

## Vietnam

### *From the Poison of Imperialism to the Healing of Revolution*

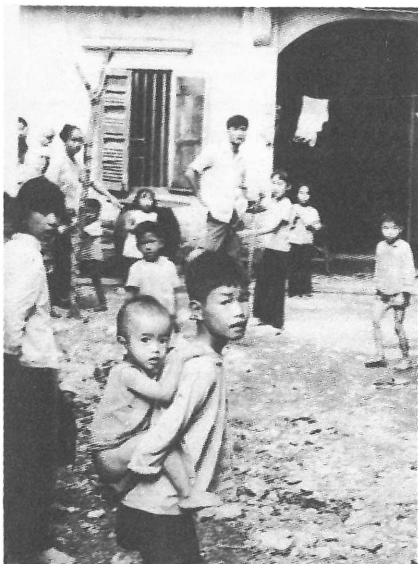
The Vietnamese have every reason to celebrate their national day, September 2nd, the day in 1945 when Vietnam was proclaimed an independent republic after the victorious August revolution. Since the liberation of the South in 1975, Vietnam has accomplished great successes which make us all optimistic as to the future of this coun-

try: gross national production has increased by 47.7%, agricultural production by 56.1% and exports by a phenomenal 309.4%.

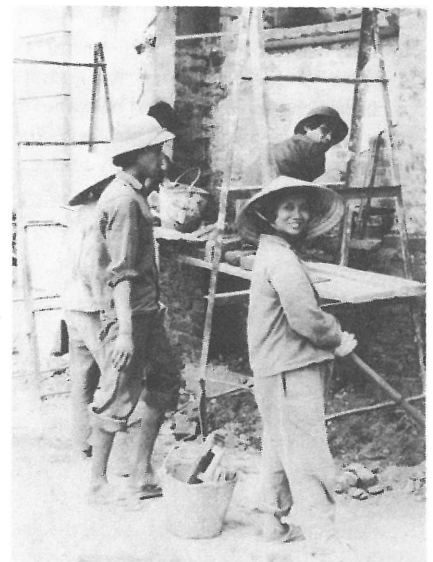
The dimensions of this victory must be seen in relation to the state in which the US left Vietnam. US troops had tried to bomb Vietnam back to the Stone Age, dumped tonnes of toxic gases and sabotage defoliants such as 44,300 cubic meters of Agent Orange on the country and its population, and branded the people with napalm. Poisons with long time effects on people, vegetation, animals and soil. So poisonous that Vietnam still suffers because of this.

The final victory over US imperialism united the masses in 1975, and was also a victory for all progressive, nationalist and socialist people all over the world. It added to the revolutionary experience and theoretical thought. Even the language was enriched by terms as «US's Vietnam syndrome». All of this was marked by the surprising and yet scientifically sound conclusion: a small, brave and determined people was able to defeat the seemingly almighty power of an empire.

But the destructive power of imperialism continued its aggression against Vietnam. Through embargoes and blockades the US aimed to prevent the reconstruction of Vietnam. They used Asian countries relying on US support to launch military attacks on Vietnam, and with the help of Asian regimes, they forged new imperialist chains. Us



*Hong Gai in 1973 in the northern region, being severely destroyed by US air raids*



*Construction in the streets of Hanoi*

