

1953

Speeches/Documents

**Title:** Telegram to Ho Chi Minh

**Author:** Mao Zedong

**Date:** 23-11-1953

**Source:** 毛泽东年谱 A Biography of Mao Zedong page 194

**Description:** negotiations

Currently the pressure from French people's quest to end the Vietnam War is increasing. Some members of the French ruling class also believe the invasion of Vietnam does not deserve the costs and advocate peace talk. [The French Premier Joseph] Laniel also twice formally expressed willingness for negotiation.

But the American imperialists have tried to expand the invaders' war in Vietnam since the end of the Korean War, and forced the French imperialists to fight to the end. In this circumstance, it is necessary and timely for the government of the Vietnamese Democratic Republic to formally express its willingness to end the Vietnam War through peaceful negotiations. Only in doing so can we take the banner of peace into our hands, encourage the struggle of the French people and all peace-loving people all over the world, and expose the lie of the French reactionaries who blame Vietnam for not wanting peace, and thus shift the responsibility for the war onto Vietnam. And only in so doing can we exploit and increase the contradictions between France and the United States.