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BURMA

KAREN INSURGENCY SUPPLIED WITH CAMBODIAN WEAPONS

Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai 2 Feb 86 pp 20, 21

[Unattributed report: "The Karens, War Without End"]

[Excerpts] Recently, there was a report to which few people paid any attention. That is, Thai soldiers seized a shipment of weapons, including a dozen M-29 grenades and 1,000 rounds of M-16 ammunition, that was being transported in a pickup truck. This took place in Taphraya District, Prachinburi Province. From the investigation, it was learned that the traffickers were going to sell the weapons to the Karens in Burma.

This shipment of weapons represents only a tiny fraction of the weapons purchased by the Karens, or Karen guerrillas, in Burma. They need weapons in order to continue their struggle against the Burmese forces. They are trying to establish an independent state of Kothule separate from Burma.

Looking at their present situation, it seems unbelievable that the Karen guerrillas could wage a war for independence. The Burmese government has the advantage in terms of both manpower and weapons. No one will sell weapons to the Karen guerrillas and so they have to use smuggled weapons. Most of these weapons come from the Cambodian battlefield.

The important base of the Free Karens is located at Wang Kha (which is located on the western side of the Moei River, which forms the border between Burma and Thailand). This is a very strong base. The Free Karens are said to have about 4,000 men at this base. But some people say that the number is even larger.

Col Tho Hla, the Free Karen military leader at Wang Kha, said that he has sufficient men but lacks weapons. There have been reports that these Karens are receiving support from Western mercenaries. (There is still a dispute about this.) However, a Thai police report stated that nine foreign mercenaries were working with the Karen forces. Four of these mercenaries were Americans, three were Australians and two were French. There is rather strong evidence of this, because recently, Burmese television broadcast a report stating that one of the French mercenaries had been killed in combat. Pictures of the body were shown on television. Besides this, one of the Australian mercenaries suffered a head wound in an artillery attack.

Col Tho Hla has said that these two men were foreign reporters who wanted to gather information on the fighting. However, diplomats have said that these Westerners went there in order to provide military guidance. And when the Australian was asked whether he was a photographer for a newspaper, he replied that he was a military commander.

This war has been going on for many years now, and sometimes it spills over into Thailand (Thailand is trying to remain neutral). Sometimes the Burmese government becomes suspicious about Thailand's attitude and wonders whether Thailand is secretly supporting the Karens. This problem has to be "cleared up" every time it occurs.

The position of the Free Karens is like that of the Khmer coalition, that is opposing Vietnam in Cambodia. That is, they occasionally use Thai territory to flee Burmese attacks. And what is important is that Thailand is a source of supplies and weapons, which are smuggled to the Karens in Burma. This is unavoidable.

11943

CSO: 4207/170

LAOS

DISCUSSION ON SOLUTION TO THAI BORDER DISPUTE

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 26-28 Dec 85

["Conversation with the Editor" Column: "What Can We Do with the Thai Reactionaries?"]

[26 Dec 85 p 2]

[Excerpt] [Question] 1. Things have been dragging on for little more than a year since the troops of the Thai ultrarightist reactionary power clique encroached upon and invaded our Lao sovereignty in three Lao villages and other places. Why doesn't our government use resolute measures to push the Thai troops out of our land?

2. What can we do to prevent history from repeating itself in the case of the people in the three villages whom the Thai troops took by force to Thai territory and to keep the Lao people from suffering as they did before? We should remember the time when Siamese feudalists took Lao people by force to serve them as slaves, when they forced the Lao people to dig the Sen Sep Canal in Thailand, and how bad it was. It was so bad that they cried out "The pain is terrible [sen sep]!" Whenever I hear the Thai people talk about the Sen Sep Canal I automatically think of our common people and aristocrats who were conscripted and treated badly by the Thais, and my heart is very pained. In this day and age the incident of the three Lao villages should not be like what happened long ago. What do you think?

3. Border of the Lang Sang and Siamese nations. History clearly shows our generation that the kings of the two nations had built the That Sisonghak monument as the eternal border, so why do the Thais still encroach upon our land. This is also indicated in a song we have been singing since we went to the third and fourth grades a long time ago, according to which Ubon, Khon Kaen and Korat were part of Laos in the old days. I can remember only this. Thus, I ask that you find out about this and print it again so we can teach our grandchildren about it. There is also the saying which is recited that says: "The name of my country is Laos. It extends a long way beyond my eyes. The Mekong River flows through the middle of it. There are clean roads, Laos is big, and our children should help to construct Laos." Moreover, some of this has been

maintained in their religion venerating angels: "In the north [Pha Dai and Pha Dang cliffs] are our border; Vietnam is our border in the south; and Ayuthaya is our border in the west."

[27 Dec 85 p 2]

[Text] I don't remember anything else. The ones called the Thai reactionaries are extremely exploitative, having truly encroached upon, trampled, and destroyed the Lao people and Laos completely until nothing is left. They think that the Lao people and the Lao nation should not exist. When they came to attack and rob Vientiane at that time they destroyed everything and burnt it down, and built the monument to commemorate Vientiane's defeat in Sorne village in Nongkhai Province so we would be reminded. (It has now been changed to the monument for victory over the Haw tribes.)

Moreover, there are bad Lao people in the refugee camps in Thailand. Things are the same there, and the Thai reactionaries kill them as they would pigs or dogs, or they kick them around and hit them whenever they like. They insult them and they give no thought at all to human rights. What is worse is that they capture and threaten young girls 14 and 15 years old and take them to their commanders in this or that region or to their platoon chiefs, division chiefs, and battalion chief commanders to satiate their sexual desire. Oh, this makes me so angry when I think about it.

I should stop now. I have gone on too long and perhaps you are annoyed by this long discourse. Please add whatever you think it needs to make it sound beautiful for your readers. There are still many things that the Thai reactionaries have done to our people. Thank you in advance, From S Saisettha.

[Answer] Dear S Saisettha. I am happy after reading your letter because it confirms the true nature of patriotism for heroic Laos which was invaded in the past as it is now by Siamese reactionaries, imperialists, and expansionists and also by the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries.

As you know from history, the Siamese reactionaries were the first to come in and destroy our country. In the time of Chao Anou, Vientiane was completely burned and destroyed, and all valuable belongings were robbed. The people in Vientiane were all taken by force to Thailand and are now living in Ban Mi, Kengkhoi, etc. This is the extremely painful history of the Lao people. The second group of invaders was the French imperialists.

[28 Dec 85 p 2]

[Text] When the French invaded, all Lao territory on the left bank of the Mekong River fell completely under Siamese reactionaries--today 17 provinces. In the 1904 French-Siamese agreement, when the two reactionary parties divided up the border the Lao people were not present, because Laos had become a colony of the French imperialists. You should read the white book published by our Foreign Ministry.

As for the questions that you sent in, we will discuss only the first and second. You have already answered the others yourself. Questions 1 and 2: Our government's foreign policy is a policy of independence and peace. Thus, the dispute in which the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries encroached upon and occupied the three Lao villages in Sayaboury Province must be solved by peaceful means, including joint talks, and in the past our government has proposed talks with the Thai side. However, the Thai ultrarightists have refused all of the good intentions of our government and our people. Even now the Thai ultrarightists have made no move regarding the talks proposed by our government.

The stubbornness and arrogance of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries toward the Lao people have caused dissatisfaction among people in Thai political circles. Thai people who love peace and justice are tired of and unhappy with the arrogance of the Thai ultrarightists. What is even worse is that the Thai people and Thai workers, students, and intellectuals are growing increasingly tired of the Thai ultrarightists, who are willing to become tools of Beijing and the United States and to resist the three nations in Indochina, especially the Lao people, as you know from the demonstrations, letters, leaflets, etc. which have widely attacked the present Thai ultrarightist government.

You probably know that on 9 September there was a political group that tried to conduct a coup. This shows extremely serious conflicts which are due to many causes. However, the primary reason was disagreement about being the enemy of Laos and the three nations in Indochina and the willingness of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries to become a tool of Beijing and Washington.

These incidents are still going on, and some day the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries will be properly punished by the peace- and justice-loving Thai people. Thank you and goodbye.

9884/9190

CSO: 4206/52

LAOS

'TALK' CITES WESTERN SOURCES ON CGDK DECLINE, CRITICIZES THAIS

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 28 Dec 85 p 3

['Talk': "The Hopeless Situation of the Khmer Reactionaries"]

[Text] There was a rumor broadcast by the BBC on 20 December that Son Sann, one of the leaders of the Khmer reactionary clique, would resign, even though no one knows where he is. This once again indicates their unresolved internal disunity because words of this kind are common for those men without a country to live on. Sihanouk, Pol Pot, and Khieu Samphan many times used this trick as a threat.

However, according to Western sources, on 25 December Sihanouk tried to be tough and announced in Hong Kong that there was still "strong solidarity" within the government of the three Khmer coalition groups. Here we might add that besides having no land of their own, the leaders of these three groups also fight among themselves. They then rushed north and south at the same time to deny the news, and they also looked for sympathy from the imperialist nations and their followers, such as the international reactionaries and the Thai reactionary clique that are misled, and for their assistance in order to feed their mouths on a day-to-day basis.

In fact, these people only talk abroad, and they do not even see what the Cambodian land is like. The routed soldiers of the Khmer reactionary henchmen who hope to ravage the revival of the PRK people, who later fled from death to Thai territory, can hardly save themselves. The so-called Khmer Rouge Radio following the model of the Voice of the Thai People Radio, which the Chinese expansionists once helped in the Thai revolution, put on an act and fabricated a story that the Khmer Rouge had attacked here and there in PRK territory. However, no one dared to verify their fabrication.

Moreover, in order to work quickly together the Thai reactionary clique continues to make up stories that Vietnamese soldiers in Cambodia are bombing the Thai-Cambodian border, causing the deaths of a number of Thai soldiers, and it also gives out news stories that Vietnamese soldiers are using poison gas in that area. However, no one listens to them because they are only lies. When their fabrications failed, they gave out other news stories asserting that Vietnam had made strong attacks on the Thai-Cambodian border in this dry season.

They will probably be disappointed again because everything in the PRK is making steady progress, and there is no longer any place even the size of the palm of a hand for the routed Khmer Rouge to hide. On the contrary, a new and bright life stands out in the land of Angkor which is being strongly revived and newly constructed politically, economically, and culturally; no one dares to deny this truth.

The fraternal Cambodian people are now happily emulating each other to score achievements for the seventh anniversary of the PRK. It will mark 7 years of the revival, defense, and construction of the nation of the Cambodian people. It also marks 7 years of hopelessness for the Khmer revolutionary exiles, especially those who are called the leaders of the three-coalition government.

9884/9190

CSO: 4206/56

LAOS

SRV NEWS TOUR SEES U.S. BOMB DAMAGE, NOTES SRV AID IN NORTH

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 26 Dec 85 p 2

[Article by (Thanh Luc-Kim Cuc) Vietnamese Radio News reporter: translated by Phasouk: "Beautiful Luang Prabang!"]

[Excerpts] Party committee secretary and provincial administration committee chairman Souvandi Phommali was honored to welcome us to Luang Prabang in a cordial atmosphere. He helped us understand the great changes that have occurred in Luang Prabang over the past

Not only has the province become self-sufficient in terms of the food supply, but it has also participated in sending rice to the center as well. In 1982 the province sent 1,800 tons of rice to the center and this year the amount was increased to 6,000 tons. In terms of food, over the past 6 years the average supply was only 120 kg per capita. Now it is 270 kg per capita. In terms of education, public health, culture, etc. many things have been achieved in the province over the past 10 years. Because of firm cooperation with the public health experts of Ha Son Binh Province (Vietnam), the twin province of Luang Prabang Province, there has been effective treatment of the people's ears, noses, and throats, for example, for goiter.

Within a short time I went to many places throughout Luang Prabang, for example, Ban Phanon, a village that does embroidery and traditional textiles with gorgeous colors. We went to see Aunt Piu's family. She is now 50, and she told us that she has five children. The oldest son is studying engineering in Vientiane, and the second daughter Chanthala, who is 18, is 1 of 10 workers who weave textiles, mosquito nets, and handkerchiefs for the whole province. Chanthala told us that she and three other friends had gone to Ha Son Binh Province for 3 years to study this skill. Three other children are studying at different levels in a non-vocational school. In a deeply emotional voice Aunt Piu told us that only under the new regime could a poor family like hers go to school, and she is grateful to the party and government as the trees stand firm in the forest and the current flows without end in the river.

We also had a chance to go to Pak Ou where there is an old temple over 400 years old. In 1971-72 Pak Ou was heavily bombed by the United States,

and the old temple was completely destroyed. Evidence of the U.S. crimes has not yet been completely erased. Bomb scraps marked MK82, MOD, IGP500LB, etc. still remain in this village. This is evidence of the serious crimes of the powerful forces and reactionaries. The powerful reactionaries are still not willing to stop their schemes to dismantle the building of socialism in Laos. However, it is certain that they will be defeated. Although the old temple is no longer there, the people are enthusiastically working to build their new life, a life of happiness.

9884/9190

CSO: 4206/56

LAOS

U.S. BOMBS HAMPER ROUTE 9 WORK, USSR AID NOTED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 31 Dec 85 p 2

[Article by Sakda Thipphansa: "Big Test for the Se Banghiang Bridge Construction Workers"]

[Excerpts] The debris left by the war,--Operation Lam Son 719--is still buried in the water and land in the Sepone District area of Savannakhet Province. Because of one and one-half tons of American imperialist 500-lb bombs and bombies, pounding the main No 3, 4, 5, and 6 posts of the Se Banghiang Bridge at the bridge construction site is a constant threat to the lives of the construction workers. However, with their decision to do everything for the progress of the nation and to continue unyieldingly the construction of the bridge with their strong spirit, the Lao workers and public security forces in the locality were able to remove all kinds of bombs safely out of the area.

Construction on the Se Banghiang Bridge is an important project on Route 9. Bridge Construction Project No 2 under Bridge and Road Construction Company No 1, Ministry of Transportation and Posts, was assisted by the Soviet Ministry of Communications, which started to survey the area for bridge construction in 1983 and saw that the Se Banghiang is a large river in a mountainous area. In the dry season cars can easily cross the river, but in the rainy season the river becomes a monster; it rapidly overflows its banks and its level rises 18-20 meters with strong currents, making communication and transportation difficult. This is the time when traffic is jammed on both sides of the river waiting to cross by barge. This wastes a lot of time and money. The new bridge construction site is above the old one built by the French, of which only one lane approximately 30 meters long is left. In mid-1984 the company prepared basic materials and techniques for building the bridge by constructing a place to bend steel, a factory to produce readymade concrete, a warehouse, a machinery repair shop etc. On 1 January 1985 construction officially began in order to take advantage of the dry season. The workers quickly pounded in the main posts and poured reinforced concrete posts which has to be done before the rainy season. With the enthusiasm of over 200 Lao workers led by Comrade Khamseng Saignakon and with the cooperation of the Soviet experts who raised their spirits high and engaged in the construction enthusiastically, and because of their great effort and ability to create an atmosphere

of emulation to fulfill the highest possible achievement of bridge construction, in October the first post was 35 percent completed, the second 40 percent, the third 40 percent, the fourth 70 percent, the fifth 70 percent, the sixth 100 percent, and the seventh 40 percent.

In October 1985 the construction plan was 45 percent completed. Construction of the Se Banghiang Bridge is expected to be completed by the end of 1986. When it is finished this bridge will be 206.4 meters long and 10 meters wide and have a sidewalk 1 meter wide on each side of the bridge. The bridge will be 20.2 meters high with seven piers and will bear loads of 80 tons when used by vehicles travelling singly and 30 tons when used by convoys. It will be strong and long-lasting.

9884/9190

CSO: 4206/60

LAOS

THAIS, PRC BLAMED FOR OUDOMSAI SECURITY PROBLEMS

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 21 Jan 86 p 2

[Article by Thanongsak Vongsakda: "Oudomsai and Its Turn to the Grassroots"]

[Excerpts] During the war of national liberation, Oudomsai Province was a fairly good political, military, and economic base for the national democratic revolution.

After the nation was completely liberated the imperialists and the reactionaries, for example, the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists and the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries, did not stop their attempts to disrupt and incite unrest in the province, especially since 1979. Oudomsai is an outpost province which directly faces these enemies in the northern part of the country.

In the past 10 years a period of revolutionary struggle to protect the heritage and fruits of the revolution, Oudomsai experienced a fierce, uncompromising, and complex test between socialism and capitalism.

At the border adjoining China the Beijing expansionists put their troops nearby in order to carry out their threats and provocations. At the border adjoining Thailand the Thai reactionaries openly and shamelessly invaded our territory in the Phamon area. The harm they are doing involved organizing, supporting, and training Lao revolutionary exiles and then sending them in to infiltrate Laos and destroy different localities using psychological warfare to bring about disunity among the ethnic groups, doing agitprop work for the Chao Fa [movement], to build up underground forces, etc. By firmly grasping Plenum No 51 of the Politburo on turning to the grassroots and by strictly carrying out the three policies of the Party Central Committee, Oudomsai Province has turned strongly to the grassroots and has adopted comprehensive and suitable methods to improve each grassroots organization and tribe. This has enabled the province to wipe out the spies who sneak in to sabotage the peace and happiness of the people. What was outstanding was that the province had a practical way to make 10,000 soldiers who built a road for China move out of their province on 4 April 1979.

On 17 January 1984 the soldiers and people in Oudomsai Province completely suppressed the enemies in the Phamon area, and there have been peace and

happiness in the area ever since. Besides effectively converting to the grassroots in their province, the military forces in Oudomsai Province also admirably assisted other provinces.

The outcome of national defense and national construction by the national defense forces, public security forces, regional forces, and guerrilla units along with the people in Oudomsai Province is that the conversion to the grassroots will not stop there. It is believed that under the leadership of the LPRP and particularly under the brilliant plenum of the third provincial congress, Oudomsai Province will have an admirable new role of expansion and will become a province of peace, security, and advanced culture.

9884/9190

CSO: 4206/60

LAOS

SHORTCOMINGS IN VIENTIANE'S EDUCATION WORK DISCUSSED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 26 Dec 85 pp 2, 4

['Talk' by Sengsouli Sonsoulin: "Education Must Be One Step Ahead of Other Work"]

[Excerpt] For many years the party committee and the administrative committee have attentively improved, constructed, and expanded the educational network strongly and thoroughly. Illiteracy has been gradually wiped out. Illiteracy has been eliminated 100 percent throughout Vientiane Capital, and this area is the fourth one to wipe out illiteracy nationwide. Supplementary education has been expanded one step further. Although nurseries and kindergartens are new, Vientiane Capital has struggled to construct and expand them step by step. Throughout Vientiane Capital there are now 27 kindergarten schools, an increase of 2.54 times when compared with the figure for 1979-80. Progress has also been made in non-vocational education from the elementary level to the senior high school level, and from the districts to the rural areas. We may conclude that now almost all villages have elementary schools; each canton has one or two secondary schools, and every district has a senior high school; and two districts have two senior highs. Each year many thousands of students complete secondary and senior high school, and most of them continue on to higher levels in vocational studies at home and abroad. A number of them work in government offices and organizations.

In 1984-85 there was a total of 7,041 fifth-year elementary-level students, 4,956 students of the third-year elementary level, and 1,203 students at the third-year senior high level. These figures show how education has grown and expanded in Vientiane Capital and is part of raising the level of knowledge in culture, politics, and the ideology of the people. It responds to all the forces for the construction of the new phase of the revolution.

However, in order to fulfill the policies of the party and government according to which education must be one step ahead of other work, following the evolution of educational construction in the past years we can see that Vientiane Capital still has some unfinished matters, such as wiping out illiteracy and absorbing supplementary education where things are not yet normal. As a result, a number of people have become illiterate again.

Supplementary-education training for permanent-address cadres and members has not been given the attention it needs. Many district supplementary-education schools are not strong, and their students have not yet achieved their goals, so the level of the permanent-address cadres and members is still not as expected. The construction, improvement, and expansion of nurseries and kindergartens are still weak, not sufficiently thorough, and not in agreement with our purposes. None of the agricultural co-ops and factories in Vientiane Capital has any nursery or kindergarten yet. The ones that exist now are unstable, and their quality is not yet at the expected level according to the contents of the curriculum for non-vocational projects. We have noticed that the expansion to the elementary level has not yet been as strong a foundation as expansion to the secondary level. The quality of non-vocational education is still low. For example, the understanding of politics and ideology by the students is not yet high. Some students have remained in the same class, and many have left their studies, particularly to go to the elementary level. A fairly large number of teachers still do not meet the training standard, particularly at the elementary level, where their spirit of professionalism and their love for children are not yet high. There is a lack of teaching equipment, for example, curricula and textbooks, and the level and ability for educational management and guidance at each level are still limited. This means that although there are many ways that education in Vientiane Capital has expanded in the past, when focusing on the demands for education in the new phase of the revolution, Vientiane Capital still has to struggle to improve the unfinished work mentioned above in order to put education one step ahead of other work.

First of all, in order to make the ratio of illiterates steadily decrease in order to eliminate it completely, the guidance committee for wiping out illiteracy and for cultural training at all levels must have a comprehensive work plan, and there must be an inspection of its implementation in each period. They must firmly grasp and take into account the level of the people and cadres, for example, cadres with permanent addresses and members, in order to train primary scions of new socialist men to carry forward an efficient revolution for the future of our nation. We must carefully build, improve, and expand nurseries and kindergartens throughout, especially in the agricultural co-ops, settlements, factories, and various offices and organizations. Non-vocational education must take an important position in constructing the new socialist man in order to guarantee the construction, improvement, and expansion of this work for better quality and quantity. We must first of all pay attention to the elementary educational level. We must strongly expand it in every way and have it become the foundation for the construction and expansion of secondary and senior high education later. Meanwhile, we must attentively mobilize children to go to school throughout according to the required age for each level. In constructing and upgrading the quality of this task, the supply of basic materials and techniques, teaching equipment, curricula, and textbooks is a problem that we need to pay attention to and that requires urgent, complete, and adequate improvement. Teachers are a factor in deciding the quality of education. Therefore, in order to ensure quality Vientiane Capital must pay attention to training teachers

so they will be at a standard level. There must be special techniques for training teachers wherever there is a need for them, and in particular we must pay attention to their standard of living in order to ensure protection for currently employed teachers and also to create conditions for normal living arrangements so that they will work well and see a bright future in the teaching profession.

All that has been mentioned above are to make education in Vientiane Capital grow and expand so that it will effectively serve the political duty of the party and the government, and to make it a task that truly is one step ahead of other tasks.

9884/9190

CSO: 4206/52

LAOS

TRADE MINISTRY OFFICER DISCUSSES NEW ENTERPRISE REGULATIONS

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 28 Dec 85 p 2

[Chief of the Board of Directors of the Ministry of Trade's Central Food Grains and Foods Corporation Comrade Sing Meksouvan on the Struggle To Run a Profitable Business; date and place not specified]

[Text] Plenum No 67/[PSL] of the Council of Ministers enacted on 19 November 1985 announcing temporary enterprise regulations was officially disseminated by the Trade Ministry on 20 December 1985.

The temporary enterprise regulations are significant because they are a way of learning how to carry out business extensively and without limit and of gradually turning from administering subsidiary businesses to a true socialist machinery in which there is economic planning by which income pays for expenses and in which there will be a steady increase in the national budget.

Although these regulations have not yet been applied to the actual task, much of what they contain is clearer than in the past. For example, Article 3 clearly states the rights of enterprises by which we become our own masters of business enterprises. The temporary regulations on state enterprises adopted by the higher echelons are suitable and consistent with our level of domestic economic development, and they demand that our companies exercise a high level of responsibility in our own areas and that we should struggle to make a profit in order to broaden production and to raise steadily the standard of living of our cadres and workers.

Enterprise management in the past was characterized by administering subsidiary businesses. They have not yet completely become enterprises. The actual outcome has not yet been clearly divided up and put into different treasuries. The new regulations are more advanced. For example, there is self-mastery in the financial area, in terms of planning expenditures, and for various types of enterprise treasuries according to the system and policies set by the government. In the future our company will continue to improve its organization and the way the work is done so that business will be done properly, and it will continue to purchase supplies according to the economic plan and to guarantee the three benefits as a lever to press forward in the task on a normal basis, to speed it up,

to save and to resist luxury, to spend our capital efficiently and reduce expenses, to be consistent with the economy, and to sign agreements with economic organizations on the condition that everyone benefits. Our boards of directors will work together with mass organizations, for example, with the trade unions, to train our people in the company to do a good job together in protecting the property assigned by the higher echelons.

