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East Asia Southeast Asia

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Agreement Worked Out With Malaysia on Illegal Workers

42130164e Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian
5 Jul 88 pp 1, 8

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS—The Malaysian and Indonesian Governments have reached an agreement to regularize the status of illegal workers (those without immigration documents) in Malaysia. Subsequently, they will be given an opportunity to obtain their immigration documents quickly.

This was stated by Minister of Manpower Dr Cosmas Batubara after reporting to President Soeharto at the Bina Graha offices on 4 July. He said that the agreement was reached during his visit to Malaysia recently.

In this connection the minister of manpower urged illegal Indonesian workers in Malaysia to make immediate use of this opportunity, because by having complete documentation their rights will also be more fully protected. For example, they will be eligible for better salaries and they will feel more secure. Those working in the State of Sabah will have their cases handled at Nunukan (East Kalimantan), while those working in the Malaysian Peninsula will be taken care of at Dumai (Sumatra).

Cosmas also told workers that when they apply to resolve their status, they do not need to be afraid that they will be arrested. They may use ordinary passenger ships. There is no need to hide on freight barges and so forth. The government will receive them and treat them well.

Meanwhile provincial leaders are being provided with information to give to their people who wish to work in Malaysia, advising them that before they leave, they should provide themselves with the necessary documentation and obtain it through companies which send workers to Malaysia.

Asked about the number of illegal workers in Malaysia, Cosmas said that in the State of Sabah alone thousands have been registered. Generally, they are estate plantation workers.

05170

Researcher Discusses Golkar Dependence on Bureaucracy

42130154d Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian
30 Jun 88 pp 1, 8

[Excerpt] Jakarta, KOMPAS—Dependency on government bureaucracy has made Golkar [Golongan Karya—Functional Groups party], the largest political organization, incapable of creating a political balance between the bureaucracy and institutional representatives on the one hand and social and political organizations in general on the other hand.

Dr Ahmad Zacky M. Siradj, the acting general chairman of the Executive Committee of the Islamic University Students Association [Himpunan Mahasiswa Islam—HMI], made this statement in an interview with a KOMPAS representative at Ciputat [West Java] on 27 June in connection with the plan for holding Golkar's Fourth National Conference in October 1988. He said that Golkar at present is heavily dependent on the government bureaucracy. This is because, when Golkar was founded, it was the nucleus of the process involved in the emergence of the government of the New Order [Indonesian Government since 1966]. As a new political force, Golkar strongly needed political support. At first, this was obtained from the government.

However, the dependence of Golkar on the government bureaucracy has made Golkar very dominant as a social and political force at the present time in Indonesia. This happened because the mechanism of Golkar, which is excessively identified with the mechanism of the government, makes it difficult for Golkar to take its distance from the government.

Clarifying Its Role

Zacky Siradj thinks that this dependence of Golkar, as the largest political organization, has also made it less capable of developing its supervisory role in terms of the government. It has been unable to create a balance between the political forces in Indonesia.

Ideally, Golkar should abandon its links with the bureaucracy if it really wants to develop in a self-supporting way. In this way it is hoped that Golkar will be able to develop its internal mechanisms effectively, from central headquarters to its basic units. Ideally, the bureaucracy will become governmental infrastructure which, within certain limits, will be neutral toward all social and political organizations, while remaining concerned about the interests of the state. In this connection it is also hoped that the bureaucracy will play a role in watching over the functioning of government. Zacky Siradj, who is also director of the HP2M [Himpunan untuk Penelitian dan Pengembangan Masyarakat—Association for Research and Community Development] said: "This means carrying on continuous supervision."

He declared that, usually, a political organization which wins a general election is automatically the body which leads the government. This is also reflected in Golkar. It is very logical that the bureaucracy, which was established before the political organization which won the election, would be able to carry on a supervisory function toward the forces formed by the political organization which won the election.

Ahmad Zacky M. Siradj said: "For that reason the roles of the bureaucracy and of Golkar should be clear, and not confused. The leadership of Golkar should not be chosen from bureaucratic circles, and the bureaucracy

itself should reflect the political heterogeneity of the people. That is, the people, as composed of several political groups, and not just Golkar."

05170

Students To Be Fined for Speaking Chinese
42130164d Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian
5 Jul 88 p 1

[Text] Medan, KOMPAS—All students attending the First Indonesian Methodist Christian School [Perguruan Kristen Methodist Indonesia—PKMI-1], which is located on Jalan Hang Tuah in Medan (North Sumatra), have been threatened with a fine. A fine of 10 rupiahs per sentence spoken will be levied against every student heard to be deliberately speaking Chinese on school grounds. Tampubolon, assistant school principle in charge of the curriculum at the PKMI-1 made this statement to a KOMPAS representative on 4 July.

The Methodist Church in Medan operates three schools. However, the threatened fine of 10 rupiahs for each sentence spoken in Chinese will only be in effect at PKMI-1. He said: "I don't know the reason for this. However, every school has its respective policies."

According to his statement, the purpose of the fine is only so that the children attending the school, particularly those from families of Chinese descent, will become accustomed to speak Indonesian. In this way it is hoped that they will increasingly develop a complete love for the Indonesian language and nation. Tampubolon declared: "We do not have any purpose of discriminating against them at all."

Felt To Be Strange

Such a small fine is felt to be strange and, in fact, has been in effect since 1958, when all of the Methodist schools in Indonesia were nationalized. Previously, the schools, which are rather well regarded, used English as a language of instruction. This was in accordance with their name at the time, the Methodist English Schools (MES). Tampubolon said: "At the time the students who were known to speak Indonesia at school were fined."

Because they used English as a language of instruction, the Methodist institutions became the schools of choice for children of Chinese descent. After 1958 the composition of the student body gradually changed. Furthermore, after a program of assimilation was proposed in the 1970's, the number of students of Chinese descent and those of indigenous descent were in balance. At present there are about 3,500 students at PKMI-1. Those of Chinese descent amount to no more than 30 percent. This percentage has been declining. Between 1965 and 1975 those of Chinese descent amounted to more than 60 percent. Tampubolon said, recalling the situation, "At the time you could hear a lot of Chinese spoken at this school." Those who could not speak Chinese were isolated. Because of that the threat of a fine was made

against those who continued deliberately to speak Chinese.

Only Rp 2,000 Per Month

The fines were levied by the teachers. However, school guards, members of the Security Detachment [Satpam], and, of course, the teachers watched to see that this provision was respected. Tampubolon said that, for example, a member of the Security Detachment might hear two students speaking Chinese. The two of them would then be brought straight to the office of the teacher. He said: "Then the teacher asked them to admit how long they had been speaking Chinese."

He stated: "Now, if they admitted that they had been speaking Chinese for a long time, the two of them were then asked to state about how many sentences they had spoken in Chinese." This kind of action turned out to be rather effective. In the past school year total fines did not exceed 2,000 rupiahs per month. The funds obtained were then used to purchase additional books for the school library.

05170

HMI Report Cites Problems With Consolidation, Cadre Training
42130164a Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian
3 Jul 88 p 16

[Text] Lhokseumawe [Aceh], KOMPAS—The indoctrination of members of the HMI [Himpunan Mahasiswa Islam—Islamic University Students Association] has now become a very serious problem, because the HMI tends to lack a foundation in terms of individual university students and quality institutions of higher education. This was stated, among other things, in the report on the performance of the Executive Committee [Pengurus Besar—PB] of the HMI for the period 1986-1988, which was presented at the 17th Congress of the HMI, held in Lhokseumawe, North Aceh, on 2 July.

As a result, the report states, HMI officials are faced with internal problems and cannot concentrate fully on handling the essential work of the organization, such as the training of cadres. In this connection and at the same time several forms of infrastructure and forums for university students have steadily emerged, offering the promise of developing quality and a better future for the organization. So a kind of competition has developed and, in accordance with the law of the market, valuable commodities and shortages that may last have appropriately emerged. In the face of such competition the HMI feels that it is increasingly non competitive.

Furthermore, it is felt that at present active efforts by officials of the HMI are still insufficient in carrying out the priority of recruiting prospective members among the best students and at the highest quality institutions of higher education. This will cause the HMI to be very short of potential leaders in the future.

Total Consolidation

In another section of the report on the performance of the Executive Committee of the HMI, which was read in turns by Engr M. Salah Khalid, general chairman of the PB of the HMI, and members of the staff of the chairman, it was stated that an effort to achieve the total consolidation of the Islamic University Students Association still need to be undertaken by increasing the quality of HMI cadre through a consolidation of functions and cadre training. The total consolidation of the HMI includes consolidating work, the reflection and experience of Islamic values, the consolidation of thought, and the consolidation of the organization and its program.

It was stated that consolidating work could be accomplished by concentrating on the essence of what has already been done, so that it will become a unit combining the thought, attitude, and integral behavior of every cadre of the HMI. Meanwhile, the consolidation of cadre training will be undertaken to develop a system and method of training capable of turning HMI cadre into professional, Muslim intellectuals, making them the image of the national cadres needed by the nation at this time and in the future.

The report on the performance of the Executive Committee of the HMI included the areas of membership development, organization, university student and youth affairs, participation in national development, public communications, women's affairs, and matters affecting the secretariat.

Not Yet Functioning

It is still felt that the organizational area is not yet functioning fully as an institution and in an effective and functional way as the structure of the organization, providing the framework for membership activity. Formal or functional institutions (including the Institute for Missionary Affairs and the Islamic University Student Press Institute) are also not yet functioning independently of the supervisory structure in increasing the operating strength of a quality organization.

Another question faced by the HMI recently is the speed of the current of firm consensus and of political declarations which, it is feared, will carry this organization of youth and university students into practical, political activity. This is a matter of concern to the HMI, because it will affect the independence of the organization and will be an obstacle to its becoming mature and self sufficient in the political life of the Indonesian people.

05170

Biography of Dr Hendrikus Fernandes, Governor of East Nusatenggara

42130154e Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian
30 Jun 88 pp 1, 11

[Excerpts] Kupang, 29 June—As planned, on 1 July Minister of Home Affairs Rudini will install in office and

administer the oath to Dr Hendrikus Fernandes as governor of East Nusatenggara Province for the period 1988-1993. The new governor will replace Dr Aloisius Benedictus Mboi, who holds a master's degree in public health and who has served as governor of the province since 1 July 1978.

Fernandes was born on 7 November 1932 at Wetabula, West Sumba, and has served in several organizations. He told reporters in Kupang [West Nusatenggara] recently, "At age 15 I moved to Makasar." There he graduated from senior high school with a major in science. While attending school he also taught at a junior and senior teachers' school in Makasar to obtain money to pay school and other expenses. Before he went to Makasar he graduated from a village school and junior high school in Ende [Flores]. After completing his studies in Makasar he went on to the Faculty of Medicine at Airlangga University in Surabaya [East Java] and obtained his doctor's degree in 1963.

He returned to East Nusatenggara in 1963 and was immediately appointed chief of the Health Service of East Flores Regency in Larantuka, while also working in a polyclinic adjoining that city. In 1971 Fernandes jumped directly into the practical political arena in Golkar [Functional Groups party], which he had wanted to do since the 1960's. In East Flores in 1971 he also served as coordinator for intellectual affairs of Golkar. He was later elected a member of Parliament and of the MPR [Majelis Permusyawaratan Rakyat—People's Consultative Assembly] and served in that capacity until 1978.

After that he was assigned as director of the Profesor Johannes General Hospital in Kupang [West Timor] and also served as chief of the provincial office of the Department of Health in East Nusatenggara. He held the positions of chief of the provincial offices of the Department of Health, of the Health Service, and of Health Insurance in East Nusatenggara until June 1987. Within Golkar he served from 1979 to 1984 as deputy chairman of the Provincial Assembly of Golkar in East Nusatenggara. From 1984 to the present he has been chairman of these organizations. Indeed, on 18 July 1987 he was elected chairman of the East Nusatenggara Provincial Assembly. Thanks to his leadership, Golkar obtained 97.47 percent of the vote in the 1987 general elections.

Fernandes, who has a good sense of humor and who spoke slowly in his meetings with the press recently, said that for 25 years he has participated in the development of East Nusatenggara. He said calmly, "I know conditions in this province inside and out."

Fernandes said that for 25 years he has been in close contact with the people of East Nusatenggara in developing themselves and helped them out of a number of critical situations. He said that in the health sector, which he directed, the province has moved up from 23d place among the various provinces of Indonesia. During

the past 5 years the province has been in 12th place. He mentioned the decline in the statistics on the deaths of infants and pregnant women and other diseases which have affected East Nusatenggara.

considered that the appropriate person to lead the province was Dr Hendrikus Fernandes. This well thought out conclusion will be demonstrated by his installation in office as governor on 1 July.

For that reason it is not surprising that from the beginning the East Nusatenggara branch of Golkar maturely

05170

Columnist Wants End to U.S. Bases in Philippines

42060037b Vientiane PASASON in Lao 21 May 88 p 3

[Article by Santiphap: "The Fate of U.S. Bases in the Philippines"]

[Text] The agreement on U.S. military bases in the Philippines signed in 1947 will expire within 2 and 1/2 years unless it is renewed. As the time gets shorter both sides are moving hurriedly to try to work out a way to achieve their goals. For their part the Philippines want to improve and strengthen its national independence.

There are now six military bases in the Philippines. The two largest ones that belong to the Pentagon are Clark Air Base 80 km north of Manila and Subic Naval Base 90 km northwest of Manila. When the operations for these bases expire in 1991 each side has the right to declare itself free of obligation. Everyone knows that the military bases in the Philippines are important for the protection and expansion of the power of the United States. The United States as the owner has been doing everything in its power to maintain its forces in the Philippines and in other countries. In doing this Washington has not only bribed the countries where its bases are located, but has also used psychological propaganda and deception on the Philippines. First, they fabricated what they called "the threat from the USSR," hoping to get the Philippines to agree to keep the U.S. bases in their country. They have also mobilized different groups of people in the Philippines to obtain their agreement, at the same time putting pressure on the Philippine Government. Lieutenant Colonel Honason's recent escape from prison was not an accident. According to media in the Philippines, the escape was assisted by the CIA. This means that the United States had to create unrest in the country in order to put pressure on the Philippine Government and to make it give in. Discussions on the future of the bases began in April. One hot debate was the problem of having nuclear weapons on these bases, because according to the Philippine constitution, "for the national benefit the Philippines guarantees and will carry out the policy of making its territory nuclear-free". The peace-loving Filipinos have demanded that the constitution be urgently and absolutely implemented. The discussion between the United States and the Philippines also covered the cost of renting the bases. The Philippines has been paid \$180 million a year in the form of military, financial and economic assistance. They also discussed the problem of inspection of the bases by the Philippines. The Pentagon does not want to pay a high price for the bases. In mid-May the Philippine Foreign Minister said that if the United States had no money to pay for the rent they should move out quickly. The talks were marked by tensions. On the third day the Philippines protested when a U.S. warplane flew close to the Presidential Palace inside the 2 miles that had been agreed. This act was considered a challenge and an insult to the Philippines. As the discussions were being carried out thousands of Filipinos gathered and demonstrated in front

of the U.S. Embassy demanding the withdrawal of the bases from their land. The U.S. bases in the Philippines have brought not only a threat to this country but also social impropriety to the Filipinos. Therefore, at the present time they are gathering forces to fight for their nation's stability.

9884

'Talk' Blasts Thai Foreign Minister Over Border Issues

42060037a Vientiane PASASON in Lao 13 Jun 88 p 3

["Talk" Column by Phet Meungneua: "Sitthi Savetsila Is Most Skillful in Letting Others Take the Blame"]

[Text] The ASIA SERI radio station which is the voice of the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs recently had a broadcast on the topic "A tug of war for Lao leaders" for the purpose of slandering Lao leaders and accusing them of dragging on talks using the same old words as before. Many people might be interested in knowing and might question why such news is being broadcast while the Thai people are preparing for the upcoming election on 24 July. Actually, there is nothing unusual going on. Everyone probably is aware of the confrontational style of Mr Sitthi Savetsila's foreign policy in which he has no regard for the harmful effects that will follow, as has occurred in the past after Thai troops had infiltrated, invaded and attacked Lao territory in Na Banoi Canton, Boten District, Sayaboury Province. How many lives and how much property of the beloved children of the Thai people were sacrificed for such a confrontational style of Mr Sitthi Savetsila? Consequently, the Thai people, the working class in Thailand and the Thai media have condemned the use by Sitthi Savetsila and Mr Prem, the government leader, of policies employing violence and tensions. This was clearly shown by the vote of no confidence for the cabinet by the opposition party on 15 April which appeared in nearly every Thai newspaper and magazine. Criticism of the wrong and reactionary policy of the fifth Prem administration and of the confrontational style foreign policy favored by Sitthi Savetsila against foreign countries is not only not decreasing, but has been steadily increasing, causing them to become very worried. As a result, loud praise has been orchestrated for the achievements of the fifth Prem administration and for Sitthi Savetsila. What made the Thai media and Thai people laugh was that in early March Prime Minister Prem himself praised Mr Sitthi Savetsila for his achievements over the past 8 years regarding his effective foreign policy, while at the same time everyone knew of his mistakes in foreign policy which were unfit for a leader of Thai diplomats, saying that he should resign, etc. Sitthi Savetsila praised Mr Prem's achievements and even went on to say that the reason that Vietnam and Cambodia have made a joint announcement of the withdrawal of 50,000 Vietnamese troops from Cambodia by 1988 was because of Prem. The leader of the Thai Foreign Ministry is very skillful at taking credit for success, letting someone else take the

blame for failure, and slandering others. For example, he accused Laos of weakening the Siamese-French accord by honoring only parts of it. He also slandered the good intentions and creative views of the Lao leaders regarding the disputes in the Na Banoi Canton area, Boten District, Sayaboury Province in Laos and Chattakan District, Pitsanulok Province in Thailand, which continue to drag on. Actually, the protraction was caused by some people in the Thai leader clique, such as those in the Thai Foreign Ministry. They avoided the talks and distorted the sincere and reasonable proposals made by Laos. The Lao Government has always respected the 1907 Siam-France accord, and has always respected the correct principles and creative proposals which have been announced by Laos many times. Mr Sitthi Savetsila's practice of accusing and slandering others has helped to give the Thai people better judgment as to whether Mr Savetsila is worthy of their confidence in further implementing the foreign policy of Thailand. This is because the Thai people have become fed up with Mr Savetsila's achievements.

9884

Commentary Regrets PRC-SRV Disputes

42060036b Vientiane PASASON in Lao 25 May 88 p 4

[Commentary: "Talks Are the Best Solution to the Vietnam-China Disputes"]

[Text] The SRV and the PRC are socialist countries that share a border and have similar customs. They used to help each other over the years of the struggle against foreign occupation and during the early years of the building of their nations. For this reason, any mistakes that were made should be solved by talks between equals with mutual respect.

It is regrettable that the border disputes that have dragged on for many years not only did not improve but actually became worse, as when the Chinese Navy provoked more disputes in the Truong Sa and Hoang Sa islands of the SRV 2 months ago, and the tensions continue. The SRV has made three proposals to the PRC for talks as a way to resolve the dispute regarding the Truong Sa and Hoang Sa islands, as well as other border disputes (according to official letters for 17 and 23 March 1988). The SRV also proposed that "both sides not solve the problems by force of arms and avoid any clashes that would worsen the situation" during the period of waiting for talks (according to an official letter to the PRC on 26 March 1988). Also, on 19 May a spokesman for the SRV Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that on 12 May 1988 the PRC Ministry of Foreign Affairs had issued a circular on the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa islands of the SRV which said in part that "China has always had a policy of resolving international disputes by peaceful means. The same holds for the Truong Sa problem. China plans to hold off on the Truong Sa issue and to have talks in the future." The

circular also suggested that the Vietnamese side make a note of the ideas for which China will hold off regarding the Truong Sa issue and will resume talks in the future....

These are creative gestures for both sides. The sooner the talks are held the better it will be, because only talks will solve the disputes. Any delay will only have an adverse effect on the peace and happiness of both sides.

The LPDR as a good neighbor of both of these countries used to obtain much support in both material and nonmaterial assistance from both of them, and has a strong desire to see the disputes between the two nations resolved quickly. The LPDR therefore supports the creative proposals of the SRV, especially the announcement made by the spokesman for the SRV Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 19 May. The LPDR believes that the good intentions indicated by the SRV and the PRC as announced by the spokesmen of the ministries of foreign affairs for the two nations will be carried out by emphasizing the solution of the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa islands dispute and other disputes by peaceful means, thereby fulfilling the desire of the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples for peace, and resulting in peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia, the Pacific, and around the world. This is the most desirable way according to the Lao people, and this is what Southeast Asia and the world are waiting for.

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Danang Port Operations Termed Vital; Airlinks Opened

42060036a Vientiane PASASON in Lao 26 May 88 pp 3, 4

[Article by Baisi Leuyung: "Danang, the Friendship Port"]

[Excerpts] According to the Friendship and Cooperation Accord signed between Laos and Vietnam on 18 July 1977 in Vientiane Capital, Lao cadres have been stationed in Danang since 1978 in order to observe how international transport moves goods from Danang to Laos.

