

talks, and we did stop the bombing as promised.[...] The U.S. backed up that victory with a simple pledge within the Paris Peace Accords saying: should the South require any military hardware to defend itself against any North Vietnam aggression we would provide replacement aid to the South on a piece-by-piece, one-to-one replacement, meaning a bullet for a bullet; a helicopter for a helicopter, for all things lost — replacement. The advance of communist tyranny had been halted by those accords..."

"On April the 10th of 1975, President Gerald Ford appealed directly to those members of the congress in an evening Joint Session, televised to the nation. In that speech he literally begged the Congress to keep the word of the United States. But as President Ford delivered his speech, many of the members of the Congress walked out of the chamber. Many of them had an investment in America's failure in Vietnam. They had participated in demonstrations against the war for many years. They wouldn't give the aid".

Like the series distributed in 1983, PBS did the same thing with "The Vietnam War", 2017, depict Ho Chi Minh as more of a nationalist than a communist, but never seriously question why such a "nationalist" would wage a war of aggression against his own people in the name of Marx, Lenin, and Mao. And why the communist regime



that conquered South Vietnam imprisoned the non-communists in gulags, sent hundreds of thousands to re-education camps, and produced hundreds of thousands of "boat people", who risked and often lost their lives in an effort to flee from the communists.

President Reagan said this when he was the governor of California: "... Ending a conflict is not so simple, not just calling it off and coming home. Because the price for that kind of peace could be a thousand years of darkness for generation's Viet Nam borned".

That is happening in Vietnam. ■

Facts about the Vietnam War and soon after 1975

- 58,148 Americans were killed and 304,000 wounded out of 2 million 590,000 who served. As of Jan 15, 2004, 1,875 Americans still unaccounted from Vietnam War. 240 men were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War. 91% of Vietnam Veterans say they are glad they served. 85% of Vietnam Veterans successfully transitioned to civilian life.
 - From 1957 to 1973, the Vietnamese communists assassinated 36,725 South Vietnamese and abducted 58,499. Death squads focused on leaders such as school teachers and government officers.
 - Since Black April 1975, under Communist rule, Vietnam ranked as one of the world's poorest nations, with uprisings, human rights oppression, and political prisoners.
 - "In its revolutionary zeal, the party collectivized farms. Without incentives, productivity went down and Vietnam became a rice importer. The party confiscated property and wealth. Overnight, millionaires became paupers... More than 400,000 South Vietnamese were sent off to re-education camps [prison camps, with communist indoctrination], some to languish for years. [David Lamb, Los Angeles Times, April 30, 2005]
 - 1976 to 1990: 3.7 million people were forcibly resettled in "New Economic Zones" in the Central Highlands and the Mekong River Delta and forced to work on collectivized farms. Some suffered from starvation and extreme poverty. The conditions were so bad there that Vietnam faced a famine in 1986. This was a major reason for the economic reforms that year.
 - After Saigon fell in 1975, more than a million people left Vietnam, about 5 percent of South Vietnam's population, mostly by boat. Some didn't make it to their final destinations...Some boats lost more than half their passengers to exposure, drowning, starvation and attacks from pirates. About 90% boat people didn't make it.
- Vietnamese migration to the United States has occurred in three waves: First wave began in 1975 at the end of the Vietnam War. The fall of Saigon led to the U.S.-sponsored evacuation of approximately 125,000 Vietnamese refugees, consisted mainly of military personnel, professionals associated with U.S. military or the South Vietnamese government. In late 1970s, a second wave of Vietnamese refugees entered the U.S as the "boat people" refugees ...The third wave entered the U.S.A during 1980s and 1990s, included thousands of Vietnamese Amerasians (children of U.S. servicemen) and political prisoners. (Migration Policy Institute)
- Since 1975, the Vietnamese immigrant population in the U.S. has risen significantly to nearly 1.3 million in 2012, making it the sixth largest foreign-born population in the United States. (MPI)