9884/9190

CSO: 4206/56

LAOS

SRV ARMY-AIDED FACTORY PRODUCTION CAPACITY DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 30 Dec 85 p 3

[Article: "First Son of Lao Industry"]

[Excerpts] The Laos-Vietnam Friendship Factory was set up on 1 May 1981 with cooperation in construction and planning by Vietnamese cadres and national defense workers from, for example, the General Technical Department of the Vietnamese People's Army. Since the day it began, the "Laos-Vietnam Friendship Factory" has produced many materials and much equipment for the public.

During the past 5 short years, under the close guidance and leadership of the Defense Ministry and also the General Technical Department of the Lao People's Army plus the leadership of the party chapter in the factory, and in the struggle to turn over a new leaf and to go through difficulties with bravery by the cadres and workers in the factory, and especially with the untiring assistance of the Vietnamese cadres, workers, and experts, the factory has thus grown rapidly and strongly in terms of quality and quantity.

In the beginning the factory only repaired cars and produced hoes, shovels, and kitchen items. After a while it was able to produce the "Friendship" brand bicycle.

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of our party, the factory has succeeded in installing a 0.5-ton electric forge by itself. It was honored to welcome Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane, general secretary of the LPRP Central Executive Committee, who visited the factory and confirmed that the "Laos-Vietnamese Friendship Factory is the first offspring of the Lao industrial base."

On the 10th anniversary of our National Day the factory opened an emulation campaign and scored a new victory in installing the first pot-molding machine.

The Laos-Vietnam Friendship Factory is now able to produce the necessary equipment for some domestic economic and cultural production sections according to need: bicycles, soft drink machinery, alcohol and beer

machinery, modern rice mill-machinery, rice-threshing machines, boat propellers, steel nails, water pumps, cooking pots, shovels, bicycle spare parts, automobile spare parts, sugar cane presses, sugar boiling pots, small rice mills, and a number of other things.

Another thing we should be proud of is the manufacture of products to serve the public made of scrap metal which previously had no value and was discarded. Now, after the Laos-Vietnamese Friendship Factory installed the electric forge, scrap metal that was once worthless has now been brought into the factory and has been made into valuable products.

9884/9190

CSO: 4206/56

14 March 1986

LAOS

EXPORT-IMPORT CHIEF ON NEW ENTERPRISE REGULATIONS

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 30 Dec 85 p 2

[Chief of the Lao Export-import Company, Trade Ministry Comrade Chanseng Phimmavong's Views on the Decision To Implement Enterprise Regulations To Become Reality]

[Excerpt] Since June 1985, and particularly since the nationwide trade and banking conference was opened on 17 September 1985, the Lao Export-import Company has been changing over to the new machinery. However, if we examine the situation with this regulation, we still see many things that are not yet consistent and that must be improved, for example, the carrying out of the enterprise's rights and duties, the workers' right of ownership strongly manifested in attitudes of subsidized, feudal business management, and the old capitalist ideology and trade system that still lingers on. The organizing machinery is gigantic but not very efficient. The sense of responsibility for self-mastery is not yet high. There has not yet been appropriate cooperation for the three benefits. Insufficient attention has been given to the management of labor, salaries, remuneration, and social welfare. The agreement signed to purchase goods with localities has not yet been strictly enforced. Moreover, the localities have not yet found all the sources for strategic export goods. The circulation of exports and imports is slow in making a profit.

In order to bring the regulations on state enterprises by the Council of Ministers into force in the immediate future, our Lao Export-import Company will organize the dissemination and study of this regulation for the cadres and government employees throughout the company and help them see their past strengths and weaknesses and be creative in adopting ways to solve problems in the future using the company's special regulations which will be set consistent with the new regulations. They will improve the organizational machinery, reassigning cadres properly and very efficiently. They will clearly state the roles, rights, duties, and also the benefits of the working people and at the same time improve, promote, and strengthen the roles of the mass organizations--the youth unions, the Lao women's associations, and the trade unions. They will set up different councils in the company based on this regulation and will use these organizations to mobilize business effectively. First of all, however, they must improve and increase the supervisory techniques of the

party chapter in the company. The party member cadres must be outstanding models in carrying out all tasks in the new phase, which is to wipe out resolutely subsidized feudal business management, turn civilized, economically accountable trade, change the direction of business from West to East, and relying exclusively on socialism by taking the trade cycle out of the capitalist market orbit.

9884/9190

CSO: 4206/56

14 March 1986

LAOS

LUANG PRABANG ECONOMIC PLANNING, INVESTMENT, CONSTRUCTION

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 18 Jan 86 p 2

[Article by Somlit Sitsakda: "Achievements in Base Construction in Luang Prabang in the Past 10-year Period"]

[Excerpts] Over the past 10 years, construction of the material and technical base has played an important role in primary socialist construction. Although it has just been organized so that the material and technical base is still young, the technical knowledge and ability of the workers are not yet high. The correct and brilliant leadership of the party and the close guidance of the provincial party committee throughout the past 10 years has led to all-around progress in the building of the technical base in Luang Prabang. From 1977 to 1984 the province invested a total of 168.24 million kip in the construction; 65 projects were completed, of which 44 were for national economic sections valued at 150.52 million kip and 21 for cultural sections valued at 17.83 million kip. In particular, the province invested 102 million kip for the construction and expansion of irrigation ditches, which are primary duties for the all-around expansion of agricultural production in the past 10 years. This is 60 percent of the total investment for construction in the province. The province also invested in four construction projects in cultivation, animal husbandry, and veterinary work, and it invested in repairing factories. There were eight projects for forest surveying and allocation, and there are many road construction projects in which four projects will involve 177 km of newly built roads and eight projects for repairing stores, warehouses, and restaurants.

In material and technical supply over the past 10 years, the province has supplied production sections the following materials: 700 tons of fuel oil per year, 200 tons of cement per year, 15 tons of steel rods per year, and construction and transport vehicles. A great number of repairs were made.

9884/9190

CSO: 4206/60

LAOS

BRIEFS

BOLIKHAMSAI RICE HARVEST, COOPERATIVES--In 1985, rice production in Bolikhamsai Province was 29,330 tons; the total ricefield area was 12,120 hectares, and the average production capacity was 2.4 tons per hectare. There were almost 10,000 hectares of highland cultivation, which yielded 15,600 tons with a capacity of 1.5 tons per hectare. There are now 65 agricultural co-op units throughout the province and 6,141 families on over 1,700 hectares, with a production capacity of 2.5 tons per hectare. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 20 Jan 85 pp 1, 3] 9884/9190

BOLIKHAMSAI BANK DEPOSITS--In 1985 the masses in Bolikhamsai Province deposited over 837,000 kip in the bank, including over 177,000 kip from the savings lottery. There was also news that since the end of last year the people in Kangsen Canton, Pek District, Xieng Khouang Province, had deposited over 76,000 kip in the bank. The savings deposits of our cadres, workers, military and police personnel, and the people in 1985 were substantial and very widely distributed throughout the nation. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 20 Jan 85 p 1] 9884/9190

KHAMMOUAN YOUTH UNION MEMBERSHIP--In 1985 Khammouan Province gained over 1,900 additional LPR youth union members including over 800 women. There are now over 7,900 youth union members in the province, with over 2,700 women. There are over 51,000 youths in the province. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 20 Jan 85 p 1] 9884/9190

LUANG PRABANG ROAD REPAIR--Since early November the cadres and workers of the Road and Bridge Construction Company of Luang Prabang Province have repaired various broken-down roads as follows. They succeeded in repairing 118 km of Route 13 north from Luang Prabang to Pak Mong in the district and the province before the end of the plan. In repairing this road their primary task was to sweep the road surface, push the fallen dirt off the road, and then fill in the potholes and pack them down to make them level. They also cleared brush at the side of the road, made repairs, etc. There was also news that the workers in this company continued to be successful in repairing 104 km out of the 134 km of Route 13 from Luang Prabang to Sala Phoukhoun. These repairs are expected to be completed soon. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 31 Dec 85 p 1] 9884/9190

LPRYU GROWTH IN DISTRICT--In order to strengthen both qualitatively and quantitatively the youth union in its own district, in 1985 the Youth Union Executive Committee in Sikottabong District, Vientiane Capital, propagandized and mobilized youth union members throughout the district to absorb deeply the duty and role of the youth union in the new period and to understand that the youth union is the true right hand of the party. After the period of mobilization the Sikottabong District Youth Union gained a total of 558 new members. Now there is a total of 2,663 LPRYU members throughout Sikottabong District. They are divided into 44 units in different base levels. [Excerpt] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 28 Dec 85 p 1] 9884/9190

MONG DISTRICT RESETTLEMENT, SECURITY--At the end of October the party committee and the district administrative committee in Saisomboun District, Vientiane Province, led the military and police division cadres and government employees from the district office along with a total of 36,000 laborers to repair 56 km of damaged roads, thus making the roads within the district able to transport goods for production and for improving the living standard for the people of ethnic groups throughout the mountainous area in the dry season. There was also news that in order to maintain peace, happiness, and order in their own territory the regional forces along with the district administrative committee in Saisomboun District organized themselves and successfully mobilized the mountain people in the hard-to-reach and scattered areas to come down and resettle on the plains and to engage in settled and permanent production as planned. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 28 Dec 85 p 1] 9884/9190

CSO: 4206/56

NEW CALEDONIA

INDEPENDENCE SEEKERS REMAIN AT ODDS

Paris LE MONDE 21 Nov 85 p 8

[Article by Frederic Filloux, foreign correspondent]

[Text] Noumea--Behind the FLNKS superficial unity, conflicts remain. Despite the unanimous statements made by independence leaders after the movement's fourth congress which ended Monday, November 18, several points reveal the extent of the political differences troubling the coalition.

In an exceptional move, the press was barred from this congress, which was held behind closed doors in the Oundjo tribe, on the west coast of Grande Terre where 1,500 to 2,000 militants gathered to take stock of the past year and draw up an outline for regional construction.

One week before the congress, the principal member of the movement, the Caledonian Union [CU], promised during its own congress that it would regain a degree of control of FLNKS consistent with its key role in the independence movement (le Monde, November 13). Today, it must be admitted that this recovery of political power did not materialize. "We had to make concessions on a number of points" a CU leader admits in private. In a concession that will have an important effect on its future plans, the Caledonian Union abandoned an attempt to impose a proportional relationship between the number of militants in each of the six member groups (Footnote 1) (FLNKS member groups, in order of importance, are: the Caledonian Union, the KALIPA (Kanak Liberation Party), the MPU (Melanesian Progressive Union), the UKLF (United Kanak Liberation FRONT), the LUEKW (Labor Union of Exploited Kanak Workers) and the KSP (Kanak Socialist Party)) and their representation within the political bureau, the movement's ruling body.

The movement is therefore left with equal representation of each group: the CU, with its 11,500 militants, has no more power than the Kanaky Socialist Party (KSP), which has no more than a few dozen. This is a far cry from the mathematical visions of Jean-Marie Tjibaou, who hoped to learn the exact size of each of the pressure groups that make up FLNKS. "The number of our militants is nobody's business, especially not journalists", Norbert Caffa, leader of the KSP fulminates; leaders of the other minority groups agree . . .

It has been suggested by the Caledonian Union that certain motions that came out of the fourth FLNKS congress are inapplicable. Organizing a regional referendum of the Kanak people or financing FLNKS by automatically deducting 20 percent from the salary of each militant are two examples. "These would be serious mistakes", comments a CU staffer, who readily admits that his party has allowed the lesser factions to cling to the illusion of their importance. "It was a little early to regain control, that will come later", we are promised.

"Later" means the FLNKS convention scheduled for the beginning of next year. One of the Caledonian Union's objectives will be the participation FLNKS in the March, 1986 legislative elections, which the other parties favor boycotting. The CU will also attempt to establish a dominant position once and for all.

9825

CSO: 4219/13

THAILAND

POLITICIANS, COMMENTATORS REACT TO POSSIBLE ATHIT EXTENSION

Interior Minister, Deputy Defense Minister

Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 5 Feb 86 pp 1, 20

[Excerpt] Gen Sitthi Chirarot, the minister of interior, was interviewed at the Ministry of Interior on the morning of 4 February about the rumors that another 1-year extension will be granted to Gen Athit Kamlangek, the supreme commander and RTA CINC. Gen Sitthi said that this is not a tradition. He does not see any reason to grant an extension. There is no provision for this in the constitution. There is no reason for this. People are just thinking about this and making assumptions. As for soldiers establishing a political party, he does not agree with that either. He already has too much to do. After he retires, he wants to rest. Younger people with capabilities can take over. The reporter also asked about the reports that parliament's term will be extended. Gen Sitthi said that he wants the election to be held on schedule. There should be a parliamentary election every 4 years.

Air Chief Marshal Phaniang Kantarat, the deputy minister of defense, was interviewed late in the morning on 4 February at the Government House. He was asked if it was true that a recommendation to grant an extension to Gen Athit had been submitted to the Defense Council this week. Air Chief Marshal Phaniang replied that he couldn't talk about that. The reporter asked whether the Ministry of Defense retirement list has been completed. The deputy minister of defense said that normally, the retirement list is completed in April. However, the names of the Ministry of Defense officials who are retiring were sent to the Ministry of Finance last year. The Ministry of Finance must be informed 1 year in advance so that it has time to prepare the budget.

The reporter asked him his views on granting an extension to Gen Athit. Air Chief Marshal Phaniang said that that is up to the prime minister. The reporter asked, "customarily, the extension has to be granted before the person retires, isn't that right?" The deputy defense minister replied, "that's correct." The reporter asked whether it was necessary to grant an extension to Gen Athit. Air Chief Marshal Phaniang said that he did not want to answer that question.

Columnist Favors Extension

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 5 Feb 86 p 5

[Fact and Fancy column by an "Old Soldier": "Granting an Extension to Soldiers and Extending Parliament's Term, Nothing Hidden"]

[Excerpt] There are now rumors that parliament's term will be extended. But actually, it is more likely that parliament will be dissolved. This is just a rumor. There is no truth to this whatsoever. Another of the many rumors is that Gen Athit Kamlangek, the supreme commander and RTA CINC, will be granted an extension. But this cannot be dismissed as a simple rumor. While this has not been officially approved, there are strong grounds for thinking that it will be. That is, it seems likely that he will be granted an extension.

Granting an extension to officials who have reached the age of retirement is really just a matter of extending their term of office past the age of retirement. The actual process is much easier than extending the term of MPs. There is nothing strange about granting an extension to Gen Athit Kamlangek. He has already been granted one extension. That is, he was due to retire on 30 September 1985 but was granted a 1-year extension to 30 September 1986. There is still a lot of time left before that.

As for why people are now talking about the matter of Gen Athit being granted another extension, I think that people are really talking about what happened last year. Last year, prior to 30 September 1985, the date that Gen Athit was due to retire, senior military officers asked Gen Prem Tinsulanon, the prime minister and minister of defense, who is Gen Athit's superior, to grant Gen Athit a 2-year extension as RTA CINC and supreme commander.

There were several important reasons for making that request (in 1985), and those reasons were based on the actual situation (at that time). When this matter was submitted to Gen Prem, Gen Prem considered the matter carefully based on the army regulations and laws and on the military and political situation. After careful deliberation, Gen Prem granted an extension to Gen Athit. But according to the law, extensions can be granted for only 1 year at a time. The law does not, however, prohibit a person from being granted another extension. The law states that a person can be granted five 1-year extensions. That is, the official can be granted extensions until he reaches the age of 65.

Gen Athit Kamlangek has been granted only one extension, and this year (1986) he will be only 61 years old. Looking at his physical condition and general appearance, Gen Athit does not look old. He is much more vigorous than many of his contemporaries. Thus, his age poses no obstacle to granting him another extension (1 year according to the law).

However, the number of military positions is limited, and these are important (military) positions. Gen Athit holds two important military positions, and many officers below him are waiting to move up. If an extension is granted to

someone, those below him will have to wait another year. This is the important point. This is the main reason for all the criticism. And when one person holds two important positions, this generates even more talk.

As for granting an extension to officials who hold two positions, couldn't an extension be granted for just one of the positions? Gen Athit, for example, serves as both the RTA CINC and the supreme commander. If Gen Athit is granted another extension, does he have to be granted an extension for both positions? Couldn't he be granted an extension for just one of the positions? That is probably not possible. Thus, if Gen Athit is granted another extension, it means that he will continue to hold both these positions.

As for the reports that are now being circulated about granting an extension to Gen Athit, it should be understood that these are not rumors. Rather, this is a matter of reviewing the request made by senior officers last year, who asked that Gen Athit be granted a 2-year extension. But because the law permits only 1-year extensions, the matter must be reviewed so that things are done in accord with the law. There is nothing hidden.

Postcard Campaign Denied

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 7 Feb 86 pp 1, 20

[Excerpt] In a recent interview, Gen Prem Tinsulanon, the prime minister and minister of defense, was asked about the matter of granting an extension to Gen Athit Kamlangek, the supreme commander and RTA CINC. Gen Prem said that the military has not yet submitted the matter to him. A military news source has revealed that certain people are sending postcards to soldiers in all units in both Bangkok and the provinces in order to obtain their views on this matter. They have been asked to send their responses to Col Phiraphong Sanphakphisut, the commander of the 1st King's Guard Engineers Battalion.

These postcards state: "Dear sir, Gen Athit Kamlangek has served the country faithfully without thought of personal gain. He has sacrificed his personal comfort and traveled abroad in order to support his subordinates. And he has visited remote border areas. It is very difficult to find such a brave and dedicated commander. He has supported the rapid advancement of talented officers in order to have them serve as an example to others. Thus, the army is united, morale is high and there is strong solidarity. People are not vying for profits as was the case before. If he has to give up his positions, there is no other officer who can administer things as well as he can. And without such a skillful and knowledgeable leader as Gen Athit, the army might split apart. Thus, granting him another 1-year extension must be supported."

At the end of the postcard, it asks, "Do you favor granting an extension to Gen Athit Kamlangek?" Four responses are provided: a. favor very strongly, b. favor strongly, c. favor, d. other. The last line is reserved for the signature of the respondent.

The front of the card is addressed to Col "Phiraaphong" Sapphakphisut, commander, 1st King's Guard Engineers Battalion, Suan Anan, Bangkok.

Because the postcard are addressed to Col Phiraphong Sapphakphisut, the commander of the 1st King's Guard Engineers Battalion, reporters went and asked him about this. Col Phiraphong answered very gravely and curtly that "I am not involved in this. I don't know who sent the postcards. The RTA CINC has ordered me not to get involved in this matter. I am his subordinate and must obey his order."

The commander of the 1st King's Guard Engineers Battalion also said that he had received several of these postcards. He insisted that he was not the one who had addressed the cards. If he had been the one, he would not have misspelled his name. And he would not have written the note like that. What is important is that there was no reason for him to do this. This matter is up to the minister of defense.

A report from a military news source stated that Gen Athit Kamlangek is on an official trip to Hawaii. Yesterday, he arrived in Japan. When he was informed about this postcard campaign, he became very upset and ordered people to find out who is behind this.

That same day, Col Narong Kittikhachon, a Thai Nation Party MP from Ayuthaya, talked with reporters at parliament. He said that he is against granting another extension to Gen Athit because Gen Athit has been in government service long enough. He should retire and find another way to serve the country. Being a soldier is not the only way to serve the country. He could form a group or association to serve the country, or he could run for election. With his qualifications, he could become a minister and serve the country that way.

Col Narong said that granting him another extension is tantamount to stifling the advancement of subordinate officers. There are many talented people, and they will not have a chance to advance. If he is granted another extension, this could continue until he has been granted five extensions. Those who are waiting their turn to be promoted will have retired by that time. There is no basis for the claim that the army lacks strong leaders and that he must be granted an extension because of the border, or security, situation. If that is true, it means that the army lacks talented people.

Cartoon Lampoons Extension

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 6 Feb 86 p 3

[Cartoon]



More Opposition Noted in Parliament

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 7 Feb 86 pp 1, 16

[Excerpt] Mr Khlaeo Norapoti, an MP from Khon Kaen and the deputy leader of the Social Democrat Party, talked with a BAN MUANG reporter at parliament about people exerting pressure to grant an extension to the supreme commander and RTA CINC. He said that actually, Gen Athit has already been granted one extension. He is against granting him another extension because that would block the promotions of other officers. Senior officers would not have a chance to rise to the top positions before they retire.

Mr Khlaeo said that he is sure that there are capable officers in the army who are qualified to take over from Gen Athit. As for those who are exerting pressure to have an extension granted, he does not think that Gen Athit approves of what they are doing. He would probably like to step down and let someone else take his place. He has good intentions toward the army. Thus, Mr Khlaeo would like to ask those who are calling for an extension to show some consideration for Gen Athit. They should not intrude or try to curry favor.

The MP from Khon Kaen said that at present, most people and soldiers have great confidence in the abilities of Gen Athit. He would like to warn him that he could be harmed by people close to him. Thus, he should retire from government service, a desire that Gen Athit himself once expressed. Actually, an extension must be approved by Gen Prem Tinsulanon, the minister of defense. Mr Khlaeo does not think that Gen Athit wants to make things difficult for his superior. Those close to him should not stir up trouble. If Gen Athit would like to serve the nation, he should form a political party and run for MP in order to strength the democratic system. He would receive much support from those who have confidence in him.

The same day, Mr Niyom Worapanya, an MP from Lopburi and an advisor to the Thai Nation Party, talked with a BAN MUANG reporter at parliament about granting an extension to Gen Athit. He said that the Retirement Act should be revised, with the retirement age raised from 60 to 65. It would no longer be necessary to grant 1-year extensions. The efficiency and the physical and mental health of those requesting an extension should be tested. If they have made serious mistakes while performing their duties and if they are dishonest and insincere toward the nation and the people and their superiors agree, they should be dismissed from the service. This would solve the problem.

Phichit Called Active in Extension Move

Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai 13 Feb 86 pp 13, 14

[Unattributed report: "The Army Following Gen Athit's Denial That He Will Enter Politics"]

[Excerpt] Around the beginning of last year, army officers launched a campaign to secure a 2-year extension for Gen Athit Kamlangek. They said that this was necessary for security reasons. Specifically, they cited the situation along the Thai-Cambodian border. Lt Gen Phichit Kunlawanit, the 1st Army Region

commander, was the activist in getting commanders to sign a petition for submission to Gen Prem Tinsulanon, the prime minister and minister of defense. But because of legal restrictions, only a 1-year extension could be granted.

"If he had not been assured of being granted another extension, Gen Athit would not have told reporters that he will not enter politics. When a person holds such important military positions, it is difficult to give them up. Granting another extension should not be a problem. An agreement was reached on this last year," said a senior officer to LAK THAI at the end of January.

Extensions Start with Chuthai

The same senior officer discussed the steps that must be followed in requesting another 1-year extension for Gen Athit. He said that this year, the entire process must be gone through once again. This starts with Gen Chuthai Saengthawip, the deputy RTA CINC, who, in his capacity as a senior army officer, must submit the request to Gen Banchop Bunnak, the chief of staff officers. Following that, Gen Banchop must submit the request to Gen Prem, the prime minister, in his capacity as minister of defense. It is up to Gen Prem to approve this. Thus, a petition signed by senior officers and field commanders who support this will be submitted to Gen Prem.

An officer close to Gen Athit told LAK THAI that an extension will probably be granted automatically when the time comes unless something major occurs. In that case, this might be a problem. This is another year in which several full army generals will retire. Thus, there will be a shortage of officers of that rank.

More Factors Than Last Year

"I think that the various factors in the army make it essential to grant an extension to Gen Athit. There are more reasons this year than last year. It would be very difficult to reverse this," said the officer.

There are now 174 generals in the army. There are 5 full generals, 27 lieutenant generals and 142 major generals.

Prem, Phichit Views Noted

Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai 9 Feb 86 pp 4, 5

[Unattributed report: "A Second Extension, an Old Matter That Has Come Up Again"]

[Excerpt] A news source stated that Gen Chuthai Saengthawip, the deputy RTA CINC, has told Gen Prem Tinsulanon, the prime minister and minister of defense, that another extension should be granted to Gen Athit, the supreme commander and RTA CINC. The news source also said that Air Chief Marshal Praphan Thupatemi, the RTAF CINC, agrees with this recommendation. Admiral

Nipphon Sirithon, the RTN CINC, has not given an opinion. The news report stated that Gen Prem listened but acted upset by this. Gen Athit is on a trip to Hawaii. However, another news source stated that this matter was submitted to Gen Prem in writing at a Defense Council meeting. The matter was on the agenda, but it was not discussed at the meeting.

The matter of granting an extension to the RTA CINC has become a problem once again. Last time, it was proposed that he be granted a 2-year extension, but the law allows only 1-year extensions. The extension granted to Gen Athit will expire on 31 August this year.