Following a period of observation, on 1 October 1980 the International Transport Office under the Ministry of Industry and Trade for Laos was officially established in Danang. Lao cadres were directly responsible for taking goods into the port and for signing agreements with the Vietnam International Transport Company in order to transport goods to Laos. In July 1987 the Lao Goods Control and Transport Office in Danang switched responsibility for this to the Lao Ministry of Communications and Transport. The Lao cadres, government employees and workers have the responsibility for bringing in, organizing and transporting goods for for doing some foreign affairs work in the Lao consulate in Danang. They made a lofty decision, and within a short time of 2 months in late 1982, with active cooperation between

Lao and Vietnamese transport forces, Laos moved over 10,000 tons of steel that had been congesting Tien Sa Port in Danang. Other essential goods and materials were speedily transported to Laos. In assessing the result of their work Comrade Khamphan Keophouong, chief of the Lao representatives in the Danang office, said that the Lao cadres and workers and the multiethnic people of Laos have valued the Danang port as a heart pumping blood into the arteries giving a ruddy color to the face of the LPDR. The Central Party Committee of the LPRP is now planning to open its door to the east in order to circulate goods with those nations. The Danang port is thus a door to the sea for the Lao people and their friends. The socialist construction of Laos will grow steadily in the future. When the construction of strategic Route 9 connecting the municipal area of Savannakhet in Laos with the municipal area of Dong Ha in Vietnam is completed it will make land transportation and communications easier. In addition, flights between Danang

and Pakse and Danang and Vientiane will be scheduled. As a result, there will be an improvement in the economic and cultural expansion and communications between Laos and Vietnam. A plan for another new road is underway for connecting Sekong Province in Laos and Quang Nam Danang in Vietnam. The road will go from PBIXP Danang to Yang District along the border of Phou Louang Mountain, to Duc Trong District and on to the new municipal area of heroic Sekong Province. When it is finished it will shorten the communications route from Quang Nam Danang to Sekong and Saravane Province in south Laos, and it will produce greater transport activity between the south and Vientiane Capital and the port of Danang. The port of Danang will then become especially important for the LPDR in terms of cultural exchange with our allies throughout the five continents.

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Soviets Offer To Train Malaysian Cosmonaut
*42130169B Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay
1 Jul 88 p 3*

[Text] The Soviet Union will send a delegation to this country at the end of this year to discuss a program for training a Malaysian cosmonaut.

In response to a question from Mr Lee Lam Thye (DAP [Democratic Action Party,] representing Bukit Bintang), Datuk Amar Stephen Yong, minister of science, technology and environment, said the government had not yet received any official applications from those who would be interested in becoming the first Malaysian cosmonaut.

Responding to a question from Dr Abd. Hadi Derani (BN [Barisan Nasional—National Front], representing Kota Setar), he said those interested in becoming a cosmonaut trained by the Soviet Union had to meet four major conditions, namely:

1. Have a healthy body and mind,
2. Pass tests and examinations prepared by the promoters of this training,
3. Assiduously carry out the 2-year training in the Soviet Union, and
4. Be willing to be tutored in the Russian language.

The Soviet Union offered Malaysia the opportunity to participate in joint space research when the prime minister visited that country in August of last year, and the offer was accepted by Malaysia when the Soviet foreign deputy minister visited this country in April.

Datuk Amar Yong said Malaysia hoped to benefit from that research opportunity offered by the Soviet Union.

6804

**NANYANG Recommends Stepping Up
Cooperation With Singapore**
*42050029E Kuala Lumpur NANYANG SIANG PAU
in Chinese 28 Jun 88 p 2*

[Editorial: "Strengthen Malaysia-Singapore Ties for Cooperation"]

[Text] Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew yesterday arrived at Kuala Lumpur to meet with Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir. This was the second meeting this year between the heads of two governments concerned, during which they carried out friendly discussions on pending bilateral issues and how to strengthen the cooperation between the two countries.

Accompanying Prime Minister Lee's visit were a number of officials, including Finance Minister Dr Richard Hu who is in charge of Singapore's financial and economic affairs, and Public Utility Board Chief Lee Ek Tieng who is responsible for the supply of water, electricity and natural gas to Singapore. It is clear that in the economic field, the major issues under discussion include the supply of water and natural gas for both Malaysia and Singapore, the proposal to construct a new causeway at Johore Bharu and the increase in air communication to promote tourism industry in both countries.

Regarding the problem of water supply, both countries have launched a reviewed the cooperative work on the basis of the water supply agreement signed in 1962. Our government has basically agreed to consider Singapore's request for increasing the water supply volume from the existing 250 million gallons to 500 million gallons per day. As to water rates and other expenses to be paid, it is believed that both sides will make fair and reasonable arrangements on the basis of past reciprocal cooperation. With regard to the construction of a pipeline to transmit natural gas from Terengganu to Singapore, the problem is most complex, involving cost of construction, natural gas price and other technical matters, and necessitating both sides to make a long-range planning so they can benefit from the collaboration.

The concept of constructing a huge bridge across the Johore Strait to facilitate land communication is gradually reaching the stage of implementation. Our Prime Minister's Department has already formed a Special Task Committee to study the execution of this plan. It is believed that during their meetings, the Malaysian and Singaporean leaders must have exchanged views about problems of cost and site of this No 2 communication network and drawn up the details of the project. It may be foreseen that the moment this huge bridge straddling Johore Strait is completed, the traffic congestion on the Johore Bharu Causeway will be considerably eased, thereby promoting speedier and easier contacts between the peoples of the two countries in a positive way.

Prime Minister Lee's itinerary in Malaysia also includes a flying visit to Pulau Langkawi, a tourist spot which is being energetically developed by our Tourist Development Bureau and to which domestic and foreign visitors have been attracted on the strength of its enchanting scenery. According to a disclosure by Yusof Hitam, secretary general of our Foreign Ministry, one of the topics discussed by the heads of the two governments was the opening up of an airline service between Singapore and Pulau Langkawi.

Singapore is a gate to the ASEAN countries and can play an important role in attracting foreign visitors to come to our region. If Malaysia and Singapore intensify aviation cooperation with each other, and if Singapore's flights serve Pulau Langkawi on a regular basis, this would definitely help promote tourism industry in both countries.

The U.S. decision to cancel the GSP privileges granted to new industrialized countries has dealt them a big blow. Effective next January, the United States will withdraw Singapore's GSP treatment, and the AFL-CIO is petitioning the U.S. government to cancel Malaysia's GSP privileges, too. Like lips and teeth, Malaysia and Singapore seem to share the same fate and standpoint and they should strive together with countermeasures for their common good.

The relationship between Malaysia and Singapore has always been a close one. Although differing opinions and misunderstandings occasionally emerge concerning certain matters, everything can be resolved through mutual visitations of government officials, dialogues and mutual understanding. The mutual friendly visits of Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir and Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew have laid down a solid foundation for the friendly cooperation between the two countries. Naturally, both countries also hope that leaders of the new generations will strengthen further our ties aimed at the establishment of a partnership sharing the same fate, mutual benefit, interdependence and harmony.

9300

Defense Minister on F-16 Purchase

42130170d Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA
in Malay 6 Jul 88 p 5

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 5 Jul—Minister of Defense Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen today confirmed that the Malaysian Government is interested in buying the most modern U.S. fighter plane, the F-16.

Nevertheless, he stated, the government will not be hasty in making its final decision.

“The matter needs to be studied further, but we are indeed interested in the capabilities of that plane,” he told UTUSAN MALAYSIA in an interview at the Parliament Building here this afternoon.

“The question of buying the aircraft cannot be decided in a day. When they offer the plane to us, we will also need to consider several other factors,” he added.

He said further that the government is interested in looking at several other types of sophisticated planes.

Proposals

He said in this connection that the government will give speediest possible consideration to proposals by the U.S. Government to sell eight of the F-16's.

The U.S. Department of Defense (the Pentagon) last Thursday [30 June] issued a statement that they had approved the sale of several types of weapons, including eight planes of the F-16 type, to Malaysia.

The statement, which was reported by UPI, said the cost of the fighter plans will be about 730 million ringgits (\$292 million).

The statement was issued while the minister of defense and Air Force Commander Lieutenant General Datuk Sri Mohamad Ngah Said were in London, where they were believed to be looking at the features of the Tornado, a British-German plane.

The next day, the AP reported that the West German Ministry of Defense had found that engine cracks were the possible cause of two accidents involving three F-16's in that country.

6942

Navy To Modernize Fleet

42130169A Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay
1 Jul 88 p 2

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Thursday [30 June]—The Royal Malaysian Navy (TLDM) is planning to build its own ships, including submarines, to take advantage of sophisticated military technological developments.

In this way, the country will take advantage of the upgraded technology to become an industrialized nation, Vice Admiral Datuk Seri Abdul Wahab Haji Nawi, TLDM commander, said today.

He noted that the TLDM planned the development of its forces carefully so that they were prepared to meet future challenges in line with the navy's requirement, which was readiness.

He was confident that the TLDM was capable of achieving its target of using sophisticated technology to defend the nation by the year 2000 if the plan was fully carried out beginning now.

“The dynamic geopolitical and socio-economic situation requires that the TLDM have multifold responsibilities. These will continue to mount with the situation existing in this region,” he said in his message commemorating the TLDM's 36th anniversary tomorrow.

Vice Adm Datuk Seri Abdul Wahab said the TLDM was upgrading its naval warfare technology to create a naval force that was capable of fighting a war on the sea, in the air, and below the sea.

He reported that an air branch equipped with a WASP-type helicopter squadron had been established. This branch has been named the 499th TLDM Air Squadron.

According to the admiral, the air squadron will be enlarged soon with the purchase of six more helicopters of the same type for operational and training purposes.

He said the new aircraft, which has the most modern equipment, comparable to that of advanced foreign naval forces, will be acquired in the near future under the plan to enlarge this squadron.

He also said the reception by men of the opportunity to become officers and crewmen who would operate the submarines was very encouraging. Many TLDM members volunteered to join this service.

"I believe their earnestness in wanting to sacrifice themselves will be more meaningful with the formation of the submarine service in the future," he said.

Vice Adm Datuk Seri Abdul Wahab mentioned that other requirements for the TLDM to meet the target of a balanced force included the acquisition of Corvette-type ships, patrol boats, and hydrographic survey ships.

6804

TLDM To Buy Additional Submarines, Wasp Helicopters

42130170a Kuala Lumpur *BERITA HARIAN* in Malay 2 Jul 88 p 2

[Text] Lumut, Friday [1 July]—The Royal Malaysian Navy (TLDM) will buy six more Wasp helicopters for 3.6 million ringgits and two used submarines in order to balance its national defense forces.

Vice Admiral Datuk Seri Abdul Wahab Haji Nawi, commander of the TLDM, said the acquisition of the six helicopters is expected prior to the TLDM anniversary next year, and the submarines are expected by the end of this year.

"The six helicopters will further strengthen TLDM air units, which already have six helicopters of the same type.

"The submarines will be used for the training of TLDM personnel for 3 years. New submarines will be bought 2 years after that," he told reporters following a parade ceremony commemorating the 36th anniversary of the TLDM at the KD [Royal Ship] Pelandok Drill Field here this morning.

About 1,300 personnel of various ranks took part in the parade.

Datuk Seri Abdul Wahab said the TLDM so far has received proposals for the sale of submarines from the United Kingdom, Sweden, and France.

He said the purchase of submarines and the formation of air units are necessary in order that the TLDM may face warfare more effectively.

He said the capabilities of the TLDM are equivalent to those of other countries, including ASEAN nations.

He also believes that the security awareness of the people of this country, which is surrounded by ocean, is very important to the TLDM in its preparations for the future.

"This objective will be reached if TLDM projects, like the expansion of TLDM reserve forces, PALAPES [Armed Forces Reserve], Sea Cadets, and sailboat sports for children beginning at age 8, can be developed fully," he said.

In the ceremony, Datuk Seri Abdul Wahab also made presentations to winners of TLDM awards.

6942

Mahathir Urges 'Entire Malay Community' To Defend UMNO

42130162c Kuala Lumpur *UTUSAN MALAYSIA* in Malay 24 Jun 88 p 2

[By Abdullah Hassan: "Mahathir Calls On Malay Community To Defend UMNO"]

[Text] Kuala Terengganu, 23 Jun—UMNO President Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today called on the entire Malay community to be responsible for defending UMNO, because the party has greatly served and defended Malays.

He said there is no difference between UMNO (New) and old UMNO. The leaders are the same, but "the law wanted us to make a few changes after the old one was declared unlawful, and we therefore registered UMNO (New)."

Speaking here this afternoon to more than 5,000 members of Village Security and Advancement Committees (JKKK) from 799 branches throughout Negeri Sembilan, he stated, "Our struggle is for our corporate benefit, and I am confident that the struggle of Malays through UMNO will be successful."

At the same time, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir advised all community leaders at the village level not to be easily misled by, or receive money from, a group that wants to destroy UMNO.

"They are able to buy, but let us not sell our own honor and race easily," he stated, as the audience responded with thunderous applause.

In his speech, which lasted more than an hour, the prime minister frequently referred to democracy, which is based on the voice of the majority, and to groups that disregard the majority. Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said that in a democracy the voice of the majority receives precedence in order to facilitate administration and make decisions, but if there are groups that do not accept the decision of the majority the development of the country will be difficult.

He said that if the people want the country to be administered carefully and for their benefit the majority system must be accepted, and "little groups must accept the big group."

Nevertheless, he added, if the minority is unwilling to accept such decisions and they cause confusion and mislead the people, there will be havoc, and the people will not benefit from the services of their legislators.

The prime minister likened democracy to a sharp knife. If the knife is handled skillfully, it can be used to carve a beautiful flower out of wood, but the knife can also be used to stab and murder people.

He was thankful, nevertheless, that since independence the country has operated well, primarily because leaders have understood democracy and have known how to use it.

Unfortunately, he added, there recently has been a group that has not accepted the principle of democracy, although UMNO for so long has operated smoothly and has determined who would lead the party.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the group, after failing to gain victory initially, charged that the election was not legal and took its case to court. He stated that after the election elements of the party should have joined ranks. Then, however, although we still greeted one another, it was not with sincerity, and they looked for ways to invalidate the majority voice.

In this connection, the prime minister reminded delegates of the condition of Malays in the past, when they were looked down on and had no wealth or skills. When UMNO came into existence, however, Malays came to depend on it and find protection in it. Therefore, he stated, it is the responsibility of all Malays to protect UMNO, which has so served and protected Malays themselves.

He noted that the unity of Malays is very important in UMNO in order that the party may continue to be of benefit to the people.

"No one should allow himself to be influenced by a group that does not respect democracy, because if they are prepared to kill UMNO, what else are they prepared to do?" he asked.

6942

Sabah DAP Urges Immediate Action Against Illegal Foreign Workers
42050029A Kuala Lumpur *NANYANG SIANG PAU*
in Chinese 17 Jun 88 p 10

[Text] Fung Ket Wing, chairman of the Democratic Action Party [DAP] in Sabah, today urged Chief Minister Pairin Kitingan to reconsider his decision giving

illegal immigrants and workers a 6-month time-limit to return to their countries or origin and come back to Sabah after their work permits have been processed.

Mr. Fung said that the illegal immigrants have already violated our immigration laws by entering and working in Sabah without any work permit, so the state government should take legal action to deal with them.

He said that Datuk Pairin has no authority to make such a decision; nor should he propose that they be permitted to go back home and then return here to apply for work permits.

Fung Ket Wing said that Sabah's unemployment problem is mainly caused by the influx of foreign workers.

Chief Minister Datuk Pairin announced yesterday that all foreign workers must be in possession of the proper documents before taking up jobs in this country, while those without them must leave Sabah.

He also announced that the state authorities will give foreign workers 6 months' grace to apply for and get the documents before coming back to Sabah.

Datuk Pairin made the announcement after concluding talks with Indonesian Manpower Minister Kosmas Batubara.

Datuk Pairin's announcement enables illegal immigrants in Sabah to leave the country through a lawful procedure within 6 months without risking arrest. After acquiring the necessary documents, they may reenter Sabah legally.

9300

DAP Official Says NEP Creates Racial Suspicion
42050029B Kuala Lumpur *NANYANG SIANG PAU*
in Chinese 23 Jun 88 p 5

[Text] Lee Lam Thye, acting secretary general of the Democratic Action Party [DAP], today pointed out that after putting into practice the New Economic Policy [NEP] for the past 18 years, the government is still unable to overcome poverty or realize national unity and, on the contrary, its administrative deviations have deepened racial suspicion and insecurity, so that the rich have become richer and the poor poorer.

Mr Lee stressed: "The Democratic Action Party as well as Malaysians with correct thinking and a sense of righteousness all agree to NEP's theory and principle, because achieving national unity and narrowing the gap between the rich and the poor are indeed two basic objectives in the process of Malaysia's reconstruction. However, the implementation of this economic policy during the past 18 years has led to tensions among the nationalities and created a class of nouveaux riches."

The acting leader of opposition in Parliament made these remarks in an interview with the BBC today.

He continued: "The NEP may be described as a major policy that Malaysia must undergo in the process of her national reconstruction, because its success or failure will determine the future of the Malaysian country and people. Therefore, when we see irregularities and other unfair phenomena cropping up, we must not behave like ostriches and pretend that these problems are nonexistent. That would be deceiving ourselves as well as others."

Mr Lee stressed that for more than a decade just past, the DAP has relentlessly been observing NEP's implementation and exposing administrative irregularities and corruption practices, solely for the purpose of helping rectify unfair, unreasonable work style, and fulfilling DAP's promise toward national unity and economic and social justice.

Mr Lee pointed out: "As far as nonbumiputra society is concerned, there is general dissatisfaction over allocation of student enrollments in universities, commercial permits, job opportunities and racial quota for low-cost housing. Within bumiputra society, the NEP has widened the gap between the rich and the poor, creating the phenomenon of 'the rich becoming richer and the poor becoming poorer.'"

Mr Lee said: "To solve the inequitable wealth and racial problems, the government must first of all sincerely and frankly review the implementation of the NEP and correct all unfair, unreasonable phenomena, but not detain persons who criticize government policies in good faith or restrict their speech or deeds."

9300

MIC President Calls for Unity
*42130168B Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA
in Malay 29 Jun 88 p 6*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 28 June—Datuk S. Samy Vellu, MIC [Malaysian Indian Congress] president, today reminded party members to help the people of all races in this country set aside the question of nationality.

He said MIC leaders should also be prepared to offer support to the people even though those who ask for help to settle this question live outside their electoral district.

He said the MIC indirectly bears acceptance to Malays, Chinese and Indians and, of course, all nationalities are given attention.

Speaking when officiating at the MIC Federal District delegates conference held at the Hotel Merlin here this afternoon, he was reacting to some leaders who disagreed with his stance on helping people who lived outside their electoral districts.

Using the example of support given to the housing problem in the Federal District, Datuk Samy Vellu said, "The Federal District is part of the MIC and Kota Baharu is not a city in India."

He said he was not biased at all nor was he trying to make the Federal District a stepchild, rather he was trying to settle problems, including that of living quarters for fire and flood victims.

Concerning measures he had taken to ensure good discipline in the party, he explained he had done this for the good of the party in the future.

He said good discipline would bring good returns, and he believed anyone in his place would have done the same thing.

"I believe that because this was done, those who take over after me will be able to carry out their duties more easily," he said.

He also explained that the MIC should become a good model party in the Barisan Nasional [National Front].

Datuk Samy Vellu also reacted to newspapers that enjoyed giving broad publicity to bad or disheartening information.

He hoped reporters would focus on the MIC's successes, including the Federal District MIC's ability to purchase its own building.

Earlier, Datuk S. Subramaniam, chairman of the Federal District MIC, asked the government to proclaim the celebration of Thaipusam a holy day since this was an important celebration in the Federal District.

He said states neighboring the District, such as Negeri Sembilan, Perak, and Selangor, had gotten this holiday as did Pinang Island.

6804

Chinese Chamber of Commerce Opposes NEP Extension
*42050029C Kuala Lumpur NANYANG SIANG PAU
in Chinese 26 Jun 88 p 3*

[Text] In its 1988 general assembly, the Kuala Lumpur-Selangor Chinese Chamber of Commerce called on the government not to extend the New Economic Policy [NEP] when it expires in 1990, but to replace it with a new economic policy which encourages free competition and stimulates economic growth.

While indicating its support to the government's efforts in attracting foreign investment to revive the economy, the meeting also appealed to the authorities to give equal treatment to domestic investors, with favorable conditions.

The meeting welcomed the government's decision to abolish the AP [Approved Permit] system for the importation of Chinese commodities and urged the government to go one step further by easing the restrictions for Chinese businessmen who wish to make a business trip to China and for the free contacts of merchants of both countries, as well as promoting the Malaysia-PRC bilateral trade.

The 1988 general assembly of the Kuala Lumpur-Selangor Chinese Chamber of Commerce was opened today during which session it adopted six resolutions.

The meeting called on the government to coordinate the needs for industrial development by encouraging the private sector to utilize the existing training schools and establishing more vocational institutions and strengthening personnel training, in order to remedy the shortage of skilled labor in industrial circles.

The meeting also appealed to ethnic-Chinese business firms to grasp this opportunity of economic revival and to banks to lower their interest rates, to take speedy, vigorous action investing in small and medium-size industries to promote economic development, increase job opportunities, strive for the Chinese economic position to fit into the nation's economic development.

