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22 May 1985

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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INDONESIA

ENHANCEMENT OF ASEAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION ADVOCATED

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 10 Apr 85 pp 3, 4

[Editorial]

[Text]

The visit of the Prime Minister of Singapore, and the previous meeting between the President of Indonesia and the Prime Minister of Malaysia, have vital significance to the further advancement of cooperation between ASEAN countries.

Economic cooperation between members of ASEAN has not yet fully materialised if this is seen from the volume increase in trade and capital investments between these six nations in the regional grouping. Trade between Indonesia and Singapore is indeed brisk, but this is due to historical reasons rather than the presence of PTA and AIJV, viz. agreements between ASEAN governments to boost their regional trade and capital investments.

Indonesia in fact is even desirous of bypassing Singapore in various fields, because it considers direct trade with end-buyer countries more profitable. Indonesia is also aware that it has the biggest domestic market and this is strictly safeguarded as the main asset for its industrialisation.

Now we live in another situation and prospect. Indonesia cannot rely on its domestic market for the new stages of its industrialisation. For consumer goods the domestic market is already saturated, and for intermediate and upstream industrial products the domestic market is frequently too small to support adequate economies of scale. Indonesia has to turn to

the export market in order to carry on its industrialisation.

This necessity has become a national awareness because it constitutes a daily reality. When President Suharto inaugurated a new cement plant in South Sulawesi he also stressed that the capacity of the national cement industry has exceeded the domestic power of absorption and we should be able to export cement. The same is true for various other industries.

The world economy still undergoes a low growth rate and protectionism is at large. If the world market is not easy to seize, then the ASEAN regional market, where we are already determined to create a kind of common welfare, should receive greater attention and be utilised even more. Since the basic framework of trade and investment cooperation does exist, in the form of PTA and AIJV accords, the potential contained should be utilised to the maximum.

Meetings between the Indonesian head of state and ASEAN heads of governments are very useful to remove barriers caused by long time sentiments. ASEAN economic cooperation in fact also has only got a major push after the summit conference in Bali in 1977.

Thereafter, ASEAN summits have become more difficult to convene. A political issue that causes inconvenience prevails between Malaysia and the Philippines, which also hampers the arrangement of another summit. Indonesia is not so interested in entering another summit either, as long as the outcome is not clear. The political trouble in the Philippines will make it difficult to hold such a new summit. So as long as no new ASEAN summits can be organised yet, bilateral summit meetings are very beneficial. Such meetings can be of a consultative and very general nature, so that if nothing concrete comes out of them, there will be no disappointment. These meetings, however, mean good opportunities for exchanges of ideas.

ASEAN industrialisation, now entering the stage of intermediate and upstream

industries, needs a great deal more co-operation aimed at market-sharing. What is the use of Malaysia setting up its own national automobile industry, Indonesia doing the same, and possibly the Philippines having this ambition as well? Each market will find it less expansive to support a complete deletion program. If this is forced to happen, the consequence is to increase the high cost economy.

It is more rational for the ASEAN countries to be respectively engaged in specialisation, for instance in the manufacturing of components, and to jointly produce "ASEAN cars" without violating the economic principle of economies of scale.

Indonesia has to postpone or cancel a number of large projects because of the absence of funds, among others petrochemical undertakings. In Singapore a petrochemical complex has just been completed, which was formerly planned, with Japanese aid, for the international market. But the market is now facing uncertainty owing to competition posed by Arab countries. Can't it be made an ASEAN-AIJV project with PTA facilities?

In each ASEAN country there are branches of international companies respectively producing a wide variety of product lines, each with small scale of production so that the cost is higher. It is better for such companies to undertake specialisation and exchange their goods based on PTA facilities.

We have no idea whether such possibilities have been taken up at the recent summit. But with closer relationship and reduced prejudice, such proposals can hopefully be discussed at the ministerial level in the coming ASEAN sessions.

CSO: 4200/874

INDONESIA

PRESIDENTIAL INSTRUCTION ON IMPORT, EXPORT PROCEDURES

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 10 Apr 85 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text]

Presidential Instruction (Inpres) No. 4/1985, which lays down the new policy concerning export and import procedures, interinsular shipping, sea freight rates, cargo and document handling, general agency of shipping companies and the procedure for port operation, is a fundamental action involving the bases of operation in the respective fields. Some circles have rightly pointed out that the move means deregulation in the areas concerned, following the same measure in the banking sector on June 1, 1983, and the reduction of export subsidies in stages through the export certificate as well as the low export credit interest rate.

In this way, over-protection, long-winding bureaucracy, and inefficiency now causing those fields to get entangled are supposed to be removed, so that the roots of the high cost economy can be eradicated. The government seems to be well aware that in order to overcome future problems, the only way for Indonesia is to try to increase efficiency in all areas, so as to survive amid the wave of intense international competition.

For quite a long while the public has urged the government to streamline various procedures, licences etc. because they pose a very heavy extra burden to the business world. But perhaps not many people believed that the government would act to such an extent as contained in Inpres No. 4, which has reduced the authority of one of the sources of corruption and procedural delay --- i.e. the customs and excise agency --- to a mere station of passage to examine whether all documents required, import duty payment receipts etc. are already complete. In view of the large number of vested-interest people in this agency, such a move demands unusual courage, for which we should give a salute.

The thrust of Inpres No. 4 is especially directed at smoothening exports and reducing

cost that has so far constituted an export burden, notably non-oil/gas exports. Such a strategy is indeed logical, because with the uncertain future to be faced by the oil/gas sector, non-oil/gas exports must be relieved of all burdens that have reduced competitiveness. Therefore we can say that as far as exports are concerned nothing is to be doubted at all. The case is different with imports, where a fundamental reform has created some problems that naturally will have to be separately dealt with. While admitting the appropriateness and necessity of adopting the fundamental measure to gain long term goals, many circles --- including the Indonesian Economists Association --- observe that over the short run transitional issues will arise in several sectors. Marginal industries that so far can only survive thanks to the very high protection walls will find it difficult to continue operation and may have to dismiss their workers. On the other hand, under the new atmosphere of efficiency we can expect the emergence of more efficient industries with a greater comparative advantage, which will assume a better position to absorb the workers.

A problem can also arise when interinsular shipment is realised without using interinsular loading notifications (AVI), especially involving traditionally vulnerable areas such as Riau. On the one hand the lowering of import duty for certain goods e.g. glassware, dinner sets etc. reduces the urge to commit smugglings, but on the other hand the abolition of AVI facilitates the shipment of such goods from Riau to other regions. Glassware industries may later have to compete against the same products from imports subject to the lowered import duty, instead of contraband goods. They will inevitably have to get themselves prepared and promote efficiency.

The use of foreign surveyors, viz. SGS (Societe Generale de Surveillance) by Sucofindo to survey export and import goods may be criticized on the basis of nationalist arguments, as if the government trusted foreign surveyors more than national agencies such as customs & excise offices or national surveyor companies. Such arguments are indeed very sensitive and can easily provoke the public because nationalism has so far become a very strong drive and motivation in the way we maintain the state. But history shows how customs & excise bodies have constituted a source of corruption, which has become public knowledge. SGS, set up in 1788 with 14,000-strong personnel at 400 operational offices and 70 laboratories in hundreds of countries, is expected to do its best to maintain its reputation, because its main asset is confidence and bonafides besides of course its expertise. Indonesia's trade is only a small part of its operation, and it will be very foolish if SGS commits any "foul play" for small additional gains while risking its reputation and far wider operation.

In the meantime, the areas regulated in Inpres No. 4 certainly constitute only part of what causes the "high cost economy" in Indonesia, though very strategic fields have been involved. For further measures the other sectors need reordering. Meanwhile short term issues will have to be accommodated in the course of the very fundamental reform. This is even more so because in recent months structural reforms have repeatedly affected different fields.

In such a stage there will be great temptations to adopt solutions of an adhoc nature. The important thing is that we should stick to the main outlines of the long term structural reform, and avoid being drifted by the emerging short term issues we have to cope with.

CSO: 4200/874

INDONESIA

PRESIDENTIAL INSTRUCTION ON IMPORT, EXPORT PROCEDURES HAILED

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 10 Apr 85 pp 7, 8

[Text]

Indonesian importers associated in GINSI (Indonesian Importers Association) hail the President Instruction (Inpres) No.4/1985 which is aimed at stepping up and smoothening the flow of goods through seaports.

GINSI Chairman Zachri Achmad said here recently that the Inpres No.4/1985 constitutes a strategic and colossal policy that eliminates impediments hampering trade and sea transport activities.

The GINSI chairman expressed confidence that the step, which constituted the deregulation and simplification of procedures for smoothening foreign trade and sea transport, would soon affect directly the production sector. He also stated his optimism that the policy would lower cost paid by exporters/importers.

The policy will not merely lessen the cost of production and sea transport, but also make Indonesian commodities more competitive on the international market. He also pointed to the possibility of the increasing tight competition on the domestic market, following the effort to step up efficiency in the country.

He pointed out that the use of surveyors in supplier countries was still new in the trade world, but the abolition of pre-shipment customs inspection had been practised in many countries.

He explained that the cost paid by the Indonesian Government for the use of surveyor services was smaller than losses resulting from deviations in the customs

field so far. In this connection, he disclosed that businessmen had to expend around Rp 100 billion a year for illegal levies at seaports.

Surveyors appointed by the Indonesian Government in supplier countries will be working based on the Customs Tariff Book used in Indonesia. Surveyors will examine goods to be sent to Indonesia at the factories and at the commodity exchange in the countries of origin of the import goods.

Import goods worth below US\$ 5,000 can be sent with or without survey reports from surveyors in the supplier countries. But who will assess the prices of the import goods concerned to have the idea that commodities to be shipped to Indonesia are worth below US\$ 5,000, especially in view of the fact that the check prices have been abolished, he pointed to the weakness of the new regulation.

The opportunity given to importers to manage themselves air/sea freight forwarding for their import goods will increase competition among forwarding companies (EMKL/EMKU) to lower the cost of services, he said.

INSA'S SUPPORT : Indonesian shipowners grouped in INS (Indonesian Shipowners Association) supports the implementation of the Inpres No. 4/1985. Drs. Syamsudin Martowijoyo of INSA said here recently that the Inpres No.4/1985 was in the long run beneficial to shipping companies. He admitted, however, that the Inpres No.4 was harmful to some companies in the short run.

INSA considers positive steps taken by the government in the inter-insular shipment of goods, according to Syamsudin. The abolition of stipulations on inter-island loading notofication, shipment reports and fiscal certificates will secure smooth interisland transport of goods, he said.

INSA also supports the government decision to fix a single tariff of shipment cost, as the rate previously determined based on the first to fourth levels has been effective not as expected. Generally,

the effective rate has so far been based on the result of negotiations between ship users/owners of goods and shipping companies. The second level tariff has sometimes been lower than the real rate, he said.

The abolition of cargo handling, including stevedoring and cargo doring/receiving/delivery, which has so far been undertaken by shipping companies, will reduce the income of those companies, as they have to get earnings only from the shipment of goods. Such a step is harmful to shipping companies, but in the long run it will enable them to survive & grow only from their shipping services, he pointed out. In this context, he disclosed that most of 52 national shipping companies now operating in Indonesia had got their earnings only from their shipping services, without involving themselves in cargo handling at the ports.

He did not rule out the possibility of the appointment of companies by the government to serve cargo handling at the harbours. He explained that based on the Government Regulation (PP) No.2/1969, cargo handling for shipping companies constitutes disguised assistance from the government which has been running for a long time.

Concerning the agency of foreign shipping companies in Indonesia, Syamsudin said the government should examine whether those companies had fulfilled requirements, so as to prevent the operation of foreign companies which were dependent merely upon the opening of their agencies in Indonesia, instead of their shipping services.

Touching on the operation of vessels belonging to foreign shipping companies for domestic/interisland routes, he said it would not hamper the development of national shipping companies, as foreign companies to operate in Indonesian waters had to fulfil requirements determined by the government. Apart from that, it will not be profitable for foreign big vessels to serve inter-insular transport of goods, he added.

INDONESIA

TRADE FIGURES WITH BRITAIN IN PAST 10 YEARS

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 10 Apr 85 p 5

[Text] Trade activities between Indonesia and Britain have in the past ten years rapidly developed, viewed from the sharp increases in the volume and value of trade. Bilateral trade between the two countries rose from 180,000 metric tons worth US\$.168 million in 1974 to around 600,000 metric tons valued at US\$, 680 million last year.

But Indonesia has always recorded deficits in trade with that West European country in the past ten years. The balance of trade between Indonesia and the United Kingdom from 1974 to 1984, according to data collected by BPS (Central Bureau of Statistics), is as follows: [see table on following page]

British imports from Indonesia mainly consist of around 135 commodities, including: palmoil, black tea, natural rubber, plywood and other timber products, essential oil, processed rattan, black and white pepper, frozen fish and shrimps, molasses, clothing and handicraft products. Britain, which is well known as a producer of oil and natural gas, also imports crude oils from Indonesia.

Indonesia's imports from that West European state consist of around 200 kinds of industrial and agricultural products, comprising, among other things: chemicals, synthetic dye-stuffs, explosives and pyrotechnical materials, synthetic rubber, cellulose, paper and carton, iron ingot, steel plates, iron plates, aluminium plates, galvanized iron plates, metal construction frames, bolts/myrrh/nails, machines/motors, tractors, electronic goods, motor vehicles + spareparts, aircraft + spareparts, and ships + spareparts, fresh/frozen meat, milk, butter, cheese, wheat flour, fruits, liquor and tobacco products.

CSO: 4200/874

Y E A R	INDONESIAN EXPORTS		INDONESIAN IMPORTS		BALANCE FOR INDON (US\$,000)
	VOLUME (TON)	FOB VALUE (US\$,000)	VOLUME (TON)	CIF VALUE (US\$,000)	
1 9 7 4	63,676	21,935	121,262	146,989	- 125,054
1 9 7 5	108,843	31,367	103,502	164,700	- 131,467
1 9 7 6	117,959	44,558	95,186	176,025	- 133,198
1 9 7 7	66,694	61,710	84,737	234,895	- 173,185
1 9 7 8	117,048	53,597	78,367	207,613	- 154,016
1 9 7 9	118,667	88,891	101,565	198,048	- 109,157
1 9 8 0	123,361	161,687	91,511	261,222	- 99,535
1 9 8 1	181,934	131,027	122,005	546,657	- 415,630
1 9 8 2	340,671	126,421	120,557	445,311	- 318,889
1 9 8 3	455,181	198,977	140,258	364,391	- 165,414
1 9 8 4 (Jan.-May)	158,236	75,324	72,678	117,889	- 42,565

INDONESIA

SAUDI ASSISTANCE FOR SUGAR NES PROJECT

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 10 Apr 85 p 10

[Text]

Saudi Arabia, through the Saudi Fund for Development (SPD) has approved a loan amounting to SR 33.2 million or US\$ 9.3 million to Indonesia for the financing of a sugar NES project.

The document for the extension of the loan was signed here recently by Dr. Saleh H. Al-Humaidan, deputy vice chairman of the SFD, and Soegito Sastromidjojo, director general for monetary affairs of the Indonesian Foreign Ministry.

The total cost of the project is US\$ 130.28 million. For the financing of the project, Indonesia has also received a loan from the World Bank.

With the extension of US\$ 9.3 million from the SFD, the total loans Indonesia has received from Saudi Arabia have up to the present time amounted to SR 628.8 million or US\$ 175.6 million.

The sugar NES (nucleus estate for smallholders) project, which is handled by PTP XXIV and XXV (state-run plantation companies) and the Directorate General for Bina Marga (Road Development), is expected to be entirely completed by December 1988.

The project include: land cultivation and the planting of sugarcane seedlings on 15,400 ha of land; the construction of new sugar plants; the procurement of new houses complete with facilities required; the building and betterment of local and regional roads; and the procurement of sugarcane seedlings, farming machines, vehicles/transport facilities and technical assistance.

22 May 1985

INDONESIA

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH ARAB CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE SIGNED

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 12 Apr 85 p 4

[Text]

Minister of Trade Rachmah Saleh SE has stated that Indonesia and the Arab countries have the same aspiration, that is the creation of a peaceful world with equitable development of economy and expansion of trade.

Rachmat Saleh said further when signing a cooperation agreement between Kadin (Indonesian Chamber of Commerce & Industry) and General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab countries here Thursday that Indonesia could and had to joint hands with other countries in the creation of fair expansion of trade and development of economy in the world.

He stated that Indonesia could and had the opportunity to expand trade with other developing countries. He revealed that Indonesia, with a population of 160 million, had a potential market, but for certain products the domestic market had been saturated. Therefore, Indonesia has to seek export markets for its competitive commodities, he added.

He voiced the need of Indonesia and the Arab countries to know each other's economic potential and opportunity, so as to enable the two sides to expand their relations in the future for the well being of the people of both sides.

21 COUNTRIES : The cooperation agreement was signed by Sheikh Ismail Abu Dawood, chairman of the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce, and Dr. Burhan Dajani, secretary general of the Association of

Arab Chambers of Commerce for the General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab countries. Kadin was represented in signing the agreement by Kadin Chairman Sukamdani and Deputy Secretary General of Kadin Chris D. Walean.

The General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab Countries represents 21 countries, namely: The United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Iraq, Jibouti, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, North Yemen, Oman, PLO, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, South Yemen, Sudan, Syria and Tunisia.

The Indonesia and Arab sides have agreed to set up an Arab-Indonesian chamber of commerce each in Indonesia and in the Arab countries, as part of the effort to promote trade relations between Indonesia and those countries.

The eight-member delegation from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Syria, headed by Sheikh Ismail Abu Dawood, has the opportunity to see Indonesian products displayed at a mini exhibition held at Hotel Indonesia here.

Besides paying a courtesy call on Minister of Trade Rachmat Saleh, the Arab delegation has also met Minister of Industry Ir. Hartarto, Junior Minister for Promotion of Use of Domestic Products/Chairman of BKPM (Investment Coordinating Board) Drs. Ir. Ginanjar Kartasasmita, Minister of Manpower Sudomo, Minister of Finance Drs. Radius Prawiro and Minister of Ekuin (Economic, Financial and Industrial Affairs) and Development Supervision Dr. Ali Wardhana.

During the four-day visit to Indonesia (from April 9 through 12), the guests also visited PT National Gobel which manufactures electronic goods and TMII, beautiful Indonesia in miniature.

CSO: 4200/874

INDONESIA

PROJECTED FERTILIZER NEEDS IN 1985-1986

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 12 Apr 85 p 8

[Text]

The need for various kinds of fertilizer in Indonesia in the 1985 planting season (April-September 1985) and in the 1985/86 planting season (October 1985 - March 1986) is projected at 4,983,700 tons, according to the Agriculture Ministry.

The projection is 1,954,350 tons for the 1985 planting season and 2,939,350 tons for the 1985/86 planting season. The need for fertilizer in the 1985 planting season will consist of 1,155,500 tons of urea, 429,500 tons of TSP, 227,850 tons of ZA, 134,000 tons of KCl and 7,500 tons of KS.

The need for fertilizer in the 1985/86 planting season will comprise 1,844,500 tons of urea, 734,700 tons of TSP, 205,150 tons of ZA and 155,000 tons of KCl. Thus the total consumption of fertilizer in the 1985 and 1985/86 planting seasons is expected to comprise 3,000,000 tons of urea, 1,164,200 tons of TSP, 433,000 tons of ZA, 289,000 tons of KCl and 7,500 tons of KS.

The total capacity of fertilizer plants in the production of urea, TSP and ZA is now still being studied.

Including the procurement of additional supply of 11,000 tons of KCl fertilizer to overcome the shortage of KCl in the 1984/85 planting season, the total need for this fertilizer in the 1985 and 1985/86 planting season is projected at 300,000 tons. Part of the procurement of KCl fertilizer has been fulfilled with Canada's assistance of 131,000 tons worth Can.\$ 20 million scheduled to arrive in the February - June period this year.

INDONESIA

FINLAND ASKED TO INVEST IN FORESTRY SECTOR

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 13 Apr 85 p A3

[Text]

Jakarta, April 13 (ANTARA).-- Minister of Forestry Dr. Soedjarwo received at his office here Friday an 11-member delegation of the Finnish Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which was headed by Sekari Yrjonon.

The talks between the forestry minister and the C.C.I. delegation from Finland were emphasized on the possibility of Finnish investors making investments in the forestry sector in Indonesia. Finland has earned most of its foreign exchange from the exports of forest products.

The current visit of the Finnish C.C.I. mission to Indonesia is also aimed at stepping up trade relations between Indonesia and that Scandinavian country.

During the talks, Soedjarwo offered to the Finnish delegation investment by Finnish businessmen in timber estates, the setting up of paper/pulp factories and rayon factories, the processing of timber industrial waste and in the future industry.

In the trade sector, Indonesia offered its export commodities to Finland, while that Scandinavian country offered its services for the marketing of Indonesia's commodities from the forestry industry in Europe.

A key official of the Forestry Department disclosed meanwhile that inter-governmental cooperation between the two countries had been running for a long time, especially in the forest replanting program in South Kalimantan and in the utilization of peat in nurseries prepared for reforestation and in the generation of energy.

Concerning the investment of capital in the forestry sector offered by Minister Soedjarwo to the Finnish delegation, the official said the prospect of Finland's capital investment in timber estates in Indonesia was bright.

The Finnish CCI delegation arrived here on April 10, 1985 for a four-day visit to Indonesia.

CSO: 4200/875

INDONESIA

FINLAND OFFERS COOPERATION IN ENGINEERING, TIMBER INDUSTRIES

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 13 Apr 85 p A8

[Text]

Jakarta, April 12 (ANTARA).- The visiting Finnish chamber of trade delegation has offered cooperation in the development of the engineering, timber/ logging and paper industries in Indonesia.

