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24 October 1984

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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DAILIES PRESENT VIEWS ON RECENT BOMB ATTACKS

BK070422 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 6 Oct 84

[Press review]

[Summary] FIKIRAN RAKYAT is of the opinion that the 4 October bomb explosion incident in Jakarta has certain connections with the Tanjungpriok riot. According to this daily, it is possible that the act of terrorism was the work of some radical youths to achieve their main objective, which is to create disunity among youth by a show of strength.

PELITA believes that the recent act of terrorism was conducted by certain dissatisfied groups that were later joined by the leftists and others. It is regrettable that the dissatisfied group had to resort to an act of terrorism, which contradicts both the nation's Pancasila concept and the national culture. This daily hopes that the authorities responsible for channeling the aspirations of the people will be wary and will try to settle certain issues of dissatisfied groups. PELITA calls on the people to remain calm, not to be negligent, and to make national development a priority.

SINAR PAGI expresses a similar opinion and urges the people not to be unduly restless and worried but rather to unite in facing more challenges through the guidance of the Pancasila concept and also through the spirit of the 17 August 1945 struggle for independence.

KOMPAS calls on the people to unite in facing any threat, reminding the people of the recent incidents. This daily calls the people to be more aware of and alert against extremist radical exploitations and to make national development projects successful.

BERITA YUDHA considers the recent bomb attacks to have been carried out by some irresponsible people. The high spirit of awareness of the Armed Forces [ABRI] backed by the people will not be easily shaken by the acts of terrorism. The ABRI will undoubtedly take drastic measures and the people, too, will not tolerate the recurrence of such incidents. The daily also expresses the opinion that the people still remember the memory of the bitter struggle for the country's independence in 1945.

CSO: 4213/17

INDONESIA

DELEGATION HOLDS TRADE TALKS IN MOSCOW

BK101353 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 10 Oct 84

[Text] Soviet Deputy Prime Minister (Grazov) has stressed that the Soviet Union could become Indonesia's good partner in trade and economic cooperation. The value of Soviet-Indonesian trade in 1981 reached U.S. \$117 million. The amount is very small if compared to the value of Soviet trade as a whole. This was stated by (Grazov) during a first round of talks between a visiting Indonesian delegation led by Coordinating Minister in Charge of Economy, Finance, and Industry Ali Wardhana and the Soviet delegation held in Moscow last Monday.

(Razov), who led the Soviet delegation in the talks, said that there is still much opportunity to expand trade between the two countries. A means that could be used to expand trade is barter between governments or between government and the private sector.

Meanwhile, Coordinating Minister Ali Wardhana told the Soviet delegation that the development in Indonesia in the future opens the opportunity to further promote cooperation between Indonesia and the Soviet Union, particularly in the economic and trade sector. Minister Ali Wardhana expressed the hope that talks held between the Indonesian delegation and Soviet officials could lay a foundation for closer trade relations and economic cooperation in the future.

CSO: 4213/17

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

NAVAL EXERCISE WITH SINGAPORE--Yesterday, the Indonesian and Singapore navies, with the support of 7 warships and some 200 personnel, began a 10-day joint naval operational exercise in the Malacca Straits and the South China Sea to further strengthen their operational naval tactics. The Malacca Straits, which strategically stretch from the tip of Sumatera to the South China Sea, has become the focal point of the joint exercise which will terminate in Singapore. All materials and equipment needed for the defensive operational exercise are being put to use. This includes communications, target practice, and situational analysis according to maps. The naval exercise will resume tomorrow starting from Belawan to Singapore. [Text] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 9 Oct 84]

TANJUNG PRIOK INCIDENT--Home Affairs Minister Suparjo Rustam has made it clear that the Tanjung Priok incident was not a religious incident and that it had nothing to do with religion. It was instead an illegal act committed by certain elements. He said that agitation by a handful of irresponsible persons who misused religion for certain political purposes had motivated radical elements overtly to commit violence against the law. Minister Suparjo Rustam said this during the installation of the Executive Council of the Corps of Civil Servants of the Republic of Indonesia of the Home Affairs Department in Jakarta today. According to the minister, there are efforts to discredit Pancasila by comparing and contradicting it with religious teachings. On the contrary, Pancasila should not be contrasted with religions professed by the Indonesian people because a strong religious sense among the Indonesian people is in line with Pancasila. [Text] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 9 Oct 84]

CSO: 4213/17

DUTIES OF VILLAGE SECURITY FORCES OUTLINED

BK250921 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0430 GMT 22 Sep 84

["Introductory article": "Village Public Security Forces Must Serve as the Party's Dictatorial Tool"]

[Text] Public security forces at the village level are the dictatorial tool of the party and administration at the same level. They are under the direct leadership of the village party cells and administration, and are charged with carrying out combat missions and specialized work as outlined by the public security forces at the district level.

Village public security forces have the duties of carrying out missions to fight against, check, investigate, and suppress all movements of all counter-revolutionaries and condemned criminals; to maintain political tranquillity and social order; to protect the party and revolutionary administration; and to provide security to the Armed Forces, the socialist transformation and construction enterprises, and the efforts to improve the living conditions of the inhabitants in the village. Village public security forces must firmly grasp all movements of the counterrevolutionaries, embezzlers of state and people's property, condemned criminals, hooligans, thieves, robbers, opportunists, and smugglers.

They must suppress any incidents which tend to create social disturbances, vigorously build mass movements for maintaining national security, organize the implementation of all resolutions adopted at the nationwide congress of the entire public security forces and police forces, closely cooperate with all services and mass organizations in the village, carry out campaigns on the enhancement of the people's collective mastery, thoroughly execute all tasks in maintaining political tranquillity, safeguard the state and people's property, maintain social order, build a new civilized life for the village, and organize the implementation of all regulations adopted by the party and state and the public security forces command at a higher level with regard to the management and inventories of weapons, poisonous items [that bual], explosives, and fuel.

They are also responsible for checking and suppressing sabotage schemes of the enemies and doing away with all social ills in the village. They must organize the execution of management work, training program, and rehabilitation

work. In addition, they must keep close watch on some ex-convicts and look for and promptly suppress any elements found to be disturbing peace and social order. They must try to locate the whereabouts of counterrevolutionary elements and report them to the party committee, the administrative committee, and the district public security forces command for these elements may infiltrate party committees, local administrative committees, cooperative management committees, and state offices and organizations. They must suppress enemy elements waging slanderous propaganda campaigns. Seize all smuggled goods and equipments which are destined for waging psychological warfare, and report such achievements to the district public security forces command for prompt action. They must carry out investigation of any illegal activities taking place in their localities, including the embezzlement of state and people's property, guard against incident locations, and then promptly report to the district public security forces command for prompt action. They must closely coordinate with local guerrillas in searching for, following, and capturing enemy commandos and spies, including exiled reactionaries and criminals hiding in the village.

They must provide security protection to higher-level representatives and cadres of the party and state organizations, who are on missions and have to pass by the village, in accordance with any instruction and plan determined by the higher-level public security forces command.

They must endeavor to recruit the people to participate in maintaining public security and social order as well as in transport and communications work. They must keep records on traffic accidents, and organize the maintenance of public security and social order at all bus stations, ferry landings, markets, and other public centers in their respective villages. They must organize introduction and inspection of the implementation of all regulations on prevention of untoward incidents in each village, closely coordinate with the guerrillas and security forces guarding offices, and military and police units stationed in their respective villages so as to carry out joint patrol duties in order to look for elements who are carrying out sabotage activities against the people, offices, factories, hospitals, schools, warehouses, and people's property.

Efforts must be made to build and consolidate the village public security forces and police forces so that they will become organizationally strong elements, and strengthen the mass security forces in each village. They have the duty of guiding the people in keeping their respective communities clean and taking care of infants and of persuading parents to teach their children to develop a sense of discipline.

Only by correctly and effectively fulfilling these duties will the village public security forces become the dictatorial forces of the party and administration, thus maintaining security and tranquillity for all localities.

CSO: 4206/8

COMMENTARY HAILS MAHATHIR'S UN ATTACK ON DRUGS

BK111444 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 11 Oct 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, Malaysia's prime minister, lives up to his reputation as a man who is not afraid to put the cat among the pigeons in his address to the UN General Assembly. Most such addresses tend to be listings of platitudes, some rattling of swords, and often in the case of small countries, pleas for more assistance. Not so of (?Dr Mahathir's) speech. He did not spare the big superpowers, neither did he flinch from telling the smaller nations where he felt they had gone wrong.

He touched on many things: the UN itself, and the need for its members to be more positive in their approach to make the UN and its agencies serve the ideals that it subscribes to; the question of Antarctica; the problem of relations in the case of Malaysia; environmentalism as far as Malaysia is concerned; and the international drug problem.

Each one of the topics he touched upon could be a subject for debate by itself. Each one of them is vital for the future of mankind and holds potential for both good and evil. We would like to touch on the topic that is of international importance and yet one about which no nation is in disagreement--the drug problem. It is international in scope and poses dangers to all countries and nations. It is the one issue on which every nation is in agreement. Curiously enough, it is also a problem which has not really been tackled in a coordinated manner and with equal fervor. The drug problem is such that if it is not tackled firmly and vigorously, man may, like the dinosaurs, vanish suddenly from the earth. It is one issue on which there cannot and should not be any half measures.

In tackling the problem on an international scale, nations would have to come together as they have never done so before. Hiding their own drug problem with rhetoric or not admitting will only make it worse. The heart of the matter is that today whatever the political ideology or system of government a nation follows, drugs are a threat to that society. That is why the call made by Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed should be heeded. It is no use for some nations to take a hard line against drugs if others take a soft line and thus provide a focus of invasion. [as heard] Fighting drugs is a fight for mankind and not for any individual ideology or political system.

MAHATHIR REMINDS STUDENTS OF COMMUNIST INFLUENCE

BK100931 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 10 Oct 84

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed has reminded Malaysian students not to take lightly the communist desire to forcibly take over the country by capitalizing on the current confusion among them regarding the Islamic religion. The prime minister disclosed that the communists' latest tactic was to project the picture that their ideology was compatible with Islam. Speaking to about 30 Malaysian students in Philadelphia, U.S.A., he said he had seen a video tape trying to depict that the communists also observe the five times daily prayers like the Muslims.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir, who is on a 6-day visit to the United States, also briefed the students on the political, social, and economic development back home. He told them that antinational elements had even tried to make use of religious matters to instigate members of the Armed Forces to mutiny. The prime minister said he was not apologizing for the arrest of these elements under the Internal Security Act for instigating soldiers during ceramahs [religious lectures] sponsored and financed by a certain opposition quarter.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said that the government had no desire to create a system of paying people for not working. He told them that anyone who wanted income must work for it.

The prime minister described as untrustworthy those students who wasted the opportunity to acquire knowledge abroad. The purpose of sending them abroad to study was that on their return they could help to improve their community.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said that the choice of English, French, or Japanese as the medium of instruction for the proposed preparatory university colleges did not mean that the government was neglecting Bahasa Malaysia [Malay language]. He said it was only logical that if now more than 50,000 Malaysian students could use these media of instruction to acquire knowledge abroad, the same could be used to train students locally, thus cutting down on invisible expenditure. Present at the meeting were Datuk Sri Datin Paduka Dr Siti Hasmah, and the Malaysian ambassador to the U.S. Datuk Liew Sip Hon.

CSO: 4200/50

MUSA HITAM DENIES RUMORS OF RINGGIT DEVALUATION

BK091656 Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 7 Oct 84 p 1

[Article by Norhawa Yunus]

[Excerpt] Johore Bau, Sat--Acting Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam today quashed rumours that Malaysia was devaluing the ringgit.

He said, "The finance minister has said some time ago that there would not be a devaluation and I want to say it here again."

Speaking to reporters after a briefing at the Customs Complex, Datuk Musa attributed the heavy selling of the ringgit to speculators being active in the market.

"It is the work of a few speculators and we know who they are," he said. Datuk Musa, however, refused to reveal whether the speculators were foreigners or locals.

He admitted that he had been receiving inquiries on the matter.

Bank Negara and the minister of finance are taking the necessary measures to stabilise the currency.

Said Datuk Musa: "Bank Negara has stated its stand quite clearly. They would never want to influence the market.

"However, we have to intervene to prevent sharp fluctuations of the ringgit. It is the duty of any central bank in the world to do so."

Rumours of impending devaluation and massive selling forced the ringgit to fall dramatically against the U.S. dollar in the foreign exchange market yesterday morning.

CSO: 4200/50

AIR FORCE GROUNDS MB339 JETS AFTER CRASH

BK091645 Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 7 Oct 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sat--The Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) has grounded its remaining 11 Aermacchi MB339 trainer jets at the Kuantan base following the crash at the runway yesterday.

Chief of Defence Forces Gen Tan Sri Ghazali Mohamed Seth told reporters today the grounding was to enable the RMAF to carry out checks on the planes.

The RMAF would also interview the trainee pilot and the instructor who survived the crash and look for faults in specific areas.

Gen Tan Sri Ghazali, who was "very concerned" over the crash, said the grounding and setting up of a board of inquiry were "normal reaction" to any crash.

The Italian-made planes were purchased for over \$100 million late last year and used for advanced pilot training for conversion to supersonic jets like the F-5E's.

In yesterday's incident, the trainee pilot and the instructor ejected to safety moments before the trainer jet crashed on the runway. Both were admitted to the Armed Forces Hospital for observation.

The plane was believed to have developed technical problems and crashed just after take-off.

Gen Tan Sri Ghazali said he did not know if the manufacturers had sent any team to help probe the cause of the crash.

"I am sure that if necessary, all parties concerned would be invited to assist...but investigations have to be done step by step to ensure we draw the correct conclusions," he said.

He said the training schedule would be affected but this could be made up through longer hours of training once the grounding which was not expected to last long, was lifted.

To another question, he said the two minesweepers ordered from Italy were undergoing sea trials and would sail on their maiden voyage for Malaysia in early November.

-- He said the initial hitch a low bridge that precluded their departure from the shipyard--was overcome by the Italian authorities.

A part of the bridge was dismantled to allow the minesweepers to pass through.

CSO: 4200/50

MALAYSIA

VOPM DISCUSSES WORKERS' RIGHT TO FORM UNION

BK041111 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaysia in Malay 1230 GMT 3
Oct 84

["News Report": "Big Capitalists Prevent Workers From Establishing Trade Unions"]

[Text] To attract foreign capital and protect the interests of domestic and foreign big capitalists, the reactionary government has been firmly implementing a policy of oppressing the labor movement and preventing workers from establishing and joining trade unions. Consequently, the big capitalists can act arbitrarily, and most workers cannot join unions.

According to statistics released by the ruling clique, trade union membership in our country totalled over 600,000 in 1982, representing only 17 percent of all wage earners. In other words, 87 out of every 100 workers do not belong to trade unions.

The well-publicized dismissal of workers in a palm oil factory in Raub is one example of employers acting to prevent workers from establishing trade unions. The Malaysian Institute for Social Analysis [INSAN] disclosed the oppression of workers by the palm oil factory. It is reported that on 9 April this year, the palm oil factory in Raub invented a pretext to dismiss 10 workers and suspended 7 others so as to stop the workers from establishing a trade union.

More than a year ago, relations between the (Wilson Wolliam) management and its workers deteriorated when the latter demanded that a trade union be established. They made contact with the National Trade Union of the Plantation Workers, Temerloh Branch. They were told that they had to pay their fees prior to the registration of their trade union. They paid the fees but nothing happened for 4 months. Aware of their action, the management called the workers to the office and warned that the establishment of a trade union was illegal. Those involved would be sent to a detention camp on Jelajah Island. Under the intimidation of the manager, the workers had to stop paying their fees and send a letter to the national trade union of the plantation workers, Temerloh Branch, to withdraw from it.

The manager guaranteed that he would pay attention to the difficulties of the workers and establish an in-house trade union. Several months passed without

any action being taken. The workers began to realize that the manager had no serious interest in their conditions. Moreover, the workers were very disappointed and desperate over the cancellation of promotions in the factory and the prohibition against skilled workers taking examinations. More serious, workers' posts began changing hands, and safety measures in the factory were neglected. The workers sent many complaints to the Raub labor department, but received no reply. In addition, several workers reported to the police that they had been threatened and intimidated by the manager. They failed, however facing deadlock, the workers stopped work for 3 days with the aim of forcing the manager to pay attention to their difficulties. Some of them contacted the National Trade Union of Plantation Workers, Temerloh Branch, demanding that their trade union be reestablished. They were encouraged to hear that they had a registered trade union.

Finding out that the workers had established a trade union in the factory, the manager immediately conducted an investigation. As a result, 10 workers were dismissed and 7 others were suspended from work for a week. According to an investigation conducted by INSAN, their dismissal was attributed to their active membership in the trade union and not to their involvement in a strike from 8 to 10 March.

The management of Dunlop Malaysian Industry Limited considers the trade union in the factory a thorn in the flesh and has tried to disband it. On 22 June this year, the factory dismissed seven executive members of the trade union engaged in negotiations with the management on the pretext of work absence. To oppose this cruel action, 1,600 members of the Dunlop trade union in various places throughout the country staged a lay-off on 29 June. The trade union has held negotiations with the management since last year on the collective agreement on productivity. In the negotiations, the trade union rejected an illogical proposal put forward by the employers. As a result, the employers turned their eyes on the trade union and sought opportunities to take reprisals.

On 22 March this year, the trade union continued negotiations with a committee headed by a project manager. During the negotiations, the manager did not ask the executive members of the trade union to return to normal work the next day, 23 March. The collective agreement between the employer and worker stipulates that executive members of the trade union can take leave while they are engaged in negotiations with the employer and that they must return to work only after the negotiations end or face deadlock. However, on 22 March, the employer dismissed seven executive members of the trade union under the pretext they did not work on 23 and 24 March. [sentence as heard]

The management's cruel action aroused extreme dissatisfaction among the 1,600 members of the trade union. They staged a protest lay-off on 29 June. Simultaneously, the trade union sent a cable to Labor Minister Mak Hon Kam informing him on the lay-off. In its cable, the trade union stated that the employers had carried out harassment against the workers and tried to weaken the workers with illogical tactics. If this situation was not reversed, the trade union would not be held responsible for any consequences. Later, the trade union

submitted a request to the industrial court demanding that it instruct Dunlop Malaysian Industry Limited reemploy the seven executive members and give them suitable compensation. At the court, a lawyer for the trade union said that Dunlop Malaysian Industry Limited was trying to disband the trade union by every means.

On 18 July, the industrial court had to instruct Dunlop to reemploy the seven workers effective 31 July. Simultaneously, it also instructed the employer to repay their wages within 2 weeks of them returning to work. The wages would be counted from the period of their dismissal to reemployment, while their savings should also be calculated.

The above-mentioned issues are only two among many such examples. However, we can clearly see how the domestic and foreign big capitalists, supported by the reactionary regime, are arbitrarily depriving workers of their basic rights to establish trade unions.

CSO: 4213/16

BRIEFS

MINISTER ON RACIAL POLARIZATION--Datuk Musa Hitam says the racial polarization situation in the country is not serious. The government itself has taken the initiative to expose it and it wants to find ways to overcome the problem. The acting prime minister was speaking during question time in the Dewan Rakyat [House of Representatives]. Three main groups besides the communists who were responsible for the problem have been identified. They are religious extremists, racial extremists, and political opportunists. These elements have begun to infiltrate youths, especially those in schools, and hope in the long term to split the people. Datuk Musa stressed the responsibility to overcome polarization depended on all levels and groups of this community. Several specific strategies are being formulated and implemented by the government to deal with the problem. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 8 Oct 84]

VIETNAMESE ILLEGAL ALIENS--The Dewan Rakyat [Parliament] was told that about 9,400 Vietnamese illegal immigrants still remain in the country, even though between 500 and 1,000 of them are resettled in third countries every month. The deputy foreign minister, Encik Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir, said that the setting up of a technical training center in Pulau Bidong was aimed at equipping the Vietnamese boat people with skills so that they would be quickly accepted by third countries. The third countries generally will choose those who have some skills. He said the government had no proof of the illegal immigrants running away or hiding themselves. Encik Abdul Kadir said that so far more than 200,000 Vietnamese illegal immigrants in the country had been accepted by third countries. Malaysia on the whole did not face any problem in getting the cooperation of third countries to accept the illegal immigrants. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 11 Oct 84]

DEPARTING BELGIAN AMBASSADOR--The paramount ruler today granted an audience to the outgoing Belgian ambassador to Malaysia, Mr Jean Davaux, at Johor Summer Palace in Kuala Lumpur on 8 October 1984. Mr Davaux, 61, has been the Belgian ambassador to Malaysia since November 1980. He was previously his country's ambassador to Kuwait. [Summary] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1230 GMT 8 Oct 84 BK]

CSO: 4213/16

PHILIPPINES

PAPER LISTS NAMES, POSTS OF RETIRING GENERALS

HK161502 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 16 Oct 84 pp 1, 5

[Article by Arnold Atadero]

[Text] President Marcos approved yesterday the retirement of 17 "extendee" generals of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) from active military service. Their retirement takes effect today.

The retirement of the 17 AFP generals and 13 other overstaying colonels was endorsed by Gen Fabian C. Ver, AFP chief of staff, to Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile who, in turn, recommended it to the president.