9300

GERAKAN Chief on Status of Proposed Union with PBS, MCA

42050029D Kuala Lumpur NANYANG SIANG PAU in Chinese 27 Jun 88 p 5

[Text] Datuk Lim Keng Yaik, president of the Malaysian People's Movement [GERAKAN], disclosed today that agreement has been reached for a union between his party and the Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) [Sabah United Party] and that as soon as the time is ripe, both parties will officially sign the agreement.

He said that 3 weeks ago both parties already made their final decision concerning the statutes for the proposed union, adding that in order to avoid any possible "misunderstanding" by other Barisan Nasional member parties, the official signing ceremony is being postponed until an opportune moment.

Speaking about cooperation between the GERAKAN and MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association] through the "Joint Council" formed several years ago, Datuk Lim Keng Yaik said this council has hit a "dead end."

He said it is evident that since nobody has requested a meeting, this joint council is as good as nonexistent and entirely meaningless.

Datuk Lim, who is minister of primary industries, made the above remarks after attending a GERAKAN meeting in Selangor today and in reply to reporters' questions.

Lim Keng Yaik said that the GERAKAN and the PBS have jointly drafted the constitution for the union, but both parties have agreed to wait for an opportune time before making it public in order to forestall any unnecessary misunderstanding.

He said: "We need time to explain the whole thing to other Barisan Nasional member parties. Our union is a kind of development of the political situation and a breakthrough of regional political demarcation, aimed at strengthening further the cooperation and solidarity among all Barisan Nasional members."

"We do not want to rush things and create unnecessary misunderstandings."

Asked whether the projected union would welcome other political parties to join, he said that some of them have expressed interest in the union concept. "We may let those parties take a look at the constitution and if they are interested, we will welcome their participation," he said.

However, he indicated that only Barisan Nasional member parties are welcome to join.

With regard to the MCA-GERAKAN Joint Council, Datuk Lim said that the purpose of this council was to explore the possibility of forming a merger between the two parties concerned.

However, he added, the MCA has new personnel. For instance, the MCA leader who initially set up the joint council, namely, Datuk Neo Yee Pan, is no longer in office; neither is Tan Koon Swan who once attended a meeting with us. "We do not know whom to contact at the MCA now."

Datuk Lim pointed out that clearly the MCA does not accept this union concept. While the GERAKAN is willing to accept all MCA members, the MCA by no means is agreeable to accepting all GERAKAN members.

Citing the metaphor uttered by Lim Chong Eu, Datuk Lim said that the GERAKAN is a small cat in a big hole, while the MCA is a big cat in a small hole; in other words, the GERAKAN can accommodate MCA members, but the MCA is in no position to accommodate GERAKAN members.

In conclusion, Datuk Lim said, under such circumstances, this joint council has reached a dead end, as nobody wants to hold a meeting. So this joint council is as good as nonexistent and entirely meaningless.

9300

Ministry of Commerce in Bid To Use Tel Aviv Office To Boost U.S. Trade

42070159a Bangkok MATICHON in Thai
20 Jun 88 p 5

[Unattributed report: "A Thai Trade Office To Be Set Up in Israel To Be Used To 'Lobby' To Defend GSP - It Is Hoped This Would Open Markets in the EEC and United States - Another Office Set for Sri Lanka"]

[Excerpt] MATICHON learned from a Ministry of Commerce report that on 21 June this ministry will request permission from the Council of Ministers to set up trade offices in Tel Aviv, Israel and Colombo, Sri Lanka in order to expand exports, provide assistance, and locate raw materials for industry in Thailand.

It was reported that the Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had worked together to consider the factors and details involved in setting up trade offices in these two locations. The views of the two ministries are as follows:

The reason for setting up the office in Tel Aviv is that the amount of Thai exports to Israel, which consist of agricultural goods, fluctuate a great deal, and it will be necessary that there be a unit to supervise these exports and take care of problems in exporting continuously since there are projections that there are many types of goods which will be exported in greater quantities. This would solve the problem of the trade deficit with Israel. In the first half of 1987 Thailand had a trade deficit of 344 million baht. In addition Israel's special trade capabilities and economic influence can be used to penetrate European and American markets; Israel is still the only country which has been agreed upon as a "free trade area" by the United States and the European community, and this will give Thailand the opportunity to export greater amounts of semi-finished goods such as synthetic fibers etc. This must be studied later on.

"What is important is that many members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives who are influential with the Congress and the administration have called on Thailand to increase its commercial contacts with Israel. And with regard to the opening of this trade office the [Israeli] Deputy Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs and the Israeli Ambassador to Thailand sounded out the Thai government several times. Therefore acquiescing to Israeli desires will probably work to Thailand's advantage indirectly in that it will protect Thai interests in the United States Congress, for example in protecting special customs rights (GSP) and in defending against laws which restrict trade etc.," the report stated.

08149

PRC Soiree Causes Controversy; Foreign Minister Blamed

42070159c Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai
22-28 Jun 88 pp 17, 18

[Unattributed report: "'I Know Nothing!' - the 'Excellent' Relations between Thailand and China"]

[Excerpt] The newspaper, LIAN HOE CHAO PAO, which is published in Singapore reported in its Tuesday morning 14 June edition that two Thai newspapers, THAI RAT and SIAM RAT, had criticised the Chinese Embassy to Thailand for interfering in the internal affairs of Thailand.

The problem began on Friday evening 10 June. The Chinese Embassy had organized a party and had invited leaders of the Chinese community as well as a number of Thai businessmen and bankers of Chinese ancestry. Air Chief Marshall Sitthi Sawetsila was also invited. At this party there was a discussion about the "election". The purpose of this party at which there were discussions with the mass media was to celebrate the 13th anniversary of Thai-Chinese relations.

The mass media had the following doubts:

-If the purpose of the party actually was to celebrate the 13th anniversary of Thai-Chinese relations, why were not those people who had played important roles in establishing relations invited, in particular Mr Khukrit Pramot, Maj Gen Chatichai Chunhawan and others - [of this group] only Air Chief Marshall Sitthi Sawetsila was invited. In the past the 5th and 10th anniversary parties were big affairs to which people from all sides were invited.

-Why should the anniversary celebration for the establishment of relations between Thailand and a great ally (?) such as China be conducted "in secret" without releasing any news about it at the beginning so that newspapers had to find out about it on their own. The events made it appear that there had been a request that:

"Thai newspapers and English language newspapers in Thailand not be allowed to carry this news—only Chinese newspapers would be allowed to carry it."

There was a problem here and the editorial in the Thursday 16 June SIAM RAT requested that the Chinese Embassy explain this incident...but everyone carried on as if nothing had happened—everyone turned a deaf ear.

The Foreign Ministry and in particular Air Chief Marshall Sitthi have not reacted. When some newspapers attacked the Chinese Embassy and Air Chief Marshall Sitthi for this, Air Chief Marshall Sitthi was "campaigning for votes" over the problem in Cambodia with Nguyen Co Thach, the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Vietnam.

This was not something secret at all for the person behind the scenes of this "play" involving the Chinese Embassy, Thai businessmen of Chinese ancestry and Air Chief Marshall Sitthi. That person was Suwan Wiraphon or Ngo Hong Kim, a big Chinese businessman who was involved with some members of the left wing when he was young. He also used to be the owner of the Honey nightclub. Now he is the owner of a business conducting tours to China. Suwan is the father of Dr Sarasin Wiraphon (Ngo Hang Chua) who is the deputy director-general of the political department of the Foreign Ministry and who has the additional unofficial duty of coordinating activities between the Foreign Ministry and businessmen.

Dr Sarasin is considered to be an expert in Chinese affairs for the Foreign Ministry, and he plays an important role at the request of Air Chief Marshall Sitthi regularly in keeping Thai-Chinese relations close. When an official from the foreign ministry of a country "not friendly with China" comes to give an address or is interviewed by the mass media, not long afterwards Dr Sarasin will come to talk with the mass media or will give an address outside the lecture hall. He usually concludes like this: "you should not believe what he said because..."—it is always like this.

Those who came to the party generally were leaders in the Chinese community who were thought to be influential in the Samphanthawong and Pomprap areas of Bangkok with regard to the election...where Air Chief Marshall Sitthi will lead in battle for the Social Action Party. In addition there were many representatives of important banks, for example there were representatives of the Bangkok Bank Ltd, the Srinakhon Bank, and the Nakhon Luang Bank.

The gist of the discussions was revealed by some of those who were invited. They were not able to relay the discussions word for word because they did not have tape recorders and did not write it down as they were not reporters. They said that "it was nothing big—the Chinese diplomat (Chang Toe Woei) said that Minister Sitthi was a good, capable person who ought to be supported in the election so that he could continue to be foreign minister. Minister Sitthi said that if he were reelected he would take care of various problems concerning China which had been held up. It was the same for other petitioners—if they had any problems, they should come to him for help."

When this news slipped out and appeared on the front pages of newspapers and there was criticism in some political groups, some people became frightened and cried out:

"What are they doing?" This situation involved a Chinese person born in Thailand who should have been aware of what was proper and what was not. "It might be because they were so involved with each other that they did not know where to stop. Different people have

different ideas of what is right, but this was very improper. It is felt to have been political interference. What is strange is that someone of the caliber of minister Sitthi who has been Foreign Minister for 9 years should have understood this problem. But it is probably because Thailand and China are very close that something like this happened. Ask Mr Prasong (Sunsiri) about this to see what his opinion is."

The diplomat Chang Toe Woei, 57, has not held his position in Thailand very long. He has a great deal of enthusiasm for various Thai activities no matter whether they are civilian or military. He was formerly the Deputy Director General of the Political Department for Indonesian Affairs of the Chinese Foreign Ministry. He knows the Vietnamese language very well.

This incident involving the Chinese Embassy to Thailand, Thai businessmen of Chinese ancestry and Air Chief Marshall Sitthi Sawetsila needs more of an explanation than just, "I know nothing about it", because this incident makes clear the extraordinary relations between China and Thailand under the foreign policy leadership of Air Chief Marshall Sitthi.... Working for one's success in the election without considering what is right or wrong for the independence of the country is very frightening.

"Does this mean that the Chinese Embassy can control the Thai businessmen of Chinese ancestry who are earning a living in Thailand?"

This question should be answered by everyone involved before it is too late!

08149

Ties With SRV Seen Improved Following Thach Visit

42070148a Bangkok MATICHON SUT SAPDA in Thai 26 Jun 88 pp 48, 49

[Excerpts] Mr Nguyen Co Thach, the Vietnamese minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Bangkok on the evening of 15 June and held 2 days of talks with Air Chief Marshal [ACM] Sitthi Sawetsila, the Thai foreign affairs minister. That is, on 16 June the two men held discussions for 2 hours and 30 minutes, and on 17 June they negotiated for only 45 minutes. But progress was made.

Besides the fact that the talks between Nguyen Co Thach and Sitthi Sawetsila made progress toward solving the Cambodia problem, Mr Thach also said that this opened a new era in Vietnamese-Thai relations.

The two countries have been on bad terms with each other even though they have continued to maintain diplomatic relations. ACM Sitthi Sawetsila has frequently stated that he will not accept an invitation to visit Hanoi until the Cambodia problem is solved. But at the end of these talks, Mr Nguyen Co Thach invited ACM Sitthi to come to Hanoi, and ACM Sitthi accepted

the invitation. The trip to Hanoi will take place after the close of the "cocktail party" in Jakarta. This is the index that indicates that relations between Vietnam and Thailand are definitely improving.

Besides focusing on the Cambodia problem, during their talks, Mr Nguyen Co Thach and ACM Sitthi Sawetsila also discussed several other matters, including:

Thailand asked Vietnam to help prevent Vietnamese refugees from coming to Thailand.

Thailand asked Vietnam to treat the Thai fishermen imprisoned in Vietnamese jails with sympathy and allow Thai officials to go look after them.

Vietnam asked Thailand to help look after and give better treatment to the Vietnamese refugees who fled to Thailand during the Dien Bien Phu period.

Vietnam promised to consider Thailand's request concerning finding a suitable location for a Thai embassy in Hanoi.

Meeting with Phichai and Kriangsak

After concluding his talks with ACM Sitthi Sawetsila, Mr Nguyen Co Thach went to see Mr Phichai Rattakun, the former minister of foreign affairs, and Gen Kriangsak Chamanan, the former prime minister who took steps to improve relations with Vietnam and who granted 100 million baht in credit to Vietnam to enable Vietnam to purchase goods from Thailand.

During the meeting between Mr Thach and Mr Phichai, Mr Phichai asked that trade between Thailand and Vietnam be increased and that the 100 million baht in credit, which was stopped when Vietnam invaded Cambodia, be restored.

Mr Phichai indicated that he would like to see more Thai businessmen invest in Vietnam. Mr Thach said that Vietnam is ready to receive foreign businessmen. Vietnam has promulgated a law on foreign investment in Vietnam.

Mr Thach then went to see Gen Kriangsak Chamanan and talked with him for 1 hour at his house in Bang Khen. Mr Thach told Gen Kriangsak that Vietnam has turned over command of the Vietnamese forces to Heng Samrin in 71 of the 74 zones. In the remaining three zones, Vietnam will withdraw its troops as quickly as possible. And as announced, Vietnam will withdraw 50,000 troops by the end of this year. The remaining forces will be withdrawn within the next 2 years.

Gen Kriangsak said that he raised four issues with Mr Thach: the problem of Vietnamese refugees in Thailand, the orderly departure of Vietnamese refugees to a third country, the request that Vietnam release Thai fishermen, and trade between Thailand and Vietnam.

In short, Mr Thach's tour of Bangkok this time has done much to improve Vietnamese-Thai relations.

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Kriangsak, Chawalit Diplomatic Moves to Laos; Personal Letters

42070148b Bangkok MATICHON SUT SAPDA in Thai 3 Jul 88 pp 26, 27

[Text] MATICHON note: This special report on the secret activities of Gen Kriangsak Chamanan and Mr Wong Phonninon aimed at bringing about peace and friendship between Thailand and Laos was prepared based on two historical documents. One source was "Thai-Lao Peace" by Si Inthapanti, Prayot Mankhongdi, and Chawat Phisutthiphan. However, the bulk of the material for this article came from "Crossing the Mekong River at Dawn," which was written by Mr Wong Phonninon after the fighting between Thailand and Laos stopped. This provides a view of the role played by those behind the "flower of peace and friendship" between Thailand and Laos.

Clashes between Thai and Lao military forces began occurring near Ban Rom Klao in Chat Trakan District, Phitsanulok Province, and Sayabouri Province, Laos, in June 1987 and grew much more violent toward the end of that year. During that same period, Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, the RTA CINC and acting supreme commander, went and discussed this problem with Gen Kriangsak Chamanan and Mr Wong Phonninon in order to find a way to improve relations between Thailand and Laos.

Since the end of 1987, Mr Wong Phonninon has, on the instructions of Gen Kriangsak Chamanan, made several trips to Vientiane in order to negotiate with Gen Sisavat Keobounphan, the Lao chief of staff officers. Both sides felt that there should be a meeting between the leaders of the two countries.

In November 1987, using Mr Wong Phonninon and Gen Kriangsak Chamanan as intermediaries, Gen Sisavat Keobounphan told Thai military leaders that the "military leaders of the LPDR would like to invite you to come to Vientiane to discuss matters."

On 6 January 1988, in his capacity as one of the signatories of the Thai-Lao Joint Communique signed on 6 January 1979, Gen Kriangsak Chamanan sent a personal letter to Mr Kaysone Phomvihane, the prime minister of Laos, through the Lao ambassador to Thailand.

On 11 January 1988, Gen Kriangsak asked Mr Wong Phonninon to go to Vientiane and meet with Gen Sisavat Keobounphan. It was agreed that the following should be done:

1. The Thai and Lao military commanders should meet with each other in order to find a way to stop the

fighting in that area and withdraw the troops to their original positions.

2. Thai and Lao military officials should inspect the disputed area.
3. In order to improve relations and promote better understanding between the two militaries, the Thai and Lao military commanders should hold a meeting in order to get to know each other and to discuss ways of ending the military conflict.

The Lao military leader also suggested that "in order to begin negotiations on this problem as soon as possible, Thailand's military leader should meet with Laos' military leader in Vientiane in order to discuss ways of ending the fighting."

Through Gen Kriangsak Chamanan, the Thai military leader told Laos that he could not yet travel to Vientiane. He proposed that a Lao delegation make a "secret" trip and meet with him in Bangkok or in a Thai border province.

The result was that neither side could agree to the proposal of the other. At the same time, the fighting along the border near Ban Rom Klao grew more and more violent, and beginning on 1 February 1988, artillery and aircraft were used.

Mr Wong Phonnikon suggested that Gen Kriangsak Chamanan travel to Vientiane in order to serve as an intermediary.

"If you feel that this would be possible, I would be happy to go. But it should be understood that I am agreeing to this because I want to help save the lives of Thai men who might otherwise have to die needlessly if this conflict between Thailand and Laos grows into a major war between Thailand and the Indochina countries. I am going as a private individual. This has nothing to do with political interests, and I do not expect anything in return," said Gen Kriangsak in accepting this proposal.

On 6 February 1988, Gen Kriangsak Chamanan, Mr Wong Phonnikon, and one other person flew to Vientiane aboard a Lao Airways aircraft. At the guest house, he was welcomed by Gen Sisavat Keobounphan and a number of Lao government officials. That first evening, this "secret" delegation from Thailand dined on crab, shrimp, and turtle eggs from Democratic Kampuchea.

On 7 February 1988, Gen Sisavat Keobounphan and his advisors came and had breakfast with the Thai group. After that, they immediately began discussing matters.

Gen Kriangsak said that as someone who knew and respected them, he had come in order to personally ask the Lao military and political leaders to discuss a problem that the two sides must solve, that is, the problem of what can be done to stop the fighting at Ban Rom Klao as soon as possible before the fighting expands and it becomes impossible to solve the problem. He said that the militaries of both countries want to stop the fighting and that the fighting can probably be stopped if the leaders of the two countries have a chance to meet and discuss matters. He said that they had come in order to ask the military leader of Laos to travel to Bangkok to meet with Thailand's military leader. In the end, Laos agreed to this proposal.

Gen Kriangsak told Gen Sisavat that his delegation would come to Vientiane again in order to give the invitation by the Thai military leader to the Lao military leader. He said that they would fly to Bangkok together with the Lao military delegation.

On 8 February 1988, Gen Sisavat Keobounphan took Gen Kriangsak and his party to meet Mr Kaysone Phomvihane. He was told that the "fact that Laos has agreed to send its military leader to meet Thailand's military leader shows that Laos sincerely wants to end the fighting as quickly as possible."

As for the Lao military leader's trip to Bangkok, Gen Kriangsak told Mr Kaysone Phomvihane that he would stake his honor as the former prime minister and former supreme commander as a guarantee that the Lao military leader would be received and treated appropriately in his capacity as a high-level representative of the country.

Gen Kriangsak and his party returned to Bangkok on 9 February and immediately reported the results of the negotiations to the military. They also helped formulate the following plan for the Lao military leader's trip to Bangkok:

1. This will be a secret trip. Laos will provide a special aircraft, which will arrive in Bangkok at 0900 hours on 16 February 1988. Military representatives will take them to the home of Gen Kriangsak Chamanan, where Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut will be waiting for them.
2. As for the negotiations, the two military leaders will be given an opportunity to get to know each other and exchange ideas as much as possible.
3. Laos has asked the Thai military to take steps to ensure the safety of this special Lao aircraft on both the inbound and return flights.
4. The Thai military will provide a list of the names of those who will participate in the discussions. This list will be given to Gen Kriangsak Chamanan.

5. Gen Kriangsak Chamanan will ask the military to prepare a letter from the Thai military leader inviting the Lao military leader to come to Bangkok.

On 11 February 1988, Mr Kaysone Phomvihane, the prime minister, sent a letter to Gen Prem Tinsulanon suggesting that the military leaders of the two countries meet to arrange a ceasefire. He said that Laos was willing to send military leaders to Bangkok.

Gen Prem Tinsulanon agreed to this proposal and set 16 February 1988 as the date of the meeting.

In "Crossing the Mekong River at Daybreak," Mr Wong Phonninon wrote: "The meeting arranged between the military leaders of the two countries had to be altered somewhat. That is, it had to be changed from a 'secret' meeting to an 'open' meeting of an official nature. Gen Kriangsak Chamanan and his military team had to abandon their plan to welcome the Lao delegation at the home of Gen Kriangsak. Instead, the meeting took place at Air Force Headquarters."

On 13 February 1988, Gen Kriangsak, Mr Wong, and those accompanying them made another "secret" trip to Vientiane in order to cross the banks of the Mekong River at dawn on 15 February 1988. During those 3 days in Vientiane, did Gen Kriangsak hold "secret" talks with Lao political and military leaders?

71/1 Chaeng Wattana 1, Bang Khen Bangkok Metropolitan 10210 6 January 1988

To: Mr Kaysone Phomvihane, prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

First of all, I would like to wish you a happy and healthy new year and continued success as the leader of the Lao people.