There had been rumors about an extension prior to this. Those supporting an extension have been rather restrained while those who disapprove of this have been much more outspoken. It is worth noting that the activist in last year's movement to secure an extension for Gen Athit, that is, Lt Gen Phichit Kunlawanit, the 1st Army Region commander, has not taken any action this year. A person close to Lt Gen Phichit said that "Lt Gen Phichit has told his subordinates that the next RTA CINC will be Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, the army chief of staff."

Last year, Lt Gen Phichit constantly said that Gen Athit should be granted an extension because "from the standpoint of the common soldier, when the enemy is at the door, you don't have to use much military knowledge. All you have to know is that you don't change commander at such a time. Because when you change commanders, things have to be reviewed, and this takes time...." But this year he has not campaigned for an extension. Thus, there is some question about whether Lt Gen Phichit still insists on Gen Athit being granted another extension based on the term proposed last year.

Another news source said that Gen Prem is definitely opposed to granting another extension to Gen Athit. Gen Prem was granted only one extension. The law states:

"When a government official reaches the age of 60, he must retire at the end of that fiscal year. However, if granting an extension is necessary in order to maintain security, or if this will benefit education or national development or if this concerns a civilian official in the service of the king or the chief or deputy aide-de-camp to the king, the cabinet may grant 1-year extensions until that person turns 65." "The prime minister opposes granting another extension. Last time, he spoke about why that was necessary. But this time he is opposed to this. I don't know whether this will be necessary or not. He seems very tense."

A news report stated that the Democrat Party has discussed this matter and asked Mr Phichai Rattakun, the party leader and deputy prime minister, to inform Gen Prem that the party is opposed to granting another extension to Gen Athit.

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THAILAND

MPS DIFFER ON AMNESTY FOR COUP PLOTTERS

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 22 Jan 86 pp 1, 12

[Unattributed report: "Piyanat Strongly Opposes Granting Amnesty to 9 September Rebels"]

[Text] At parliament on the afternoon of 21 January, Mr Piyanat Watraphon, an MP from Sisaket Province and the deputy speaker of the House, talked with reporters about the rumors that amnesty will be granted to the 9 September rebels because of fears that the trial will lead to a political crisis. He said that as a politician and lawyer, he does not think that there will be any problems if the trial is conducted fairly and impartially.

Mr Piyanat said that he is upset by the fact that people have suggested settling the matter by granting amnesty. That is tantamount to admitting that the state has power in name but not in fact and that it cannot control the situation and must bow to pressures to let the offenders go unpunished.

Mr Piyanat said that he doesn't understand why we have to pardon those who tried to seize power using force. If they had succeeded, they would have created a dictatorship in the country. But they failed and so why should the democratic faction allow them to go unpunished? He feels that the best way is to allow things to proceed based on the system. If people are to be pardoned, we should wait until a more auspicious time, such as the king's 60th birthday. Also, if amnesty is granted, it must be granted to all the defendants and not just certain defendants.

At the same time, Mr Khlaeo Norapoti, an MP from Khon Kaen and the deputy leader of the Social Democrat Party, said that he is sure that amnesty will be granted. It's just a matter of whether this will be done before or after a verdict is rendered. The defendants should remain calm. The rebellion stemmed from a difference of opinion and so amnesty should be granted. Also, they have been punished enough already. He has faced this many times. If a motion to grant amnesty is made in parliament, he will vote for it immediately.

Mr Trairong Suwannakhiri, the government spokesman, denied the report that certain ministers are discussing granting amnesty to the 9 September rebels in order to reduce the political tension. He said that there is no truth to that whatsoever. The government has considered granting amnesty.

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EDITORIAL: OKAY TO AMNESTY COUP PLOTTERS AFTER TRIAL

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 22 Jan 86 p 3

[Editorial: "Amnesty for the 9 September Rebels?"]

[Text] During the past several days, certain newspapers have printed stories saying that a senior minister, whose name was not revealed, has said that one way to avoid a new political conflict in Thailand is to grant amnesty to all the 9 September rebels. This would forestall events that could topple the government of Gen Prem Tinsulanon.

In an interview, this unnamed minister said that if this trial continues, it could lead to the involvement of an "important person" who was supposedly behind this rebellion and who met with failure.

Regardless of who this "unnamed minister" is, the publication of such reports is really meant to test the reaction of people. The people who stand to benefit from this are the defendants now on trial on charges of staging a rebellion.

We are opposed to solving the problem by granting amnesty. Like others who have expressed opposition to granting amnesty, we do not feel that granting amnesty will stop people from thinking about staging a coup to seize power, which has become a very common occurrence. But coups should be a thing of the past. The people are much better informed today. If people apply pressure illegally and use their great influence to force the government to grant amnesty, people will criticize the government for its inability to control the situation. If the government has to yield power to the other faction and it succeeds in gaining power, it will definitely implement a dictatorship.

The right way to deal with the violators is to continue to allow the judiciary to handle the case. The guilt or innocence of the defendants can be established openly and fairly in court. Granting amnesty to people before a verdict is reached will not solve the problems. That is just hiding the problems. That will cause people to fear the influences, and that should not happen in a democracy.

Amnesty can be granted, but this must be done at the right time and in accord with the regulations. In particular, amnesty must be granted to people fairly and impartially and not because a certain group is involved. That has been done in the past and has just created new problems.

THAILAND

COLUMNIST SEES DROP IN RESPECT FOR ROYAL FAMILY

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 13 Jan 86 p 7

[Article by Charoen C. Damrong: "Where Should the King's Picture Be Kept?"]

[Text] The publishing industry has made great advances. Today, the publishing houses can print beautiful pictures that are the equal of those printed abroad. At New Year's time each year, beautiful calendars are printed showing natural scenes, important sites, flowers, works of art and beautiful girls in various poses, from the polite to the obscene. And there are many pictures of the royal family.

Ten years ago, it was very difficult to find large color pictures of the royal family. Poor villagers and people living in remote areas did not have a chance to have such pictures to show respect to the royal family. The government had to print large pictures and distribute them to the villagers when the opportunity arose.

But now, the Thai and even the Thai hill tribesmen who have never seen their king can easily obtain such pictures. Merchants, companies and stores like to distribute calendars showing pictures of the royal family. But now that it is so easy to obtain such pictures, I feel that certain problems have arisen.

Because people can obtain pictures of the royal family so easily, some families have more than one picture. In the past, the people cherished these pictures and took good care of them. This is not the case anymore. Some people keep these calendars in various places with no thought of where such pictures should be kept. They do not give any thought to the importance of these pictures, which are symbols of the king. Some hang the calendars beneath their own pictures or beneath pictures of family members. Some keep the calendars on the floor so that they can get at them easily to mark off the days or months. Some people keep them in the bathroom or throw them here and there because they are so easy to obtain.

At first glance, this seems to be a minor matter. But if you think about this more deeply, you will realize that the king is the head of the Thai nation. Along with nation and religion, the monarchy is an important institution that must be respected and jealously guarded and protected. The king is a virtuous and kind person who shows the same concern for the people as does a father for

his children. He has great prestige. He is the center of loyalty for the people of the country. He is the glory of the Kingdom of Thailand.

We would not hang pictures of our parents in inappropriate places. And so why do people hang pictures of the king, who has great importance to the people of the country, in such inappropriate places? I would like the Thai people and government officials to think about what should be done about this. I don't want to hear foreigners say that the "Thai don't know the value of a precious jewel."

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THAILAND

EDITORIAL ASKS GOVERNMENT TO STIFFEN JAPAN TRADE STANCE

Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 30 Jan 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Thai-Japanese Negotiations, Have To Use a 'Hard Stick' in Bargaining"]

[Text] The sixth meeting of the Joint Thai-Japanese Economics and Trade Committee was convened in an atmosphere of hope that it would be possible to make progress in solving the problems and overcoming the obstacles in Thai-Japanese economic and trade relations.

Before the Japanese bargaining team flew to Bangkok, Mr Sintaro Abe, the Japanese minister of foreign affairs, held a long meeting with leaders of the country's important business institutions and reminded them of ASEAN's political and economic importance to Japan. Mr Abe summarized Japanese-ASEAN relations by saying that "relations have not expanded as they should have." He said that relations have now reached a critical "turning point" for Japan. If Japan cannot bring about development in this region, it will not be able to maintain peace and protect the fruits of its security and prosperity as a member of the Asian-Pacific region.

This attitude expressed by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the first real indication of Japan's concern about the problem of economic cooperation with ASEAN following the reaction against the "Japanese economic animal," a reaction that was widespread throughout the region.

This situation is a constructive factor for the Joint Thai-Japanese Economic and Trade Committee meeting. But even so, Thailand and Japan hold different views about the lack of tranquility in economic and trade relations. Japan feels that this is a strategic problem that can be solved given enough time. But Thailand feels that this is an urgent problem that requires immediate attention.

Looking at past Japanese actions, Japan has tended to yield to the demands of the United States and the EEC, which bargain with a "hard stick." Japan has considered Thailand and ASEAN to be less important. There is little chance that the Japanese foreign ministry's policy line will bring about any fundamental change.

Thailand is in a secondary position, and there is no chance of our improving our position if we continue to restrict ourselves by trying to "cooperate" while at the same time begging for sympathy from a "merchant who is interested only in profits." But if the government, which, because it stipulates the policies, controls the country's economic fate, sees the problems, makes changes and bargains on economic and political matters, there will be greater hope of solving the problems both during these negotiations and in the future.

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THAILAND

EDITORIAL: U.S. RICE POLICY Termed 'Trade War'

Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 3 Feb 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Has the United States Made the Right Decision in Waging a 'Rice War' With Thailand?"]

[Text] On 8 February, a delegation of senior Thai officials will leave for the United States in order to talk with U.S. officials about certain problems that could damage trade relations between the two countries now that the United States has promulgated a new agricultural law, which is known as the Farm Act and which will go into effect in April this year.

The primary aim of this law is to help American farmers get out of debt and support agricultural exports so that the United States can compete with the EEC. Also, because the United States is an important competitor of Thailand in the rice export trade, another objective of this law is to help the United States take rice markets in various parts of the world away from Thailand.

Even though the United States produces less rice than Thailand, producing about 6 million tons a year, it is the second largest exporter in the world. That is, it exports approximately 2 million tons a year. Thailand exports about 4 million tons a year. Today, the United States needs to release rice from its huge stockpile of rice. Because of this, the war between Thai and American rice on world markets will grow very intense next year.

Thus, during the negotiations between the Thai delegation and U.S. officials, special attention must be focused on our standpoint and position. At present, we have an advantage over the United States. We are the largest rice exporter in the world, and we have broader markets. In particular, our production costs are lower and so our prices are lower. Also, the quality of our rice is better. This has been proven over a number of years by the fact that Thailand has been able to expand its markets while the markets of the United States have shrunk.

During the coming negotiations, it is essential that the Thai delegation make the U.S. government realize that trying to seize rice markets from Thailand by supporting exports is tantamount to starting a "trade war" with Thailand. It knows that it has greater economic and financial power than Thailand. The people who will be adversely affected are the poor Thai farmers. And this will affect Thailand's economy and its stability and security. At that point, the good relations that have existed between our two countries for so long will turn sour. The country responsible for that will be our great friend, the United States. And there will be nothing that it can do or say to make amends to the Thai people.

THAILAND

FOREIGN TRADE OFFICIAL DISCUSSES POLICY STRATEGY

Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai 9 Feb 86 pp 54, 55

[Interview with Oranut Otsakanon, the director-general of the Department of Foreign Trade; date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] [Question] Would you describe the nature of the work of the Department of Foreign Trade?

[Answer] The department is involved in technical and practical activities concerning exports and imports. We try to ensure that export-import activities are carried on based on the regulations. And we try to facilitate exports. If problems arise, we try to find out what is causing the problems and then solve the problems. The Department of Foreign Trade can solve short-term problems such as the imposition of an embargo or the use of protectionist measures. Long-term problems are the responsibility of the Department of Business Economics.

[Question] Does the minister tell you which policies to implement?

[Answer] He does not dictate policy. But from what I have observed and the conversations that I have had with him, he wants to do everything possible to facilitate exports and to treat everyone fairly. The public sector should not pose an obstacle to or block exports.

[Question] What is the main policy?

[Answer] An urgent matter is rice. We are doing everything we can to increase rice exports. Everything else is secondary.

[Question] Looking at the general situation, exports are now encountering trade protectionist measures. In such a situation, what should be done to solve the short- and long-term problems?

[Answer] If protectionism grows worse, the first thing we must do is negotiate with the countries that have implemented protectionist measures against us. But if the negotiations fail to achieve results, we will have to see what bargaining power we have and what measures we can implement to counter their measures.

We may also consider becoming a member of the GATT Subsidy Code, which has set standards concerning countries implementing protectionist measures by claiming that they are supporting exports. For example, the United States has implemented protectionist measures for textiles by increasing tariffs. In such cases, they can take action immediately. But if we become a member of the Subsidy Code, they will have to wait while an investigation is conducted to determine whether there have been losses and whether our exports are affecting their industries. In short, if we become a member of the Subsidy Code, it will not be possible to use increased tariffs right away because they will have to wait until an investigation is conducted.

[Question] Will we join the GATT?

[Answer] That is now under discussion. We have to look at the advantages and disadvantages of joining the Subsidy Code. We have to look at what we will lose if we can't export a certain type of good. Thailand is a developing country. Thus, sometimes we have to support our export industry, too.

[Question] Prices of agricultural goods are now very low. In particular, rice prices dropped even more after free trade measures were implemented. How sure are you that the recently implemented measures will achieve results?

[Answer] I am a civil servant. Policies are set by the minister. But I feel that if large numbers of "salesmen" go to sell goods and others come here to purchase goods, domestic prices will rise. But if we have only a few salesmen and other countries send out large numbers of salesmen, we may have trouble selling our goods.

At present, there is a surplus of goods worldwide. Our yields are very large. I think that we must take quick action to step up sales even if prices are not too good. If we can sell more goods, the price, or value, will increase, too.

[Question] Do you think that rice exports will hit the target that has been set?

[Answer] Yields this year are similar to those last year. I think that we will export about 4 million tons.

[Question] There are those who say that there is no free trade system anywhere in the world. What is your view on this?

[Answer] Trade is not always free. It depends on the goods and the situation. We say that we have a free trade system. But there are certain goods that we have to control. We have to control them in order to ensure adequate supplies for domestic consumption if yields are low. For example, at one time we controlled rice. Even though we said that we had a free trade system, we had to put controls on rice in order to ensure adequate supplies for domestic consumption. I agree that there is no such thing as totally free trade. It depends on the situation and the goods.

[Question] Will the controls on upland field crops be lifted?

[Answer] If we produce surplus amounts, I don't see any reason to stockpile them. We must export as much as we can. As for what sales methods are used, that depends on the world market.

[Question] It seems that politics must be used in coordination with trade. Is that right?

[Answer] Today, there is much protectionism. We have to see how much bargaining power we have. If it is normal trade, we may have little bargaining power. Take Japan, for example. They have implemented protectionist measures against us. Japanese exports to Thailand account for only a tiny fraction of their total exports. But we feel that they export huge quantities to Thailand. Normally, we do not have much bargaining power. We have to raise political issues to help. Even with the United States, there must be mutual support. I don't know which is the leader. But politics and trade must support each other. For example, the United States has to rely on us as a market for their cotton. We then export textiles to them. There is mutual support. As for political matters, we are shouldering the burden of caring for the refugees.

[Question] Today, there must be greater coordination between the Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, isn't that right?

[Answer] I think that these two ministries have always coordinated things and cooperated with each other.

[Question] How do you feel about the fact that when the minister was replaced, senior officials were transferred? Some people say that officials in the Ministry of Commerce come and go because of politics.

[Answer] Actually, things should not be like that. Regular officials should be regular officials. But senior bureaucrats who work with political officials may have different ideas and so there may be disagreements. But actually, I don't think that regular officials want any conflicts to arise.

[Question] Would you tell us a little about yourself?

[Answer] I attended lower secondary school at Mater Dei and then transferred to Triamudom School. I earned my bachelor's degree in economics in the United States. After I returned to Thailand, I went to work for the Export Promotion Board, which was subordinate to the Office of the Prime Minister, in 1961. It was later placed under the control of the Ministry of Commerce. The secretary-general was Mr Otsathakosin, the deputy minister of commerce. He appointed me his secretary. In 1972 he was appointed minister of industry. I continued to serve as his secretary. After that, I worked in the Department of Foreign

Trade. I served as the chief of the Export Promotion Division, chief of the Trade Policy Division, deputy director-general of the Department of Foreign Trade and commercial advisor. Finally, I was appointed director-general of the Department of Foreign Trade. I have served in the Ministry of Commerce for 13 years. I have been in the Department of Foreign Trade for 11 years.

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OFFICIAL ON MALAY DUAL NATIONALS, LIBYA TRAINING, ECONOMY

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 13 Jan 86 pp 1, 12

[Unattributed article: "Malaysia Causes Problems, Bandits of Dual Nationality Pose Serious Threat to the South"]

[Text] Mr Prakit Uttamot, the deputy under secretary of the interior for special affairs and the director of the Southern Border Provinces Administrative Center, talked with reporters about the problems that are worrying him in his position as director of the Southern Border Provinces Administrative Center. He said that ever since he took this position 3 months ago, he has been very concerned about the dual nationals who live in Yala, Satun, Pattani, Narathiwat and Songkhla provinces. These people hold both Thai and Malaysian citizenship.

Mr Prakit said that what concerns him is that these people frequently commit crimes in Thailand. Many of them collect protection money. When officials conduct investigations, they encounter problems because of the dual nationality of these people. Because they hold both Thai and Malaysian citizenship, it is very difficult to arrest them and conduct an investigation.

"We have to ask the Malaysian government to cooperate, and it is the Thai-Malaysian Border Committee that has to solve the problems. But so far, it has not done anything," said Mr Prakit.

Besides this, Mr Prakit also expressed concern about the fact that certain Middle Eastern countries are giving educational scholarships to Thai from the southern border provinces. The students are told that Thai are still oppressing the Thai Moslems. The government has frequently had to take representatives from the Middle East to the south and let them talk with Thai Moslems there in order to solve this problem. The reporter asked whether he was referring to Libya. Mr Prakit said "yes."

As for the Chinese communist guerrillas and the bandit terrorists, Mr Prakit said that the situation has improved greatly. Most are just ordinary bandits who do not have any ideals. The main problem is with those who hold dual nationality. Many of these people earn their living as bandits and extortionists. Each person uses several aliases.

The reporter asked about the economic situation in the south. Mr Prakit said that the economic situation in the south, particularly in the border provinces, is not good. Para rubber and palm oil prices are very low. Also, Malaysia is sending palm oil here and cutting prices. Their palm oil is of higher quality than ours. This has hurt the economy. More and more people are turning to crime. We are confronted by the problem of whether to focus on suppressing the bandits or solving the economic problems in order to improve the lives of the people. Actually, the two must go hand in hand.

Mr Prakit said that the Thai Moslems in the southern border provinces are beginning to understand the Thai language, and more and more of them are using the Thai language. In Satun Province, it is no longer necessary to use interpreters at meetings of subdistrict chiefs and village headmen. We want the Thai Moslems to adhere to their own religious beliefs. But at the same time, we want them to understand the Thai way of life, too. Much progress has been made.

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THAILAND

BRIEFS

CHAMOI INVESTIGATION STALLED--Mrs Chamoi Thipso, the former operator of a share fund worth billions of baht, is now on trial on charges of having defrauded people. So far, 23 witnesses have been questioned. There have not been any reports about this case for some time now because the court has forbidden the mass media from revealing the names of the witnesses or publishing articles about their testimony. A report issued by the Department of Public Prosecutions on 5 February stated that there are rumors to the effect that Mrs Chamoi has 200 million baht in cash in her possession and that she plans to use this money to pay back her customers provided that they do not testify against her. Because of this rumor, many customers who have been subpoenaed to testify are now hesitating and do not want to give testimony. This could weaken the prosecution's case. A news source stated that prosecution officials are very upset about this. This is being studied in order to find a way to solve the problem as quickly as possible. On 6 February, the 24th witness gave testimony in Court 7, Criminal Court. [Text] [Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 6 Feb 86 pp 1, 12] 11943

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COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

FOREIGN SUPPORT OF CGDK FORCES, FACTIONALISM DISCUSSED

Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai 5 Feb 86 pp 16-18

[Unattributed report: "The Eastern Front: The Situation Is Changing, a Major War"]

[Excerpt] The 1986 dry-season offensive in Cambodia is slow in developing as compared with previous years. It does not seem that the fighting will be as heavy this year. At the beginning of this week, LAK THAI went to Aranyaprathet and Taphraya to observe things and gather data on the situation along the Cambodian border. From what LAK THAI observed, it seems that Vietnam is following the old Thai proverb of "work slowly, and you will have a fine knife" instead of "make haste when the tide rises" as it did in previous years.

The Burapha Force Is Prepared

Maj Gen Choetchai Thirattanon, the commander of the 9th Infantry Division from Kanchanaburi--which replaced the 2d Infantry Division--and the commander of the Burapha Force, gave his views on the "enemy" whom he is confronting. He said that the Burapha Force constantly receives hard intelligence on the enemy. And that intelligence is very valuable. Because we receive accurate intelligence, we can evaluate the situation accurately and make plans to deal with the situation. "We have only defensive plans; we do not have any offensive plans. We are just trying to defend our sovereignty. This is a rather strange way of waging war because we have to make defensive plans every year. We are not on the defensive. But we will not launch an offensive against anyone. We are just defending our country. Thus, we have made only defensive plans." Maj Gen Choetchai also said that "we are gentlemen who are confronting bandits." He said that the Burapha Force is prepared to handle any problem that may arise no matter how serious it is.

Serious in the South

An operations officer of the Burapha Force said that the situation in the southern area is more serious than in the northern area. That is, the fighting is rather heavy in the area of responsibility of the Chanthaburi-Trat forces. Sometimes we have to use naval guns to support the ground forces, that is, the marines. The fact that naval guns are used to fire on ground targets indicates

that the enemy is active all the way south to the coast. The situation is the same for both the Chanthaburi-Trat forces and the Burapha Force. Vietnamese and PRK forces have laid many mines this year. These are new and powerful mines that are difficult to detect. Also, it is easy to lay these mines. They resemble a small box that is only slightly larger than a rifle magazine. They can be carried quite easily. "The intelligence reports state that all Vietnamese soldiers carry these mines. It can be said that these are personal weapons. Some soldiers are responsible solely for laying these mines. They carry about 30 of these mines with them each time." These mines are made in the Soviet Union. These are the same type that have been used in Afghanistan for 2 years now. But Vietnam began using this type only recently. "In the Chanthaburi-Trat area, the number of SAM-7 missile sites has been increased from four last year to eight this year."

The Problems of the Khmer Liberation Forces

A news source in Aranyaprathet talked with LAK THAI about the Khmer coalition government, which is composed of the Sihanouk, Khmer Serei and Khmer Rouge factions. He said that the Khmer Serei and the Khmer Rouge are waging separate struggles against the Vietnamese/PRK forces. There is no coordination of effort. Their strategy and tactics are different, too. The Khmer Rouge are fighting a guerrilla war. The Khmer Serei are fighting a more "conventional" war. They send forces on long-range patrols around the bases in order to gather intelligence rather than to engage the enemy. The Khmer Rouge, on the other hand, send out few reconnaissance patrols. Rather, they send forces to engage the enemy. They engage the enemy year-round whenever the opportunity presents itself. "Now, another problem has arisen. The Khmer Serei feel that the Khmer Rouge are fighting to seize control of the area, build up their influence and move toward Phnom Penh. It is felt that the Khmer Rouge plan to attack Phnom Penh alone and claim the victory, if a victory is won. There is a conflict over this," said the news source. "Frankly, the Khmer Rouge are sending forces eastward. Their forces are leaving the Phnom Malai and Phnom Makhun mountains. But the Khmer Serei are keeping their forces in the west. When the Vietnamese attack Ampil, they flee into Thailand. When the Vietnamese forces withdraw, they return to Cambodia. Their combat morale is very low. Many of them want to go live in the refugee camps and immigrate to a third country such as the United States or Australia as soon as possible," said the news source frankly.

Differences in Weapons

The Khmer Rouge receive large quantities of weapons and other support from China. China provides the Khmer Serei and the Sihanouk faction with only about one-third the weapons support that it gives to the Khmer Rouge. The Khmer Serei receive some personal weapons from ASEAN countries. Some countries provide military training. It is the Khmer Rouge that have modern weapons such as antitank rockets. The Khmer Serei still use bulky recoilless rifles. The Khmer Serei do not have any artillery. But the Khmer Rouge have artillery at the battalion level. The Khmer Rouge have modern communications equipment. The Khmer Serei would like to have such equipment, too, but no one will give them any. The reason is that the Khmer Serei are like a refugee army. They are not as stable as the Khmer Rouge. However, the Khmer Serei have more civilians

under their control and enjoy greater support among the people. As for the Sihanouk faction, its largest base is at Tatum just across the border from Sisaket Province in Thailand. Its military capabilities are second to those of the Khmer Rouge. Its tactics are superior. Ranked in order, the tactics used by the Sihanouk faction are the best. Second are those of the Khmer Serei. This is because these two factions have many professional soldiers who previously served in the Cambodian armed forces. Most of these capable soldiers are members of the Sihanouk faction. The Khmer Rouge do not have any professional soldiers. They do not have any soldiers from the Lon Nol period. Rather, the Khmer Rouge soldiers are experienced guerrilla fighters.