The offer was made by the head of the Finnish delegation, Sakari Froynen, during a meeting with Industry Department Secretary General Tuk Setyohadi, acting on behalf of the minister of industry, here Friday.

Finland with a population of only five million, Sakari Froynen said, was quite potential particularly in engineering technology, timber processing and the reprocessing of used paper.

The potential is among other things reflected in the extent of the contribution of the engineering industry to added value, reaching 31%, and the timber industry's contribution of 25%.

Indonesia, he added, with a population of more than 160 million, is also highly potential for the development of waste paper reprocessing industry, especially judging from the country's large paper consumption.

He admitted, however, that it would not be so easy to collect waste paper in this very large country.

The Finnish delegation is looking for possibilities of promoting the existing cooperation between the two countries. The Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Kadin) sent a delegation to Finland in June 1984.

With regard to the cooperation, Tuk Setyohadi told the delegation members that it was an obligation of the advanced and industrialized nations to help promote the living standard of the people in the developing countries.

An increased purchasing power on the part of the population of the developing countries would in turn also favour the advanced countries because more of their products could be marketed in such third world nations.

CSO: 4200/875

INDONESIA

FINNISH ENTREPRENEURS TO INVEST HERE

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 15 Apr 85 p A4

[Text]

Jakarta, April 14 (ANTARA). Finnish entrepreneurs are interested in investing their capital in Indonesia in the sector of chemistry and wood preservation, according to the Head of Promotion Bureau of the National Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM), Budi Hartantio, Saturday not long after receiving a delegation of the Finnish Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN).

On the occasion, the head of the Finnish delegation considered Indonesia as one of the most important and potential markets for Finlandia.

The head of Finnish Chamber of Commerce, Sakari Yrjonen, also estimated that his side will in the near future make investments in Indonesia.

Meanwhile, the Finnish delegation also got an explanation about the condition of the investment in Indonesia and the government's policy in that field.

The delegation arrived in Indonesia on April 10 and was scheduled to leave for Singapore Saturday afternoon.

During the four-day visit the delegation has visited Minister of Trade Rachmat Saleh, Minister of Industry Hartarto, Minister of Forestry Sudjarwo, and Minister of Finance Radius Prawiro.

The visit was aimed at enhancing cooperation between the two countries in the field of economy, trade and investment.

CSO: 4200/876

INDONESIA

PERTAMINA CHIEF ON OIL, LPG EXPORTS TO JAPAN

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 12 Apr 85 pp A4, A5

[Text]

Jakarta, April 11 (ANTARA).-- Pertamina, the state oil company, strongly believed that Indonesia's crude oil exports to Japan will soon be restored to 15% of that country's need for the commodity.

This might be made possible with the acceptance in Japan's market Sumatera Medium Crude (SMC) which has replaced Minas oil, Pertamina President Director Ramly told the press at his office here Thursday.

He also admitted that Indonesia's oil exports to Japan has dropped 13.1 per cent of that country's needs, which previously stood at 15% of Japan's oil supplies from Indonesia.

With SMC entering into Japan, Ramly strongly believed that the export will increase to 14%, or even be restored to the original 15% of that country's needs as agreed upon with Indonesia.

LPG.

The Indonesian oil company is at present also selling its LPG to Japan. LPG is previously only for domestic consumption, although Indonesia has a large potential for producing it.

He said Japan was very interested in buying Indonesia's LPG, considering that almost 80% of its supplies came from the Middle East.

Japan itself was of the view that it would be better for it to depend on Indonesia's supplies of the commodity, as recently expressed by PM Nakasone.

Indonesia will start exporting its LPG in 1987, he said.

Ramly added that Indonesia's LNG exports to Japan in 1984/1985 reached 14.1 million tons, consisting of 7.1 million tons from Arun in Aceh, and 7 million tons from Badak, East Kalimantan.

The LNG exports may also be extended to South Korea and Taiwan, he added.

Pertamina is currently boosting its crude marketing.

In the meeting with the press for about three hours, Ramly and Pertamina's main debts had been paid off since April 1, 1985, while the remaining interests amounted to Rp.150 billion. It has been agreed with Bank Indonesia that the payment of the interests may be done in instalments.

On April 1, 1981, Pertamina's debts reached Rp.1.155 trillion with an interest of Rp.500 billion.

He said Indonesia's oil output, 96% of which was supplied by its production sharing contractors, had dropped in terms of investment. But unlike in other countries, in Indonesia the drop was relatively small.

INDONESIA

MP WELCOMES DIRECT TRADE WITH PRC

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 10 Apr 85 p A5

[Text]

Jakarta, April 9 (ANTARA).-- Deputy chairman of the state budget commission of parliament Parulian Silalahi is of the opinion that direct trade relations between Indonesia and China is now timely.

Parulian told ANTARA here Tuesday that it was now the most opportune time for Indonesia to establish direct trade relations with China.

China whose population reaches one billion according to the parliament member constitutes a potential market for Indonesia's commodities.

With a direct trade contact between both countries, China could import coffee, tin, and other commodities directly from Indonesia.

So far, both countries have been carrying out trade relations indirectly (through third countries such as Hongkong and Singapore) after the diplomatic relations between the two countries were severed in 1967.

Silalahi stressed however that the free and active foreign policy adopted by Indonesia should also be applied in the sector of economic and trade cooperation.

In line with its free and active foreign policy system, besides western block countries Indonesia should also establish trade relations with the eastern block countries including China, he said.

The expansion of markets for Indonesian products now is needed for the national development as the implementation of the Pancasila philosophy, he said.

Parulian said that in direct trade relations with China one should not associate it with whether Indonesia would or would not restore diplomatic relations with China.

The most important thing is that Indonesia has a trade representative in China and China has also a trade representative in Indonesia, he stressed.

On the occasion, Parulian warmly welcome the visit by the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce mission to China and hoped that the relations would be further intensified in the future.

He also expected that China's Chamber of Commerce would like to pay a visit to Indonesia.

CSO: 4200/875

INDONESIA

ARAB COUNTRIES CAN PROVIDE JOBS FOR 300,000 INDONESIAN WORKERS

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 13 Apr 85 pp A4, A5

[Text]

Jakarta, April 13 (ANTARA).-- The number of Indonesian workers in the various Arab countries, which at present has reached the 70,000 figure, can still be increased to 200,000 even 300,000 people.

The chairman of the chamber of commerce and industry of the Arab League, Sheikh Ismail Abudawood, pointed this out to ANTARA here Friday in connection with the visit of Arab businessmen to Indonesia.

Ismail Abudawood said that through employment in Arabia the Indonesian workers could get a much higher income which ultimately would result in a much better standard of living.

He pointed further out that in general Indonesian workers would have no difficulties to work in the Arab countries, mainly concerning their behaviour of character. "The Indonesian workers are still the best among all the foreign workers now working in the Arab countries", he stressed.

Ismail Abudawood also agreed with the opinion of several people that the dispatch of Indonesian workers abroad would help solve the unemployment problem in Indonesia.

Ismail, flanked by the Saudi Arabian Ambassador to Indonesia Sheikh Mohammad Said Basrawi, further explained that the aim of his party's visit to Indonesia was to create and to develop closer relations between Arab and Indonesian businessmen.

The chamber of commerce and industry of the Arab League had therefore expressed the hope that KADIN Indonesia (Indonesian chamber of commerce and industry) would soon send a delegation to several Arab countries to submit offers for various Indonesian manufactured goods and services, which could be purchased by the countries of the Middle East.

Both chambers of commerce will soon discuss various efforts to extend cooperation between both parties, for instance in establishing joint ventures, and stepping up Indonesian imports.

"The concept of cooperation extension through our delegation's visit to Indonesia, still needs several follow-ups, so that both parties would really know what way to follow", Ismail Abudawood said.

The businessmen from the Middle East during their stay here have met officials as well as their Indonesian counterparts, among them the secretary

general of the ministry of industries, Tuk Setyohadi, Deputy Chairman of the capital investment coordinating agency (BKPM) Ir.Sanyoto as well as the executive board of KADIN Indonesia.

Friday the party left Jakarta for Denpasar and was scheduled to leave Saturday for Singapore and Malaysia.

CSO: 4200/876

22 May 1985

and to contribute to the development of the country. The Japanese Government is committed to the development of Indonesia and to the improvement of the living standards of the Indonesian people. The Japanese Government is committed to the development of Indonesia and to the improvement of the living standards of the Indonesian people.

INDONESIA

JAPANESE VICE AMBASSADOR ON EAST TIMOR'S PROGRESS

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 13 Apr 85 p A3

[Text]

Dili, April 11 (ANTARA).-- Vice Ambassador of Japan to Indonesia Shigenobu Nagai has stated that East Timor, since its integration into Indonesia in 1976, has been going ahead with the effort to catch up with progress made by other provinces in Indonesia.

The Japanese envoy said here Thursday that East Timor had lagged behind other areas in Indonesia because of colonization by Portugal for 50 years.

Shigenobu Nagai expressed confidence that the hard work conducted by the Governor of East Timor, Mario Viegas Carrascalao, would lead this youngest province in Indonesia to modernization, so that the province could catch up with progress made by other provinces in a relatively short time.

The Japan's vice ambassador was on the occasion in a four-day visit to East Timor, together with Venezuelan Ambassador Jesus Garcia Cbronado, Nigerian Ambassador Falase and French Vice Ambassador Henri Vidal.

The Japanese vice ambassador said he was impressed by the enthusiastic statement made by East Timorese people, when the four foreign envoys met them, they hailed the integration of East Timor into Indonesia.

Some of them even said that East Timor had been too late in integrating into Indonesia. If this province could join Indonesia earlier, people in the province had been able to enjoy much the result of development at the present time, they told the guests.

Shigenobu Nagai stated the preparedness of the Japanese Government to provide assistance for the realization of development programs in East Timor, particularly in the health and educational sectors.

CSO: 4200/876

INDONESIA

EXPATRIATES SAID TO DOMINATE MARKETING SECTOR

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 11 Apr 85 p A9

[Text]

Jakarta, April 11 (ANTARA).- Industrial distributor circles have expressed regret over the domination by expatriates of the marketing sector from the production, distribution to the retailing lines.

"It means the government provision about the sales of foreign companies' products has not yet been implemented fully, such as the marketing of Nestle dairy products by PT Food Specialities Indonesia (PT FSI)", the circles said Wednesday.

Under the trade minister's decision No. 77/Kp/III/78, foreign corporation (PMA) are not allowed to make direct sales of products to consumers, retailers or traders.

But in reality, in the marketing of milkproducts, FSI set up its main distributors under management of three expatriates. At the plant, FSI appointed expatriates as marketing executives who chance assigned certain figures in charge of distribution in various cities in the country.

Currently, FSI took a one-sided measure against its Pontianak-based distributor in West Kalimantan, PT Gelora Agung Raya, by lifting the distribution licence. The action so far has prompted an uneasiness among its 50 sub-distributors throughout the country, who called on the government's help to solve the problem.

CSO: 4200/875

INDONESIA

FOUR AMBASSADORS DISCUSS EAST TIMOR

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 12 Apr 85 p A11

[Text]

Dili, April 12 (ANTARA).-- The Venezuelan and Nigerian ambassadors as well as the deputy chiefs of mission of France and Japan are of the view that the implementation of East Timor's development, in particular pertaining to its public welfare, is obviously proceeding favourably.

They explained their respective views to the head of Ermera regency, Thomas Gonsalves, and to the local people, when they surveyed Gleno Town, the regency's capital town, Wednesday, before proceeding to Liquisa regency in the framework of their tour of East Timor from April 8 through 11, 1985.

Before visiting the regencies situated in the eastern sector, viz. Viqueque, Lautem (Lospalos) and Bacau, the four foreign representatives made observations on the implementation of the physical development and the efforts by the Indonesian government to raise the standard of living of the people since East Timor's integration in 1976.

Venezuelan Ambassador Jesus Garcia Coronado said for the development East Timor patience and the will to work hard are necessary as well as a gradual process to improve the aspect of public life.

The completion of East Timor's development is not as rapid and as easy through changes in the situation as desired. We want of course that this development process would only take several months to complete to catch up with the backwardness suffered during colonization, he said.

His country for instance was once colonized by Spain for 300 years and has now been independent for 170 years, but it is still in the process of development.

Venezuela abstains on the East Timor problem in the UN.

Not opposed

Nigerian Ambassador Falasa also stressed that his country abstained on the East Timor problem in the UN, but had fully understood the problem. He explained that Nigeria is a developing country, which had gained its independence in 1960, after British colonization.

His country had also to go through a period of civil war from 1967-1970. The problems in Nigeria and Indonesia have similarities, viz. both are aware of the importance of national unity, due to the many tribes and languages, he said.

/said

The French deputy chief of mission/ the French attitude has been conveyed by the French government to the Indonesian government.

France, which is situated in Europe like Portugal has always wanted/ hoped that Portugal could negotiate with Indonesia for a peaceful settlement of the problem.

Different from Venezuela, Nigeria and France, Japan has since the East Timor problem was raised in the UN in 1975, always supported Indonesia, the Japanese representative, Shigenobu Nagai, said.

CSO: 4200/875

INDONESIA

SAI CEMENT PLANT IN ACEH BEGINS USING COAL AS FUEL

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 10 Apr 85 p A6

[Text]

Banda Aceh, April 10 (ANTARA).--- PT.Semen Andalas Indonesia (SAI), a cement industrial company in Lhoknga, Aceh, which has so far used oil as its fuel, has begun using coal to operate its production unit.

The trial operation using coal as fuel has been running since the end of March 1985 and around June the use of coal is expected to reach around 40% of the entire fuel required to operate the plant, Director of PT.SAI Ir.Suryono disclosed Tuesday.

The conversion of the fueling system to change fuel used by the plant from oil to coal is scheduled to be entirely completed in the beginning of 1986, he said.

The use of coal to operate the cement plant, according Ir.Suryono, will reduce the cost of production, especially in view of the fact that coal is abundantly available in Indonesia.

The use of coal by PT.SAI to operate a cement plant is the first in Indonesia. Three more cement producers, namely PT.Semen Baturaja, PT.Semen Padang and PT.Semen Kupang, will soon follow the step PT.SAI to use coal as fuel.

The conversion of the fueling system also constitutes part of the effort to minimize the consumption of oil in the country and increase the procurement of oil for exports, he added.

The cement plant operated by PT.SAI has an installed production capacity of 1,000,000 tons a year, but at present the plant is operating only with 50% of its full capacity, because the marketing of its products has not developed as expected.

PT.SAI is expected to be able to fulfil the entire need for cement in Aceh this year, according to Ir.Suryono.

CSO: 4200/875

INDONESIA

HARDI TO ATTEND SEMINAR ON PALESTINE IN BEIJING

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 9 Apr 85 p A8

[Text]

Jakarta, April 9 (ANTARA).-- Hardi SH will attend the 10-th regional seminar for the Asian region, organized by the "Committee on the Exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian People", which will be held in Beijing, the People's Republic of China (PRC), from April 22 through 26, 1985.

The seminar will be held, based on a United Nations General Assembly decision of December 13, 1983, Hardi SH pointed out Tuesday.

Hardi participated at a UN seminar on Palestine which was held in Jakarta last year.

Hardi a prominent Indonesian politician was one-time Deputy Prime Minister of Indonesia, Indonesian ambassador to Vietnam (Hanoi).

Hardi explained that he was invited as an Indonesian citizen by the UN through a cable from UN Assistant Secretary General for Political and General Assembly Affairs William B. Buffum.

Hardi in the coming Beijing seminar will submit a working-paper on the Palestinian problem and public opinion in Asia.

The seminar is scheduled to be attended by 15 members of Parliaments and experts from the Asian region as well as by delegations of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), of the Arab League, of the Islamic Conference Organization and other organizations.

CSO: 4200/875

INDONESIA

TRANSMIGRATION TO JAMBI

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 8 Apr 85 p A3

[Text]

Jambi, April 8 (ANTARA).- In the 1985/1986 fiscal year Jambi will put 2,350 families of transmigrants in four resettlement areas within its three regencies.

Chief of the regional office of the Transmigration Ministry Soekanto told ANTARA Saturday of the four locations only one was prepared as a resettlement area, the one in Dusun Danau, Bungo Tebo regency. It will provide living quarters for 400 families.

As many as 350 families on aid from the World Bank will be placed in Kuamang Kuning, Bungo Tebo regency and 1,100 others in Tanjung Jabung regency.

The remaining 500 families will be placed in Sungai Bahar, Batang Hari regency. They will take part in oil palm cultivation under the management of PTP (Public Corporation Plantation).

Today the number of transmigrants in the province amounts to 36,005 families spread in four regencies.

The biggest number of transmigrants is found in Tanjung Jabung regency divided into six areas, Dendang (2,270 families), Lembur (1,200), Simpang Pandan (1,500), Pamusinan (450), Lagan Ulu (1,330) and Tungkai Ulu (1,600).

Sarolangun Bangko regency houses 6,570 families, Batanghari regency 5,350 and Bungo Tebo 700 families.

Transmigrants receiving aid from the World Bank total 15,035 families spread in Kuamang Kuning, Bungo Tebo, Hitam Ulu and Kubang Ujo, Sarolangun Bangko regency.

CSO: 4200/875

INDONESIA

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SURPLUS REPORTED

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 15 Apr 85 p A11

[Text]

Jakarta, April 15 (ANTARA).-- Indonesia's balance of payments in the 1984/1985 budgetary year ending on March 31, 1985, made a surplus of US\$ 667 million, compared with the US\$ 193 million surplus projection in the 1984/1985 budget.

Indonesia's success in making the substantial surplus is due to, among others, the application of a foreign exchange traffic system that is favourable to the country, said Minister of Finance Radius Prawiro Monday.

At an installation ceremony of four new members of the director-board of state-owned banks, Minister Radius Prawiro said the improved position of the Payments balance increased the optimism that a free foreign exchange traffic can be continuously maintained.

This free system, he added, was in line with the Presidential Decree No. 4, 1985 in an effort to expedite the flow of export and import goods through seaports by removing the existing barriers.

CSO: 4200/876

INDONESIA

OMBIL COAL PRODUCTION INCREASING

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 17 Apr 85 p A1

[Text]

Sawahlunto, April 17 (ANTARA).-- The Ombilin coalmine in Sawahlunto in 1978 for the first time exported 3,330 tons of coal to Japan, though the total production capacity at that time was 87,000 tons.

In 1979 its production rose from 87,116 tons in 1978 to 92,318 tons, where it also managed to export 5,516 tons of coal to South Korea.

The use of heavy and modern equipment at the open-pit mining field at Rasau V and Tanah hitam increased the production to 142,830 tons in 1980. Its export had also gone up to 8,100 tons to Bangladesh.

Chief of the Ombilin mining unit Ir. Soehandoyo said that the increasing demand of coal and the use of modern equipment in the mining site are two main factors that levelled up both the production and export capacity of the Ombilin coalmine.

He said that in 1981 the production increased to 241,687 tons while its export rose to 84,151 tons namely to Bangladesh 8,400 tons, Malaysia-71,220 tons and Thailand - 4,531 tons.

In 1982 the Ombilin mining company exported its product to four countries notably South Korea 6,168 tons, Malaysia -71,765 tons and Thailand -4,652 tons.

In 1983 the production again increased by 7.63 per cent only or 325,662 tons, but its export rose to 37.90 per cent or 143,255 tons namely to Malaysia -101,548 tons, South Korea-26,231.5 tons, Vietnam - 10,003 tons and Japan -5,473 tons.

Sharp increase

Both production and export of coal again increased in 1984.

Coal production rose to 583,581 tons in 1984 and export had sharply increased to 401,520.6 tons namely to Malaysia - 281,112 tons, Japan -73,627 tons South Korea -36,137 tons and Vietnam -10,111 tons.

Since coal export was begun in 1978 until 1984, the Sawahlunto coalmine exported 749,757 tons of coal to six Asian countries notably Malaysia, South Korea, Japan, Bangladesh, Vietnam and Thailand. For Malaysia 90 per cent of its coal demand was supplied by the Ombilin coalmine.

Soehandoyo said that of the total export of 401,521 tons of coal in 1984, the Ombilin coalmine pocketed a US\$ 14.36 million foreign exchange earning or around Rp 15,8 billion with an average price of US\$ 36 per ton.

This year the Ombilin coal production will be much domestically consumed particularly for substituting fuel oil at cement plants, he added.

INDONESIA

PROJECTED EXPANSION OF OMBILIN COAL MINE DESCRIBED

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 15 Apr 85 pp A3, A4

[Text]

Sawahlunto, April 15 (ANTARA).-- Coal consumption in Indonesia by 1990 is expected to reach eight million tons per year, which for the greater part will be used by cement factories and thermal powerplants.

This coal requirement will be met by the Ombilin Coal Mine in Sawahlunto, which will be extended by Ombilin II and III, as well as by the Bukit Asam Coal Mine and the reactivation of coal mines in Kalimantan, Chief Director of the state-owned coal mining company Ir. Achmad Prijono said here Saturday evening.

He and Supreme Advisory Council Member Prof.Drs. Harun Zain were in Sawahlunto to attend a thanksgiving ceremony by Ombilin Coal Mine (TBO) workers, because the mine's 1984 production reached 116.7 per cent of the projected target of 500,000 tons and the putting into use of mechanical mining ordered from Britain.

According to Achmad Prijono, increase in coal production is essential due to the rising domestic as well as foreign demands.

The cement plans in Indonesia, which so far have used fuel oil, are shifting to coal, he added.

Ombilin Coal Mine through its Ombilin II and III extension projects, in collaboration with a foreign contractor, is expected to be capable of increasing its production to 1.8 to 2.0 million tons in 1990.

