N. D. L.

195 ew J. G. V. I.

3/ Around Thai-Lang-Cao-Bac (Thái Nguyên, Lang Sơn,
Cao Bằng, Bắc Cạn).

1. The Thái Nguyên guerrillas has been very active, so the French fascists, being at a loss, had to quickly send the soldiers from Báo Lạc and other places to confront with the guerrillas. But the P. U. of the V. L. A ^{has} appeared and carried out their activities along the ^{border} provinces of Cao Bằng, Bắc Cạn, causing more confusion to the French fascists.

2. The provincial treasurer Tông has in recent days gone out to remonstrate the inhabitants of Nguyên Bình, advising them not to follow the Viet Minh, not to provide Viet Minh with provisions. And the secret elements should give in to the French because the latter are kind. The French fascists were so kind that they had arrested 50 people and set fire to 3 villages in the commune Cầm Ly. Because the French fascists were so kind, that the Mob people in Cầm Ly, including the village head and deputy head, fled to the jungles.

Fearful that the people who had fled to the forest would prepare to fight against them, the provincial treasurer Tông has released some people who had been arrested and given salt to the families of ^{whom} ~~where~~ the members are in clandestine activities.

Having unable to be tough, they become soft, but no one fears their toughness and no one follows their softness.

3. In Báo Lạc: only in a commune, the French fascists took from the inhabitants 36 cows, 72 pigs and 2,000 kgs of rice.

4) A Poem in Greeting the Year 1945 (garden of literature
Nineteen Forty Five

Will be the victorious and jolly years
of the democratic Allies
of the people-loving peoples in the world.

V.N.D.L : No 201

The fascists are seriously beaten.

The defeated Hitler had to retreat from many places.

Britain, America are attacking Western Europe.

They have liberated France, Belgium and Holland.

Ti-tò has conquered the South.

Germany surrendered to Britain in Africa.

The Soviet Union is very active in Eastern Europe,

has liberated the Royal Citadel of Hungary in the South.

It is going to ~~attack~~ ^{launch offensives to} the North,

attacking East Germany and Norway.

Japan is also in danger in East Asia

because of its defeats in the Philippines.

It is difficult for Japan to keep Burma

and Tokyo has been bombed many times.

One third of its navy was lost.

So they have stopped boasting.

Fascism will be defeated.

But to whom ^{will} the victory belong?

"to the people!" is the correct speculation.

Because the people have been struggling.

When the victory is gained

everywhere there will be freedom and democracy.

As is Viet Nam now.

Trying to save the country is the Viet Minh.

who is calling all our people

to make every effort and sacrifice against the enemy

to fight the Japanese, De Coux fascists.

to carry out guerrilla activities to avenge for the people

Nineteen forty five

will be the year to solve the global war.

So with these simple verses

on the Việt-lập to greet the Viet Minh.

125 21: J.E.U.V

and the peace-loving peoples everywhere.

Then we have a long solidarity
to enjoy freedom & happiness forever!

X...

57 Unmasking the Liars

Recently the French fascists have disseminated all over Băc Kỵ an appeal calling the Băc Kỵ people not to follow the Viet Minh for national salvation, just to live in peace and stability under "the protection" of the government.

~~The reason for~~ The appeal was made because in Thái Nguyên the Viet Minh has stood up to unite the people and used the guerrilla tactic to fight the Japanese and French fascists.

Unable to deal with that, the French fascists had no other option than to tell lies with a hope to deceive the people & and said the Viet Minh was bandits, enemy etc..

But the people of Băc Kỵ will not be cheated by the lying fascists. In addition, the people of Băc Kỵ will rise up to respond to their brothers in Thái Nguyên.

VIET NAM ĐỘC LẬP - No 203, Jan. 25, 1945

1/ Communique of the Propaganda Unit of the V. L. A.

Having been informed about the armed activities in Vũ Nhai (Thái Nguyên) and its vicinity, all propaganda units have held conferences everywhere to uphold the national salvation spirit of the comrades in Vũ Nhai and express their determination to strive and sacrifice to respond to these activities.

At the same time the conferences strongly criticized the slanders against the Viet Minh in the leaflets recently spread by the Decoux fascists throughout Băc Kỵ.

