

**SPEECH BY: Mr. Nguyen Van Luy,  
Vietnamese-American, at the Oct. 21, 1967  
"Confront the Warmakers" Demonstration  
Lincoln Memorial and the Pentagon, Wash. D. C. \***



2003

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am very grateful to the organizers of this demonstration for giving me this privilege of coming here today to express my thoughts, and to bring you some true facts about the war of genocide which is still raging in my homeland.

My dear American friends, as you all know, the recent flowery speeches of President Johnson and his underlings are nothing new, and have resulted in the war of aggression in Vietnam becoming fiercer than ever. More Vietnamese villages have been destroyed; more women, children and other innocent civilians have been killed; more tons of bombs have fallen on both the North and the South of Vietnam, meanwhile our President and his flunkeys are mouthing words of peace.

Nevertheless, both the National Liberation Front in the South, and the defenders in the North stand firmer and more determined than ever to fight this war to a finish, to drive out all foreign troops, and to decide for themselves the future of Vietnam, their fatherland. President Johnson has boasted, according to James Reston in the San Francisco Chronicle, that: "I am not going to be the first President of the United States to lose a war," But every loyal Vietnamese believes, and as a Vietnamese-American, I believe, that he will, in the not too distant future, be forced to eat those words; and that the government he heads (if he does head it much longer) will be forced to recognize Vietnam as a free, independent and sovereign nation,

In the North, the bombs continue to fall, but the people stand, upright, and in spite of 32 months of ceaseless bombardment, life goes on; Education has been expanded; in scattered factories, output has increased; and food production is greater than ever before.

In the South, the National Liberation Front met in a special congress during August of this year and adopted a political program to step up the war of liberation, and to prepare to establish a provisional government based on an extremely liberal statement of policy to give every Vietnamese a fair share in the freedom and prosperity that will be theirs, when they have won their independence, Representatives of the Front are putting these policies into practice as best they can (\* At 3 minutes, half way through his speech, his mic was cut off.) under war conditions throughout the liberated areas, which is about 80 percent of South Vietnam and includes about two-thirds of the people.

Meanwhile the struggle goes on; while the caterpillars of the U, S, tanks crush fields and villages in the South of Vietnam, and while Washington's militarist flunkeys in Saigon, (who style themselves disciples of Hitler), fight over the farcical "election" to a "presidency" of a puppet government, large numbers of patriotic workers and intellectuals in the towns and cities are thrown into jails and concentration camps, simply because they want Independence, Freedom and Peace.

(cont. over)



The administration of the United States and the handful of traitors in Saigon have, for thirteen years, violated the fundamental principles of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam, and brutally trampled on the sacred aspirations of all the people of Vietnam, as well as the ideals of justice and humanity of the whole of progressive mankind. But for all that, and in spite of the agonizing pain of napalm, the destruction of villages and of vast stretches of their fields and forests, the "pacification" which is only a fancy name for subjugation -- in spite of all the terrible suffering caused by this genocidal war which, in the eyes of the Vietnamese people as a whole, makes "United States" equal to aggression, violence, and murder; these same people of Vietnam have no hatred for the people of the United States.

The Vietnamese fighters for democracy and freedom and for national salvation welcome the rising protests of the peace forces in this country and look upon demonstrations such as we have here today as their second line of defense. I am very happy to be here to participate with you in your resolute and widespread struggle to oppose and to bring to a speedy end our government's illegal, immoral and unjust war in Vietnam. Honest Americans from all walks of life who march in our nation's capital today, are concerned about the good name and the basic interests of the United States of America, our children's future, and the right of all peoples to self-determination, and world peace.

**Therefore, we here assembled, demand:**

- ◆ **Stop the U.S. War of Aggression in Vietnam!**
- ◆ **Stop Permanently and Unconditionally U.S. Bombing and All Other Acts of War against the Vietnamese People!**
- ◆ **Withdraw All U.S. Troops From South Vietnam**
- ◆ **Respect the Fundamental National Rights of the Vietnamese People!**
- ◆ **Recognize the National Liberation Front, the Only Genuine Representative of the South Vietnamese People**

**This is the only way to end this unjust war! Thank you very much.**

----- END OF SPEECH -----

\* Mr. Nguyen Van Luy was the first Vietnamese-American of national prominence to speak at a major anti-war rally. Unfortunately as he finished the first half of his 5 minute speech, his mic was cut off with the excuse that there was too little time. Even so other speakers were allowed to go on for much longer, with long periods of music and waiting. Perhaps the leadership of the demonstration, which had a copy of this speech, cut him off because they were afraid he would say something too "anti-American."

They knew his history, that Nguyen Van Luy had worked for the OSS during world war II and became an American citizen. That he was prominent among Vietnamese-Americans. Later in 1984, his wife was killed when they were both shot by right-wing Vietnamese assassinating a number of Vietnamese-American journalists and others calling for normalization between the US and Vietnam. He became President of the Association of Patriotic Vietnamese in the U.S. and later continued to work for normalization of relations with Viet Nam and was elected a member of the 5th Term Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front. Deceased 8/7/2003, he is remembered by his friends as one of the finest people ever dedicated to the struggle for justice and peace.

The Nguyen Van Luy kindergarten was set up in Hai Tho, Quang Tri Province, Viet Nam, grand opening July 22, 2004. For more information on Mr. Nguyen Van Luy and the work of the group that hosted him in 1967, visit the web pages on Vietnamese and anti-war history at: [RedandGreen.org](http://RedandGreen.org).

Check the sections on Vietnamese history and the Anti-war Movement including CANLF (US Committee to Support the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam).

**This leaflet is provided by Walter Teague, in memory of Nguyen Van Luy and millions of others who fought for peace.**  
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