Ombilin I through first stage upgrading was capable of increasing its production from 92,318 tons in 1979 to 142,829 tons in 1980 and to 241,687 tons in 1981.

In the following year production increased further to 302,571 tons and in 1983 to 325,663 tons and to 583,581 tons in 1984, which was an increase of 79,20 per cent compared with 1983.

The first stage upgrading of Ombilin I was carried out through a Yen 3.1 billion (or approximately Rp.13.6 billion) Japanese loan for the purchase of heavy equipment for open mining, as well as through a Canadian and an Australian loan of respectively Can \$ 11 million and A\$3.8 million for the purchase of coal cleansing units.

At the second upgrading stage through soft loans, grants and a British loan of St£ 19.75 million (Appr Rp.37.2 billion) the Ombilin I was replenished with mechanical mining equipment for subterranean mining, so

that production can be raised to one million tons in 1986.

According to Achmad Prijono the possibility of cooperation with Australia in openmining in the Parambahan - Ombilin area is at present being explored, which is expected to be capable of producing 500,000 tons by 1990. For that purpose an investment of US\$13.2 million or about Rp.14.5 billion is necessary, in particular for the purchase of equipment.

A joint study with Canada is at present also being carried out at the cost of US\$4 million or about Rp.4.5 billion on coal mining in the Waringin and Sugar areas which can produce a total of 600,000 tons per year.

The Ombilin Coal Mine in Sawahlunto, which has a mining concession of 155 sq.kms, has, according to current study results, coal reserves of about 166.4 million tons.

CSO: 4200/876

INDONESIA

DEVELOPMENT OF PT PAL SHIPYARD DESCRIBED

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 15 Apr 85 pp A3, A4

[Text]

Surabaya, April 15 (ANTARA).- PT PAL Indonesia, the state-owned shipyards in Surabaya, recorded in 1984 a profit of Rp.1.54 billion, a decline of almost half of the 1983 profit, which stood at Rp.2.38 billion.

This was stated by Minister for Research and Technology Dr. B.J. Habibie to newsmen here Sunday evening. Minister Habibie was in Surabaya in the framework of the preparations for the official launching of ships produced by PT PAL Indonesia, which was scheduled to be officiated by President Soeharto Monday.

The enterprise, which was originally christened "Penataan Angkatan Laut" and managed by the Indonesian Navy, was taken over in 1980 by the BPPT (Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology).

PT PAL Indonesia which employs 6,000 workers and has docking facilities of 107 hectares as well as docking capacity of 20,000 tons, is at present capable of producing various kinds of merchant ships and ships for the Navy of 60 to 3,500 tons.

Since PT PAL has been taken over by the BPPT, docking facilities for ship building and repairs have been improved.

Viewed from the financial aspect, in 1980 (the time PT PAL was taken over by the BPPT) the enterprise suffered a loss of Rp.1.41 billion, which increased to Rp.3.12 billion in 1981 and to Rp.3.91 billion in 1982.

The enterprise recorded a profit however in 1983 of Rp.2.83 billion and in 1984 only Rp.1.54 billion.

On PT PAL Indonesia's further development, Minister Habibie said that through the current program it was expected the firm would be capable of manufacturing ships of 30,000 tons.

Apart from building conventional ships the firm is also producing jetfoils through collaboration with the US Boeing Aircraft Company. While through cooperation with Japanese firm Mitsui Sosan, it will manufacture ships with the latest technology.

CSO: 4200/876

LAOS

COMMENTARY SCORES REAGAN ADMINISTRATION ON NICARAGUA

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 22 Mar 85 p 4

[Commentary: "The Nicaraguans Fight Resolutely for Their Beloved Fatherland"]

[Text] Based on a recent [report] of the Ministry of National Defense of Nicaragua, in a 15-day period in early March Sandinista military forces satisfactorily punished the counterrevolutionaries who are CIA henchmen who incited violence in Matagalpa, [Jinotega], [Nueva Segovia], and Zelaya provinces and brushed off 130 enemies from the battlefield. This demonstrated the resolute fighting spirit of the people with no thought of surrendering and of the Sandinista military forces for independence, sovereignty, and integrity of the nation against the invasion of the American imperialists and their henchmen. As we know well, for quite a long time the Washington administration has carried out an undeclared war against the Nicaraguan people hoping to extinguish the people's revolution and the just struggle of the people in this country led by the Sandinista liberation movement. In the past and also now Washington has been moving to dismantle Nicaragua in many ways directly and indirectly, and along with the economic blockade they used direct arms threats. Besides mining the water to destroy ships and block off international navigation along the Nicaraguan coast, they also used military forces for direct blockade and threats, e.g., Washington used the 6th and 7th naval fleets to shamelessly and openly blockade and threaten independent Nicaragua, ignoring the strong condemnation of international opinion and the wishes of the Central American nations, and the sensible proposal of the [contradadores] who wish for a peaceful solution of the problems of the area for peace and stability in Central America and in the world.

After Reagan had been in power for the second term and after the acceptance of his second presidential term Reagan announced an aid increase of 14 million U.S. dollars for Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries in order to look for ways to revive the dictatorship against the people in Nicaragua and to carry out invasion, e.g., killing the Nicaraguan people and being more and more cruel to them. It was even worse when they arrogantly announced that they would seek ways to get rid of the Sandinista government. In fact, since 1985 CIA mercenaries have killed many thousands of innocent Nicaraguan people, including 120 children under 12 years old, and also destroyed schools, houses, and many production bases causing great damage to the Nicaraguan people. (Mr. Daniel Ortega stated this at a news conference in Brazil in early March when he went

to participate in the inauguration of the Brazilian president). Moreover, along with propagandizing and distorting the good intentions of Nicaragua, the Reagan administration is also trying to put pressure on the U.S. Congress to increase direct aid to the counter-revolutionaries in Nicaragua even though their secret aid to the Contras, henchmen of the Somozan dictatorial clique via the CIA, have already been very extensive. Therefore, a recent issue of the NEW YORK TIMES pointed out that "More than 80 million U.S. dollars have been sent to the Contras via the CIA." All this adequately confirms that the Reagan administration has no intention of solving the problem of this region peacefully. They only hope to revive the Somozan dictatorship to murder the Nicaraguan people once more, overthrow the Sandinista government, and destroy the valuable fruit of the revolution obtained by the Nicaraguan people at great sacrifice. The Nicaraguan people will resolutely not allow the dream of the Reagan administration to persist. The Nicaraguan people who are extensively supported by advanced and justice-loving humanity throughout the world will always resolutely increase their strength in their struggle against the enemies with no compromising, as their achievement in early March in order to dismantle all the schemes and destructive activities of the counter-revolutionaries in a timely manner for the independence and sovereignty of Nicaragua, and for peace and stability in Central America and in the world.

9884

CSO: 4206/113

LAOS

COLUMNIST CLAIMS THAIS STILL HAVE DESIGNS ON LAO TERRITORY

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 3 Apr 85 p 3

["Talking Together" Column: "Behind the Silence of the Thai Reactionaries Towards the Three Lao Villages"]

[Text] In the darkness and silence of the ultrarightist reactionaries of the Thai ruling clique towards the issue of the three Lao villages, on 23 March the Thai newspaper BAN MEUANG reported the statement of the director general of the Information Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Thailand, who repeated Sith Savetsila's deceitful words. He said that "Thais do not wish to violate Lao sovereignty or territory at all. There has never been a case where Thais have arrested or detained any Lao people. This has caused misunderstanding on the part of a number of people who are not aware of the facts in Thailand and elsewhere, on the good intentions of the Lao side, and who believe in their dark schemes.

The truth is that the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling clique who raise pan-Thaism in their minds are forever willing to follow the commands of the Beijing reactionaries in order to fulfill their dreams of interfering in, encroaching on, and swallowing up nearby countries. Now their silence along with their cooperation and support of Pol Pot's routed clique and other Cambodian reactionaries is for the purpose of carrying out destruction along the Thai-Cambodian border in order to stop the progress towards building a new life by the Cambodian people. The Thai ultrarightist reactionaries have not yet given up in their efforts to encroach upon and swallow up the territory of the PRK in the six western provinces. Meanwhile, they also pretend that the case of the three Lao villages has already been closed. The fact is that not only have they not yet completely withdrawn their troops from the three villages of Ban Mai, Ban Kang, and Ban Savang in Paklai District, Sayaboury Province, but also the Thai troops are still occupying several [high points] on Lao territory in the area of the three villages. They have not yet been willing to send Lao people from the three villages in Laos back to their hometowns. They have not yet been willing to compensate for the damage caused by the Thai soldiers to the Lao people in these areas. In particular, the Thai side still rejects the Lao proposal to continue talks between the two governments on the issue of the three Lao villages. They continue to train Lao and other reactionaries in order to send them back to create unrest in Laos. Worse still is that they are also using the Thai

forces who still remain in the three-village area to fire artillery to destroy the peace and happiness of the Lao people, causing damage to the life and property of the people in the localities mentioned. For example, incidents occurred within 7 hours and 15 minutes on 25 March when the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries occupying the three-village area in Paklai District used a number of armed forces with artillery to shamelessly and openly attack a location of the regional forces south of Ban Mai in Paklai District. However, because of the high awareness of all their activities the Lao dispersed them. All this clearly shows the people in Thailand and those who love peace and justice all over the world that in the silence and pretension not to stir up the issue of the three villages by the Thai ultrarightists reactionaries, there is a long-term scheme to encroach upon and to swallow up Lao territory according to the doctrine of pan-Thaism under the leadership of Athit Kamlang-ek, the supreme commander and the RTA commander who follows the Beijing reactionaries' commands. Such a clever scheme of the ultrarightist reactionaries must resolutely be revealed and defeated as it once was before because it violates the rights and interests of the Lao and Thai peoples who always want to have good relations towards each other, and who want to improve the good relations as neighbors which they have had for a long time for the peace and happiness of the two nations of Laos and Thailand.

9884

CSO: 4206/114

LAOS

SRV-AIDED FOUNDRY CAPACITY NOTED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 23 May 85 p 7

[Article by Kongmali: "A Steel Foundry Was Given on Party Establishment Day"]

[Text]. Many months ago our entire parties and people were putting all their physical and mental efforts into scoring achievements for the 30th anniversary of the LPRP Establishment Day, and the Lao and Vietnamese workers who were constructing a steel foundry were part of those who participated in that process. Thus, the day for completion of construction and also for the beginning of production was exactly on the 30th anniversary of the LPRP Establishment Day on 22 March. It is called the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Plant, and the workers are all very happy.

This steel foundry is a result of the cooperation between Laos and Vietnam, especially the two army general technical departments under the ministries of national defense of Laos and Vietnam, which have cooperated in the construction since [14 January 1985]. With quickness and enthusiasm the Lao and Vietnamese workers who stood shoulder to shoulder worked untiringly and sweated resulting in completion 4 months before the expected date. It has been carrying out production testing since 15 March, and the official turn-over and opening for production was on 22 March 1985. It is like a sweet-smelling bouquet that was given to us on the 30th anniversary of the LPRP Establishment Day.

Raw materials supplied to this steel foundry are various steel scrap pieces which are melted down in a forge of 0.5 tons capacity. It takes only 90 to 120 minutes of boiling time to make it into other usable items, e.g., spare parts for bicycles, knives, bowls, pots, etc.

The successful installation and construction of this steel foundry, besides recycling steel scrap, is also a savings by decreasing the expenses for steel purchases abroad. Now the workers in the Laos-Vietnam Freindship Plant are competing with each other in carrying out their own duty in order to be able to produce a great deal of usable and good-quality materials aiming at fulfilling the needs and to score achievements for the coming 10th anniversary of LPDR Day.

9884

CSO: 4206/113

22 May 1985

LAOS

VIENTIANE MILITARY UNITS, PROGRESS, PROBLEMS

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 2 Apr 85 p 2

[Article by Viengkham Thanousai: "Vientiane Provincial Military Both Improves Its Forces and Also Succeeds in Its Duty"]

[Excerpts] Under the brilliance of the 3d congress of the LPRP, different plenums of the central committee of the LPRP, and also the plenums adopted by the party committee of Vientiane Province in 1985, although facing many obstacles and difficulties caused by the aggressive intentions and the expansionist and hegemonist policies hoping to swallow up our nation by the Beijing power clique, the ultrarightist reactionaries in Bangkok led by Athit Kamlang-ek, and other reactionaries who collaborated against us, the military and regional forces in this province have determinedly improved themselves, prepared to fight, and obtained victories in many aspects. They have successfully and outstandingly carried out all duties assigned by the party and the people as befits the praise from our party central committee, "The Lao People's Army is a sharp tool of the party dictatorship of proletarianism." It is the army that has the true, persistent, and heroic heritage of Laos."

The army and the people of ethnic groups in Vientiane Province have been able to maintain internal peace and order and have facilitated the agricultural co-op members and farmers to happily and peacefully earn their living, resulting in a great victory in the battle for agricultural production, and they have made progress in becoming self-sufficient and self-reliant. The three types of troops have improved organization, strengthened control, and paid close attention to political training and ideology for all combatant cadres so that they will have a true revolutionary quality and strong [working class] views. They have increased the number of troops so they will become a solid and strong weapon and have steadily raised their quality and ability in all aspects according to "modern" principles for building an army.

The Vientiane Provincial military forces have decided to increase solidarity within their units and solidarity among the people of ethnic groups, and they have succeeded in all duties assigned by the higher echelons. Here, the important matter is to continue to strongly convert to the grassroots based on plenum 51 of the party Central Committee Politburo whose purpose is to construct and develop rural areas to become socialist strongholds. Here, the improvement and construction of agricultural co-ops for farmers is a central

duty that is closely involved with the improvement of the military forces at the grassroots level. The Vientiane Provincial military forces have also carefully organized, commanded, and protected the self-defense movement, and have fought victoriously against all enemies and dismantled the aggressive intentions and policies to disturb the peace and swallow up our country by the imperialists and international reactionaries in a timely manner in every case. In other aspects, they have also worked to boost production and have steadily raised the standard of living of cadres and combatants.

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CSO: 4206/113

LAOS

POLYTECHNICAL UNIVERSITY COURSES, STUDENT QUALIFICATIONS

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 26 Mar 85 p 2

[Article by Phonphet Bouppha: "The LPDR's First Polytechnical University"]

[Excerpts] The 3d congress of the LPRP and the basic direction of socio-economic development in the First 5-year Plan of the government was the means by which the Council of Ministers established plenum No 071/COM on 17 November 1984 approving the building of the "2 December Polytechnical University."

The polytechnical university will be a high-level educational scientific and technological research institute directly under the Ministry of Education. It has been in operation since the 1984-85 academic year according to its 5-year curriculum. Its status, role, rights, duties, and interests are equal to those of other universities in the LPDR.

The polytechnical university has two primary duties: 1) to train engineers in terms of knowledge, ability, and revolutionary morality; and 2) to organize science and technology and to encourage the application of reasearch to economic and social development for a socialist nation.

In the beginning the polytechnical university consisted of university offices which were divided into different offices according to the university regulations for chief, board of directors, and different sections that have direct responsibility for the teaching and learning process for professors and students.

In the 1984-85 academic year the polytechnical university accepted a total of 130 students including 80 at the [preparatory level] and 50 first-year students, and trained them in two engineering fields: construction and [electrical engineering].

In the future this university will train engineers in various fields, e.g., [geology, oceanography, electrical engineering, chemistry, construction, industrial science, and economics].

The requirements for students to be accepted in the university are that they have good morale, good health, and a senior cultural level or the equivalent, and that they be good in mathematics and physics.

In teaching and learning, besides learning specialized tasks the students will also systematically learn Marxist-Leninist theory and the party policy. This will be an official basic subject for a complete curriculum and is to be taken for an examination to graduate from the university just like other subjects.

Now the professors in the polytechnical university are holding [socialist competition] where the main ideas are to:

- train students so they will have revolutionary morality with a strong background in science and specialized tasks;
- help at least 80 percent of the 1st year students and [preparatory level] students to pass their examinations;
- repair [school] buildings, finish building a dormitory for 100 students and 6 houses for professors and their families by the end of 1985;
- complete installation of a basic scientific laboratory before May so it can be used in the second school term.

9884

CSO: 4206/114

LAOS

CUBAN-AIDED CHICKEN PROJECT DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 28 Mar 85 p 2

[Article by Son Ladavong: "An Appointment at the Laos-Cuba Chicken-Raising Project"]

[Excerpts] The Laos-Cuba chicken-raising project, a project for raising 50,000 chickens, is the second project after the Na Bang dairy cattle raising project whose construction was aided by the Republic of Cuba for basic agricultural production in the LPDR. This project is located over approximately 20 km northeast of downtown Vientiane, in the south of the Vientiane Plain.

There is a total of 35 cadres, technicians, and workers including 35 Cuban construction experts. It covers a total of 87 hectares, and the survey and construction began in early 1984. Now the basic construction is mostly completed.

Comrade Viengthong Boualavan, a youth union secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Agricultural Co-ops, told us that the goal of this big job is to earn income for helping the ministry. The work is divided into four departments, and there are five areas responsible for it on a contract basis. The work that will actually be carried out is to continue repairing the floors of 10 houses each 10 meters wide and 50 meters long. The dirt for filling is 675 cubic meters; there are 372 cubic meters for pouring concrete floor and wall construction, etc. The construction is expected to continue and to be completed within 3 months.

Comrade Si-Amphon, chief of the Laos-Cuba chicken-raising project, added that this project was aided by a complete set of equipment from the Cuban government to Laos at no cost. The basic construction is expected to be completed before National Day on 2 December 1985. There will be constructed three chicken coops for good breeding roosters and hens, six coops for egg-laying, four for containing chicken diseases and for equipment storage, etc. Now 70 percent of the basic construction plan has been completed. The remaining parts to be continued are flooring, putting in windows, fencing, and installation of electricity.

When the construction and installation are completed this project for raising chickens for eggs will be able to produce at least 3 million chicken eggs per year, and will also supply 7 tons of chicken meat per year.

LAOS

BRIEFS

CO-OP INCOME, FAMILY PRODUCTION--Speaking of the agricultural co-op in Ban Nong Vien, Nong Vien Canton, Champassak District and Champassak Province, everyone is probably familiar with the new production base as a leading model for other co-op units. This co-op is now 4 years old and has 40 families, which is 6 families more than in 1983. There is a total of 257 people of which 113 are women; 98 are primary labor and 48 of these are women; 14 are secondary labor and 7 are women. Also, 57 are [mobilizing labor]. The agricultural co-op in Ban Nong Vien has been carrying out its production [by assigning gross production] and dividing it among the [members] according to the number of days they put in. There are four rotating production groups around the unit. In 1984 the Ban Nong Vien agricultural co-op adopted a firm production plan that was consistent with the actual local situation and certain [labor force] aspects of the co-op. Thus, in 1984 they were able to come up to a total of 263.01 tons, 3.3 tons per hectare on the average. This is an increase of 11,036 tons from the figure for 1983. It amounts to 750 kg per capita or 11 kg for each day of labor. The trade co-op has been distributing goods widely and has been purchasing forest and ricefield products and other family products. According to the production plan and [labor force] mentioned, each co-op family member has a good family construction plan which means raising pigs, ducks, and chickens. The average family income is from 10,000 to 20,000 kip per year (including the family economy). [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 3 Apr 85 p 2] 9884

STATE SECTOR FOREIGN, DOMESTIC TRADE--According to a Ministry of Trade report, in 1984 the trade network was expanded nationwide from the center to localities, provinces, districts, and population bases. The forms of state owned and the people's collective trade have been extensively constructed, improved, and increased in each period. For example, the state trade network, companies, and state stores in the center and in localities have been increased by a factor of 2.1, and the collective trade network of the people and trade co-ops have been increased by a factor of 1.97 as compared with the figures for 1980. The ranks of high-, mid-, and basic-level trade guidance and management cadres and government trade employees have been trained and improved in quantity and quality, e.g., in terms of politics, beliefs, ideology, and socialist trade views. Regarding the circulation of domestic trade and the export and import for foreign trade, each year there has been an increase in the quantity of goods and in the prices of basic domestic goods, e.g., a 57.8 percent increase in rice, a factor of 2.1 increase for meat, a 22 percent increase for

salt, and a 61 percent increase for cloth. Chief export goods are forest and ricefield products, cardamom, benzoin, coffee, wood, and manufacturing products. Their value has increased 71 percent from 1980, including a 61 percent increase in [socialism]. The chief import goods are construction equipment and production and transportation vehicles, making up 74.12 percent, while consumption items such as cloth, and family and everyday use items, e.g., sugar, milk, etc. makes up 25.78 percent. This is a 75 percent increase when compared with the figures for 1980. Here, [socialism] is 42 percent. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 28 Mar 85 p 1] 9884

HOUA PHAN DISTRICT, POPULATION, CO-OPS--Xieng Kho District now has a total of 19 cantons, 217 villages, and 8,345 families. Its total population is over approximately 55,000, consisting of seven ethnic groups: Lao Loum, Lao Dam, Lao Deng, Lao Mai, Lao Kang, Lao Soung, and Lao Yao. This figure is one-third of the total population of Houa Phan Province. The Ma River flows past Xieng Kho District from north to south. There is also Route 1, 120 km long along the Ma River to the Vietnamese border. Comrade Khamsouk, the district administrative chairman, said that we began to build our first experimental agricultural co-op in 1976 in Ban Talang, Meuang Hong Canton. In 1977 it expanded to Ban Na Hom and Ban Na Heuang because the people saw that the agricultural co-op's production yield was high; there was organizing and work allocation with appropriate implementation of policies, e.g., in case of sickness [people] would organize to take good care of the sick. Thus, the agricultural co-ops have expanded. Now throughout our district there are 111 units of 61 percent of the number of farmer families covering 91.39 percent of the ricefields districtwide. For last year's wet rice production alone Xieng Kho District was able to harvest 3 tons per hectare on the average as compared with the 1983 yield of only 2.33 tons per hectare. This is because each agricultural co-op unit has carefully and extensively produced by means of intensive agriculture along with the careful construction of small and medium district irrigation systems at 322 sites which have facilitated the farmers for producing in time with the season, and they were also able to do dry-season rice-growing in 800 hectares. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 2 Apr 85 p 2] 9884

CSO: 4206/113

MALAYSIA

MAHATHIR PROMISES CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR ITA

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 4 Apr 85 p 1

[Article by Fauziah Haji Ismail]

[Text]

MALAYSIA will continue to support the International Tin Agreement (ITA). Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the government had been supportive of commodity agreements and "it was likely that Malaysia will support the seventh ITA."