The Khmer Serei and the Divisions

The Khmer Serei also have internal problems. There is a conflict between Gen Sak Sakhon and Gen Dien Del. Gen Sak Sakhon once held a military position in the Phnom Penh government. At present, he is the commander-in-chief of the Khmer Serei forces. Gen Dien Del rose from the rank of non-commissioned officer. But he has much combat experience. Recently, Gen Dien Del took such strong action that Mr Son Sann called him a "rebel." This split is growing wider. "It has reached the point where the forces of Gen Dien Del wear one collar insignia while those of Gen Sak Sakhon wear a different insignia. Soon, they will probably start flying different flags at their units," said the news source. However, Mr Son Sann still sides with Gen Sak Sakhon, who has greater "outside" recognition. But inside the Khmer Serei forces, the soldiers have great confidence in the military capabilities of Gen Dien Del.

11943

CSO: 4207/170

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

READERS CITE RURAL AREA ILLEGAL ELECTRIC POWER USE

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 2 Jan 86 p 2

['Readers' Letters' column: "Illegal Use of Electricity in the Rural Area"]

[Text] The illegal use of electricity in many rural areas is like the cities. Many agricultural irrigation stations have priority in electric power but the power is not used for the constant pumping of water into the fields but for the night and day operation of mills, considered as "plan three," to produce a profit for the cadres and workers of the station!

At the end of November 1985, we saw five individuals wearing worker clothing presumptuously place an electric wire in the Coc Thanh River in Ha Nam Ninh Province to catch fish, a practice which could easily cause a fatal accident. When the fish floated to the top, they turned off the electricity and rowed out to pick them up. A number of youths in the local area also noisily crowded around to pick up the fish.

Le Dac and Tran Luc
Ha Nam Ninh Province

7300
CSO: 4209/281

14 March 1986

MILITARY AND PUBLIC SECURITY AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

SWEATERS FOR BORDER TROOPS--Since the beginning of the year, the Hanoi Women's Union has conducted a campaign of "women sending 10,000 sweaters" as gifts to the troops safeguarding the frontier of the fatherland. On this occasion, some overseas Vietnamese living in France on visit to their native land have voluntarily contributed cash donations to the campaign. The Hanoi Municipal Women's Union has sent a first batch of more than 4,000 wool sweaters to the border combatants. [Text] [Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Dec 85 p 1] 9213

CROOKS DISRUPT MARKETS--Last Sunday, the forces participating in market control and the public security forces inspected a number of "gathering places" where smugglers regularly carry on operations, which disrupt the markets. The control unit has prosecuted 406 cases, punished minor offenders and classified a number of bad targets in order to concentrate on reforming the laborers or notifying the subwards, agencies and units to have them prosecute the offenders using administrative measures. Many smugglers used to be laborers but were too lazy to work. A number specialize in smuggling contraband goods. Some always seem to have tens of thousands of dong on hand in order to make quick purchases from people. These people usually purchase goods in order to speculate. When there are shortages of goods at the markets, they bring out the goods and squeeze consumers, including the people who sold them the goods. Many of these crooks are in cahoots with a number of employees at state business and service installations. Thus, along with punishing the smugglers, I don't think that the agencies responsible should forget to search for the center of these illegal activities even if this requires a great effort. Only in this way will it be possible to gradually suppress the smugglers and contribute to good market management. ["A Story Each Day" column by "Buildier"] [Text] [Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 25 Dec 85 p 4] 11943

CSO: 4209/257

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

BRIEFS

SRV-CZECH FRIENDSHIP ACTIVITIES--Hanoi, VNA Feb. 24--A talk was jointly held here this morning by the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With Other Peoples (VCSFOP) and the Vietnam-Czechoslovakia Friendship Association to mark the 38th anniversary of Czechoslovakia's February revolution. Present on the occasion were Dang Huu, alternate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and president of the sponsoring association, Tran Duy Hung, member of the Presidium of the VCSFOP, and representatives of public offices and mass organizations in Hanoi. This afternoon, the executive committee of the Vietnam-Czechoslovakia Friendship Association met and adopted a new program for further developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries, first of all to greet the forthcoming 17th congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1518 GMT 24 Feb 86 OW] /6662

KUWAITI LEADERS GREETED--Hanoi, VNA Feb. 24--State Council President Truong Chinh and chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong today sent their warm greetings to Amir Sheikh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, and Prime Minister Sheikh Sa'd al-Abdallah al-Sabah, prime minister, on the occasion of the 25th national day of the Kingdom of Kuwait (Feb. 25). In their greeting message, the Vietnamese leaders wish the Kuwaiti people many new achievements in building a prosperous Kuwait, and further consolidation and development of the friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1513 GMT 24 Feb 86 OW] /6662

NGUYEN HUU THO'S LENIN PRIZE DONATION--Hanoi, VNA Feb. 24--National Assembly Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho has decided to present half of the 35,000 rubles he received from the Lenin Prize, to children in Ho Chi Minh City. The decision was made at a recent meeting between Nguyen Huu Tho and representatives of outstanding cadres in charge of the children's movement in the city. Nguyen Huu Tho was awarded the international Lenin Prize for the promotion of peace among nations, by the party and the state of the Soviet Union in 1985. The money is used to buy equipment for the newly-set up school for cadres in charge of children. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0728 GMT 24 Feb 86 OW] /6662

CSO: 4200/732

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY ON WAR INVALIDS, SOCIAL WELFARE URGED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 13 Nov 85 pp 1, 4

/Editorial: "Carry Out the Modified Policy On War Invalids and Social Welfare Well"/

/Text/ The rear of the armed forces is always a matter of prime concern for our party and government which consider it one of the decisive factors determining the strength of the armed forces. War invalids and social welfare work is an important component of building the rear. Therefore, our party and government had promulgated many procedures and policies pertaining to war invalids and social welfare which were completed and modified in a timely manner to be consistent with actual situations and tasks in each period of our revolution. They were instrumental in the building of our armed forces, the strengthening of our national defense, and the protection of our fatherland.

At present, the revolution of our country is embarking on a new era. Some old war invalids and social welfare procedures and policies are no longer appropriate. In execution of the resolution of the Eighth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee (Session V), the Council of Ministers has issued Decree No 236/HDBT, completing and modifying certain procedures and policies relative to war invalids and social welfare.

Current modifications aim at making the new wage system for cadres, workers, employees, and armed forces personnel on duty consistent with and appropriate to, the pension system of retired cadres, workers, employees, and armed forces personnel, disabled servicemen and other war invalids and social welfare allowances, in order to contribute to the gradual stabilization of the living conditions of recipients of war invalids and social welfare privileges. The modifications also have the purpose of deleting or improving certain irrational procedures, and of focusing on better assisting those persons who have given the best of themselves for the revolution, and those facing hardships in living conditions.

Carrying out the Council of Ministers' decree, the Ministry of War Invalids and Social Welfare has issued Circular No 48/TBXH dated 30 September 1985, providing implementation directives for various levels of war invalids and social welfare agencies, and stressing that the execution of current orders is a central and most important task of the sector.

Being a staff element directly assisting party committees and government organizations of various levels in providing leadership for, and implementing war invalids and social welfare policies, the war invalids and social welfare agency, primarily the basic unit, plays an extremely important role in the execution of the Council of Ministers' decree. Realizing this responsibility, the whole war invalids and welfare sector has thoroughly studied and understood the decree and related modified procedures and policies. It is actively making an all-out effort to implement the new policies in the entire country. The sector's endeavor has been geared toward the achievement of the following goal: under the close leadership of the party and government, the war invalids and social welfare agency, in the highest spirit of responsibility and dedication, will see to it that necessary actions be taken to make sure that every task will be done thoroughly and unmistakably, and that no disruption in the payment of allowances in the transitional period that may adversely affect the living conditions of recipients will take place. In the process of implementing the new policies, if a subordinate agency runs into impediments or difficulties, it will ask for instructions from the higher echelon, and will absolutely not improvise, and will never deviate from existing policies and procedures. The sector will severely deal with corrupt practices and with any unlawful method of obtaining allowances.

Our country is still experiencing economic hardships and the promulgation of a new modified set of war invalids and social welfare procedures is not necessarily apt to solve all the living conditions problems of our people, but it illustrates the concern and effort of the party and government in helping the war invalids, the families of our heroes, and other citizens who have meritoriously served the revolution. The recipients of the new policy, cognizant of this effort, will strive to maintain our glorious and noble traditions, and will welcome the new policies with enthusiasm and with a resolve to participate in production and other tasks in order to contribute to building our country and stabilizing their own lives.

We are a people with deeprooted traditions of mutual love and caring, loyalty and consistency. We are forever grateful for those who valiantly and meritoriously serve the people and the country, and we will do our best in helping them in whatever way possible. Therefore, with the instatement of the new modified policies, all localities, sectors and mass organizations will vigorously give their share in the movement, "The entire people care for war invalids, heroes and servicemen's families, and for meritorious citizens," and, in the meantime, carry on and improve local policies that give privileged treatment and that are currently in force.

Carrying out the war invalids and social welfare policies is the responsibility of our entire party, people and armed forces. Wherever they are stationed, armed forces units must closely coordinate with government agencies and mass organizations, and actively contribute to campaigning for, and disseminating current war invalids and social welfare procedures and policies, in order to achieve a successful execution of the Council of Ministers' decree.

9458/12228

CSO: 4209/220

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

QUESTIONS, ANSWERS ABOUT RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 13 Nov 85 p 3

/Text/ /Question/ What are the required retirement conditions for workers, employees and servicemen?

/Answer/ As of 1 September 1985, workers and employees including national defense workers (generally called workers and employees), and servicemen, including people's policemen (generally called servicemen) must meet the two conditions of age and time of service, in order to qualify for retirement. Generally speaking, those conditions are as follows: Male workers and employees must be 60 years old (servicemen must be 55) and have 30 years of service; female workers and employees must be 55 years old (servicewomen must be 50) and have 25 years of service in order to retire.

The time of service mentioned here is the time equivalent calculated on the basis of a conversion ratio applicable for each individual's labor or combat conditions: 1 year of service equals 1 year, or 1 year and 2 months, or 1 year and 4 months, or 1 year and 6 months.

/Question/ What conditions of service workers and employees and servicemen may benefit from a lowering of his or her age requirement in order to retire?

/Answer/ Workers and employees and servicemen having 30 years of service (for males) and 25 years of service (for females), if their time of service falls in the following conditions, may benefit from age lowering in order to retire:

--The age requirement is lowered 5 years for those workers and employees having 15 years of service in an occupation that is hazardous for their health or strenuous, or 15 years of service in a zone with difficulties and hardships, or 15 years of service in an occupation hazardous to their health or strenuous in armed forces units, in national defense construction projects, and in national defense industrial production.

--The age requirement is lowered 10 years for those workers and employees having 20 years of service in an occupation extremely hazardous to their health or extremely strenuous, or 20 years of service in a zone with many difficulties and hardships (a zone with difficulties and hardships is one with a 20-percent zone allowance, and a zone with many difficulties and hardships is one with a 25-percent zone allowance, or with a combat allowance from 10 to 20 percent, or distant islands).

/Question/ Under what conditions may workers and employees and servicemen retire even though they do not meet the age requirement?

/Answer/ Workers and employees and servicemen having 30 equivalent years of service (for males), and 25 equivalent years of service for females (after conversion), if becoming disabled in the following circumstances, may retire although they do not reach the retirement age:

--Workers and employees disabled 61 percent or more because of wounds, accident or sickness.

--Servicemen whose health is declining because of wounds or sickness.

/Question/ How is the monthly pension of workers and employees and servicemen calculated?

/Answer/ The monthly pension of a male worker, employee or serviceman having 30 years of service and of a female having 25 years of service equals 75 percent of the principal salary and seniority allowance (if applicable) paid the last month before retirement, or the same percentage of the highest pay in the 10 years preceding retirement; besides, for each year of service, a 1 percent increment is added, but in any circumstance, the pension shall not exceed 95 percent of the principal salary plus seniority allowance. The latter includes the special seniority allowance (granted salaried servicemen, people's policemen, cadres and employees of the customs sector, and workers and employees of some sectors because of difficult and harsh working and living conditions), and the extraordinary seniority allowance.

Individuals who do not receive seniority allowance at time of retirement, but have, in their prior time of service, received such an allowance while working in certain occupational or professional sectors, shall be credited with the old seniority allowance converted into the applicable new level for pension calculation and payment.

/Question/ At retirement time, a one-time bonus is granted. How many months' salary does this bonus represent?

/Answer/ At time of retirement, cadres, workers and employees and servicemen are granted a one-time bonus which is calculated on the basis of the principal salary plus all other applicable allowances, and at the following levels:

--A person having up to 25 years of service is granted a bonus equal to 2 months' salary.

--A person having up to 30 years of service is granted a bonus equal to 3 months' salary.

--A person having up to 35 years of service is granted a bonus equal to 4 months' salary.

This bonus shall be paid to the recipient at time of retirement by the organization or unit having administrative authority over the retiree.

/Question/ Besides the pension, is the retiree granted any other allowances or bonuses?

/Answer/ If the retiree falls into the following categories, he/she is entitled to receive other allowances and bonuses in addition to the pension:

--If the retiree is a cadre serving the revolution before August 1945, he/she is entitled to a special bonus: for each year in the service of the revolution before August 1945, a monthly increment of 20 dong is granted (cadres serving the revolution indicated in this document are those defined in Decision No 128/HDBT dated 8 October 1984 of the Council of Ministers).

Cadres working before the August 1945 revolution but not belonging to state organizations and enterprises per table of organization and equipment, shall be paid monthly allowances of 220 dong if working in 1935 or before, and of 160 dong if working in 1936 or after.

--A retiree who is a model worker or a hero of the armed forces shall receive a special monthly increment equal to 5 percent of the principal salary plus seniority allowance (if applicable).

--Retirees who are disabled veterans or who are beneficiaries of policies applicable to disabled veterans will, when they return to their family, receive a disability allowance equivalent to 30 percent of the disability allowance.

--A retiree who is next of kin of a deceased war hero shall receive a monthly compassionate grant of 40 dong. The latter allowance shall be multiplied by as many times as appropriate if the retiree is next of kin of more than one deceased war hero.

--If the retiree resides at a place entitled to a zone allowance or to a price discrepancy allowance, he/she is granted the same allowance which shall be calculated on the basis of the pension level.

/Question/ How is the monthly pension recalculated for individuals retiring before 1 September 1985?

/Answer/ Individuals retiring before 1 September 1985 shall have their monthly pension recalculated in the following method; the recomputed pension shall be paid as of 1 September 1985:

1. Pension: Take the principal salary of workers and employees and servicemen which was used as the basis for the computation of the "retirement allowance" at time of retirement, convert it into the new pension level plus seniority allowance (if applicable at time of retirement, or if the retiree has previously worked in a professional or occupational organization that granted seniority allowance to which the retiree was the beneficiary, the retiree is entitled to use the old seniority allowance converted into the new level for computation of his or her retirement allowance).

The occupational transfer allowance paid to retired workers and employees, and the seniority allowance paid to retired servicemen shall be discontinued, but the seniority allowance shall be added to the principal salary for computation of the pension.

2. Retired individuals being paid a fixed "retirement allowance" (in execution of Circular No 11/NV dated 20 September 1966 of the former Ministry of Interior, now Ministry of War Invalids and Social Welfare) shall be paid a corresponding pension computed on the basis of the current retirement allowance (as determined by the provincial or municipal people's committee) which is at least 132 dong per month, but which should not exceed the highest average pay.

3. Recomputation of the percentage ratio

If the retiree meets the required conditions for the time of service conversion (30 years for males and 25 years for females) the percentage ratio shall be recomputed for pension calculation. If, after recomputation, the new percentage ratio is lower than formerly paid, the old percentage ratio shall prevail for pension calculation, on the basis of the old salary converted into the new salary level applicable to a person of the same scale and step.

4. Other allowances in addition to the pension

Retired workers and employees and servicemen who were cadres serving the revolution before August 1945, model workers, armed forces heroes, war invalids, next of kin of deceased war heroes, and individuals residing in areas entitled to zone allowance and price-discrepancy allowance, shall receive those allowances in addition to their pension. A retired individual who is a war invalid with 81 percent disability needing home service, shall continue to be paid the new monthly allowance of 70 dong.

/Question/ Under what work conditions can the time of service of a worker or employee, or a member of the armed forces qualify for ratio conversion?

/Answer/ In order to grant special privileges to individuals whose work or combat time of service through the periods of the resistance was spent in hazardous and strenuous occupations and professions, or in distant areas with many difficulties and hardships, their time of service under those conditions is converted into a time equivalent on the basis of the following conversion ratio:

A year of actual service equals 1 year and 6 months:

--Members of the armed forces participating in the war against the French in A, B, and C combat zones, residing in areas with a combat allowance from 10 to 20 percent, or in areas with a 25-percent zone allowance; workers in extremely hazardous and strenuous occupations and professions as stipulated in Circular No 111/QP dated 14 November 1965 of the Ministry of National Defense; individuals working or serving as specialists in Laos and Kampuchea in the two resistances against the French and Americans.

--Workers and employees participating in the resistance against the French; fighting on battlefields in the war against the Americans from July 1954 to the end of April 1975; doing work at the southwest border from March 1975 to the end of 1978 and at the northern border from February 1979 on; individuals working in extremely hazardous or strenuous occupations or professions or in Class V occupations and professions (as determined by the Ministry of Labor); individuals working in areas with a 25-percent zone allowance, or with a combat allowance from 10 to 20 percent; individuals working or serving as specialists in Laos and Kampuchea in the two resistances against the French and Americans.

A year of actual service equals 1 year and 4 months:

--Servicemen in the armed forces whose entire time of service shall be converted.

--Workers and employees serving in combat areas in the north in the period of war against the Americans: Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh and Vinh Linh (from 5 August 1964 to 28 January 1983); individuals working in hazardous occupations and professions, or in Class N occupations and professions (as determined by the Ministry of Labor); individuals working in areas with a 20-percent zone allowance.

A year of actual service equals 1 year and 2 months:

--Workers and employees participating in the war of resistance against the Americans in the north; individuals working in areas with a 15-percent zone allowance.

Cadres serving the revolution from January 1945 until the general uprising who are not classified as working before August 1945 for payment of a special allowance, shall be authorized to include this period in their time of service. A cadre serving from 1 to 8 months in this period shall be credited with 1 year of service.

The time of service of any worker and employee not meeting the above special combat and work conditions shall be calculated as usual, i.e., 1 year of service shall equal 12 months.

9458/12228

CSO: 4209/220

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW PENAL CODE DISCUSSED

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 21 Nov 85 p 2

[Article by Trinh Hong Duong, LL.M., presiding judge of the Hanoi People's Court: "The People's Court Prepares for the Strict Implementation of the Penal Code"]

[Text] In June 1985, the first Penal Code of our country was approved by the Congress of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. It becomes effective 1 January 1986.

Many people think that because we do not have criminal laws, criminal offenses still take place and, therefore, the state must promulgate a Penal Code. It is not so. Before the promulgation of the current Penal Code, we had quite a large number of criminal laws defining criminal offenses and related penalties which have been executed by our law enforcement agencies until now. However, those laws were issued piecemeal, unable to totally address the needs in fighting and deterring crime. That is the reason for our state to promulgate the Penal Code, an important judicial document inheriting and elaborating criminal laws issued since the August revolution until now, recapitulating the experience in fighting and preventing crime in past decades, and forecasting its development in the future.

Other people suggest that when the Penal Code becomes effective, criminal offenses will obviously and immediately decrease. This is not necessarily so. Many countries have an excellent judicial system, yet, crimes still occur, and moreover, offenses are quite serious. Criminal offenses can only diminish if everybody is law abiding and strictly respects and enforces criminal laws.

The Penal Code's foreword indicates: "Correctly implementing the Penal Code is the common task of state agencies, of social organizations, and of the entire people." In other words, in order that the Penal Code can protect the revolutionary achievements and assure a successful execution of revolutionary missions, all state agencies, social organizations and all citizens must strictly abide by its provisions, and not do anything it prohibits.

To allow everyone to have a good grasp of the Penal Code's provisions, propaganda, dissemination, and educational activities conducted in the context of its implementation, are of crucial importance. Being one of the law-

enforcement agencies having a major responsibility in fighting and deterring crime in the capital, the people's courts of Hanoi and of districts and town have actively participated in those activities. Many key cadres belonging to various courts have come to agencies and enterprises of the central, municipal, district, subward and village levels to talk about the new code and its basic provisions.

The people's court, one of the important dictatorial tools of the state, has the responsibility for hearing criminal cases. In the process of discharging this task, it decides penalties to be given, in the sense that those penalties do not have the sole purpose of punishing criminal offenders, but also aim at reeducating them, instilling compliance with the law and with principles inherent to socialist life, and preventing them from becoming repeat-offenders. They also serve as an educational means to encourage all citizens to abide by the law, and to fight and prevent crime. The court must also do justice for those people unjustly convicted.

In order that the court rulings deal with the right persons, with the right offenses, and reflect justice and high efficiency, cadre-judges must have a thorough understanding of all the provisions of criminal law. In past years, the Hanoi people's court system has made significant achievements in the discharge of its tasks. On the occasion of the commemoration of 40 years of activities of the court system and of the 25th anniversary of the creation of the first people's court in our country, the Hanoi people's court was awarded the Labor Medal second class, and the people's of the districts of Thach That and Soc son were awarded the same medal third class. However, in hearing criminal cases, a few courts still made certain mistakes and had certain shortcomings due to a failure to have a thorough knowledge of the provisions of criminal law. In some instances, there were mix-ups between different offenses, and in others, no distinction was made between criminal offenses and administrative violations. There were cases in which rulings were too stiff, too lenient, or rendered unjustly. Some criminals evaded punishment because of erroneous reference to the provisions of the law. The promulgation of the Penal Code requires cadre-judges to rapidly correct their weaknesses and deficiencies.

To allow all those cadres to thoroughly understand the provisions of the Penal Code, from late September to mid-October, in cooperation with other law-enforcement agencies in the capital, the Hanoi People's Court has organized three seminars on the Penal Code for all magistrates, legal cadres and nearly 100 people's jurors of the municipal people's court, and for all the magistrates of district and town people's courts. Perhaps those seminars were the first of the kind in the whole country for local court cadres.

The Hanoi People's Court attaches great importance to another aspect of its activities: to provide political and ideological training and enhance the quality its cadres. The court has resolutely eliminated from its ranks decadent elements who are no longer worthy of being judges. It has also coordinated with the Hanoi Department of Judicial Affairs in inspecting some district and own courts. Through these inspections, the two agencies have recommended that some district and town people's committees dismiss a number

of magistrates violating professional rules, and propose that the organ of control prosecute a district court trustee for embezzling hundreds of thousands of dong in several years, and another judge who was currently trustee of a town court for embezzling tens of thousands of dong of fines. Cleaning the ranks of cadre-judges and prosecutors is another pressing need in the preparation for the strict implementation of the Penal Code.

A law-protection agency appointed by the people through various levels of the people's committees, the people's court pledges to the people of the capital to do its best in being worthy of their trust, and in properly discharging its tasks in fighting and preventing crime, as stipulated in Article 4 of the Penal code: "The police, the organ of control, the courts, and the judicial and inspection agencies shall have the responsibility to perform their functions and missions well, and, in the meantime, to assist other state agencies, social organizations and the citizens in fighting and deterring crime, and in controlling and educating criminal offenders."

9458/13068

CSO: 4209/254

14 March 1986

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

LE THANH NGHI URGES HANOI PEOPLE'S COUNCILS TO DO BETTER

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 24 Dec 85 pp 1,4

[Text of address by Le Thanh Nghi, member of CPV Central Committee, vice chairman and secretary of Council of State, at meeting with Hanoi People's Committee standing committee, municipal people's council committee chairmen, Hanoi ward and district people's committee chairmen on 20 December 1985; portions within slantlines in italics]

[Text] Recently, along with the Hanoi People's Committee and municipal people's council committees, I visited Hoan Kiem and Ba Dinh Wards, Thanh Tri and Gia Lam districts and a few other subwards and villages to examine people's council organization and activities at various levels in the city. Administrative offices of the National Assembly and Council of State have also sent cadres into Soc Son, Me Linh, Dong Anh and Dan Phuong districts to look into the activities of local people's councils.

