

WHEN DID PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH DENOUNCE THE US USE OF TOXIC CHEMICALS TO DESTROY LIVING ENVIRONMENT IN VIETNAM?

Collected and introduced by Ho Song Huong

More than a decade ago, the Center for Natural Resources and Environment and the Youth Publishing House, in response to the proposal of many readers from inside and outside the country, asked scientists Vo Quy, Le Dien Duc, Ho Sy Minh and Duc Vuong to compile the book, “Uncle Ho with the living environment.”

The pages from 53 to 85 prepared by Duc Vuong tell us about Uncle Ho’s environmental protection activities and strict condemnation against the US for destroying the living environment in Vietnam.

June 29, 1963

Nhan Dan newspaper, edition No. 3380 issued on June 29, 1963 carried Uncle Ho’s article under his pen-name Chien Si (Fighter). The article entitled “US-styled peace means fire and sword”, said, “the US “peaceful strategy” propagandized by President Kennedy was in fact crimes against the Vietnamese people. The US has dropped napalm bombs and hazardous chemicals over southern Vietnam, killing many people, destroying forests and the habitat and causing severe environmental pollution.”

Dec. 23, 1963

Nhan Dan newspaper, edition No. 3556 issued on Dec. 23, 1963 carried a letter by Uncle Ho to a child named Thu Oanh. He accused the US of committing heinous crimes against Vietnam, carrying mop-up and terror operations, spreading chemical agents, burning villages, destroying the living environment and killing people in southern Vietnam.

April 3, 1965

In his message of greetings to the 10th anniversary of the **Bang Dung** conference, Uncle Ho charged the US with “using the most savage war means in southern Vietnam, including napalm bombs and hazardous gas to massacre civilians regardless who they were.”

April 10, 1965

Addressing the second plenum of the 3rd National Assembly, Ho Chi Minh condemned the US as “the bitter they were defeated, the more brutal tricks they used including napalm bombs and hazardous gas to kill our compatriots in the south.”

April 14, 1965

Nhan Dan newspaper, edition No. 4029 issued on April 14, 1965 carried Uncle Ho’s article signed as Chien Si (Fighter). The article, entitled, “The arch-rogue Johnson speaks of peace while waving fire and sword” exposed the US scheme to use napalm and hazardous gas to kill the Vietnamese people. He wrote, “It is ironically that this man speaks of peace!”

Nov. 14 and 15, 1965

Nhan Dan newspaper, edition No. 4241 and No. 4242 issued on Nov. 14 and 15, 1965 carried Uncle Ho’s article pen-named Chien Si (Fighter). The article entitled, “The Japanese people and public opinion warmly support our people’s struggle against the US for national salvation”, condemned US President Johnson for “using southern Vietnam as a testing ground for new weapons, and using chemical agents to carry out a war of mass destruction against people and the environment.”

July 17, 1966

Nhan Dan newspaper, edition No. 4484 issued on July 17, 1966 carried Uncle Ho’s appeal, “Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom.” Uncle Ho accused the US of using extreme brutal war means including chemical agents and napalm bombs against Vietnam, and carrying out the “burn all, kill all and destroy all” policy with an aim to repress people in southern Vietnam.

July 30, 1966

Nhan Dan newspaper, edition No. 4497 issued on July 30, 1966 carried Uncle Ho’s letter to the 12th World Conference against A and H bombs. The letter strongly condemned US imperialists for causing the Hiroshima and Nagasaki disasters to Japan in 1945 and pointed out, “They are carrying the “burn all, kill all and destroy all” policy, destroying the living environment of southern Vietnamese people by spreading chemical agents and dropped napalm bombs over the area.”

Dec. 23, 1966

Uncle Ho sent a letter to the American people to mark the New Year. He accused the US of using hazardous gas, chemical agents and napalm and steel-pellet bombs to destroy villages, forests and mountains in Vietnam and kill Vietnamese people.

Feb. 14, 1967

Uncle Ho sent a message to Pope Paul VI condemning the US for savage crimes including using napalm, hazardous chemicals and gas to massacre southern Vietnamese people, and destroying villages, forests, houses, churches, hospitals and schools.

Feb. 15, 1967

Uncle Ho sent a letter to US President Johnson charging the US imperialists with using the most brutal weapons including napalm bombs, chemical agents and hazardous gas to massacre the people in southern Vietnam, destroy crops and razed many villages to the ground.

March 26, 1967

Uncle Ho sent a letter of thanks to the Mexico Committee in Solidarity with Vietnam. He informed the Committee of the US using the most savage war means including napalm bombs, chemical agents and hazardous gas to kill people in southern Vietnam and destroy the environment.

July 31, 1967

Ho Chi Minh sent a letter to the 13th World Conference against A and H bombs held in Japan. He condemned the US imperialists for causing disasters to Hiroshima and Nagasaki and also to southern Vietnam by using chemical weapons to destroy the living environment.

July 20, 1969

Marking the signing of the Geneva Agreement on July 20, 1954, Uncle Ho issued an appeal, denouncing US President Nixon as further accelerating the aggressive war against southern Vietnam, using B52 fighter bombers and chemical agents, causing heinous crimes against Vietnam.

July 29, 1969

Ho Chi Minh sent a letter to the World Conference against A and H bombs, demanding for a complete ban on using nuclear and chemical weapons to destroy the living environment and causing disaster to the labouring people.

August 25, 1969

Uncle Ho sent a letter to answer US President Nixon. In his letter, he further accused the US imperialists of accelerating B52 bombing attacks and using chemical weapons, causing more crimes against the Vietnamese people.