I am writing you this letter as someone who once joined you in signing the joint Thai-Lao communique in Vientiane, which created a basis for improving relations between Thailand and Laos, which are fraternal countries. I am concerned about the problems that have arisen along the Thai-Lao border. I am concerned that if we do not solve these problems now, the problems may grow even worse. In the joint communique, we stipulated proper ways of solving problems in accord with the wishes of the people of Thailand and Laos. As fraternal countries, we must solve the problems peacefully. The problems must be discussed by local or national-level officials.

As for me, even though I am no longer in administrative circles, I continue to adhere to the principles and lines stipulated in the joint communique. I have tried to exert pressure to ensure that things are done in accord with those principles and lines. In particular, when problems or disputes arise we must negotiate and discuss matters with each other in order to resolve matters peacefully.

The Thai officials in the area where the problems have arisen are trying to find a way to solve the problems in accord with the principles and lines stipulated. I am sure that you share this desire. The efforts being made by local Thai and Lao officials will achieve results more quickly if senior officials provide support in order to end the hostilities as quickly as possible. Thus, I would like to ask you to help end the mutual hostility and encourage negotiations in order to solve the problems in accord with the principles and lines stipulated in the joint communique that we signed in our capacity as the leaders and representatives of our two countries.

Sincerely,

Gen Kriangsak Chamanan

Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut RTA CINC 12 February 1988

To: Gen Sisavat Keobounphan

I have been informed by Gen Kriangsak Chamanan that you and the Lao government hope that you can come meet with me in Bangkok in order to discuss ways to solve the problems that have arisen along the Thai-Lao border. I would be very happy to meet with you. Because as we both know, no one will win if force is used. That is particularly true for our two countries, which have been fraternal countries for a long time. We have never called another country a fraternal country. The LPDR is the only country that we consider to be a fraternal country. That is because we share similar traditions and customs and a similar culture. I am very sad that the dispute between our two countries reached the stage of using force against each other. I have always said that Thailand should not fight Laos. We used to have excellent relations. There should be some other way so that we can avoid the use of force. At the very beginning, I had a frank discussion with your ambassador on ways of solving the problems peacefully. You are probably aware of this. If we had coordinated things sincerely, the military clashes could probably have been avoided. And if we allow these problems to fester, it could reach the point where these problems affect the security of this region.

I am sure that if we reach a peaceful agreement, the Mekong River basin area will be an area of peace that can be developed to the benefit of both our countries.

In conclusion, I would like to send my best wishes to both you and Mr Kaysone Phomvihane and to all the Lao people. And I would like to invite you to come meet with me in order to solve the problems that have arisen along the Thai-Lao border. I hope that I will have a chance to welcome you in the very near future.

Sincerely,

Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut RTA CINC and acting Supreme Commander

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Rom Klao Post Mortem Reveals Army Problems
42070159b Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai
18 Jun 88 pp 1, 16

[unattributed report: "RTA Commander in Chief Orders a Summary of the Lessons of Ban Rom Klao Village and Maintains That Thailand Was Not Defeated"]

[Excerpt] Maj. Gen. Narudon Detchapradit, the Secretary of the Army revealed that on 17 June Gen. Chawalit Yongchaiyut, the RTA Commander in Chief and acting Supreme Military Commander, called a meeting of the units [involved] which were directly subordinate to the army in order to consider the lessons to be learned from the fighting at Ban Rom Klao Village, Chattrakan District, Phitsanulok Province. Units from the Third Army Region, the Second Army Region and from the Army Operations Center conducted the briefing. Major General Narudon said that in the meeting they summarized that which had to be corrected, and this included military intelligence, sending reinforcements, public relations and information, troop strength and the budget. The RTA Commander in Chief ordered that those units which had shortcomings were to correct them on their own immediately without waiting for an emergency.

"Every responsible unit talked openly about various shortcomings; the RTA Commander in Chief allowed those taking part in the meeting to express their opinions completely. The shortcomings were to be corrected urgently so that the armed forces could maintain preparedness. I maintain that the Thai armed forces are ready for this situation and are ready to defend Thai sovereignty satisfactorily," Major General Narudon said. He also said that General Chawalit ordered that it be standard procedure for there to be a summary of lessons learned after every incident.

Major General Narudon said that the survey conducted by the office of the Secretary of the Army revealed that,

with regard to this fighting, people in general thought that Thailand would win in any further fighting. The survey also revealed that the front line soldiers and those who were wounded in the fighting felt that The RTA Commander in Chief should procure modern weapons as his first priority. Food and equipment were lesser priorities.

A reporter asked if this showed that the armed forces needed to buy more weapons. Major General Narudon replied that the armed forces still needed large quantities of modern weapons; their procurement had already been planned but the budget for the procurement would have to be moved up so that it would be permitted more quickly.

A reporter asked if the rumors were true that we had dropped bombs on our own side. Major General Narudon said that in the future we would have to have a public relations center in the area to prevent rumors or damaging information from reaching the public.

A reporter asked if the armed forces needed to improve their capabilities a great deal or not. Major General Narudon said that he could not answer this question yet because full military strength had not yet been brought to bear in the fighting at Ban Rom Klao Village. The reporter also asked about the wide-spread talk that we had lost in this fighting. He replied that whoever was worried that we had lost should ask him about it. He did not think we had lost. And we had not concealed the numbers of those killed because we have to pay compensation to the families of those lost.

A reporter asked if fighting started again how ready would the armed forces be to fight. Major General Narudon emphasized that the armed forces were prepared but that they would need the spirit of the people supporting them also. Weapons and support from allies would also be necessary for the fighting.

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POLITICAL

Final Draft of Maritime Law Ready for Passing *42090244a Hanoi GIAO THONG VAN TAI* *in Vietnamese 9 Jun 88 p 1*

[Text] The communications and transportation sector was assigned the task of drafting Vietnam's maritime law to satisfy the need for development of our fleet, as well as to improve our country's maritime relations with other countries in the world. In the last 3 years, the secretariat of the Ministry of Communications and Transportation was drafting the law in coordination with its Legal Affairs Department, the Sea Transport General Department, the Maritime College, the Ship Chartering and Maritime Liaison General Corporation, and the Vietnam Registration and Control Department, and studying and using as references many international conventions, the maritime laws of the Soviet Union, Poland, and so on, for the drafting job.

Following three approvals and revisions, in early May, at a meeting presided over by Vice Minister Le Kha the draft of Vietnam's maritime law was revised for the last time prior to its being submitted to the SRV Council of State and National Assembly for approval. The draft contains 323 articles in 21 chapters. In addition to the chapter that contains the generalized articles, the subsequent chapters bring forth specific rules for every area of activity in connection with the use of the seagoing means for economic, cultural, social, sport, and other purposes.

In the process of seeking an understanding of, studying, and drafting the maritime law, the professional organs and management echelons were in a position to relate to, to draw experience from, and to reconsider the realities of their activities while identifying the weaknesses, shortcomings, and failures in the present management and use of our fleet.

Vietnam's maritime law is thus aimed at helping to accelerate the development of all activities of our fleet and gradually putting the activities at sea under strict regulations and the law.

5598

Fear of Being Youth Union Cadre Widespread *42090244b Hanoi TIEN PHONG in Vietnamese* *21-26 Jun 88 p 4*

[Article by Cao Hoai Tri and TP: "Why We Don't Like To Be Youth Union Cadres?"]

[Text] Once I was assigned to a district youth union chapter and met a few of its cadres who said to me, "These days being youth union cadres does not let you see any good future. In our district we have at least hundreds of cadres, but we wonder how many of us have undergone any training and been used to our full capacities. As a result, following the time we have served as

youth union cadres, nobody among us would know what he would do next. We have been joking to one another to the effect that youth union cadres are the earliest 'retirees' around."

As we talked to more and more youth union cadres from local to provincial level, we found that most of them did not like to be youth union cadres. If they had to do cadres' work, it was because they had been given such a job to do in accordance with the organization's work distribution scheme, but if they were to say it truthfully, they would say holding the cadres' "title" would mean more hardship for them. Consequently a saying that was rampant was: Being a commercial sector soldier would be much better than being a district youth union officer!

We may say that doing mass proselyting work these days is much more difficult than doing it in the early years following the liberation because the youths' urgent matters that are being raised are beyond the ability of youth union cadres to resolve. Meanwhile, at the basic level, youth union cadres are so busy doing their regular work, which includes urging people to buy government bonds and dealing with family planning, elections, market management, military obligation, and so on. If this work were correctly done, nothing special would happen, but if the work were left unfinished, they would bear full responsibility for the failure. But when they inquired about benefits, procedures, policies, and so on, they would get silence as a response until few details of the local budget would be "announced," a fact that often made them feel like they were also among the people considered "dependents" in terms of benefits. How about their political interest?

M.A.L., a youth union cadre for more than 10 years who had been a member of the assault youth force and for a long time a candidate for party membership, so far has not yet been accepted as a party member.

When T.N. was transferred from the position of village chairman to a district youth union cadre's post, a colleague said to him, "my honest condolences to you." And when he was elected at a congress "leader" of the youth union chapter, he jokingly said, "Perhaps this time my wife will divorce me."

And so the "fear" for being youth union cadres did not end with any particular individuals but rather has become the feeling of a majority. If positive regulations were not issued early to deal with the youth union cadre question, the worries and fears of those who are doing youth union work would prolong. And the movement would certainly be limited.

5598

MILITARY

General Department of Mines, Geology Reorganized

42090250 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in
Vietnamese 13 Jun 88 p 3

[Article by Le Lien: "Renovation of Management Mechanism and Construction of National Defense Potential in General Department of Mines and Geology"]

[Text] After 33 years of work in a basic survey of the nation's minerals, the geology sector now has a fundamental understanding of the geology of Vietnam. More than 3,000 large and small mines with many types of minerals have been discovered, and evaluation of reserves is an important condition for economic projection to assist in building the national defense of a powerful nation. Ranks of more than 20,000 cadres and workers, one-third of which are scientific and technical cadres, have been formed, with many capabilities for successfully completing both the assigned missions of building and protecting the fatherland. However, our mining and geological work during the past few years has revealed many shortcomings: many mines have been discovered but not one has been successfully exploited, the mining industry is substandard, exploitation wastes resources and destroys the environment, and mine management is fragmented with each ministry and general department working in its own way.

Considering geology a strategic task of the nation, the Council of Ministers in April 1987 redefined the function of the General Department of Mines and Geology as the state management of geological work, the mining sector, mineral resources and environmental protection. At the same time, the General Department of Mines and Geology implemented a decree to renovate its management mechanism along a course of orderliness, reducing intermediate levels, and increasing work efficiency and effectiveness.

After a full year since the General Department of Mines and Geology began renovating its management mechanism, we met with General Department Director Pham Quoc Tuong. He stated, "Through a year of achieving the new functions, we encountered many difficulties and complexities in the specific implementation of state management. Many ministries have not supported the assignment of state management to the General Department of Mines and Geology for the mines, resources and environment being exploited and used by those ministries. The leadership echelon of a number of sectors still do not clearly understand the functions of our general department. Some sectors believe that we are a scientific research agency. Some consider us an industrial sector. Even so, we continue to perform our function in accordance with the stipulations of the state. We have been able to draft many essential provisions. We continue to promote basic territorial survey and the perfection of

large-scale maps; and to explore regions of coal, tin, tungsten, bauxite, rare earths, high-level construction materials, decorative stone, precious stones, underground water, etc."

Concerning the new organization of the General Department of Mines and Geology, the general department director said, "The General Department of Mines and Geology is organized into two systems: the general department agency and the business units. Our general department agency system was one of the earliest units to complete its organization in accordance with the stipulations of the state. We previously had 17 departments with 250 people but have now drawn down to 6 departments with 150 people. In charge of each department are now only one chief and one deputy chief. This reduction process has truly not been simple and some negative aspects developed but we were able to do it. In the business system, there are presently 29 units. These are the units producing material assets. Our procedure in the renovation of basic unit organization must be gradual and firm. The shift from state subsidization and bureaucratism to the new mechanism is a process of profound change and cannot be rushed."

During the past few years, the assignment of plan norms by the state to the General Department of Mines and Geology has been slow. It was December 1987 before the state delivered the 1987 plan to the general department. This year, there is still no plan. The General Department of Mines and Geology has formulated a plan with a total output value of 17 billion dong. The state has temporarily approved an investment of 6.2 billion dong with the remainder the concern of the general department. By the legitimate route, the General Department of Mines and Geology has a tradition of resolving its own budgetary difficulties. However, those were years in which the investment of the state accounted for a large percentage. This year, two-thirds of the general department budget must be self-acquired. How will this be done?

General Department Director Pham Quoc Tuong stated, "We have engaged in supplementary production and small-scale exploitation since 1980. This year, we will continue this procedure. The new aspect of 1988 is that we will establish new business organizations. They are the Geological Service Corporation, the Drilling Research and Technology Center, and the Vietnam Precious Stones Corporation. These three units must produce assets. Here we have invested cadres skilled in science and technology and even in economic management. The General Department of Mines and Geology is also boldly expanding international cooperation with fraternal socialist and capitalist countries."

During the past few years, the General Department of Mines and Geology has done well in formulating plans for mobilizing the national economy in constant preparedness to resist the war of aggression, coordinate the economy with national defense, and to build the national

defense potential within the sector. The general department has established many wartime reserve professionals, including concentration on the establishment of water survey and exploitation units as the strong points of the sector. Nearly 100 pieces of technical equipment have been prepared in a state of combat support readiness. In building industrial mobilization power, the general department has chosen and deployed cadres and workers in a weapons repair line with supplementary and on-the-job training to raise their skills. The general department has also formulated plans and conducted water exploration, prospecting and drilling for four military regions and a number of military branches, factories, air fields and northern border blocking positions. Many geological groups have wholeheartedly assisted military regions and corps with the necessary materials for units engaged in military geography, project geology and hydrology. The General Department of Mines and Geology has assisted 19 troop units in the mining of coal, bentonite, mica and kaolin, and 70 construction material mines. In the General Department of Mines and Geology, 75 percent of the cadres and workers participate in the self-defense force, properly developing an assault role in production and serving as a nucleus in protection, order, security and social safety. A number of units participate directly in border protection.

Up until the middle of 1987, the General Department of Mines and Geology carried out three missions: mobilizing a reserve force, mobilizing power, equipment and machinery in support of national defense, and assisting troops engaged in economic work. However, since implementation of the new mission and function, changes in the management organization, and achievement of the new mechanism, the national defense mission in the mines and geology sector has also changed. Arriving to work with Colonel Tran Dinh Mai, former Chief of Department 1 of the General Department of Geology and now engaged in a mission as military advisor for the general department director, we learned that since October 1987, national defense work in the General Department of Mines and Geology has declined from the previous level, despite the concern of general department leadership and the continued maintenance of procedures by those engaged in a military mission within the general department. In searching for the reason, we deduced that first of all, changing the military work management organization within the sector did not keep pace with that of the economic management organization. In the General Department of Mines and Geology agency, Department 1 was fragmented with the part engaged in specialized military work not forming a new organization corresponding to the mission. In the geological groups, military work at the present time is generally part-time with the connection of activities dependent upon the awareness of the assigned cadre. Second is that much education was recently conducted in the concept of economic renovation while that of protecting the fatherland did not receive a corresponding amount. Consequently, achievement of the role of a self-defense soldier among a majority of cadres and

workers could not be maintained in a regular or proper manner as done previously. Thirdly, among a number of promulgated documents, a thorough understanding of the guideline to properly achieve both missions of building the nation and protecting the fatherland for the cadres and workers was not uniform. For example: promulgation of the system of workers and cadres working in accordance with contracts and the renovation of regulations on the organization and activity of the self-defense force were not synchronized. The first mission was institutionalized but the second received no specific regulations. Consequently, situations occurred in which directors only gave arriving cadres and workers a thorough understanding of the production labor mission while that of protecting the fatherland was not mentioned. Or, the General Department of Mines and Geology placed the charges for self-defense activity in the cost of the finished product. However, because the placement of these charges is not yet a general regulation for every ministry and branch, the product costs of the General Department of Mines and Geology will be higher than those of other sectors.

With the strengths of a sector managing mineral resources that are extremely essential to national defense industry, specialized use and modern machinery and equipment usable by the national defense, and materials and parameters extremely essential for war (spotting, radioactive, magnetic, seismologic, resistance coefficient, gravitational, etc.), large ranks of cadres and workers, and a tradition of successfully completing the national defense mission, the General Department of Mines and Geology has many capabilities and needs for building a strong national defense potential within the sector. When expressing his opinions to us on the coming work of the General Department of Mines and Geology, General Department Director Pham Quoc Tuong also considered military work in the sector as essential with a need for realistic results and stated that the sector must continue to maintain a military portion within the general department although not yet institutionalized by the state. In order for the General Department of Mines and Geology to successfully complete this mission, we propose that:

- When renovating the economic management organization mechanism, concern must be given to national defense management within the sector. The portion engaged in military work within the sector must be simple and concise, engaged in effective work, and formed into an organization with specifically stipulated functions, mission and authority.
- It is necessary to promptly renovate the regulations on self-defense organization and activity consistent with the system of contract labor presently being developed and implemented.
- Regardless of the circumstances, there must be no laxity in teaching the concept of national defense to every cadre, worker and civil servant in the sector.

Plans for mobilizing a reserve force, mobilizing technical equipment, and organizing and programming the actions of established self-defense units must be perfected, supplemented and additionally developed consistent with the new situation.

7300

Quang Ninh Launches Mass Movement To Protect Security

42090210 Hanoi *QUAN DOI NHAN DAN*
in Vietnamese 13 Jun 88 p 3

[Article by Nguyen Su: "Quang Ninh—Rich Formats, Methods To Mobilize Masses To Protect Security of Fatherland"]

[Text] Quang Ninh Province officials have selected Hon Gai City, where the social situation was often in ferment, as a pilot center for a movement to mobilize the entire people to take part in maintaining security and order. The CPV committee and subward and village people's committees have banded together with organs and enterprises within the city to direct the movement. Party organizations, chapters and members engaged in self-criticism and criticism while implementing party and state resolutions on protecting security and making party organizations clean and strong. Each party member was asked the following questions: "What has everyone done to fight social negativism and contribute to protecting social order and safety in his village, hamlet, subward, or organ?" Mail boxes were placed at organs, units and localities, creating conditions for everyone to uncover and denounce criminal activities to government organs. As a result, grassroots administrations were able to keep track of suspects and their activities.

Through criticism and self-criticism, the people have exposed aberrant cadres, party members, grassroots public security agents, organ and enterprise security guard police, and street militiamen to whom appropriate punishment was meted out. During the first wave, some 20 party members were expelled from the party; others were issued warnings; still others were brought to trial. Qualified party sympathizers were groomed for party membership. Village public security, people's militia and self-defense, and organ and enterprise security guard police were strengthened, enabling them to discharge their duties. Subwards, villages and units have set up people's militia detachments and youth security assault units specializing in nighttime guard and patrol. Regulations on protecting village security and on people engaged in business, trade, and fishing were devised by the masses for voluntary compliance. Fishing boats must register to operate. Permits were required of those making long fishing trips at sea. Cargoes being hauled by land, air and water routes must be accompanied by vouchers and invoices. Transportation means coming in from other localities must register in accordance with state regulations. Each month, CPV and subward and village people's committees met with organs, enterprises

and units to review their supervisory role. Consequently, the movement to protect national security in localities and units has held up well, growing little by little into an established procedure.

Quang Ninh Province has disseminated the experience and approach of Hon Gai City to all other localities. Some of them have taken the initiative to organize "border" conferences for border organs and units to discuss coordination to protect security. The two districts of Binh Lieu (Quang Ninh) and Dinh Lap (Lang Son) met to consider ways to fight spies, infiltrated commandos, illegal emigrants, and smugglers. Their people's committee chairmen have signed an agreement to jointly build a border belt and a zone of safety.

After drawing experience from the pilot center, the Quang Ninh CPV committee asserted that the formats and methods used to mobilize the masses to protect national security in Hon Gai City could apply to other areas. It continued to guide lower echelons to take Hon Gai as a model, accelerating and protecting production and linking the economy to national defense and security. The mass movement to protect national security did give an impulse to implementing socioeconomic plans in keeping with local characteristics. In the border villages of Binh Lieu District, the committee reorganized residential areas, accelerated production, built a people's war posture, and put together a defensive force, speeding up production and organizing an on-the-spot rear service while standing ready to defeat the enemy multiform war of sabotage. In the coastal areas of Tien Yen, Hai Ninh, and Cam Pha districts, it rearranged labor, organized sectors and crafts, created jobs for those entering the work force and those being released from reeducation camps, and established a widespread network of security protection.

An important point in organizing and fulfilling these duties is that the effort to mobilize the masses should emphasize active prevention at the basic level. The force of public security alone cannot do the job; the supervisory role of party committee echelons should be seen as a fundamental factor which determines success.

The mass movement should serve as a basis for building a clean and strong assault core to include subward and village public security, street militia, people's security, and organ and enterprise security guard police. Since that force maintains regular contacts with the people, a lack of purity would deprive it of the prestige needed to stay close to and mobilize the masses to take part in building the movement.

In the past, Quang Ninh had weak installations. Now, many of these installations have achieved the norms of safety—55 villages, 4 subwards, 2 townships, and 500 organs and enterprises. Whenever the movement was good, the upward trend continued to hold up and generate results. In 1986, the province received a banner from

the Ministry of Interior in appreciation for its effort in the emulation campaign and in 1987 it took a congratulatory banner for its "movement to protect national security."