In the past more than 2 years, since the National Assembly passed the law on organizing people's councils and people's committees and the law on electing delegates to these bodies and issued Provisional Ordinance No 2 to guide implementation of the law on organizing people's councils and people's committees, Hanoi has achieved initial progress. People's councils at various levels have fostered their role as local state organs of authority, in line with the resolutions of the Fifth CPV Congress and the Hanoi Ninth Municipal Party Congress.

That progress is clearly reflected in the following points:

1. The city has properly organized elections of ward, district, subward and villages people's councilors (1984-1986 term) and municipal people's councilors (1985-1989 term), bringing in more competent and younger people and more scientific and technical cadres.
2. It has set up committees at various people's council levels according to guidelines of the Council of State. Especially, the municipal people's council has begun to pay attention to accelerating activities of its secretariat and committees during its adjournment periods.
3. People's councils in the city, wards and districts have held regular sessions according to the law. Nearly all these sessions were attended by

adequate quorums of councillors. Meetings were better prepared; several projects were sent ahead to councillors for study; agendas were improved and special economic and social topics with practical effects on production and people's standard of living were discussed at some municipal, ward and district people's council meetings. Some people's councils at the basic level, for instance the one in Tien Phong village, have limited reporting time, reserving more attention for deliberations.

4. The municipal people's council has focused on setting its own work schedule and that of its committees. Some wards and districts have established meeting agendas for their people's councils for a whole year. The Dong Anh District People's Council has even drawn up its action program and goals for a full term. Hoan Kiem has drawn experiences from its ward and subward people's council secretariats to make realistic plans for guiding its people's council committee to work better.

Above are some new activities of various Hanoi people's councils which have actively contributed to implementing the municipal economic and social plan.

On behalf of the Council of State, I wholeheartedly appreciate the effort of Hanoi CPV committee echelons and administration officials at strengthening people's council activities at various levels.

However, we should clearly understand that to overcome people's council formalistic activities at various levels and strongly foster that body's effectiveness, we should wage a continuous and protracted struggle, gradually eliminating difficulties and shortcomings in the process. So, with these initial results we cannot say that the municipal people's council has truly grown into an organ of authority for the city and that it has set an example for its ward, district, town, subward and village counterparts to follow.

After examining the organization and activities of people's councils at various levels in Hanoi, I would like to draw the attention of CPV municipal committee and people's committee echelons to a few flaws, which they should promptly redress:

1. Lenin emphasized the great role and responsibilities of organizations and representatives elected by the people within the system of dictatorship of the proletariat in mobilizing and attracting large numbers of people to promote socialist democracy and carry out political, economic, cultural, social, security and national defense tasks. The law on organizing people's councils and people's committee and the law on electing people's councillors contain new regulations based on the resolution of the Fifth CPV Congress and aimed at fostering the laboring people's right to collective mastery and at enabling people's councils at various levels to stay in touch with realities, avoid formalism, and comport with their positions and functions as stipulated by the new constitution. Grasping their duties more thoroughly, party committee echelons and administration officials should make cadres and people in the nation's capital adequately and clearly understand the law on people's councils, devise plans for regularly educating people's councillors at various

levels about that law and review people's council committees' organization and activities for prompt correction of errors and shortcomings.

After all people's councilors have been elected, Hanoi reserved one-half day in the first session of the new legislature for study of the law on people's councils. This is too little compared with 6 days in Thai Binh Province and 4 days in Ha Nam Ninh Province during which newly elected delegates studied topics relating to the constitutions, the people's council law and councilor work methods. During visits to Thanh Tri, Dan Phuong, Me Linh and Dong Anh districts, I noted that in some villages party committee echelons and administration officials have misunderstood people's council committee functions, duties, and prerogatives. In other villages, there has been confusion about organization and activities, resulting in people's council committees blending with people's committee committees. Many standing members of village people's committees, including chairmen, vice chairmen, and secretaries, have concurrently served as head of people's council committees and secretariats, contrary to Article 28 of the law on organizing people's councils and people's committees which stipulates that "members of people's council committees cannot simultaneously serve as members of people's committees at the same level." Hence, we should continually stimulate municipal cadres, party members, and people, especially party committee echelons and administration officials, from top to bottom, to fully grasp and strictly implement the law on organizing people's councils and people's committees and the law on electing people's councilors and should keep educating all municipal people's councilors, particularly those recently elected, about appropriate functions, duties and work methods.

2. To enable people's councils to work well, achieve real effectiveness and avoid formalism, first of all we should listen to cadre and mass input and carefully examine and select candidates for election to people's councils. Currently, many units in Hanoi are at a loss to distinguish between criteria and capabilities; as a result, in some places councilors took no part in the discussion, even in cells, from beginning to end of the legislature. In electing people's committees and committees of corresponding people's councils, most localities in Hanoi have paid more attention to prospective people's committee members than to prospective people's council committee chairmen and vice chairmen. Due to lack of tangible municipal guidance, people's council committees in many places have been elected just to fill vacancies with neither eagerness, nor ability to work.

Thanh Tri and Gia Lam districts are two cases in point. Although Thanh Tri has had trouble battling waterlogging--usually caused by moderate rainfalls--and discharging a very heavy water conservancy task, its water conservancy bureau chief has been appointed to head the people's council secretariat. Thus, how could he find necessary time for his council secretarial duties? Gia Lam which controls the northern access to the city, has a very heavy tax collection load, but its industrial and commercial tax bureau chief has been appointed head of the people's council secretariat--a clear indication that no practical work could be done. Experiences in selecting committee members for various soviets in the USSR and other fraternal socialist countries show that party committee chairmen often hold concurrent positions in

corresponding popularly elected committees. Many of our localities have availed themselves of these experiences in staffing their people's council committees. I think Hanoi should review this problem and choose party cadres having capabilities and conditions for doing effective work to hold positions in some people's council committees, thus creating more conditions for them to fulfill their tasks properly.

The Council of State has ordered that chiefs of secretariat of people's councils of provinces and cities directly subordinate to the central government must devote full time to council work. But so far the municipal people's council secretariat chief has not yet resigned his administrative duties to embrace council activities. This is a shortcoming crying out for instant redress.

Currently, people's council committees exist at all city levels but work little. Although full-time municipal people's committee have been active, they have yet to examine many problems, particularly those relating to the relationships between full-time municipal people's council committees and the municipal people's committee and the municipal people's council secretariat, and to steps to be taken by the people's committee to create favorable conditions for people's council committees to operate realistically and effectively.

Full-time people's council committees in many wards and districts, especially subwards and villages, are virtually lying idle, not knowing what to do and looking to the city for tangible guidance. This problem should be diligently solved by the municipal party committee and people's committee.

3. Recent Hanoi municipal people's council meetings have achieved progress in terms of schedules and agendas. However, we should continually and mindfully find ways to improve council deliberations at various levels in the city, giving them a realistic content, in line with requirements of production and people's standard of living, to foster collective councilor mental capacities and to collect substantial input from delegates, especially those from production and basic units. Councilors should be encouraged to properly and correctly use their right of interpellation to supervise state organ activities in the localities, etc. Recently, at some municipal council meetings, the municipal people's committee made reports on its quaterly operations and on implementing council resolutions. This is an achievement which should be expanded so that each future council meeting will mark new progress in organizing and mobilizing the Hanoi people to successfully fulfill municipal people's council resolutions.

4. It is currently widespread that activities of councilor cells at various levels in Hanoi are still weak and that the effort to organize delegate contacts with the people and their own constituencies is not yet successful. In municipal councilor cells, especially those from Hoai Duc, Me Linh and Dong Anh districts, most councilors are cadres assigned to urban areas, with only two or three delegates coming from the districts. In past legislatures, from the first day to last, some councilors maintained no contacts whatsoever with their constituencies and took no part in councilor cell activities in

places where they ran for election. This shortcoming should be corrected immediately. I suggest that the current municipal people's council take concrete steps to help delegates strictly carry out their duties of staying in touch with their electors and people and doing their utmost to participate in councilor cell activities in places where they ran for election.

5. The CPV Fifth Congress affirmed that activities of people's councils at various levels were still formalistic, failing to measure up to the latter's functions, duties and prerogatives as stipulated by the constitution--a shortcoming in the party's task of leading the state. Hence, municipal party committee echelons and those at ward, district, subward, and village levels must understand that it is paramount for them to speed up people's council activities, thereby achieving the principle and system according to which "the party leads, the people master, and the state manages." We talk a great deal but do little, and as a matter of fact, effectiveness is still minimal. Party committee echelons should regularly review and guide the activities of corresponding people's councils, enabling them to work with increasing realism and effectiveness.

The law on organizing people's committees and people's councils clearly stipulates that it devolves upon people's committee chairmen to harmonize and coordinate all activities of corresponding people's council committees' nevertheless, it is currently commonplace in Hanoi and other localities that the former pay no adequate attention to the latter, whom they do not regularly keep in touch with to collect input, relying entirely on people's committee secretariat heads to do just that. A full-time people's council committee chairman asked, "In light of that, do we still need people's council committees?" This is a shortcoming which people's committee chairmen should take steps to overcome. The relationships between people's committee chairmen and people's council secretariat heads and between the former and full-time people's council committee chairmen should be definitely regulated to enable people's committee chairmen to regularly keep tabs on the situation and contribute tangible suggestions to harmonizing and coordinating corresponding people's council committee activities.

People's council activities in the city have been undergoing relatively good changes; but this is just a beginning. As the nation's capital, Hanoi is called on to act as a locomotive, setting an example for the entire country to follow. The effort to ameliorate people's council organization and activities at various levels, overcoming formalistic trends and enabling people's councils to effectively foster their authority as local state organs, is a major step toward raising the Hanoi people's mastery role and correctly putting in place the system in which "the party leads, the people master, and the state manages." Currently, our nation has 496 National Assembly deputies and more than 330,000 people's councilors at various levels, including 14,056 in Hanoi. If the municipal CPV committee and people's committee mindfully strengthen that delegate force and use it to organize and mobilize municipal people to fulfill their immediate tasks, our city will certainly make greater and greater achievements.

It is hoped that the Hanoi party committee, people's committee and people's council will strive more and more vigorously to help people's councils at various levels in the city effectively and properly carry out their functions and duties as mandated by the constitution and the law on organizing people's councils and people's committees, thus making them more and more deserving of the Hanoi people's trust and expectations. This is also a tangible contribution to implementing the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau resolution on Hanoi, the nation's capital.

9213/12951

CSO: 4209/255

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

HOME IMPROVEMENT IN HAIPHONG REPORTED

Haiphong HAIPHONG in Vietnamese 3 Oct 85 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Haiphong CPV Standing Committee Directs a Tile-Roofing Plan To Improve People's Homes" (including the text of Decision No 231/CT/TU dated 20 September 1985 of the standing committee of the municipal CPV committee)]

[Text] Tile roofing to improve people's homes is a major policy of the municipal CPV committee. Recently, much effort was made by various levels and sectors in providing leadership and guidance in the matter, and in creating favorable conditions for cadres and citizens to carry out the policy. Outstanding results were obtained, and the general outlook of the city, including the inner-city areas as well as the outskirts, was visibly changed for the better. Many families of war invalids and war heroes who had meritoriously served the revolution were provided active support in building their houses. Thuy Nguyen District and some villages in other districts nearly completed 100 percent of the tile-roofing plan.

However, generally speaking, the pace of the plan in the first months of this year was rather slow. Compared with 1984, it was faster, but standards set for 1985 were not met, with only 74.1 percent completion for the outlying areas and 87.1 percent for the inner-city areas. The completion ratio of the districts of Kien An and Tien Lang was still very low (57 to 67 percent.) Therefore, much has to be done in the next period of time in order to complete the plan in 1987.

To address the above situation, the standing committee of the municipal CPV committee has directed all levels, sectors and mass organizations to redouble their leadership efforts to perform the following tasks well:

1. Localities (districts, subwards and villages) shall make a summary recapitulation of the implementation of the tile-roofing plan in the context of the people's home improvement program in the recent past in order to learn from the experience and to take concrete improvement measures. They shall assign a full-time cadre from each of the standing committees of the CPV committee and of the people's committee to handle this task; they shall make any effort needed to resolutely implement standards set for 1985, 1986, and 1987; and they shall complete 100 percent of the plan in 1987, except for the inner-city districts whose completion is 1986.

2. The exploitation and production of local construction materials, such as bricks, tiles, rocks, sand, and lime shall be boosted, and the people living in outlying areas shall be encouraged to self-supply bricks. Business corporations and localities shall increase the exploitation of coal and firewood sources in order that those combustibles be extensively sold to the people at the official price to help them step up the production of bricks and lime in support of the tile-roofing plan. The material-supply and business sectors shall use to the fullest extent discarded materials, scrap metals, and cement still usable for construction, and shall set aside a determined amount of steel and cement for unrestricted sale to the people, encouraging them to build their houses with brick walls and tiled roofs.

3. House construction shall be permitted only when consistent with current planning regulations. Clusters of housing shall be constructed in outer-city villages, along communication lines, and chiefly at the five gate areas of the city; any residential construction must have a blueprint, assuring diversity, cleanliness and elegance, and reflecting a civilized lifestyle. The municipal Capital Construction Commission shall draw several attractive house models and make copies to be sold at low price to the people (indigent citizens may get them free of charge); it shall provide guidance for, and tightly control, construction to ensure compliance.

4. If the execution of the tile-roofing plan entails a need to grant building land, localities shall use to the optimum lakes, basins, and infertile or uncultivable land to that effect. They shall limit to the maximum granting cultivable land for housing construction, and in such cases, blueprint and building specifications must be absolutely complied with. Resale of granted land shall be strictly prohibited. Unlawful grants of land and noncompliance with the terms of construction permits shall be severely penalized.

5. Support extended to families of war invalids and war heroes who had meritoriously served the revolution shall be resolutely pursued; campaigning to invite agencies, enterprises, and citizens to assist those families to allow an equal advancement at the same pace as other households, shall be encouraged.

The municipal people's committee shall formulate a plan to provide special guidance to each locality, and shall set aside a determined amount of material supplies to support the tile-roofing plan.

This directive shall be disseminated to cadres, party members and citizens, run in newspapers, and aired on radio stations in order that it be carried out by all.

9458/9435
CSO: 4209/214

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

CADRE CONVENTION IN HAIPHONG REPORTED

Haiphong HAIPHONG in Vietnamese 11 Oct 85 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Convention of All Municipal Cadres; Thoroughly Understanding, Planning for the Execution of Resolutions of the Standing Committee of the Municipal CPV Committee on Exploiting Land, Labor and Scientific and Technical Resources, and on Stepping Up the Production of Light Industry Goods; Comrade Vo Nguyen Giap, Member of the CPV Central Committee and Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Attended and Addressed the Conference"]

[Text] From 8 to 10 October 1985, a convention of all municipal cadres was organized by the standing committee of the CPV municipal committee to allow a thorough understanding of, and to plan for, the execution of resolutions of the standing committee of the CPV municipal committee on exploiting land, labor, and scientific and technical resources, and on stepping up the production of light industry goods.

Comrade Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the CPV Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, attended and addressed the conference.

In attendance were comrades Nguyen Manh Can, deputy chief of the Organization Department of the Central CPV Committee, and chief of the central task force for the provision of guidance for the execution of the resolution of the Eighth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee; Prof Doan Phuong, vice chairman of the State Commission for Science and Technology; Prof Nguyen Van Huong, deputy director of the Office of the Council of Ministers; Ton Gia Nguyen, director of the Land General Department; Prof Nguyen Vy, director of the Agricultural Chemistry and Pedology Institute of the Ministry of Agriculture; Prof Nguyen Phap, acting director of the College of Economics and Planning; Assistant Prof Dao Trong Kinh, deputy director of the College of Agriculture No 1; Prof Le Hoang Viet, deputy director of the Polytechnic College; Nguyen Van Than, director of the Sciences Department of the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education; and some other cadres of the leadership and specialists of ministries, bureaus, sectors and the office of the CPV Central Committee.

Other dignitaries of the CPV municipal committee, the municipal people's committee, chiefs of bureaus, sectors, mass organizations, districts, some central and local enterprises, professors and some holders of master's degrees from the city, were also attending.

Comrade Doan Duy Thanh, member of the CPV Central Committee, secretary of the CPV municipal committee, and Comrade Le Danh Xuong, deputy secretary of the CPU municipal committee, presided over the conference.

The conference listened to an outline made by Comrade Nguyen Dinh Nhon, member of the Standing Committee of the CPV municipal committee, and deputy chairman of the municipal people's committee, on Resolution No 37 of the standing committee of the CPV municipal committee and deputy chairman of the municipal people's committee, commented on Resolution No 35 of the Standing Committee of the CPV municipal committee relative to boosting the production of light industry goods; Comrade Trinh Thai Huy, member of the standing committee of the CPV municipal committee and deputy chairman of the municipal people's committee, made a presentation about the contents of Resolution No 33 of the standing committee of the CPV municipal committee on applying scientific and technical potentials to increase production and improve living conditions, and Resolution No 36 of the same standing committee on exploiting the city is labor potential.

Specialized reports on the application of scientific and technical progress in production and in improving living conditions were presented before the conference: Comrade Phan Van Diet, director of the Department of Transportation and Communications, talked about applied technology in bridge building; (labor model) Pham Trong Hiep (Department of Electricity), on using domestic materials to replace imported products in the manufacturing of electrical isolators; Pham Hai, deputy chairman of the people's committee of Kien An District, on initial results in the establishment of a set of statutes and procedures for the Insurance Corp. to cover plants and livestock.

Speaking to the conference, Comrade Vo Nguyen Giap warmly commended the party organization, servicemen and citizens of Haiphong for showing their traditions of unity, loyalty, resolve, spirit of self-strengthening and self-reliance, dynamism, resourcefulness, the ability to seek solutions to overcome difficulties, and for the success, efficiency, and quality of their work.

Comrade Vo Nguyen Giap made an analysis of our country's strategy in matters of science and technology, pointed out both our progress and our objectives in this domain, and indicated that scientific and technical development must be given priority. He said: "We will need to develop and expand our scientific and technical strengths, and step up training of scientific and technical cadres and skilled workers. In parallel with the reorganization of production, we must reorganize the scientific and technical forces, bearing in mind the principle of introducing the application of science and technology in production and in improving living conditions. This application pertains to labor, land, rivers and seas, small industry, handicraft and industrial occupations, agriculture, forestry, marine professions, transportation and communications, tourism, services, etc. Haiphong, which possesses quite a substantial number of scientific and technical cadres and workers, needs a plan to provide advanced training, and to place them in adequate positions in order to support production and living-condition improvement."

In his closing remarks, Comrade Doan Duy Thanh stressed the dialectic interrelation between the resolutions of the CPV municipal committee and its

standing committee on exploiting land, labor and scientific and technical resources, and on stepping up the production of light industry goods, aiming at producing, at a fast pace, more material properties for society. The secretary made an in-depth analysis of the economic and social situation of our city in recent years, and stressed the importance of an extensive application of science and technology in all economic and social projects in the next few years in order to make optimum use of labor, land, and skills for a more vigorous development of the city. The entire party organization and all citizens need to resolutely strengthen their revolutionary spirit, and to continue their efforts in developing their initiative and dynamism, in order to successfully complete the 1985 state plan, and to prepare for the implementation of the 1986-1990 5-year plan.

9458/9435

CSO: 4209/215

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

ERADICATION OF RED TAPE IN LONG AN REPORTED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Nov 85 p 3

/Article by Hoang Tran: "Eradication of Bureaucratic Practices in Distribution and Communications in Long An"/

/Text/ Five years have elapsed since Long An started its efforts to eradicate bureaucratic practices in its distribution and communications system. The fight to control the market which aims at stimulating production development and at stabilizing the living conditions of salaried persons and the working people has been carried on in a complex manner, and at times, quite drastically. In the course of this struggle, Long An has achieved encouraging results.

Actively Getting Hold of Goods in the New Situation

Long An is an agricultural province whose main products are rice, pigs, and other varieties of agricultural food products. In order to control the market, the province places the task of getting hold of goods at the top of its agenda, does the purchasing of agricultural and food products for delivery to the state well and in return, receives strategic supplies and other industrial products distributed by the state. Through economic linkages, it trades commodities with Ho Chi Minh City and other localities. Since the beginning of 1985, the province has applied two purchasing methods: the first one is contract purchasing in which essential production supplies are allotted in advance to the producer. This method assures production development by making available adequate production materials for the producer, and it also enables the province to get hold of goods at stabilized contract prices. The second method pertains to noncontract products, in which sectors responsible for purchasing buy the products at agreed prices, making sure that the producer can compensate for production expenses and make a profit. These two purchasing methods gain acceptance and appreciation from almost all farmers, handicraft workers, and other manual laborers because they allow farmers, including poor ones with little capital, to get enough production supplies to adhere to their planting schedules. As a consequence, economic ties between the state and the farmers are strengthened and, on the other hand, the interference of private tradesmen with producers is lessened. Even under the toughest circumstances, Long An has resolutely and unwaveringly stuck to these purchasing methods, reinforcing the confidence of the producers in state policies.

After a long period of stabilization, right before and after the currency change, the market and price situation in Long An suddenly experienced serious disturbances. The province, in a relatively timely manner, took many measures to alleviate the problems. On the basis of mutual consent, the province expanded its business activities and accelerated its capital cycles. The direct purchasing of certain commodities by provincial agencies was transferred to districts to ensure a better hold of goods. State-operated businesses discontinued the use of intermediaries. Marketing cooperatives established closer relations with cooperatives and production collectives to get hold of goods, and to buy those goods for delivery to state-commerce agencies. Basically, marketing cooperatives put an end to the practice of using intermediaries indiscriminately and without due respect for the rules, and rigorously selected the few needed in business transactions who were paid a commission. In terms of live and fresh commodities, the province instated a special encouragement procedure. To guarantee the purchasing of pork, it reduced province and district discounts, and increased the discount granted marketing cooperatives. In addition to an award given by the central government, the province gave a cash bonus for each hog purchased. Per government regulation, the price of pork delivered to the state was 150 dong a kilogram. Upholding the principle of agreed price, and in order to avoid losses for pig breeders, the province bought pork at 153 dong a kilogram and paid the difference.

Carrying out the resolution of the Eighth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee, the provincial food corporation reduced its administrative personnel from 36.68 to 23.1 percent, and used the extra manpower to reinforce organizations in charge of direct production and business activities, and accomplished its food milling, processing and distribution tasks well. The corporation has now exceeded its food-purchasing norms for the whole year of 1985. In the past 9 months, it remitted a profit of 6 million dong (old currency). The province also exceeded the annual standards in the purchasing of other agricultural and food products. Due to its ability to get hold of the local sources of goods, the province successfully made economic linkages and goods exchange with many other localities in the whole country, and with some sectors at the central level as well as with export and import agencies. As an initial result, those cooperative efforts have enabled the province to meet its needs in machinery and material supplies in support of production. In addition to 340 million dong worth of goods allotted by the central government, through its linkages and exchange, the province traded a large volume of industrial goods valued at nearly 1 billion dong.

Upcoming Issues

Long An has so far successfully solved some key issues in distribution and communications, namely, getting hold of goods and money, balancing the budget, having a good cash flow, actively stimulating production development, and stabilizing the people's living conditions. Nevertheless, getting hold of goods and money, although a decisive factor, is not the only one. Others also have a considerable impact on the market. A most visible occurrence has been that since around the currency change day, the market and price situation has been continuously disturbed, and a false lack of certain commodities was persistently on the increase. Certain people theorized that the disturbance

stemmed from the currency change, from the abrupt and untimely transport price hike, from the inappropriate price lists set by the state for certain commodities, and from many other objective causes. As a matter of fact, it was not so. The Long An market has its own internal weaknesses that have not been seen until now.

Certain comrades in Long An think that the province's market is still crippled. They may be right. Why is it unable to function effectively?

In the first place, as Comrade Tu Giao, chief of the economic bureau of the CPV provincial committee put it, that was because the development of a socialist commerce pattern was not commensurate with the needs and with set standards. The share of socialist commerce was still low, handling only 42 percent of the volume of goods circulated on the market.