Retired from the PC [Philippines Constabulary] command were Brig Gen Victor Azade, chief of the AFP Regional Unified Command (RUC) No 1; Brig Gen Bienvenido Felix, PC-INP [Integrated National Police] Region 3 (central Luzon) commander; Brig Gen Valerio Perez, commander of the PC-INP Region 12 (southwestern Mindanao); Brig [Gen] Cezar Villarin, PC-INP Region 8 (eastern Visayas) commander; Brig Gen Edgardo Alfabeto, PC-INP Region 9 (southern Mindanao) commander; and Brig Gen Nestor Ramos, chief of the PC Task Force "Verbena," a counterinsurgency unit;

Philippine Navy--Commodore Ponciano Bautista, logistics division chief; Commodore Rodolfo Punzalang, commander of the Philippine Marines; Commodore Dante de Guzman, chief of the Naval Defense Force; Commodore Benjamin Facto, Commodore Feliciano Parado, and Commodore Roterto Ampig;

Philippine Air Force--Brig Gens Ismael Zabarte, Jaime Muyargas, Amadeo Forteza and Salvador Regalado.

Brig Gen Benjamin Duque, member of parliament of Sultan Kudarat and president of the Corps of Professors of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), was also on the list of newly retired generals.

Enrile said in an interview with a foreign correspondent that more generals would be retired before the end of the month.

Ver said the retirement of these generals would clear the way for the promotion of deserving senior colonels.

In addition to the posts vacated by the 17 extendee generals, there are still 20 vacancies for star officers. It was not known if the vacant positions would be filled immediately.

Many of those retired from the PC command handled key posts in the field, and belonged to Class 1955 of the PMA.

It was further noted that none was retired from the Philippine Army command.

Ver arrived at the decision to retire the generals after a careful deliberation made by the AFP board of generals.

Commodore de Guzman would be retired between October 16 and October 31 because he was named officer-in-charge of the Leyte Landing commemorative program set for October 19-20.

Sources said senior colonels would be designated commanders of PC-INP regional commands apparently to avoid any conflict with RUC commanders.

Extended were Maj Gen Delfin Castro, chief of the Southern Command; Brig Gen Alexander Felix, AFP RUC 2 (Cagayan Valley) commander; Andres Ramos, AFP RUC 4 (southern Tagalog) commander; Brig Gen Jose Alcaneses, AFP-RUC 5 (Bicol) commander; Brig Gen Salvador Mison, AFP-RUC 8 (eastern Visayas) commander; Commodore Brillante Ochoco, Philippine Coast Guard commander; Brig Gen Mariano Miranda, First Army (Tabak) division chief; Brig Gen Benjamin Santos, 5th Army division chief; Brig Gen Madrino Munoz, AFP-RUC 10 (northern Mindanao) chief; Commodore Rizalino Alquiza, president of the General and Staff College (GSC); Sinforoso Duque, AFP adjutant general; Abraham Baladad, chief of AFP planning; Brig Gen Avelino America, and Brig Gen Anselmo Silva, both of the Air Force.

The status of two other generals--Pacifico Lopez de Leon (recalled to active duty) and Serafio Martellano of the General Headquarters (GHQ)--was not known.

The list completed the names of 33 extendee generals whose extended tours of duty ended last September and this month.

CSO: 4200/62

IMELDA MARCOS DISCUSSES POLITICAL, PERSONAL ISSUES

Manila PHILIPPINE PANORAMA, Sunday magazine of the BULLETIN TODAY, in English
2 Sep 84 pp 9-14, 44-49

[Report by Ma. Lourdes C. Mangahas of a luncheon interview between First Lady Imelda Marcos and 16 media women, in Manila, 17 Aug 84: "The Heart and Mind of Imelda R. Marcos--'I Feel My Way Through and Listen to the Cries of the People'"; passages in brackets translated from Tagalog]

[Text] Imelda Romualdez Marcos says her dream was only to have a little house by the sea. She now has such a house, one so big and possessed and secured it is, in fact, a Palace, seated by the mouth of a river, seating power and privilege and prerogative, and many things besides.

What and who is the First Lady? She who stands behind, and on occasion, in front of the First Man, who, in turn, stands above and beyond us all. She who is all of 200 to 300 titles, mother of two daughters and a son who are also generously titled, and mother, too, she says, of all 53 million Filipinos.

Arriving two hours late for a luncheon with 16 women who are and were with media, Mrs Marcos greets each one of her invited guests. Her palms are smooth and thin, one cannot be convinced easily they are of a working person. Her bearing is regal, her suit of royal blue with orange necklace, earrings and banig bag and bandana.

"I must make up for this," she excuses herself for tardiness, "my watch says it is only 1 p.m." We women, hardly or not introduced at all to wealth, thank ourselves that we have less expensive watches which accurately point the time at 2:10 p.m. It's a "no-holds-barred" interview, or even a dialogue, she assures. Once the tape recorders are set on the long table, she remarks: "They terrorize me." But "they" are also allowed entry to the thoughts of the Madame, mute witnesses to the next three-and-a-half-hour encounter over a late, sumptuous Chinese meal, even as the heavens outside cry profusely. Earlier that day, the rains had stopped, but toward noontime, the showers of August returned with the Madame, till after the dialogue was over.

It is never easy to capture the essential Mrs Marcos. She discourses at length, often on many things close to her heart. She sounds profound at times, occasionally begs the profundities of other great men, and often romantic and celestial to a fault. Maybe she had been advised of what Jane

Austen once said: An intelligent woman should never let others know she is intelligent. Or maybe three-and-a-half hours was too short a time to read through the mind of a leader.

On love, on beauty, on power, on her children, on her programs, she talked. On rallies, on the Aquino assassination, on criticisms of government, on the economy, on detained journalist Satur Ocampo, she was asked to talk. If one wanted a survey of literature on these and other topics, and one needs only a swift perusal of information, one must talk to Mrs Marcos. She is a compendium of general information, witticisms and adages, quotes and impressions and may enlighten, amuse, and satisfy.

Once it was said of Golda Meir, former prime minister of Israel, that to a woman of such breeding and intelligence, power is an error in taste. Of Mrs Marcos, the same may apply, or even variants of the statement such as error is the taste of power, or taste is the error of power.

The dialogue covered so much ground, almost all of three 60-minute tapes, 34 pages of transcribed material, and some questions have not even been recorded. She is given to so much spontaneity, puts down her defenses when discoursing, and one wished that for a First Lady, she could have been more guarded. The twang in her diction is British, her voice often with musical inflections, and at times, to stress a point, she taps her pen on the table, and on leaves of yellow pad draws and illustrates.

We see her almost every day, a beautiful face on the front pages of newspapers, on footages of broadcast news. Hers is a well-preserved face. But when to leadership we must be introduced, we'd like to know what in these men and women of power we can admire, envy, emulate, criticize, denounce, curse. They must be heard to be understood, as they talk unedited, and this, for Mrs Marcos, is an introduction.

FIRST LADY: It's always important to know what different groups would like to say, what they would want to do, what the government would like to do, what would be their recommendations, what are their aspirations, what do they want. It's always good to have a dialogue but the problem is we've been so busy with programs that we really have been so, we really had no time practically to sit down and talk to the sectors.

Go ahead, eat first. You don't have to work. You make me work but you don't have to worry about me.

Question: We want to know if the petitions which members of the working press have signed ever reach you. One of the latest we've signed was for Satur Ocampo's release.

FL: Things like that yes, it reaches me. It comes to me. But they go to the intelligence. We have no direct say. Even the President has very little say about...Only the intelligence.

Q: But you could recommend action.

FL: Surely, yes. We always refer. But the whole trouble is we've been burned several times. There have been a lot of recommendations and then they have been released. When they are released, they submerge again and cause us, and the government and the people, a lot of problems. Especially in my case, my recommendations on this matter, because I go by the heart (laughter) have been the ones most released, listened to, were appreciated. Because I go by the feel of the heart but at the same time, they always come up with hard facts so our hands are tied.

Q: Do letters from abroad, like letters from Amnesty International, ever reach you?

FL: Oh yes.

Q: And do you feel affected by these letters?

FL: No. Ah, because in truth and in fact, the basic principle and reason for government (are) freedom, human rights, democracy and justice. And if in the process there is an aberration in such a policy, then we look at it in specifics, rather than in general terms. Because you can't generalize something like human rights and freedom. That's a big thing. The policy and principle of government, and dedication as far as the government is concerned, the President is concerned, the leadership is concerned. But there surely is some injustice done by the lack of efficiency, lack of dedication, lack of enlightenment and compassion (on the part) of some of the implementors of the law. Just like so many--the government in general does have very enlightened programs for people and the country in general but the problem is, somewhere along the line, there is, I must admit, there must be some injustice done because of inefficiency, negligence, and sheer, sometimes, unawareness (which) can be very unjust. And these are the things that not only you, especially us, are doing our share. We're trying to do our share to do something about them. And ah, you see, because if you will see, know that the people are, if you will see what the programs of government (are), you have a Filipino ideology that is very humane, very democratic, very just, and very far-sighted. Unfortunately in the implementation, you know we have 53 million people now and I think, 1,300,000 I think, government officials. We surely now, the reason why the other week, last week, we have really to do something, a lot of housecleaning, especially in small offices, ministries and other government offices. Because this is the face of government, this is the face of the leadership. It is in these little, in these different offices that we really have some kind of problem with credibility, miscommunication. I know, I've been sitting down with a lot of people and it's amazing what comes out. It's you know, a factory where you're trying to manufacture sausages but along the way, something else comes out, a hamburger or whatever (laughter). But you can be sure that the intent, programs, commitment of leadership is very far-sighted, very humane, very compassionate, very enlightened.

Q: Are funds for all these coming from the Metro Manila budget?

FL: The initial resource was really from a private collection. That's why it's a foundation and let's face it, it was during this period that we had some kind of a system in (the) management of Metro Manila. Prior to this, basic services were not conceptualized. There was no equality of attention in the services. Our real problem is that they have become so many. There are about half a million coming to Manila every day and going out. And we have about 8.2 million residents in Metro Manila. Like for instance, our squatter problem. We went maybe even overboard in helping the very poor in the slums, the squatters. This way, they've also become used to ["Well, let us just squat. Tomorrow, again,] they will put us out of the way." We will bring them a head of place in Carmona, in Tatalon, in BLISS, and in that. So all of these have to be calibrated. You have to have some kind of a parameter. There has come a point when they have become pure squatters, and others have become pure squatters, and others have become professional squatters. Those who really are in need will be helped. So it's really a general policy but at the same time, we're into a case-to-case basis when people are really so beleaguered and very much in need. It's a balancing of general policy and case-to-case basis.

Q: So what is the policy now of the MMC on the squatter problem?

FL: The policy is really first, the survival of the city prevails. Because if we don't do something about the floods and the drainage system of Metro Manila, we'd drown and we'd destroy the cities. The first thing is for survival. The second is a compassionate society. We will be compassionate to those who are really, really in need and not to those who think that, (who) make you feel that they are in need. And this surprises me. We still have to learn to surface our real selves. [Sometimes, over there, they're really good (actors). They make you think that (they are) very poor, however, just the opposite, (they have) money (of some sort). Other times, too, (they) appear very rich, but then, (the truth) is that (they) have nothing; they just pretend to (be rich). We're indeed good in pretending in both cases.] You know you have to surface these realities. I came in as governor of Metro Manila a great romanticist. Because as you know, I always move from the heart. I feel my way through and listen to the cries of the people.

Q: Have you changed heart now?

FL: Not that I have changed heart but I am complementing it with more reality and becoming a little more pragmatic. As I've always said, you must have minds that feel and hearts that think to bring about wisdom. Not just, you know, all heart and you can be irrational, illogical. It has to be balanced like anything else, everything else. Just like human rights and freedom, you can have all the human rights and all the freedom as long as you do not hurt or subvert other people's rights. Then when you start subverting and hurting and destroying other people's rights, then the problem comes. Then the law comes to the fore. You see, freedom is really, in the end, one-sided. You only have one kind of freedom--freedom to do good, to do beautiful and correct. You do something against that and you have someone up there, the law, and nature and your conscience.

Q: Let's stop asking questions for a while so you can eat.

FL: No, no. I don't eat. I'm trying to lose weight. I say this a lot, it doesn't help me any.

Q: We hear Imee (Marcos Manotoc) has a cottage industry.

FL: Yes, but Imee doesn't want to sell me any of hers because she feels that anything I wear is going to be copied, so her design will suffer. She is putting up an exhibit for Women Marcos next few weeks. And she's doing well because she really has very good design. She has combined, for instance, the tambourine and other Filipino stones, Filipino jade and shells and our own gold. That's why they're a little more expensive. And besides, [they're just for exports, (she says) because she wants dollars.] She has accessories, bags, shoes, belts, trinkets, fork, glasses. She's very creative. [She says: "Mommy, I attended Princeton University; I went to London; I attended UP, University of the Philippines; I took up law, but then after all this, all I do is string shells."] Oh, that girl.

Q: Do they (products) carry her name in the label?

FL: You know, she's so secretive about it, I don't know.

Q: Your intelligence men aren't working?

FL: No. This is one of the things we have not succeeded in very ably (laughter).

Q: Do you have objection to the Batasan move...

FL: I have objection because I know the problem but if they want it, (if) what they want they will have and will triumph, then we will see. You know, it's really different when just looking at it and seeing it from the outside. It's a completely different ballgame when you are inside. No. But there would be some kind of a system, of management. You cannot, from here, it's Pasay already; before the end of this in Halik-Alon, it's already Paranaque. A little further, it's already Las Pinas. What kind of a-[oh, well, you, this, that-] You'll have a little mayor who is thinking of his little thing and you will have a program. [He'll place a small tin can in front of the house. But, we here in Manila, we'll put boxes of plants or trees. Then another group place cooking pots.] Can you imagine what will happen to this poor little city? So we need some kind of a system and some kind of integration and a commission to take care of this. Otherwise, [we'd sound crazy.] We'll have little tribes. And this is really, it's bad enough that the Philippines is really hamburgered geographically. We have 7,150 islands. It's very difficult to unite these people. And this country, and this country will disintegrate fast. You get a weaker man than the President and you need some kind of [discipline. When everything is just okay, everything goes fast, that,] you cannot be. This is getting to be. You know, the problem is this world has the same resources one-hundred years ago but we are feeding more people now. We have to put to school 13 million five hundred children a year.

We have to give new jobs to 700,000 people, new workers who need jobs a year. So it's a different perspective. It's just like a child, a member of the family, it's a completely different thing when you're the father who is the provider and the mother who will have to attend. It's a completely different ballgame altogether. And we cannot, it would be unjust if we just chose a chosen few or just the elite, or just the poor, or just the bad.

Q: I think the problem also was really, Metro Manila citizens are used to having mayors so when the MMC came, they thought they were having managers only.

FL: This is the problem with democracy. Not all that is popular is good and not all that is good is popular. And this is some of the injustice of my assuming the MMC position. I had no more time for socializing. I went into hard, true realities of programs, conceptualizing programs. There was no Ministry of Human Settlements before. There was no commission for Metro Manila before. I had to do and start with what was the concept, what kind of an instrument, how is it going to be packaged, what was the responsibility. And two major offices, the Ministry of Human Settlements, this is all basic services and really, the coordination of all ministries of government plus the Metro Manila Commission, 17 towns and cities was really a tall order. So really, I got so involved with programs, and God, really, things coming out and really, systems, discipline, programs. And the problem really, and then I really made an in-depth study of what had happened to Mrs Marcos. It is funny because what had happened was I became so involved with programs, with the machine, with the program, and all of these. And the people loved you for you face and for yourself. They know that your being there but they did not see the face anyone because I was so busy with programs. Before I had all the time to socialize. Now that I'm socializing again, interacting or just being there. Now it's completely changing again, it's a rapid change in about two, three weeks ago. Because we monitor, this is always an in-depth study by social scientists and psychologists. It's a big change. Just note, because the fear of the people, in the end, in the studies of UP and everybody, they said, the First Lady was, [she, sort or disappeared] because she became so busy with the MMC. [That's why they became angry with the MMC because their First Lady was taken away from them, you see. They became angry with the MHS, the Ministry of Human Settlements, because they First Lady was taken away from them.] And then you check, what was my biggest role, my most important role? First Lady. Why they needed, [just like] on Milton's blindness, they also serve who only stand and wait. That all they needed and wanted to know (was) "Are you there?" and the sad part about it, our people did not see that she was there and all of the things she was doing was really to make love real. Because love is ambivalent. It is both a state and a reality. A state of love is happiness. The reality of love is beauty. Beauty and happiness is love made real. And the spirit of love is God. So when they just saw beauty and they just saw happiness, and they did not see you there then they said, [just like, just like husband and wife.] Your husband gave you a beautiful house, a beautiful car, and beautiful all these things but he was not there. That was the, well, this is the reading we're getting.

Q: Do the criticisms from the opposition affect you?

FL: Affect me: You know, it doesn't affect me..It affects me in a different way. I look at it like an information center. When they are opposed to something, there must be something wrong. So I see what they are opposing and all of that and then I do something about it and justify it if there is something wrong with it. So in the end, my critics, and the opposition, as has happened all my life, had become really my reason, the motivation for my growth and development and my evolution. With this kind of concept and this kind of a state. Criticisms for me, but the funny part about that is 99 percent of their criticisms is really self-centered, with some ulterior motive for self and not for the people. Then I smile, that you are a little more far-sighted and a little more selfless than these people. Because you know, the perceptions up there are a completely different, and the perceptions from the totality, from the whole are a completely different perception, than from a part, or a compartment.

Q: What really hurts you about these criticisms?

FL: Nothing. I mean, I am sensitive to these but I treat it with a grain of salt and a part of life. And I even find it as (an) opportunity.

Q: Even the very personal attacks?

FL: Ay, you laugh that off because your conscience...you will have a fallback-- your conscience, your conscience is clear. [And then, you say to yourself,] when people try to put you with different men and different lovers and all of that, this is really ridiculous. Because I have many weaknesses [but craving for sex] was not one of them, (laughter) I feel so sorry. I, I, have many weaknesses but to be a, to be a hotsie-patotsie is not one of them (laughter).

Q: Do these criticisms of these rumors affect the President?

FL: He's so macho he doesn't bother. He and Hamilton, what a choice? [Well, what the heck.] I don't think it would even be relevant. (laughter)

Q: If it were Fidel Castro, would the President mind?

FL: (Laughter) Someone more macho.

Q: Khaddafy or...

FL: It should, it should...I think, a wise man like him, he knows if his wife is appreciated, esteemed, and liked by other leaders and great men and people of the world, the more the merrier, but she has not made a mistake. And one thing, [thinking about going to bed? When I was single, I never did a thing like that, eh.] And I could have done it. I like to [get wet, to soak myself,] to make [to talk a lot], to talk, to dance, up to the wee hours of the morning, but that stays there. And I don't go to bed with anyone. [My gosh...]

[Gosh, those people who are unloved are hot-tempered in life, mad at the world. Thus, when you're (they're) angry, you see, you've (they've) a problem that you (they) cannot face. Thus, according to the President: "Don't get mad, they'll say 'You're stupid.'" You're mad because you don't have the nerve to face your problems, you don't have a remedy, and don't have a solution. And you know that when you're a little bit pretty, you're really scared to be labeled dumb.] Because you have been labeled BBD--Beautiful But Dumb. [That's why] it's very difficult, you know. You're a little pretty you can reach only a certain level of success. After that, it's going to be a hell of a struggle going further. They will give you an entry point only up to that. Yes, they will concede you're pretty but also you're dumb. You think, in the end, sometimes in life, and many times in life, your very assets are your very liabilities. If you are pretty, you are not talented. If you are [, on the other hand,] talented, you are ugly. [There's no way out.] (laughter)

Q: Is the issuance of rally permits to be made part of the MMC's jurisdiction?

FL: The law of the land and the security of the nation belong to the national, the national government. We are only concerned with the delivery of basic services and the coordination of services.

Q: Newspaper reports said a draft of an ordinance has been prepared seeking to transfer authority to issue rally permits from the local mayors to the MMC.

FL: I don't know about that. All I know is that anything that pertains to the security of the state belongs to the national government. We have no authority and we are not the major participants.

Q: How is the question going to be resolved? Is the mayor's office going to issue permits, is it Crame, or General Olivas' office?

FL: In the front, it is really the mayors, in the face. But still, the mayor is first under the authority of the national government because we have reached a point in our security when it is precarious and there are parameters to make to insure. Because, let's face it, the left is no longer just in the mountains, hiding. They are in the centers, in the urban areas here and as President Marcos says, that some sectors and the opposition, and even some church people think that if the government falls, it will fall into their hands. You can be sure that if the government falls, if Marcos falls, it will not fall to the opposition, to any sector or group. It will fall to the hands of the enemies who believe that power comes from the barrel of the gun. And like rallies, rallies are really nothing but shows of force, trying to show that they are bigger and stronger, than the government, that they are mass-based. And they are trying to say, well, it's a peaceful rally and all of that is a lot of muscle. You must remember that we have only about 15,000 or 10,000 policemen in the city of Manila. And if you have 100,000 rioters, demonstrators, it is really a show of force, that is to terrorize government and it is really to...[if]...If you really want to put a thing across, you want to have a message brought up, you can do that with ten

people and with more effectiveness and efficiency. But to get a President of 53 million beleaguered and covered by one million or two million Filipinos, no, sir! As Marcos says, I don't give a damn whether what I do is popular or unpopular. The important thing is this country survives and prevails. And I will do so until I have been asked and I have pledged and committed myself to this responsibility up to '87. After '87, you can do exactly what you want to do with me. But meanwhile, it is my duty and responsibility that this country prevails and flourishes and there are many, many things which may not be palatable. Just like Coca Cola, it may be popular but it may not be good. And we will always do what is right and what is good as we deem for the country and people. So I do hope that you see also the duties and responsibilities of a president.... Malacanang whim and caprice. They do not want people to go up to Mendiola street. Look people, the moment any part of Malacanang is burned, any part of the seat of power is introduced, is attacked, you know the effect abroad. They'll say: ["What happened? The house of the leader (president) is now being stoned. Oh, that's it, nothing's left. Look, he has fallen. His head is now hit. Well, everything's gone now."] We will be a banana republic. No sir! Before they get there. Why do they want to come near when they can be just as effective one mile away on the bridge of Mendiola. And the way to Malacanang when we went to Malacanang, it was not through Mendiola street. We never even saw Mendiola until I lived in Malacanang. It was not through Mendiola. The way to Malacanang is through the hearts and minds and service to the people. It was not through Mendiola. This is so, so childish, and so bullyish. And you cannot bully the President and the government cannot be bullied by any sector or group as the President will do anything that will make this country prevail irrespective (of) whether it is popular or not. Enough with politics. We've had enough politics last year. We let go of the emotion. [It is indeed extremely hard to clash with the emotions of man.] We let go. And then we went on, politics for a selfish cause--for my party or that party. Enough of that! Now let us go on (with) something for the cause of the country. And really in '87, get Marcos out! That's okay!

