

## Welcome Remarks

Dear Distinguished Guests,

Good Morning. My name is Anh Tu Do and I am honored to represent The Republic of Vietnam Leadership Committee as we welcome you to the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

We would like to thank U.S. Texas Senator John Cornyn who is our sponsor to reserve this event room for today.

As many Vietnamese around the world are following this event, we will speak about the true history and facts surrounding the Vietnam War after forty-four years of silence.

The truth is the North Vietnamese Communists clearly violated the Paris Peace Accords Agreement of 1973 through their illegal invasion and complete occupation of the Republic of Vietnam on April 30, 1975.

The truth is the media and anti-war activists have spread false information using the propaganda of the North Vietnamese Communists to further their own agendas. This misleading narrative played a major part in creating a hostile environment where the U.S. Vietnam Veterans were mistreated and humiliated upon their return from the war. As a result, Americans were divided in their opinions of the war and the Republic of Vietnam was erased from the world map.

The truth is the intervention of the United States in the Vietnam War was necessary to protect the anti-Communist Republic of Vietnam against the Communist North Vietnam which, with the aid of the former Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, continued to invade South Vietnam in clear violation of the International Convention

on the Geneva treaty 1954, which divided the country into North and South, and the Paris Peace Accords Agreement of 1973.

The U.S. Vietnam Veterans can take pride in knowing that their sacrifice was not in vain in the fight against Communism. The United States has become a stronger nation with more influence than ever before. It has the respect of the world in the fight for freedom and for human rights. It is the leader for justice and peace to the nations that stand against Communism and authoritarianism.

However, for the South Vietnamese, tens of millions have died and about four million are currently in exile around the world. The rest were killed, imprisoned, and tortured under the brutal regime of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

With all of this in mind, one major first step the United States and the international community can take to help the Republic of Vietnam is to reconvene an international conference on Vietnam to enforce the Paris Peace Accords Agreement of 1973.

On behalf of The Republic of Vietnam Leadership Committee, thank you to all the Vietnam Veterans for your sacrifice without which we would not be here today and thank you to all the other attendees for your presence and support on this important day.