

CENTRE OF INDIAN TRADE UNIONS

172, Lenin Sarani, Calcutta - 13

9th January, 1973

Comrades B.T. Ranadive and P. Ramamurti, President and General Secretary of the CITU have issued the following statement to the Press:

While releasing the cable from the Federation of Trade Unions of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam from Hanoi dated January 7 and its reply dated January 9, the CITU appeals to all its affiliates to observe the whole month of January as the Vietnam month. Meetings and demonstrations should be organised on the widest scale condemning the U.S. imperialists and in defence of the liberation struggle of the Vietnamese people.

The CITU appeals to all Trade Union leaders and Federations to come together on a common platform on this issue. It will be a crime against the Vietnamese people and against whole humanity, if differences should stand in the way of our coming together in this lofty and sacred cause of mobilising the entire Indian working class against the most inhuman atrocities of the U.S. aggressors.

The CITU proposes that all Trade Union Centres should agree to jointly organise a Vietnam Day this month, the date to be fixed by mutual consultation. The CITU appeals to all Port and Dock workers and their unions to boycott all American ships that may call in any Indian port. The Port and Dock workers of Australia, Denmark and Italy have set a noble example in this respect.

- - - - -

The following cable was received by the CITU from the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions:

HANOI
Jan. 7, 1973

RESUMPTION OF US BOMBING FROM 18 TO 30 DECEMBER AGAINST NORTH VIETNAM ESPECIALLY AGAINST HANOI PERPETRATED MONSTROUS CRIMES AGAINST CIVIL POPULATION BUT FAILED BITTERLY IN FACE OF STRONG RIPOSTE OF D R VIETNAM ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE AND WAS VEHEMENTLY CONDEMNED BY WORLD AND AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION STOP NIXON WAS COMPELLED TO END BOMBING FROM 20TH PARALLEL UPWARD AND RESUME NEGOTIATIONS STOP FACING DOUBLE CROSSING ATTITUDE BAD FAITH AND OBSTINATION OF NIXON WE SHOULD NOT IN ANY WAY SLACKEN VIGILANCE SO WE APPEAL YOU MOBILISE ALL TRADE UNION ORGANISATIONS IN THE WORLD AND YOUR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES TO MAKE JANUARY MONTH OF WORLD WORKERS STRUGGLE

TO URGE NIXON END AGGRESSIVE WAR SIGN IMMEDIATELY AGREEMENT ON ENDING WAR AND RESTORING PEACE AND LAUNCH BOYCOTT MOVEMENT OF ALL US TRANSPORT SHIPS AS DID AUSTRALIAN ITALIAN AND DANISH DOCKERS AND SEAMEN AND OTHERS AND PROMOTE MATERIAL AID TO STRUGGLING VIETNAMESE PEOPLE FRATERNALY VIETNAM FEDERATION TRADE UNIONS

- - - - -

The following is the text of the reply of Comrades B.T. Ranadive President and P. Ramamurti, General Secretary of the CITU cabled to Hanoi :

9th January, 1973.

VIETNAM FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS
HANOI

WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF YOUR CABLE OF SEVENTH JANUARY, THE CITU SENDS ITS WARM FRATERNAL GREETINGS TO THE HEROIC PEOPLE OF VIETNAM AND ITS WORKING CLASS AND ADMIRES THE IRON DETERMINATION WITH WHICH THEY ARE FACING THE MOST BEASTLY AGGRESSION OF U.S. IMPERIALISM STOP THE CITU CONDEMNS THE PERFIDY OF THE AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS WHO WENT BACK ON THE AGREEMENT REACHED IN PARIS AND STARTED THE CARPET BOMBING OF HANOI AND HAIPHONG AREA AND RAINED DESTRUCTION THE LIKE OF WHICH HISTORY HAS NOT HEARD OF STOP WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE IRON-WILL OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE AND ITS WORKING CLASS WILL MAKE THEM TO CALL CONSPIRACIES AND MACHINATIONS OF THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS AND EMERGE VICTORIOUS STOP CONSCIOUS OF THE FACT THAT THE VICTORY OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE IS A VICTORY FOR ALL PEOPLES IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST U.S. IMPERIALISM, THE FOREMOST ENEMY OF MANKIND, THE CITU WILL DO EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO MOBILISE THE INDIAN WORKING CLASS AND WORKING PEOPLE IN CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER TRADE UNIONS, AGAINST THE AMERICAN AGGRESSORS AND FOR COMPELLING THEM TO SIGN THE PEACE TREATY AND END THE WAR STOP WE SHALL EXERT OUR UTMOST TO RAISE MATERIAL AID TO THE FIGHTING PEOPLE OF VIETNAM STOP WE ARE CALLING UPON ALL TRADE UNIONS TO OBSERVE THE WHOLE MONTH OF JANUARY AS VIETNAM MONTH STOP WE ARE CALLING ALL SEAMEN AND DOCKERS OF INDIA TO BOYCOTT U.S. SHIPS STOP PLEASE ACCEPT OUR WARM REVOLUTIONARY GREETINGS.

B.T. RANADIVE PRESIDENT
P. RAMAMURTI GENERAL SECRETARY CITU

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

TO

THE EDITOR/CHIEF CORRESPONDENT,

-----, CALCUTTA

Sd/- B.T. RANADIVE

* * * * *