The eradication of bureaucratic and overbearing practices has not been done uniformly. Long An was concentrating on eliminating bureaucratic practices in the distribution and communications sector, but vestiges of those practices in other sectors still abound. The provincial people's committee has not basically completed the assignment of tasks in price management. The commercial sector has not actually been able to use its own innovative resources in production and business, and is still restrained by many old rules and procedures. Its leverage has been substantially thwarted after it was given the six regulated norms and the system of contracting on business income. Management responsibilities assigned in certain goods sectors are still inadequate. The province formerly assigned the purchasing responsibility of certain commodities, such as shrimp, fish and some small industry and handicraft products, to the Agricultural and Food Products Corp., the Marine Products Corp., and the Export Corp. Recently, that responsibility has been reassigned to the commercial sector but the latter was not able to live up to the new tasks of purchasing coconut pulp was given intermittently to the Agricultural and Food Products Corp., and to the Foreign Trade Corp. The province also assigned management tasks of certain other commodities to districts but failed to provide regulated norms, and by the same token, indirectly invited districts to get by the best they could. At times, certain province-level corporations intimidated or oppressed their district counterparts and the practice has been quite widespread. The fact that state-operated businesses, in their transactions with marketing cooperatives and agents, used to buy entire stocks of goods under unstabilized price conditions and with discount levels insufficient to cover transportation cost, was inadequate. Finally, restrictions applied in goods procurement within administrative limits reduced marketing capabilities and the timely search for sources of goods responding to the needs of the consumer.

In order to carry out the resolution of the Eighth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee in the context of building a truly strong socialist market, vigorously stimulating production development, and stabilizing the working people's living conditions, the Long An Provincial CPV Committee and People's Committee are taking measures to solve or alleviate current problems, including the improvement of distribution and communications operations, with a focus on completely reverting to economic accounting and to a socialist business method.

9458/12228

CSO: 4209/220

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

DETERMINATION OF LABOR COST IN PRODUCT PURCHASING

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 19 Nov 85 pp 3, 4

[Article: "Determination of Labor Cost of Small Industry and Handicraft Products Purchased by the State as of 1 October 1985"]

[Text] Editor's Note: Recently, many cooperatives, private collective groups and handicraft households having business relations with the state, have sent letters to this paper to ask information pertaining to the new method of determining labor cost of small industry and handicraft products purchased by the state as of 1 October 1985. To assist our readers, primarily the above organizations, to have a good grasp of and comply with the new state and municipal policies, in order that every unit be fully aware of the latter, develop production and deliver in the shortest time possible more products to the state, we hereby present some excerpts of the instructions provided in this matter by Memo No 399/VG-LX of 4 November 1985 of the municipal price commission and the executive committee of the municipal federation of cooperatives. The document was based on a decision by the chairman of the Council of Ministers regarding the determination of labor cost of small industry and handicraft products purchased by the state, on Orientation Directive No 458 dated 14 July 1985 of the State Price Commission, and on Decision No 4408-QD/UB dated 1 October 1985 of the municipal people's committee, and is summarized as follows. [End Editor's note]

After consultation with the municipal federation of small industry cooperatives and other related sectors, the municipal price commission hereby provides the following directives pertaining to principles, significance and methods of determining labor cost of small industry and handicraft products purchased by the state:

Production expenses in raw materials, fuel, material supplies and labor shall be determined on the basis of production norms and prices:

a) Material supply norms shall be determined on the basis of economic and technical norms set by an authorized agency:

--For a specialized product, use determinations set by specialized ministries.
--For a product made in the city, determinations shall be made by authorized municipal agencies.

--For products without material supply norms, agencies responsible for contract ordering shall propose a set of norms and submit it to an authorized agency for approval. If the latter has not been obtained, mention of this fact shall be distinctly made in the plan.

b) Material supply unit price:

--Material supplies allotted by the state shall be computed at official prices. If the latter are not available, temporary prices shall be determined by the supplier of material supplies in accordance with price management statutes.

--Self procured material supplies shall be charged to product cost according to price frame (if any) set by the municipal price commission by order of the municipal people's committee. If the price frame is not available, prices shall be agreed upon by the seller and the party ordering the goods, and reported to an authorized agency for followup.

c) Expenses incurred in material supply transport and hauling: if state transportation means are used, the official transport tariff shall be used. If the work is done by the unit's own efforts, actual and logical expenses can be charged, consistent with central and local official transport tariffs.

Wages and allowances having a wage nature:

--Labor norms: they shall be calculated in accordance with average progressive norms set by management levels and sectors. If those average norms are not available, the production unit shall be responsible for formulating a rational set of norms and submitting it to an authorized agency for approval.

--Wages paid serving a basis for the determination of labor cost and purchasing prices includes:

a) Wages paid to average professional and occupational ranks set forth by Decision No 4408/QB-UB dated 1 October 1985 of the municipal people's committee.

b) Cost of living allowance which is 25 percent of the wage paid the average rank.

In addition to the above-mentioned wage, handicraftsmen working the third shift in specialized professions and occupations hazardous to their health shall be paid:

--An additional hazardous allowance of 5 percent of the wage paid the average rank (if available).

--An additional night shift allowance of 30 percent of the wage paid the average rank (if available).

Wages paid cooperative members serving production support in the capacities of warehouse keepers, supply clerks, etc., and management cadres (executive committees, accountants) shall be 5 to 10 percent more than the principal wage and cost-of-living allowance paid cooperative members doing direct production work.

In terms of labor days and hours, the computation system shall be indential to that applied for state employees, and the same thing is true in terms of social insurance.

Labor protection shall be calculated the same way as for state employees of the same profession or occupation and based upon current retail prices, and shall be from 4 to 6 percent of the principal wage.

Other general expenses incurred in workshops shall be computed in accordance with state determinations. If the later are unavailable, they shall be charged depending upon actual and logical expenses including:

- permanent repair expenses;
- expenses incurred in the use of inexpensive, short-lived supplies;
- electricity and water expenses in support of production.

Other management expenses, such as:

- property depreciation,
 - office supplies,
 - temporary duty allowance,
 - refreshments for cooperative members doing direct production work;
 - common medicines for cooperative members,
 - guest entertainment expenses,
 - bank interest,
- can be charged at 5 to 10 percent of the principal wage.

Nonproduction expenses shall be charged on the basis of actual and logical expenses.

The profit margin shall be 35 to 70 percent of the principal wage depending on each profession and occupation. Profit rate applied for export products shall be 10 to 20 percent more than that of products for domestic use.

Miscellaneous expenses of a sector shall be 1.5 percent of the principal wage.

Business tax shall be paid in accordance with industrial and commercial tax regulations.

In the computation of labor cost of each product, each expense item must be carefully entered, all production expenses must be correctly calculated, and unjustified and negative expenses in production and economic management must be eliminated.

After charging all correct expenses incurred in labor cost, if sale prices are too high and not accepted by the consumer, the following solutions may be use:

- Production units must improve their production technique, reduce material supply norms, increase labor output, and bring down product cost and the profit margin in order that the product can be accepted by the consumer.
- With regard to staple commodities, if, after all measures are taken to reduce prices but the later are still high, recommendations shall be made to the state for reduction of tax and transport expenses.

--In case all possible measures are exhausted but the product still remains beyond the purchasing power of the consumer, its production must be reorganized. The production cooperative must revert to the production of other commodities that are in need on the city's market, in order to maintain production and ensure a steady income for its members.

The determination of labor cost in conformance with the above directives shall be effective 1 October 1985.

9458/13068

CSO: 4209/254

14 March 1986

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

ECONOMIC BUILDING ASSOCIATED WITH SECURITY PROTECTION REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 9 Dec 85 p 3

[Article by Dam Thanh of Thuan Hai: "Thuan Hai Associates the Building of Its Economic with Security Measures in Coastal Area"]

[Text] The Thuan Hai coastline runs from the Ke Ga Cape to Vinh Hy for 300 km. The province attaches great importance to the protection of political security and social order, and in the strengthening of national defense in the coastal area, and, in conjunction with those efforts, consolidates its production capabilities in the socialist style, and builds a sea economy consistent with its potential. In parallel with the reorganization of sea production, it strengthened the people's armed forces and cleaned and swept its coastal area, turning its subwards and villages into strong fortresses, and readied itself to defeat the multifaceted enemy subversive war.

The coastal defense line has been gradually strengthened. Militia and people's self-defense forces in subwards, villages, and cooperatives were consolidated. Boats taking to the sea were manned with members of those forces who served as the main production element while ready for combat. Party members, members of the Ho Chi Minh Youth Union, and discharged servicemen were assigned as reinforcements for the self-defense forces. In cooperation with border units, the latter arrested tens of ships violating the territorial waters, uncovered and deterred pirates stealing boats and fleeing to foreign countries, and other escape tries by sea. Many valiant members of the self-defense forces distinguished themselves in scores of combat situations, such as Nguyen Xu and Nguyen Xi, members of Fishing Cooperative No 3 of Binh Hung Subward; Phan Thiet, Nguyen Cuong, and platoon leader and militiaman La Di of Ham Tan District, who intelligently and heroically fought back against boat pirates. Due to good production, fishing cooperatives and production collectives were able to set up a fund to support education and training of self-defense cadres and to provide emergency relief for families in difficulty.

Integrating economic and national defense activities in the coastal area, Thuan Hai instructed its districts to carry on the strengthening of the collectivization movement, and to improve sea-product catching techniques. As a result, labor output increased, more products were obtained, the people's living conditions were improved, and with income generated from export, the province imported machinery, nets and fuel, ensuring better equipment and fuel supply for its fishing boats.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

EDITORIAL URGES DISTRICT ECONOMIC BUILDING

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 9 Dec 85 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Building the District Agricultural and Industrial Infrastructures"]

[Text] In the process of laying a solid foundation for our production in the socialist style, we resolutely go forward in gradually establishing a strong economic infrastructure in our entire nation in the agricultural and industrial domains. Within that grand context, but on a lesser scale, building the same infrastructure in each and every district is a central economic task which starts from the grassroots, and which is also of prime importance in district building. The new economic structure will allow the people in each district to progress toward collective ownership within a three-layer entity, and to simultaneously conduct a threefold revolution: building a new society, a new economy, and a new socialist man.

In each zone of our country, agriculture has its own natural and social conditions that are not necessarily identical to those of others. The Red River delta, the midlands and the northern portion of (former) Zone 4 are key rice production areas, possessing abundant labor supply and many traditional occupations and professions. Southern provinces have the greatest land potential in the entire nation, are an important food production center, offer the best temperature and light conditions, and are little affected by storms and floods. The central coastal area and the high plateaus, with their immense lands and abundant water supply capabilities, have 65 percent of the precious red basalt soil of the whole country. Mountainous provinces in the north possess large but scattered lands, sparsely populated, many varieties of industrial trees for export, and large hydroelectric potential. All areas have forest land and great and small water surfaces. Therefore, the economic structure is not totally the same in each district, and an appropriate combination of agriculture and industry, or agriculture, forestry, and industry, or forestry and industry, or agriculture, fishery, and industry, must be used with appropriate projects corresponding to local conditions.

In order to gradually attain the great production objectives in the socialist style, efforts must be geared toward the total development of agriculture with emphasis on specialized cultivation, on the optimum use of the potential of labor, land, occupations and professions, and physical installations on

hand, and on the close linkage between agricultural production with industry, primarily with the processing of agricultural, forestry and marine products. Production must be closely coordinated with distribution and communications, ensuring smooth development of the district economy from the production stage to that of processing and consumption, and adhering to district projects and plans as well as to provincial and national plans as directed by the resolution of the Seventh Plenum of the CPV Central Committee (Session 5).

Progress achieved recently in district building was the result of a correct perception of the new endeavor and the accomplishment of certain groundwork for the new economic structure. Many districts have determined the forms of their economic projects in function of local conditions. Others took advantage of their strengths in land and labor and devoted their efforts to grain production and hence, to a total development of agriculture. In addition to intensive cultivation and increasing the planting of food plants, many other districts expanded short and long-term industrial planting, animal husbandry, and forestry while deterring forest destruction. Others used water surfaces in an allout effort to help agriculture, forestry, and fish breeding in each district achieve self-sufficiency, and produce more goods and export products. The district industry has started to develop and is changing the purely agricultural district economy into an agricultural-industrial one which is in its beginning stage but deserves stimulation. Wherever industrial development is closely linked with agriculture in an appropriate structure, the coordinative efforts exert a salutary impact on agricultural production development, on labor use, and on the improvement of the people's living conditions.

In the process of establishing the district economic structure, many programs needs to be implemented, namely, the intensive cultivation of plants, primarily food plants, tree planting on fallow hills and bald mountains, use of water surfaces, construction of centralized production zones, and trees planting for export zones, industrial construction projects with priority for equipment repair, processing of agricultural, forestry and marine products, manufacturing of construction materials, and labor distribution and population development projects. Those projects need to be carried out uniformly, and related management improvement work must efficiently support the successful completion of major projects in order to build the new economic structure. Many problems have arisen, but many effective patterns have also taken shape in the organization of district service and technical agencies, and in establishing economic ties between state-operated organizations and collectives and families, and between industrial enterprises processing agricultural products and raw material zones. The new endeavors have generated a fresh vigor in the district territory which have become the convergent point where the energies of central-level sectors and of local cooperatives and production groups meet.

We need to rapidly establish a district economic structure, but we must make sure that every step forward lays a solid foundation. Building it on the spur of the moment, in rigid models, and for the purpose of window dressing is out of the question. Economic and social effectiveness is the best gauge

for the new economic structure. We will need to recapitulate the experience acquired in an objective and scientific manner, and to disseminate the lessons learned from progressive districts, in order to rapidly build the district agricultural and industrial structure, and to use the latter as a basis for district economic and social development.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

GOODS GO BACK TO THEIR PRODUCTION PLACES

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 24 Dec 85 p 2

[Article by Dang Van Thuy, B18 C3 Nam Dong Zone, Dong Da: "Goods Run in Opposite Direction"]

[Text] Currently, many people from the provinces go to Hanoi to buy full bags of dry fish and tens, even hundreds, of liters of fish sauce and soybean sauce at state-operated stores for shipment out of the city on buses and bicycles. Similarly, at kerosene stores quite a few people buy kerosene and haul it in the same opposite direction. Worse yet, while many people bring rice from the countryside to the city for sale, others--apart from dishonest merchants--buy rice in the city and ship it to other localities.

Such movement of commodities in the opposite direction, on the one hand, enables dishonest merchants to make a fortune and, on the other, wastes manpower and provisions of society because, in addition to supplies received from the central government, Hanoi has to purchase goods from other places.

To remedy the situation, responsible organs should find effective thwarting measures without having to place curbs on the circulation of goods. In addition, the trade sector should evaluate the real needs of cadres, workers, civil servants and people in the city and translate them into adequate supply plans. As far as I know, dry fish is bought mostly by people coming from other places and not by Hanoians, except in cases of emergency; hence if commercial organs rely on the large volume of dry fish sales to conclude that Hanoians are fond of it and that additional supplies are needed, they will only increase the flow of goods in the opposite direction.

Foiling that phenomenon is also a contribution to stabilizing the market and reducing traffic density in the city. It is earnestly hoped that responsible organs pay attention to that problem.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

EDITORIAL: EXPANDING PRODUCTION IS LEADING TASK

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 25 Dec 85 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Overcome Difficulties and Expand Production"]

[Text] The publication of the resolution of the 8th Plenum of the Party Central Committee marks a major change in the economic management viewpoint and policy and creates very basic conditions for stabilizing and steadily expanding the economy. The resolution must be implemented step by step and task by task at suitable moments. But in both the short-term and the long-term, expanding production is the leading task. At the moment, production is facing many difficulties. Effective measures must be found to solve the problems and overcome the obstacles so that production can expand with high productivity, good quality, low prices and rapid product distribution.

Production is the leading element of the production-circulation-distribution-consumption chain. Only if production expands strongly and many goods are produced for society will it be possible to create secure conditions for stabilizing prices, ensuring real wages, gradually improving wages, and having a stable financial position in order to satisfy the needs of society.

Today's obstacles to production are the result of major difficulties in supplying material supplies and raw materials. But even more serious is the influence of centralized bureaucracy in production and circulation. Since the implementation of the resolution of the 8th Plenum, many echelons and sectors have boldly changed their work methods and made a number of advances. But because the implementation has not been uniform or balanced, temporary difficulties have arisen. For example, "entry and exit" prices are too high. Because prices are high, sales are slow and goods have stagnated at a time when state commerce lacks commodities to sell. The rearrangement of production has created a labor surplus. The sectors and echelons have not made uniform or timely changes in order to satisfy the production expansion requirements.

In order to overcome the difficulties concerning product sales, the state has issued a decision on setting shipping and receiving prices for the production installations and the circulation units. But in the long term, to speed up the distribution of products and increase capital turnover, each production installation must strive to reduce production costs and charge prices that buyers can accept. As a result of reorganizing production, there are a number

of surplus laborers. The factories and enterprises must actively solve this problem by opening additional production and service sectors in order to provide stable work for these people, increase social wealth and support the people better. In doing these things, responsibility rests mainly with the directors under the leadership of the party committee echelons. At the same time, a revolutionary action movement must be launched among the workers and civil servants to have them emulate to fulfill and exceed this year's planned quotas and implement the 1986 plan. Also, with the guidance of the leadership echelons and with the active help of the sectors, the factories, enterprises and cooperatives must make major and uniform changes. In particular, the material supply, communications and transportation, electric power and public security sectors must coordinate things with the wards and districts and have effective measures to reduce negative aspects in the supply of materials and energy.

In implementing the resolution of the 8th Plenum of the Party Central Committee, along with striving to step up production and circulation, urgent studies must be done to build a new management mechanism with the aim of manifesting the self-sufficiency of the production installations in production and business enterprise.

We are resolved to strive to make 1986 a year of strong production expansion based on socialist economic accounting.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

KEY ECONOMIC, SOCIAL TARGETS FOR 1986 EXAMINED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 1 Jan 86 p 3

[Article: "Key Economic, Social Targets for 1986"]

[Text] Agriculture:

--Strive to successfully produce 20 million tons of grain.

--Compared with 1985 output figures, peanuts will increase at least 10 percent; beans, at least 16 percent; cigarettes, 7 percent; sugarcane, 32 percent; rubber, 5 percent; coffee, 38 percent; and tea, 11 percent.

--Hog population will increase 11.7 percent; poultry, 11 percent, and buffalo and cattle, 7.2 percent.

--About 1.4 million cubic meters of wood will be exploited.

--Compared with 1985, marine product output will increase 2 percent; marine product exports, 10 percent.

Industry and Small Industry and Handicrafts:

--Coal output must increase 11 percent over 1985.

--Electricity output will increase 12 percent; oil and coal savings will amount from 5 to 10 percent.

--Production of various kinds of phosphate fertilizer will increase 6 percent.

--Steel output will increase 2.6 percent.

--Expand oil prospection and actively prepare for exploitation to acquire crude oil as soon as possible.

--Paper output will increase 9 percent; sugar, 5.5 percent; tea, 16 percent; canned goods, 13 percent; and cigarettes, 2 percent.

Exports and Imports:

--Export value will increase at least 14 percent; import value, 6 percent.

Distribution and Circulation:

--Strive to control 90 percent of wholesale trade and 70 percent of retail trade.

--Strive to reduce at least 10 percent of manufacturing and circulation costs.

--Compared with 1985, reduce from 15 to 20 percent of administrative expenditures.

Education and Public Health:

--In 1986-1987, student enrollment in colleges and higher schools will increase 8 percent; in middle vocational schools, 7 percent and in technical worker schools, 19 percent.

--Total number of hospital beds will increase 4.6 percent, compared with 1985.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

HAIPHONG TRANSFERS ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 2 Jan 86 p 1

[Unattributed article: "Haiphong Transfers Members of Professional Administrative Apparatus to Basic Level Units"]

[Text] Outstanding features in the recent economic activities of Haiphong have been a strong shift from bureaucratic centralism and state subsidization to socialist economic accounting and business practices and strengthened market and price management.

Recently, the Standing Committee of the Haiphong Municipal Party Committee advocated a gradual staff reduction for professional administrative components; and strengthening of the fields of market and price management and resistance to speculation and smuggling with the purpose of urgently striving for gradual market and price stabilization.

Cadres have returned to the primary level this time to join subwards, streets, major markets, etc. in ascertaining the situation of each household, and each individual to stimulate promotion of small industry and handicraft production and to develop the family economy within the local area. On that basis, the tasks of market and price management and resistance to speculation and smuggling are conducted. One of the primary requirements of the cadres returning to the primary level is a concept of discipline organization, with no relatives engaged in illegal trade activities or active in circulation and distribution facilities where there are presently complex problems requiring examination.

Within the scope of the training plan, the dispatch of many capable cadres to primary level units also has an effect of creating conditions for them to establish close contact with the lives and movements and thoroughly understand the thoughts, aspirations and lives of the masses, forging and testing them. Agencies and enterprises cannot acquire additional personnel after reductions and transfers to the primary level are made but must rearrange their indirect apparatus. The Haiphong Municipal Party Committee considers this an effective method for gradually reducing the indirect apparatus in the professional administrative area while simultaneously producing the effective result for each cadre of market management.

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

HO CHI MINH CITY WOMEN REGULATE PRIVATE TRADE

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 2 Jan 86 pp 1, 4

[Unattributed article: "Ho Chi Minh City Women Participate in Small Merchant Reemployment and Market Management"]

[Text] By forms attracting women to participate in improving circulation, distribution and small industry and handicraft production, Ho Chi Minh City last year provided jobs for more than 14,430 female laborers.

The Municipal Women's Association consolidated and deployed 3,319 auxiliary points of consumer and marketing cooperatives and agents, and arranged 180 pushcarts for women to conduct roving sales of goods to personally support the consumer. The association also participated in arranging employment for 4,943 private operators in 555 business cooperation, food and beverage service, etc. establishments with 23.2 million dong in capital. The rice agent network of the women's association has been rearranged into two systems: 2,697 business agents and 327 price subsidy agents for the workers and civil servants. Various echelons of the association in the city participated in supervising, inspecting and discovering with the local administration many negative actions occurring in the markets and business cooperation stores such as underweighing, pilferage, incorrect sales prices, etc. Through the improvement of 290 women's teams in accordance with goods sectors in the consumer cooperatives with 2,690 collective commerce association members and consolidation of association organizations in the markets, the Women's Association assisted and joined local administrations to participate in transforming and reemploying small merchants and market management in the city.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

QUANG NAM-DA NANG EXTENDS ENTERPRISE AUTONOMY

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 2 Jan 86 pp 2, 4

[Article by Dang Minh Phuong: "Quang Nam-Da Nang Ensures Business Production Initiative and Financial Autonomy of Basic Units"]

[Text] Decisions on Planning and Management

To expand the power and responsibility of the enterprise and to ensure that plans are truly formulated from the basic level, the Quang Nam-Da Nang Provincial Party Committee decided that planning must depend on the specific situation of each basic unit assigned from two to three legal norms. The state assigns production units the three norms of: an output value of achieved commodities and primary products in accordance with a business contract; a budget payment during the plan year (for the collective economy, state-cooperative economic contract norms and tax payment norms are used); and primary materials required by the state for offsetting units in the plan. Trade units are only assigned two norms: purchases and sales, and level of efforts to reduce circulation expenses.

In recruiting, training, promoting, arranging employment for and dismissing laborers, the power and responsibility of the enterprise director have also been expanded. Enterprises have the right to establish general wage funds and to select forms of salary payment and awards for laborers in accordance with the labor results of each individual aimed at stimulating an increase in labor productivity.

Concerning materials, supply agencies must ensure the supply of materials and energy to enterprises following the plan and contract with the precise quantity, quality, time and location of material assignment during the plan year. If contract violations occur, damages must be compensated and fines levied. The enterprise has full authority to consider materials acquired through self-exploitation, cultivation, raising and association. The Provincial People's Committee has a policy of stimulating and creating every condition for basic units to easily organize production, exploitation and association.

Offsetting products in the state plan must be delivered to the state in accordance with the plan and in case of non receipt by the state, the enterprise will inform the Provincial People's Committee and request permission for consumption. A product that is a material self-provided by the enterprise will be sold by the enterprise to the state agency at a price agreed upon by both sides. If the state does not buy the product, the enterprise has the right to arrange for consumption.

The prices of supplies and raw materials and the product sales prices of the enterprise are the subject of discussion and agreement between the enterprise and the customers as expressed in the contract for raw material supply as well as product marketing which both parties have pledged. The enterprise takes the initiative in planning product sales prices on the principle of full compensation for production expenditures, profit for the enterprise and acceptance by society. The State Price Commission only provides guidance and assistance to basic units in formulating a minimum and maximum price framework that is approved by the provincial chairman.

On the basis of defining fixed and liquid assets, units have full authority to use assets and the right to increase or decrease assets consistent with the requirements of scientific and technical development and production and business activities aimed at returning high economic effectiveness. After fully repaying the state budget, the enterprise has full authority to use the remaining portion of the production and business results of the enterprise in objectives of production development, awards and welfare, and to raise the income of cadres and workers in the enterprise.