Q: Doesn't the President plan to run for another term in '87?

FL: Well, he will run if he sees he is necessary and this country needs to survive. He will definitely not let this country go down the drain while he's alive and kicking. As long as the President is alive and kicking, you can be sure that he will, if he sees there are no people, there's no one there selfless enough to, strong enough and courageous enough to get this country going, surely he will run. But the moment he sees there's somebody, you'd be surprised. I'll be the No 1 lobbyist. I'm sick and tired of the Palace.

Q: Among the KBL officials, do you see anyone, any particular persons, qualified as presidential timber?

FL: There are many who we think are qualified, and there are many, too, who think they are qualified.

Q: You yourself, M'am are qualified.

FL: Me? I never thought of it!

Q: How about a woman president for the first time?

FL: Oh, thank you! I don't have that kind of ego. You know, at this point of my life, I can serve this country and keep on giving (myself) to this country even more effectively if I was not in government because then I would not be suspect. The truth of the matter was that I wanted to get out of the government immediately after the elections. You will notice that I was the last who was installed by the President and the reason for this was because I really think...But the thing was, the President said: "Gosh! do you realize that if you get out of the MMC--17 mayors and 17 vice mayors--and imagine in the MHS--23 have 37, 39 agencies under the ministry, one of them is this [Well, the President also said,] "Do you realize that if you get out, I will have to get 10?"

Q: If given the chance to retire, what do you envision yourself doing?

FL: Doing what is good for this country. Doing whatever it is. Let's face it, whoever is leader, I don't think at this point, and this is a little immodest but it is true, that there is probably no First Lady, not even a head of state in any part of the world, who has been to all the corridors of powers, has been a friend to all the major superpowers like the First Lady. I can go to Li Xianian (chairman of China's People's Consultative Committee). Hu Yaobang, Deng Hsiao Ping (chairman, Communist Party of China), Chernenko, (Soviet Union) Khadaffy (Libya), Fahd, anybody. I can go to any one of them. And all I have to do is if I see that the country is in trouble. I'll get my little bag and say: ["Please, don't."] And I don't need to be president. I don't have to be anything. I'll do it because I love this country. This is my country. It's the only country I will seek for its survival.

Q: Are you not going to be an international citizen?

FL: No. But the thing is the Filipino is an international citizen. You know, when you are a citizen of the Philippines, because of our foreign policy, you are able to row in any part of the world. You can go to Russia. You can go to Bamboo Curtain or China. We don't have bamboo curtain. You can go to any part of the world because of our foreign policy, which is not so with any other country. And so if you are a Filipino, you are a citizen of the world. You can trade in any country of the world and would be respected, as a member of the human community. You can trade, you can go to the Middle East and work. Before the Tripoli Agreement we had gotten from Khadaffy, the Filipino could not work in the Arab world because of the Moslem-Christian problem. And we solved that. And also with South American countries. I can do that and I don't have to be First Lady, because these are personal friends, you know! At this point in time, I was reading this morning. Hu Yaobang was going to take the place of Deng Hsiao Ping in the Communist Party. Deng Hsiao Ping was our tourist guide and Hu Yaobang was the head of the youth, of the KB in Shanghai. And Li Xianian was always my company, he was the only one assigned to the People's Republic of China. All the time, in all of my trips, it was Li Xianian. Now he's president of the People's Republic.

Andropov used to be my security. We knew Zhao Shi Yang when he was only governor of the biggest province of China. So we don't need...I really don't need the position. You know it's funny when people say "Mrs Marcos, you're a very powerful First Lady." May I tell you that power is not in the crown you wear because there were many First Ladies before me. It's not in the throne you sit on. It's not in the position that you keep or you hold. Power comes from the quality of your service, of your work for your fellow human beings. Power is something so democratic and each and everyone of us does have power--to wield that power, to work, to do, to serve, to love. Power is not in Malacanang Palace. There were First Ladies and Presidents before us. Power is not in the governorship of Metro Manila. Power is...the nice thing about power is it's so democratic. The misconception of people is that they think that power is in a seat, in a throne, in a position, in a title. No sir! Power is in that human being. Look at (Mahatma) Gandhi, the old man Gandhi. He had no, Gandhi had no position but he was more powerful than (Jawaharlal) Nehru. So it's really no hassle with me, no hassle. I have a very Zen Buddhist way of thinking. I give all, like I am a drop of water. A human being is so. I don't have appreciation and esteem of myself. I feel I am just a drop of water. But if that drop is dropped in an ocean, that drop of water is no longer just a drop but an ocean. You are nothing and everything. And I always believe that in the end, the only things you keep in life are those you give away.

Q: One of the topics of discussion, not only in the Batasan but in most places now, is the question of keeping the President and the presidential family immune from suits even after the President shall have served his term. What is your thinking along this line?

FL: Why, do you intend to sue us?

Q: Not yet. It's just a question.

FL: Why, do you think I have the potential of being a criminal?

Q: The constitutional amendment applies not only to the First Family but also to subordinates of the President which may include the military, government officials.

FL: I don't think that will flourish. I don't think that will flourish.

Q: It's a constitutional amendment already passed in 1981.

FL: You can be sure that the President, especially when it comes to law, he will not want to have laws of self-interest. Don't worry, if you ever sue us, I have a good lawyer. I have the President. Besides, really if they get me to prison, maybe that will be nice, because for a change, I'll really have peace. I will be alone. And then I will have all my memories to enjoy myself for a change.

Q: Maybe you can write a book of your memoirs.

FL: Writing a book, it will not even be fun. Maybe I need to be imprisoned.

Q: The Women's Correctional is very beautiful now. (laughter)

FL: Yes, I am making sure, in case the prison may be of use in my future. You can never tell. (laughter) The Heart Center, too.

Q: Since you spoke of rallies, now that you saw so many mass actions are being planned for August 21, how do you feel?

FL: I am amazed and shocked at the terroristic inclination of these people because they want to come in force, thinking of two million people to come to the rally. And I am shocked at the inhuman and lack of foresight of such a program they don't realize they're putting people there and this would just be the moment to endanger the lives of the two million people if there are subversives. Those who will do harm and have a lack of humanity, a lack of concern, these people are just for an ego trip and what will two million to lionize someone and for a certain cause. And the whole thing is poor Aquino is being used for this. And when there are two million people there and [then there will be trouble there,] for sure that will be a vehicle for the left to come in. [There will be killings there. And what's worst is that those who will get killed are those from the opposition. Then,] they will make it look like that it is the government again. [Those who get killed, those who get hurt are those who demonstrate and who rally and who lead the rallies. But then, they dress up in uniforms and pretend to look like officers and they'll make it look like it's the military who are doing the shooting. There are many now, all in uniforms. But the truth is that we appear like--the President, in fact, cannot say it,--it's shameful--We are like puppies, eh. Dumb. We are being played by the dwarfs like toys, eh. It's shameful, gosh. We fight against each other. We are pitted against each other] because this is such a beautiful country. You know that all the channels going from East to West is passing Philippine waters. The Balintan Channel in Taiwan, and the Philippines. [By the way, where's Venus Strait,] between Bicol and Samar. The Balabac Strait between Cebu and Sulu. Four lanes are part of the Philippines [and if only we are] united, and there's a free flow of the East and West and all the riches of the world, to the Philippines. Unfortunately, it is propagated and headed by us. We're telling everyone: Don't go to the Philippines, [there are rallies all over the place, it's like this and that, like this and that.] Don't go there. So no tourism. No this, no that. "You will be killed there. People will steal from you." Because [Marcos is a thief, so are all the little people. If President Marcos and Mrs Marcos are thieves, so, too, are the little people, you can be sure of that. Our Puppies haven't realized that, that's why at times, Marcos feels small. Thus, the President said.] I can see sometimes the President, he's lamenting. [Gee whiz, he said, we've been in this (politics) for so long, it seems like we still haven't learned a lesson. It seems like we're just like puppies.] We're still children. You know, we learn geography as though geography for us is, geography for the Filipino is fun. We'll say: What is the capital of England? London. What is the capital of the United States? What is the capital of that? Of Russia? Moscow. You don't look at geography like that. When you talk about geography today, it is our

relationship with the rest of the world, who we are. As Chairman Mao said: Ah, you can change religion anytime, you can change ideology anytime, but you cannot change the map, and you cannot change geography. So this is the USSR-- I have to draw all the time because it has to be shown--This is China, here Vietnam, Kampuchea, Laos, Thailand. This is the Philippines. This is Taiwan. This is Japan. Philippines, Palawan, Mindanao, Malaysian peninsula, Australia, New Zealand, Alaska, Canada, US, South America, Cuba, right. You know, as I was saying, here, this is the Balintan Channel. Then somewhere here is the San Bernardino Strait. San Juanico Strait. Balabac Strait. The other name for the Philippines is the World Security Dam--D.A.M. Because if you want to go to the north, even you will have to pass by the Philippines, Japan, to ASEAN, to Hormuz Strait to the Indian Ocean. This way. If you're going from east to west, from west to east, the Philippines. [The truth is that our neighbors are envious of us.] Even Hong Kong is so [envious of us.] We have all the resources--human resources, 90 percent of our people are...we have all the natural resources, all the 92 minerals we have for industrialization, we have all alloys and materials for sophisticated equipment that goes even to outer space and nuclear arms...It's the only country in the world that faces both the Pacific Ocean and the China Sea, the two major seas of the planet, both east and west. That's why the Philippines is...So everybody will say [don't go to the Philippines. Here is where wealth and resources are. You detour here in Singapore. You detour here in Hong Kong. You detour here in Indonesia. Don't go to the Philippines, stay here in Japan. Don't go to the Philippines because there's trouble over there. Who's creating all these? Us!] (There's) nothing wrong with us. So, [when they arrive, there are rallies.] But everybody has rallies. [There are many who have committed wrongdoings, many criminals in other countries, but] everybody has more criminality than us. You know that in the United States, in New York, there are 700 to 800 crimes per 100,000 people) per month. In this little country, in Manila, it is 21 per 100,000 per month. Twenty-one instead of 700-800 of the other. The national average is 25. But Manila has 21-22 and the whole of ASEAN has 70-80.

You know, they know in the first place that women are generalists. And then second, they know that women themselves have more on feelings, on the emotions. And if that is based on the emotions, then it has, you are in danger, that it can, that you can fall to a pit that is irrational. But at the same time that men concentrate on the logic of things, on the cerebral but the mind alone without the heart, that is not complimented by the heart, can be cruel and inhuman. So two--useless each without the other--you must have minds that feel and hearts that think to bring about wisdom and enlightenment. In my particular case, I know how to, that if you try hard enough, you will make it. For every single success I have, there were a thousand and one failures. If you try and then you win and then succeed, right away, that's an accident. That's not real. When you're continuously successful that means you were continuously overcoming and fighting failure. You do not stop at failure but only stop when you had succeeded.

Q: The Agrava fact-finding board is submitting its recommendations on the 31st of August. Do you think the government position that Rolando Galman and the communists are behind the assassination will be affirmed by the board?

FL: One of the things I hate to do is extrapolate on the minds and feelings of other people.

Q: The date of your testimony was not decided by you? It was decided by the board?

FL: Of course not (by me). Remember, Virata was called last. Royalty comes last. So they were going to close on July 23rd! (laughter) And on a Friday, I could not make it on a Friday because it was the ...

Q: You were in Leyte.

FL: So between the fiesta of the Sto. Nino and the Sta. Nina, and when...ah...

Q: You dropped by?

FL: That was not really a drop-by because that was a hell of a time that I had to go through. Never in my life! Can you imagine? The very same person who supported and helped Aquino and saved his life, I think to an extent, was the very same person that was suspected and hanged on her birthday? [I said to myself that it looks like it's bad. I don't like to think about it because it's bad, eh. But, that's okay, it's good this way. But] I would not let it be done to anyone. It's amazing! [It's shameful, you know] I do not make a big story out of this [because] it is shameful. Imagine [to be placed on the tribunal] on the suspicion of murder.

Q: Were you nervous? What did you feel since you had no choice?

FL: I...I...I was ah...I was emotional. I was not angry. I was not nervous, I was just emotional.

Q: Could you have refused?

FL: I could have refused but ah...It was ah...It was more for ah...

Q: [Sensitiveness?]

FL; It was not the good thing to do but it was the smart thing to do. (laughter)

Q: To go there?

FL: To go there. It was the smart thing to do.

Q: Did you expect them to ask you to be a witness long before that day?

FL: No. Because I did not feel I was suspect. My conscience was clear. I did not know. I could not understand this. You only suspect when you had thought about it. I never suspected because I never thought about it.

Q: I think it was only to ask you some questions.

FL: Oh! The Narvasa questions were pretty loaded. No-no-no-no-no. There was a bit of malice there.

Q: Some sectors, even in government, look at the assassination of Aquino as an event which precipitated our financial difficulties. Do you...

FL: Of course, of course.

Q: Do you look at it in that light?

FL: Of course, of course, they found that we had all these [troubles] that went on. Nobody wanted to loan us money because we have [all these troubles,] that's true. It was really a disaster, the Aquino assassination, and his death was an economic disaster for our country. It was really a disaster precipitated, yes, that's why let us stop scratching all these things. Let us move [right along. Gosh, we're really masochists. We're such ugly people and that's just what it is. It looks like we're always in a cubicle.] There are other nicer parts, in the living room, in the garden where there are flowers. Let us...[we're always in the cemetery. We're there again. We scream at each other, instead of dancing and singing. What's that, why? I'm certainly a coward when it comes to ugliness and hatred.]

Q: What about our debts? Do you think we can ever pay?

FL: Oh, my dear, that is the least of our problems. The President has led us away from bigger problems like security, politics, territorial, endangering our territorial integrity and our survival as a country many times. This (debts) is the least of our problems. [Aside from this. And if we strive hard, nobody will die. Our country is so beautiful. Seas, there are many seas. There are lots of rains. The sun always shines.] We can plant. We will not go hungry. [Those who get hungry in a country which is indeed like a paradise are only those who are really lazy and ignorant and crazy. Those who won't work, those who truly have nothing.] This is such a rich country. [They say I'm hungry and all this. Supplying a kitchen to feed people will make beggars of people, you see. Instead of giving] them fish, teach them how to fish.

Q: So you do not really support the program of having soup kitchens?

FL: [Hey,] we will not support any program that is going to ah...any program that will nurture mendicancy and dependence on our people. No way. [What is needed for power and for the future and progress of each Filipino is his own self, his own effort. Your friends, whatever] position, for instance, the presidency can, Malacanang can only use the potential of this power. But the beginning of that power is the human being, is the person. Positions, friends and allies can broaden and enlarge that power but the beginning and end of that power is you and man.

Q: There seems to be some problem with the Philippines' negotiation for a standby loan from the International Monetary Fund. The IMF team which arrived a few weeks ago found that the country's overstatement of its foreign exchange

reserves has amounted to \$1.2 billion and that this has been going on in the last three years.

FL: [What's that? What's that?]

Q: The forex reserves of the country have been overstated in the last three years, the IMF team found and it seems..

FL: No, that was the problem several months ago. That they were talking about some kind of a window-dressing. In fact that was a problem when Minister Laya was still in the Central Bank. But that is no longer the problem...

These rallies cannot go on without money. Don't kid me that you will have one million people [who will not be paid. I give the Pilipinos artists, I give them sandwiches, I give them everything, but still they don't rally with us. Even during the Martial Law when you put 20 million people. Oh, in just one day at Rustan's, in front of it were 5 trucks. Who paid for all those trucks? Gee whiz.] that's a lot of nonsense.

Q: But aren't you aware that some of the daughters of people in, around you are in the rallies also?

FL: Well ah, you know, even in our own family, [there are some who are crazy too.] You know. [Imagine, that's already the official family.] That is what makes the world go round. [You see, everybody's different, eh, everybody's different.] You will always have different principles, [not the same.] This would be such a bore if all of us were First Ladies. (Laughter). This world would be such a bore. That is part, and yet they say, later we have no freedom.

Q: The principle of separation of church and state has been invoked each time that Cardinal Sin or priests issue strong statements or support movements which are critical of government. In those instances, when Cardinal Sin says something negative, do you think he oversteps his bounds as a spiritual leader of a flock or he is trying to be a spiritual leader as well as someone in charge of the material and political needs of his people?

FL: I...I have no...I have...I have...really...I have no jurisdiction over the realm...and I have no say really in the realm of God and the spirit. It is really [Whatchamacallit,] I am only a first lady. I could not be able to ...I am not that smart to be able to understand the realm of the spirit. I am there in faith and in love with my church and the spirit and what is beautiful and good and right in life. I am not here to make judgment, especially if it is in the realm of God and the church because that is not my responsibility. I will not dare.

Q: Let me say it for the girls who were present in Irene's wedding. We thought it was admirable the way you and the President did not say anything or reacted to the homily of Fr. Araneta when most...

FL: Oh, how can I react when they want to show off how great the Araneta family was. I...I...we want to be convinced also that our daughter married into a very good family. I cannot blame. I don't blame them. They were trying to sell the Araneta family, to show how great it was. And I am very happy to be convinced that my daughter hit the jackpot! My goodness, that's true. [I like that.] I like, I like these things. Those things I like. [I like it better than slander, this is ugly, this and that. I like it better that they boast of their own bank. That's okay with me. That's better than those who shoot. Raising/boating one's own bank and also the bank of the family to whom my child gets married to. Thanks, my child goes to paradise!] Very good. I'm so happy. [It's okay with me, isn't it? Won't you be pleased if you were the mother?]

Q: So you took it like that?

FL: I took it in a better light. Can you imagine? [Well, why should I sulk in the corner?; I'd become ugly if I do so. Wasn't I very beautiful on that (wedding) day?] (laughter) [You see, I was really convinced,] I was convinced that my child was, was hitting the jackpot. [I was really convinced when (somebody) almost told me something, but didn't because we were in church. And, you see, (he is) truly a man of the church.] How great the family. This is Gospel truth [indeed, in the eyes of God and in our eyes] (laughter) [This is jackpot (laughter). Please, okay...]

Q: [You see, the film that arrived here was already edited. The homily was already edited.]

FL: [Yes? You see, we didn't want to ruin the family (reputation), since it was already a jackpot, why ruin it?] You know fortunately, [the Marcoses have a little bit of enlightenment. Somehow, we aren't feudal lords, you see. But we do have some] foresight and a little wisdom. (laughter)

Q: Are you equally close to all your children?

FL: Ah yes. My sons-in-law, you mean?

Q: Whom do you prefer?

FL: Everybody. [They're all equal. They're (treated) like our very own children. Our children love them, so therefore, we should love them, too. It's something like whatchamacallit...]

Q: Do you have meals together?

FL: Oh yes. At least on Sundays. But they're more often now, especially my girls, [Imee in particular. It's because they are so used to their parents doing the work. So, now, all of a sudden, they're shocked (to be left all by themselves). Irene utters her (usual) statement:] "Mommy, I do not know. I will go crazy." [You see] they have 32 maids and servants. [(She) has indeed hit the jackpot (laughter). Imagine, how big (their) house is! Speaking of our grandson, how did we ever get such a feudal lord? We call

Alfonso (Irene's son) Cacique,] Don Alfonso. [And we call Imee's child Ka Borgy. (He's) a revolutionary. You see, he comes from the masses. (laughter). Though he's still very small, he already has piercing looks especially when he looks at us.] (laughter)

Q: [Is he a "left-over" (a replica) of Don Luis (Araneta)? Does he look like Don Luis?]

FL: [He looks just like Don Luis. (Laughter). I have openly said that. The President also said: "Well, how did it ever happen that a cacique has joined us?" According to him a cacique got to him through his grandson.] And the cutest thing about it is [although he's a cacique, yet you love him.] That is the height of a revolutionary like Marcos. (laughter).

Q: Are there no more babies coming?

FL: I hope so. I hope. We would like to have lots of grandchildren. I don't know about Bong-bong.

Q: [It is said that since Bong-bong is a Mama's boy, he might not get married at all.]

FL: [He's not really Mama's boy. He just looks like] Mommy. (laughter).

Q: Do you have time to read the papers?

FL: (laughter) Lately, no more. And I take time...I make sure I don't read it. (laughter). It drives me crazy sometimes.

Q: Why?

FL: Because...because it so out of.. [Not really, you know...somehow... somehow it's not real, you know.]

Q: Do you read the alternative media?