9213/9274

Cadre 'Exploitation' of Soldiers Called Unwholesome, Degrading

42090221 Hanoi *QUAN DOI NHAN DAN*
in Vietnamese 13 Jun 88 p 2

[Article by Trieu Phuong Que: "Exploitation of Soldiers' Efforts by Some Cadres, Unwholesome Occurrence That Must be Halted Immediately"]

[Text] In presenting this issue, we certainly have no thought of denying the inherent cadre-soldier relationship—one of the traditional features of our revolutionary army. Surely many still recall beautiful and moving stories about the close attachment, sharing the bitter and the sweet, and mutual blood-relation-like love between the cadres and soldiers during the years of resistance against the French and Americans. And at the present time in many units, especially those on the southwestern frontier and along the northern border, out on Truong Sa [Spratley Islands] or on the mainland, etc., there are a great many scenes of cadres and soldiers sharing each other's joys and sorrows, dividing up cigarettes and scarce mouthfuls of water, and reading letters from home together. In combat, it is not uncommon for a cadre or soldier to use his own body to shield the other from a bullet. The more severe the hardship or difficulty, the more deeply profound and friendly this relationship becomes.

In reality however during the past few years, an unwholesome occurrence has appeared in a number of units: the efforts of soldiers are being excessively exploited by their cadres in charge (primarily at the company and battalion levels), partially degrading and adversely affecting the cadre-soldier relationship. This occurrence may be generalized under the following forms:

—Cadres allow soldiers to go on leave or liberty "with conditions." When the absence is from a unit at the front or other difficult location, the "conditions" are usually greater. A soldier from Infantry Group B (on the northern frontier) stated that if he was gone a full month, he had to "pay" 25,000 dong or its equivalent in kind upon his return. There are also instances of "conditions" imposed by cadres that soldiers are forced to accept such as requesting items be purchased for them without repaying the money. Or some cadres have been more tactful and delicate by simply suggesting, "Does your home town have any special products?" for example. However, the soldier always understands the intention and answers fully. It can be understood that these amounts of money and gifts, under all types of forms, have largely been tactfully presented to the cadres in

charge. (Note that platoon and squad cadres also have the "authority" for allowing their soldiers to be absent but they are never reminded or criticized.)

—Reduction of troop allowances is also a fairly common occurrence. It is not without reason that the soldiers have the saying, "Pick and shovel work is divided from the bottom up but sugar and milk from the top down." Each level uses its authority to intentionally retain a small amount for many apparently rational reasons. To establish a common use fund, to pay for cultural and sports activities, and even for use in receiving guests! Not only grain, food and sundries such as essential items (the things necessary for the daily needs of a soldier) but even books and newspapers (their spiritual food) suffer the same fate. Unit libraries and Ho Chi Minh rooms have only a few old and tattered books. Additionally, when soldiers go on leave or liberty, usually few receive allowances for the days of their absence. Figure out how much rice and money a soldier receives per month. Attention must also be given to that fact that at the present time, the common labor achievements of the troops are also being unfairly or erroneously used.

—The labor of soldiers is being used for miscellaneous details and odd jobs. Sometimes squad and platoon levels have the same (naturally unofficial) detail. We have had an occasion to witness in not a few units that company and battalion cadres are not required to hang their own mosquito nets and are served food and drink by aides everywhere. Rarely, some cadres take advantage of their authority to have soldiers assist them at their homes: laying bricks, in construction, etc. Even more ingenious, some unit cadres under the guise of "assistance" or "coordination" with the local areas or nearby units, have the soldiers engage in mutual aid labor. The soldiers are not permitted to know how much money or goods are received or how they are used.

Much actual proof could be presented about these negative occurrences. However, it is mainly necessary to clearly understand their dangerous consequences to the task of teaching the will and responsibility of cadres as well as establishing a disciplined behavior and way of life for the troops. At the same time, it must be seen that along with the degeneration of these party member cadres, a component of soldiers who are not loyal and honest has appeared within the unit.

These soldiers try by every means (including improper stratagems) to win over the cadres for permission to take long leaves, take many leaves, be excused from arduous locations, etc. Many soldiers' families, out of love for their children, unintentionally become accomplices in these negative occurrences. However, their confidence in the unit and cadres has tacitly deteriorated. And surely, in the units where these incidents occur, there cannot be a good cadre-soldier relationship or a totally powerful unit.

There are many reasons for the situation above but the primary reason is that these party member cadres no longer maintain a model role and lack self-cultivation and training in quality and constant behavior. On the other hand, due to the adverse effect of an "authoritarian psychology," they believe they are cadres and if they want to do anything, it is done with those under their control. While the material and spiritual lives of the troops generally still suffer from many difficulties and privations, the cadres think they have the right to enjoy a higher and happier life than the men.

Another major reason is that some of the soldiers and their families have negatively "sympathized" with the erroneous actions of these party member cadres. Many parents have sophistically argued, "We know it is wrong but must still try to have our son return home for a few days to avoid the hardships during his period of duty." This attitude I think must also be criticized.

The situation above clearly cannot persist. This negative occurrence must be halted and ended. The most important method is to educate the party member cadres to raise their spirit of responsibility, model behavior and spirit of sharing the bitter and the sweet with the men. The teachings of Uncle Ho at this time are more penetrating than ever before, "From the squad leader up and the commander in chief down, cadres must look after the material and spiritual lives of their unit members," and "Only when cadres are as close to their unit members as their own limbs are the unit members as close to the cadres as blood relations." Each party member cadre must therefore unceasingly train and cultivate himself in ethical qualities, and keep himself pure at all times and in all places, especially during the present situation. Thus, in the final analysis, the root of this problem is the management training of the party member cadre ranks by each party echelon, especially the party chapter. We wish to propose three immediate and urgent methods:

First, echelons above the basic level must reexamine their unit situation, directly descend to the basic level to inspect and check the party member cadres with these unwholesome indications, and quickly reach appropriate conclusions and dispositions. Soldiers who are intentional "accomplices" must also be severely criticized. This must truly be considered as one of the "jobs for immediate accomplishment" in the present great campaign.

Second is to restore and maintain strict discipline, especially the troop strength management system in the unit. Many locations and cadres "conspire" in "shielding" each other in the concealment of unit strengths to give their men illegal absences, especially during occasions in which the unit leaves for labor or the field. Therefore, upper echelons must arrange for regular and impromptu unit strength inspections (including alerts). At the same time, all allowances that the troops receive must be openly and clearly announced (including the fruits of common labor), and disbursements must be made as

stipulated, for the proper objective and after democratic discussion. Strictly forbid economic work by negative methods and eliminate work to establish "slush funds" within the unit.

Third, parents must actively participate in educating and encouraging their sons to overcome difficulties in completing their mission; and to resolutely not, through pampering their child, become negative individuals abetting and assisting to further exacerbate the unit situation. It is possible and essential for parents to directly or indirectly voice their criticisms of any party member cadre who exploits the property or effort of the soldiers under their command.

7300

Irregularities in Military Recruitment Noted
42090231A Hanoi *QUAN DOI NHAN DAN*
in Vietnamese 23 Jun 88 p 2

[Article by Tran Hoang and The Binh: "Irregularities in Recruitment"]

[Text] For many years, unit C has received youths who enlisted in the provinces of Tien Giang, An Giang, Hau Giang, and Dong Thap. After a period of training, in the recruit training detachments the situation of troop depletion is quite widespread. One of the principal reasons for that situation is that the quality of troops of those provinces is not consistent.

Forced Enlistment

Before recruiting troops, practically none of the localities in those four provinces pay attention to propagandizing, educating, and mobilizing youths in the draftable age group, and their families, but are only concerned with meeting the numerical norms assigned by the upper echelon, so they tend toward administrative commandism. Unit 2 (Regiment B9) received troops from Chau Thanh District in An Giang Province. When asked, 70 of the 134 people replied that they had been brought to the district seat before being sent to the unit. Some had to work in the district seat half a month, and when they set out to join the unit they didn't have time to inform their families, parents, wives and children.

Thach Duyen, who is 19 years old and has a fifth-grade education (in the 12-grade system), said that before enlisting he was a warehouse keeper in Tan Hung, Long Phu District, Hau Giang Province. Village cadres came to his house and set the condition, "If you don't enlist you won't be allowed to continue working, but if you do enlist you'll be admitted into the party." Two days later, after receiving his draft notice, he was admitted into the party, as the village had promised (4 March 1988).

Enlisting in Place of Brothers

There are still many instances of people enlisting in place of their brothers. In Unit 2 (Regiment B9) there were nine instances. In Unit 31 (Regiment B7) there were 12 instances. In the instances of people replacing their brothers, some had fulfilled their military obligations and were "reenlisting." Nguyen Ngoc Hanh, who was born in 1965 and lives in Vinh Hanh village, Thach Hung District, Dong Thap Province, enlisted on 22 December 1984 in unit 8 (Regiment B39) and was discharged on 26 October 1987, but now has enlisted in place of his younger brother, Nguyen Ngoc Tuan. Le Duy Lien, 27 years old, from Dinh My village in Thoai Son District, An Giang Province, has a wife and two small children but enlisted in place of his younger brother, who is single.

Failure To Meet Health Standards

The military environment is a difficult, arduous environment which entails much activity and requires people who are healthy both physically and mentally. The localities have not done a good job of fulfilling that requirement. After receiving troops, nearly all of the units have had to send 5 to 10 percent back to the localities because of poor health. In some cases they had social diseases, which endangered themselves and could be spread among the group, but still they enlisted. Did the localities know about that? How were the preinduction physicals carried out? Were they accepted into the army only to fulfill the numerical quota?

In Unit 2 (of the Military Administration School) alone there were five instances of people who had dangerous contagious diseases before they enlisted and are still being treated by the unit. One of the unit members, Nguyen Phu Nhan, has a nervous disorder, is malnourished, is illiterate, and is incapable of assimilating the contents of the subjects of the training program.

Acceptance Into the Youth Union—a "Gift" To Encourage Enlistment

Practically none of the new recruits who are Youth Union members know anything about the Youth Union and do not participate in its activities. A few days before they enlisted the localities called them in and had them fill out printed personal history forms, then filled out transfer forms. Eighty percent were admitted into the Youth Union 2 to 7 days before they enlisted.

There were even people who were admitted into the party by "haggling" a few days before enlisting, without studying in preparatory classes. Huynh Thanh Nguyen, 21 years old, of An Thanh 2 village in Long Phu District, Hau Giang Province, received a draft notice on 2 March 1988 and was admitted into the party on 4 March 1988, without having studied about the party.

We recommend that specific steps be taken to end that situation, continually improve the quality of troops recruitment, and strictly enforce the military obligation law. The units must seek all ways to closely control and supervise the quality of the people who are called up, and resolutely refuse to accept those who are not fully qualified.

5616

ECONOMIC

Seaprodex Holds Trade Association Conference 42090246b Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 29 Jun 88 p 1

[Text] From 23 to 25 June in Ho Chi Minh City, for the first time, the Marine Products Export Corporation (Seaprodex) held a domestic and foreign customers conference after 10 years of activity. Thirty corporations specializing in marine products and trade from the Soviet Union, Hungary, India, Belgium, France, Japan, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Austria and Norway, and representatives of the United Nations attended.

The customer representatives contributed many opinions on expanding trade association cooperation between Seaprodex and other units and localities aimed at effectively exploiting capabilities to catch, raise and process export marine products, to increase product quantity and quality, build a material and technical base for the fishing trade and to improve the lives of the fishermen; on advantages and difficulties in mobilizing capital and technology for the marine products sector, and on maintaining the export products prestige of the Vietnamese marine products sector on the world market.

7300

Vung Tau-Con Dao Corporation Forms Foreign Trade Associations 42090246a Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 29 Jun 88 p 1

[Text] According to the newspaper NHAN DAN, our Ministry of Foreign Economy recently permitted the Vung Tau-Con Dao Export-Import Corporation (VIECO) to establish trade associations with MISF Corporation in Thailand and Vietsing Trading Company in Hong Kong.

The joint enterprise between VIECO and MISF, bearing the name VIECO Shrimp Farm, is headquartered in Vung Tau to raise and freeze shrimp for export. The joint enterprise with the Vietsing Trading Company, bearing the name VIECO Garment Factory, is also located in Vung Tau to manufacture export clothing.

Both of these Thai and Hong Kong corporations enjoy preferential status in import duties for equipment, raw material and spare parts shipped into Vietnam to supply the production trade association enterprises. These enterprises also enjoy a number of preferential rights and are permitted to transfer their profits outside Vietnam.

7300

Direct Foreign Trade Regulations Promulgated
42090243a Hanoi NGOAI THUONG in Vietnamese
15 Jun 88 p 2

[by Mai Ho: "Some Regulations Concerning Enterprises and Corporations Permitted Direct Export-Import Operations"]

[Text] In issue 158 on 15 May 1988, NGOAI THUONG announced that a weaving enterprise in Hanoi and two enterprises and three business corporations in Ho Chi Minh City had been granted permission for direct export-import operations. On 4 May 1988, the Ministry of Foreign Economy also consented to direct export-import operations for another production enterprise, the Binh Hoa Electronics Enterprise of the Ministry of Engineering and Metals. Surely in the future, additional enterprises in succession will be granted this permission.

To grant permission for direct export-import operations is to create conditions for enterprises and corporations to engage in direct trade contacts and pledges with foreign markets aimed at developing and expanding export goods production, faster exchange and receipt of the world's scientific and technical advances, direct participation in production and export competition on the international market and consequently, strengthening the vitality of enterprises and corporations in export goods production and business, and their effectiveness in this field.

However, to be granted permission for direct export-import operations, enterprises and corporations must attain stipulated conditions in export value, apparatus organization and foreign trade cadres. In the state management aspect, limitations are required in the production and business activities of the enterprise or corporation consistent with the current export-import management mechanism. Following are the regulations concerning enterprises and corporations recently granted permission for direct export-import operations by the Ministry of Foreign Economy:

Concerning exports, Frozen Food Enterprise 1 and state-operated enterprises manufacturing export goods may export only those products produced by the enterprise itself in accordance with legal norms or goods orders of the state, and produced by the independently acquired capital of the enterprise or other units or economic

organizations engaged in joint operations with the enterprise. This regulation is aimed at avoiding occurrences of buying up property from other economic organizations for export, and halting occurrences of trade competition.

—Regarding the Binh Hoa Electronics Enterprise, the regulations state that the enterprise must export in return for foreign exchange the various types of electronic materials, components and equipment for civilian and industrial use produced by the enterprise or through joint business, association and contract cooperation with other international organizations. This regulation compels the enterprise to export the products produced by the enterprise to foreign countries, not using them in exchange for agricultural products or to sell on the domestic market in return for foreign exchange. Moreover, the regulations state that for any of the products stated above that the state has pledged to foreign countries, the enterprise must give priority in achieving the state pledge in accordance with the current system.

—The Industrial Products Corporation is the export center of member enterprises in Ho Chi Minh City and may therefore export the products produced by member enterprises.

—The Consolidated Handicrafts and Art Corporation may export the products produced by primary level units in the city.

—The Municipal Grain Corporation exports grain products within the business sphere of the corporation. Grain products on the state's unified management list must have state permission before being exported.

—The present grain (paddy, rice, corn, potatoes and manioc) problem is of special importance to the nation. In 1987, the state established the General Grain Corporation with the function of nationwide grain procurement and supply, and the responsibility for grain exports and imports (previously the mission of Vinafood Corporation). Therefore, each separate instance in which the Municipal Grain Corporation wants to export grain must have the permission of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers.

When they have goods assigned lawful norms by the state, enterprises and corporations above must fulfill the obligations and pledges in contracts signed with central export-import business organizations in both quantity and quality.

Therefore, in reality, these economic units conduct their export-import activities primarily with socialist foreign markets.

Concerning imports, the enterprises and corporations may import those production materials directly supporting the enterprise's production or production conducted in accordance with joint business and association contracts. Corporations may import production materials

supporting the production of basic level units producing export goods for the corporation, or production conducted in accordance with joint business and association contracts. An exception is the Industrial Products Corporation which may import production materials for the direct use and achievement of joint business and association contracts within the production field of member enterprises.

The regulations above clearly designate that only production materials for the enterprise itself or for production requirements in accordance with joint business and association contracts may be imported. These kinds of goods may not be imported for resale or exchange to take advantage of price differences. Consumer goods may not be imported, even those for the consumer requirements of the enterprise or corporation itself.

Concerning planning, municipal enterprises and corporations will submit their export-import plans to the Municipal People's Committee for examination and consolidation of the city's export-import plan. The Ministry of Foreign Economy will review the overall export-import plan for the entire city in accordance with current regulations. Based on the review of the Ministry of Foreign Economy, the Municipal People's Committee will directly assign export-import plans to these units. The Ministry of Foreign Economy authorizes the Municipal People's Committee, depending on the specific conditions, to present appropriate management methods when units have similar export and import goods.

The export-import plans of enterprises subordinate to ministries or general departments must be confirmed by their ministry or general department before being submitted for review by the Ministry of Foreign Economy.

7300

Foreign Shopping Trips by Officials Criticized
42090226b Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
22 Jun 88 p 2

[Article by Dan Nguyen: "Visit Becomes Corrupt Activity"]

[Text] For several months now in Nghe Tinh there have been many expressions of indignation from the public regarding two cadres, one from the communications and transportation sector and one from the secretariat of the provincial people's committee, for going on a short-term visit abroad and using foreign currency to buy an excessive amount of merchandise for individuals. They were the head of the secretariat of the provincial people's committee and the assistant director of the communications service. Admittedly, it is a viable and worthwhile policy to send cadres in the foreign trade sector, communications sector, and a few other sectors on the ships of the province, the Hong Lam 6 and Hong Lam 10, to make visits to a number of countries to make enquiries and learn about marketing from it.

Yet the questions of who should go, for what purposes they should go, and what would be the correct program and system are subject to discussion. The head of the secretariat was nearly 60 years old (the announcement of his retirement was released 2 months after his return). That is to say nothing of the comrades who go back and forth under the "ship's crew" program—that is, as sailors. In only 26 days (going on 13 February and returning on 9 March 1988), with the allowance of crew members, how did those comrades have the dollars and yen to buy such a large quantity of merchandise? The secretariat head himself bought a Honda Cub 50 motorcycle, two Japanese fans, two thermos bottles, three sewing machines, two radio cassette players, a two-axle mini vehicle, a color television set, two electric rice-cookers, a wall clock, and some valuable jewelry, for a total value at current prices in April 1988 of more than 5 million dong. The public is discussing many things: the use of dollars in excess of what is allowed; the use of public funds to buy items for personal use; the exploitation of one's position to examine "appropriate" documents to one's own advantage. But what is questionable is that the head of the secretariat should leave at a time of urgency just before the harvest, when the entire province is concerned about each catty of rice for the people. Could it be right? And the matter of import/export—what about the taxes? We have learned that the standing committee of the province committee and the provincial people's committee have met and determined rather prompt and strict measures to be taken, but there has been no clear announcement as yet; if it isn't true, where was he sent for disciplinary action, or was he allowed to retire with all the goods, so that he became a millionaire in 3 months?

It is suggested that all provincial leadership agencies derive experience from this; not only the provincial people's committee, but the communications sector, the waterway transportation corporation, the Navy, the foreign exchange bank, and the finance office should also seriously conduct reviews regarding the ways they have performed that have been abusive of their functions in order not to allow visits to turn into official corruption like that again.

9830

Central Government Cited for Unfairness to Local Government

42090223 Hanoi NGOAI THUONG in Vietnamese
15 May 88 p 5

[Article by Xuan Hai, of the Secretariat of the Dac Lac Province People's Committee: "Unfair Treatment to Local Government in Import-Export Task"]

[Text] Since Liberation Day, more than a decade ago, Dac Lac Province has always met and surpassed obligations for consigning export goods to the central government, especially in regard to the two commodities, coffee and floor planks—two strategic commodities exported to

the Soviet Union in keeping with treaties signed between the two governments. It has been a great accomplishment of the party, the military, and the people of every minority in Dac Lac Province in regard to meeting obligations to the central government.

Dac Lac is a Tay Nguyen Mountain province, with a material and technical base that is still very poor and backward. Communications are poorly developed, there are many problems confronting efforts to transport goods, and not enough consumer goods are produced. The province is in a period of overall planning and in the process of forming new districts, and there is a very great need for capital construction of the socioeconomic infrastructure; meanwhile, accumulated funds are still low, the population is growing too fast, cadres are few in number and weak, etc. With such difficulties, Dac Lac would be unable to surmount poverty and backwardness and advance to socialism without support from the central government.

Over recent years, apart from the significant level of central government support for Dac Lac in guidance, manpower, and property contributed for the advancement of Dac Lac, there has been some unfairness in relations between the central government and the local level, especially regarding consigning of export goods. In this effort, Dac Lac has always exceeded its obligations to the central government, while the central government has yet to reciprocate in repayments to the province. This situation has made it very difficult for the province to manage its budget, supply materials for the production effort, and dispose material conditions for the purchase of products. In the context of this article, we wish only to touch on this situation over the past 3 years (1985 to 1987), and to propose that the central government, especially associated ministries and sectors, should concentrate on resolving issues for the province and enable the province to strive diligently to contribute to the accomplishment of the goals of the 5-year plan for 1986-1990 formulated at the 10th provincial party congress and, with the entire country, to successfully implement Party Resolution No 6.