The bank is a monetary business agency of the state and relations between the enterprise and the state bank are equal and must be on the basis of economic contracts in monetary use. The basic unit has full authority for use of its money in the bank. In that spirit, the basic unit must only open two accounts in the bank: one for payments and one for deposits. The enterprise and the bank hold discussions and establish a specific contract on cash for production and business in accordance with the principle of ensuring production and business without obstacles and with bank management of the money.

Enterprises producing export goods may make direct contact with the international market for understanding in customer requirements and preferences in order to unceasingly improve the goods. If permitted by the state to engage directly in export, enterprises have full authority to sign economic contracts with foreign customers, and if foreign exchange capital is required to purchase raw materials, supplies, equipment and machinery to produce export goods, they have the full authority to borrow foreign capital and to be fully responsible for the economic effectiveness of foreign exchange loans and the contracts they have signed. If imports and exports are achieved through another economic unit, the enterprise also has rights equal to those of that unit in marketing and payment relations.

Basic level units have full authority, originating from business and production requirements and calculation of economic effectiveness, to decide the organization of the management apparatus and the form of production organization consistent with the characteristics of the products and production crafts in the enterprise while relying on a basis of scientific and technical progress. The enterprise has the right to select and participate in forms of joint enterprise production cooperation and association with other economic units in the province, in the country and in foreign countries on the principle of voluntary action, equality and joint benefit (joint business cooperation with foreign countries must be approved by the state).

Movements in Organization

After deciding the specific themes noted above, the province since the middle of December 1985 has conducted experiments in many industrial, forestry, and marine products units, state farms, and small industry and handicraft cooperatives, a number of trade corporations, and in the districts of Dien Ban and Duy Xuyen. The Provincial People's Committee has begun to directly assign business and production plans to 18 enterprises in the province without passing through the intermediate step of the managing service. This action demands great efforts by the provincial planning agency which must maintain close contact with the situation in order to serve as a staff in assigning the plan and following plan operations. From the very beginning, thanks to a clear understanding of the amount of materials that the state is able to supply, enterprises have been able to accept plan levels and calculate conditions for ensuring the production of marketable and profitable goods, such as the joint knitting enterprises of the province, Textile Mill 29-3, the knitting enterprise, the Tam Ky Ready-Made Clothing Enterprise, etc. Plants producing low quality products must use much expensive energy such as electricity, coal and firewood, and losses are suffered if product costs are high; it is necessary to recalculate for the greatest benefit or to shift the production course to prevent the situation from developing haphazardly.

As the right of the basic unit's initiative is ensured, the leadership role of the managing service is made clear. For example, the industrial service is an enterprise management agency with a function of directly managing subordinate enterprises and serving as the administrative, economic and technical management staff of the sector at the provincial level. Due to many difficulties, the service has always neglected administrative, economic and technical management in the sector, including that concerning the directly subordinate enterprises, and has been accustomed to serving as a replacement for the enterprise with emphasis on resolving immediate administrative tasks, including service as an intermediary in the pursuit of materials. Now, the State Planning Commission and the province maintain close and direct contact with the life of the enterprise, both to reduce bureaucratic centralism and the intermediate step, and to create conditions for the managing service to properly enter the orbit of activity with its inherent position of formulating the sector plan, managing the economy (delving into accounting control to discover the weak steps of the enterprise), managing technology (selecting the most rational craft regulations, applying new techniques, innovations and inventions, and ensuring the levels of material losses and product quality), managing labor safety, formulating plans for the elementary and advanced training of sector cadres and workers, managing human affairs, applying labor and salary norms, studying and applying progressive experience in labor norms and forms of salary payment, and using economic levers in a precise manner. It also performs the above functions in other enterprises within the territorial area of sectors with industrial enterprises and conducts economic and technical management for district and village levels, assists the province with suggestions concerning centrally operated enterprises within the province, etc.

Thus, the apparatus of the service must be composed of specialists with greater composite knowledge and skill than the enterprise. For a long time, due to

administrative reasons, the service has had little combined brain power and now requires few personnel but those well-versed in their profession. Consequently, the provincial industrial service of seven bureaus has been reduced to two, the administrative and management bureau and the human affairs organization bureau, and four specialist teams: economics, accounting, technical, and industrial planning and management at the district level. The specialists are responsible to the service. Therefore, they must be skilled in and thoroughly know their work, and directors and deputy directors must have greater skills than the specialists. With the above method of arrangement, at the very beginning, the Provincial Industrial Service reduced the number of its cadres by 25 percent (from 60 down to 45), sending them down to the basic units to serve as directors, deputy directors or as bureau chiefs. Naturally, difficulties and confusion were unavoidable at first but it is clear that such organization as above opens up capabilities for increasing the leadership effectiveness of the managing service and that leadership is greatly needed by the enterprises.

Districts in Quang Nam-Da Nang such as Dien Ban, Duy Xuyen, Thang Binh, etc. have also begun organization rearrangement along a course of reducing and eliminating the intermediate steps and strengthening the basic unit. The agency apparatus of Dien Ban District was reduced from 194 cadres to 126, a reduction of more than one-third. The district has also eliminated or reduced a great many bureaus, has organized work teams, and has used specialists and business and production units; such as eliminating the agricultural bureau, establishing crop and livestock service corporations, etc.

Ensuring the right of initiative in production and business and the financial autonomy of basic units allows them to develop their capabilities, to operate with increasingly greater economic effectiveness, and to serve their own general interests and those of all society but absolutely does not permit them to use all their assets in accordance with their own personal wishes, for the enterprise is not a "kingdom." Enterprise and basic level unit leaders are permitted to take the initiative in production and business, both to overcome the spirit of dependence created during the protracted period of state subsidization, and to make dynamic and skilled calculations with a spirit of principle and high discipline.

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CSO: 4209/281

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

EDITORIAL STRESSES STATE CONTROL OF GOODS SOURCES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 4 Jan 86 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Good Organization of State Purchasing, Goods Source Control"]

[Text] The socialist state, with a function of economic management, must firmly control increasingly greater commodity stocks in order to direct every activity of the national economy in accordance with a unified plan and to promptly answer the requirements of production and social consumption. The good organization of requisitioning, purchasing and control of goods not only assists in stimulating production development but also is a condition for ensuring the increased strength of socialist commerce in order to control the unorganized market, transform private commerce and stabilize prices and the lives of the people. The Resolution of the Ninth Plenum of the Party Central Committee stated, "Reorganize the requisition, purchase and sales of goods in order for the state to control a large portion of the agricultural, forestry, marine, and small industry and handicraft goods, and to control all products of state-operated enterprises, and to ensure that the state controls the market."

An extremely important problem at this time, on the basis of promoting agricultural and industrial production, the state must control the greatest portion of essential goods sources in order to conduct planned distribution for the rational requirements of society. Grain collection must be strengthened, first of all in the provinces of the south, with urgent achievement on a nationwide scale of state unified and exclusive management of the grain business, basic materials and essential consumer goods which are solely produced or imported by the state. Business licenses must not be issued and private individuals must be forbidden to deal in these products. The Ministries of Home Trade and Marine Products must supervise local areas in promoting the purchase, requisition and assignment of pork, fish, fish sauce and other important food goods for large cities, concentrated industrial areas and the armed forces, especially those forces on the front line. It is necessary to swiftly deal with entanglements in requisitioning and purchasing organization and in material and goods shipping and receiving fees between the production units and the circulation and distribution units aimed at rapidly delivering products to the consumer without stagnating in the warehouse. The exploitation, requisitioning, purchase and control of in-place goods sources in the local area and nation are the most important course. The area of small industry and handicrafts production and family economy is an extremely rich and multifaceted source of consumer goods but is now pursuing the free market without organization and is under the control of private commerce. Supervision and delivery of sufficient products to the state in accordance with obligations, the plan, and consignment

and purchasing contracts have not yet been given the proper level of concern by localities and basic units, and party committee and administrative echelons still provide nonspecific contracts to circulation and distribution sectors while these sectors have not yet promptly risen and lack dynamic methods: the requisition, purchase and commission network has not been uniformly organized, distribution regulation is slow, and there are many impediments and duplications. Therefore, a situation still exists in a number of consumer goods in which some locations have surpluses and some shortages, creating difficulties for market and price management and transformation of private commerce.

Under the socialist system, the results of requisitioning, purchasing and controlling the sources of agricultural products, food and consumer goods depend to an important part on relations between the worker and farmer classes in joint control, and the relationship between the distribution and circulation sectors and the industrial sectors, comprising also the artisan industry. This is coordination between on one side the state agency unceasingly striving to create favorable material conditions for production, and on the other side the farmers, workers and various levels of the laboring people with an obligation to contribute products to the state for use in fair and rational distribution in support of production and social consumption. Under the direct leadership and supervision of party committee and administrative echelons, circulation and distribution sectors must unceasingly strive to develop the effectiveness of party and state positions and policies, to come forward in organizing stronger relations between the two sides, and to advance toward the specific results of stimulating production development, on that basis promoting the requisition and purchase of goods sources.

Socialist commerce must be present wherever there are production and goods in order to conduct purchasing, regulation and distribution.

Of significant importance to the tasks of requisitioning and purchasing and the control of goods sources is that circulation and distribution sectors must regularly and firmly coordinate with local administrative echelons and basic units to fully and promptly ensure the necessary material requirements for strongly affecting production in accordance with the plan, especially concerning the specialized and concentrated production areas and the essential and important commodities with great requirements. Investment formulas for production must not be rigid and inflexible but extremely versatile, depending on the requirements, preferences and production, stock raising and consignment habits of each area, basic unit, production relations standard, and specific commodity. Some locations will make direct investments with fertilizer and fuel or through prices, either through association and joint business to exploit goods sources, follow the consignment formula, or sell raw materials to purchase finished products such as in the small production and handicrafts area, through that expanding control of goods all the way to their source without passing through the hands of private commerce. These new rational policies are stimulating state-operated enterprises and small-industry and handicraft facilities to sell products to socialist commerce, not arbitrarily delivering them to the free market.

Each locality and each unit in the circulation and distribution sectors must begin with the production and consumer requirements of the area and the entire

nation to formulate a plan for actively promoting production, seeking new capabilities, technical advances and dynamism in requisitioning and purchasing, and conducting specific and clear labor division and decentralization in accordance with the location and goods sector; eliminating the irrational and unnecessary intermediate steps. An urgent issue at this time is the need to reestablish socialist order in the market, first of all within the area of state-operated economy. Every sector, echelon and basic unit must execute discipline in prices, finance, money and market management. Agencies and units without a business function may not conduct business. It is necessary to immediately halt the situation of trade competition, driving prices up, arbitrarily setting and raising prices, and creating loopholes for dishonest merchants to disrupt the market and even compete for the purchase of state goods.

Concern for concentrating a majority of the commodities of society in the hands of the state must be closely connected with efforts to unceasingly strengthen the forces of socialist commerce, promote the transformation of private commerce, rearrange the markets and goods interchange centers, eliminate the open air market locations, resolutely punish speculators and smugglers, especially the ringleaders, and actively manage the market and prices. Marketing cooperatives must be competent assistants ably accepting and performing the work of commissioned requisitioning and purchasing for state-operated commerce, properly exploiting the sources of goods from the family economy, small industry and handicraft trade sectors, and from small primary level collective units and individuals in the subwards and hamlets.

A socialist state in firm control of a large part of the goods sources of society is an important condition for controlling the market and prices and for assisting to stabilize production and life.

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CSO: 4209/281

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

HAIPHONG CITY ISSUES DETERMINATION ENCOURAGING HOME ECONOMICS

Haiphong HAIPHONG in Vietnamese 10 Oct 85 p 3

[Text of Determination Attached to Decision No 1123/QD/UB dated 2 October 1985 of the Municipal People's Committee: "Some Policies and Measures To Encourage Home Economics"]

[Text] In execution of Directive No 35 of the Secretariat of the CPV Central Committee and Resolution No 19 of the standing committee of the CPV municipal committee on "Providing Guidance and Encouraging the Development of Home Economics," many localities, bureaus, sectors, subwards and villages in the city have formulated specific plans to provide leadership and guidance to the effect. These specific plans were established in function of the overall plans and annual production plans of various units, exploiting all potentials in labor, land, and professions to produce scores of consumer and export goods, and contributing to the improvement of living conditions for each family.

However, the movement has not developed in a homogenous and vigorous manner, many localities and units have still failed to provide a close leadership, and many bureaus and sectors at the city level have not provided adequate assistance to basic units. As a consequence, results obtained in the execution of the above party policy were limited.

In order to successfully carry out the directives and resolutions of the CPV Central Committee and the CPV municipal committee, the municipal people's committee hereby issues this "Determination Pertaining to Measures and Policies to Encourage Home Economics" as follows:

I. The Role and Significance of Home Economics Within the Socialist Economy

1. Encouraging, providing guidance, and assisting home economics to develop in the right direction is an actual component of the socialist economy and a major policy of the state and the government.

Home economics shall stay with the socialist regime for a long time, and campaigning for its development shall be closely connected to the same efforts to boost the national economy. It shall complete, quantitatively and qualitatively, the production of products and goods for the numerous needs

in production and export, and for the consumer. Therefore, all sectors, levels, and units shall provide whatever assistance is needed for its development.

2. The development of home economics encompasses a large variety of forms that are appropriate to both urban and rural economy, and to the process of reforming and strengthening each local economy. Implemented with realistic planning and specific projects, it may assist in rapidly establishing centralized production areas of production for the processing industry, and in manufacturing consumer and export goods.

Depending on local conditions and the capabilities of each family, home economics includes, but is not limited to, planting, animal husbandry, handicraft, services, salt fish, forestry, and the production of fine, artistic, and unique traditional products.

In the inner-city area, the development of home economics shall be encouraged under the TDC formula (handicraft, services, poultry and fowl industrial breeding, and hog breeding).

In the outer-city area: it shall be conducted under the VAC formula (gardening, fish ponds and traditional professions).

II. The Municipal Policy in Encouraging Home Economics

A. Outlying areas:

1. Family land: In terms of garden land and fields left for family production as a percentage of the expropriated land when land collectivization was executed by previous determinations, there shall be no increase, decrease or redistribution; however, since certain irrationalities have occurred in the use of land in past decades, it is hereby uniformly decided that:

a. Families that, after joining agricultural cooperatives, were distributed 5 percent of their expropriated land for gardening and planting green vegetables, and that have moved out of the area: the cooperatives shall recover the land distributed and shall not allow subject families to yield, sell, or trade that land.

Families not distributed the 5-percent land, and large families for whom the 5-percent land was too small: land distribution shall be adjusted under the principle of distributing infertile and distant land in order to encourage recipients to contribute to soil reforming. This adjusted distribution shall also apply to servicemen of the People's Armed Forces, war invalids, retired cadres, and workers and employees actually living with their families who are cooperative members, if no land was previously distributed to them.

b. Excavated land, fallow yards and small ponds that need extensive labor and money to reform and use, shall be given by the cooperative to families to reclaim by leveling or filling, and this land grant shall not be included

in the contracted field. Localities with hills and mountains shall distribute those land and forests to cooperatives and members to encourage an integrated form of agriculture and afforestation.

c. Land situated in inner-city areas and land belonging to construction sites and enterprises: In order to avoid wasting land resources, the district people's committees shall recommend to the municipal capital construction commission and to the municipal people's committee the issuance of permits to use excess or unused land for house building or for production purposes.

Land belonging to the city's collective farms and other state-operated stations or installations, shall be distributed to the units' cadres and employees, in conformance with current projects, for house building and home economics activities by decision of the Council of Ministers. If the farm or station, or installation still has extra land that is left uncultivated, the land may be loaned to the families of cadres, workers, and employees for production activities to raise family income.

d. If the cooperative is unable to use all its land for the winter crop, portions of unused land may be loaned to the families of cooperative members for production. District economic organizations shall, together with related cooperatives, provide guidance for cooperative members in using that land for production, and shall sign appropriate contracts for the purchasing or trade of goods produced from that land.

2. Lakes and ponds: Cooperatives shall directly make investments, engage in production and business activities, and manage large marshes and lakes. Small ones shall be given to the families of cooperative members for direct exploitation to increase their income.

Cooperatives possessing numerous lakes and ponds shall organize a fish-breeding group and make sure that appropriate attention be given for mature fish breeding and for supplying enough fry for the families. Cooperatives with a few lakes and ponds shall make connections with related state-operated sectors or with other cooperatives for producing enough fry for their members. The district and cooperatives shall provide technical guidance in fish breeding in order to rapidly increase output and to raise economic efficiency.

3. Animal husbandry; The city shall launch a campaign for the development of animal husbandry, aiming at increasing the sources of food for consumer's use and for export, and at raising the people's income and living conditions. Efforts shall be made so that in a short period of time, many districts, cooperatives, and families raise 10-20 pigs or more; to encourage families to raise domestic fowl, particularly ducks and geese for export; to encourage families to raise draft cattle, breeder cattle, beef cattle, dairy cattle.

The city shall allow cooperatives to set aside 5 to 8 percent of the breeding area (of the total of 15 percent of the old breeding area) to raise sows, breeder cattle, ducks and geese. The remaining breeding area (of the old 15 percent breeding area) shall be distributed to members under a form of

contracting, and not left for the cooperative business fund's activities as currently arranged. Sow raising shall be done in two forms: concentrated breeding for those cooperatives having the capabilities, and contracting with families, in order that every year, the cooperative has enough little pigs for breeding for meat, and enough good breeders to supply members at cooperative internal price.

B. Inner-City Areas

1. In the context of home economics, handicraft production shall be encouraged and guidance shall be provided to this effect. The advantages of the city in terms of its port and its industry shall be exploited to the optimum. Economic units, enterprises and corporations of the central level located in Haiphong and the same local organizations, and handicraft, communications and construction cooperatives shall review the lists of produced goods, and expand contracting with families of cadres, workers, and employees in order to use available labor to the fullest extent and to raise the family income.

To gradually provide home economics with small industrial equipment, the city encourages sailors traveling overseas to buy small machines for handicraft and agricultural production and loan them to families under contract.

2. The service industry shall be improved to address the substantial needs in production and other service areas in the city.

The commerce and tourist sectors, and the district people's committees shall provide guidance for subwards to conduct surveys to make sure consumer needs in the forms of services, such as tailoring, repairs, barber and beauty shops, laundry, toy and home appliances production, processing, restaurants, hostelry, janitorial services, car, motorcycle and bicycle guarding, and pawn shops, be investigated and known in detail in order to organize appropriate service networks accordingly; to set up tourist, industrial, agricultural, port, and other service businesses. The service industry shall alleviate unemployment and raise the family income.

3. Animal husbandry in inner-city areas:

a. Hog raising: families having appropriate areas can raise hogs but they must comply with sanitation laws and not create annoyances to other families or violate laws and rules about street sanitation.

The Feed Enterprise and the Thanh To Farm (Department of Agriculture) are permitted to sell small pigs and composite feed for inner-city hog breeders. The veterinary stations in three districts shall extend their networks and shall sign contracts with breeder families for veterinary services.

b. Industrial chicken breeding: The Chicken Enterprise (Department of Agriculture) shall formulate a plan including breeder and composite feed supply, instruction for building chicken houses, and contracting, trading,

and supply policies, and submit it to the standing committee of the CPV municipal committee for approval and implementation, in order to achieve a movement of industrial chicken raising in the city for export and local consumption.

III. Procedures Relative to Material Supplies, Financial, Technical, and Distribution and Circulation Matters

1. Tax policy

Except for taxes levied on land (tax on ricefields shall be paid in paddy, and on other plants, in cash), slaughterhouse tax, and industrial and commerce taxes currently in force, the state shall not levy any tax on products derived from home economics. The department of finance, the tax subdepartment and the city market management section shall provide appropriate instructions in this matter.

2. Investment policy

a. Loans granted by the State Bank for the home economics development: in outlying areas, those loans shall be processed by credit cooperatives, and in inner-city areas, by the socialist saving fund.

b. Annually, the municipal planning commission and the department of finance shall set aside capital, equipment and material supplies for state-operated economic organizations to produce young plants, breeders, animal feed, and to organize professional training courses in support of home economics.

c. District people's committees shall direct localities in setting aside portions of self-procured capital to invest in agricultural and handicraft cooperatives for economic linkages with families in the form of additional capital, young plants and breeders, technical supplies, purchasing of raw materials, discarded materials and products; and they shall establish purchasing networks, and organize the processing of agricultural products and food obtained from home economics activities.

3. Distribution and Circulation

If there is no contracting with state-operated economic agencies or collectives, the producer shall have the right to directly sell all products derived from home economics to state-operated trade organizations, export businesses, marketing cooperatives, or to consumers. Tax and market management agencies and the police shall provide assistance and guidance, and create favorable conditions for the distribution and consumption of home economics products, and shall correctly enforce any related measures on price and market management as determined by current state policies.

In coordination with related agencies, the municipal market management committee shall assist district people's committees in planning the operational and management activities of rural, town and inner-city market in order to facilitate the marketing of home economics products, and to deter

dishonest merchants from hoarding, price manipulating, and illegally competing with the state in purchasing the products.

The socialist commerce sector (including state-operated and marketing cooperatives) shall plan for providing guidance and for encouraging families to sell agricultural products and other goods from home economics activities through two-way economic contracts, with prices totally agreed upon by seller and buyer. It shall see to it that home economics ventures bring profit to families to allow reinvestment and reproduction.

IV. Implementation Measures

In order to carry out party and state resolutions on encouraging home economics: at the city level, a leadership committee shall be organized with the comrade member of the standing committee of the CPV municipal committee, the vice chairman of the municipal people's committee as chairman; the director of the agriculture, forestry and fishery sector as executive officer; and with members, representatives or leaders of bureaus, sectors, and related mass organizations. At districts, subwards, villages, economic organizations, and enterprises, a leadership committee with similar composition, shall be organized. Each level of the leadership shall, on the basis of this determination, draw its own implementation measures.

City synthesized agencies shall assign one or two cadres especially in charge or home economics activity followup. The HAIPHONG DAILY shall frequently run specialized reports on home economics.

Cultural and information agencies, and radio and television stations shall extensively disseminate and air news pertaining to outstanding achievements obtained by localities, units and families for further learning from the experience, and keep the movement's momentum.

Summary and recapitulation reports shall be made annually, including recommendations for improving the execution of the above policy of the party and the state.

9458/9435

CSO: 4209/215

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BRIEFS

GOODS SOLD--In late September and early October 1985, with the support of the people, the people's police forces have uncovered a great many places in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City where goods and material supplies were unlawfully hoarded or hidden. Right before and after the currency change, dishonest merchants dispatched their henchmen to buy those goods and material supplies at any price in a devious scheme of hoarding and reselling for a profit. [Text]
[Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Nov 85 p 2] 9458/12228

UNTRUE ECONOMIC REPORTING CRITICIZED--Some economic units in Ha Nam Ninh eager to show off and hide shortcomings have filed untrue reports. Often-fabricated figures have made it impossible for their managerial echelons to make correct assessments for realistic and effective production guidance. Last year, a provincial state farm reported having fulfilled the state plan; in fact, it had borrowed products from other places to make up for the shortfall. Likewise, the Xuan Thuy food enterprise has inflated its gross output by 50 percent so that it could report having completed many state norms. Similar instances of untrue reporting have tampered with economic information in agriculture. As of 15 October, crop figures submitted by winter crop district guidance committees have exceeded official statistics by nearly 6,000 hectares, including 2,000 hectares for sweet potato and 1,400 hectares for vegetables. In our opinion, to resolutely switch to economic accounting and socialist business the first remedial measure we have to take is to ensure accuracy in statistical and accounting work from basic installations to the districts and province and truth in doing business and reporting to higher echelons. [Text]
[Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Dec 85 p 2] 9213

/12951

CSO: 4209/227

AGRICULTURE

EXCESSIVE HARVESTING DESTROYING MARINE RESOURCES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Jan 86 p 2

['Readers' letters' Column: "Indiscriminate Exploitation of Marine Products"]

[Text] For the past few years, the volume of marine products of export value such as shrimp, squid, fish, etc. in many localities has rapidly increased. However, worthy of concern is that in the large fishing grounds of Kien Giang, Minh Hai, Thanh Hoa, Quang Ninh, etc. provinces, many boats and ships are frantically operating without regard to the small shrimp and fish, those bearing eggs, or the spawning season. Many locations use types of small-mesh nets to catch everything or explosives to kill all large and small shrimp and fish in the ocean. These destructive methods interrupt the reproduction cycle of the marine product species and cause the resources to dry up. Therefore, shrimp catches in a number of major grounds are declining, in some locations to only 60 to 70 percent compared with previous years.

Such methods of exploitation have no planning and do not precisely follow state regulations on protecting marine resources. Localities must ensure every good condition for marine species to continue to mature and develop, only in that way creating resources for long-term fishing.