Finally, the conferences listened to the report on the assistance from the Inter-province Committee and cadres and members everywhere to the Propaganda Unit. Everybody was moved, excited and realized that the only way to respond to that assistance is to make every possible effort to carry out armed struggle and propaganda, to fight and lead the national salvation movement towards the course of liberating our country...

2/ The Vietnamese Soldiers (this article was written by comrade L. M., a sharpshooter sergeant, and it should be reprinted in leaflets to be disseminated to other soldiers)

The soldiers are children of Hông and grandchildren of Lạc (an expression indicating that the soldiers are children of the Vietnamese ancestors), with red blood and yellow skin, also a generation of the Vietnamese people. Therefore they also love their country and people, and hate the invaders. They were merely obliged by situation to become soldiers. They never want to live far away from their families, their wives and children and go to others' homeland. They have to patrol in arduous conditions, even have to die for ~~others~~ ^{the enemy's} lives: as in the previous world war, over 80,000 soldiers fell forever in Europe. In this war, more than 50,000 soldiers have lost their lives.

So why do the soldiers still repress the revolution?

1) because they have been cheated by the enemy who told them that the revolutionaries were bandits and harmful to the people.

2) because the soldiers have not known that: the revolutionaries can sacrifice their families and properties not in order to be promoted or become rich, but to bring independence to the motherland and happiness to the people. Their purposes are to make everyone happy and no one will have to pay taxes or work without

remuneration. If the soldiers clearly know that reality, they will not repress the revolution, but also help the revolution.

I dare to confirm that because the Vietnamese soldiers have traditional revolutionary character. They have their own glorious history:

- In 1910 - soldiers' insurrection in Hanoi.
- 1917 - Soldiers' uprising in Thai Nguyen.
- 1930 - the majority of soldiers took part in the insurrection in Yên Bái.

In 1940 - the majority of soldier in Nam Kỳ took part in the insurrection. In Lang Son they took side with the people with arms. In Đồi Lương (Nghệ An) the entire soldiers took part in the insurrection.

Only big insurrections have been mentioned. There were occasions when the enemy moved to set fire on the villages, the soldiers had informed the villagers in advance, or when the soldiers met the revolutionaries, they only shot into the sky. Similar events are uncountable.

If the soldiers had not been patriotic, they ~~would not~~ have done those heroic deeds?

The enemy are very cunning! They send the soldiers from the plains to the mountainous regions and vice versa. The soldiers are not allowed to station for a long time in one place. Therefore the soldiers and the people can not understand each other's languages, can not cherish favourable attitudes towards each other and then will become suspicious of each other.

Accordingly, the members and cadres should spare no efforts to make the soldiers understand the revolution

If they understand, they will become very loyal, faithful and strong friends of the people, because they are enthusiastic, disciplined, militarily skillful and have weapons.

L.M. The sharpshooter sergeant.

3/ Garden of Literature: A poem in response to journalists who raise lemons. Written by Xuân Lan.

4/ Viet Minh is active throughout Bắc Kỳ.

Recently the French fascists have sent to their inferiors in the localities a secret report on the activities of the Viet Minh and urged the latter to try to prevent them.

The report says that so far the Viet Minh has been very active. Throughout Bắc Kỳ, there are everyday leaflets and slogans calling the people to unite to save the country.

The report complains that: the places which were previously quiet, now have the presence of the Viet Minh's activities, and it fears that the Viet Minh has influenced deeply and broadly the sharpshooters and militia-men, schools and village mandarins. Dangerous! Dangerous!

5/ World News

The Short Enemy were shocked.

The short enemy are entering a critically precarious period. In the battlefields they have been seriously defeated and have suffered great losses. Therefore chaos have appeared in their own country.

1. In Burma: The Allied forces have continuously been gaining victories and have occupied half of Burma's territory. At present the Allied forces are moving to attack Mandalay in four directions. Mandalay is the second major city of Burma after the ^{capital} City Rangoon.

2. In the Philippines: After landing on Luzon, the American forces have expanded their attacks and moved more deeply towards the capital Manila. The landing and progressive