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*Scowcroft, Hyland*

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SRV MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ISSUES STATEMENT ON U.S. MIA ISSUE

OW091633 HANOI VNA IN ENGLISH 1622 GMT 9 SEP 76 OW

(TEXT) HANOI, VNA, SEPTEMBER 9--A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TODAY ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

ON SEPTEMBER 6, THE VIETNAMESE EMBASSY IN PARIS GAVE THE U.S. SIDE INFORMATION ON 12 AMERICAN PILOTS MISSING DURING ATTACKS ON NORTH VIETNAM. THIS IS A GOOD WILL GESTURE ON THE PART OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTING TO REDUCING THE ANXIETY OF U.S. FAMILIES WHOSE RELATIVES WERE "MISSING IN ACTION", AND CREATING FAVOURABLE CONDITIONS FOR EARLY DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN VIETNAM AND THE UNITED STATES TO RESOLVE PENDING QUESTIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON VIETNAM, PARTICULARLY ARTICLE 8B (EIGHT B) ON THE GATHERING OF INFORMATION ABOUT THOSE MISSING IN ACTION AND ARTICLE 21 ON THE U.S. OBLIGATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO HEALING THE WOUNDS OF WAR AND TO POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION IN VIETNAM.

WHILE PUBLIC OPINION IN THE WORLD AND IN THE UNITED STATES WARMLY HAILS THIS GOODWILL ATTITUDE OF VIETNAM AND DEMANDS A SERIOUS RESPONSE FROM THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION, THE U.S. AUTHORITIES NOT ONLY SHOW NO GOOD WILL FOR FULFILLING THEIR OBLIGATION UNDER ARTICLE 21 OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT BUT ARROGANTLY DEMAND THAT VIETNAM UNILATERALLY AND FULLY IMPLEMENT ARTICLE 8B (EIGHT B) CONCERNING THOSE MISSING IN ACTION.

IF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PERSISTS IN ITS STUBBORN ATTITUDE, THEN IT WILL SURELY INVITE STRONG CONDEMNATION BY PUBLIC OPINION IN THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS BY THE PROGRESSIVE PUBLIC IN THE WORLD AND WILL BE MORE ISOLATED. IT WILL HAVE TO BEAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR ITS ACTIONS WHICH PREVENT THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

9 SEP 1711Z SGG/CAJ \*\*\*\*\*