FL: Oh, all the more...Meaning, not the institutional press. [Oh, that, that is all pure] extrapolation. We know the reality. [That, well,] you know, we have all the news of the world that comes in a computer. [What a long] telex. Straight news. So we know how it is going to be, to affect. So we don't need parochial thinking and lack of complete knowledge of a given thing to get us irritated because we need our composure. And first hour in the morning, and if I have time and I cannot sleep, then I read the press. Then if I cannot sleep and I read the press, all the more I cannot sleep. I'm so angry...

Q: You don't read even the institutional press?

FL: Of course.

Q: Even the BULLETIN?

FL: No. In fairness, I see more or less the headlines, the front pages. First of all, we go through that about, at least one hour. The telex is shown during breakfast, at least on TV... [Very rapidly.] Sometimes it's on TV. Sometimes, it's on audio. It's long, long, mile-long newscast of what is happening around the world. You know, anyway, the news in town, in the country.

Q: But could it keep you abreast of local news?

FL: The local news, we know, I get it from a different source, a more reliable source. If you want the feel of people, read the news. If you want the feel from a sector or a group, then you start looking at what they feel, and think. But I must confess that first of all, me, I really have a...I am...I hardly read anything about me, I think more for self-defense. Not negatively but what it could do to make my head swell.

Q: You read articles that criticize you?

FL: I only ask people to give me the gist. But I don't give them the pleasure of my reading. I don't even read those that praise me. Meaning, I just get a general report. First of all, [it sounds different. People's perceptions of you are indeed different from what you really are, what you know about yourself.]

Q: But some people may give you only the things that you would want to hear.

FL: Oh no. (laughter). Not in this case, In this case, I don't keep myself in the Palace. The way the Palace is, even Ileana (Maramag)...those who keep the Palace. Even the maids, the servants, the waiters will tell you what is exactly in their minds. M'am, Sir, [it's like this, it's like that. (They are) also human beings...we are surrounded also by human beings. They seem to regard us as closely tied with them--not as the Blue Ladies. The Blue Ladies, sometimes once a week, would only say "hello" and "goodbye" at parties. They are coverups, like icing on a cake when there are no other people left.] (laughter). But they said they'll always stand and wait. And let's face it, also in fairness to the Blue Ladies, they've been at work also in the campaign before.

Q: What would you like to do when you retire?

FL: To enjoy my memories. I have so much. Few in life have done something and feel kind of fulfilled. [Those who become lonely are only those who have no happiness and no fulfillment in the past. Then you get lonely sometimes. I wish they'd give me a chance to be alone, not lonely, because I'll never be lonely. I'm so much in love with life.]

Q: Can we debunk a legend? They say you don't sleep anymore.

FL: True. In a way true. I hardly sleep. [The President and I don't have any arguments but I want to sleep by myself.] If he could hit me in the head so I would collapse and sleep.

Q: Were you like that before?

FL: No. I must confess no. I suppose I had slept so much when I was young that now I don't have to do it. But the truth is that, life is so beautiful and life is so prosperous and life is so full of potential and life has so much good in it that really, one should not have to sleep. I have no time to sleep. You only get bored if you are tired. And I only get bored and tired with ugliness, with negativism and evil and all of that. But as long as there's music, flowers, a nice person, a smile, a good deed, gosh. And at the end of the day, I start in the morning and I feel that we all have 1,000 energy. In my case, I see a beautiful flower, a beautiful program, a beautiful person, a beautiful smile, a beautiful child, by the time it's midnight. I'm just about ready to take off. I have a million energy, no longer 1,000. Everybody's falling apart and I cannot understand.

Q: How many hours of sleep do you get in a day?

FL: If I get one or two (hours) good...If you live the way I do. You think heaven and paradise is after death, after the [cemetery]. No sir! It can be here. And so can hell be. So you've got to have the right attitude to be in paradise. And I want you all to be in heaven with me. Really, it's true. I can assure you really, I will find for you paradise and heaven even after I come down from Malacanang. And I will have happiness and paradise even after Malacanang. Then, it will not be a tall order, it will be so natural to be in heaven and in paradise. (laughter).

Q: We in the working press, we are always, we still are, under the impression that you can talk ill about anybody but M'am.

FL: Really, I will tell you this. I am the most forgiving and am the most liberal about this thing. It is so funny. In Malacanang, you ask all the ministers, you ask all the support and the help, all the officials thereat [who do they fear more, Sir (the President) or Ma'am (Imelda)? You ask them who they fear more. They'll say,] and even Fe who grew with me, [whose mother was our helper,] who has been with me since she was a baby and I was... and she only met Marcos after we got married. You ask Fe...and she's very close to us, she can go to our bathroom, our bedroom...you ask Fe. ["Who do you fear more, Sir or Ma'am?" She says to you, to Ma'am (me). "Well, I don't know; in any case, we're just scared."] So one day, we were flying back to the Philippines from Saudi Arabia when King Khaled died. So the Prime Minister was there, Opie was there, Jun Cruz, Ongpin, about the bigger majority of the Cabinet, about 12 of 15 or 18 was with me to attend the memorial service of the King. And so I said, finally, I was feeling naughty so I said: ["Who are you afraid of more, Sir or Ma'am?"] They all said very spontaneously: ["Ma'am." "Why, indeed?" I asked. "I'm not a thief, and so on and so forth."] Jun Cruz made what they thought was the most acceptable answer. [He said: "It's because, well, if Ma'am is lost, all including love is lost. With Sir, however, it's only jobs that are lost. But with Ma'am, love will be lost, too, and that is much more important."] When M'am goes, and Ma'am is lost, [everything is lost."]

Q: [The media, on the other hand, this is the truth--probably it's the fault of your lower information officials, therefore, they say, you shouldn't be slightly overlooked.] If we write about you in the negative way, [they say, you'll never forget it?]

FL: Ah yeah! I don't forget. I remember because I have such a fairly good head and memory. I remember the good things and also the bad things. But I am never vindictive. I am vindictive on the positive, I go on a real vengeance on the positive. Like for instance, I had no books when I went to college. Not a single book did I own. I was never privileged to own one. So in revenge, I bought a million volumes, in my home province Leyte, so that no one would go through college without even seeing a book. That's the kind of vengeance I have. Because it's really not in my character to be on the negative side. [Somehow,] I don't know. [No, not really. It's very tiring, you see, isn't it? I'm indeed very tired.] But I become stronger, and the more energetic, the more you think of good things and become more creative and find more beauty. [It seems like] it's enriching, it's going on a crescendo. The more there is something that draws you down, [it then gets very tiring.] When I think I'd be angry or sad or let us say, scolding children, then you'll have to be negative, because you have to discipline, I really get sick. [I get feverish, you see.] I really get fever, it's like a defense mechanism. The negative really affects me a lot. And so does the positive. It energizes me a lot. I don't know but it's good. As First Lady, it's good that I have this attitude, I have this value, then I shall be more creative. It's very good, the more extravagant your First Lady is in energy, the better.

Q: Ma'am, you been criticized for being extravagant. Are you extravagant?

FL: I'm not extravagant, I'm selfless.

Q: In terms of acquiring material things.

FL: You know, my dream was only to have a little house by the sea. And the thing is, everyone you know has only one pair of shoes. I'm extravagant in showing off what is beautiful and good in our people, our culture, our country. That, I'm so extravagant really. [I really want to show the history of our race.] I want to show off this beauty. You can never be extravagant with what is good and beautiful. Love is never extravagant. [Beauty has no excesses. Ugliness has excesses but there are no excesses in beauty.] And the more extravagant your First Lady is about beauty and goodness and truth, how lucky can you get! (Laughter)

[Manila WEEKEND, magazine of THE PHILIPPINES SUNDAY EXPRESS, in English 2 Sep 84 page 12 adds the following question and answer not included in the PANORAMA report on the interview:

Q: How have the results of the last elections affected you? Is there a rethinking of policies?

A: No, there was no rethinking of policies. Perhaps just a little more efficiency in the delivery of basic services. Maybe it should be packaged differently...An election for me is always an education. So when the result is

something you sort of not expected, you start to look at meticulous in-depth studies of programs. I believe that where there's smoke there's fire...

We have had studies made by social scientists and psychologists, and the fear in the end in the study from UP and everybody, was that the First Lady was so busy with the Metro Manila Commission, [they, therefore, got mad with the MMC. It's because they took away their First Lady from them (the people).] All they wanted to know was: 'Are you there?'

The sad part about it was that our people did not see that she was there, and all of these things she was doing was to make love real. Because love is ambivalent; it is both a state and a reality.

The state of love is happiness; the reality of love is beauty; beauty and happiness means love made real. And the spirit of love is God.

After the elections, people asked: 'Are you mad?'. No, I was not mad. I was sad because they did not see the heart that was giving. [What is important in life is you give it all you have, now, if that is not enough, then, there's nothing else you can do.]

The problem is, all the good things that happen in the country will be attributed to you. So you become Superwoman when things are going well. When things don't turn out well, you become Supermonster. When things are bad, somebody's got to be the scapegoat and the very favorite scapegoats of a male-chauvinistic society are the women. Look, even in the U.S., what is happening to Mrs Reagan? What is she doing, this poor little girl? Being woman is being nice and sweet, a warm room to come home to, or warm arms to embrace when Mr Reagan comes home from work.]

CSO: 4211/33

VOMD CRITICIZES SINGAPORE PRESS CONSOLIDATION

BK101111 (Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 8 Oct 84

["News report": "Lee Kuan Yew Regime's Continued Action To Clamp Down on Public Opinion"]

[Text] Action on a large scale against Chinese and English language newspapers in Singapore was launched 2 years ago, that is on 20 April 1982, directed by the Lee Kuan Yew regime. NANYANG SIANG PAO and SIN PIN JIT PAO, two renowned Chinese newspapers, were amalgamated into one holding company, Singapore News and Publications Limited [SNPL], on 16 March 1983. SNPL published LIAN HO SIANG PAO, a morning daily, and LIAN HO WAN PAO, an evening daily. SNPL also took over the MONITOR, an afternoon daily, from TIMES Publishing Limited. When the latter, an English newspaper group, was allowed to continue its publications of THE STRAITS TIMES, THE BUSINESS TIMES, and the BERITA HARIAN, it also took over a Chinese language newspaper, SIN MIN, controlling some 60 percent of its shares. During the take-over process, Lee Kuan Yew stated that that was the way in which the Chinese language dailies could be preserved. He further went on to say that the government hoped that there would be support in finance and other resources to establish two newspaper companies publishing English and Chinese dailies that would thrive economically. Finally, the publishing of those dailies should be competitive. What Lee Kuan Yew is saying is none other than finding an excuse for the government to interfere with the affairs of the press. It was known by all that before the restructuring, both NANYANG SIANG PAO and SIN PIN JIT PAO had been making 6 or 7 million dollars [currency not further specified] a year in profits. Neither of these publications faced financial difficulties. Concerning the comment of Lee Kuan Yew and his followers that the press progresses only through competition, although both these newspapers had been competing healthily, the government wanted them--as a result of the amalgamation--to compete with another Chinese language daily produced by THE STRAITS TIMES group, and THE STRAITS TIMES in turn, was expected to compete with the MONITOR, an English daily taken over by SNPL. It distinctly shows that the Lee Kuan Yew regime is allowing the different investment groups to administer newspaper publishing while on the other hand not allowing them to compete with each other for their numerous readers. However, 2 years have gone by, and now the authorities have once again announced that another amalgamation will be more advantageous. With that, the bigger monopoly investment group was joyous over the journalism field. On 11 July this year, two of the largest newspaper groups, THE TIMES Publishing Limited

and SNPL, were informed by a sudden announcement that they were to be amalgamated. This has brought about an all-round show of dissatisfaction among the people. When replying to reporters' questions, the deputy prime minister, Rajaratnam, was very elusive concerning the amalgamation. He said that THE STRAITS TIMES and the MONITOR should not compete with each other and that the funds meant for the purpose could be utilized to give the press employees better wages, which can bring about better quality workers. In fact, Rajaratnam's statement exposed the ruling clique's intention to commercialize the competition of the newspapers in its business interests and to control journalists tightly so that they tow the authorities' line.

When the minister of culture, concurrently the foreign affairs minister, Dhanabalan, was interviewed, he also totally denied the allegation that the government's intention in the amalgamation of the biggest newspaper group was to put a clamp on the press, but the inherent method of defending oneself is none other than hiding one's faults. It can be easily perceived that the Lee Kuan Yew regime's statements on the restructuring of the press 2 years ago and the amalgamation of two of the biggest newspapers this year are mostly illogical and indefensible. News concerning the amalgamation of both the largest circulation newspapers spontaneously resulted in a show of dissatisfaction and strong protest by the employees of both press groups. It also attracted the attention of and brought criticism from various strata of the public. Some 200 employees of THE STRAITS TIMES became confused, angry, and dissatisfied with the planned amalgamation of the two groups. They demonstrated in front of the TIMES house at Kim Seng Road during lunch time on 12 July this year. Not yielding to a torrential downpour, the demonstrators--with the black arm bands of mourning--raised high banners on which were inscribed "oppose the amalgamation!" "Whose idea is this?" "Don't kill the spirit of journalism!" "This is what is happening now! What is the next move?" and "The banks are also amalgamated!". A journalist who participated in the demonstration disclosed in a melancholy manner that the announcement had caused worry among press employees. Another journalist expressed his opinion that with the amalgamation, the spirit of journalism will be destroyed. He pointed out that the press needs to be competitive, and each needs to write and obtain news from different views and angles. However, after the amalgamation, the views of the journalists are not considered because all newspapers are owned and managed by a common group. All the write-ups are identical under the guidelines of the company and they are monotonous. Another journalist expressed his dissatisfaction by saying that competition is no longer needed since the amalgamation and that the journalists are also no longer needed to search for exclusive news, because Singaporeans only need to read one newspaper, and that is said to be sufficient.

The press sector was badly shaken by the planned consolidation of the two largest newspaper groups. The Singapore National Journalists Association pointed out in its statement that this was the second time that a large scale consolidation of newspapers had taken place within two years. The restructuring and work change had created dissatisfaction among the association's members during these two years, identical to that during the first restructuring in April 1982.

The consolidation plan this time hit hard the morale and employment guarantees of the association members. On 11 July, THE STRAITS TIMES chief editor, Peter Lee, disclosed that he was greatly shocked to hear the news, which was relayed to him only a few hours before the consolidation took place. He then urged the public to observe the effects after the consolidation had taken place--that is, the effects on the press employees, the readers, and the whole nation. He pondered whether the consolidation would bring about an alarming destruction, recollecting the past two years' press restructuring by the authorities. He further wondered whether the freedom of the press would be even further restricted. In an open letter in the front page of the 11 July issue of the MONITOR he expressed his views concerning the consolidation, saying that newspapers are not industrial products aimed at making a profit, but that newspapers are burdened by social responsibilities, among them to aid in further strengthening solidarity among the people. He criticized both directors of the largest newspaper group in carrying out the restructuring for financial gains alone without giving prior consideration to the people's needs. He went on to say that the consolidation had attracted the attention of the employees and had greatly stirred their emotions.

NANYANG SIANG PAO's letter to its readers dated 11 July pointed out that the abrupt announcement of the consolidation of Singapore's two largest newspaper groups was carried out without prior discussion. In facing this situation, the press employees surely felt the important need to put across their views. Taking into account the national importance of the issue, the letter stressed the important need to enrich the people's mental capabilities. There are enough foreign newspapers and magazines in Singapore, and should local newspapers have insufficient circulation for some specific reason, then foreign culture will immediately invade to fill the vacuum. This will injurously affect the awareness of national development. The president of the newspaper circulation association expressed similar views, believing that the hasty consolidation had created chaos. He said that the final outcome of the consolidation to create the nation's only Chinese and English language dailies has not yet been seen. Given considerations of the utmost importance, the newspapers will not be aware of their mistakes and will not be able to widen and strengthen public opinion.

An ASAHI SHIMBUN woman journalist assigned to Asia pointed out that such consolidation occurs only in Singapore. She opposed the consolidation, and according to her, the quality of the press could only be improved through competition. She added that if the press is lively and makes active efforts, it will further benefit the readers and society as a whole. It would be meaningless without competition. Two other journalists, who are People Action Party parliamentary electoral candidates this year, are also dubious about the effect of the consolidation, which was said to bring about better press quality.

The Lee Kuan Yew regime acted harshly without complying to the people's desires by using consolidation to strengthen THE STRAITS TIMES group, to monopolize the Singapore press, to aggravate the competition of the press, and to allow his regime to control public opinion totally through the investment monopoly group. Although Lee Kuan Yew has repeatedly stressed that the nation's seven

most read newspapers will be retained even after the consolidation, who will believe that newspapers owned by a single group will be able to play their part particularly well when following a policy launched by a single employer? The least a newspaper can achieve in competition is to attain certain techniques. Moreover, it should be observed how long the seven newspapers can endure the monotonous rhythm. The dictatorial regime's obstruction to the freedom of speech and production will surely meet with opposition by the people. Finally, as accurately pointed out by the ASAHI SHIMBUN journalist, the restructuring of the press two years ago did not create any reaction, but the consolidation of both the newspapers created a strong protest by the Singapore journalists in a heavy downpour, an action that received attention.

It can be perceived that the time will come, as surely as fate, that the oppressed people will rise. It is impossible for the people to be forced to accept disgrace and suppression continuously by the iron-hand reactionary regime.

CSO: 4213/15

LEE HSIEN LOONG PROFILED

Brisbane THE COURIER MAIL in English 7 Sep 84 p 4

[Article by Bruce Dover: "Enter, a Bright Young Dragon"]

[Text]

IN AUGUST, 1968, a young tuba player, Lee Hsien Loong, took his place in the Catholic high school band for Singapore's national day parade.

The following year the tuba player had risen to the rank of drum major, leading a combined high schools contingent.

It was a sign of things to come.

Lee Hsien Loong is the young dragon — the rising son of Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew.

At 32, Lee jun., is the youngest ever brigadier-general in the Singapore armed forces.

Later this month the country's ruling People's Action Party is set to announce that Brigadier-General Lee will stand as a candidate in the national elections to be held later this year.

The move coincides with talk by Prime Minister Lee of constitutional changes to strengthen and increase the powers of the presidency and indications are that he may step down in four years time when he reaches the age of 65.

Such a coincidence has obviously triggered speculation here among cynical Singaporeans and correspondents of a Lee dynasty — with the elder Lee as President ensuring a smooth succession of power to a new generation.

Hsien Loong, the eldest of three Lee children has always been something of an outstanding achiever.

He was born on February 10, 1952, and at an early age he was already dis-

playing the same linguistic skills as his father speaking fluent English, Chinese, Malay and Russian.

At the end of his six years of primary education he received prizes for "model pupil and best all rounder" as well as topping the boys' grades.

He went on to the Catholic high school where beside learning to play the tuba, he continued to top his grades, while finding time to polish his public speaking skills to the point where he came fourth in a national oratory contest.

In 1968 he was again awarded the prize for "top and best all-rounder student" and in 1969 topped the results in the Cambridge School certificate examination.

During the same period Hsien Loong was getting his first taste of the outside world, travelling with his father to Cambodia and the fabulous ruins of Angkor Wat and in 1967 he holidayed with an Australian family at Mt Martha, in Victoria.

In 1970, he was awarded the President's Scholarship, the present-day equivalent to the Queen's Scholarship won by both his father and mother years earlier.

The scholarship enables students to study overseas and in June that year, Hsien Loong visited his father's old university, Cambridge in England.

When he returned, he wrote an essay entitled, *A Singaporean Looks At Britain* in which he expressed many of the views his father has always expounded about Western society.

The essay says in part: "If the behavior of some of the more unconventional British students is anything to go by, the brave new world they are claiming to build, is going to be a scruffy, lazy, undisciplined and intolerant sort of Utopia."

Although under the terms of the President's scholarship Hsien Loong was entitled to defer his national service, he elected to do 10 months before pursuing his studies at Cambridge.

So began his distinguished military career. After 10 months service, Hsien Loong added an armed forces scholarship to his bag and set off for Cambridge where he studied mathematical statistics and mathematical economics.

Like his father, the young Lee proved to be an exceptional Cambridge scholar. At the end of his first six months he had received an award for "outstanding scholastic ability" completing a one year course in half the time. He then went on to equal the rare achievement of his father by scoring double first class honors in both sections of his course.

Hsien Loong completed his bachelor of arts with honors in two years instead of the usual three, went on to complete a computer science course, and at the end of his studies was awarded the special distinction star from Cambridge for outstanding performance — the same award received by Prime Minister Lee 24 years earlier.

Returning to Singapore, Hsien Loong resumed his military career. He served as an aide-de-camp to the Singa-

porean President and by the age of 24 he was an artillery officer and platoon commander.

In May, 1978, the Prime Minister's eldest son surprised the nation by announcing his intention to marry Dr Wong Ming Yang, the daughter of an insurance firm manager.

The following year a daughter, Xiu, was born to the couple and Hsien Loong left for the US to complete a master's degree in business administration at Harvard finishing in the top 1 percent of his class.

By December 1981 he was a colonel and assistant chief of the general staff and in January 1982 made his maiden speech as a defence commander promoting a scheme whereby recent graduates would be recruited into the armed forces at 20 percent higher salary than offered in the commercial sector.

On October 28, that year, Colonel Lee's wife, Dr Wong Ming Yang, 31, died suddenly in the Singapore general hospital just three weeks after the birth of a son, Li Yi Peng.

Two months after his wife's death, Hsien Loong found himself very much in the public limelight. A ship struck one of the towering pylons supporting the cable car system from the mainland to Sentosa Island.