The sixth ITA expires on June 30, 1987, and the International Tin Council at its meeting in London last week considered the possibility of negotiating a new agreement.

Malaysia had championed producer-consumer agreements such as the ITA and the International Natural Rubber Agreement. But in view of the lack of commitment and, to some extent, the efforts of some of the consumers to undermine the agreements, Malaysia was now placing greater emphasis on producer cooperation as that embodied in the Association of Tin Producing Countries.

Speaking to reporters after opening the Malaysian Pewter Exhibition

in Kuala Lumpur yesterday, Dr Mahathir acknowledged that Malaysia's share in the world tin market had fallen from some 33 per cent to about 26 per cent.

He added: "We have to face the problems of losing our share of the world market."

Countries which at one time did not export tin were now becoming net producers and some consumers such as Britain and Canada were also beginning to produce tin.

While Malaysia's share of world tin production had fallen, it was still the single largest producer of the metal.

Even then, what was more important was "to know how to use the tin within the country to manufacture value-added products such as pewter and tinfoil which can be exported," he added.

Presently, there was only one tinfoil plant in the country — Perstima in Pasir Gudang. It produced tinfoil for the lo-

cal market and as such the country did not reap the foreign exchange benefits that could accrue to it if the tinfoil was exported. In addition, Malaysia imported raw materials to produce tinfoils.

"What is important is whether we can eventually produce tinfoil at such a low price that we can compete with foreign countries," he said.

When asked about incentives given to the tin industry, Dr Mahathir said the government has given incentives such as the \$700 rebate on every tonne of tin processed in the country two years ago. With the cost of tin at \$29.15 a kg, the rebate would mean a cut in price of 2.5 per cent.

While the government wanted to assist in downstream activities by providing incentives, the Prime Minister said it would have "to be very careful before giving such incentives" because when rebates or incentives are given, "these

should not cause other countries to react by increasing their duties."

He cited textiles as an example. The US had accused Malaysia of subsidising its textile exports but investigations by the United States Department of Commerce had proven that the incentives given to Malaysian textile exporters were either negligible or non-existent.

As such, Dr Mahathir said it was important to ensure that the provision of incentives would not put the industries at a disadvantage.

Earlier, when opening the exhibition, Dr Mahathir said the use of the local material in producing manufactured and semi-manufactured goods within the country was unsatisfactory.

This was one situation that the government was intent on correcting. The government, as a matter of policy, would provide incentives to increase the use of local materials in local manufacture.

MALAYSIA

MAHATHIR BACKS MUSA ON SABAH STATEMENTS

BK291431 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1330 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir has given his full backing to the statements made by Datuk Musa Hitam in the aftermath of the Sabah state elections. The prime minister told newsmen on his return to Kuala Lumpur this evening, after his official visit to five countries, that he supported the action taken by Datuk Musa in his capacity as the acting prime minister. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said he is willing to meet the new chief minister of Sabah, Datuk Pairin Kitingan. Datuk Pairin had indicated that he wants to meet the prime minister.

(Mahathir's campaign promise) that the BN will swim or sink with Berjaya still holds. In reply to questions on the tussle for power and the pact between Berjaya and UNMO Mahathir said:

[Begin Mahathir recording] I am (? not aware) by any fact I and will have to know more about what happened before I can make any comments, but this (? took place) in the heat of the moment and one has to give due consideration to the atmosphere at that time. "We'll have to know what actually happened. We have to look into the matter in great detail. [End recording]

The prime minister described his visit to the four Scandinavian countries and Austria as a success. He said the governments and the private sectors of the countries he visited expressed keenness to cooperate more closely with Malaysia. However, more promotion efforts must be made to make Malaysia well known in the five countries. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir adds that tourism has the best potential to enhance cooperation.

CSO: 4200/855

NEW CALEDONIA

LABOR UNION PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR KANAK CAUSE

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 15 Mar 85 p 10

[Text] New Caledonia's pro-independence trade union, the Union of Kanak and Exploited Workers, has been promised funds and industrial muscle by the Federation of Labour in support of its cause.

The vice-president of the union, Mr Claude Wema, is in New Zealand seeking support for independence and Kanak workers in this country.

He has already been promised cash and other support by the federation, which has launched a ten-point plan to assist the independence campaign.

Following a meeting of the Pacific Trade Union Forum in Vanuatu last month, the FOL has decided to encourage an economic boycott of New Caledonia and a boycott of French goods and services.

The national council of the federation has received and endorsed the forum resolutions and has called on affiliated unions to support the campaign.

Boycott Call

The FOL will also give support to the establishment of a Kanak radio station in New Caledonia and will help to seek finance for the project from French trade unions and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

There is also a call for a tourist boycott of New Caledonia and a pledge to distribute information in

support of Kanak independence.

Mr Wema has been calling on trade unions in New Zealand to drum up support for the Kanak cause.

Independence

The Kanak workers' union was formed in 1981 and is now the second-largest trade union in New Caledonia with about 3000 members, he said in Auckland yesterday.

Its members split from other unions because, he says, these were not interested in Kanak independence, nor concerned about the welfare of Kanak workers.

The other unions were either French or controlled by French settlers, he said, and had allowed immigrant workers from France and the Wallis and Futuna Islands to take jobs in New Caledonia at the expense of Kanaks.

Necessity

He now sees his union as being in conflict with those unions because they do not support Kanak independence.

It was basically a black-white split in the union movement, he said, although his union had some non-Kanak members and

some Kanaks were obliged to join other unions out of economic necessity.

At present, Kanak workers played only a minor role in New Caledonia's largest industry.

Spearheaded

Out of about 2300 workers employed by the French Government-owned company Societe Le Nickel only about 300 were Kanaks.

The Kanak workers' union is affiliated to the Pacific Trade Union Forum and has spearheaded its campaign for regional support through that organization.

On Thursday, 93 prisoners jailed during the troubles in New Caledonia began a hunger strike in Noumea seeking the status of political prisoners and "protection from the tactics of the gendarmerie."

On Friday, 4000 Kanaks walked to the prison in protest over the treatment of those prisoners.

CSO: 4200/881

NEW ZEALAND

EDITORIAL SUPPORTS CALL FOR ANZUS COOLING-OFF PERIOD

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 21 Mar 85 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text]

New Zealand, through its Ambassador to Washington, has issued a "cool it" message on Anzus. Sir Wallace Rowling calls for restraint, calm and reflection to avoid the risk of a major breach, and he adds: "Over time, we hope that the underlying ties, values and interests shared by the Anzus partners will reassert themselves."

An identical suggestion was made in this column a month ago, but Mr Lange travelled abroad on a highly visible expedition to defend his position, a move that did nothing to reduce temperatures. "In his pass through the United States," said Mr Guy Molinari, a New York congressman, in a submission to the Anzus hearing in Washington, "he seemed absolutely to enjoy appearing on American network television to castigate and warn our Government about the issue."

If a more temperate phase is being entered, that is all to the good. There is evidence that American officials are acting to damp the dispute; and it is reported that the House subcommittee hearing on Anzus, which was naturally of much interest in New Zealand, received very little attention in the United States.

The two sides seem to have reached a standoff. No one disputes that New Zealand had the right to make the decision it

did, or that the Americans, as the chief operational partner, had the right to declare that they could not properly function under the condition imposed. Neither the Reagan Administration nor the Lange Government seems likely to back down.

But once each side can get over the emotions which the politicians, especially in New Zealand, have been happy to play on, there may well be areas where quiet co-operation can continue or resume. Apparently New Zealand, for example, does not intend to cut off its flow of information to the United States, no matter what action the Americans take on their supply of intelligence to New Zealand.

Cooling the dispute is not in itself a policy, and the bottom line remains the defence and security of the nation. Mr Lange concedes that the cost of changes due to the dispute with the United States will be at least \$100 million.

But a worse loss than money is the loss of the official and congressional goodwill that would have brought an almost assured response in an hour of need or, in more everyday terms, meant willing and happy defence co-operation between the Anzus partners. To cool the dispute is good. To mend it would be a whole lot better.

NEW ZEALAND

REPORTAGE CONTINUES ON NUCLEAR BAN COST TO TRADE

Industrialists Plan Trade Rescue Mission

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 21 Mar 85 p 16

[Text]

An elite group of top New Zealand business leaders will try to restore the country's fractured trade relations with the United States in a mission to California in September.

Organised by the Auckland Regional Chamber of Commerce, the invitation-only mission so far includes the chairmen or chief executives of 14 major companies.

Further invitations are expected to bring the total membership to 20.

In Abeyance

But unlike most top-level trade missions, this one is unlikely to include a cabinet minister.

The incoming president of the chamber, Sir Alan Hellaby, who will lead the mission, said Government representation had been "left in abeyance at this stage."

Asked whether an invitation might be issued to the Minister of Overseas Trade, Mr Moore, Sir Alan said: "I would not want to answer that."

"It is important that we know what the circumstances are nearer the time

— the political circumstances.

"It may not be appropriate for him to go."

The mission has been under consideration since the middle of last year, timed to follow an international industrial conference sponsored by the Stanford Research Institute in San Francisco. Many of the mission members will be attending the conference.

Abrupt Dive

The mission is aimed at developing both trade and investment opportunities for New Zealand companies in California, and for American companies in New Zealand.

Sir Alan said there had been no second thoughts about it since trade relations with the United States took an abrupt dive because of the New Zealand nuclear policy.

"All of us see the com-

mercial side of our relationship as being quite separate from the Anzus problem.

"This is a commercial venture. Most of us have long-term trading connections in the United States, and we expect those to be enhanced and extended."

"We want to talk trade, not political problems."

Significant

In one week in California, the mission will visit the state capital of Sacramento and the cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles.

The outgoing president of the chamber, Mr Geoffrey Clatworthy, who will also be on the mission, said California had been chosen because of New Zealand's significant trading and business interests there.

Other members of the mission, besides Sir Alan and Mr Clatworthy, are Mr David Chalmers, chief executive, NZI Corporation; Mr Bruce Cole, managing

director, L. D. Nathan and Co; Mr Malcolm McConnell, joint managing director, McConnell Dowell; Mr Ian Donald, chief executive, rural sector, Fletcher Challenge; Mr John Ede, managing director, Winstones; Mr Norman Geary, general manager, Air New Zealand; Mr Peter Grayburn, chairman, Newmans; Mr Athol Hutton, managing director, Waitaki-NZR; Mr Syd Pasley, managing director, Alex Harvey Industries; Sir Russell Pettigrew, deputy chairman, Freightways; Mr Earl Richardson, president, New Zealand Manufacturers Federation; Sir Lewis Ross, chairman, Bank of New Zealand; and, as executive officer, the general manager of the Auckland Regional Chamber of Commerce, Mr Tony Mortibo.

Lost Trade Cited

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 21 Mar 85 p 16

[Article: "Trip to US 'Crazy' Says Exporter"]

[Text] An Auckland export agent, Mr Michael Watts, has attacked the proposed top-level September trade mission to the United States as "absolutely crazy."

Mr Watts, who exports around \$20 million of particle-board stereo cabinets to the United States, has been told by shippers that he is the biggest single exporter of manufactured goods from New Zealand to America.

He says he has lost a deal with a general in the United States Marines which had the potential to earn New Zealand more than \$US100 million (well over \$NZ200 million) a year.

"It would have involved making foodstuffs and military equipment, which would have been new for New Zealand," he said.

The deal had been "all set up and ready to go," until it had been scuttled at the last minute by the nuclear-ship dispute.

On his last visit to the United States, Mr Watts was told: "Keep away at present. New Zealand is bad news."

After returning from America last week, he said, he had also failed to win a further order for almost \$3 million of stereo cabinets from an established customer who decided, because of the nuclear dispute, "not to have all its eggs in one basket."

In those circumstances, he said, the best policy for New Zealand leaders was to "keep their mouths shut."

He believed that a top-level, one-week mission such as that planned by the Auckland Regional Chamber of Commerce could be counter-productive.

"It is this sort of thing that makes us look idiots," he said. "It is just a big circus party."

"What do those people (on the mission) do in America now? Who are they to be wasting taxpayers' money?"

"Okay, send them off on their cocktail circuit." But who have you got there who is selling anything?"

However, the president of the Chamber of Commerce and leader of the mission, Sir Alan Hellaby, said all the companies represented either had a substantial trade with America or had subsidiary businesses there.

"If he is a salesman, I can understand that just at the moment he could have a reaction," Sir Alan said.

"If there is still a bad reaction in September, one might reconsider it, but the important thing is that we are all still doing many millions of dollars worth of business in America, and that must be protected."

The mission will not be funded by the Government, but under present policy participants will be able to claim a 150 per cent tax deduction for their costs under the export market development tax incentive.

CSO: 4200/878

22 May 1985

NEW ZEALAND

REPORTAGE ON DEFENSE ANALYSIS OF SEAWAYS

'Little Strategic Importance'

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 21 Mar 85 p 8

[Text] WELLINGTON, Wednesday--Defence analysts in New Zealand say a monitor on Soviet naval vessels in the waters surrounding the country reflects the view that the area has little strategic importance.

The New Zealand report came as a Chinese magazine said that powerful Soviet forces based in Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay menaced US Pacific fleets and Japan's oil supplies and could enable Moscow to launch a pincer attack on China.

The New Zealand report said eight Soviet navy vessels, mostly research ships, were monitored in the South Pacific during the past three years.

The United States has said that the decision by the New Zealand Government to ban warships driven by nuclear power or carrying nuclear weapons has disrupted Washington's ability to patrol South Pacific waters and threatened the ANZUS defence pact.

New Zealand monitors a large area of the South Pacific as part of joint intelligence operations under the ANZUS alliance and with Britain.

The surveillance records showed the most recent sighting of Soviet naval activity in New Zealand's South Pacific maritime surveillance area was in January, when the missile-range instrumentation ship Chazma was sighted on what officials believe was satellite launch support work.

The Chinese article, in the official World Affairs, appeared despite Peking's overtures last week to the new Soviet leadership under Mr Gorbachev.

"In case of war, to the east they (Soviet forces) threaten the US Seventh Fleet, to the south they can quickly control strategic sea lanes and Japan's oil supplies, and they can break the link between America's two fleets," the bi-weekly said.

"They could threaten China by sea and co-operate with Soviet forces on the Sino-Soviet border to attack China north and south, from land and sea."

Parliamentary Questions On USSR Presence

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 21 Mar 85 p 3

[Text]

Four Russian naval vessels were detected within New Zealand's economic zone during the past three years, according to the Minister of Defence, Mr O'Flynn.

Two more vessels were detected outside the economic zone, but within New Zealand's maritime surveillance area.

Among them was the naval missile-range instrumentation ship, the Chazhma, which operated east of New Zealand in January.

Mr O'Flynn said the ship was conducting "possible satellite launch support operations."

He revealed the Russian activity in answer to a written parliamentary question from the National MP for Remuera, Mr Doug Graham.

Although his answer did not reveal how the intelligence about the vessels was obtained, it is understood most of it was from the surveillance activities of Royal New Zealand Orion aircraft.

But Mr Graham said yesterday that some of the information might have been obtained through intelligence passed on by the United States.

It was doubtful that such information would be passed on to New Zealand defence and intelligence staff since the Anzus row.

"How accurate the answer is is anybody's guess," Mr Graham said.

There were stories of Soviet submarines being sighted around New Zealand.

Mr Graham said the information included in Mr O'Flynn's answer would have come from the observations from Orion aircraft and other ship sightings, as well as satellite observations and intelligence information from the United States.

He said that might have been cut off because of the Anzus row, and he would continue to ask at regular intervals about sightings of Russian vessels in the area, to help to determine whether such intelligence was still being supplied to New Zealand.

Mr O'Flynn also said that in January last year two Soviet naval oceanographic research ships, the Admiral Vladimirkij and the Faddej Bellingshausen, called at Wellington for crew rest and supplies while carrying out a circumnavigation of the Antarctic Continent.

Between October 1982 and January 1983 a naval research ship, the Bashkiriya and a submarine, the Regul, carried out research in the Tasman Sea and to the east of New Zealand, both within and outside New Zealand's exclusive economic zone.

CSO: 4200/878

NEW ZEALAND

BRIEFS

NUCLEAR WAR SURVIVAL PROSPECTS--New Zealand would survive a nuclear war, even a strike on Australia, but would be radically altered by it, according to a report by the Royal Society of New Zealand, an association of scientists who have worked on it for 2 years. The report tackles the threat of nuclear war and the effects of a northern hemisphere holocaust on New Zealand from three points: medical, economic, and climatic. [Begin unidentified reporter recording] The scientists say loss of life in New Zealand would be caused mainly by medical supplies drying up. The economy would be turned completely upside down, and would be totally dependent on what we could produce ourselves. And with the prevailing westerlies, a strike on Australia would mean to begin with we would [words indistinct] contaminated in various degrees by radiation, and a climate made colder by dust and smoke blocking the sun. Overall, though, it looks like New Zealand would survive, but, the scientists say, we should be trying to prevent the holocaust before it happens. [end recording][Text] [Wellington Overseas Service in English 0600 GMT 29 Apr 85]

CSO: 4200/896

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST CITES U.S. ENVOY, HITS BASES ISSUE

HK241540 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 24 Apr 85 p 4

[From the "Rallying Point" column by Mat V. Defensor: "The Bitter Truth About the RP-U.S. Military Bases Agreement"]

[Text] The truth is out, unofficially, straight from the horse's mouth, so to speak, from U.S. Ambassador Stephen Bosworth during an interview on Channel 7's "Viewpoint" program recently. In very plain language, Bosworth said that the U.S. has no obligation to pay rent for the use of the American bases here. It would be a violation of the U.S. constitution, Bosworth explained, to rent foreign territories and use them as military bases.

To drive home his point further, Bosworth said that the only thing the Reagan administration committed to do under the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. military bases agreement was to try to convince the American Congress to provide money for the Philippines as an act of reciprocity.

Based on Bosworth's revelations, the Filipinos should now realize they have been taken for a ride by their own government. All along, we had been made to believe that we had finally got a good deal from the Americans after being shortchanged by them for so long. With much chest-pounding, the government told everybody that it had demanded rental from America for the use of vast tracts of Philippine territory as military bases--and America had agreed.

Yet this was not so, and the members of the Philippine panel who negotiated the agreement must have known that it was not so. They could not have misunderstood the terms of the agreement which they themselves had worked out together with their American counterparts. They must have known from the beginning that there would be no rentals but only a commitment to appropriate certain sums of money, more or less \$900 M over 5 years, in exchange for the unhampered use by the Americans of specific portions of our territory.

Our own government itself, must also have known that no rental was forthcoming, for it is inconceivable that the Philippine negotiating panel did not so advise the government. It knew that the U.S. Government had not committed itself to \$900 M but merely promised to exert its "best efforts" to ask the American Congress to provide the required funds on a staggered basis for a period of 5 years. Yet, our own government tried to delude itself and the people by repeatedly saying that the promised \$900 M was rental.

The American Government has clearly taken advantage of the so-called "special relations" with the Philippine Government. Because we are just a small partner and, in their view, weak and needy, they thought they should take advantage of us. They wangled from us a totally one-sided deal without regard for our social and economic plight, to our national dignity, and to our history of "special" and friendly relations with them.

If it is really true that the American constitution prohibits the rental of overseas territories for military purposes, why did they inveigle us into signing an agreement which, in essence though not in form, provides for their use of portions of our territory for military purposes in exchange for sums of money which they euphemistically call "aid"? They have circumvented their own constitution by resorting to semantics, to our great disadvantage. For now they can always claim that they have no obligation to pay. The Filipinos should even be grateful if Altruistic American gives them aid in return for the bases.

Because America, out of generosity, gives us "aid," Filipinos must follow certain conditions to deserve U.S. benevolence. We must adopt their concept of human rights, adhere to their system of democratic government, open our economy to American business--the better for them to continue to exploit and ravage us. Otherwise, no "aid" will be forthcoming.

All right, let us accept Mr Bosworth's revelation as fact. Can we not also turn around and say that America should likewise try to deserve its use of portions of our territory for their military bases 1) by pledging not to shoot down Filipinos like pigs for the monstrous crime of wandering near the premises of military bases; 2) by promising not to rape our women and corrupt the morals of our youth; 3) by turning over to the jurisdiction of the Philippine Government American personnel who violate Philippine laws; 4) by preventing rampant smuggling of American goods through the military bases, U.S. bases will not attract retaliation from U.S. enemies in case America goes to war with other nations; 6) by pledging that it will require American personnel to observe good behavior and respect our laws all the time; and, finally, 7) by refraining from interfering with our internal affairs?

If the U.S. Government commits itself to perform all these in exchange for the bases, it may perhaps deserve to stay here--even without paying rent. Otherwise, U.S. must remove its bases and move them somewhere else.

If we take this stance, America should have no cause for bitterness, for we are then only adopting its own concept of "altruism"--we are merely using the same string they attach to their so-called aid.