In the 3 years of 1985, 1986, and 1987, Dac Lac exceeded its obligation for consigning export goods to the central government, with the following results for specific commodities:

	1985 (planned/ met)	1986 (planned/ met)	1987 (planned/ met)
1—Coffee (tons)	3,372.6/3,300	4,086/4,000	1,501/1,500
2—Flooring (m ³)	5,118/5,000	5,145/5,000	6,240/6,000

According to the system put into effect by the central government, localities are granted the right to use foreign currency in two accounts: the plan implementation

account and the awards account for surpassing plan objectives. The total amount which the locality could use from these two accounts was 1.7 million rubles for the 2-year period from 1985 to 1986. To date, however, accounts have not been settled with the province by the central government; the province has not been reimbursed by the central government. In October 1985, because of a price-change inventory, there was a difference of 180 million dong between the price of materials and commodities sent back by the central government and the current price of the coffee consigned by the locality. The local budget suffered the loss of this large amount and the province worked many times with associated ministries to request recomputation for the locality, but it has not been resolved yet.

Particularly in 1986, in addition to surpassing goals for consignments according to plan, Dac Lac designated another 700 tons of coffee (the portion of Region II exports allotted to the province) for consignment to the central government for repayment of debts to the Soviet Union. Yet the province did not receive reimbursement for it. It was not until the end of 1987 that ministries paid off their debt to the province, mainly via such equipment and machinery as ZIL 130 and 131 vehicles, etc.—items which, although important, do not satisfy the needs of production, especially of raising industrial crops for export. That is to say nothing of the fact that the central government provided this machinery and equipment at prices much higher than the current prices for the coffee and floor planks which the province provided to the central government. To date, no one has assumed the responsibility of compensating the locality for this price imbalance.

In 1987, Dac Lac consigned 1,501 tons of coffee and 6,240 cubic meters of floor planks to the central government. For the 1,501 tons of coffee, the central government agreed that the province would follow two formulas: 750 tons would be consigned at a fixed price (32,000 Vietnamese dong and 1,260 rubles/ton) and 751 tons would be consigned via a trust formula. The total amount of foreign funds to be received by the locality for the 1,501 tons of coffee was 2.5 million rubles. The locality finished transferring the coffee to Agrexport in June 1987. Yet it was January 1988 before the central government settled accounts with the locality via 1.235 million rubles in materials and commodities. As of 31 March 1988 the central government still owed the province more than a million rubles in materials and commodities for 1987.

For the 3 years of 1985, 1986, and 1987, the amount of foreign currency still owed the province for export goods provided, considering only coffee, by the central government is nearly 3 million rubles in materials and commodities. This does not include the 1,000-5,000 tons of rubber latex provided, which does not have the privilege of using foreign currency.

Yet what is still not truly fair and honest is that associated ministries have caused very many difficulties for local areas, especially in relations with provinces, districts, and villages and sub-wards for the production,

purchase, and consignment of export goods. Nevertheless, in spite of the general difficulties of the country, localities are striving in the most positive ways to increase production and purchasing and meet its obligations for consignment to the central government. The province is striving to surpass planning objectives for 1988, ahead of time, for the consignment of 5,000 tons of coffee and 6,000 cubic meters of floor planks for export. It would seem that ministries and the central government should concentrate on promptly and fully resolving the interests of the local level, especially by repaying debts still outstanding from previous years. Only this will ensure that relations between the central government and the locality will be strengthened and expanded, creating a joint capability for contributing to the successful implementation of Party Resolution No 6.

9830

Requirements for Cash Payments Lead to Added Charges

42090226a Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
22 Jun 88 p 2

[Article by Huong Sen: "From Production to Consumption: Paying 3 Times the Cost of the Chicken for the Feed"]

[Text] Aggravating the situation with cash is that now, in purchasing and sales between economic organizations, all installations require payment in cash—some 60-70 percent, others 100 percent. For this reason, many provincial, district, and ward commercial corporations, quality-of-life corporations, and even level-1 commercial corporations sometimes bring along gunnysacks of money when they go to buy goods. Without cash to pay the seller, the socialist trade sector cannot obtain goods, even prime merchandise that has been damaged, to implement plans for business expansion.

Furthermore, after purchasing merchandise, another sum of cash must be laid out that could not be estimated beforehand. This is for "supplemental expenses" for hiring transport vehicles, loading and unloading, transporting goods, and the like. Some business units state that it takes more than 700,000 dong to rent and maintain a freight car to transport goods from the south to the north and 300,000 dong for "supplemental expenses." There is usually no invoice for this sum, and it is in addition to freight charges. To transport 1 kg of meat (sliced up) costs 150 dong in "freight charges," while its sale price is 100 dong per kg. To transport 5 tons for a distance of about 30 km costs a "supplement" of 11,000 dong. For some commodities, it is like having to pay three times the cost of the chicken to pay for the feed. Such "sudden" expenses must all be paid for in cash. Where does one get cash on time? No matter how much you have, it is gone in a hurry. If you don't have cash to pay, the merchandise must wait there. And if you do have it to spend, many types of expenses are added to

the goods and prices are pushed higher, and how can business installations compensate for them? Ultimately, we are hurting ourselves. It is one of the causes for rising prices.

9830

Difficulty in Collecting Grain in Dong Thap Described

42090209 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
9 Jun 88 p 1

[Article by Phan Trong Hai: "Hindrances in Collecting Grain in Dong Thap"]

[Text] Large Quantities of Paddy Are Still Being Stacked in the Open Air!

That loose paddy is being stored in the open and on unpaved yards is one of many main causes for rice decay in Dong Thap Province. During certain years, thousands of tons of rice were lost to rot. Consequently, although the province is a rice granary, its cadres, workers, civil servants, and coupon bearers seldom got good rice at state-run grain stores. This situation has been lingering for years. Responsible sectors at district, provincial and central levels have found ways to correct the problem, but each year when the winter-spring crop was harvested, paddy continued to be left in the open, amounting at some places to 50 percent of the harvest. During this year's winter-spring season, that phenomenon was not abated in the districts of Hong Ngu and Thap Muoi. In the latter, particularly, about 450 tons of paddy were stored in the open.

According to Dong Thap's crop structure, harvesting times for its 10th-month floating rice and winter-spring rice are only a month apart. The most busy collection period for the winter-spring crop coincides with the outset of the rainy season. These are objective factors that impact on winter-spring grain collection. Nevertheless, the difficulty in overcoming them cannot serve as an excuse for accumulating such a great amount of paddy in open air.

If the highest annual collection figure—170,000 tons—is used as a guide and if intermediaries are bypassed through direct deliveries to the central echelon, the existing grain warehouse system in Dong Thap can meet its storage need simply by increasing the storage frequency to three times a year. But in fact, warehouses are run by various administrative entities, with no respect for production realities. The motto of expanding two-rice-crop areas while building matching warehouses was not implemented properly. Warehouses are located far from rice mills, causing a lack of storage facilities in some places and an excess in others. The most typical example is the warehouse of Tan Cong Chi Village (Hong Ngu), which can accommodate 3,000 tons but receives only 1,000 tons a year.

Maximal use of existing facilities will increase milling and hauling performances and storage frequencies and will cut down on energy in transporting grain from land-based installations to waterways for delivery to the central government. As a matter of fact, contract prices for milling, freight, and loading and unloading were below production costs, making it hard for individual, collective, and even state facilities to operate at capacity.

Another reason is that contract deliveries were behind schedule. To reduce circulation losses and costs, Thap Muoi District has signed a contract for delivering this year's winter-spring grain directly to the central government, bypassing the provincial grain corporation. The contract stipulates that the district hauls grain from land-based installations to waterways and that the centrally-run Song Tien Corporation sends transportation means to the district to pick up that grain. Leading district officials stated that, during harvest time, the pace of gathering and hauling grain to receiving centers to meet contract regulations was accelerated, but that Song Tien Corporation has dragged its feet. As a result, hundreds of tons of paddy were left in open to the air at these receiving centers.

These are main reasons. There are other ones which a single echelon or sector cannot address successfully. We believe that paddy stored in the open air and rice deprived of nutritious substance are urgent problems which responsible echelons and sectors should consider promptly and devise a radical solution. At the same time, responsibilities for units and individuals found guilty of losses while collecting, transporting, and storing grain should be clearly defined.

Why Were They Unable To Buy Grain Although They Got a Bumper Crop and Had Enough Cash?

The recent winter-spring crop in Dong Thap yielded more than 500,000 tons—a rice crop with high productivity and volume of production. After paying taxes and debts, many families voluntarily sent over 20,000 tons of paddy to warehouses in various districts for storage. The central bank transferred enough cash to the province to purchase grain according to plan. Some localities including Thap Muoi District has pledged to exceed collection norms by 11,000 tons. These were favorable conditions for Dong Thap in grain collection. In April and May, Dong Thap was assigned the task of collecting and delivering 116,000 tons of winter-spring grain to the central government. However, by the end of May it was able to scrape together less than 61,000 tons composed mainly of tax and debt payments while purchasing and bartering performances were very low.

Since the beginning of this year, Dong Thap Province had to adjust purchasing prices four times in order to promote grain collection. Local "embargoes" were even set in motion by some districts and cities but grain prices continued to soar. A main cause was poor market

management, allowing quite a few long distance traders and professional speculators and hoarders to slip into rural areas to compete with state purchasers, pushing grain prices up.

Except for well-to-do people, most Dong Thap peasants ought to sell their paddy as soon as it is harvested to get cash for everyday expenses and to buy supplies for upcoming crops. While the Dong Thap grain market was reeling under bad management, neighboring provinces raised prices to draw goods, causing grain prices to shoot up. This fact has been lingering for years for which no remedy has been found yet, making it imperative for responsible echelons and sectors to devise synchronized measures as well as appropriate and pragmatic policies, giving attention to localities with strengths in grain production. Only this will enable us to concentrate all existing grain production capabilities into the hands of the state, at both central and local levels.

9213/9274

Hai Hung Province Experiencing Handicraft Problems

42090222 Hanoi *QUAN DOI NHAN DAN*
in Vietnamese 7 Jun 88 p 1

[Article by Tu Trang: "Hai Hung Exploits Many Raw Materials for Small Industry and Handicrafts, but Goods Stagnation, Capital Shortages Persist"]

[Text] Beginning in 1988, small industry and handicrafts production in Hai Hung Province encountered many difficulties. Besides those involving raw materials, capital, prices, taxes, grain, etc., there was also the production rearrangement and reorganization of the sector in the local area. However, with dynamism in production and expanded business and association to exploit materials and expand the market for small industry and handicraft goods, from the very first day and month of the year, the basic units have achieved a good production rate.

The sector coordinated with the agricultural sector to prepare 135 hectares for planting pharmaceutical product crops to ensure production of 15 tons of essential oils.

Hai Hung is the home of longan and wild lichee. For several years, longan production has continued to freely develop in each family. This year, the small industry and handicrafts sector will manage and organize the longan production to raise export quality.

At the present time however, the shortage of electric power, poor materials, inopportune readjusted processing and production costs, top-heavy taxation, etc. are heavy loads on the shoulders of the handicraft producer. In many cooperatives at the end of March, the production contract for this year had still not been signed. A situation of goods stagnation and capital shortages

revolving around production is still fairly severe. A number of handicraft products in Hai Hung have fled to Hanoi and Haiphong. In Phu Tien District, 70,000 square meters of jute carpet that the province would not take were reserved for sale to Haiphong to acquire production rotation capital and wages for the cooperative member. The price of corn silk carpet in the province has been lowered in order for other localities to come in and procure it. The province's decision during previous years to "diverge and unite" between the small industry and handicrafts sector and the industrial sector still exists with a great adverse effect on production.

In the face of these "chronic" difficulties, the Hai Hung Federation of Small Industry and Handicraft Cooperatives has developed a spirit of dynamism, creativity and autonomy in production. All levels of the cooperative federation have sought means to alleviate the difficulties of basic units and their own production. The Hai Hung Federation of Small Industry and Handicraft Cooperatives has invited the directors of centrally operated units making machine products and sewn goods in the local area to engage in discussions and contracts for the distribution of additional products. The cooperative federation and province are continuing to directly delegate cadres to go down and supervise the movements of districts and cities.

7300

Rice Purchased in City, Resold in Rural Areas
42090241 Hanoi DOC LAP in Vietnamese
27 Apr 88 p 6

[Article by Huu Hanh: "Against the Current?"]

[Text] During the past 2-3 years, around 8 March in Hanoi, a strange and rather widespread phenomenon has usually occurred. Many people from the rural areas have come to Hanoi to beg for food or purchase rice. From their accent and from talking with them, it is obvious that they are not from Thanh Nghe but from northern areas. Some are from Ninh Binh and Ha Son Binh and others are from Hai Hung and Haiphong. Regardless of whether cadres or workers are at home, these people roam about the collective zones obstructing the steps and knocking on doors. Some ask for a little grain and others ask to purchase some rice.

In particular, around the rice stores, it is very difficult to reason with them because they are not all from the countryside. And they are not all poor and starving. Crowded around the stores are crude bicycles. They purchase rice and transport it back to the villages to sell. They buy wholesale and sell it wholesale in the villages. Expenditures and prices go up several times before the rice reaches the actual consumers. Ever since the economic accounting system was implemented, the grain sector has often sold rice at prices almost equal to those on the free markets. Just like today, whenever such rice is sold, all of it is always sold and the buyers are the

"companies of crude vehicles" from the "armored zones" and city's belt. The consumers in Hanoi have submitted proposals to the Municipal Grain Sector concerning this problem. But so far, no changes have been made. Although there is not enough rice to sell to the cadres, workers, and civil servants based on the quotas, the grain stores have enough rice to sell at high prices in accord with the "free" formula. I have used quotation marks with the word "free" because that is the guideline from above. This basically amounts to direct sales and flexible use, meaning purchases based on needs and the capabilities for satisfying those needs. For example, during the final week of March and the beginning of April this year, the Kim Giang grain store in Dong Da Ward issued a notice on the free sale of southern rice at 520 dong per kg (at a time when no rice was sold based on the fixed quantities). For several consecutive days, the companies of bicycles came to purchase rice. They could not purchase directly from the store but had to go through a woman who was in cahoots with state store personnel. The store classified the rice in order to sell the better quality rice at 540 dong and the inferior rice at 520.5 dong per kg. But the sales were all recorded in the accounting records at 520 dong per kg. The store and this woman shared the difference. Several people who lacked food really wanted to purchase a little rice to relieve their hunger but couldn't. Thus, it seems that the policy of selling grain at high prices in order to help improve the lives of the cadres, workers, and civil servants at a time where there is rice to sell based on fixed quantities is very ineffective. Rice seed from the fields comes to the city and then returns to the rural areas. Is the stream running in the wrong direction? Is firewood being taken to the forest? The answer is that the water is running downhill, but it is taking a very winding route, meaning that the grain is not flowing directly from areas with a surplus to areas with a shortage. Firewood is still being moved from old forests to denuded forests. That increases its price. I met a youth who had recently purchased several bicycles and who was trading in rice for the first time. He said: "I recently sold my hogs in order to obtain enough money to trade in rice like this. I came here from Chuong My in Ha Son Binh and must start back early tomorrow morning."

"Why don't you purchase rice at the local markets," I asked.

"The local markets have much less to offer than the markets in Hanoi."

"But grain is much cheaper," I said.

"At the grain stores, even the pigeons have died. Bad and good harvests are all the same. Peasants earn very little."

"By how much have they exceeded the yearly quotas?"

"They haven't exceeded the quotas. They are someone's cat's-paw. There is one meeting after another, and one notice after another is issued. The truth regarding state

cadres is that when you are trying to make a living this way, when you go to the home of production unit cadres or cooperative directors, you have to repress sobs."

"If you have received adequate contract land and fulfilled the quotas, who can find fault?"

"This is called the age of peasants. In the villagers, there is no such thing as human rights or ownership rights."

I was astounded. I had never dreamed that he would answer like this. Rice is brought to the city from the rural areas and then quickly taken back to the rural areas. Those who produce the rice seed are not masters of the rice seed. Or to be more exact, they are controlled by the rice seed. The resolution of the Second Plenum of the CPV Central Committee on circulation and distribution affirmed that after peasants have paid their taxes, they do not have any other duties to fulfill. But just 4-5 months later, when studying the resolution of the Third Plenum of the Party Central Committee, we heard confirmation of what was said above: "The resolution of the Second Plenum of the Party Central Committee has not yet been implemented." The truth is quite plain. The conversation with that youth and the tense grain situation in Hanoi, the large industrial zones, and in almost all the provinces in the Red River Delta confirm this. Perhaps from this moment on, millions of Vietnamese peasants, the strategic allies of the Vietnamese working class, will pin their hopes on change, particularly concerning rights and obligations, as was mentioned in the statutes of the Vietnam Peasants Association and in the recent resolution of the Politburo on reorganizing agricultural management.

The crowds of bicycles and beggars will quickly "change" in the mist. People will definitely have a new and happier life.

11943

Cash Shortages Cause Production Halts, Stagnation

42090224 Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 4 Jun 88 p 1

[Article by Xinh Le: "Capital, Cash for Production: Realities and Direction for Breakthrough"]

[Text] Shortages in capital and cash have caused and continue to cause many problems in production and business. Let me provide the evidence of some figures which, though not complete, do partially reflect this current difficulty of the city. According to the most recent figures, production has halted or stagnated at nearly 1,000 small industry and handicrafts installations in the Third Precinct because of cash shortages. The consumer and marketing cooperative is in danger of bankruptcy due to capital deficits.

Although the bank should provide capital and cash to production and business units, which are its customers, it has been unable to do so for many reasons. Economic units therefore look for other ways, even some beyond state regulations, to have money and capital with which to operate. In economic units, a situation of total discouragement prevails, or one of being required, for survival, to withhold a rather large amount of cash and settle accounts directly without going through the bank. "Out of pocket" banking is becoming a spontaneous practice in every small industry and handicrafts production group today, in evidence in every district. High-interest lenders are still able to operate because operations of the system of banks and credit cooperatives are not yet active everywhere and cannot replace them.

At present, a leading problem among those urgently demanding solution by the city is that of activating sources of uncommitted capital and cash among the people in order to remove production and business from their state of stagnation. A number of new breakthroughs show some welcomed signs. In the first day after the announcement of the certificates of deposit (1 June), the Municipal Commerce Bank received 93 million dong. The first small industry and handicrafts credit cooperative of the city mobilized 30 million dong. Ben Thanh Credit Cooperative (Sub-precinct 11 of the 1st Precinct), a preeminent unit of the village and sub-precinct credit cooperative system, although undergoing many economic changes during the past period, was able to mobilize sources of free money from among the people, raising operational capital to 1.6 billion dong.

The first thing to be derived from the activities of the above units is that an appropriate interest rate must be established for deposits that is higher than the devaluation rate of the dong. Though it has not been announced by the state, our people can calculate the dong's rate of devaluation from the speed with which its value decreases. And it is most important not to miss that the bank and credit cooperatives must retain the confidence of customers.

The largest portion of capital and cash must be mobilized by the bank. That requires that the bank innovate its ways of operating and move ahead to accomplish its function. Yet through effective activities of the sub-precinct and village credit cooperative system (which presently comprises 140 specialized credit cooperatives such as the small industry and handicrafts credit cooperative), the city can mobilize significant amounts of supplemental capital and cash still among the people for use in production and business. If every credit cooperative works with planning and with prestige like Ben Thanh Credit Cooperative, the amount of cash that can be mobilized is not insignificant. It is something within our grasp and within our capability to accomplish.

9830

Reasons for Excessive Rice Losses During Transport

42090225 Hanoi GIAO THONG VAN TAI in Vietnamese 26 May 88 p 2

[Text] Over recent months, faced with food problems, the state imported and purchased and transported hundreds of thousands of tons rice from southern provinces to the north, solving the problem of providing the people with rice.

Some units participating in this food transport effort performed receipt and delivery well and good management, shortening the period of time and reducing losses to within the permissible level. The cargo ship Hau Giang transported 10,500 tons of imported rice, with losses at only 0.6 percent. It is too bad that more of the cargo transport means were not able to reduce the percentage of loss. The percentage of rice loss during transport remained too high in the majority of cases, whether by rail, river, or road, in some cases many times reaching levels many times higher than permissible.

According to final statements, losses amounted to 1.93 percent in a number of cargo ships transporting rice—0.68 percent more than last year. One ship, the Bach Dang 08, carrying only 1,000 tons of rice, lost 38.6 tons.

Final statements for transport shipments from the south to the north reflect that 18 ships had average losses of 1.64 percent, 0.14 percent above the permissible level. The Song Cam 2 transported 380 tons of rice and lost 14 tons, a 3.7 percent loss, which is 2.5 times the permissible level.

Losses were also considerable on trips to transport rice by river and road. Barge 07 (of River Transport No 3) had losses of 6.4 percent carrying rice from Hai Phong to Hanoi.