A number of cars plummeted into the sea at impact while four others containing 13 tourists were left hanging precariously from their wires.

It was Colonel Lee who took charge of the rescue operation. In the end it was Colonel Lee who sized up the options and decided to use helicopters to winch the survivors to safety.

In the ensuing conference, foreign correspondents nearly fell from their seats as the Colonel began the briefing. Most had never heard the young Lee speak before.

For a brief moment, it was thought the Prime Minister himself was addressing the gathered journalists. All his distinctive trademarks were there — the super confidence that at times borders on arrogance, the seemingly instructive tone, the slight pauses between sentences.

However those that know or deal with Hsien Loong say that while he has

indeed inherited many of his father's characteristics including an obsession with detail, order and efficiency and a cold, logistic mind, he is in fact a far warmer and more humane figure than the Prime Minister.

While Lee senior is rarely photographed with a smile, his son has a good sense of humor and enjoys a fully belly-laugh.

The national day celebrations last year saw Hsien Loong collect the public administration medal (gold) — the highest military award. In June this year he capped his brilliant 13-year army career when he was promoted to the rank of brigadier-general, the second highest ranking officer in the nation.

The brigadier-general is now reported to have resigned his commission in preparation to enter the political realms of his father although he has still not publicly signalled his intention to stand as a candidate.

However in an interview in a Chinese daily here he said: "Participation in politics depends on a person's ability and interest. If a person is invited to stand for election he or she should take up the offer and serve the country. Political participation is a long and responsible task. It is not just something you could do just because you happen to like it."

Certainly in recent weeks Brigadier-General Lee has been maintaining a much higher public profile although only recently have the newspapers here actually started to refer to him as the son of the Prime Minister.

The PAP is confident he will be elected to parliament and party sources say he will not serve on the backbench but will be immediately appointed a Minister without portfolio or junior Minister attached either to the Department of Finance or the National Trades Union Congress (NTUC).

Given Brigadier-General Lee's outstanding record, one could hardly accuse his father of nepotism.

In fact it is extremely difficult to find a single detractor of Lee jun., and most Western diplomats agree he is a brilliant and able military decision maker.

SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

NEW ENVOYS PRESENT CREDENTIALS--Italy's new ambassador, Dr Alessandro Vattani, and the Soviet Union's, Mr Vladimir Semenov, yesterday presented their credentials to President C.V. Devan Nair in separate ceremonies at the Istana. Dr Vattani, 44, is a career diplomat who has served in Italy's missions at the Brussels-based European common market and at the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. He was Italy's consul-general in San Francisco before taking up his post here. Mr Semenov, 56, is also a career diplomat and has served in Soviet missions in Canada and in Britain. [Text]
[Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 3 Oct 84 p 15 BK]

CSO: 4200/49

OFFICIAL ADMITS PRESSURE GROUP ROLE IN DISSIDENT ARREST

Bangkok CHAT ATHIPATAI in Thai 19 Aug 84 pp 14-17

[Article: "Mr Phisan Munkhasotsathon, Undersecretary of Interior"]

[Excerpt] Since the arrest of the 20 university professors and reporters charged with communist activities and supporting communist organizations, there has been a reaction among students, intellectuals and professionals. They have protested and demanded that the government clear the situation up quickly. They have also demanded that the 1952 law concerning communist activities be abolished since it violated human rights.

Then the Special Branch Police seized the book, "Lokkhrab Sangkhom Thai," of Mr Sulaksa Siwarak (S. Siwarak), after R. T. Madame Suri Buranathanit, RN president of the local boy scout groups, led the local boy scouts of 24 areas to a show of strength in front of the government building and presented a letter to the government requesting the arrest of S. Siwarak for insulting royal authority.

From this point on, assemblymen and those interested in politics no matter what their cause, whether they were raising posters in various provinces urging Gen Prem Tinsulanonda to remain prime minister for another term until recently or supporting Gen Sitthi Chirarot, the interior minister, were cast as "defendants" on 3 May. This caused the opposition parties to begin discussions of no confidence.

The show of strength of the local boy scouts, either because of the general situation or the case of S. Siwarak, quickly drew attention to Mr Phisan Munkhasotsathon, an undersecretary in the Interior Ministry, who was given the name, "Undersecretary of the Masses." He was said to have been the ring-leader in arousing and mobilizing the local boy scouts for their show of strength in the political play which is rising slowly like the sun and lighting up the sky all alone.

Because of these incidents and the various criticisms, the Interior Ministry undersecretary gave an "open hearted" interview to CHAT ATHIPATAI after the meeting of the Subcommittee to Struggle for and Preserve National Culture and Discipline at the conference room of the Interior Ministry.

What is your opinion of the arrest of S. Siwarak?

This is not a political matter. You have to keep it separate. It is a case of breaking the law, and it is being handled according to the law. He who breaks the law is dealt with according to his crime.

His arrest was brought on by the demands of the local boy scout officials that he be arrested on the charge of insulting royal authority. True or not?

We have to admit that they have a group so true to the nation, religion, and his highness that when it appears someone is committing acts insulting to institutions, organizations or individuals to whom they are loyal and respect, especially the monarchy which they believe is the highest institution and which they honor as their own life, no matter who it is, then they must show even more respect and rectitude and are proud of their rectitude. They want to proceed with the judicial system for matters concerning the law. The officials have taken every step, the procedures and the paperwork. From the beginning they proceeded according to the legal steps, from the investigation to the court.

Why was it when the local boy scouts came to show their support, there were people watching the Interior Ministry as if it were urging them on.

I think it is an untrue statement because the local boy scouts of Bangkok were having their own gathering and they were the ones who were close to the events and the book. The book was clearly very red and so it was seized. When it was seized, the newspapers reported that its substance insulted royal authority. They were the ones who studied it, and they had to proceed according to what they found.

It appears that you are the leader. How do you feel about it?

I do not feel uncomfortable at all because if the reports are true than it must be true.

Do you have anything to do with the local boy scout movement or not?

If they say I do, then I do. I am the vice chairman of the local boy scout foundation. We support local boy scout groups in their good deeds. For example, if some group has a good activity, we give them a prize each year. And we train the boy scout leaders to keep boy scout activities good and correct and to do things to help the village and city and to develop the nations with the boy scout groups. I am involved in this area.

Many people fear that the arrest of S. Siwarak is politics.

I do not believe this is politics. As I said, those involved in a case, whether they have been arrested or anyone else, know that our nation has laws. I say therefore that we have the correct doctrine. The country has to have laws as rules of conduct for the country to follow. Since the case was handled according to the basics of the law and justice, it cannot be a case with political involvement. For people who know their duty this case is

on the outer limits of law breaking. That which is called the rule of law is not politics. It concerns law and justice. If everyone acted according to the system, [we] would have nothing to do. All you would need would be investigators. It would be their duty to investigate and make a just case. Then the court would have to decide whether the evidence would convict. Everything would have to be done by argumentation.

Was the arrest of S. Siwarak related to the arrest of suspected communists or not?

Yes, it was not related. I said it was not even related to politics. It was just related to a crime because it just concerned writing the book.

S. Siwarak said that they were hesitating to release him. They feared a lot of charges.

Impossible. Different people have different ideas about what the crime was. S. [Siwarak] knows this himself because he passed the bar exam in England. He must know what he did wrong. In crime we believe that one's misdeeds indicate one's intentions. Releasing this book indicated his intention was to commit a crime.

I do not know how you view the political situation now.

I think it is good. I explained things to the committee and received full cooperation. Now is the time when the budget committee must come to an understanding with all groups.

But many people think it is violent, especially the conditions for the transfer [of power] this October no matter whether it is the Army or some other group.

This is not related. This is a matter for the regular civil servants. When it is time for a transfer [of power] then they must transfer. It is time for some to be dismissed. This is not a political matter; it is a matter for regular civil servants. These must be kept separate.

Look at what has been done. Is that politics or not?

It is a regular matter which will have to proceed according to the law and the rules.

Will the arrests in the case of the communists and the book of S. Siwarak end now or not?

I guarantee it if no crime is committed. If crime is committed without evidence we still could not arrest. If no crime were committed, then there would be no arrests or interrogation. Interrogation is out of date now. But if there is crime, then I can tell you openly that there will have to be arrests if more laws are broken, no matter what.

Has there been surveillance of the movements in Bangkok or not?

Constantly. No matter what they are for or against. It is our duty. We have to watch over them so that they are more peaceful. You could say we were following them. You could say we were watching over them. You could say we were practicing prevention. Generally, we practice prevention. There are two words which [describe how] we maintain peace; these are prevention and suppression. Prevention means not wanting to let incidents happen.

The PKT [Communist Party Thailand], do they have a large movement in Bangkok?

They probably do.

Was the base of the PKT weakened by the arrests?

We have to look at their activities. They have a party, a united front, and their own forces. But you could say it was weak. When they are weak, they say they should make improvements and struggle anew. In the past they did not consider struggle in the cities. They have improved [their position]. They used to take the forest and surround the village, then take the village and surround the city. Now, they take the city and unite the villages, then take the villages and unite the forest. This means struggle in the cities. They will still fight for a long time in the forest and mountains, but they will struggle more and more in the cities.

Can you estimate their forces or not?

They have decreased. If you are speaking of armed forces, they have decreased, especially in the forest.

There have been demands to abolish the Ph.R.B. [act] concerning communists because it violates the rights and freedoms of the people.

It depends on the activity. It is difficult to say. If there were no activity or philosophical principle or purpose or tactic or military strategy, if they really stopped and did not use force, and if their activities did not come under the criminal code, then we could not arrest them. We could not catch them. It is difficult to say because abolishing it depends on the situation and how your opponent uses it. It is difficult to say. If they still resort to violence, use devious schemes and weapons, then we must use it because the communist law can be used in administration and in law. Because of the communist law it does not matter if the administration is not always good. If we use the criminal law there will be cases we cannot drop. If there has been a crime then you have to proceed according to the crime. But this act gives us the power not to proceed if someone changes his mind. This can be advantageous. Therefore, I say that the communist act is suitable for the situation. And, therefore, if you ask whether it should be abolished or not, you should look at the situation; it still has some advantages. It is a method officials use to grant pardons for those who change their minds. If you break the criminal code, it is not that way.

Is the situation now suitable for its abolishment or not?

We will have to see. I would like to see later because there are many groups which will have to consider it.

Have there been any discussions with the military?

Not any yet.

Concerning S. Siwarak's arrest, he feels that the Interior Ministry ordered it because there were cars and officials of the Interior Ministry together with the Special Branch Police.

This shows how good the police are when Interior Ministry officials are police. When the police do their duty, the police are the Interior Ministry.

8149

CSO: 4207/207

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

ARMY PAPER ON GENERAL TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT

BK061342 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Sep 84 p 2

[Article by Lieutenant General Le Van Tri: "10 Years of Combat Support, Building, and Growth of the General Technical Department"]

[Text] The General Technical Department was born 10 years ago on 10 September with a number of main army corps and technical services at a time when the resistance struggle of our people and troops against the United States for national salvation was developing vigorously. Born amidst the flames of war, the General Technical Department's mission was to help the defense minister guide the tasks of safeguarding and managing equipment, securing technology for the entire army, studying military technology, and directly managing national defense factories.

No sooner was it born than the General Technical Department assumed the duties of providing organizational guidance for securing weapons and technical equipment for the general strategic offensive in the spring of 1975. Hundreds of mobile units with thousands of cadres, engineers, workers, and combatants were quickly deployed by the General Technical Department to the theater of operations to coordinate with the technical forces of units charged with receiving, issuing, controlling, and repairing weapons and technical equipment to meet combat requirements. All the rear forces of the General Technical Department concentrated on creating goods, making packing materials, and shipping and distributing weapons and technical equipment to all battlefronts. Within only a short period of time, a large volume of weapons and technical equipment was distributed as compared to before.

The general strategic offensive in the spring of 1975 culminated in the totally victorious historic Ho Chi Minh campaign when all the forces of the general department were spreading to all battlefields. Together with the replenishment forces from the rear, the General Technical Department forces quickly shifted their mission to taking over the management and recovery of weapons and technical equipment left behind by the enemy. At the same time, they took over the managerial and operational control of factories, technical bases, training centers, and schools to serve the new tasks of the revolution.

Following the spring of 1975 victory, the General Technical Department quickly focused its attention and force to providing organizational guidance for all

army units to satisfactorily conduct the survey of all types of technical equipment so that appropriate projects and plans could be established to manage and use them.

When the reactionary Chinese expansionists waged the war of aggression against our country's southwestern and northern borders, the General Technical Department concentrated on securing technical equipment for fighting the enemies along both borders while satisfactorily fulfilling its international obligations to the fraternal Kampuchean people.

In the past 10 years, forces of the General Technical Department have been present both on the front line and in the rear to continuously fight and defeat the enemies and to overcome difficulties, hardships, and privations. All the activities of the General Technical Department are aimed at supporting combat for the victories of troops on battlefields and training fields. It always uses the results of combat support as a gauge to assess its own progress step by step.

Although faced with all kinds of changes in their organizations and tasks and with all sorts of ordeals in war and the socioeconomic situation of the country, the cadres, engineers, workers, and combatants of the General Technical Department have proved constantly loyal to the party and people. They have strenuously struggled to fulfill and overfulfill production and repair plans and to support combat and maintain combat readiness while gradually building the material and technical bases in order to create its own potentiality. In building, it has conducted basic and advanced training for cadres and technical workers to meet immediate and long range requirements. The networks of warehouses and schools have been gradually improved, planned, and operating after a standardized system while the tasks of scientific and technical research have been correctly and effectively performed.

In the 10 years of combat, construction, and growth, the General Technical Department has been regularly concerned with caring for the educating cadres, workers, and combatants in order to make them clearly understand and firmly grasp the political, military, and economic lines of the party and the duty of the armed forces in general and of the General Technical Department in particular. The lines serve as struggle objectives for cadres, workers, and combatants to support combat, engage in productive labor and scientific and technical research, and fulfill their assigned political duties.

Jubilantly commemorating the 10th anniversary of their traditional day, cadres, national defense workers, and combatants of the General Technical Department are happy with their achievements. At the same time, they realize more clearly their responsibility in national defense production and military technology research and in securing and managing equipment and technical outfits for the armed forces to undergo training, maintain combat preparedness, and fight victoriously.

Implementing the party resolutions and military orders of the defense minister, the General Technical Department always considers as its primary tasks the

strengthening of the tasks of managing and safeguarding equipment, the assurance of technical support to the armed forces in all circumstances, and provision of leadership and guidance for troops to strictly implement all systems and regulations concerning the management and use of weapons and technical equipment in units depending on each situation of combat and combat preparedness. It has to provide guidance for the construction and consolidation of the warehouse network under its managerial control and other depots of weapons, ammunition, and technical materials for the whole army. Together with the entire technical service sector, it has increased the operational effectiveness of the repair shop network in the army. It organizes and guides the training system for technical command cadres, technical agencies, and personnel of all levels and scrupulously implements all regulations, rules, and systems concerning the management and preventive maintenance of weapons and technical equipment in accordance with standardized criteria.

As the economic situation and life and production in the country are still faced with many difficulties, the General Technical Department actively surmounts difficulties to accelerate national defense production and positively uses its capacity to participate in the production of economic and export commodities for the state. In the years ahead, the national defense factories of the General Technical Department will implement on a priority basis the tasks of producing, transforming, improving, and reconditioning spare parts and replacement assemblies; reorganizing production along the line of high specialization; actively manufacturing equipment; conducting advanced training to improve the skills of workers; and rationally and thriftily using manpower, materials, equipment, and capital to achieve increasingly high productivity, quality, and effectiveness.

Having a contingent of forces and scientific and technical research bases that are fairly strong and uniform, the General Technical Department is thriving to make the best use of its military technology research ability to serve national defense and contribute its technical research results to the socialist industrialization of the country. The guidelines and plans for long-term scientific and military technology research, fundamental research, application and design study, and experiments to test the results will be scrupulously implemented by the General Technical Department in order to quickly apply the results to production and training, to maintain combat readiness, and to help increase the combat strength of the people's armed forces.

CSO: 4209/13

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

COMBAT, COMBAT SUPPORT ACTIVITIES OF YOUTHS IN BORDER PROVINCES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Aug 84 p 3

[Article by P.D.: "Youths In Border Provinces Are Ready to Fight, Provide Combat Support and Step Up Production"]

[Text] Ha Tuyen is a border province that is bravely countering the aggressive actions of the Chinese troops. Because a good job has been done in mobilizing the tribal youths and enabling them to see clearly the insidious plots of the enemy and understand their responsibilities in defending the fatherland, thousands of youth union members from seven districts who are confronting the enemy have joined militia companies, gone on patrol, fought very effectively and meted out proper punishment to the Chinese invaders. Twenty thousand youth union members from Yen Minh, Dong Van and Hoang Su Phi have contributed tens of thousands of man-days to open new roads, repair old roads, dig tunnels, build fortifications and prepare the battlefield. Together with the army, they have contributed to raising the level of combat readiness. The youths in districts to the rear have promptly provided the troops with 5,000 sandbags to build fortifications, 3 tons of grain, 200 tons of firewood and many other essential items. At present, 1,000 of the Ha Tuyen security assault youth units are carrying on operations properly and manifesting a good effect in making patrols to protect the property of the people and state and maintain political security and social order. The security assault youth units in Tan Quang Subward in Tuyen Quang City and Quang Trung Subward in Ha Giang City have scored many achievements in opposing smuggling and the enemy's psychological warfare activities. In Son Duong District, 8,204 youth union members finished building and repairing dikes and retaining walls before the start of the rainy season and participated in dredging 6,740 meters of canals to support production and the lives of the tribesmen in the district.

Even though the enemy frequently engages in harassing activities, fires artillery and destroys crops, the youths in Thanh Thuy Village in Vi Xuyen District, Yen Minh Village in Yen Minh District and Thang Tin Village in Hoang Su Phi District have cooperated closely with the army, public security forces and people in harvesting the fifth-month and spring rice and looking after the subsidiary food crops and greatly reduced the losses caused by the enemy. Through the revolutionary action movements, during the first 6 months of the year, 15,000 tribal youths were recruited into the youth union,

6,506 outstanding youth union members were recommended to the party for training and recruitment and 143 outstanding youth union members were recruited into the party.

Participating enthusiastically in the "creative labor and economization youth movement," the youths and workers in Hoang Lien Son Province have saved 60 tons of gasoline and oil, 125 tons of discarded steel, 1 million bricks and almost 7,000 cement sacks for the state. On the combat and combat support fronts, youths from 27 villages near the border have promoted the "border youth ownership" movement, coordinated things closely with the armed forces in making patrols, promptly countered 179 enemy raids and artillery attacks and killed 13 spies. The youth unions in Sa Pa, Bat Sat, Bao Thang and Bac Ha districts have mobilized tens of thousands of youths to contribute 18,750 man-days to digging 5,675 individual tunnels, 12,375 meters of communications tunnels and 36 kilometers of combat support roads. Along with promoting the activities of the 75 assault youth units, with 850 youth union members participating, the Bao Thang Young Union made the suggestion to establish a frontline militia unit, attracted 300 youth union members and, with 100 transport bicycles and 100 pack-horses, made preparations to support the frontline if fighting breaks out.

The "three forces (youths, public security forces and soldiers) solidarity movement" in Cao Bang Province has expanded widely at the primary level. The youths are actively going on patrol, opposing speculation, smuggling and the psychological warfare activities of the enemy. The youth union has established an additional 67 assault youth teams and, together with the public security forces, trained the assault youth units in accord with the combat contract plan. The youth unions in many villages subordinate to Hoa An and Quang Hoa established many frontline militia units that have supported combat well in recent days. The youth unions in Quang Hoa, Ha Quang, Hoa An and Bao Lac have mobilized thousands of youths to participate in digging tunnels and strengthening the battlefield for the armed forces. During April, May and June, in response to the "advance post strong points" movement, the tribal youths in Cao Bang Province have organized brotherhood and combat contract activities among the union organizations at the front and rear, promptly provided the armed forces with consumer goods valued at 46,470 dong, almost 3 tons of soybeans and 4 tons of vegetables and transported more than 7 tons of rice to the battlefield for the soldiers. In Nguyen Binh, Quang Ha and Bao Lac districts, the youth unions have given attention to carrying on propaganda activities and to educating the youths about studying and carrying out their military obligations well. They have actively participated in encouraging youths to enlist in the army. These districts have exceeded the planned quotas for the first phase of enlisting youths.

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CSO: 4209/443

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

HAIPHONG USES COMBINATION OF MEASURES TO REDUCE CRIME

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Aug 84 p 3

[Article by Minh Son: "Security In Haiphong: Coordinate Prevention, Education and Punishment"]

[Text] Haiphong is one of our country's three large commercial ports, and it is an important rail, highway and water communications center. Large amounts of commodities and materials and large numbers of passengers, vehicles and machines pass through here on their way into and out of the country. This situation requires that Haiphong give much attention to maintaining political and economic order and security.

In recent years, making use of a number of sectors and enterprises in Haiphong that still have loopholes in managing laborers, materials and means of transportation, the enemy, using many methods, has incited thieves and other criminals to cause trouble in a number of places. This has resulted in large losses of socialist property and property belonging to citizens. This has greatly worried the cadres and people.

In order to prevent enemies and evil people from disrupting order and public security, the people of the city have launched a mass movement to protect the security of the fatherland. The masses are regarded both as someone to rely on and as a force to struggle against the evil people. Each subward, village, agency and enterprise has a security team. The party committee echelons and authorities seek the opinions of the people in order to investigate suspicious matters, discover past violations or investigate and prosecute people who have recently committed a criminal offense.