CSO: 4200/848

PHILIPPINES

PAPER POSES ROMUALDEZ PRESIDENTIAL SCENARIO

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 20 Mar 85 pp 4, 5

["Town Crier" column by Vic Barranco: "Spine-Chilling Scenario"]

[Text] We have just entered a period of three politically charged, desperate months that will calm down, by expert forecast, sometime in May or June. The endangered Marcos-Romualdez political species are themselves going through stifling ordeal in this season to survive several overwhelming odds before which the species may become extinct. While meeting these odds by hectic legal or illegal improvisations on the system of government or on the constitution, the Marcos-Romualdez partnership is trying desperately to build a dynasty that will continue to rule with all the pageantry and splendor of European imperial courts of old.

What will the endangered biological genus of homo sapiens do in those throbbing, turbulent months of March, April, and May?

Scenario I.--The KBL Political Club will reorganize the Batasang Pambansa, throw out MP Speaker Nicanor Yniguez, and force Kokoy Romualdez, brother of Imelda Marcos, into the Speaker's rostrum. As Speaker, Kokoy Romualdez will automatically become President under the latest Marcos-dictated constitution, when...

Scenario II.--Mr. Marcos will be officially declared, in a Malacanang press release, as sick and tired of being president, and incapacitated to perform his duties and/or irresponsibilities. Kokoy will walk down the red carpet and assume the presidential throne.

Scenario III.--As constitutionally [word illegible] president, who is actually an authoritarian ruler, Kokoy becomes commander-in-chief of the AFP. He will exercise all the awful powers, prerogatives, and rights under Amendment 6. Also under the Presidential Immunity provision of the Marcos-self-serving constitution, Kokoy will be immune from any crime.

Scenario IV.--Kokoy will inherit the P33 billion, at least, discretionary, standby national fund which is equal to the P33 billion appropriation for operation of the government in the regular 1985 budget.

The discretionary, standby fund can more than adequately sustain the KBL election profligacy in the fast track polls this year and in the provincial elections in 1986. This P33 billion spend-as-Malacanang wants standby fund will not be subject to controlling, accounting or auditing. Who will dare audit Mr. and Mrs. Marcos and Kokoy!

Scenario V.--Kokoy will impose mailed-fist policies and measures against peaceful citizens at rallies or participants in the sessions of the Parliament of the Street. He can rush the judiciary to hand down decision on Gen. Fabian Ver, accused for involvement in the Aquino assassination, well ahead of the other accused military top brass and personnel.

Scenario VI--Kokoy will have his sister Imelda proclaimed as KBL club's candidate for president. In the campaign, Imelda will repeat the election promises her husband made in 1965. Kokoy will tell the Integrated National Police, the Comelec, and the KBL precinct goons, during Imelda's campaign: "Well, boys, just remember and carry out what my brother-in-law told you in his prime time."

Epilogue.--(Scene switches to Jaime Ongpin's office.) Jimmy Ongpin, senior citizen and Opposition stalwart tells a press and TV conference that the Opposition, by then united and solidified, does not care a bit what stand in President-to-be Kokoy Romualdez will do to boost Sister Imelda's campaign for the presidency.

"We are not worried at all. We do not know yet whom the KBL will finally put up as presidential standard bearer. Anyway, we will beat him, or her...or it."

CSO: 4200/870

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST ON STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN MARCOSES

HK251003 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 17 Apr 85 p 4

["Now and Then" column by Jose J. Burgos Sr: "Ferdie and Meldy at Odds Over Politics?"]

[Text] It strains anyone's credibility--the statement credited to Doy Laurel that Ferdie and Meldy have ceased communicating with each other because of Meldy's desire to hold either a presidential or vice-presidential election this year, with her as KBL [Kilusang Baggong Lipunan] candidate.

I do not know where Doy got his information but what he says is quite hard to swallow, much less digest.

Ferdie is not one man who would let a situation like that get the better of his judgment. Granting that he is against the holding of an election the latter part of the year because he wants to continue with his term, and granting that he does not favor Meldy's candidature because he feels she does not qualify for the position, he would not go to the extent of breaking off communication with her.

He would not be so ungentlemanly as to testily snap at his wife: "No" when she brings up the subject of conducting an election with her running for either president or vice-president.

And Meldy, knowing that her husband is sick and therefore short-tempered, would not insist on her plan. She would know how to handle Ferdie, as she has been handling him for the past 30 years or so that they have been married.

Meldy is an arch diplomat. She is a master at using her womanly wiles on any man, to get what she wants. This is proven by the fact that in all these years, she has been getting everything she wanted from her powerful husband. As Doy Laurel said. "What she wants, she gets."

So, it cannot be true what Doy said that the husband and wife have stopped all communication because he refuses to entertain her presidential desires, and she has refused to take "No" for an answer.

Ferdie and Meldy "no longer on speaking terms" following strong disagreement over the "boiling election law issue?"--as last Monday's WE FORUM put it?

But I understand Meldy has started to campaign with the fullest approval and support of her husband who continues to ail. Surely, Meldy could not have started the campaign without the say-so of Ferdie. It would be unthinkable for any wife to enter politics--Philippine politics--without the husband's consent--express or implied.

No, I cannot visualize the couple quarelling over the issue of politics. I cannot see them so bitterly divided over Meldy's candidacy to the point that they no longer talk to each other.

Ferdie is a gallant man who realizes that among the impossibilities that a man can never do, one is that he never quarrels with a woman.

Meldy, on the other hand, is a woman who can get what she wants from any man through the use of feminine guile and wile. Having known Ferdie for the last 30 or so years, one would imagine that she knows Ferdie inside out already, and she knows how to work on him through his weaknesses, of which he must have his share.

Doy Laurel must have had his information all wrong.

CSO: 4200/848

PHILIPPINES

EDITORIAL CALLS BATASANG PAMBANSA 'RUBBER STAMP'

HK251028 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 17 Apr 85 p 4

[Editorial: "A Rubber Stamp"]

[Text] The Batasang Pambansa, our parliamentary law-making body, resumed its sessions last Monday afternoon, after a 1-month recess.

If its re-convening did not create the public impact it deserved, it was because it has ceased to play the role cut out for it in the Constitution. It makes laws no longer as a parliament should, either under a parliamentary or a presidential system.

In short, it has been shorn of its power because of the existence of Amendment No 6 authorizing the president to promulgate decrees which have the force and effect of laws.

As long as Amendment No 6 exists, the Batasan will only be a junior partner in the Marcos administration. It will be but a shadow to the president. It will only play the role of a Sancho Panze to Don Quixote.

What is tragic about the situation is that the majority KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] members of the Batasan castrated themselves of the legislative power they are mandated to exercise under the Constitution. Instead of fighting the president's clearly illegal encroachment on the Batasan's legislative prerogative, these assemblymen, elected by their constituents to represent them at the Batasan, yielded to Mr Marcos' insistence that he continues to wield legislative power under Amendment No 6.

So, the KBL assemblymen cannot complain that insofar as the people are concerned, they are bale wala [good for nothing], they are a mere surplusage. They only play the role of saying "amen" to every order that the president issues.

Many people say that the Batasan in this undignified role is not worth the millions of pesos being spent for its existence. Perhaps, at some future time, when the Batasan finally comes into its own, it will merit the respect and support of the Filipino people. Until then, it must content itself to being a rubber stamp.

CSO: 4200/848

PHILIPPINES

EDITORIAL ON MARCOS' CHANCE FOR INDEPENDENT APPOINTEES

HK251018 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 18 Apr 85 p 4

[Editorial: "A Chance for Mr Marcos"]

[Text] The forthcoming retirement of three Comelec [Commission on Elections] officials--Chairman Vicente Santaigo, Jr, and Commissioners Domingo Pabalate and Noli Sagadraca--offers another opportunity in testing the sincerity of President Marcos' off-quoted pronouncements on the necessity for clean and honest elections.

For the last several years, the performance of the Comelec has failed miserably to meet the expectations of the people, and this is an understatement. From Mr Leonardo Perez and up to the present--a period marked by two major national elections, a local elections and several plebiscites and referenda, the Comelec has been the target of endless criticisms by a preponderant sector of the citizenry for its seemingly deliberate refusal to uphold the sovereign will of the Filipino electorate. Time and again, the Comelec has shown conclusively that it was not deserving of its constitutional mantle of neutrality by its pronounced leaning on administration candidates. It is no wonder that MP Jaime Ferrer, whose stewardship of the office has been marked by an untarnished integrity, was moved to say that "unless (the would-be retirees) are replaced by non-partisan persons I fear that the elections will be marred with fraud."

However deeply the extent of the national morality has sunk, there is no gainsaying the fact that this country has its share of honorable men who could eminently fill the bill for the three positions to be vacated next month. Mr Marcos' problem, of course, is not a dearth for qualified men, but rather, how to induce the prospective appointee into accepting a position that offers only the possibility of being compromised by political pressures.

But the problem also offers Mr Marcos the chance to repair somehow his shattered credibility. If he can bring it upon himself to appoint men who would not do his bidding, then he is at once proving that the upcoming elections--whether this year, or the next or the next--shall be carried out in a free and orderly manner.

CSO: 4200/848

PHILIPPINES

BATASAN BILL PROPOSED TO ALLOW OVERSEAS VOTING

HK250955 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 19 Apr 85 p 2

[Text] A bipartisan group in the Batasang Pambansa will propose a bill allowing an estimated 1.5 Filipinos abroad to vote in national elections, starting with the presidential election in 1987.

Political Affairs Minister Leonardo Perez told the Batasan Breakfast Club yesterday the group is now studying the mechanics on "how they (the Filipinos overseas) could vote."

No such privilege will be given to the expatriates in local elections, Perez said, adding "It will be hard for Filipinos abroad to vote in local polls."

Perez said the proposal to give Filipinos overseas the right to vote may be included in the Omnibus Election Code which is contained in Cabinet Bill No 2. The code is being deliberated in the assembly.

Members of Parlaiment Homobono Adaza (Opposition, Misamis Oriental) and Wilson Gamboa (Opposition, Negros Occidental) are two of the oppositionists in the Batasan who support the proposal, Perez said.

According to Perez, the Filipinos overseas may vote in the Philippine consulates, embassies and diplomatic offices. The votes will then be mailed to the Commission on Elections, he said.

He did not say how Filipinos working or living in war zones or in areas with no Philippine diplomatic offices could vote.

Labor Minister Blas F. Ople earlier proposed the granting of the right of suffrage to Filipinos overseas.

Meanwhile, the Batasang Pambansa is also set to include in the proposed Election Code a fixed date within which an elective official shall take his oath of office.

Adaza and Perez proposed that elective officials who fail or refuse to take oath of offices within 30 days after proclamation shall be automatically considered as having abandoned office. The move was prompted by the failure or refusal of some elected officials to take oath of offices.

CSO: 4200/848

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST ON RALLIES ORCHESTRATED BY ADMINISTRATION

HK251155 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 19 Apr 85 p 4

["Women in the City of Man" column by Esty Juco: "Instant Alliance for Booring Guests"]

[Text] You've got to hand it to the Filipino. When it comes to putting up a show or earning money quietly on the side, he is always on the go. As the Boy Scout motto goes: "Laging Handa! [Always prepared]"

Is it any wonder that when Representative Stephen Solarz arrived last Sunday for talks with government and opposition leaders, he and his companions were booed by a crowd of around 50 people? The previously unheard-of alliance waved placards that had all the signs of having been "uniformly prepared with care." Somebody from the crowd even admitted that they had been paid to come and boo.

Rep Solarz is a New York democrat and chairman of the House Subcommittee for Asia and the Pacific who has been quite firm in opposing increased military aid to the Philippines.

So, what group would be most resentful of his presence in our country? Which group would be interested in embarrassing him on his visit to the Philippines?

Besides, why should we be surprised about such a "booring reception committee"? It is just another version of the "Hakoy [trained and paid] republic." That is no secret at all. The thousands of Metro Manila Aides (they who have become experts in "rearranging the dust") make no bones about the fact that they used to be made to don civilian attire and ride the Metro Manila buses and the Love buses to meet Persledi [First Lady] at the airport and give her a rousing welcome whenever she would come back from one of her extended trips abroad to bury some head of state or member of royalty, and then on for shopping and or attending to other types of "foreign affairs."

And didn't we employ the "hakoy republic" to give a rousing welcome likewise to "Macho man" and pers ledi in the different cities in the United States where they touched down on the way to the White House? That method of ensuring a loyal, cheering crowd by hauling Filipinos from the homeland to wave flags and cheer lustily in exchange for free round-trip tickets to the USA is no secret at all.

Yessireeee! The "hakoy republic" is standard operating procedure. Just take a good look at the faces that make up the crowd scenes when the national leadership addresses the people. The guys may be in civilian clothes (usually in white or sky-blue short-sleeved polo-barong [men's native shirt] or in uniform cut and embroidered brong tagalog) but the short-cropped hair (crew cut) and the ramrod bearing (except the generals and the colonels who usually have grown pot-bellies) will give the identity away.

So let's not kick up a fuss or lose sleep or raise a rumpus about seemingly spontaneous demonstrations of the hazy malabo [hazy]-type of "cause-oriented groups" like those who participated in last Sunday's charade at the airport.

As long as our people allow themselves to be intimidated or to be bought, we will always be plagued with "puppetgames actions" without conviction without credibility, without honor. Such so-called "demonstrators" are like juke-boxes. They'll yell out the slogan so long as the money keeps coming. Nakakahiya! [for shame]

CSO: 4200/848

PHILIPPINES

INTERNAL REVENUE BUREAU PLANS RESHUFFLE

HK241457 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 24 Apr 85 pp 1, 10

[By Jun Ramirez]

[Text] Acting Revenue Commissioner Tomas C. Toledo said yesterday the revenue service is coming out with new strategies to combat various multimillion-peso tax evasion rackets.

To effectively implement the program, Toledo said revenue officials occupying from top to middle and lower executive posts will be reshuffled shortly.

He said all service chiefs and regional directors have been instructed to submit reports and recommendations for the reorganization of their respective offices.

"The recommendations will be the basis for a thorough reorganization of the bureau," Toledo said.

Toledo said that the BIR [Bureau of Internal Revenue] will give priority from now on to the breaking of tax evasion syndicates which has victimized both the government and taxpayers.

He disclosed that three revenue officials at the Quezon City revenue region were dismissed 2 weeks ago for their involvement in the issuance of fake capital gains tax certificates. Criminal charges are being prepared against the suspects, Toledo said.

He said there are also syndicates engaged in the printing and distribution of fake revenue stamps on cigarettes, liquor, and other items subject to the payment of specific tax.

There are also groups, Toledo said, involved in the printing and distribution of unregistered sales invoices or receipts.

Affected by the BIR revamp program are service chiefs, regional directors, revenue district officers down to group supervisors and field examiners.

These twin issues will be among the topics that will be taken up during today's meeting of service chiefs and regional directors in Los Banos, Laguna.

Toledo said the 3-day conference will also discuss the request of the more than 2,000 revenue examiners, all members of the Philippine Association of Revenue Examiners (Parex), for the immediate abolition of a heavy fine imposed on individual and corporate taxpayers who file their returns and pay taxes in areas other than the places where they reside.

Manila assistant revenue district officer Alberto Bernales, chairman of Parex, said that the fine equivalent to 25 percent of the amount of tax to be paid is unreasonable and confiscatory.

Bernales said that as long as the taxpayers pay the correct taxes, they should be allowed to file their returns in places convenient for them.

The surcharge was imposed by then BIR Commissioner Efren Plana, now justice of the Supreme Court, to discourage taxpayers from filing their returns in areas of their choice and hasten the preparation of a master list of taxpayers in every district and region of the country.

Revenue Deputy Commissioner Romulo M. Villa said they will also discuss in the meeting ways to step up the collection of back and current taxes, including procedures for the issuance of attachment and seizure warrants.

Villa said the regional directors will discuss ways and means of tapping additional sources of revenue to make up for an expected decrease in specific tax collections due to the recent rollback in the prices of petroleum products.

"The peace and order situation in certain areas will also be taken up as they relate to the collection of taxes," Villa said.

CSO: 4200/848

PHILIPPINES

TRADE MINISTER ANNOUNCES EXPORT SUBSIDIES PHASEOUT

HK241453 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 24 Apr 85 Business Bulletin Supplement p 1

[Text] The Philippines will study several options to realign the country's incentive system to the terms of the country's accession to the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) code on subsidies and countervailing duties (CVDS).

Trade and Industry Minister Roberto V. Ongpin told members of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) yesterday at the Intercontinental Hotel that incentives defined as subsidies will be phased out during a 5-year period.

By definition, Ongpin said a subsidy is a bounty given to exporters which is not generally available to other producers in a particular country.

He added that a study will be made during the next 5 years if incentives currently enjoyed by exporters can be extended to domestic producers as well. In such a case, he said, incentives could no longer be considered subsidies since they would be generally available.

Ongpin pointed out that this is only one of the several options to be studied by the government in complying with the terms of accession to the code.

The minister refused to reveal other options as he noted the presence of a representative from the United States embassy during the PCCI dialogue. However, he maintained that the Philippines will fully abide by its commitment to the code.

"We believe that the price of accession is a reasonable one," he said.

Under an agreement reached with the United States, the Philippines will work for a 2-year standstill on the application of the incentive system and a 3-year phaseout of these incentives. The 2-year stand still means that no new programs will be established under the incentive system.

Affected by the commitment to phase out incentives are the net domestic content credit for exporters, tax and duty-free importation of capital equip-

ment and export packing credits or the rediscounting facility of the Central Bank.

Ongpin reiterated that accession to the code will allow exporters to avail immediately of the injury test, a critical factor in the determination of countervailing duties.

Ongpin admitted though that given the strong protectionist mood in the United States, there is no actual guarantee from similar harassments in the future.

He cited a pending U.S. Congress bill which seeks to limit imports of garments on a global basis regardless of bilateral agreements.

CSO: 4200/848

PHILIPPINES

MARCOS' CAUTION ON MNLF ANTI-INSURGENCY OFFER

HK241543 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 24 Apr 85 p 4

[Editorial: "That MNLF Offer To Fight the Reds"]

[Text] True to form when it comes to ticklish political issues, President Marcos did not rush into a decision on the offer by some 5,000 former secessionist insurgents to help fight communist guerrillas in Mindanao. Instead, the chief executive ordered the armed forces to study the matter more thoroughly.

The president's exercise of extreme caution should not be interpreted as utter distrust for Amelil Malaquiok, former Moro National Liberation Front commander and now Region XII autonomous government chairman, who had earlier announced the offer. On the contrary, it merely reflects Mr Marcos' first-hand official experiences in dealing with Muslim secessionists.

Truly difficult is it to forget the bloody civil strife that raged in Mindanao in the early 70's, when possession of key regions was contested by Christian-backed Ilagas and predominantly Muslim Blackshirts. Likewise holding back immediate action on the offer is the armed forces' tragic loss of Gen Tcodulfo Bautista, who was executed in broad daylight by an MNLF band that had earlier deceitfully sent surrender feelers. Finally, another cause for concern is the fact that some rebel surrenderors in the past had only used financial rewards doled out by the government for evil ends; and when the reward money ran out, the rebels went right back to the hills.

In the light of such experiences, it can only be wise for the president to first determine three factors: One, if the volunteering rebels are already as simulated into security or paramilitary forces. Two, if they are dependable and capable enough to fight powerfully armed and highly discipline communist dissidents. And last, if their personality profiles show that they could be trusted to use the guns and ammunition that will be issued to them solely to prevent Mindanao from turning Red, and nothing else.

CSO: 4200/848

PHILIPPINES

VIOLENCE REPORTED BY CHDF IN AGUSAN PROVINCE

HK230954 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 14 Apr 85 p 6

[Text] Some 25 priests and nuns have denounced what they called the "terroristic and savage acts" inflicted by the Integrated Civilian Home Defense Force (ICHDF) members among the tribal communities of San Luis, Agusan del Sur.

It added that violent incidents perpetrated by the ICHDF have caused the residents to vacate barangay Dona Flavia (Kalilid) and the neighboring sitios and barangays.

The religious sector made the denunciation in an open letter circulated here. It was also given to Lt Col Alexander Noble, commanding officer of the 23d IB [expansion unknown] PA [Philippine Army] stationed in Bayugan last 26 March.

In the letter, the religious demanded the disbandment of the ICHDF and the immediate investigation and prosecution of all the ICHDF men allegedly involved in the abuses.

The religious accused some ICHDF members belonging to the Philippine Assistance for National Minorities (PANAMIN) under Vice Mayor Lavi Manpatilan of Esperanza, Agusan del Sur of committing the "outrageous crimes" which has caused the mass evacuation of some 170 families from the seven tribal communities of San Luis.

In a documented report attached to the letter, the religious said that the ICHDF-PANAMIN group of the vice mayor, which is now operating beyond Esperanza, has been on an intensive recruitment campaign for local armed ICHDF.

Manpatilan is also known among the tribals of the Maasam area as ICHDF chief and president of the Integrated Tribal Leaders' Association of Agusan del Sur and Agusan del Norte.

Arms, the report said, have been issued to a group of Banwaon Manobos [a minority tribe] in barangay Mahagsay, San Luis under the leadership of brothers Dalan and Atong Odayao without the knowledge and consent of the barangay captain who is also the Supreme Datu of Mahagsay. These two brothers are very active in the ICHDF recruitment campaign, the report claimed.

The report cited alleged abuses committed by the ICHDF in San Luis, Agusan del Sur:

--Some 40 elements of 23d IB PA Bravo Company under Lt Gerry Diamante and ICHDF members arrived in barangay Dimasalang on 8 September 1984 and asked the residents of the whereabouts of New People's Army (NPA) men. Not receiving any satisfactory answer, an ICHDF man got mad and hit his foot with his own gun. He then started strafing the houses, along with other ICHDF's and killed a resident, Sergio Perez, 54, married; and seriously wounded two other residents, Narciso, Menbrano and Pedro Batao.