Following are the principal causes of rice losses beyond permissible levels during transport:

There is a lack of uniformity in methods of receipt and delivery and a continuing lack of close control. For sea transport, state regulations require a 10-percent authentication weighing of the rice at both ports to calculate the weight of the cargo and determine the percentage of loss, but a number of our ships transporting imported rice in closed bags that are not of regulation size (from 95 to 110 kilograms) simply go by the number of bags to calculate the average weight of the rice. Due to this method of operation, it is impossible to determine where the fault lies or who is to blame for losses of thousands of tons during the transport of imported rice since last year!

In river transport, the majority of boat captains deliver commodities by the bag without accepting responsibility for the weight of goods in the bags, then fail to observe procedures for close control and inspection, so thieves

take advantage of the situation, using metal pipes with sharp points to puncture the bags and remove rice to sell on the black market and share the profits.

Another matter to which authorities should pay close attention is that there are still losses in the quality of rather large amounts of rice during transport. Final statements of some ships reveal that of the total 52,548 tons of rice that reached the port of Haiphong, more than 2,000 tons had been damaged by bags being broken open, by mildew, and even by rot. The principal cause was our continuing shortage of vessels for transporting rice. On most ships the rice is piled up in the cargo hold of the ship, where there are no ventilation fans to keep it dry, so the rice radiates a great deal of heat, and the water vapor held on the surface spoils the bags on top. To reduce the amount of damaged rice, transport units should have enough lumber to cushion the hold and the bulkheads of the ship, and workers should be directed to stack the rice by lot, leaving spaces between them from the bottom up to the hatches so that the rice has natural ventilation. In order to avoid recurrence of the recent incident of a ship sinking, unsafe ships should not be commissioned to transport rice.

9830

Trade Competition Disrupts Minh Hai Shrimp Market

42090243b Hanoi NGOAI THUONG in Vietnamese 15 Jun 88 p 2

[Text] Minh Hai Province is presently losing dozens of tons of raw material shrimp daily, primarily due to the fact that adjacent provinces and Ho Chi Minh City have excessively raised the purchase price of shrimp, to 14,000-18,000 dong per kilogram for type 1, nearly twice the purchase price in Minh Hai. During April, Minh Hai Province was able to purchase only 200 tons of raw material shrimp, one-fourth of that acquired during previous months.

Although the province has many times changed the purchase price of shrimp in conjunction with subsidized sales of nets and equipment to those catching and raising shrimp, increasing the signing of two-way contracts with producers, etc., due to trade competition, prices have excessively and rapidly fluctuated and price differences within the area are too great so the province is still unable to manage and procure shrimp for export processing. All of the trucks and passenger vehicles coming to Minh Hai from outside the province are carrying shrimp for merchants when they leave. Market management forces in the province have apprehended many individuals engaged in trade competition and market disruption, and confiscated dozens of tons of shrimp from merchants during the first quarter, once stopping and detaining a vehicle hauling 1-2 tons of shrimp. At the present time, plants processing frozen shrimp for export in the province are suffering serious raw material shortages, and the output of processed and frozen shrimp

during April was equal to only one-third that of previous months. The Ca Mau Frozen Food Plant, with no production raw materials, had to cease operations, and the Ganh Hao (Gia Rai) and Nam Can (Ngoc Hien) frozen food plants have been forced to moderate activities.

The excessive elevation of shrimp prices by other provinces and Ho Chi Minh City has disrupted the market in Minh Hai and merchants from other places have come to frantically compete with the state, both on the land and at sea. Functional agencies must promptly examine and deal with those units violating state regulations on the execution of price discipline in order to restore pricing order and market stability.

7300

SOCIAL

**Draft Code of Criminal Procedures Discussed;
Code Called Essential**
*42090242 Hanoi DAI DOAN KET in Vietnamese
23 Apr 88 pp 1, 3*

[Article by Phung Van Tuu: "The Concept of 'Using the People as the Source' and the Draft Code of Criminal Procedures"]

[Text] The Draft Code of Criminal Procedures, with 7 parts, 34 chapters, and 268 articles, is quite specific and detailed concerning procedures in investigating and prosecuting cases, passing sentence, and carrying out the sentence. Naturally, the draft has been carefully studied by the agencies and cadres directly involved in upholding the law, including public security and control cadres, the courts, judicial agencies, and lawyers. At the same time, this has also attracted the attention of the people, because the basic contents of this are closely tied to a number of pressing problems now confronting people.

It is essential that we have a Code of Criminal Procedures in order to contribute to strengthening the Criminal Code, oppose and prevent crime, and satisfy the wishes of the masses. We know that the Criminal Code was adopted by the National Assembly in June 1985 and implemented in January 1986. Combining the strength of the socialist legal system with the strength of the masses, the struggle against negative phenomena in society has made some progress. A number of criminal cases have been brought to light and prosecuted according to the law. But there has been no fundamental change in the situation. Negative incidents and crimes continue to occur. The people sympathize with the party and state and know that there is no way to solve all the economic and social problems in a short period of time. But they have a burning desire to live in a just society where there is law and order. The destructive elements, the spies and lackies of the reactionary imperialists, murderers, robbers, and hooligans who disrupt social order must be punished severely. This is what we have done and

continue to do. But things are still being done too slowly. This cannot be excused at a time when we are trying to publicly expose and punish profiteers and degenerate elements on the state staff who are in cahoots with each other, who are trying to use the loopholes in the laws and management system to engage in speculation, smuggling, and illegal business activities, and who are using their powers to engage in corruption, taking bribes, stealing state property, and obstructing the struggle against negative phenomena. We applaud those individuals, collectives and commercial production units that have scored achievements in enriching the people and country. But we cannot overlook the illegal activities and "murky" ways of making a living of the "magicians" who are enriching themselves on the back of the state and through the hard work of the people. As they become more "successful," the state becomes more exhausted and the lives of honest working people fall even farther behind. We hope that the Code of Criminal Procedures will, together with the Criminal Code, make a strong contribution in the great movement combining the ideas of the party and the will of the people to purify the party organization, increase the effectiveness of the state apparatus, and purify social relationships.

The anticrime struggle is a fierce and complex struggle. Criminals are usually very cunning and shrewd, and they employ a variety of tricks to conceal their activities. It is not easy to get information on them. Thus, the anticrime struggle requires great effort, and sometimes people must even give their lives. We sincerely thank those warriors who are struggling on this difficult and silent front. At the same time, the Draft Code of Criminal Procedures has provided the legal organizations with needed powers. At the same time, compulsory measures are being applied so that the struggle against the criminals achieves prompt results. However, it must be admitted that recently, there have been shortcomings in arresting people, conducting investigations, and seizing property. There have been cases in which people have been unjustly prosecuted and sentenced. In reality, there have been cases in which people have not been treated in accord with the law, they have been detained longer than allowed by law, and their property was seized unnecessarily and not protected carefully. There have even been times when such property has been unlawfully used, exchanged, or taken. In short, in carrying out anticrime tasks, some cadres have violated the legal rights and interests of citizens. As for the reasons behind these mistakes and shortcomings, people sometimes abuse their powers because of personal grudges and interests. But the most common reasons are that professional standards are low, people have the erroneous idea that it is better to "punish people unjustly than to let a criminal escape," people want to solve cases quickly, and they are afraid of the tricks of the defendants. Recently, after the Council of State and sectors charged with upholding the law began examining things, the number of shortcomings began to decline. The promulgation of the Code of Criminal Procedures will contribute to overcoming the weaknesses and shortcomings mentioned above. In our

system, the people are the real masters. The people have entrusted the state with the task of handling the work of the country and people. We must respect and protect the legal rights and interests of the people. During the anticrime struggle, if we violate the legal rights and interests of the people and lose the people's trust, we will not have the strength to oppose the criminals and suppress enemies. Even though the state is encountering difficulties, this does not give us permission to worry only about ourselves and let the people suffer the losses. As revolutionaries who are struggling for social justice, our minds cannot be at ease if we are the ones who are responsible for people being punished unjustly. With the concept of "using the people as the root," in Chapter 1, the Draft Code of Criminal Procedures not only reaffirms the constitutional principles concerning the fundamental rights of citizens but also specifically stipulates that the legal rights and interests of citizens must be protected during the process of carrying on proceedings in criminal cases, from filing charges and investigating cases to prosecuting the cases in court and carrying out the sentences. The most important stipulations concern arresting and temporarily detaining people, searching people and houses, and seizing and listing property. Particularly important is the principle mentioned in Article 8, Chapter 1: "No one can be considered to be guilty of a crime or punished until the court has reached a verdict." At the same time, articles 9, 10, and 34 clearly state that the "responsibility for proving a case against someone rests with the prosecuting agencies. Defendants do not have to prove their innocence." "Defendants have the right to defend themselves or have someone else defend them. The investigating agencies, the organs of control, and the courts must ensure that the defendant's defense rights are implemented." "Those testifying for the defense are equal to every other member before the court." The code is quite specific and detailed. The purpose of this is to ensure that the anticrime struggle focuses on the right people, the right crimes, and the right laws and does not violate the legal rights and interests of citizens. Article 22 of Chapter 1 gives people the right to file complaints and charges regarding the activities of agencies involved in taking legal action. "Any agency that unjustly accuses someone must take steps to restore the person's reputation and rights and compensate the person damaged. Depending on the circumstances, individuals who have violated the law can be disciplined or investigated for criminal responsibility."

The results of the anticrime struggle depend mainly on the effectiveness of the agencies that are directly responsible for upholding the law and that have the authority to carry on legal proceedings based on the articles stipulated in the code. In order to ensure that the agencies carry out their tasks correctly in accord with the articles stipulated in the code, the investigative agencies, the organs of control, and the courts must be strengthened. In particular, ways of thinking and methods must be improved, the old conservative viewpoints concerning dictatorship and democracy must be overcome, and slow

and mechanical ways of working must be overcome. But the decisive factor for ensuring the success of the anticrime struggle is to rely on the people and manifest their great strength. Reality shows that without the eyes and ears of the masses, regardless of how many cadres are employed or how much modern equipment is used, it will be impossible to prevent and stop crime effectively. In this spirit, Article 6, Chapter 1, of the draft code states that "all social organizations and citizens must participate in the anticrime struggle." The draft code also stipulates a number of forms and methods. When trying cases, the courts should open the trial to the public and create favorable conditions to enable the people to participate in order to manifest the educational role of court sessions and ensure that the people monitor the activities of the courts (Article 17). The people's assessor participates at court trials on behalf of the people. The people's assessor is equal in power to the judge (Article 14). Social organizations can appoint someone to serve as a public defendant in defending the accused, receive bail so that the defend can go free during the trial, and appoint representatives to attend the trial or send reports to the trial council explaining the details of the case. The court can ask them to supervise and educate those placed on probation or given a suspended sentence. In particular, this is the role of the Youth Union in court proceedings involving minors. The draft code has outlined the forms and measures mentioned above, but some of these are still not very specific. During the debate, with a new way of thinking, the Fatherland Front, the mass organizations, and the social organizations can contribute many outstanding ideas to improve the draft.

We are sure that the masses will support the idea of "using the people as the root" and democratizing criminal procedures. The people will contribute many ideas to improve the Draft Code of Criminal Procedures so that it can soon be passed by the National Assembly.

11943

Decision To Keep News Media Silent About Famine Deplored

*42090240 Paris DOAN KET in Vietnamese
No 403, Jun 88 pp 8, 9*

[Text] In considering the terrible famine taking place in northern Vietnam during the preharvest lean period, first of all, we must think about the 7-8 million people affected, half of whom are children. Also, we must not forget one other victim—information.

On one topic (the famine in Vietnam) in one period of time (May 1988), there was an astonishing contradiction between the international mass media and the Vietnamese press. On one hand, the international mass media reported that 7-8 million Vietnamese were starving and that the government of Vietnam had appealed for international aid. On the other hand, the Vietnamese press reported almost nothing about this.

The paradox is that the international press did not make up this story or exaggerate the seriousness of the grain shortage in Vietnam. All the figures reported were figures that the Vietnamese government had officially reported to international organizations (FAO, PNUD, and CEE) and the governments of other countries. The silence of the Vietnamese press can be explained only by a high-level (the Politburo or the Secretariat of the CPV Central Committee) order prohibiting any reference to this.

This unreasonable decision, like everything that is unreasonable, naturally has its own reasons. We know that the administrative leadership is taking urgent steps to end the famine (a famine relief committee has been established, every means has been mobilized to send rice from the south to the north, and international help has been mobilized). But on the other hand, it does not want to create a psychology of fear among the Vietnamese people, because the word "famine" has explosive power in the minds of the Vietnamese people. All you have to do is remember 1945.

We understand but do not agree with concealing this information. Above all, this is completely contrary to the policy of honest and open reporting. What is more serious, this is contrary to the standpoint of "using the people as the root," which the Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam turned into an action slogan: "The people must know, discuss, carry out, and review."

Even more dangerous, not only does concealing this information not hit the targets set but it leads to opposite results. If the authorities do not release this information to the people and they hear about this from the BBC and VOA, rumors will spread and the people's confidence in the Vietnamese press, which has been increasing during the past 2 years, will decline greatly. And the people's recently restored trust in the communist party will be damaged.

Above, we said that the Vietnamese press has been very silent on this matter. To be more exact, we should say that the Vietnamese press has been forced to remain silent. This order has hurt and angered honest reporters. And both at the center and in the localities, some newspapers have courageously "torn down the barriers" in order to carry out their mission. The 22 and 24 May issues of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN published general figures reflecting the situation at the end of April and criticized the "ostriches" who had buried their heads in the sand. TUOI TRE published a self-criticism (self-criticism turned into stratagem of criticism) in which the newspaper said that it had not carried out its tasks properly. VAN NGHE published timely reports.

Equal to the People's Right To Live and Work

Above, we said that the decision to conceal this news was made at a high echelon. However, it must be said that that was in response to the pressure applied by conservative forces still present at every echelon. Although the

Sixth Party Congress was successful in adopting new documents, it made little headway as far as human affairs is concerned. Developing and implementing the line of the Sixth Party Congress has encountered resistance and myriad attempts to overturn the line by the conservative forces (conservative by thinking, because of a desire to preserve their special interests, and because of incompetence). The suppression of information about the famine illustrates the serious conflicts and affirms a truth: to make real changes, it is necessary to resolutely oppose the conservative forces and push back conservative thinking.

If information is also a victim of the famine, then conversely, the decision to conceal this information was one of the causes of the disaster. Of the 12 provinces that are suffering from famine, the one hit the hardest is Thanh Hoa Province. Those who have followed the case of Ha Trong Hoa, the secretary of the provincial CPV committee, who was dismissed from his position, or read "That Night...What Night" by Phung Gia Loc or the poem "Friendly Gift" by Be Kien Quoc (see the last two issues of DOAN KET) know that this was not unexpected. The recent teach-in of the Vietnamese press in Hanoi pointed out that in order to obtain the dismissal of the Thanh Hoa party secretary, the Vietnamese press had to struggle for 18 months, and during that period, many newspapers were shut down by "higher echelons" (under the nice name of "temporarily closed for internal resolution"). We sincerely hope that the lesson provided by Thanh Hoa will be taken to heart in order to ensure that the press carries out its reporting tasks fully and to prevent famine and similar disasters.

During our country's economic crisis because of shortages, information is not an unnecessary luxury. Neither is it a product that is supplied based on "standards." The right to information is on an equal level with the right to live and work. Like democracy and social justice, information is a prerequisite for opposing poverty and developing the country.

11943

Hanoi Farmers Protest Local Cadre Corruption *42090247 Hanoi NONG NGHIEP VIET NAM* *in Vietnamese 5 Jun 88 p 3*

[Article by NONG NGHIEP VIET NAM and Voice of Vietnam Radio reporter team: "Why Must Dong La Farmers 'Knock on the Door' of Party and Press Agencies?"]

[Text] Dong La Village is a supervision point of the Hoai Duc District (in rural Hanoi) Party Committee in the campaign to "purify and raise the combat strength of party organizations and the state apparatus and to make social relations wholesome." Nevertheless, while the village conducts this major campaign of the party, the farmers of Dong Lao Hamlet in Dong La Village, despite the difficulties involved, have traveled to meet the

Hanoi Municipal Party Committee, various legal agencies and a number of mass information agencies in the central government to report the negative incidents occurring in their local area. Many people have asked the question, "When this can occur at a 'point,' what is the 'extent'?"

A team of reporters from NONG NGHIEP VIET NAM and the Voice of Vietnam radio station visited Dong Lao to find out what caused the farmers here to have to "knock on the door" of party and press agencies.

We noted that the apprehensions of the villagers in Dong Lao were concentrated on two major problems: a loss of democracy and the shady self-enrichment of a number of local cadres.

Things Causing a Loss of Democracy

We will not present these things in a "statistical" form but simply by mentioning a few recent incidents. While the entire country, in the spirit of "renovation," was looking directly at and speaking the truth, ensuring the true collective ownership of the people, and determinedly achieving success for Resolution 6 of the Party, a number of cadres in Dong La were still openly trampling the people's democratic rights.

First was the election. On 16 January 1988, Production Unit 2 met to elect a leader. Phung Dinh Kien, Party Chapter 1 secretary and chief of the Cooperative Inspection Committee, and Nguyen Van Hop, party committee member and vice chairman of the village people's committee, attended the meeting. Nguyen Van Su, 51 years old, who had served in the army, shed part of his blood on the battlefield, returned to the local area to participate in production for the past several years, and was trusted by other members of the unit, was elected with 39 votes of the total of 55 on the ballot. Dau, the old unit leader and recommended by the party chapter, received only 16 votes. Kien acknowledged the election results and transferred the unit's official responsibilities to Su.

You would think that would end it. However, the Production Unit 2 leader issue became complicated when Nguyen Van Xoang, village party committee secretary, did not want to recognize Su. Although Xoang and the standing committee chairman of the village party committee listened directly to the opinions of the Unit 2 members, Xoang on 2 April 1988 announced a determination on the village wired radio station to nullify the Production Unit 2 election results and to appoint party committee member Pham Huy Chung as the unit leader.

In reply to a question from the members of Unit 2 on this issue, the Central Agricultural Cooperative Management Committee stated as follows: "Article 13 of the Agricultural Cooperative Model Statutes has stipulated that the production unit leader and assistant leader will be elected by other cooperative members in the unit. The

election of Nguyen Van Su to unit leader by the cooperative member collective of Production Unit 2, Dong La Cooperative, was entirely correct, consistent with the stipulations of the Agricultural Cooperative Model Statutes, and consistent with the spirit of renovation in management organization in the cooperative at the present time."

As the individual leading the party organization at the basic level, Xoang is responsible for guiding the party organization and people in the village to strictly comply with the constitution, the law and every regulation of the party and state, including the Agricultural Cooperative Model Statutes. By nullifying the election results of Production Unit 2, Xoang seriously violated the democratic rights of the cooperative members and must bear full responsibility for this matter.

Even more serious, after hearing a false report from the local area that Su's cooperative paddy debt was 1,350 kilograms, the Hoai Duc District Agricultural Bureau issued a decision to nullify the election results of Production Unit 2. On the night of 15 May 1988, there was a meeting of Production Unit 2 members, attended also by the village people's committee chairman and vice chairman, the cooperative chief, and the village security force for "protection," to hear the decision of the district and to elect a new unit leader. The cooperative members demanded that the village and cooperative cadres enter Su's debts in the record, and resolutely refused to elect a unit leader. The Dong La cadres dared not make the entry because the report to upper echelons was fraudulent and therefore, the district's use of pressure to violate the collective ownership rights of the Unit 2 members failed.

Second was the collection of contract products.

The 1987 5th-month—spring crop in Dong La was inconsistent and the harvest for the 10th-month crop was fair. Ninety percent of the contract families of Production Unit 2 did not complete submission of their contract products because of the poor 5th-month—spring harvest. The family of Mrs Tran Thi Dong was in this situation. Cultivating 6 sao, 9 thuoc, she turned in 510 kilograms of paddy but still owed another 160 kilograms. One day, Phan Huy Van, the village security chief, and Nguyen Ngoc Kha, a representative of the cooperative management board, led a number of individuals under their authority to her home to collect the debt. Mrs Dong, head of the family, was absent but they still read the inspection order and forced Dong's daughter Lien to unlock the storeroom door to. When she had done so, they pushed her aside and rushed in to look into jars and containers. Seeing there was little paddy, they emptied all the jars into a gunnysack. When they had carried the paddy out into the yard, Lien sobbed and pleaded, "There is only a little paddy left. Please don't take it or my family will have nothing to eat or to continue production." She rushed forward to tug at the sack. Just then, Nguyen Kim Hoi, Mrs Dong's husband, arrived

and seeing the situation, shouted indignantly, "Why are you robbing and bullying my family?" Phan Huy Van shouted that he be bound. Lien continued to weep pitifully. Hearing this, a crowd of people from the hamlet arrived and the debt collectors had to retreat, leaving the paddy scattered about the yard.

That night, Mrs Dong's younger sister Hang reexamined the storeroom and was shocked to find that 80,000 dong, earned from the sale of a hog to neighbor Hong the other day and hidden in one of the paddy jars, had flown away without wings. The money was not recorded as a debt repayment so into whose pocket did it fall? Miss Hang decided to sue but someone advised her, "You are suing a potato. There is no evidence. Whom will you sue?" Thus, the money is chaff and the stock raising efforts were in vain!