While classifying criminal targets in order to have measures to prevent crime, the Haiphong People's Public Security Forces have also given attention to strengthening the security forces that maintain order and security at the storehouses, docks and places where state property is concentrated. Criminals not only steal from residences, they also steal from other places. Perceiving this clearly, the party committee echelons, authorities and public security forces in the subwards have put much emphasis on controlling and educating the targets right at their primary organizations. When evaluating the political security movement, the city must not only base things on the number of crimes that have been committed but must also base things on which

places have controlled the people and taught them to manifest their collective ownership rights in maintaining the security of the fatherland. Duong Quan Village in Thuy Nguyen District is located right next to Haiphong Port. There were more than 203 criminal targets here. More than 50 targets had committed robberies on the river and at the port. These criminals stole nylon anchor lines from the ships. Along with this, there were 57 families that received [goods] from and assisted the criminals, which resulted in large losses of state property. Facing this situation, the people and public security forces, together with the good people, went and talked to the families with delinquent children. They analyzed things clearly for them and told them that they should encourage their children to live in accord with their labor capabilities. Realizing the truth of this, the families persuaded the thieves to give themselves up to the authorities. After the number of crimes declined, the village organized a short-term class at which they could review their shortcomings. No one has shown any prejudice and they have helped the delinquents to make progress gradually. Duong Quan's way of doing things has been adopted widely by the cooperatives and subwards in the city. In cooperation with the public security forces, the labor and grain sectors, together with plants, enterprises, work sites and small industry and handicrafts cooperatives, have arranged appropriate work for these people based on the seriousness of their mistake and helped them gain labor skills so that they quickly become good workers. Delinquent youths have been sent to work-study schools. For a number of criminals who could not be put to work at the agencies, enterprises or cooperatives, the wards have organized work sites and issued them product quotas on which they can concentrate their labor. Each week, each of these people must report the results of their work to the labor unit. And they must report their activities to the subward people's committee. This method has begun to achieve results in Ngo Quyen, Hong Bang and Le Chan wards. Hundreds of people have had their citizen's rights restored to them. They have received household registrations and been issued grain, and they now enjoy other rights. As for those who have been educated and persuaded and given many chances to become a good person but who refuse to reform and persist in their old habits, the wards and subwards have punished them resolutely in accord with the law.

Because a good job has been done in coordinating prevention, education and punishment, the fatherland security movement in Haiphong has recently made much progress.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

BRIEFS

PREPARATION FOR MILITARY INDUCTION--As of the end of June 1984, thousands of youths in the districts have completed registration and medical examination procedures to prepare for their second phase induction by mid-August this year. Go Vap, 10th and 1st districts which had done well the education and a survey of the youths, reached a high ratio of youths availing themselves for medical examination. It was the first time that the districts carried out the new directives of the Health and Defense Ministries regarding the strict adherence to health norms in order to enhance the quality of the armed forces. [Text] [Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 5 Jul 84 p 2] 9458

CSO: 4209/402

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

TRUONG CHINH SPEAKS AT HANOI DAY MEETING

OW111105 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 9 Oct 84

[Speech by Truong Chinh, chairman of SRV Council of State, at 9 October Hanoi meeting marking 30th anniversary of Hanoi's liberation--recorded]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade General Secretary Le Duan, comrades and friends, compatriots and combatants in the capital: Developing the glorious revolutionary traditions of our country and its capital, over the past 30 years, the Hanoi party organization, armed forces, and people have struggled relentlessly, made valiant sacrifices, overcome difficulties, and made positive contributions to our entire people's undertaking of national liberation and socialist construction, thus making Hanoi worthy of being the political, economic, and cultural center of our entire country.

On behalf of the party Central Committee, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers, I am very glad to confer on the Hanoi party organization, armed forces, and people the gold-star order, the noblest award of our state; to confer on the cadres and combatants of the capital's armed forces the Ho Chi Minh order; and to confer on the cadres and combatants of the capital people's public security forces the Ho Chi Minh order I hope that the party organization, armed forces, and compatriots in the capital will continue to develop the heroic traditions of Thang Long, Dong Do [ancient names of Hanoi], and Hanoi, in building up and defending the capital, to make Hanoi worthy forever of being the heart of the fatherland, the symbol of heroism of the Vietnamese people throughout the more than 4 millennia of nation-building and national defense, a city that symbolizes our country's socialist system.

May you, comrades and compatriots in Hanoi, rapidly develop the efficiency in socio-economic management, promote the city's strength in science, technology, work forces, and occupations, in order to boost production, stabilize the people's livelihood, implement well the sixth resolution of the fifth party Central Committee plenum, bring about deep positive changes in the city in the coming period. May the people and armed forces of the capital bring into full play the glorious tradition, continue to heighten vigilance, stand ready to fight and to win, smash the enemy's multifaceted war of sabotage, and firmly maintain political security, public order, and social security.

In order to carry out well the above tasks, we should strive to build up the party organization, administration, and mass organizations at all levels, particularly the grassroots-level organizations, the precincts, districts, wards, and villages, to make them strong and stable. We should also strive to uphold the sense of responsibility and develop the right to collective mastery of the capital's people.

All sectors and ministries at the central and local levels are responsible for cooperating with, and assisting, Hanoi in implementing well the Political Bureau's resolution on the capital's tasks, considering the building of the capital the common task of the entire country.

May the Hanoi party organization, armed forces, and people vigorously develop the heroic tradition of the capital, the several-millenia-old civilized city, continue to advance, and score many more, yet greater achievements. [applause]

I wish the compatriots and combatants in the capital good health, happiness, and success. [applause]

CSO: 4209/13

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

PHAM VAN DONG MESSAGE ON UN SOUTH AFRICA DAY

OW102056 Hanoi VNA in English 1708 GMT 10 Oct 84

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, Oct 10--Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong today sent a message to United Nations leaders on the day of international solidarity with political prisoners of South Africa (Oct 11).

The message, addressed to Javier Perez de Cuellar, U.N. secretary general, and Joseph N. Garba, chairman of the U.N. Special Committee Against Apartheid, says:

"Over the past years the South African apartheid regime backed by the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces, has been pursuing a brutal apartheid policy, carrying out bloody repression of the movement for democratic liberties at home, detained and inhumanly treated South African patriots and militants of the African National Congress, depriving them of the most fundamental human rights. That policy is a stain on the world civilization, a crime, and is condemned by the whole of humankind.

"Alongside their reactionary domestic policy, the South African authorities, heedless of world public opinion and U.N. resolutions, stubbornly continues their illegal occupation of Namibia, carries out a policy of aggression, sabotage and destabilization against other countries in southern Africa.

The people and government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam energetically condemn the South African apartheid regime and call on the international community and the U.N. Security Council to take measures aimed at isolating and punishing South Africa in accordance with the principles of the U.N. charter and the declaration on human rights, force them to abandon the apartheid policy, stop the policy of repression and persecution and release immediately and unconditionally all South African patriots still illegally imprisoned by them, return independence to Namibia, stop the policy of aggression, sabotage and causing instability to other countries in southern Africa.

"The people and government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam affirm solidarity with and strong support for the persistent and valiant struggle of the

people of South Africa under the leadership of the A.N.C. aimed at abolishing the apartheid regime, for democracy and freedom, and firmly believe that the just cause of the African people will surely win final victory."

On this occasion, the Vietnam Committee for Afro-Asian People Solidarity has sent a message of support to the African National Congress.

CSO: 4200/53

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

SRV DELEGATION TO ALGERIA--Hanoi, VNA, 7 Oct--Vo Van Kiet, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Commission for Planning, has left there for Algeria on a working and friendly visit to the Algerian Democratic and People's Republic. He is accompanied by vice-chairman of his commission Mai Ky and assistant to the Foreign Minister Le Mai. Present at the farewell ceremony were vice-chairman of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers Dong Sy Nguyen and Algerian ambassador to Vietnam Seferdjeli Assa. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0813 GMT 7 Oct 84]

LAO AGRICULTURAL DELEGATION--Hanoi, VNA, 8 Oct--A delegation of the Lao Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Agricultural Cooperatives led by Minister Inkong Mahavong paid a visit to Vietnam from September 20 to October 6 as guest of the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture. Inkong Mahavong is also member of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party. While here, the delegation toured the provinces of Long An, Dong Nai and Ha Son Binh, the capital city of Hanoi, and the Jose Marti College of Agriculture on Hanoi's eastern outskirts. They studied experience from these localities and college in agricultural production, the application of science and technology, and personnel training. It was received on separate occasions by Vu Dinh Lieu, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Nguyen Ngoc Triu, member of the party Central Committee and minister of agriculture. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT 8 Oct 84]

COSMOPHYSICAL, TELEDETECTION CENTER--Hanoi, VNA, 9 Oct--A cosmophysical and teledetection centre under the Vietnam Scientific Institute has officially started operation in Ho Chi Minh City. The centre was built with technical assistance from the United Nations Development Program (U.N.D.P.), the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia which also helped in personnel training. For nearly one year now, the centre has supplied many aerial photos for the drawing of geographic maps of many provinces in the Mekong River delta. In the coming period, the U.N.D.P. will provide the center with more equipment for the processing of aerial photos in service of the survey of natural resources in the south. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0729 GMT 9 Oct 84]

SWEDISH COMMUNIST PARTY SUPPORT--On 18 September, in his talks with Ambassador (Luu Quy Tan), Lars Werner, chairman of the Communist Left Party of Sweden, said: For nearly 20 years, the movement for solidarity with Vietnam has been a moving force for our party's activities, especially during the years of struggle against the U.S. war of aggression. Today, the Swedish Communist Party still regards supporting Vietnam as an important task. Our party is very optimistic about the forthcoming struggle in the Parliament when the problem of aid to Vietnam is discussed. [Excerpt] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 3 Oct 84 BK]

CSO: 4209/13

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

LE VAN LUONG OPENS HANOI LIBERATION DAY MEETING

OW101203 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 9 Oct 84

[Opening speech by Le Van Luong, member of the CPV Central Committee and chairman of the Hanoi Municipal Party Committee, at 10 October Hanoi meeting marking 30th anniversary of liberation of capital city--recorded]

[Text] Presidium members, foreign guests, comrades and friends;

Today, we are very glad to meet here to ceremoniously celebrate the 30th anniversary of the liberation of the capital city from the occupation yoke of the French colonialists, 10 October 1954, and to receive at the same time the noble orders awarded by the party and the state to the capital and the local armed forces and people's public security forces.

On behalf of the Hanoi Municipal Party Committee, People's Committee, and Fatherland Front Chapter, may I convey my warm greetings and profound gratitude to party and state leaders: Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee; Comrade Truong Chinh, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State; Comrade Pham Van Dong, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Nguyen Huu Tho, vice chairman of the Council of State and chairman of the SRV National Assembly; and other comrade leaders within the Political Bureau, the party Central Committee's Secretariat, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers; and the comrade leaders of various commissions and services of the center. [applause]

May I also extend my warm greetings and gratitude to the comrades and members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of various international organizations, and foreign visitors who are present here to share with us the joy of celebrating the anniversary of the liberation of the Hanoi capital. [applause]

Comrades and friends: The day of the liberation of Hanoi from the occupation yoke of French colonialism in 1954 was a very important day in the history of our capital. Since that day, our capital has been emancipated from the ruling yoke of imperialism and has entered a new era in which all oppression and exploitation by colonialism, feudalism, and capitalism have been eliminated and we have built a socialist regime, a truly democratic regime under which the people have become real masters of their destiny.

Over the past 30 years, we have joined the entire people in waging the liberation war against U.S. imperialism, the world's imperialist ringleader, and then against the traitorous Chinese expansionists and hegemonists. We have constantly developed the right to collective mastery of the laboring people and achieved great successes in building a new political system, new economy, new culture, and new type of man.

In jubilantly celebrating this glorious historic day, let us assert our achievements and feats of arms and be well aware of the heavy and glorious tasks to be carried out in order to advance the revolution and be worthy of the role and responsibility of the capital city.

In this spirit, I declare the meeting open. [applause]

CSO: 4209/13

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

LE DUAN, TO HUU AT DISTRICT BUILDING CONFERENCE

OW051137 Hanoi VNA in English 0736 GMT 5 Oct 84

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, Oct 5--A conference to review the district-building work throughout the country was opened here on Wednesday by the Council of Ministers and the district building commission of the party and the government.

Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, was present at the opening session.

Addressing the more than 400 delegates, To Huu, Political Bureau member of the C.P.V. Central Committee, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and head of the district building commission, recalled that experimental district building started 12 years ago, and substantial progress has been made, in agriculture, industry, distribution and circulation of goods, in laying the material and technical bases, in organizational matters as well as in improving the people's living standard, consolidating national defence and building the party at the district level. Of the 426 districts in the whole country, more than 100 have done remarkably well. He named a few like Tho Xuan in Thanh Hoa Province, Hai Hau (Ha Nam Ninh), Van Chan (Hoang Lien Son), Dien Ban (Quang Nam-danang), Thong Nhat (Dong Nai), Cai Lay (Tien Giang), etc.

Building and strengthening the district level, he said, is a task of strategic significance for the whole revolutionary cause of building and defending socialist Vietnam.

He pointed to the following targets to be reached by 1990:

1. Most of the land and manpower resources in the district will be put to efficient use, a vigorous development of agriculture, small industry, handicraft, forestry and fisheries, more material and technical bases to be chiefly with funds of the districts themselves, a rational agro-industrial structure to be built that suits the conditions in each locality.
2. Production relations to be strengthened.
3. To stabilize and gradually improve the people's material and cultural life.
4. To maintain security and a high defence capability.
5. Strong party, administration mass [as received] and grassroots organizations at the district with a contingent of virtuous and capable cadres.

CSO: 4200/53

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

REPORT ON NATIONAL DISTRICT BUILDING CONFERENCE

BK070914 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 6 Oct 84

[Text] On 5 October, the national conference to review the building of districts and the strengthening of the district level continued to hear the secretaries or chairmen of the people's committees of Haiphong, Hanoi, Ben Tre, Dac Lac, Thanh Hoa, and Tien Giang, and the leaders of some sectors report on the very important role as well as the great pride and responsibility held by the provinces, municipalities, and sectors concerned, the initial results already recorded, the shortcomings that need to be overcome, and the tasks to be carried out in connection with the building of districts and the strengthening of the district level.

All the reports affirmed that the policy of the party and state to build districts and strengthen the district level is a correct and creative policy. This task is of strategic importance in the cause of building and defending the country; and at the same time, it has a practical effect on the development of production and the formulation and successful implementation of the state plan. The districts are now shifting from a management system based purely on administrative subsidization to a budgetary planning system; and the three revolutions are being simultaneously conducted to achieve comprehensive socioeconomic development at the district level.

Generally speaking, the contingent of district cadres has reached maturity, and it understands party lines and applies them in a creative manner. This is the most important factor that allows the various sectors and echelons to decentralize management. The decentralization of management to the districts must be carried out in a cautious but resolute, comprehensive, and uniform manner so as to create conditions for the districts to quickly reach maturity in all respects. At the same time, the districts themselves must surge forward to meet the requirements of the new tasks. It is necessary to overcome such erroneous practices derived from the departmentalistic concept that the districts are not yet capable of comprehensive management, as reluctance in carrying out decentralization, failure to clearly define responsibilities, and failure to help the districts improve upon the activities and services that have been placed under their management.

Provinces, municipalities, and sectors--along with reinforcing the districts with capable cadres--must assist the districts in training a contingent of

able cadres, especially economic management cadres, scientific and technological cadres, and cadres in charge of the distribution and circulation of goods, in order to meet the requirements of district building for both the short and long terms. For the mountainous regions, special attention must also be given to strengthening the contingent of grassroots-level cadres.

The provinces and municipalities must also actively direct and assist the districts in satisfactorily formulating general socioeconomic plans and in determining their economic structure and most importantly, their agroindustrial structure, in accordance with local conditions as well as with the provincial and regional plans. Efforts must be made to overcome some current erroneous tendencies such as the failure to pay due attention to build an industrial-forestry-fishery structure within the district economic structure. It is necessary to provide the districts with additional material-technical bases and support services, including facilities built by the provinces for the districts; and at the same time, to create conditions for the districts to generate initial capital and help them in export-import business operations as their export capability is very great.

The provinces and municipalities, together with the various local and central sectors, must assist the districts in combining economic construction with national defense and economy with culture; correctly effect economic integration and joint businesses between districts inside and outside the province; and appropriately ensure the district's material interests, including contributions made by economic establishments belonging to provinces, municipalities, or the central government that are situated in the district. Provinces and municipalities must continue to intensively direct pilot districts and satisfactorily review the experience drawn therefrom.

District building must be considered as a permanent task carried out under the close leadership of the secretariat, the Council of Ministers, and the various sectors and localities. This is a new task that directly concerns all sectors and echelons. Therefore, within a certain period of time, efforts must be concentrated on carrying out educational activities to enhance awareness and create a high degree of singlemindedness in thought and action with the aim of helping the districts satisfactorily guide the implementation of the policy on building districts and strengthening the district level in accordance with the resolution of the party Central Committee's third plenum and Resolution No 50-HBBT of the Council of Ministers.

CSO: 4209/13

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

PARTY, STATE ACCELERATE DISTRICT BUILDING TASK

BK101309 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 8 Oct 84

[Text] Following the national conference to review tasks on building and strengthening districts organized by the Council of Ministers in Hanoi on 3-6 October, the CPV Central Committee Secretariat and the Council of Ministers have launched an emulation movement to build districts into comprehensively and steadfastly developed ones. This is aimed at mobilizing various sectors and echelons along with our entire party, people, and Armed Forces to develop the spirit of socialist collective mastery and to strengthen their dynamism, activeness, and creativity in order to stir up a comprehensive revolutionary movement, thereby advancing the district building task further and making new changes in this important strategic task of our party and state. With this greatly significant nature, the emulation movement is focused on the following five main tasks:

-- To exploit optimally all potentials in land and labor; develop the production of agriculture, forestry, fishery, small industry, handicrafts, and industry; strengthen the material and technical bases by relying chiefly on available capital; establish the agro-industrial economic structure, and on this basis satisfactorily procure foodstuffs and grain for the state and supply raw materials for the processing industry and for the production of export goods.

-- To consolidate and perfect production relations at production establishments and on the distribution and circulation front.

-- To stabilize and develop further the peoples' material and cultural lives.

-- To strengthen national security and defense tasks.

-- To strengthen the contingent of district cadres, including district party and people's committees, mass organizations, and grassroots organizations.

From now until 1985 we must satisfactorily carry out the following tasks: continue to accelerate the task of rearranging and supplementing district planning work, regarding it as a primary task in designing district socio-economic models; improve the planning work of districts and grassroots establishments; strive to finish work on division of managerial responsibility for districts in 1984; build and strengthen material and technical bases at the

grassroots and district levels; improve distribution and circulation at districts, especially efforts to provide initial capital and establish district food and commodity funds; strive to increase district income and budget; accelerate production and export by developing state-run economic sectors; organize district markets by closely managing the market, controlling money and sources of goods, and developing socialist trade at state-run establishments and marketing cooperatives; develop the banking system and credit cooperatives; strengthen and consolidate production relations; continue to perfect the mechanism and contingent of cadres; improve the management methods of district people's committees; accelerate the task of building vigorous party organization; strengthen leadership and guidance of the party Secretariat and the Council of Ministers, and expand the responsibility of various sectors, provinces, and cities in the district building task.

CSO: 4209/13

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

PHAM VAN DONG MEETS WITH CONFERENCE DELEGATES

OW081049 Hanoi VNA in English 0741 GMT 8 Oct 84

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, Oct 8--Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong cordially met here yesterday with the chairmen of the district people's committees from all parts of the country and the heads and deputy heads of the district-building committees in various provinces who had come for the newly concluded national conference to review the district building work.

Present at the meeting were To Huu, Political Bureau member of the party C.C., vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and head of the district building commission of the party and the government, and Minister Doan Trong Truyen, secretary general of the premier's office.

Chairman Pham Van Dong told the delegates that the district is the appropriate place for the comprehensive development of production, for the combination of agriculture and industry, the caring for the people's material and cultural life and for building a new socialist new country and firm fortresses in national defence."

The chairman stressed the necessity to respect the working people's right to collective mastery in the simultaneous carrying out of the three revolutions and socialist industrialization.

"Developing the economy and building a new countryside at the district level must be combined with the development of the national economy as a whole and the strengthening of the defence capabilities, he pointed out, adding:

"In order to have more farm products for the state, the district level has, first and foremost, to expand production, look after the proper distribution and circulation of goods, take good care of the life of the people, public servants and the armed forces, and build a new, socialist countryside."