--A carabao logger identified only as Arnold was picked up from his house in Mahagsay and later killed by the ICHDF group led by Dalan and Atong Odayao last 24 December. A month later, they tied and tortured four natives of barangay Lamiga.

--A group of heavily armed men, reported to be NPAS, killed Atong Odayao when he and other ICHDF's refused to give their arms and started firing last 28 January. Two civilians were killed and three others wounded in the shoot-out.

--Last 3 February, the decomposing body of Felicisimo Robles, a contractual worker of Angtiongco Co from Davao, an affiliate of Kalilid Wood Industries, was found tied to a tree in Kilometer 31 near Mahagsay. His body bore bullet and stab wounds, with the head almost severed. He reportedly disappeared on 27 January, and was last seen with the Odayao brothers.

--A combined group of 23d IB PA under 1st Lt De Hitta and the PANAMIN ICHDF's of Lavi Manpatilan operating in barangays Cecilia, Mahapag and Santiago reportedly burned the house of a suspected NPA member, mauled 12 residents and looted goods in a sotre, chicken and eggs. Residents were reportedly threatened that they would burn the houses, rape the woman, kill the barangay captain of Mahapag or kill them all if they could not produce the NPAS.

--Some five ICHDF's headed by Dalan Odayao brutally killed Leoncio Daymel, Panfilo Asaytona and Panfilo Catibag who were logging in the forest of sitio Bitinan, Santa Rita last 4 March. The ICHOF's reportedly cut up the feet, arms and stomach of the three civilians; then fled bringing with them the chainsaw, watch, bolo, pot and other belongings of the victims.

--A group of ICHDF coming from Segunda, Esperanza raided and strafed the houses of barangay Sta Rita last 21 March. Wounded was Bebot Layson, single. One Bugoy Precioso was hogtied and mauled by the ICHDF's while others were interrogated as to the presence of NPAS in the barrio. Two residents, Abag Perez and Ariel Mandombuan, a student, were arrested by the ICHDF's. They also looted the chicken, cigarettes, clothes, money and other belongings of the residents.

CSO: 4200/848

PHILIPPINES

REPORTS OF MOUNTING PALAWAN DISSIDENCE PROMPT CONCERN

Ramos Calls for Action

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Mar 85 pp 1, 17

[Article by Jose De Vera]

[Text] Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, acting Armed Forces chief of staff, has called on all government agencies in Palawan to unite their forces in the drive against crime, insurgency, and subversion.

Ramos' call followed reports received by President Marcos that the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) have been building up forces in Palawan, especially among the hill tribesmen.

The acting AFP chief sounded the call during his meeting Monday with 24 members of the Provincial Peace and Order Council (PPOC) led by Palawan Gov. Salvador Socrates and Puerto Princesa City Mayor Feliberto Olivares.

Also present were other local officials and religious leaders in the province.

Ramos also visited military units in the area lead by Commodore Ismael D. Aparri, commanding general of the Western Command (Wescom).

Ramos ordered a continuing check on the progress of the integrated security plan being implemented in Palawan, the country's oil-rich province.

Reports reaching the President and Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile said the situation among hill tribesmen countrywide, including Palawan, has generally worsened and the root cause of the problems has become stronger instead of being eliminated.

The reports said the CPP and its military arm, the New People's Army, and the MNLF and its military arm, the Bangsa Moro Army (MNLF-BMA), were establishing cadres in hinterlands populated mostly by hill tribesmen.

The CPP-NPA and the MNLF-BMA have reportedly adopted twin strategies to win the hill tribesmen to their side.

The first strategy, the reports said, to conduct a hate-the-government campaign capitalizing on defects in the implementation of government programs for

the benefit of the cultural communities and then promising a good life under their system.

The second strategy is to use the hill tribe communities as a front in establishing an economic base for the movement in the hinterlands and utilizing this front to get the assistance/services available in ongoing projects of the government.

In Bataraza, a Muslim dominated town of Palawan, the native Palawenos are enlisting themselves as beneficiaries of the Agricultural Intensification and Diversification Program of the Palawan Integrated Area Development Project (PIAD) to be able to plant coffee and other crops under the guidance of MNLF cadres, the reports said.

Military Minimizes Threat

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Mar 85 pp 1, 12

[Text] The military said yesterday that the activities of some groups in Palawan "speak more of organized banditry than an execution of a clear political strategy."

Lt. Col. Arsenio L. Tecson, spokesman of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, made the observation in response to press reports that the New People's Army (NPA) of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) have stepped up their activities in Palawan.

Tecson said this assessment of the Palawan situation was confirmed by Commodore Ismael V. Aparri, commander of western command, in a report submitted yesterday to higher military authorities.

"As far as the MNLF secessionist group is concerned," Tecson said, "their cause is untenable due to their continued failure to establish an adequate mass base."

Aparri's report said there has been no concrete indications of communist armed movement in Palawan except that the province has been recently designated by the CPP-NPA as an expansion area.

Tecson said that based on reports, Palawan has been assessed as one of the most peaceful provinces in the country.

This was confirmed by both the military and civilian officials present during the Peace and Order Council meeting presided by Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, acting AFP chief of staff, during his visit in the area last Monday.

The prevailing peace in Palawan is attributed to the coordinated efforts of both the civilian and military officials in dealing with day-to-day affairs, Aparri said.

Palawan Mayor Feliberto Olivares told Ramos that there is no civil or military problem which could not be immediately solved at the local level.

CSO: 4200/870

PHILIPPINES

STRUCTURE, LEADERSHIP OF NEW MASS GROUP REPORTED

Tanada, Diokno Head Bayan

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 20 Mar 85 pp 1, 8

[Article by Ben Evardone]

[Text] Participating groups in the "parliament of the streets" launched formally yesterday their own grouping--Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (BAYAN)--to add power to their pressure politics by participating in the electoral process which they hope will finally topple the "US-Marcos dictatorship."

Eight veterans of street mass actions--where they have been teargassed, pressure-hosed with water cannons and in some cases truncheoned by riot police--were elected officers. They were led by 86-year-old Lorenzo Tanada as national chairman and Jose Wright Diokno as president.

The break sectoral and "cause-oriented" roots of the new political force are seen in the line-up of the rest of the officers.

Tanada himself is chairman of the Nationalist Alliance for Freedom, Justice and Democracy (NA) while Diokno is chairman of Kilusan sa Kapangyarihan at Karapatan ng Bayan (Kaakbay).

Unido's Laurel Comments

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 20 Mar 85 p 8

[Text] MANILA, March 20 (AFP)--Philippine opposition leader Salvador Laurel today said it was too early to gauge whether the launching of a new opposition party would remove support from the main opposition alliance which he heads.

The head of the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (Unido) grouping nine opposition political parties said the alliance can still unite with the rival faction expected to be launched on Friday.

CSO: 4200/870

PHILIPPINES

ESTABLISHMENT COLUMNIST ON PROSPECTS FOR LABOR PARTY

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Mar 85 p 6

[Commentary by Jesus Bigornia]

[Excerpt]

Perceptive observers concede that left-leaning labor leaders must, if they persist, learn the hard way that a "third force" does not fit in the mould of Philippine politics. "Third Forces" were tried before by men with national political as well as academic standing and renown — the late Senator Claro M. Recto and later by General Carlos P. Romulo in their respective quest for the presidency of the Philippines. Both attempts to form a "third force" collapsed and so have other attempts.

Now, the leadership of the Labor Party ("Lapiang Manggagawa") is spearheading a move to get all political groups opposed to the platforms of the ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL), the National Unification Committee (NUC) and the so-called Convenor Group into a coalition "Third

Force." However, the vast majority of Filipinos opposed to the Marcos regime have already polarized toward either the conservative mainstream opposition, the NUC, or the more radicalized Convenor Group leaving little pickings for the contemplated "Third Force" Coalition.

As Pelagio Villegas, executive vice president of the Labor Party, says, the coming local elections should show whether or not labor has a real voice in the Philippines' democratic system. But it is safe to predict, even now, that the regularly organized political parties, the KBL, or such groups as will stick it out with the NUC, will dominate the coming polling. For past elections have proved time and again that even in highly-unionized Manila there is NO labor vote.

CSO: 4200/871

PHILIPPINES

REBELS BURN MARINE CAMP NEAR DAVAO

Cebu City THE MINDANAO MIRROR-BULLETIN in English 18-24 Mar 85 pp 1, 7

[Text] Five fully armed young men said to be terrorists put to the torch a patrol base camp of the 49th Philippine Marines Company in Callawa, a barangay within Buhangin district, some 25 kilometers from the Davao City poblacion, Saturday afternoon.

Capt. Rodolfo Valenzuela, commanding officer of the Marines patrol platoon occupying the camp, said that the terrorists burned down a total of 12 huts made of cogon grass, coconut leaves and bamboo at about 4:20 p.m. Saturday.

Valenzuela reported to Col. Rodolfo Biazon, Philippine Marines commanding officer in this area, that the burning of the camp situated in the population center of the barangay occurred when all elements of the Marines platoon went on long range patrol of the vicinity.

The Marines moved out of the camp early Saturday morning and came back the following day, yesterday, only to find that their camp has been levelled to the ground by fire.

Only the camp's latrine, pigpen and chicken coop were left untouched by the arsonists.

Callawa was the fourth Marines' patrol base camp set on fire by terrorists. The Marines camp in Paquibato, Kibaton and another area in Davao City, also suffered the same fate. However, they would usually do it when the government troopers are all out on patrol.

The Marine contingent is now temporarily housed in a school building of the Callawa elementary school.

Col. Biazon visited the area with his wife yesterday.

CSO: 4200/871

PHILIPPINES

EDITORIAL VIEWS NPA SUPPORTERS' MASS SURRENDER

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Mar 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Mass Surrender"]

[Text]

THE reported surrender of 3,000 NPA supporters in the municipalities of Asuncion and Kapalong, Davao del Norte, suggests the essential condition of insurgency strength, and that is, it depends on the support of the residents where the insurgents operate. Absent that support, rebel activity in the area will eventually wither.

The mass surrender of supporters as in the case reported does not necessarily mean the end of insurgency in the affected towns. It merely represents a psychological blow to the rebels and a considerable withdrawal of assistance. The act of surrender and the taking of an oath of allegiance by the townsfolk must be backed by constructive govern-

ment and a scheme of security acceptable to the people. In other words, the manifested preference of the people for the legitimate government must constantly be nurtured.

It is interesting to note that the municipal authorities were partly responsible for the surrender. The same authorities should be in the forefront in guarding the gains made.

Wherever municipal and provincial authorities are lackadaisical in the face of the insurgency threat, it becomes quite difficult for the military authorities to subdue the insurgents, for various reasons. People tend to have more confidence in their duly elected, indigenous leaders.

PHILIPPINES

LETTER COMPARES, CONTRASTS MANILA, WARSAW JUSTICE

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 21 Mar 85 p 5

[Text] [The Galman-Aquino double murder case has a striking resemblance with the brutal murder of the vigilant Polish priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko, who was an ardent supporter of the banned Solidarity labor union.

On the Popieluszko case, the military were also involved. Four of them were found guilty and meted various sentences: Colonel Adam Pietruszka and Captain Grzegorz Piotrowski--both 25 years' term, while two subordinates, Leszek Pekala (driver) and Waldemar Chmielewski were given 15 years and 14 years respectively. It must be recalled that Poland, a socialist country, was placed under martial law in 1981 by a stern-faced martinet, General Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Note that Col. Pietruszka and Capt. Piotrowski were given heavier penalties than the two perpetrators who are their subordinates. As cited by Judge Arthur Kujawa, the superior officers "were driven by their pride, ambition and hatred" they put themselves "above the law". The judge singled out Pietruszka as "a criminal acting from behind the desk", while in contrast described the subordinates as "pawns and victims of their superiors' actions".

While Piotrowski claimed that his superior, Pietruszka, had told him that the kidnaping was "a decision approved in the highest level", no other higher officers were charged. The case ended with convicted Col. Pietruszka still claiming innocence.

In the Galman-Aquino case, there is a general public cynicism that a conviction even up to the colonel level will ever ensue gauging from the present trends of the Sandigan bayan hearings. In the case of Poland and its military government, some rays of justice filtered through, although there is widespread skepticism by Poles that the four convicted military men would be made to serve out their sentence.

It took a Chmielewski to confess the savage killing and dumping of the priest's body in a river. The bloated body was fished out 11 days after, thereby tying up the loose ends in the murder of Father Popieluszko. Who will be the local Chmieluszki who will spill the beans in the Galman-Aquino case, thereby saving the country from a quagmire which brought about anxiety and fear, bitterness and recriminations, indifference and the lessening faith of the people in our system of justice. MAXIMO P. CANDELARIA, San Leonard, Nueva Ecija

PHILIPPINES

POWER, WATER RATES REDUCED, MARCH 1985

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Mar 85 pp 1, 17

[Article by Willie Ng]

[Text] The Cabinet set guidelines yesterday for reducing prices of prime commodities and included electricity rates.

National Power Corp. President Gabriel Itchon told the Cabinet the NPC would reduce its electricity rates to Meralco by three centavos per kilowatt starting this month. This will be 2.5 percent less than the present rate of ₱1.2077 per kwh.

Itchon said that this would come down by another four centavos per kwh in June when the rainy season starts and rain water fills up the various hydroelectric dams, thereby increasing their electricity output. This decrease would be 3.3 percent.

He said each reduction in NPC rates would be passed on by the Meralco to the public after a month. Meralco billings would then reflect correspondingly the reduced rate.

The first decrease would be passed on to consumers in April and the second in July.

Itchon said that in Mindanao, whose grid is primarily dependent on hydroelectric dams, rates would not be significantly affected by the rollback in prices of oil products.

But in Visayan provinces such as Cebu, Bohol, and Panay, where thermal plants provide the power rates would be reduced by three percent starting this month.

This meeting of the Cabinet to reduce prices was brought on by the decreases of oil products prices in January and this month as well as the strengthening of the dollar-peso rate.

Deputy Minister of Public Works Aber Canlas, who is manager of the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System, reported to the ministers that the MWSS would reduce its rates by two centavos per cubic meter either next month or in May.

The Ministry of Transportation said overland hauling rates would come down by five to six percent. Earlier, it had reduced commuter transport rates.

It added that shipping cargo rates would be reduced by five percent while passenger rates would go down two percent.

International telephone and telex service rates would be rolled back next month.

The Philcomsat will reduce its rates by 20 percent, the international records carriers by 10 percent, and the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. by seven percent for international direct dialing and 20 to 25 percent for services on Sundays.

The Cabinet decided to maintain the present support price of palay at ₱3.35 per kilo for milled rice at ₱6. This would encourage farmers to keep up production.

Presidential food adviser Jesus Tanchanco said the National Food Authority is prepared to further reduce prices of flour by another ₱1.65 per bag. Earlier, it cut flour prices by ₱11 per 25-kilo bag.

The NFA would also reduce its soybean meal prices by 30 centavos a kilo to lower the cost of feeds.

Tanchanco pointed out that due to low feed prices, pork prices, which have stayed below the October level, might go down another two percent.

It was noted that the present price of ₱40.50 per kilo of liempo, lower than the October price of ₱41.70 could go down by another 50 centavos.

Due to reduced feed costs and the expected slackening of demand during summer, dressed chicken prices may go down by ₱1. It is now about ₱35.75.

Cost estimates also tend to indicate that prices of medium-size eggs, which is presently selling at the October, 1984, price ceiling of ₱1.30 per piece, may still go down by ₱0.05 due to reduction in costs of feed ingredients.

The Cabinet noted the report of the technical staff indicating that price reductions ranging from 4 percent to 6 percent may also be expected on other items.

The NEDA reported that the average inflation rate for 1985 is now projected to decrease from the original 25 percent figure calculated before the recent March oil price rollback to about 21 percent to 22 percent.

CSO: 4200/870

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST COMPARES IRAN STUDENTS THREAT TO LEBANON

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Mar 85 p 6

[Commentary by Jesus Bigornia]

[Excerpt]

Lebanon's tragedy demonstrates how easily a foreign-sponsored terrorist group can demoralize a country and threaten to take it over. Fanatic Shi'ite Moslems, calling themselves the "Party of God" (Hezbollah) and acknowledging allegiance to the Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran, recently descended in force in the old city of Sidon and called for the establishment of a Khomeini-style Islamic Republic of Lebanon. Not content with defying the authority of the Lebanese army which had moved in after the Israeli withdrawal, they have been denouncing publicly President Amin Gemayel, a Maronite Christian, as "The Shah of Lebanon," tearing down his portraits, and replacing them with portraits of Khomeini.

Reports have it that the militant Hezbollah group took shape in Lebanon after the Khomeini takeover of Iran, with the assistance of Iranian revolutionary guards dispatched from Teheran in 1979. The Iranian "irregulars" who had called themselves "volunteers," furnished funds, equipment and training to the Lebanese Shi'ite community during its confrontation with Israel, even as they carried out their main mission — radicalization of Lebanon's Shi'ite Moslems. Iranians have been involved in a large number of terrorist acts in

Lebanon, including embassy bombings and diplomatic kidnappings.

A similar problem is gestating in this country. Iranian revolutionary guards from Teheran have been active in anti-government mass actions in Manila and in radicalizing youths in Moslem-dominated areas in Mindanao. For a long time now, this column has been warning on the overt activities of so-called students in demonstrations and in the dissemination of derogatory propaganda against the Philippine government and government leaders. Intelligence and immigration authorities appear insensitive to the danger the "Iranian presence" poses.

Only last week, Khosrow Minuscher, labor attache here of the deposed Shah, denounced an attempt of about a dozen countrymen to prolong their stay in this country by enrolling in new courses of study immediately after graduating from local colleges and universities. He furnished the Commission on Immigration and Deportation (CID) with a list of the names of the so-called students. To prolong their stay here would only increase the damage they can do to Philippine security. The Philippines cannot afford to nourish a potential enemy in its bosom.

PHILIPPINES

LAUREL SPELLS OUT 'UPDATED' UNIDO PLATFORM

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Mar 85 pp 1, 12

[Text]

Opposition leader Salvador H. Laurel spelled out yesterday the updated platform of government of the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (Unido) as an alternative to that of the Marcos administration.

Speaking before the National Forum sponsored by 15 religious and lay organizations in Quezon City, Laurel said the Unido platform called "A Program for a Just and Progressive Society," is a detailed plan of action encompassing political, social, economic, foreign policy, national security, educational and cultural initiatives.

Laurel said the opposition group is committed to carry out the platform if it succeeds in replacing the present regime.

The Unido platform stresses certain fundamental imperatives, such as economic deliverance based on nationalism and social justice, and a development approach based on genuine self-reliance, aimed at achieving self-sufficiency in the basic needs of the people.

First drafted in 1980 when the Unido was organized with the late Sen. Gerardo Roxas and

now Minority Floorleader Jose B. Laurel Jr. as co-chairmen, the program was recently updated.

A platform committee drew from various political, social and economic policy analysts. Former Sen. Francisco Rodrigo headed the committee, with former Sen. Dominador Aytona, Member of Parliament Luis Villafuerte, and former University of the Philippines president Salvador P. Lopez as members.

This platform was presented to the delegates of the last National Unification Conference (NUC) on March 10, together with the platform of the Liberal Party (LP), the Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan, (PDP-Laban) and the Social Democratic Party (SDP).

Other parties will send their own programs of government to an NUC platform committee which will try to harmonize all of them into a single alternative program of the allied political parties.

Laurel said the Unido platform calls for the drafting of a new Constitution and the complete repeal of all unjust and undemocratic leg-

islative enactments, decrees and executive orders of the present regime, including Amendment 6 and the preventive detention action (PDA).

The platform urged a thorough restructuring of the governmental setup "where the principle of checks and balances is inviolate and public accountability firmly enshrined."

The other basic elements of the platform are a revamp of present fiscal and monetary policies giving socio-economic development of the poor, and education the highest priorities; and a truly independent foreign policy where the interests of the Filipino people are held over and above those of any other country.

Among the sponsors of the forum are the Human Rights Deaks of the National Council of Churches and the United Church of Christ in the Philippines, Protestant Lawyers League, Association of Major Religious Superiors, National Ecumenical Union of Seminarians, Church Based Consumers Movement, National Priests Organization and National Organization of Women Religious of the Philippines.

PHILIPPINES

GOVERNMENT MISHANDLING OF VEGETABLE PRODUCTION REPORTED

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 21 Mar 85 p 2

[Article by Carlito P. Laurean]

[Text] LOS BANOS, Laguna---(DEPTHnews)--Vegetable production in the country is something of an irony if not a reflection of skewed government priorities.

Such a scenario was painted by Deputy Agriculture Minister Domingo F. Panganban while speaking before the 196th National Vegetable Crops Symposium held in this town.

He said the Philippines exported \$4.7 million worth of vegetables in 1982 but annually imports \$42 million in vegetable seeds many of which require costly chemical inputs to grow.

The minister also acknowledged that per capita consumption of vegetables had fallen to 12.4 kilograms per year as against the recommended 32.4 kgs.

He emphasized that vegetables are inexpensive sources of vitamins, minerals and proteins adequate consumption of which would help improve the presently unsatisfactory nutritional level of majority of Filipinos.

The symposium, sponsored by the Society for the Advancement of the Vegetable Industry, heard the minister urge planters and other segment of the industry to exert greater efforts to improve production.

He said that increased vegetable production would not only mean national self-sufficiency in such an important food item but also better profits for farmers and larger earnings from exports.

The minister said value of vegetable production last year was estimated at P1.4 billion or 3.27 per cent of the nation's total crop P43.4 billion.

He said that the \$4.7 million worth of vegetables exported by the country in 1982 were in fresh, frozen, preserved and prepared forms.