Tran Quang
Thai Binh

7300
CSO: 4209/281

AGRICULTURE

READER CRITICIZES POOR DRAFT ANIMAL TREATMENT

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Jan 86 p 2

['Readers' Letters' column: "Don't Allow Large Buffaloes and Cattle To Collapse in Large Numbers"]

[Text] Nearly 30 buffaloes purchased in the forested mountain regions of Bac Thai Province and brought directly into the area of Phu Cam and Tri Phuong of Ha Bac Province have collapsed. Large numbers died because they were not purchased through an intermediate transfer station, a location assigned responsibility for adapting animals to the different climate and training them for the difficult and heavy work in the fields and abandoning their previous habits of drifting freely and contentedly in the forest.

Methods of buffalo and cattle care and feeding are also poor. Many regions in Tien Son, Yen Phong and Yen Dung lack stables and the animals are usually tied to a tree or in a corner of the garden with insufficient straw set aside for cold winter days. The system of annual vaccination and disease prevention is being forgotten. However, the animals are still forced to exert themselves in pulling a plow from early morning until pitch dark. This winter-spring season, each animal must plow and harrow at least 2.5 hectares.

With such a system of care and feeding, buffaloes brought from other locations, no matter how fat and healthy, will collapse.

Bang Giang
Ha Bac

7300
CSO: 4209/281

14 March 1986

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

NORTHERN IRRIGATION WORK--By mid-February 1986, enough water had been supplied for more than 800,000 hectares of spring rice. The water conservancy, electric, and agricultural services effectively cooperated with the local people to serve agricultural production. These services and peasants in north Vietnam are striving to water the whole spring rice acreage by 25 February and complete the transplanting of the spring rice in the quickest possible time. [Text] [Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 20 Feb 86 BK] /6662

CSO: 4200/732

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

FOSTER ACTIVE ROLE OF STATE INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Dec 85 p 2

[Article: "Foster Active Role of Enterprises, Rearrange Industrial Production"]

[Text] A state-run industrial enterprise (enterprise, in abbreviated form) is a basic production and business unit and a cell industry and the national economy in general. An enterprise is a place where a segment of state material and technical bases is directly managed and used to create products and accumulate capital for society and where party and state policies and procedures on economic and social management are directly tested out and implemented. It is also a place where the combined strength and the right to collective mastery of the laboring masses are directly fostered and where three revolutions are at work round the clock--production relationships revolution, scientific and technical revolution, and ideological and cultural revolution, in which the scientific and technical revolution plays a key role.

Like a perfect living organism, the national socialist economy can develop vigorously only when its cells--i.e. basic economic units--are able to grow wholesomely and function freely and effectively in keeping with CPV economic and social goals.

Currently, in light of the foremost role of enterprises and the need to resolutely eliminate bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies and correctly put in place democratic centralism, economic accounting, and socialist business according to the resolution of the Eighth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee (Session V), it is especially important to foster the active role of enterprises in production and business under centralized and unified state management.

The active role of enterprises must be reflected in the relationship between the latter and the state (vertical relationships) and other economic units inside and outside the country (horizontal relationships for which state approval is required), and in the relationships between management and workers and civil servants (intra-enterprise relationships).

The active role of enterprises must also be reflected in the areas of rearranging and reorganizing production; of labor and management; of planning;

of economic accounting; of management of provisions supply and utilization and product consumption and in other areas of enterprise production and business.

Production rearrangement is a big and important task, serving both as a basis and prerequisite for implementing the new managerial system.

That policy was formulated by our party at its Fourth Congress. The Fifth Congress again affirmed, "In rearranging production installations, we must devote material conditions in priority to speeding up production of goods in support of livelihood, export, and national defense consolidation. Consequently, we must supply more equipment, machinery, energy, and provisions to some installation while adjusting, or shifting production goals in others. We must reorganize the production and business apparatus of sectors and trades from central to local and basic levels, creating a production structure composed of harmonious parts endowed with dynamic and rising capabilities."

The above task was substantiated by subsequent resolutions of the CPV Central Committee and Council of Ministers.

In recent years, the production rearrangement effort has shown, aside from initial results, problems in need of urgent settlement. Many echelons, sectors, and enterprises have failed to really grasp the party and state policy of production rearrangement; to regularly link that task with production and business activities and with the need for managerial improvement; to exercise active and resolute guidance and to achieve close coordination. Currently, spontaneous and scattered production, not in line with sector, local, and national planning, is still fairly widespread. Quite a few small industry and handicraft production installations have "blown up" at will. Production capabilities are dispersed and heterogeneous. Such a situation has led to immoderate use of state supplies and energy and to conflicts with existing state industrial installations over acquisition of raw materials. These are major reasons why production capabilities in industrial, production, and business enterprises are not properly utilized and why effectiveness is low.

The resolution of the Eighth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee (Session V), clearly indicates, "We must reorganize and rearrange industrial production... Along with recomputing wholesale prices, we must address a wide array of structural and organizational problems relating to production and management, in the entire national economy as well as in each sector and basic unit, guided by the spirit of strictly eliminating state subsidies and conducting economic accounting and socialist business. As regards unprofitable enterprises and products, we must reexamine the commodity list, standing ready if the need arises, to shift, even shut down, production.

To properly carry out the above tasks we must, while rearranging production, do the following--fully grasp and implement party and state economic policies, promote production growth, attain the highest economic output, create a vigorous and adequate balance, reestablish socialist order in production and

business while comprehensively improving management and striving to put in place a fitting, dynamic and highly effective managerial system.

Guided by the rearrangement of sector and local production and the classification of enterprises, all installations must take the initiative to redefine and rationalize product planning and ensure stability by strengthening specialized production of key commodities while fully availing themselves of production capabilities and supply sources to turn out large quantities of consumer goods for society.

In light of redefined production goals, enterprises must rearrange machinery, equipment, and industrial production lines to homogenize production capabilities and must apply scientific and technical advances to increase output and product quality and reduce manufacturing costs to offset losses and achieve profitability. At the same time, they must rearrange manpower, production components, provisions transportation and supply, product marketing, and managerial responsibilities.

To create favorable conditions for enterprises in rearranging production, the state will issue regulations to modify, reinforce, and substantiate policies and procedures designed to foster the active role of enterprises in the fields of self-financing, borrowing (including foreign capital), investments, purchases, transfers or sales, and economic association to find supply sources and promptly homogenize production capabilities.

Rearranging industrial production is an extremely urgent and important task which contributes to fostering the active role of enterprises in production and business in order to achieve high output, quality and efficiency.

9213/12951

CSO: 4209/227

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

INTERVIEW ON WHITE CEMENT PRODUCTION REPORTED

Hanoi KHAO HOC VA DOI SONG in Vietnamese 1 Nov 85 p 5

[Article by Lan Anh and Hai Yen: "Ready To Assist Organizations in Producing White Cement"]

[Text] We have talked to many a scientific and technical cadre who did research on construction materials, but this was the very first time we met with a female comrade who was versed in the same discipline. That was Lai Thi My, a lecturer of the Hanoi Polytechnic College, whose research theme on white and colored cement was authenticated and applied in production. Her report on the research was warmly welcomed at the convention of talented women organized by the Confederation of Trade Unions.

White or colored cement is used in tile and granite production, and in the manufacturing of decorative products used in construction, architecture, and the arts.

She received us in the department's laboratory. Noticing that we were comparing some displayed tile samples with color tiles laid in the room, she seemed to know why we were puzzled, and said:

"It is true that in the world, white and colored cement has been produced for quite a long time. Their products reached the 300 to 500 mark, with a whiteness ratio of 66 to 90 percent. We cannot do so well. The reason is the lack of kilns run by natural gas or liquid fuel. We have only upright kilns run by solid fuel, primarily coal. This is the very reason why, some time ago, we test-produced white cement, but what we came up with was no match to the same product imported."

"We know that you have assisted the Nui Voi Limestone Enterprise in Thai Nguyen, the Nam Thang Tile Enterprise in Hanoi, the Construction Material Corp. of the Railroad General Department, and the industrial conglomerate that produces white cement and color tiles. Can you please tell us what was the greatest problem that you had to overcome?"

"Perhaps few people believe women can be successful in technical work. Therefore, I used to convince production organizations that they should be patient with us, and a couple of tries may not be enough. Still vivid in my

mind is my undergoing a hard aptitude test in Thai Nguyen: in 1979, I took a group of my students on a field visit to the Nui Voi Limestone Enterprise. The person in charge just ignored my recommendation for white cement production and, instead, used me as a troubleshooter to locate a certain problem that caused his black cement kiln complete the baking of only 20 percent of the products placed in it. I put up quite a technical demonstration and thoroughly checked the whole production chain. After I found out what had gone wrong--the mixture ratio was incorrect--the ratio of products completely baked went up to 80 to 90 percent. The incident was instrumental in making the enterprise become more enthusiastic in its cooperation with me, and another result was the replacement of iron bearings in grinding machines by manganese steel bearings to decrease iron impurities. White cement produced by us attained a whiteness ratio of 62 to 65 percent, with a mark of 300 to 400. In 1981, at the Nam Thang Tile Enterprise in Hanoi, we changed grinding machines with iron bearings to grinding machines with stone wheels and, as a result, the whiteness ratio went up to 66 to 68 percent, but with only a mark of 250 to 300. Another problem facing us was the need to increase the whiteness ratio and at the same time, increase the capacity of the product to withstand pressure. Raw materials for the production of white cement are limestone and kaolin that we can find in many provinces in north and central Vietnam. Provinces in the south do not have limestone but they do have corals. Silicic oxide content in kaolin runs from 57 to 85 percent, and that of aluminum oxide in the same material runs between 9.2 to 26 percent, depending on the region. Likewise, in limestone, calcium oxide content varies from 52 to 55 percent, and that of magnesium oxide, less than 3 percent. The above analyses helped us determine the appropriate mixtures for each region in order that white cement produced reached a whiteness ratio of 71 to 73 percent with a mark of over 300, and colored cement, a mark of 300 and a dark and glazed green color. These findings were also used in the Construction Material Corp. of the Railroad General Department.

"We are ready to assist any organization that needs to produce white or colored cement."

9458/9435

CSO: 4209/214

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

BRIEFS

CEMENT PLANT IMPROVED--Since the beginning of the year, the cement plant stepped up its drive to invite new ideas, to improve techniques, and to overcome production problems. In the last 9 months, cadres and workers of the plant have applied 830 initiatives in matters of technical improvement and production rationalization, saving for the plant 1,688,000 dong (old currency.) The technical bureau and the coal and kiln shops were the leading units in the initiative and technical improvement movement. The deputy director for technical matters and the technical bureau successfully tested a mixture ratio, increasing cement output at a time when the plant faced difficulties in the supply of limestone. With an initiative of its own, the assembly shop assisted the limestone machine shop in repairing the latter's clay-grinding machine No 4, achieving a saving of over 100,000 dong (old currency), and allowing the machine to be rapidly brought back to production. In the third quarter, in addition to the production of regular cement, the plant successfully produced a new variety of cement, the P.600, which met all quality standards. The new product was used in the construction of the Ho Chi Minh Museum. [Text] [Haiphong HAIPHONG in Vietnamese 10 Oct 85 p 1] 9458/9435

CSO: 4209/214

LIGHT INDUSTRY

BRIEFS

NEW FOOD ITEMS--The Ho Chi Minh City's Grain Corp. has recently been successful in introducing pearl barley and manioc starches as ingredients in noodle- and breadmaking. Product of a long experiment, the new commodity is symbolic of our concern and dedication in caring for the food and lives of the working people. The Grain Corp. is also producing many other processed food items which aim at creating a new "industrial meal" for the city dweller (with dry vermicelli, spaghetti, instant noodles, salted pickles, steamed mashed pork, pork sausages, leeks, soy bean curd, etc.) The new meal can save cooking time, fuel, and rice, is inexpensive, but is also substantial, nourishing, and delicious. Laboratory analyses and first consumer reports indicated that the quality of noodles with 10 percent pearl barley starch, and of bread with 20 percent pearl barley starch and 30 percent manioc starch (instead of with 100 percent wheat flour that must be imported at higher price) met technical, sanitation, and nutritive standards. The same processing method is used in France, England, and Canada. The new food items not only allow the grain sector to lower product cost and control supply of some raw materials, but also open new possibilities for long-range cooperation and economic linkages between the food-processing industry and farmers in zones with large subsidiary crop land such as Cu Chi, Thu Duc, the eastern provinces and the high plateaus. [Text] [Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 9 Dec 85 p 1] 9458/9435

CSO: 4209/232

14 March 1986

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

BRIEFS

CAO BANG RADIO NETWORK--The northern border Province of Cao Bang is building a public address system in all mountainous and remote villages. Forty border villages have public address systems to serve production, combat readiness, and the people's cultural life. Since early 1986, 50 radio and public address stations have been set up in all localities in the province. [Text] [Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 20 Feb 86 BK] /6662

CSO: 4200/732

LABOR

SURPLUS LABOR PROBLEM, REORGANIZATION OF PRODUCTION DISCUSSED

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 25 Dec 85 p 3

[Article by Tho Cao: "Implementation of the Resolution of the 8th Plenum of the Party Central Committee: Surplus Labor and the Reorganization of Production"]

[Text] Based on incomplete data, the Industrial Service has reported that there are 3,200 surplus laborers. Surveys have shown that almost all of the enterprises have a surplus of laborers. These can be divided into two types: "temporary" surplus laborers as compared with the production plans and the amount of machinery and equipment. Because of the shortage of materials and energy, workers have had to be furloughed. The second type are "permanent" surplus laborers who exceed the needs of production and the number of machines of the enterprises. In some cases, the skills of the workers are not in line with their functions, or they have a poor labor attitude and are opposed to sector and occupation. Everyone knows that having a surplus of laborers has a very bad effect on production and business results. The workers do not make full use of the equipment capacity, and this leads to low productivity and high production costs.

Why Is There a Labor Surplus?

There are many objective and subjective reasons for this:

The production conditions (raw materials, fuel, material supplies, energy and so on) are not supplied in adequate amounts or in a synchronized manner.

Labor norms are not set in accord with work grades. To pay salaries to the workers, labor norms are set too low, with the result that salary expenditures in production costs increase.

Salaries and bonuses are not used properly. On the average, salaries rise faster than labor productivity, which increases production costs.

Chasing after the market mechanism, many enterprises produce other types of goods, with the result that the machinery and laborers are not used to produce the stipulated goods. This causes problems in balancing materials.

Production conditions are still unstable, but the enterprises have not made bold use of the labor contract system and are unwilling to use seasonal contracts.

Previously, the distribution of a number of types of goods was determined by the number of ration stamps and coupons issued. But now, distribution is based on actual needs and the preferences of consumers and prices are higher. Because of this, the production capacity of the enterprises is limited concerning a number of goods. Because they cannot sell their products, enterprises cannot turn over capital or provide jobs for all the laborers.

Overcoming the Difficulties

Implementing the policy of the municipality, recently, many enterprises subordinate to the Industrial Service have actively reorganized production. After verifying the norms and classifying the surplus laborers, the enterprises arranged work for these laborers in secondary production sectors, conducted studies and test manufactured new or improved products and opened services to handle these laborers themselves. With 249 surplus laborers, the Hanoi Food Products Plant improved its test processing techniques, produced many new types of goods and converted the production chain to produce chemical component sauces instead of microorganism sauces. Because of this, different raw materials are used and production costs are lower. The plant has organized many sections: loading and unloading, materials transport, coal sorting, the production of slag bricks, peanut shelling and the organization of worker and civil servant services. The plant also produces bottled maggi with a high protein content, sugar-coated soybeans, mung bean powder and soy bean powder jointly with the Rural and Native Products General Corporation. The Mai Dong Machine Works has 200 surplus laborers. It has used a number of these people to polish and decorate hydraulic presses and increase industrial arts. The machine works has established a unit to make slag bricks and a team to make glazed tile, acetylene and iron frying pans. It has also improved the cast iron smelting furnances, restored the blast furnaces, studied metallurgical techniques and replaced product structures in order to reduce materials. It has made use of all the scrap iron to produce glazed tile presses and spring presses. After reorganizing production, the Dien Thong Enterprise, which had 120 surplus laborers, began producing wrappers as a secondary production task. The enterprise does not want to furlough the workers and is striving to pay them 70 percent of their wages. It has asked [foreign] specialists to study new types of goods, shut down production chains and pushed the machinery and equipment use factor to 70 percent. Now, the workers sign contracts directly with the director. After two campaigns, the Thong Nhat Electrical Machinery Plant has withdrawn 60 indirect laborers and transferred a number of them to factory shops to make fans. It has also established a team to repair damaged parts in order to install ceiling fan gear boxes. A number of other laborers have been put in the section that makes fan casings. The Thuong Dinh Canvas Shoe Enterprise closed a factory, leaving 105 laborers without jobs. It sent 41 workers back to their old jobs and transferred the rest to make shoe sole linings out of foam rubber, and to make children's shoes using scrap raw materials.

Discussion

The dynamism of the enterprises provides a strong basis for making use of the surplus labor with the aim of increasing social products and maintaining the standard of living of the laborers. However, in the enterprises, determining temporary or regular laborers depends on the production orientation. Only if the units have a stable or relatively stable production orientation can they determine the number of laborers correctly based on the needs and number of surplus laborers.

To solve the surplus labor problem requires the use of immediate, long-term and uniform measures. This is necessary in order to solve the problems concerned with production and labor management in a comprehensive manner. As mentioned above, the immediate responsibility belongs to the enterprises, with the main task being to assign people production tasks. But the leading sectors and the municipality have responsibilities, too. It's time that the sectors began serving as the municipality's staff on policies. They must issue specific policies and create conditions to enable the enterprises to solve the surplus labor problem.

As for the production and business units, through the activities of the Hanoi Foodstuffs Plant, studies have been done on markets and consumer preferences in order to improve the goods and produce new types of goods, and active measures have been sought in order to sell products, maintain the rate of production and reduce product production costs. Using the methods of the Mai Dong Machine Works, additional laborers can be employed and product design sections can be established in order to increase the product use value and make the products more attractive. Even though prices may be slightly higher, the customers will accept this. The units have encountered difficulties concerning material supplies and raw materials and so they have sought ways to engage in joint economic enterprises and opened up job possibilities for the laborers of the units. The way to make full use of the laborers is to make full use of the discarded materials and substandard products, produce additional secondary products, and create sources of income for the units. At a time when production has not yet been reorganized, it is essential to create temporary jobs for the surplus laborers, such as organizing services to do processing, make slag bricks and so on. A system of labor contracts with or without time limits should be studied and implemented just as the Dien Thong Leather Shoe Enterprise has done.

We feel that while moving the surplus laborers to other jobs is a difficult and complex task that requires careful study, we cannot be overly cautious. Something must be done to facilitate the reorganization of labor and to ensure the rights of the laborers.

11943

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LABOR

STATE ENTERPRISES SOLVING SURPLUS LABOR PROBLEM

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Jan 86 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Rational Use of Labor in State-Operated Enterprises"]

[Text] Illuminated by the Resolution of the Ninth Plenum of the Party Central Committee (Session V) and implementing the Resolution of the 10th session of the National Assembly, Seventh Term, 1986 must be a year of truly strong change in the use and distribution of social labor. To the state-operated industrial enterprises, the rational use of labor becomes an extremely important mission aimed at achieving high productivity and effectiveness. Millions of workers and civil servants in the state area must be arranged and used in the best manner to produce many commodities for society.

Implementing Resolutions Eight and Nine of the Party Central Committee, the sectors, localities and primary level units have boldly rearranged production, rebalancing the mission with labor, equipment and material abilities; on that basis, rearranging the production management organization apparatus, reducing the unnecessary indirect steps, rationally redeploying labor in the primary production lines, and opening additional secondary production shops or producing additional new products aimed at, on one hand, successfully achieving socialist economic accounting and business practices, gradually eliminating state subsidization, and lowering product costs while, on the other hand, providing jobs for surplus laborers, especially those in the indirect components. The Thai Nguyen Iron and Steel Joint Enterprise and many textile mills have provided employment in subsidiary production and product reprocessing for nearly 2,000 individuals transferred from primary production lines and indirect production labor. The Hanoi local industrial sector is presently arranging new jobs for nearly 3,000 people. Many enterprises in the cities of Ho Chi Minh and Haiphong, developing their right of initiative in business and production, have rearranged labor, providing jobs depending on the individual, ability, health and skill standards, not allowing anyone still able to work to lack a job. Although production and business accounting has encountered many difficulties, many basic units, recently partially resolving the rearrangement and firm management of labor, have achieved clear results in production and business, and have reduced the costs of many products.

Labor rearrangement and redeployment is a critical requirement of the state-operated enterprises beginning achievement of the new management apparatus. To best arrange and use labor resources, it is necessary to resolutely rearrange production, a difficult and complex task, to establish a neat and orderly management apparatus, to immediately reduce the unnecessary intermediate steps,

and to reduce and transfer individuals in the indirect apparatus into direct production steps. It is necessary to reexamine and rebalance the number of laborers in production steps, this person for that job, work with progressive labor norms, and proper achievement of a contract system and a salary unit price for each product. Surplus labor can be used in the handicraft, processing and service sectors and trades with full utilization of discarded material to make additional products and to expand commodities. Other laborers can be mobilized to join the families departing to build new economic zones. Individuals with poor health or weak and immature skills can be placed in suitable jobs or given elementary and advanced training to elevate their skills so they may continue to work and to contribute with higher quality. Individuals with sufficient conditions for retirement or convalescent leave must be handled in a thorough manner in accordance with policy. Individuals with serious violations of trade regulations and labor discipline, and lazy in their work must receive appropriate education and treatment.

Implementing the Resolution of the Ninth Plenum of the Party Central Committee and further developing the right of initiative of the basic unit in production and business, including autonomy in labor, it is necessary to develop the socialist collective ownership of the worker and civil servant and to promote the revolutionary movement of the masses, providing everyone with a job, a job with a high level of discipline, organization, ability, quality and effectiveness. Providing work for surplus labor is not only aimed at stimulating production but is also a complex political and social issue and basic units must conduct thorough and reasonable democratic and collective discussions with a viewpoint of truly caring for the lives of the laborer. Successful solution of the surplus labor problem in state-operated enterprises assists in achievement of the new management mechanism and producing many products for society.

7300

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POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

DECREASE OF POPULATION GROWTH REPORTED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 17 Nov 85 p 1

/Article: "In 1985, Many Localities Reduced Their Population Growth Rate to Under 1.7 Percent"

/Text/ VNA--Recently, the National Population and Family Planning Commission of Vietnam /NPFPC/ has launched a campaign to encourage the people in the whole country to carry out the instructions of the CPV Central Committee pertaining to "strengthening leadership activities in making family planning universally known and executed by all population strata."

Since the creation of the NPFPC and the launching of the family-planning campaign, notable results have been achieved.

In Thai Binh, Ha Bac, Nghia Binh, Hai Hung and Quang Nam-Danang provinces and Ho Chi Minh City whose campaigns centered on three objectives of (a) each family has only two children, (b) the second child must be born 5 years after the first one, and (c) women give birth to the first child after the age of 22, the number of women becoming mothers in 1985 decreased from one-third to one-half. In 1984-1985, Thai Binh and Ha Bac provinces rapidly brought down their birth rate from 0.2 to 0.5 percent. It is estimated that the 1985 population growth rate of Thai Binh will be 1.55 percent; Haiphong, 1.6 percent; and Ha Bac, 1.7 percent. In some Christian-dominated areas, due to appropriate educational measures associated with the needs to improve living conditions, many people have gladly accepted the two-child family formula. Minority people living in mountainous areas have got a good understanding of producing the number of children to a level commensurate with the family economic capabilities, and of fighting infant mortality. The two-child family formula is gradually gaining acceptance.

However, a partial assessment of the NPFPC concluded that certain preconceived ideas were still lingering among the people, such as the habit of regarding the male as important and the female, unimportant, giving birth to many children as a preventive measure against losses caused by diseases and war, the pressure of customs, and considering children as a bulwark for old age. These persistent thoughts and concepts adversely affected the implementation of the three objectives, including the "two-child family" formula. Campaigning and educational work to invite people to execute family-planning measures was

not given adequate attention, not conducted deep enough in all spheres of the population, and not appropriate to each subject. It is customary for the people, primarily for those living in rural areas, that the wedding age for a woman is 19 or 20, and the woman would give birth to her first child after 1 or 2 years of marriage. Most couples would like to have the second child 2 or 3 years after the first child is born, as a matter of convenience for child care, and for reuse of infant clothing and diapers. Few family planning centers are available, and the existing ones do not live up to the needs in conveniences, safety, discretion and efficiency, and to other management and functional requirements, such as professional and technical skills, leadership and personnel management. Initial health services including mother and infant health, periodic immunizations, and treatment of social diseases are not adequately provided, and limit the success of the two-child family objective.

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