CSO: 4200/53

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

COLLECTIVIZED PEASANTS CONGRESSES--To date, 39 provinces and cities throughout the country have held collectivized peasants congresses at three levels--provincial, district, and village. Cao Bang Province in particular has convened village- and district-level congresses and is preparing to hold a provincial congress this month. The collectivized peasants congresses at the three levels were held by the provinces and cities in strict accordance with the spirit of the party Central Committee Secretariat's directives, ensuring the practice of democracy from the grassroots level up. Through these congresses, the provinces and cities have strengthened the collectivized peasants associations and organizations, especially at the village and district levels. They have contributed to bringing into sharper focus the fine character, revolutionary traditions, as well as the limitations of the peasantry. They have clearly pointed out what has been accomplished, what has not, and strengths to be developed as well as weaknesses to be overcome in the organizations and activities of collectivized peasants associations at various levels. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 Oct 84]

TRUONG CHINH ARTICLE PUBLISHED--Hanoi, VNA, 7 Oct--President of the State Council Truong Chinh's article "Dien Bien Phu Victory Pride of the Vietnamese People" is published in the September-October issue of the TRICONTINENTAL magazine--organ of the Afro-Asian and Latin American Peoples' Solidarity Organization. The article was illustrated by photos on Dien Bien Phu campaign, the late President Ho Chi Minh and the Vietnamese people's national reconstruction. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0714 GMT 7 Oct 84]

CSO: 4200/53

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON DISTRICT BUILDING EFFORTS

BK051030 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 2 Oct 84

[NHAN DAN 3 October editorial: "District Building, an Important Revolutionary Undertaking of Strategic Significance"]

[Text] In the process of advancing our country's agriculture from small production to large-scale socialist production, the district is the appropriate theater for favorably carrying out the centralization, specialization, and cooperativization of production and technical equipment, for effectively utilizing material-technical bases, and for establishing and consolidating the new production relations. The resolution of the Fifth Party Congress pointed out: The district must be considered the key theater for developing the right to collective mastery, simultaneously carrying out the three revolutions, and realizing the objectives of the task to advance agriculture to large-scale socialist production in the 1980's of this century.

Since trial work was first conducted, district building work has been carried out for 12 years. Following the convocation of the fifth party congress and especially since 1983, new progress has been made in district building along the line of turning the district into a fairly comprehensive model in the first stage of the transition period. The task of building the district's socioeconomic standing in a comprehensive manner consists chiefly of establishing an agroindustrial economic structure, upgrading the district level into a comprehensive planning and budget level, and creating the conditions for the district to develop its initiative and the spirit of self-reliance and self-strengthening, make full use of its labor and land capabilities and existing material-technical bases, and satisfactorily observe the motto "the state and the people work together, and the central government and the locality work together."

All localities have proceeded with formulating and carrying out district plans and programs in an effort to finish reviewing and supplementing the general plan together with the plans for some key sectors by the end of this year, and at the same time, to finish formulating plans for all sectors in 1985. Work is being stepped up to assign responsibilities to the districts; and consequently, many districts have acquired more conditions for establishing their socioeconomic structure in a comprehensive manner, formulating their plans on the basis of the four sources of capabilities, and organizing and managing the socialist market at the district level.

More efforts have been made to strengthen the district organization and the contingent of district cadres. In some localities, economic and technical cadres have initially been remunerated on the basis of the results achieved by the basic units in production and business. Along with broadly applying and gradually perfecting the system of end-product contracts with labor groups and laborers in production establishments, the intensification of district building work by realistic means has enabled the district level to display more initiative and creativity in directing activities in the economic, social, security, and national defense fields.

Progress has been made in agriculture with regard to the intensive cultivation of crops, especially rice, and the development of the raising of livestock, especially cows and oxen; and the export of agricultural, fishery, and forestry products is rapidly going up. At the district level, the agricultural produce processing industry and transportation capacity have been strengthened. Many localities have actively resolved the energy problem to ensure irrigation, drainage, and processing operations; and organized and improved the work efficiency of the district capital construction forces.

Progress has also been achieved in the distribution and circulation of goods at the district level as has been reflected in the discharge of obligations related to grain, other agricultural products, and goods designed for export. Many districts have begun to organize extracurricular and out-of-quota exchanges to obtain additional technical supplies and consumer goods. A number of districts have set up grain reserve funds, and more revenues have been obtained for the district budget. Relying chiefly on their own capital and observing the motto "the state and the people work together," many districts have stepped up the building of economic-technical bases and public welfare projects. The planning and building of military fortresses also constitutes a step of progress achieved in district building.

Although district building work has been accelerated and has made headway in some respects, this work has not developed rapidly and evenly. In certain districts, the economic structure remains weak in the fields of industry and distribution and circulation. Due to their failure to closely combine agriculture with fishery, forestry, and salt production, and state-operated units with collective and family production, many districts still cannot create a combined strength.

The decentralization of management is also slow as certain districts still have not been assigned to manage a number of major tasks. Meanwhile, various production and business establishments at the grassroots level have not yet satisfactorily been consolidated and the knowledge of district cadres concerning economic and business organization and management remains poor. These shortcomings have limited the effectiveness of district building work in numerous aspects.

Realities have further clarified the important and strategic role of district building work and, at the same time, have clearly revealed various issues concerning the contents of this work and its operational methods. Experience

acquired by the districts, which are good in this work, shows that in carrying out district building work, in which the agro-industrial economic structure is the backbone and its agriculture is the center of gravity, it is necessary to firmly grasp all the contents concerning the economic and living conditions and national security and defense.

All comprehensive targets of district building work must be manifested in the general plan, which will be converted into annual and 5-year plans of districts. Firmly adhering to the experiences acquired in production organization, division of labor, and the building of material and technical bases and simultaneously accelerating the three revolutions in districts are important measures to fulfill all the planned targets. These are issues concerning the effort to raise the technical level of crop production, animal husbandry, and various handicraft branches and trades in districts.

It is necessary to organize and carry out division of labor among grassroots units and in the district; intensively build material and technical bases under a general plan; satisfactorily establish and manage a technical service network; set up various economic, technical, and service clusters; consolidate all production units; improve production relations among grassroots units in combination with the building of the district; and expand economic cooperation and integration and joint business within and beyond the district.

It is also necessary to firmly and satisfactorily create favorable conditions for improving economic organization and management skills so as to develop its initiative and achieve self-reliance. This is an important measure to ensure fine success in district building work. Meanwhile, efforts must be made to continue reviewing and revising plans, considering this as one of the most important tasks.

We must complete the decentralization of management to enhance the sense of responsibility of the districts over managerial work and create favorable conditions for them to boldly and actively formulate and implement their plans. We must also provide the districts with additional cadres to help them meet the needs arising from the building of their economic structure and the strengthening of the managerial functions of the district level.

It is necessary to combine the effort to make party organizations firm and strong with the need to build the district level. By developing the system of leadership by the party, management by the administration, and mastery by the working people, all districts will be able to create a combined strength.

District building work must be carried out intensively and steadily along with production in each crop season and in each year. As Comrade General Secretary Le Duan put it, the district, which holds a historically important position, is the appropriate theater for rallying forces from all cooperatives to carry out labor redistribution aimed at satisfactorily utilizing land, expanding various branches and trades, and combining crop cultivation with animal husbandry and the processing of agricultural products. It is also the appropriate theater for coordinating the forces of cooperatives and the district

with those dispatched from the province and central level to create a combined strength in support of economic and cultural development and the struggle to foster the new type of man, consolidate national defense, and ensure the livelihood of the people and expanded reproduction.

The resolution of the Sixth Party Central Committee Plenum also pointed out that by accelerating district building work and streamlining the district level, favorable conditions will be created for the district level to directly guide various production, procurement, material and technical supply, trade, service, credit, and communications and transportation establishments; organize the material and cultural life in the district; combine economic development with national defense; and ensure security and order.

Building the districts is a revolutionary undertaking of strategic significance. We are determined to fulfill this glorious undertaking so as to contribute actively to the construction and defense of the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

CSO: 4209/13

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

DISTRICTS REPORT DEVELOPMENT AT NATIONAL MEETING

OW081803 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT 8 Oct 84

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, Oct 8--To build the district level into a strong economic, agricultural and industrial unit placed under government management in all respects of its planning and having its own budget, a unit responsible for the management of production, circulation and life in its territorial bounds that is the policy of the Vietnamese party and state set out as early as 1972 at the height of the U.S. aggression. At a recent national conference in Hanoi on district building work many districts have reported on their successes, experiences and problems. Following are excerpts from their reports:

Tho Xuan District in Thanh Hoa Province, has been since 1974 considered one of the five pilot districts of the long-term district building program. From 1976 to 1983 its rice productivity in one crop rose from 2,313 to 3,780 kilos per hectare and total rice output from 39,174 to 62,095 tons. Annual food production per head of population went up from 271 to 412 kilograms and procurements to the state from 7,220 to 21,079 tons. By 1983 the district had reached the targets set for 1983 in terms of food productivity and output and procurements to the central government. Tho Xuan has also expanded the acreage of short-term industrial plants such as ground nut and sugarcane.

The quick development of small industry and handicraft production has raised the industrial output value of the district in 1983 to 16.1 million dong, or 16.1 percent of the gross output value.

Tho Xuan is one of the first districts in the country to bring into effect the watchword "the central and local levels together build water conservancy works." The productive operations of the cooperatives have been closely associated with those of state farms, and the district party and administrative committees have provided timely and effective leadership for the cooperatives.

Tho Xuan is also a front rank district in cultural and social work as well as in building strong military forces.

Hai Hau District in Ha Nam Ninh Province southeast of Hanoi has since 1982 been the leading district in northern Vietnam in the matter of rice productivity. In 1983 it already attained some main targets for food and stock-breeding set for 1985. From 1976 to 1983 rice productivity rose from 3,474 to 4,100 kilos per hectare in a crop.

The value of industrial production already accounts for 22.4 percent of the gross product.

Hai Hau is also the standard-bearer in the north in the mass movement for cultural and social development.

Van Chan, district in the northern mountain province of Hoang Lien Son was chosen as a pilot district as early as 1974. From 1976 to 1983 it boosted its rice productivity from 1.9 tons to 2.66 tons per hectare, to become the leading district in the province in this area.

In 1983, the figure shot up to five tons and food output of the province rose to 33,675 tons, bringing food share to 290.8 kilograms per head of population.

Whereas in the past Van Chan used to receive 1,200 tons of food subsidy from the state to feed the personnel of the tea farms in the province, it has now cut the figure down to 620 tons.

Since 1976, the district has expanded its tea acreage by 4,500 hectares, almost reaching the target for 1985. Van Chan has become the largest tea-growing district in the country. Every year, it exports more than 2,000 tons of dry tea.

Dien Ban District in the central Vietnam province of Quang Nam-da Nang, is noted for its quick progress in post-war rehabilitation when the U.S. and puppets were defeated in 1975, the district was left with many "white zones" virtually depopulated by bombs and shells. Food share hardly reached 240 kilos per head of population. Yet, in 1983 Dien Ban already chalked up 10 tons per hectare in rice productivity and food production per head rose to 491 kilograms. Not only has it been able to dispense with food relief from the government, the district has delivered 16,000 tons of surplus to the state.

Dien Ban has a long tradition of sericulture but the trade was almost extinct at the time of liberation. In 1983, Dien Ban produced 120 tons of cocoons and 3,192 kilograms of natural silk. The value of its industrial and handicraft output makes up 40.49 percent of the gross product of the district.

Cai Lay District in the Mekong River Delta Province of Tien Giang last year obtained 4,308 kilos of rice per hectare, the highest yield in the delta. Rice production per head of population rose to 885 kgs. In 1983 Cai Lay sold the state 71,000 tons of paddy, the highest mark in the whole country.

By the middle of this year, more than 70 percent of the farmers' families with about the same percentage of cropland had joined collective farming, mostly in the form of production collective.

Thong Nhat District in Dong Nai Province, east of Ho Chi Minh City, for three consecutive years from 1980 to 1982 reaped three tons of rice per hectare in a crop. In the recent winter-spring crop it achieved more than four tons compared with less than 1.2 tons in 1976.

The acreage under long and short-term industrial plants last year was double the 1976 figure: soybean expanded by nearly 3,000 hectares, beans by 2,888 hectares, tobacco by 1,600 hectares...

Dong Nai District has also strongly boosted its industrial production chiefly to meet the demands of agriculture. The local industries have supplied an increasing quantity of rice-threshers, insecticide sprayers, cassava-slicing machines and hand-tools to the farmers. The machine-tilled area in the district in 1983 accounted for 27 percent of the total crop area. Since 1980, the local industries, small industries and handicrafts have grown by 12 percent annually in terms of output value.

Long Phu District in Hau Giang Province, Mekong River delta, has increased its rice productivity to 4.1 tons per hectare from more than 2.5 tons through intensive irrigation, application of new farming techniques and improvement of production organization.

Last year Long Phu sold the state 39,200 tons of rice, 18,200 tons of crude sugar, 1,013 tons of dried coconut meat and 558 tons of shrimps for export.

The agricultural cooperation drive has been basically completed in the major rice-growing areas of Long Phu.

CSO: 4200/53

AGRICULTURE

GRAIN COLLECTION IN NORTH, SOUTH VIETNAM REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 5 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] The whole country actively participates in grain collection. North Vietnam: many cooperatives completed the collection quotas for the fifth-month crop. Southern Vietnam: coastal provinces in central Vietnam and provinces in the highlands reached 88 percent, and provinces and cities in Southern Vietnam reached 90 percent of grain collection quotas for the 10th-month and the winter-spring crop.

In this year's fifth-month crop, agricultural production in the north ran into multiple difficulties including a late start. The harvest was consequently later than in previous years. However, the localities still diligently directed a consolidated harvest and grain collection for the state. As of 3 July 1984, provinces and cities in northern Vietnam have reached 27 percent of their total quotas. Among those, Thanh Hoa and Hai Hung Provinces have reached in their granaries over 20,000 tons. Many cooperatives completed the collection of their total quotas: 70 tons in Hai Hung, 15 tons in Thanh Hoa and 4 tons in Vinh Phu.

The two provinces of Nghe Tinh and Binh Tri Thien finished their harvest early and, with a good movement to deliver grain to granaries, completed the collection of their total quotas entrusted by the state.

As of 30 June 1984, provinces of the central coastal area and of the western highlands reached 88 percent of the planned collection target for the winter-spring crop, including 70,000 tons of paddy for taxes and 39,000 tons of other grains converted to paddy equivalent delivered to granaries. Quang Nam - Da Nang, Thuan Hai and Dac Lac Provinces reached over 75 percent of the plan. Nghia Binh Province, in particular, as of 15 June 1984, has received in its granaries 105.8 percent of grain for the winter-spring crop. This represented 70.5 percent of the annual plan and an increase of nearly 25,000 tons compared with the same period last year.

Also as of 30 June 1984, provinces and cities of southern Vietnam have received in their silos 90 percent of their total grain quotas for the

10th-month and the winter-spring crops, an increase of over 50,000 tons compared with the same period last year. Included in the above percentage was 50,000 tons of other grains converted to paddy equivalent and 41,000 tons of agricultural tax, representing 84 percent of the tax receivable target for this crop.

Provinces in southern Vietnam collected 89.5 percent of their targets, including 375,000 tons of tax paddy. Minh Hai received in their granaries 98 percent of the total quota and was the leader of all provinces in the Mekong delta in grain collection ratio. Hau Giang put in their silos 280,000 tons and was the leader nationwide with the highest quantity of grain received in state granaries.

Ho Chi Minh City and eastern provinces received 90 percent of their total quotas, including 30,000 tons of tax paddy and reaching 70 percent of their tax receivable target for the entire crop.

The three provinces of Nghe Tinh, Binh Tri Thien and Nghia Binh have been recommended by the Ministry of Food for a commendation award by the chairman of the Council of Ministers for their achievements in grain collection in this crop.

9458

CSO: 4209/402

AGRICULTURE

EFFORTS TO BOOST AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 11 Jul 84 p 1

[Article: "Grain Production Front: The Whole Nation Concentrates Its
"Efforts to Plant the 10th-Month Crop; Other Grain Planting "Increases
34.8 Percent; Vegetable Planting Increases 32.7 Percent; Industrial
"Planting Increases 58.7 Percent Compared With the Same Period Last Year"]

[Text] According to the Directorate General of Statistics, as of 5 July localities in northern Vietnam harvested 870,000 hectares of winter-spring rice, or 85.3 percent of the sowed and transplanted area. Included in those statistics were provinces in the Red River delta which harvested over 420,000 hectares or 84.5 percent of the sowed and transplanted area.

Since efforts should have been spared for the winter-spring rice harvest and because of heavy rains causing much water-logging, earth work and rice planting were delayed. As of 5 July localities only break - plowed 514,000 hectares or 96.6 percent of the same period last year. Meanwhile, they sowed and transplanted over 147,000 hectares (approximately 50 percent of hilly-land rice). All localities broadcasted seeds and reached more or less than 90 percent of the plan. Many localities were collecting or exchanging more rice seeds and continued to broadcast them in order to have enough seedlings for the 10-month rice crop.

It is noteworthy that insects and diseases have appeared in almost all 10-month seed planting areas. Insects frequently identified have been stem borers, leaf folders, rice leaf beetles and the disease mostly found has been rice blast. Seedling areas attacked by insects and diseases reached 22,000 hectares or 2.2 times compared with the same period last year. Localities actively sprayed insecticides, prevented and fought water-logging and took good care of seed planting areas to assure enough seedlings for transplanting. Localities also mobilized labor, tractors, draft animals and stepped up earth work in order to transplant the 10-month seedlings at the most appropriate time.

Owing to early and widespread rain, provinces in the south reached the planned level in sowing and transplanting summer-fall rice this year. They also had the largest rice-planting area since 1975. Provinces that surpassed the plan in summer-fall rice planting were Cuu Long with 110.4

percent, Hau Giang with 106.8 percent, Long An with 105.3 percent, Dong Thap with 105.1 percent, Tien Giang with 103.5 percent, and Ho Chi Minh City with 102.5 percent. Due to intensive cultivation, summer-fall rice grows well. At present, in almost all summer-fall crop areas, the rice plant has blossomed and the base of its stem has turned red. Some places plant has blossomed and the base of its stem has turned red. Some places harvested their first planting areas and obtained very high yield. Localities took advantage of favorable weather conditions to step up plowing and harrowing work and transplanting 10-month rice. Provinces having large floating 10-month rice such as Dong Thap, An Giang and Dac Lac reached from 80 to 90 percent of their sowing and transplanting plans.

Now, other grain planting in the whole country has increased 34.8 percent compared with the same period last year, including provinces in the south which obtained an increase of 43.4 percent. Vegetable planting areas in the whole country increased 32.7 percent compared with the same period last year and, in particular, provinces in the south had an increase of 55.9 percent. Industrial planting areas increased 58.7 percent.

9458

CSO: 4209/402

AGRICULTURE

LAND REORGANIZATION, AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVIZATION IN NAM BO DISCUSSED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Aug 84 p 1

[Article: Provinces In (Former) Nam Bo Tie Land Reorganization to the Formation of Agricultural Production Solidarity Teams and Collectives"]

[Text] Since the beginning of 1983, all of Nam Bo has reorganized 89,237 hectares of land for the peasant families that have little or no land, which brings the total number of hectares of land reorganized to 389,103 hectares. Many localities, particularly in the areas that grow two crops of rice, high-yield varieties of rice and intensively-cultivated 10th-month rice, have almost completed land reorganization, created many favorable conditions for eliminating exploitation in the rural areas and enabling the peasants to be enthusiastic about production and created conditions for expanding the agricultural cooperativization movement. Many localities have done a good job of tying land reorganization to building production solidarity teams and units. Rice and subsidiary food crops production solidarity teams, sugarcane production solidarity teams and coconut production solidarity teams have been formed. The state now has favorable conditions for signing two-way contracts with the peasants and for controlling the agricultural products in a more effective way. Many localities have tied reorganizing the land to building networks of marketing cooperatives and credit cooperatives. The entire region now has 2,129 marketing cooperatives. In Tien Giang, Cuu Long, Ben Tre, Long An and Dong Thap provinces and Hi Chi Minn City, all the subwards and villages have marketing cooperatives. The expanded activities of the credit and marketing cooperatives have actively contributed to transforming private commerce, gradually eliminating the exploiters left in the rural areas and solidifying the effects of land reorganization. In places that have done a good job in establishing marketing and credit cooperatives, land reorganization has developed favorably, and class divisions in the rural areas have been reduced.

Land reorganization in Nam Bo has begun to stimulate a redistribution of the laborers and people in the region. To date, approximately 45,000 peasant families have been moved to or given land in areas newly reclaimed for production.

However, in a few places in Nam Bo, particularly in areas that produce subsidiary food crops and short-term industrial crops, land reorganization is

proceeding very slowly. Implementing the resolution of the Sixth Plenum of the VCP Central Committee, the provinces in Nam Bo are training cadres, carrying on land reorganization in connection with transforming private commerce. quickly establishing a network of marketing and credit cooperatives and creating favorable conditions that will enable the agricultural cooperativization movement to expand.

11943

CSO: 4209/443

AGRICULTURE

NHAN DAN VIEWS NAM BO AGRICULTURE TRANSFORMATION

BK091423 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Oct 84

[NHAN DAN 8 October editorial: "Agricultural Transformation in the Nam Bo Provinces: Consolidate the Existing Collective Economic Organizations and Build New Production Collectives"]

[Text] The movement for agricultural transformation in the Nam Bo Provinces is gaining momentum. To date, more than 23,000 production collectives and 268 agricultural cooperatives have been set up, drawing 47 percent of the cultivated acreage and 52 percent of the peasants' families into collectivized production. In general, the movement has developed in a satisfactory and healthy manner, but many collectivized production units still remain weak in quality. Consolidating the existing socialist collectivized production units and setting up new production collectives wherever the conditions permit are two closely interrelated tasks that must be carried out simultaneously in order essentially to complete the cooperativization of agriculture in the Nam Bo Provinces, using the production collective as the main format, by the end of 1985 and at the same time to push the movement steadily forward.

Compared with the initial period of the movement for agricultural cooperativization, the task of consolidating socialist collectivized production units is now more difficult because the number of such units has been growing steadily. The consolidation of the units already set up will help develop firmly the movement and at the same time create a strong appeal encouraging the peasants who are still engaged in private production to participate in collectivized production. Meanwhile, it is necessary to continue building new units in order to fulfill the organizational task.