But crop, he said the export consisted of onions, tomatoes, cassava, potatoes, cucumber, beans mungo, chick peas and sweet pepper.

The minister singled out Japan as the most promising market for Philippine grown vegetables, that market now procuring part of its needs for fresh asparagus, lettuce, onions and okra from this country.

He said the Japanese market is also large for such processed vegetables as frozen beans, sweet corn, soybeans spinach sweet potato gabi and pumpkin.

Mr. Panganiban emphasized the need to continuously expand production capability of the vegetable industry one of the top needs being self-sufficiency in annual seed needs.

He said seed production is an attractive investment area in the industry as the country imports \$42 million worth of seeds yearly.

CSO: 4200/871

THAILAND

GOVERNMENT GIVES CONSENT ON U.S. ENVOY NOMINEE

BK280403 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Apr 85 p 3

[Text] The Thai Government has given consent to the nomination of Mr William Andreas Brown to be the next U.S. ambassador to Thailand, an informed Foreign Ministry source revealed yesterday.

Mr Brown, 54, a leading American expert on Mongolia and East Asian affairs, is currently a senior deputy assistant secretary of state who works closely with Paul Wolfowitz, assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan on Friday nominated him as ambassador to Thailand succeeding Mr John Gunther Dean, who is likely to be assigned to India.

Western diplomatic sources in Bangkok told the BANGKOK POST that the American community here is gathering all available information on Mr Brown in anticipation of his nomination by President Reagan and confirmation by the Senate.

Thai scholars who follow the U.S. ASEAN policy closely said that the appointment of Mr Brown, who is also an authority on China and speaks both Mandarin and Cantonese, suggests a deepening U.S. interest in working closely with China on many regional issues of Southeast Asia.

They added that the current deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok William Freeman, is also an expert on Chinese affairs who was transferred directly from Peking late last year.

If Mr Brown is confirmed as the next ambassador to Bangkok, his expertise on China and East Asian affairs will be supplemented by Mr Freeman's first-hand knowledge and experience.

Mr Brown received his BA degree from Harvard University in 1952 and was awarded a PhD from the same university in 1963. He studied Mongolian at Oxford University, England.

He joined the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War and entered the Foreign Service in 1956. He served as the U.S. Consul in Singapore before being sent to Moscow as political officer.

Mr Brown went to Taipei in 1978 as the deputy chief of mission. His next assignment was New Delhi where he was given the position of political and economic officer. His latest assignment was as deputy chief of mission in Tel Aviv.

THAILAND

PRASONG SPEAKS ON SOVIET POLICY IN REGION

BK270331 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Apr 85 p 4

["Excerpts" of 26 April Speech by National Security Council Secretary General Prasong Sunsiri to Asian Lawyers' Legal Inquiry Committee at the Bangkok Peninsula Hotel]

[Text] Although Thailand and other member countries of ASEAN are enjoying fine economic growth and looking to the future with confidence, it is sad to note that some other countries in the region have chosen a radically different path. The fact is that Vietnam has seen fit to bring in outside assistance from the Soviet Union to subsidise its expansionist adventure in Kampuchea. In return, the Soviet Union has fairly gained momentum, particularly the extensive use of facilities in Vietnam, posing a serious threat to the security of the whole region and beyond.

We must at this stage understand that one of the main objectives of the Soviet Union is to maneuver its military power and expand its influence in various regions of the world. With regard to the policy of Russia towards Southeast Asia, we may say that it aims at blockading the influence and power of China as well as seeking a military base to support its expansion.

The tactics of the Soviet Union in seeking power and influence as a superpower, both in overt and covert ways, are: (1) Armed sales with long-term moratorium and low interest rates; (2) Military adviser--there are about 20,000 advisers deployed in 28 countries; (3) Economic assistance--mostly following an arms deal; (4) Proxy war--as in Cuba, East Germany and Vietnam; (5) Treaties or pacts--as an access for a Soviet involvement and; (6) Subversions in economic, commercial, political or cultural aspects.

Though the Soviet order of foreign policy priorities does not place great emphasis on Southeast Asia compared to Europe, the Middle East and Northeast Asia, I may say that it does get involved in our regional affairs whenever an opportunity avails itself. Since the U.S. disengagement from Indochina in 1973 and the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Thailand in 1976, the establishment of a strong alliance between Russia and Vietnam stands out as a major political and military success for Soviet design in Southeast Asia. Having a broad and common interest with Vietnam in resisting the Chinese efforts and the Sino-Vietnamese diplomatic rupture followed by Hanoi's establishment of a dominant position in Indochina, the Soviet Union vis-a-vis China stands to receive fruitful and permanent gains in Indonesia.

By geographical, historical and economic imperatives, the Soviet Union has never enjoyed greater advantage in Southeast Asia than the United States and China because it is more of a stranger. In the pursuit of its offensive strategy, it has been playing a role in Southeast Asia by seeking to take advantage from regional fears and tensions, especially the concept of Chinese hegemonism. Under such circumstances, the Soviets assume that these states will become more receptive to their persuasion and they often give the impression of being a countervailing power to curb the Chinese influence.

Furthermore, Since 1979, when Vietnamese forces occupied Kampuchea, Moscow has poured in aid to an extent exceeding U.S. \$5,000 million and dispatched into the country no less than 7,000 civilian and military advisers. More than 40 percent of Soviet assistance is devoted to building up the military strength of Vietnam. The rest is aid for basic development of industry and agriculture. Vietnam sends its products to the Soviet Union as payment of debts. This causes Vietnam to be dependent on the Soviet Bloc. One of the most important forms of repayment for Soviet aid is the provision of many facilities within the country, especially the base at Cam Ranh Bay, which is most useful and valuable to Soviet strategic interests in this region.

The Soviets have built, improved and expanded facilities at Cam Ranh stage by stage, parallel to the significant increase of the Soviet Fleet. Statistically speaking, the number of warships operating out of Cam Ranh in 1980 was seven. In 1981, it was increased to 10. In mid-1982 it rose to 15 and from the end of 1982, it went up to 24. The naval squadron there is beginning to rival its naval squadron based in the Indian Ocean.

Cam Ranh has become the centre for the Soviet fleet activities in the area from South China Sea to the Indian Ocean. Now Soviet vessels do not have to operate from distant ports like Vladivostok, the chief Soviet naval base on the Pacific or Petropavlovsk in Russia. This makes it possible for the Soviets to make considerable saving in time and expenses. Furthermore, Cam Ranh is also an important link in the Soviet intelligence-gathering network in this region. Telecommunication stations and electronic surveillance system have been set up for espionage activities in Southeast Asia and the Indian Ocean to support submarine operations as well as naval and air reconnaissance. Meanwhile, the Soviet air presence at Cam Ranh has also stepped up in November 1984 to 16 TU-16 bombers and 14 MiG-23 fighter aircraft apart from 8 long-range reconnaissance bombers.

This air and naval presence at Cam Ranh poses a danger to all shipping through the strategic Melaka Strait. It gives the Soviets excellent reconnaissance capabilities, a stop-over base for Indian Ocean operations, and a further means of intimidating China. Moscow views this base as a major strategic benefit for Vietnam's dependence and is probably willing to pay the high price of supporting Hanoi's Kampuchean adventure. The strengthening of Soviet forces in Indochina is taking place not only in Vietnam, but also in Kampuchea and Laos. In Kampuchea, besides some 700-800 Soviet civilian and military advisers now operating, the Soviets have delivered the equivalent of an armoured regiment to the Heng Samrin last September, in what could be the start of a more direct involvement in the buildup of Phnom Penh's military might. In Laos, they not only use Vietnam as an access for their scheme, but also manipulate its direct involvement in political, military, and economic facets. There are around 2,000 Soviet experts and advisers in Laos.

The Soviet efforts to expand influence in the region which serves as the meeting point of the South China Sea and the Andaman Sea have caused considerable concern to Thailand and other ASEAN nations. As long as ASEAN continues to have differences with Indochina, particularly on the Kampuchean problem, the Soviets will be able to increase their influence and expand their military strength. To a foreseeable outcome, we are aware of the danger arising out of the conflict between the superpowers, or even if they intentionally evade direct confrontation, a confusing cold war, proxy wars or limited wars could take place with one side trying to destroy the influence of the other.

To this concern, ASEAN is hardly to remain passive. In this situation, while other powers are staying within their own border, we assume the role as a stabilising influence to seek peace and security in this region. At first, we have been trying to bring a political solution to the Kampuchean problem in keeping with the spirit of the UN Charter and the relevant UN resolutions. While we realise that this problem must not be allowed to prolong, we nonetheless have the patience and will continue to support the noble quest. In larger perspective, the cooperation among the ASEAN members will have an increasingly important role in both the political and economic fields for their own security sake.

Shifting to other impending security concern, recent developments in the Far East, the transfer of Soviet nuclear submarines installed with submarine launched ballistic missile (SLBM) into the Sea of Okhotsk and Bering Sea instead [of] the Pacific Ocean, make it even more difficult for the United States to monitor their movement, while Japan is also much affected. In addition, the installation of Soviet intermediate range SS-20 nuclear missiles along the Ural Range in Soviet territory has continued, making it hard to believe that ASEAN and South Asia can escape such formidable threat to regional security in the future.

Relying on the Soviet posture, Vietnam remains adamant in its objective to establish an Indochina Federation by employing military and political measures to eliminate resistance forces and controlling the Heng Samrin regime's administrative structure.

The People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) has been strengthened from 1.03 million to 1.26 million forces with 6.9 million volunteers. In general, Vietnamese troops are strong and well disciplined but the occupying forces in Kampuchea, especially the conscript Southern Vietnamese soldiers, have low morale besides combat weariness due to the protracted war with no justifiable cause. Troop desertion rate is quite steady. Vietnamese military operations in Kampuchea are dependent on Soviet aids. The Chinese military pressure on the northern border also remains a major obstacle to Vietnamese military measures. Forty-four PAVN divisions totalling 270,000 troops are deployed to face the PRC in the North.

The 70,000 strong Lao People's Army (LPA) is responsible for national defence and internal security, particularly in conducting joint military operations with Vietnamese forces to suppress resistance activities. The USSR has assisted the LPA in its organisational development to upgrade the ground forces to division

level. In 1984, the LPA has succeeded in establishing five divisions: The First Division in Vientiane, the Second in Lluangphrabang, the Third in Luang Namtha, the Fourth in Savannakhet and the Fifth in Champasak. The navy and the air force are in the process of development. The LPA is also assigned to control and prevent the Lao people, minority groups and hill tribesmen from deserting along the Thai-Lao border. They are also to aid [words indistinct] and provide safe haven for medical supplies for establishing bases and the infiltration into Thailand.

Concerning Vietnamese troops in Laos, six infantry divisions, two engineering divisions and two independent regiments totalling 60,000 troops are currently stationed. The Vietnamese military presence is designed to suppress Lao resistance, strengthen the border defence vis-a-vis the Chinese threat, aid the fighting in Kampuchea, enhance Lao military capability and support the pro-Vietnamese/Soviet new faction of Thai communist terrorists in conjunction with Laos to subvert Thailand's security.

Ladies and Gentlemen, before ending, I wish to illustrate to you one of the contemporary Soviet characteristics by mentioning a notion of Lenin, the late Soviet leader, who metaphorically said: "To probe with bayonet, if you encounter steel, withdraw. If you encounter mush, continue." I hope that, with our cooperation and mutual understanding, we will be able to resist such inquisitiveness.

CSO: 4200/853

THAILAND

OFFICER DISCUSSES OPERATION AGAINST COMMUNISTS

BK221552 Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai 2300 GMT 21 Apr 85

["Army Meets the People" program]

[Excerpt] on 15 April, Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon, in his capacity as head of the government, presided over a meeting of officials concerned to evaluate the operations against communist insurgency during the first 6 months of the 1985 fiscal year, from October 1984 to March 1985. Deputy Army Chief of Staff Lt Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut told reporters about the meeting, which was held at the Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy's Kittikhachon Auditorium, as follows:

[Begin Chawalit Yongchaiyut recording] His excellency the prime minister kindly presided over the meeting today. Some 800 military, police, and civilian officials from various relevant agencies and 9 cabinet members, but no one for the House Committee on Military Affairs, attended the meeting. According to the reports submitted to the meeting by the internal security operation regional commands, it can be said that the Communist Party of Thailand [CPT], in general, remains unable to revive its activities. We can see that the CPI has totally lost its status as a political movement.

The number of CPT members this year has fallen remarkably from that of the previous year. There are now some 500 to 600 CPT members operating as ordinary criminals, 300 to 400 of them in the southern region. The rest are scattering in other parts of the country. The relevant government agencies have obviously done their utmost to enhance their past achievements, particularly the military ones, to search for any CPT arms depot that might remain in their respective areas.

The frequency of clashes between government forces and the armed insurgents has greatly dropped. All combat units, especially the internal security operation commands in all parts of the country, have emphasized the effort to develop and secure security and well being for the people in their areas. Top priority is given to the task of eradicating the existing social injustices.

That is the summary of the reports submitted by the internal security operation commands in all regions. There will be no major change in the operation against the communist insurgency during the next 6 months. The prime minister's office orders 66/23 and 66/25 will continue to be used as the guideline for the operation.

Another issue which has drawn much of our attention concerns the Phak Mai Party. As I told you before, it is not easy to form such a new party. Our internal security operation command gives little credit for the information on the movements of the Phak Mai Party's armed forces. The party, reportedly supported by another group of foreign countries, might be used by the CPT to muster support in its bid to survive under the present circumstances. [End recording]

CSO: 4207/189

THAILAND

OFFICIAL REPORTS ON RECENT COMMUNIST ACTIVITY

BK281249 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Statement by Colonel Phichit Khongkanan, representative of the Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC); date and place not given--recorded]

[Text] In the past month, communist terrorists in the ISOC Zone 1 collected information, food supplies, and protection money from the local people in Kui Buri District, Prachuap Khirikhan Province; Sangkha Buri District, Kanchanaburi Province; the Mai District, Chanthaburi Province; and Watthana Nakhon District, Prachin Buri Province. There were no acts of terrorism in Sa Kaeo District, Prachin Buri; Bo Thong District, Chon Buri Province; and Ban Rai District, Uthai Thani Province.

In the ISOC Zone 2, 29 communist terrorists surrendered to the authorities--6 each in Nakhon Ratchasima, Ubon Ratchathani, and Sakon Nakhon, 4 in Nakhon Phanom, 3 each in Mukdahan and Surin, and 1 in Loei. Some communist terrorists in Phu Khieu moved to operate in Nam Nao Subdistrict in Phetchabun, while units of three to five remained to maintain influence in an area north of Chulaphon Dam and the area between Phu Khieu, Nong Wuo Daeng, and Khon San Districts of Chaiyaphum. There was a communist ambush in Khon Buri District, Nakhon Ratchasima, in which an official was wounded. About five armed communist terrorists in the area where Khon Kaen, Kalasin, and Udon Thani Provinces meet carried out mass instigation operations in the lowland in Song Dao District, Sakon Nakhon in order to revive their influence. Some communist terrorist groups dissolved themselves and infiltrated the local population in the central district of Udon Thani. Five deserted communist camps were discovered--four in Kaset Sombun District, Chaiyaphum, and the other in Na Haeo District, Loei. The authorities discovered communist weapons in Wang Sam Mo District, Nakhon Phanom; Song Dao District, Sakon Nakhon; Nong Wu Daeng District, Chaiyaphum; the central district of Surin; and Dong Luang District, Mukdahan. Some communist weapons were handed over by villagers in Phu Rua District, Loei.

In the ISOC Zone 3, communist terrorists collected information and food supplies in Thung Chang and Pha Districts, Nan; Chat Trakan, Nakhon Thai, and the central districts, Phitsanulok; Khun Yuam, Mae La Noi, and Mae Sariang Districts, Mae Hong Son; Soem Ngam District, Lampang; the central district of Tak; and Nam Pat District, Uttaradit. Seven communists surrendered--three in Lampang and four in Nan. Eight members of communist masses surrendered in Phetchabun. Communist arms were captured in Phitsanulok, Chiang Mai, Nan, and other provinces.

In the ISOC Zone 4, communist terrorists intimidated people in Palian District, Trang and Ban Na San District, Surat Thani. They collected food supplies in the central district of Phatthalung and conducted mass mobilization in Khuan Khanun District, Phatthalung. They clashed with the authorities twice in Trang and once in Nakhon Si Thammarat, resulting in four officials wounded. Four communist terrorists surrendered in Trang and five in Surat Thani. Two communist camps were discovered in Nakhon Si Thammarat and eight in Surat Thani. Terrorist bandits clashed with the authorities four times in Yala, wounding two officials. Six terrorist bandits surrendered in Yala, five in Songkhla, three in Narathiwat, and one in Pattani.

In sum, in the 4 ISOC regions, 45 communist terrorists and 8 members of the communist masses surrendered and 2 others were arrested. They intimidated people once, mobilized the masses once, clashed with the authorities three times, and ambushed the authorities once. A total of 14 communist camps were discovered and a number of communist arms were handed in by the local people.

CSO: 4207/189

THAILAND

ARMY OFFICIAL ON CAMBODIAN BORDER SITUATION

BK260829 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 25 Apr 85

[25 April Statement of Army Secretariat Representative Colonel Phopsuk Sutharanan--recorded]

[Text] Regarding the situation in Cambodia in the past month, Hun Sen, prime minister of the Vietnamese-supported Heng Samrin side, stated recently that his government was ready to negotiate with the Sihanouk side immediately once it eliminated the Khmer Rouge from the CGDK. At the same time, the Vietnamese said they would withdraw more troops from Cambodia. This is the fourth such statement by the Vietnamese. The Vietnamese invited foreign journalists to cover the withdrawal in an attempt to deceive the world. It was just propaganda. The fact, however, is that the Vietnamese troops were merely being rotated, whereby war-fatigued troops are replaced by fresh troops. Now about 150,000-170,000 Vietnamese soldiers remain in Cambodia.

Moreover, Soviet-provided war materiel has been continuously moved into Cambodia, and Vietnamese troops in the front and the rear lines have been rotated regularly. About 3,000 Cambodians were moved from Phnom Penh to Battambang. Several routes in Sisophon were repaired. Cambodians were drafted to clear forests on both sides of the route between Yeang Dangkum and the Ritthisen camp, which the Vietnamese occupied. Artillery pieces, tanks, and personnel were moved to Chhep District, Preah Vihear Province, which is opposite Thailand's Nam Yun District.

Vietnamese attacks on CGDK posts along the length of the Thai-Cambodian border and deliberate violations of Thai territory were broadly condemned by many countries as well as by Vietnamese refugees in Thailand. But Vietnam denied violations of Thai sovereignty despite the presence of evidence, which included corpses of Vietnamese soldiers and many weapons captured in Thailand. The Vietnamese actions have resulted in their increased isolation.

After successfully attacking and capturing the CGDK positions, the Vietnamese have continued to deploy themselves along the length of the Thai-Cambodian border from Ubon Ratchathani to Prachin Buri Provinces.

CSO: 4207/189

THAILAND

NAVY SPOKESMAN ON CAMBODIAN BORDER SITUATION

BK270958 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Statement by Navy Captain Chaturong Phankhongchun, representative of the Chanthaburi-Trat Force; date and place not given--recorded]

[Text] Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers and the Democratic Kampuchean soldiers continued to fight in Cambodia near the Thai-Cambodian border, using small arms, heavy weapons, and artillery pieces. The fighting, although not intense, resulted in artillery rounds and 107-mm rocket rounds falling on Thai territory, causing damage to local property. The following are details of events along the border:

In Pong Nam Ron District, Chanthaburi Province, on 28 March and on 5 and 8 April 38 Vietnamese artillery shells fell in Thai territory near Ban Khlong Yai and Ban O Lamchiak. In the central district of Trat Province, on 10, 16, 25, and 26 March and on 8 April more than 40 rounds of heavy weapons and a 107-mm rocket round landed in Thai territory near Ban Nong Krom, Ban Khlong Ta Bua, Ban Tang, Ban Tha Sen, and the Khao Lan reservoir. Three homes and some electricity and telephone lines were damaged. At 1210 on 20 April Vietnamese soldiers attacked Democratic Kampuchean soldiers opposite Thailand's Ban Thammarat in the central district of Trat and pursued the Cambodians into Thai territory. Thai aircraft and ground force were used to expel the Vietnamese intruders on 21 April. Vietnamese casualties were unknown.

In Khlong Yai District, Trat Province, on 12, 15, 18, 19, and 24 March and on 5 April more than 30 Vietnamese mortar rounds were fired into Thai territory at Ban Nong Muang, Ban Nong Wiwat, and Ban Saraphatphit, causing damage to two homes and wounding a soldier. In Bo Rai District, Trat Province, on 22, 24, and 30 March 70 Vietnamese artillery and other heavy weapon rounds fell in Thai territory near Ban Pong Ti.

Since mid-March many Vietnamese soldiers, artillery pieces, and tanks were moved on land and by sea from central Cambodia and from Vietnam to areas in Pailin District, Battambang Province opposite Thailand's Pong Nam Ron District, Chanthaburi Province, and to Phnum Kravanh in Pursat Province and Koh Kong Province opposite Thailand's central district of Trat Province to suppress Cambodian resistance forces.

22 May 1985

THAILAND

THAI RAT ON U.S. ASSISTANCE TO INDOCHINA

BK281113 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 27 Apr 85 p 3

[Editorial: "U.S. Assurance"]

[Text] U.S. President Reagan has sent a message to the prime minister reaffirming the U.S. commitment to Thailand contained in the Manila Pact in case of external aggression. The assurance follows Vietnamese harassment along the Thai border and serves to strengthen Thailand's confidence about the border situation. However this does not solve anything as long as a firm agreement regarding respect for territorial integrity does not exist.