Our reporter team recorded the indignation of the Dong Lao cooperative members and we asked ourselves, "Many cadres from the Hoai Duc District Party Committee have been here on assignment. Do they know about these things? Does the Hoai Duc District Party Committee bear any responsibility for the loss of democracy presently occurring in one of the district's point villages?"

Contrasting Circumstances: Laborers Are Poor, All Cadres Are Rich

Upon our arrival at Dong La, we noted that the cooperative member families had many laborers diligently working but were usually still short of food during the period of the spring famine.

In Dong La today, those known as the "servants of the people" live a truly grand life. In their families, there are few workers, an inexperienced wife and young children, but they still have flat-roofed houses with western porches, television sets, radios, cassette players, electric fans, sewing machines, etc. The vice chairman of the village people's committee, Nguyen Van Hop, ever since he became a cadre, has purchased two estates. Adding another estate acquired during the round of land reformation makes three. Village people's committee Chairman Nguyen Dinh Sinh has completed construction of a flat-roofed home for his son who is not yet 10 years old. How did they become rich so fast? Let's examine a few methods for becoming rich of a number of village and cooperative cadres.

—At the end of 1985 and beginning of 1986, many water buffaloes died. Upon returning from the highlands to buy a number of buffaloes, they simultaneously established proof that the prices paid to Phan Huy Chuoc from Unit 1 and Nguyen Huu Nhan from Unit 5 were actually much greater. At that time, the district bank came to investigate but Chuoc and Nhan had no buffaloes for sale. It was clearly a deception to steal the collective's money. However, no one was prosecuted. "Left for a long time, buffalo manure turns to mud."

—They constructed a bridge into a hamlet for which Chairman Nguyen Dinh Truong estimated expenses of 1 million dong. After the bridge was finished, 3,700,000 dong were lost in balancing the account. The surface of the bridge was only as wide as a straw mat, about 20 meters long and there were no railings so no one dared cross with a cart. If they did, it was risking everything on a single throw. In less than 2 years after the new bridge was completed, the thin cement layer was peeling in many places. The cooperative members believe that the cement, iron and steel used in building the bridge "fled" into flat roofs and western porches, not into the bridge.

—Many of the cooperative's machines such as a mechanical water pump and more than 40 sewing machines for organizing secondary occupations during unoccupied time (sewing military equipment on consignment) have now been spirited away and none of the cooperative members know where.

—They also recovered 1 mau 7 sao of field land from the unit, saying it was to create a village public welfare fund when actually, it was divided among themselves for farming. The party committee secretary, Nguyen Van Xoang, himself took 3 sao that previously belonged to Unit 6 to grow sugarcane.

All traces of the incidents above were "destroyed" by the cooperative announcing the theft of two gunnysacks full of evidence. Other unseen things were said to be lost. What thief wants only to take two gunnysacks full of paper? Now, any inspection unit coming to Dong La would find it difficult to find any traces.

—The village disbursed money to purchase a BS51 motorbike for the use of people's committee chairman, Nguyen Dinh Sinh. At a meeting of the village party organization in April 1988, many party members remarked:

—What system permits the use of the village budget to buy a motorbike for the private use of the village chairman?

—The people are hungry and some have had to sell a sao of rice at 25,000 dong to have money to buy rice to eat but the village dares to expend hundreds of thousands of dong to purchase a motorbike for the private use of the chairman.

Meanwhile, the declining child care centers and schools are receiving no concern or maintenance from anyone.

Examining the incidents above, we were put in mind of a new band of tyrants in the rural area. Let's see whether those responsible have had their conscience awakened or continue to feign ignorance before the cry for help from the farmers of Dong La.

Cotimex Corporation Charged With Improper Activities

42090234 Hanoi TUAN TIN TUC in Vietnamese
28 May 88 p 14

[Article by Vo Ai: "Disorder at Quang Nam-Da Nang Export-Import Federated Corporation"]

[Text] As one of the pilot projects of the central government in implementing the resolution of the Political Bureau on the campaign to purify and raise the combat strength of the party organization and state apparatus, and to improve social relations, Quang Nam-Da Nang Province organized a thorough study of the Politburo's resolution in all basic level party organizations. Subsequently, the province inspected a number of district party organizations and state agencies manifesting many indications of negativism, with the province's Export-Import Federated Corporation (Cotimex) as the first priority.

After a long period of work, the inspection group, under the direct supervision of a member of the Standing Committee of the Provincial Party Committee, conducted a complete study of the evidence on activities of the Export-Import Federated Corporation during a 3-year period (1984-1984) and a review of many sources, including teams in the neighborhoods where corporation cadres lived.

The group noted the contributions of the Export-Import Federated Corporation to the foreign economic work of the province and simultaneously outlined a series of instances in which responsible cadres within the corporation had caused serious damage to socialist property, violated general principles in economic and ideological management, and reserved special privileges and material gain for individuals and families.

Irresponsible and Arbitrary Actions

Cotimex has trade relations with many foreign markets but has been unable to maintain confidence. During a period of 3 years in two of these markets alone, due to contract violations in merchandise quality and specifications, the corporation suffered losses of \$3.017 million due to customer payment refusals and fines.

With customer Vietimex in the Hong Kong market, although both parties have had a contract in principle since 1984, trade relations have been arbitrarily achieved with no compulsory pledges on business procedures, no clear stipulations on the responsibilities and authority of each side in goods maintenance, and Cotimex has usually been subordinate, passive and sustaining losses. Shipments sent to Hong Kong for sale were not regularly and periodically subject to payment verification. Some shipments exported during the years of 1983 and 1984 did not receive a certificate of payment until March 1987 but there was still no clear designation of the amounts of remaining and lost goods. Some

commissioned export goods were in storage at Hong Kong Vietimex but Cotimex did not open the ledgers to check and accounted for them as if disposed, thereby sustaining losses through contract price overruns or outright loss. Even a cursory study of the goods reveals the following losses: 493 tons of scrap metal and 36 tons of cinnamon.

There was even a case in which Cotimex sold goods to the Tan Sinh Corporation in Hong Kong in which Tan Sinh transferred \$6,801 to the Vietimex account. Vietimex mistakenly transferred the money to a sea transportation corporation in Da Nang but Cotimex never did pursue and reclaim the money.

In many cases, Cotimex used foreign exchange capital without going through the Vietnam Foreign Trade Bank, considered the foreign customers as its "bank," and suffered losses in the end. For example, during the process of implementing contracts with a number of Japanese export-import corporations, some foreign exchange funds were generated due to over-quantity goods sales. Cotimex did not deposit these funds in the Foreign Trade Bank but returned them to the corporations above for the future purchase of import goods. When disagreements occurred over the quality of some Cotimex goods shipped afterwards, the Japanese customer "played it safe" by taking a portion of the money, considering it as a fine. At times, such fines rose to 34,300 dollars (1986).

Cotimex has also misappropriated foreign exchange capital from the provincial budget to engage in business for private profit, for example by retaining 1,952,752 of more than 5 million rubles authorized for the use of the province by the central government, or by retaining 3,289,000 of 12,677,000 dollars and rubles assigned by the province to the corporation for importing materials and consumer goods to support the production and lives of people in the province.

It is possible to relate a great many of such cases of arbitrary and irresponsible operation that caused losses to the state budget in foreign exchange of up to nearly 2 billion dong when calculated in Vietnamese currency (according to each point in time). When they studied the Politburo resolution, a number Cotimex cadres stated in self-review that they "lacked business experience." However, that is a lame excuse because Cotimex is not young at all.

Self-Made Special Rights and Privileges

The Quang Nam-Da Nang Export-Import Federated Corporation used a large portion of its imported goods for internal distribution and gifts, and accounted for these expenditures as circulation expenses!

Customer entertainment is necessary but the entertainment expenditures of the corporation during the 3 years of 1984 through 1986 far exceeded normal levels, reaching nearly 4 million dong (according to the prices at that time), and these were also accounted for as "circulation expenses."

Under the guise of "collective welfare," the former board of directors of the corporation approved a sale to the agency trade union of an amount of imported goods worth 1,780,000 dong, and in a "snack bar" form, the trade union made a profit of millions of dong. Moreover, cadres and workers of the corporation were able to purchase many foreign goods such as motorcycles, television sets, radios, electric fans, cloth, cement, construction iron and steel, etc., causing losses in state revenue of tens of million of dong through price differences.

The family of former corporation director Tran Chien alone purchased 8 of the 17 internally distributed "Cub" motorcycles (his son and son-in-law, also corporation cadres, bought four). Of the three "Peugeot" motorcycles, Chien's family bought one. In the majority of cases, Chien took advantage of his authority to distribute additional goods in excess of planned levels to district export-import corporations and then sent members of his family down to purchase them. While working in foreign countries, Chien arranged his expense account records to acquire thousands of dollars in public funds.

Demands That Impeding Forces Be Overcome

If the disorderly incidents at Cotimex were a subject of public discussion for so long, why did it take so long to reveal them?

A complete answer to this question must await a summarization. However, during the process of inspection and study, several reasons were noted:

First of all, with false reports accompanied by gifts, Cotimex caused upper echelons and related sectors to erroneously evaluate its achievements and shortcomings. The corporation cleverly created a multidirectional covering and shield, converting its business base into a "rampart" not easily assailed.

It was also from such a misunderstanding or cover up that circulated the viewpoint, "If they have to make a profit to operate, what is there is talk about?" This viewpoint was also not easy to reject despite the fact that everyone recognized that the business investment capital at Cotimex belonged to the state and people, not to one family or one cooperative team, and that making a profit by excessive gouging was actually misappropriation of socialist property and moreover, making a profit by irresponsible operation to cause great losses in public funds.

Recently, many cadres of Cotimex have continued to attribute all their mistakes to the old bureaucratic and state subsidization mechanism, or to use as a pretext the new mechanism of business autonomy for the basic unit in an attempt to run away from their guilt. However, what mechanism lacks the basic principles of economic management?

It was this very spirit of the masses and proper viewpoints that were acquired since responding to the "Tasks To Be Done Immediately" of author N.V.L, and since the resolution of the Politburo created a support for the Quang Nam-Da Nang party organization attack on the Cotimex "rampart" to gain initial success.

Through the severe and complex struggle, the thing that pained everyone was that a lack of firmness and sensitivity in socioeconomic management over a long period of time has resulted in a loss in property and in cadres (more than 30 cadres from the office level to the former director of Cotimex are awaiting disciplinary action, including a number who will have difficulty in avoiding the court: and naturally, a number of cadres who supervised and managed the previous activities of Cotimex must also shoulder responsibility.

7300

Measures To Improve Low Job Satisfaction *42090251 Hanoi TAP CHI XA HOI HOC* *in Vietnamese No 3-4, Jul-Dec 87 pp 104-105*

[Article by Chu Khac: "Some Thoughts on Building a New Way of Life in Vietnam"]

[Excerpt] 1. Labor

The special characteristics of a socialist way of life are manifested first of all in the new nature of labor. The value of labor is increasingly more completely achieved and recognized by eliminating the private possession of production materials and the system of man's exploitation of man. Since 1954, Vietnam has conducted a socialist transformation of capitalist and privately operated commerce and industry in the urban area and land reformation in the rural area, elimination of class exploitation, and restoration of the legitimate labor rights of the worker and farmer. Since 1975, a new period has begun throughout the nation. Vietnam has significant potential in labor strength. In 1985, the number of people of labor age was 29,600,000. The portion of regular labor in the state area has increased fairly rapidly. In 1975, the total number of laborers in the materials production area (comprised of industry, agriculture, forestry, construction, transportation, etc.) was only 1,485,600 people (91.7 percent), but this number by 1985 had risen to 2,470,000 (more than 94 percent); while in the non-materials production area (comprised of science, culture, education, public health, literature and art, state management, etc.), the corresponding figures during the two periods was 916,500 (8.3 percent)

and 1,274,000 (6 percent). These figures point out the strong growth of the worker class, the leading force in building the material and technical base of socialism, and the ranks of socialist intellectuals.

However, the issue does not stop at quantity. The quality aspect of labor is closely related to three indicators: contentment, creativity and training in labor. Man recognizes the value of labor through the satisfaction of requirements, including the labor requirement. There is contentment with labor not only because it creates a source of legitimate income but is also a condition for expressing and developing the physical and spiritual capabilities of man. The contentment level is first of all related to labor conditions, including the degree of heavy work, labor intensity, conditions of heat, light, noise, vibration, etc. Discontentment with labor conditions usually leads to an attitude of indifference, is a source of arbitrariness, irresponsibility and work slowdown, and from that leads to other negative occurrences. The results of a sociological study in six Hanoi factories and enterprises at the end of 1984 indicated that only 36 percent of the workers were content with production, safety and technical conditions, 35.7 percent were content with skill elevation conditions, 16.5 percent did not think their assigned jobs conformed to their skill levels, 22.5 percent constantly had their jobs changed, and 46.5 percent thought the labor norms were too high.

Attention must also be given to the aspect of social psychology in labor contentment. This issue is dependent upon the labor collective leader and the mutual relations between leaders and lower echelons: a leader must have the confidence of the workers, have ethics of justice and impartiality, and be concerned about everyone in order to unite the unit with everyone warmly assisting each other in shouldering the common load. In the study noted above, only a little less than one-third of the workers were satisfied with their leaders' evaluation of them, while 35.3 were dissatisfied. Finally, the degree of labor contentment is also related to the factors of material and spiritual incentive for the labor. Material incentive for labor is an objective necessity throughout the period of socialist construction. It is necessary to apply the principle of distribution in accordance with labor and to closely connect wages with labor productivity. At the same time however, we cannot overlook ideological education, causing each individual to clearly recognize his responsibility and to wholeheartedly strive in building the nation. In the sociological study noted above, only 28.1 percent of the workers were satisfied with their salary, 25.3 percent with the cash awards, 19.8 percent with the spiritual incentives, and 25.9 percent with the welfare of the enterprise.

A laborer in the new system must be an individual with a creative spirit and a concept of seeking improvement in labor. Creative labor has an extremely rich theme, consisting of intellectual activities during the labor process, the freedom to select the necessary technical regulations to increase productivity and make many products

with the least expenditure of energy and raw materials in order to achieve the highest and most effective quality. In a sociological study in Ward 1 of Ho Chi Minh City, in answering the question of whether they developed innovations, 23.7 percent replied "regularly," while 59.4 percent said, "sometimes." Naturally, the appearance of innovations in production is also dependent upon levels of professionalism, education, age and work tenure. In the study in the six Hanoi factories above, the number of individuals within the youth age group with innovations was only about 10.5 percent.

For labor to be good, the worker must train to elevate his standards in every aspect to shoulder increasingly higher missions demanding great professional ability. In the study mentioned above in Ho Chi Minh City, when asked, "Are you able to engage in training to steadily improve your trade skills?" 71.3 percent were able to reply, "regularly." In Hanoi, this figure, depending on the occupational levels, varies from 42 to 59.5 percent. The data above points out that on one hand, organization and education in labor have received the concern of production units; while on the other hand, the concept of self-education and training of the worker is steadily increasing.

At the present time, labor is not yet a joy but our nation is shifting from small- to large-scale production and must rely on the labor of all classes. Our highest ethic is an attitude of enthusiastic labor and achievement of the greatest labor results.

We are presently confronting a difficult situation and many negativisms in labor, and many people are out of work. A number avoid toilsome labor in search of a non-labor income. In a number of basic units, due to poor production organization and inconsistent social policy, labor on the first stretch of the road has not reached the necessary social level.

Building a new way of life with labor as the initial standard is a difficult and complex task. However, our surveys have shown that basic units still have many improper viewpoints on labor attitude. Fairly clearly outlined are two opposing courses. On one side are unification of collective and individual interests, active labor and creative work. On the other are a reluctance for labor and a search for the rewards from non-labor sources. The foremost issue presented by the Sixth Party Congress was to firmly grasp the principle of distribution in accordance with labor, just material and spiritual compensation for the laborer, simultaneous awards for individuals with high labor productivity, and on the other hand, resolute cessation of corruption, waste, indolence and pursuit of illegitimate privileges. Moreover, advanced technical, professional and cultural training also gradually brings confidence and enthusiasm to the laborer. The improvement of housing for laborers, concern for the lives of the people, and improvement of child care centers and labor security are also positive

policies for labor to become indispensable to all men. The efforts above of the party and state are assisting to build a new life and to place labor on the highest rung in value.

7300

'Population Pressure', Effects on Education
42090245b Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG
in Vietnamese 25 Jun 88 p 2

[Article by Professor Nguyen Duc Minh: "Relationship Between Population and Education—The Will To Deal Directly With the Population Pressure and the Threat of 'Population Explosion' Is Necessary"]

[Text] Is linking population with education a "forced marriage"? Population and education have a "predestined" relationship which we have long failed to pay attention to. We have come to realize only since many difficulties were encountered in our daily life and educational reforms met with many obstacles that population and education have a real relationship and strongly act on each other as a law of nature.

First of all, let us examine the effects of population on education. Because population and family planning in general remains weak, our country's population grows each day with from 4,500 to 5,000 additional people, which is equivalent to the population of an average village, hence an additional district of about 140,000 people each month and an additional province of 1.6-1.7 million people each year. A population explosion creates a so-called "population pressure" that proves itself a heavy burden for every aspect of our economic and social life. And naturally education which is an important aspect of daily life must also bear the same fate. Every year the education sector must accept a larger "school population." Additional schools and classrooms must be built in a hasty manner and with poor construction quality to supplement the old schools and classrooms which have greatly deteriorated. The number of students in each class continues to increase, normally to around 50, 60-70 in some localities, and even more. We must pay attention to the fact that according to a common world standard, each classroom should not have more than 30 students in order to ensure the good quality of teaching. Because the "school population" in our country is excessively large, our teachers must work harder than they possibly can, but still many students get tired of the situation and drop out so as to join in the future the "army of illiterates and uncultured people." Because of a shortage of schools and classrooms, teaching must be divided into 3 or 4 shifts; teachers must be trained in too short a period to cope with a shortage of them; and as a result of a shortage of textbooks and teaching materials, teaching must be done in the manner of "running," with "teachers reading and students copying down," "teachers talking and students taking notes," and then "the word, 'tac,' is written down as 'to,'" hence a sacrifice of teaching and learning quality. The serious

lack of balance in the supply-demand relationship—supply being the material capabilities of the educational sector and demand being the requirements of an excessively large school population—creates a state of overloading for education. With their professional conscience, our teachers have done their very best "to squeeze the brake handle hard" in order to slow down the decline of educational quality, but because the "school population pressure" continues to be applied on our schools, we wonder for how long they can maintain this braking action over this "downhill" slide. We may say that as long as the population explosion continues, we will not be able to totally end the problem of illiteracy and secondary illiteracy, nor, as a result, to make level-1 education really universal among children and adults in the next few decades.

The population increase that goes beyond the present ability of our country's production and economic capabilities also adversely affects the development of education in an indirect manner. The reason is that the population pressure is heavily applied on every aspect of the social life. The fact that the standard of living is low and full of difficulties prevents the state from making appropriate investment in education and at the same time leads to a decrease in the people's and cadres' capabilities to make contributions to our schools and to raise our children and send them to school. In the meantime, the population pressure also reduces the income of teachers to a very low level that prevents the "reproduction of their labor" to such an extent that they no longer devote themselves to caring for and educating students as they used to. This population-education relationship that is conceived as a law of nature is totally objective; therefore, we cannot impose a one-way demand on education to provide quality through voluntarism.

In the decisive struggle for victory of the party's population strategy, the educational sector also is aware of its important and positive role and position. The education-population relationship is reflected in two active tasks. One, the task of education is aimed at striving to overcome difficulties in order to maintain its development, persistently fighting illiteracy, and striving to achieve level-1 universal education and to move toward level-2 universal education so as to raise the people's intellectual standard and to create favorable conditions for the young generation and working people to have a scientific and literary background to fully understand the lines and policies of the party and state on population and family planning and to properly carry out all population policies. Two, the educational sector persistently carries out adjusted reforms including introducing the teaching of population matters to schools at all levels, from nurseries, kindergartens, and general schools to teachers' colleges and schools of supplementary education. This is a new topic in our efforts to adjust the educational reforms that reflects the renovation of our educational thinking and our determination to carry on a direct fight against the population explosion and population pressure now taking place in our country.

5598

**HCM City Builds Microwave Telephone Network
in Rural Areas**

*42090245a Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG
in Vietnamese 25 Jun 88 p 1*

[Text] In many years telephone service between the municipality and its rural districts remained difficult. The Municipal Telephone Corporation is expanding its cooperation with customers for the purpose of getting more investment in modern telephone equipment and techniques. The telephone link using a microwave electronic switchboard between the municipality and Hoc Mon District has been installed, with 14 organs and enterprises in Hoc Mon having contributed tens of millions of dong to the purchase and installation of new equipment. Now the telephone liaison between the urban areas and these units is very fast and good.

The corporation has been cooperating with the Science and Communications Equipment Production Enterprise (Kasati), which manufactures electronic switchboards, very-short-wave communications equipment, antennas, and so on, and builds radio liaison networks, which are fast and accurate, do not cost as much as the regular telephone networks requiring construction of transmission posts and lines, and are not affected during the season of rains and storms.

After Hoc Mon, the Telephone Corporation plans to build a microwave telephone link in Binh Chanh District.

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