

REPORT OF THE MEETING BETWEEN DR. FISHEL AND MESSRS. LE PHUNG THOI  
AND DUONG VAN LIEN AT THE MAJESTIC HOTEL ( Saturday 6th, March, 1955)

Mr. Lien - I am the Secretary of Mr. Nguyen ton Hoang, the leader of the Dai Viet, and I have been appointed by the Prty to be ~~the~~ liaison-man with all foreigners. Today, I would like to talk to you about the situation in Central Vietnam.

Dr. Fishel \* Do you come from there?

L. - I have met people who have recently come from there.

On the 26th of February, ~~the~~ Ngo dinh Diem gave orders to the National Army to attack the Dai Viet who have come to occupy the region of Ba lang(?) a former headquarters-area of the Viet minh "maquis".

In Central VN provinces ~~like~~ South of the 17th parallel, Binh-Tri-Thien, the Vietminh have left a great number of arms and cadres before leaving for the North after the Geneva agreements. When they pulled out of the Ba lang maquis, the Dai Viet immediately came to occupy the region.

F - Where is Ba lang?

L \* It's south of the 17th parallel and on the strategic route between Quang tri and Savanakheth.- I can also tell you that in other parts of Central VN, like in Qui-nhon, ~~the~~ Ngo dinh Diem has ordered two battalions to move into the region and fight against the Dai viet.

You ~~know~~ know that the Dai viet are nationalists who ~~not~~ don't do anything wrong, but the government has ordered national army troops to move against them. Besides, in Central VN, Mr. Ngo dinh Can, the brother of Ngo dinh Diem who ~~is~~ was the real man behind the Delegate Nguyen don Duyen, has ordered the arrest of men like the province-head of Quang tri, Mr. Tran Dien who was a Dai-viet.

F - Was it because he ~~was~~ was a Dai viet that Mr. Tran Dien was arrested? Is it a crime to be Dai Viet?

L - Well, I don't know, but we know that at the same time with the order of attacking the Dai Viet the order for arrest of Mr. Tran Dien was given. The Dai viet is a legal political party, but its activities are to be still secret, because it is not possible to fight the Communists openly. The Dai viet are not like the sects, because we have not made trouble ~~like~~ like them, although we have also an ~~army~~ army of our own, equipped with arms coming ~~at~~ from all sources, French, Japanese, National Army and others.

F - How members of the Dai viet are there and where is the army concentrated?

L - We can say because it is secret; as for our army, it is everywhere, we have men in the French Army, in the National Army and in local militias. Any how, let us get back to the main point which is that the Ngo dinh Diem government has ordered the National Army to move against the Dai viet when all the Nationalists need to unite in order to fight against the Communists. We have always been advocating unity and peace and have not done anything wrong to be attacked by the forces of the Government. The Ngo dinh Diem government is suppressing the opposition in a dictatorial way. In Nhatrang for instance there was the case of the assassination of Nguyen van An, a man of Phan van Gian. With the creation of assassination-committees, Ngo dinh Diem is trying to suppress all opposition, either Dai Viet or Phan van Gian men.

Herly  
F-You said that the cases of Tran Dien and that of Nguyen van An are ordered by Mr. Can in Hue, then how was that connected with Mr. Diem. Besides that, is it legal to have a secret party (understood that Mr. Diem's government is popular among the Vietnamese)... I met Mr. ~~the~~ other day, he has very good impression of the Dai Viet and I also met Mr. Hoang. He praised the French and seemed very pleased of them. Thoi -interpreter-Mr. Can is Mr. Diem's brother. Diem has his whole family in the office to carry out his orders... As to the second question, I already told you that our party existed since the Revolution, we have to keep secret in order to fight against Vietminh. It is not illegal in front of Diem's government since that government is not elected by the people, it is supported by the Americans. Dai Viet is not a pro-French army for these Mr. Lien, Mr. Hoang <sup>and</sup> are Dai Viet are the collaborators of the Tu Quyet newspaper which, as everybody knows, is the worst attacker of The French. If you are interested, I could show you our documents against the French (you alone).

We will also show you a document signed by Mr. Ngo dinh Nhu Tran chanh Thanh, Bui kien Tin and two others swearing they will have a National Assembly before the Diem's government was set up. Now it is a Shame that they participate with Diem. (A government formed of people who hid themselves in foreign countries when we fought against Communists.) We, Nationalists recognise no law but our own conscience and the national interest. Those who have the same idea like us are true nationalists