

# Stop the Bloodless Murder by U.S. Imperialism

by COMMENTATOR

**T**HE Liaison Mission of the Viet Nam People's Army High Command has denounced strongly the setting up of a U.S. research institute for bacteriological and chemical warfare in south Viet Nam. In its August 21 message to the International Commission, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam exposed U.S. imperialism and charged it with this atrocious crime. The Chinese people are outraged by this new villainy of the Johnson Administration.

Washington's establishment of a bacteriological warfare unit in south Viet Nam was revealed in the foreign press quite a while ago. The Japanese weeklies *Sankei* and *Gendai* recently reported that a "mobile research unit" of the "Medical Laboratory 406 of the U.S. Army Medical Corps" in Kanagawa, Japan, had been sent to south Viet Nam where it "moves from place to place with the field combat forces to carry out its activities." This shows that the U.S. aggressors are using ever more barbarous methods in killing the Vietnamese people.

U.S. imperialism has committed a long list of shocking crimes in Viet Nam, and especially in south Viet Nam. In recent years it has used the most savagely destructive weapons against villages, destroyed crops and vegetation, dropped napalm, sprayed toxic chemicals and even used poison gas to slaughter the people of Viet Nam. As early as April 1961, the U.S. aggressors began launching so-called "chemical mopping-up operations" in south Viet Nam. From August 1961 to May 1964, U.S. aircraft carried out more than 200 missions to spray toxic chemicals over many regions, poisoning 20,000 people, many of whom died as a result; killing tens of thousands of livestock and domestic animals, and destroying over 300,000 hectares of crops. Last June, U.S.-puppet troops sprayed toxic chemicals in Duyen Hai and Cau Ngang Districts of Tra Vinh Province, poisoned more than 30,000 people and destroyed over 30 square kilometres of crops in some ten days. **These monstrous crimes demonstrate that U.S. imperialism is the most savage and brutal aggressor in human history, far surpassing the Hitlerite bandits.** The Johnson Administration has now taken a step further and is going to use bacteriological weapons in its attempt to avert defeat in its war of aggression against Viet Nam. **This means that U.S. imperialism will stop at nothing to realize its aggressive aims.**

It must be noted that, in flagrantly using all kinds of chemical weapons and even sending bacteriological warfare units to south Viet Nam, **U.S. imperialism is not only trying to save itself from defeat on the Viet-**

**namese battlefield, but is also using Viet Nam as a testing ground for chemical and biological warfare.**

Throughout the postwar years U.S. imperialism has been working hard on research and development of chemical and bacteriological weapons. This has long since ceased to be a secret. Some military and administrative bigwigs in Washington don't even bother to conceal their criminal intentions; they have publicly discussed how the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons is the most inexpensive way to fight an aggressive war. As early as April 15, 1960, the *New York Post* disclosed the views held by U.S. Army circles with regard to this type of weapons. They thought, the paper wrote: "It's cheap, it's simple, it covers more ground, it kills more people than bombs, it does the job silently, it defies detection, it permits almost immediate invasion after use whereas nuclear radiation from competing products causes delays. Where can anyone interested in extermination find a better buy?"

It is these calculations which in recent years have motivated that steep rise in U.S. government expenditure to develop chemical and bacteriological weapons. In 1950, appropriations for this purpose totalled 6.5 million U.S. dollars. Now, almost 20 times as much, or 125 million U.S. dollars are being spent each year for this purpose. The American press has revealed that the United States, while developing these weapons in a big way at home with Fort Detrick, Maryland, as the centre, has set up many organizations abroad for the same purpose. "Medical Laboratory 406 of the U.S. Army Medical Corps" in Japan is one of such organizations. This criminal group already played its part in the aggressive war against Korea. Now it has once again stretched out its murderous tentacles — this time to south Viet Nam. **This criminal move by U.S. imperialism is in flagrant violation of international law and human ethics; it is not only an atrocity against the Vietnamese people, but also a grave menace to people all over the world. From this it can be seen still more clearly that U.S. imperialism is the sworn enemy of world peace.**

**This ultimate savagery of chemical and bacteriological warfare, however, will not enable the U.S. aggressors to achieve what they have failed to get by other means.** Neither an arsenal of toxic chemicals, venomous liquids and poison gas, nor an army of fleas, rodents and scorpions can help them stave off defeat. **The bestial crimes committed by the U.S. imperialists will arouse still greater hatred among the Vietnamese people who will hit and punish them still more severely.**

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