

Report from Minister of Defense, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Minister of Foreign Trade
for additional free armament delivery to North Vietnam, 13 December 1965

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Secret
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TO THE PRIME MINISTER
Comrade Todor Zhivkov*

REPORT

from the Minister of people's defense

Army General Dobri Dzhurov

From the Minister of foreign affairs

Ivan Bashev

From the Minister of foreign trade

Ivan Budinov

REFERENCE: Armament aid to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in 1966

Comrade Prime Minister,

On 29 November this year, the Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam Comrade Pham Van Dong called in the ambassador of Bulgaria to Hanoi, and expressed verbally and in a written form the gratitude of the government and people of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam for the assistance rendered in 1965. At the same time, Comrade Pham Van Dong requested, if possible, to render additional military assistance in 1966, since the American imperialists were expanding their

* Handwritten resolution by T. Zhivkov: *For signing. 15 December 1965.*

aggression both in Southern and in Northern Vietnam. He stressed that they needed mainly anti-aircraft guns, engineer ammunitions and radio communication equipment.

We believe that it would be expedient to continue rendering assistance in 1966 to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, delivering special equipment according to the list enclosed.

It is known that an economic government delegation from the DR Vietnam is coming to visit in near future, and it will probably be authorized to discuss this issue. The delegation will be led by Vice-Premier of DRV Comrade Le Than Hgi.

We suggest that on our side we authorize Vice-Premier Comrade Stanko Todorov to have talks and sign documents regarding assistance to DRV.

In accordance with the above said we suggest that the Council of Ministers accept the following

RESOLUTION:

1. Grants to the government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam for 1966 armaments and ammunitions free of charge amounting to about 2 400 000 rubles, in accordance with the enclosed list.

The supplies shall be taken from the available stocks of the Ministry of people's defense.

2. Authorizes Vice-Premier Comrade Stanko Todorov to conduct negotiations on behalf of the government of Bulgaria, and sign documents for assistance to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in 1966.

3. The Ministry of foreign affairs shall notify the government of the DR Vietnam about this decision.

[Translated by Greta Keremidchieva]