The quality of socialist collectivized economic units is reflected first of all by the ever-increasing economic efficiency of their production and business activities. By the same token, the superiority of collectivized production over private production is reflected by the ever-improving living conditions of members of cooperatives and production collectives, by the ever greater accumulation of capital for expanded production, and by the ever larger amounts of agricultural products turned over or sold to the state and for export. To achieve all this we must constantly enhance the quality and capability of managerial cadres, especially key cadres; positively build the material-technical bases of agriculture, first of all by building irrigation projects, widely

practicing multicropping, and using new crop varieties; and arrange for each unit a new production structure suitable with the local conditions, one that includes both specialized and intensive crop cultivation, multicropping, and comprehensive business activities.

It is inadvisable to enlarge the size of production units when the conditions do not permit because this will upset the organization. Efforts should be made to broaden joint business and economic integration activities in accordance with a well-prepared plan in order to carry out a division of labor, develop the various branches and trades, build the common material-technical bases, and prepare the conditions for further advancements in the future. It is necessary gradually to perfect the product contract system and other measures of management; link obligations, responsibilities, and interests with each worker and each product unit; and closely link collective responsibility with the responsibility of each worker in order to create a new combined strength.

Localities that have prepared the conditions should broaden the organization of production collectives. The experience gained by many localities clearly shows that by satisfactorily carrying out various policies on collectivization in conjunction with the product contract system right from the start, developing the various branches and trades and closely combining the activities of production collectives with the operations of marketing and credit cooperatives, we can create conditions for the production collectives to develop their superiority over private production from the outset. While setting up collectivized production units in the coming period, attention must be paid to broadly applying the experience gained in moving people from other localities into large but sparsely populated areas--areas where the rate of cooperativization still remains low. Efforts must be made to carry out satisfactorily the selection, training, and fostering of cadres as provided for under the agricultural transformation plan, and to formulate satisfactory plans for production activities and the building of material-technical bases and for the building of a new countryside in order to accelerate firmly the establishment of new production collectives.

Strengthening the village and especially the district levels is an important task that helps promote the movement for agricultural cooperativization in the Nam Bo Provinces. It is necessary to finish the formulation of district plans, from production plan to the agricultural-forestry-fishery production structure; to build and improve the technical service network at the district level, including tractors, farmland water conservancy, crop seeds, breeds of livestock, crop protection, and veterinary medicine; and link this state-run service network with the basic production units. Proceeding from the production structure, efforts must be made to set up the district industrial system based on grassroots-level small industry and handicrafts and to link the raw material-producing system with the processing industry. The district service and circulation network together with marketing cooperatives, production collectives, and agricultural cooperatives must satisfactorily use two-way contracts designed for supplying production materials and consumer goods and for collecting and purchasing products.

The more the districts are strengthened, the better conditions we will have to consolidate production collectives and agricultural cooperatives, and to set up new units. This will enable the movement for agricultural cooperativization, though newly launched and consisting of only small production units, to muster its strength right from the start and gradually advance agriculture from small production to large-scale socialist production.

CSO: 4209/13

AGRICULTURE

10TH-MONTH RICE PLANTING ACTIVITIES IN LANG SON REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Aug 84 p 1

[Article: "Lang Son Prepares to Fight to Defend the Border and Steps Up the Planting of the 10th-month rice"]

[Text] Vietnam News Agency: In the "resolved to make the tenth-month rice season a major success" emulation movement, the tribesmen in Lang Son Province have made preparations to fight to defend the border and stepped up the planting of the 10th-month rice. To date, in the entire province, almost 30,000 hectares have been transplanted in rice, of which 7,500 hectares is high-yield rice, which is concentrated in Trang Dinh, Cao Loc and Loc Binh districts and Lang Son City. The five border districts that are frequently harassed by the Chinese expansionists have transplanted 10,128 hectares of rice, which is faster than the other districts. Huu Lung District has transplanted 4,421 hectares in 10th-month rice, fulfilling 84 percent of the planned quota, and leads the entire province.

Lang Son Province has guided the farmers in overcoming the heat and transplanting the entire 10th-month rice area on schedule in accord with the climate in each area. The Binh Gia area in Bac Son District turns cold early and so the rice is transplanted in July. In Trang Dinh, Cao Loc, Van Lung and Loc Binh, the weather grows cold later and so the 10th-month rice can be transplanted later. Lang Son has given attention to expanding the area transplanted in high-yield varieties of rice such as NN75-10, NN8, IR1561-12 and dwarf Bao Thai. As for the areas planted in high-yield varieties of 10th-month rice, the province has guided the transplanting of the NN75-10 and CR203 varieties. Eight to 10 tons of organic fertilizer, 400 kg of nitrate fertilizer, 300 kg of phosphate fertilizer and 150 kg of potash fertilizer have been applied per hectare. A number of farms that have used phosphate fertilizer produced by the Vinh Thinh Chemicals Plant have had good results. Trang Dinh, Lao Loc and Loc Binh districts and the northern region of Chi Lang District have used 50 to 500 tons of phosphate fertilizer. The central canals of the water conservancy project--Ban Nga in Cao Loc District and the Hoang Tam sluice in Lang Son City--were repaired in time to drain away water and provide water for the rice.

Along with transplanting the entire area, the tribesmen in the province have done the first-phase weeding for 6,200 hectares of rice, of which 3,620 hectares is early 10th-month rice in the five border districts.

11943

CSO: 4209/443

AGRICULTURE

TIGHTER STATE CONTROL OF LANG SON'S TOBACCO SUGGESTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 12 Jul 84 p 2

[Article by Nguyen Thanh Van: "The State Controls and Manages Long Son Tobacco"]

[Text] The tobacco plant is one of the short-term industrial plants of Lang Son that has a high economic value. Every year, for each 1,000 tons of tobacco delivered to the central government, Lang Son earns nearly 110 million dong for its local budget.

Realizing the importance of this "spearhead" plant, Lang Son has made much effort in recent years to develop its tobacco planting in both area and output. The Lang country's citizens have much experience in tobacco intensive cultivation, primarily in those regions that have large planting area such as Phu Lung, Cao Loc and Loc Binh. Tobacco output increases every year and in certain years, total output reached nearly 2,000 tons. In the present spring season Lang Son plants almost 3,000 hectares. The state can purchase and manage from 1,500 to 1,800 tons. This figure has been the highest so far, but in comparison with Lang Son's capabilities, it is still low. If Lang Son can plant tobacco all winter, spring, and summer crops, the province can bring the annual planting area to 9,000 to 10,000 hectares with an output of from 4,500 to 5,000 tons.

However, a frequent difficulty encountered in previous years lay in the fact that the state was unable to get a hand on the local tobacco output. 1980 was the best year in terms of highest purchase by the state. Nevertheless, the latter could get hold of only 800 tons while the total output was in the neighborhood of 2,000 tons. In the spring 1984 crop, the state's purchase level was also low to the initial plan. Objectively speaking, this situation resulted from the price effect which has been facilitated by good communication lines between Lang Son, the delta and Hanoi. This allows merchants to compete with the state and also from the desire of producers to hide or stock the product and sell it only when the price is high enough in order to buy staple commodities. On the other hand, the fundamental reason leading to the state's inability to control and manage tobacco output was the absence of appropriate policies, the lack of flexibility in purchasing procedures causing too much bother to producers, and the bureaucratic and overbearing attitude

of cadres and personnel in charge of purchasing. After weighing tobacco [and delivering it] to purchasing stations, the farmer used to receive only an invoice and had to go through three or four places to receive goods he had been allowed to buy. In some instances, the farmer held his invoice for months without being able to buy anything. Tradesmen actively worked. They posted their people on routes leading to the markets to compete with the state in buying tobacco.

Among the sectors having goods and material supplies on hand to trade tobacco with farmers, the commerce sector has the best variety of commodities. Because of a simplistic business standpoint whose only preoccupation was the amount of trade, commodities that should have been readied in priority for tobacco purchasing were neglected, they were insufficient or they were the wrong kind. This year, due to the needs of developing tobacco planting on a greater scale and to the strict policies of the People's Provincial Council and the People's Provincial Committee, the Lang Son commerce sector was ordered to transfer 116,000 meters of fabrics, 3,800 tons of coal, a number of bicycle accessories and other staple commodities along with 700 tons of rice and 700 tons of chemical fertilizers belonging to the agriculture and grain sectors to the tobacco trading company for two-way trade with farmers. Little has been left of those commodities compared with the needs of purchasing tobacco.

This year, Lang Son will have the largest tobacco planting area and output. Nevertheless, short of a good purchasing organization and appropriate policies, the state will again be unable to control the product. A good state purchasing operation will not only stabilize prices but will also allow management of the tobacco market. In this year's crop, Lang Son City is the purchasing unit that has reached the highest level in the whole province and has managed the local tobacco market well. Therefore, a good tobacco purchasing policy should be assured on both viewpoints: the state can control the commodity and the worker can be rewarded satisfactorily. In the meantime, the management apparatus should be improved and purchasing procedures changed to become more flexible and less bothersome. Right now, experience from the last winter-spring crop must be learned. Trading commodities should be well balanced and staple goods, along with material supplies, should be reserved for purchasing or trading with collectives and collective families. Purchasing experience of Lang Son City and Huu Lung District shows that the purchasing philosophy and management at the grassroot level must be thoroughly understood in the context of the two-way economic contract and administrative management at the village level. After knowing the tobacco output, it is advisable that the cooperative's management committee give the responsibility for selling tobacco to a supply and sale cooperative which will act as a marketing agent and will be paid according to the number of tons sold. Besides, the personnel in charge of selling will receive a bonus per tons sold. In order to closely manage the commodity at the grassroot level, each village will organize a marketing management committee which, in addition to the supervision and control of the sale of tobacco to the state within and without the targeted plan from the cooperative families,

must be responsible for deterring tradesmen to compete with the state in buying and selling the commodity. The localities must have the right to sell tobacco confiscated from tradesmen to a specialized training company. Part of the sale proceeds should go to the village budget and the rest be used as rewards to those directly in charge of market management and product collection. In order to differentiate the bonafide sellers to the state with merchants or with those exploiting tobacco sales to get a hold of state two-way commodities or material supplies, each family will be issued a form listing the quantity of tobacco sold and the commodities mostly wanted in exchange. The state will balance the trading commodities and distribute fertilizers and other material supplies to farmers for production and use them according to those forms.

In conjunction with the above-mentioned measures, a purchasing network from the province to the production levels managed directly by the specialized trading sector must be consolidated. In addition to the 11 purchasing stations in the 11 districts and cities, more stations should be added in regions having large tobacco planting areas such as Huu Lung and Cao Loc Districts and Lang Son and Chi Lang Cities. Cadres and personnel in charge of purchasing have to be professionally trained and given a good sense of responsibility. In past years, some tobacco purchasing stations in districts, although well staffed, did not fare well. Certain staffers took advantage of their positions to do their own business and to connive with dishonest sellers to raise grades and prices, to pilfer state commodities and material supplies, and to bother producers. From the tobacco trading company to the district purchasing stations, between the district and city purchasing stations and the grassroot stations, management functions of each agency must be clarified. Additionally, a close coordination must be achieved between the tobacco purchasing stations and the third-level grain and material supply companies at the districts in order to promote an integrated strength and to carry out the tobacco purchasing and management missions. Tobacco is a strategic commodity of Lang Son.

9458

CSO: 4209/402

AGRICULTURE

LONG AN PREPARES FOR FLOODING AFTER DROUGHT

OW051317 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 2 Oct 84

[Report by correspondent Tran Ba Ha]

[Excerpt] By the end of August, Long An still had more than 53,000 hectares of drought-stricken 10th-month rice and summer-fall rice, including thousands of hectares of summer-fall rice unable to blossom, more than 300 hectares of rice seedlings for the 10th-month crop either too old to transplant or withered. The weather conditions were unusual because in previous years rainfall had already begun in all regions by that time.

Clearly aware of possible vagaries in the weather the province combated drought while bracing for flooding. Since May the province had deployed forces and improved flood control plans in the districts. Sectors also devised plans to cope with flooding. Therefore, in early September, when the mid-autumn festival was celebrated and when drought was affecting the rice, flooding occurred after just over a week of rainfall. Yet Long An was able to cope. The three districts of Vinh Hung, Moc Hoa, and Tan Thanh in the western part of the province, located in the Dong Thap Muoi region, were deeply under water. On 6, 7, and 8 September 10 to 15 centimeters of water rushed over from big rivers, the flood level nearly reached the 1978 level. In Moc Hoa District the flood level was lower than that of 1978. A total of 28,000 hectares of floating 10th-month rice, not quite 1 month old, were submerged. However, the people's property was safe. All supplies, including insecticides and over 3,000 tons of chemical fertilizers, were ferried to safety. Over 150 big tractors were taken safely to high ground. Department store stock was shifted to other areas or carried on sampans and launches as floating stores to serve the people. Tens of thousands of tons of paddy deriving from taxes and obligation discharges were urgently transported to warehouses in the southern part of the province.

CSO: 4209/13

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

HANOI CONSTRUCTION SERVICE EXPANDS HOUSING

OW041121 Hanoi VNA in English 0820 GMT 4 Oct 84

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, October 3--Over the past 30 years, Hanoi's construction service has built 2.6 times as much floor space as before its liberation from French occupation in 1954, of which housing space rose by 1.6 times.

New population centres such as Trung Tu, Giang Vo, Thanh Cong, Mai Huong, and Thanh Xuan with multi-storeyed apartment houses have emerged from former swamps and garbage dumping grounds.

Since 1961, the Hanoi construction service has built 1,546 housing units total totalling 1,205,462 square metres.

At the time of liberation in 1954, Hanoi proper covered barely 1,200 hectares divided into three distinct sectors: the old quarter inhabited by small traders, the slum quarter and the sumptuous administrative quarter of the French and their stooges. One hundred and sixty thousand out of the then 270,000 inhabitants lived in 200 shanty wards. There were only nine factories, a few schools, colleges and hospitals. The only cultural project which deserved such a name is the municipal theatre also called "Great Theatre."

The personnel of the construction service had fewer than 1,500 workers, mostly bricklayers and wall painters.

Present-day Hanoi has been expanded to 2,130 square kilometres with 2.6 million inhabitants, of which 880,000 live in the inner city.

The city counts two hundred and six industrial enterprises including major factories and industrial sectors like Thuong Dinh, Vinh Tuy, Dong Anh and Van Dien.

Over the past 30 years, Hanoi has 2,170 projects totalling two million square metres of floor space. These include 242 industrial establishments, 53 agricultural projects, 95 cultural and educational institutions, 31 clinics, hospitals and health stations and 89 establishments of the state-run trade service. The number of construction workers has risen to 25,000 including 869 university graduates and post-graduates.

Since 1975, the volume of water supply in the capital has doubled and half of the old water mains has been replaced.

Under the expansion program, by the year 2010, the 1000th [as received] anniversary of Hanoi, the inner city of the capital will have been expanded to 135 square kilometres from the present 40 sq-kms and with a population of 1.5 million, excluding the suburban areas.

CSO: 4200/53

LIGHT INDUSTRY

SOUTHERN TEXTILE FACTORIES REPORT PRODUCTION INCREASES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] After a period of engaging in production while manufacturing spare parts for their looms and instead of importing them and gradually learning from the Thanh Cong Textile Plant's experience, textile factories in the south have carried out their production plans fairly well. Thang Loi Factory organized political education meetings and encouraged workers to participate in group activities. It also implemented a wage system linked to the quality and quantity of production.

Due to the above improvements, the factory surpassed the planned quota every month. Out-of-mill fabrics exceeded 30 percent, dyed fabrics exceeded 48 percent, and fiber for export increased three-fold compared with the same period last year. Phuoc Long Factory manufactured 70 percent of its spare parts and this self-supply was instrumental in keeping 95 percent of their machines on hand in working condition. Many new initiatives have been applied in production such as the restoration of the automatic spindle changing function of 100 looms that stopped by themselves whenever there was a thread cutoff.

Initially, the factory coordinated with some other units to produce a number of export commodities on the spot. Besides improving the quality of Ican fabric, Phong Phu Factory spent much effort in improving the workers' lives and in consistently maintaining group activities. Large textile factories, besides using the machines to their extreme capacity, exchanging and using up discarded materials and excess spare parts, and effectively implementing a bonus system, had also a plan to expand a cooperative arrangement with the Hong Gam Textile United Enterprises (Ho Chi Minh City) in order to produce more fabrics for internal use in the country.

9458

CSO: 4209/402

LIGHT INDUSTRY

PRODUCTION BOTTLENECK CAUSES PROBLEMS AT VINH PHU PAPER FACTORY

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 4 Jul 84 p 2

[Text] The above picture [photo not reproduced] was taken last 13 June at the Vinh Phu Paper Factory. It shows rolls of paper and bales of exercise books heaping up in warehouses. Some have been stacked in certain parts of the mill and have adversely affected production.

The total volume of congested paper was 2,200 tons, taking 43.6 percent of the factory's output in the first 5 months of this year. It included 151 tons of exercise books (about 1,510,000 books) or 46.6 percent of the total number of books produced in the same period.

Why the bottleneck? It was not because the factory produced too much paper and surpassed the state-planned target, although in the past 5 months, primarily in April and May due to the concerted efforts of the factory and of the raw material suppliers, it achieved some progress in production. The latter reached 5,041 tons [of output] an increase of 1,613 tons over the same period last year (the output was however, only 58 percent of the 5-month target). It was neither because our national paper production has met the demands of printed materials and of schools.

The Vinh Paper Factory has repeatedly requested help from the printing sections of the Ministry of Culture and of the Ministry of Interior's Cultural Works Company to no avail. Those two agencies have the responsibility for management and distribution of the jammed paper and exercise books.

The bottleneck not only caused a hindrance to the factory's production, decreased the quality and quantity of paper and slowed the productivity of capital investment, but also created a fictitiously tense market. The paper must be timely hauled to all the schools in the country when they open for the next school year.

9458

CSO: 4209/402

LABOR

HANOI CREATES ADDITIONAL JOBS FOR UNEMPLOYED LABORERS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Aug 84 p 4

[Article: "Hanoi Expands Professions, Creates Additional Jobs for Tens of Thousands of Laborers"]

[Text] In 1983 and the first 6 months of 1984, along with selecting laborers for the sectors, transferring people to the new economic zones and developing the handicrafts sector, the Hanoi labor sector has arranged jobs for almost 70,000 people. Although efforts have been made, there are still many laborers who do not have jobs or whose work is not stable. Hanoi is investigating this matter and gathering statistics on the number of laborers and their qualities in order to make adjustments gradually and put them to work in the final 6 months of the year. Along with selecting students and laborers for the sectors, Hanoi has made arrangements for large number of laborers to work at cooperatives and small industry and handicrafts production units. Of the 11,000 people selected for this economic sector, 2,000 are blacksmiths, 4,500 are jute rug weavers, 1,000 are rattan and bamboo weavers and 2,000 are cloth and towel weavers. Hanoi has obtained 200 tons of woolen yarn to produce goods on contract for the Ministry of Interior and made it possible to absorb an additional 12,000 laborers. In the subwards, the recently-established cooperative service and family utensil repair teams have absorbed additional thousands of laborers, which is contributing to supporting the standard of living and limiting the number of people trading at and disrupting the markets. A number of subwards have established house repair, white-washing and painting units. The city has guided Gia Lam and Hoai Duc districts in balancing and regulating things and making effective use of the laborers in agriculture in order to expand this to all the rural districts and gradually form an agro-industrial economic structure at the district level.

11943

CSO: 4209/443

LABOR

BRIEFS

WFTU ANNIVERSARY SEMINAR--Hanoi, VNA, 3 Oct--A seminar entitled "The World Federation of Trade Unions' Activities in the Interests of the Working People and Peace" was held here today in celebration of its 39th anniversary (3 October). It was attended by Vu Xuan Can, member of the secretariat of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions (VFTU); Nguyen Thuyet, member of the executive committee of the WFTU and head of the International Department of the VFTU; Mai Tuan Uyen, deputy director of the Trade Unions College, and others. Speakers at the seminar brought out the major role of the WFTU in mobilizing the working class and the trade unions of various countries in the struggle against imperialism, old and new colonialism and international reaction, for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. The participants expressed heartfelt gratitude to the WFTU for its strong support and valuable assistance to the Vietnamese people's revolutionary struggle. A meeting was held at the Trade Unions College today on the same occasion. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0830 GMT 4 Oct 84 OW]

CSO: 4200/31

POPULATION, CUSTOMS, AND CULTURE

BRIEFS

STREET NAMES SHOULD CHANGE--After the city's liberation (30 April 1975), a number of street names that had a counterrevolutionary connotation were changed to names of people, places, and numbers with revolutionary significance. We warmly welcomed the creation of the committee for studying and changing street names, which included many common citizens and scholars of the city, who started working very diligently right after Liberation Day. Yet besides streets that were corrected to bear names of heroes and national war dead, there are many streets that still have old names that have a bad meaning or bad connotations, causing passersby to stop and think, disturbed. We wish to suggest that the committee for changing street names finish their work and change the names of such streets as Van Dien Quang (11th Precinct), Tran Van Van (10th Precinct), Nhat Linh, Cuong Be, Trinh Minh The (Phu Nhuan Ward), and streets with such meaningless names as Vinh Vien. We suggest that streets be given such names as Dr Pham Ngoc Thach and Dr Ton That Tung, who made many contributions and sacrifices for the cause of the revolution in service of the people. [Text] [Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 11 Jul 84 p 1] 9830

CSO: 4209/420

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