The territorial conflict in Cambodia is the cause of the current situation in Indochina. The Cambodian people should be allowed the right to self-determination, and Vietnam cannot claim that it entered Cambodia in order to liberate the Cambodian people. Most Asian countries have called for Vietnam to withdraw all its soldiers from Cambodia, to respect the right to self-determination of the Cambodian people, and for the region to become neutral. The ASEAN countries have also agreed that the United States, being a superpower, should use its influence to bring peace.

Because the United States learned a lesson from the Vietnam war it might be difficult for it to involve itself again fully in Indochina. The United States has weighed its interests in Asia and elsewhere and its military involvement and economic assistance to Thailand have declined considerably of late.

The U.S. assurance to Thailand, although coming from the U.S. president, is likely to be just a diplomatic gesture around budget time. It remains to be seen if U.S. financial assistance will remain the same as before or will decrease. From all of this our country must be aware of its responsibilities and cannot just hope for superpower protection. We have already experienced disappointments.

Military assistance to the Cambodian resistance might be necessary now in order to increase combat strength, but what faces us today is humanitarian assistance to Indochinese refugees who have no choice but to seek shelter in Thailand. These refugees will have to stay here until they can be resettled in third countries or repatriated. The presence of refugees has cost us dearly in resources and has kept them from providing for themselves agriculturally.

If the United States sees strong potentials for Indochina, it should not just give assurances. Economic assistance will enable those countries to develop, if not they will continue to weaken while awaiting assistance.

THAILAND

ARTICLE VIEWS EFFECTS OF ATHIT EXTENSION

BK281221 Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai 21 Apr 85 pp 4, 5

[Unattributed article: "Political Situation After the Extension of General Athit's Term; What Will Happen Afterwards?"]

[Text] The extension of the term of General Athit Kamlang-ek, supreme commander and army commander, has finally been approved without any opposition. Looking back to the beginning of March, General Prem had a dinner together with General Athit and a group of military officers at his Sisao residence. That was the beginning of much talk about the possibility of extending General Athit's term. But some close aides of General Prem still did not believe in the news while close aides of General Athit were confident that the news was true and the issue was awaiting the acknowledgement of the Cabinet, which is the last step in the extension. General Prem finally confirmed this issue to reporters only 1 day before the Cabinet meeting.

"The issue passed without much interest," a Cabinet minister said about the atmosphere during the acknowledgement of the extension of General Athit's government service. An informed source said that "the prime minister said nothing. When the extension came up, nobody said anything, so the acknowledgement passed."

The Democrat Party expressed opposition to the extension from the beginning. But when the issue was raised for acknowledgement, no Democrat member would say anything. "We assigned this matter to the leader of the party," the source said, adding that "when the issue is assigned to the party leader, it is his duty."

Another source disclosed that the Democrat Party's Cabinet ministers did not speak up because they had been informed that General Prem had asked them not to oppose this issue.

Phichai Rattakun, deputy prime minister and Democrat Party leader, answered reporters as to why he did not voice opposition to the issue. He said it was because the issue was submitted to the Cabinet meeting merely for acknowledgement and there was already a law supporting the extension. However, the Democrat Party will continue its move to amend the law regarding future extensions.

Wira Musikaphone, deputy interior minister and Democrat MP for Phatthalung Province, who opposed the issue from the beginning, told reporters after the Cabinet meeting that "I have not changed my thinking. A bill was once submitted to the parliament by the party for amending the law regarding the extension in general. It was not aimed at any particular person and was a matter of principle. But the law now says that an extension is acceptable."

Prime Minister Prem reportedly informed the Democrat Party about reasons for the extension. He said he would be responsible for criticism should there be any.

No matter what reasons the prime minister gave for the extension, there will be repercussions, both for the government coalition parties and for the stability of the prime minister himself. As for the coalition parties, the Democrat Party will be effected the most because the party had opposed this issue from the beginning. The party will be watched as to how it deals with the issue. In the end the party had no way out and only kept quiet. Although it tried to push for amendment of the pension act, it would only be a move which yields no result, just like its opposition to this act in 1981. The worst impact for the Democrat Party is that it will be thought of as having kept quiet just to maintain its interest in the coalition government. It will also be attacked by the opposition during the upcoming by-election in Bangkok constituency three on 12 May.

A source said that General Prem was in a depressed mood regarding the extension, but he could [words indistinct] might create some political balance to the benefit of some groups. But for General Prem, his political position will weaken. Public acceptance of his political power will decline and he will be seen as being unable to control the military. What is more important is that General Prem has always been regarded as a person who is good at honest and upholds only correct principles. When General Prem gives up these principles, who else can be the hope of the people?

General Prem once did one thing beyond principle--extending his own tenure--and it resulted in an untoward thing, the April coup. Will an unhappy event happen after this extension?

CSO: 4207/189

THAILAND

SITTHI SAWETSILA ON TALKS WITH JAPAN OFFICIALS

BK280848 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 28 Apr 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila has asked Japan to provide aid for the Cambodian refugees, a burden that Thailand is now shouldering. He said:

[Begin Sitthi recording] The fighting will never stop, and we are shouldering an increasing share of the refugee burden. I briefed him [not further identified] about the refugee problem and asked Japan to continue its aid for the refugees. We also discussed bilateral relations--economic issues. I told him that I understood the problem because I had received letters from Japanese Foreign Minister Abe and [name indistinct] promising to help press for a reduction in tariff rates on import of Thai boneless chicken and other items at the end of June.

[Unidentified reporters] When did you receive the letters?

[Sitthi] I received the letters about 1 or 2 weeks ago. I asked Ito and members of political parties, including the opposition, to help solve the problem of the trade balance--which is in favor of Japan--because the trade deficit problem is the duty of the two countries. We should not argue over the issue but should work to help solve it. He readily agreed with my request to help solve the problem. [End recording]

CSO: 4207/189

THAILAND

SHIPPERS URGE INCREASED ANTIPIRACY NAVY PATROLS

BK270405 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Apr 85 p 1

[Text] Phatthaya--The Bangkok Shipowners and Agents Association [BSAA] yesterday asked the Royal Thai Navy to step up patrols in the Gulf of Thailand to protect freighters from pirate attacks.

The plea was made by BSSA President Mana Phattharatham during a seminar held at the Asia Phatthaya Hotel.

Mr Mana disclosed that there were four reported pirate attacks against cargo vessels in the Gulf between late 1983 and last year. All the incidents occurred at night between Sattahip and Rayong and marine police have not been able to arrest the pirates or protect the ships, he said.

The pirates were fully-armed, used high-speed boats and number about 12 in each attack, he said, adding that the cargo stolen was dried cuttle fish.

To protect themselves from more attacks, the association president said the freighters had changed their shipping routes to avoid "sensitive" areas and also changed their schedules so that the vessels arrive in the Gulf at day-break.

Some shipping firms, he added, had hired marine police to be on their vessels while travelling from Bangkok to Paknam while others reinforced their containers to prevent them being broken open by pirates.

He pointed out that no pirate attacks have been reported since the new security measures.

"But there is no assurance that such incidents will not recur," said Mr Mana who complained that the precautions have increased shipping companies' operational costs.

He suggested that the Royal Thai Navy's antipiracy fleet, currently operating in the Gulf to protect Vietnamese boat people against pirate attacks, step up its patrols to safeguard cargo vessels.

CSO: 4200/853

THAILAND

VOFA RESPONSE TO JAPAN; CRITICISM OF SRV

BK03122 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Cambodian 1300 GMT 2 May 85

[Station "article": "The Vietnamese Leaders' Stomachs Get Hot Because of Eating Chalk"]

[Text] Dear listeners: From 2 to 4 May, leaders of seven industrialized Western countries will meet for the 1985 annual summit in Bonn, FRG. They include Chancellor Helmut Kohl of the FRG, President Francois Mitterrand of France, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone of Japan, Prime Minister Thatcher of the United Kingdom, Prime Minister Bettino Craxi of Italy, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of Canada, and President Ronald Reagan of the United States. On this occasion, there are reports that the Japanese leader might raise the Cambodian issue for discussion at this summit. Vietnamese leaders have accused the Japanese leader of interfering in Cambodia's internal affairs, ordering their lackeys in Phnom Penh 2 days later to disseminate this news. This makes people wonder why Vietnam is so afraid when people are talking about resolving the Cambodian issue. Is it because Vietnam will be damaged because the Cambodian issue is discussed?

On 20 April, under Hanoi's instructions, Vietnamese media said that the Japanese leader is trying to get leaders of capitalist countries in the West to issue a statement demanding that Vietnam withdraw its forces from Cambodia and appealing to Western European countries for assistance for Cambodian refugees. The media says that this is an erroneous act on the part of Japan, and constitutes interference in Cambodia's internal affairs. This also shows that Japan is colluding with Chinese reactionaries in opposing the freedom and sovereignty of the Cambodian people. The Vietnamese media go on to say that there is enough evidence to show that Japan is contributing its part to assisting Beijing's expansionist policy and reactionary circles among Thai leaders. Furthermore, Japan is proposing measures to drag the seven capitalist countries into this effort to oppose the progress of the Cambodian people. The Vietnamese media goes on: reasonable people are aware that the assistance provided to remnants of Cambodian reactionaries is an immoral act and an obstacle to the solution to the problem. It is also leading to further confrontation and endangering peace, and stability in Southeast Asia. The Vietnamese media conclude by saying that for peoples in Indochina and Southeast Asia, this erroneous Japanese act is like restoring the Japanese fascist doctrine implemented in this region 40 years ago.

Reasonable people realize at once that the Vietnamese leaders are making slanderous accusations against the Japanese leader by inventing various malicious stories to show that Japan is following China and colluding with Thai and Chinese reactionaries to create confusion in Cambodia. Furthermore, the Vietnamese leaders affirmed that peoples in Southeast Asia do not like Japan's reputation. What the Vietnamese leaders have revealed is nothing strange or new. It is just a lie that has been altered to make it look different from the old one, that is, the method and objects of lying, and exaggeration of the truth.

As for the first point, there is nothing wrong with the fact that Japan or another country raises an issue for discussion at a summit conference or at any other conference. On the contrary, Japan or that conference should be praised because they are paying attention to the situation around themselves and have the goodwill to seek to resolve the issue. It is not creating obstacles to one's own interests as the Vietnamese leaders are doing in Cambodia.

On the second point, Vietnam accuses Japan of striving to get the summit conference to issue a statement demanding a Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia and appealing to Western countries for assistance for Cambodian refugees, saying that this action is wrong, although there is nothing wrong in it. People wonder what is wrong with this. Who is to judge? Vietnam maintains that this is interference in Cambodia's internal affairs. The truth, however, is that the current Cambodian problem arises from the Vietnamese aggression and occupation of Cambodia through military force 6 years ago. The just solution to the problem is for Vietnam to withdraw its forces because opinion in the United Nations has also appealed for this. On this point, Vietnam probably thinks that over 101 countries--which unanimously demanded that Vietnam withdraw its forces from Cambodia and let the Cambodian people decide their own destiny themselves--are also like Japan, doing something wrong because this is interference in Cambodia's internal affairs. What about the Vietnamese aggression and occupation of Cambodia? Is that not interference? Vietnam has occupied a large part of Cambodia where the legitimate Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea--headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk--is objecting to and struggling against this act of aggression. This clearly shows that Vietnam is lying and exaggerating the issue by blaming others for interfering in Cambodia's internal affairs. As for Vietnam, it not only is interfering but also occupying and administering some part of Cambodia as well.

As for the third point--the Japanese appeal for assistance for Cambodian refugees--what is wrong with it? Reasonable people know that people who think of assisting the poor and suffering are kind. Those who cause people to flee because of maltreatment are in fact evil. It is the Vietnamese act of exterminating the Cambodian people that is the real reason that they have been forced to flee.

On the fourth point, Vietnam claims that Japan is following China in its policy. Vietnam has forgotten that a developed and free country always carries out policies to serve its interests and principles. However, this is difficult to explain to the Vietnamese leaders, because they rely on others as servants rely on their masters. Despite having liberated the country, the Vietnamese leaders

have not abandoned a servant's way of thinking. This is why Vietnam must follow its master, the Soviet Union, in its policies. Vietnam, in turn, applies this to its servant, Heng Samrin. This is why Vietnam is applying this to other people as well. The Vietnamese leaders have come to think that the leaders of the seven capitalist countries will agree to the Japanese proposal without using their reason. This also makes people think about and wonder at the seven countries' wealth in contrast with the almost nonexistent Vietnamese economy, as the Vietnamese people live in poverty and starvation and are subject to constant repression from the authorities. Is this not because of the lofty reason of the Vietnamese leaders, who only wait for instructions and orders from the Soviets?

On the fifth point, Vietnam maintains that assisting Cambodian reactionaries is immoral. This is sheer ignorance. Those Cambodian resistance forces fighting against Cambodia's occupation are the real masters of the country. They refuse to be servants to others. That is why they are fighting for their independence and sovereignty. This group of Cambodians have just received recognition from the United Nations as a legitimate government. We therefore ought to think about who is opposing the Cambodian people's progress and who are opposing peace and stability in this region--who else but the Vietnamese expansionist and their backers, the Soviet Union.

On the sixth point, the Vietnamese leaders gratuitously affirm on behalf of peoples in Southeast Asia that Japan is reviving the ghost of Japanese fascism in World War II. This could be true. At present, nobody wants fascism back. However, what people are witnessing is a thoroughly fascist regime being molded by the Vietnamese leaders who used military force to commit aggression and occupy a neighboring country, Cambodia.

In sum, we clearly see that Vietnam is like a cow with wounds on its back; when a crow flies over it, the cow moves and raises its tail to cover up its wounds. There is nothing wrong with Japanese leaders proposing to raise the Cambodian issue for discussion at the summit conference. What Vietnam fears is that its bad deeds will be exposed and many more people will know that the root cause of the Cambodian problem lies with the Vietnamese aggression and occupation of Cambodia through military force. What is strange is that the real masters of Cambodia, the CGDK headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, have said nothing about Japanese interference in Cambodia's internal affairs when Japan proposed discussing the Cambodian issue at the summit conference. However, it is Vietnam that is outstanding in interfering in Cambodian affairs by accusing others of doing so. Vietnam ought to let its servant Heng Samrin do this, for the accusation would have some weight coming from a Cambodian. Or maybe Vietnam has already ordered Heng Samrin to do so but the latter refuses to obey. Or maybe Vietnam has not yet issued orders saying that Japan is interfering in Cambodia's internal affairs. Or maybe Heng Samrin is already too fed up with Vietnamese interference and orders to take any action. As for Vietnam, if it does not think it has done anything wrong, why does it have to eat chalk and get a hot stomach?

CSO: 4212/70

THAILAND

BRIEFS

KUOMINTANG ATTACK--Mae Hong Son--A gang of armed Kuomintang [KMT] men attacked a military truck in Muang District yesterday morning, wounding a soldier. The KMT gang immediately fled after firing at the truck which carried unarmed army personnel attached to a local royally-sponsored handicraft promotion centre. Mae Sariang District police reportedly stopped a convoy of 5 KMT trucks a day earlier which carried 54 mules and 31 unarmed KMT villagers. The mules were seized and the villagers held for questioning because police did not believe that the KMT had received military approval for moving the mules. The villagers claimed that they had evacuated a Mae Hong Son village and were heading for resettlement in Chiang Mai Province. Police said they could not confirm if the attack on the army truck stemmed from the interception of the KMT convoy. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Apr 85 p 3 BK]

KARENS REPATRIATED--Mae Sot, Tak--District officials and local security forces yesterday repatriated 2,500 Karens who had crossed the Moei River to take refuge in Thailand following a Burmese drive against the minority group along the border. Officials said this was the third group of Karens to be sent back to Burma since the beginning of this month. About 10,000 Karens crossed into Thailand when Burma recently stepped up its drive to dislodge the guerrillas fighting for autonomy from Rangoon. About 2,900 Karens were sent back on 11 April and another batch of 600 others were repatriated 8 days later. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Apr 85 p 3 BK]

CSO: 4200/853

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON LENIN'S BIRTHDAY

BK230704 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 21 Apr 85

[Report on 22 April NHAN DAN editorial: "Progressive Mankind's Invincible Revolutionary Doctrine"]

[Text] Marking Vladimir Ilich Lenin's birthday anniversary, we are boundlessly inspired by the important victories achieved for mankind by Marxism-Leninism. An eminent theoretician and at the same time an outstanding revolutionary and organizer of practical work, Lenin founded the Bolshevik Party, the first new-style proletarian party, successfully led the October socialist revolution, established the first worker-peasant state on earth, and opened up a new era in mankind's history, the era of transition from capitalism to socialism worldwide.

Under the banner of Leninism, the Communist Party and people of the Soviet Union have repeatedly recorded extremely glorious victories in national construction and defense. They defeated fascism, saving mankind from the scourge of this ideology while creating conditions for the founding of a series of socialist states in Europe and Asia and spurring the national liberation movement and the struggle movement of the working class and [word indistinct] capitalist countries.

For 4 decades now the Soviet Union has successfully built a developed socialist society and has become the most powerful socialist countries and the pillar of world peace and revolution, thereby making great contributions to the strategic offensive posture of the three revolutionary currents of our time. The 40th anniversary of victory over fascism is being jubilantly celebrated in the Soviet land and efforts are being made in preparation for the 27th CPSU Congress with the new program for perfecting developed socialism in the Soviet Union and with the determination to struggle to safeguard peace and life on our entire planet. These are vivid realities that show the vitality of the invincible Marxist-Leninist doctrine in the land of the October Revolution.

For nearly 40 years now the face of the world has undergone profound changes, with all the greatest revolutionary achievements of the 20th century being closely linked with the names of the founders of scientific socialism and their invincible doctrine. The socialist community, with the Soviet Union as its hard core, has ceaselessly grown. It is taking a further step in develop-

ing all-round cooperation among its member countries and is combining ever more effectively the superiority of the socialist regime with the latest scientific and technological achievements, thereby alluminating the role of the socialist system, the factor deciding the development trend of human society.

The national liberation movement has surged to unprecedented heights and has developed in both scope and scale. It has smashed old colonialism and bankrupted neocolonialism, proving ever more clearly this truth of our time: National independence is associated with socialism. The struggle movement of the working class and laboring people of all strata who represent man's legitimate interests has developed vigorously in the capitalist countires. All progressive mankind, clearly realizing the danger of a nuclear catastrophe caused by U.S. imperialist-led warlike militarist forces to various nations, has become increasingly united and has resolutely struggled against the imperialist and reactionary forces and against the arms race so as to reduce tension, avert the danger of war, and safeguard peace and life.

Extremely diversified realities of this century, including the achievements of the social and scientific and technical revolutions, have strongly confirmed the correctness and vigorous vitality of dialectical materialism and historical materialism, the root cause of the unprecedented changes that have taken place on our planet.

Marxism-Leninism is not outmoded and does not lose vitality as falsely claimed by the imperialists and reactionaries. As a recapitulation of human knowledge on the objective universal evolution of the material world and human society, Marxism-Leninism has become the guideline for action in the transformation of the world and of society.

To the Vietnamese revolution, Lenin's services are immense. President Ho Chi Minh--the incarnation of the relationship between the October Revolution and the Vietnamese Revolution and between our national liberation movement and the world proletarian revolutionary movement--said: following the path charted by the great Lenin, the path of the October Revolution, the Vietnamese people have scored great achievements. That is why their attachment and gratitude to the glorious October revolution, to the great Lenin, and to the Soviet people are most profound.

Absorbing Marxism-Leninism, our party, founded and trained by President Ho Chi Minh, right from the beginning, worked out the correct basic line of holding aloft the banner of national independence and socialism as the foundation of the strategies and tactics through all stages of our revolution.

Imbued with Marxism-Leninism, our party led our people to rise up, establishing the people's revolutionary administration throughout the country, defeating two aggressive imperialist ringleaders and the expansionists and hegemonists, completing national liberation and unification, and advancing the whole country to socialism.

Marxism-Leninism is a universal truth as it has guided our people's struggle for national and social liberation and served as the guideline for our action.

This great doctrine has been enriched by our people's achievements, which are also considered its achievements.

The editorial continues: Our revolution is marching forward with its strength and posture greater than ever before. Looking back at the path we have traveled for the past 10 years since the great 1975 spring victory, we cannot help feeling a legitimate pride. Our people have struggled heroically to implement the two strategic tasks. The militant alliance among the three fraternal countries on the Indochinese peninsula and the close solidarity and all-round cooperation between our country and the Soviet Union and other countries in the socialist community have developed with a higher quality.

However, in the immediate future, our people still have to overcome many difficulties and hardships with the complex and long-term character of the period of transition to socialism from a small-scale production and war-ravaged economy. We also have to cope with difficulties caused by the enemy's multifaceted war of sabotage, as well as by our own subjective shortcomings.

Comrade General Secretary Le Duan said repeatedly that to materialize the party's correct line, we must so organize ourselves as to ensure its successful implementation.

Based on our practical experience, particularly that accumulated by the grass-roots units, the most recent sessions of the party Central Committee worked out orientations, policies, and measures for the present stage of socioeconomic construction and cultural development.

Fully aware of these resolutions, our entire party and people must try their best to implement those policies and measures already put forward by the party Central Committee. We must concentrate on firmly grasping the present principal tasks of renovating the mechanism of management, doing away with bureaucracy and subsidization, and shifting vigorously to socialist business accounting in order to promote increased production and move forward to creating a radical change in economy and social welfare.

Our people's key tasks consist of strengthening national defense, maintaining political security and social order and safety, and quickly renovating the mechanism of management. We must celebrate the birthday of the great Lenin in a concrete manner by carrying out these tasks satisfactorily in order to move our revolutionary cause forward.

Remembering their great master, all communists must engrave more deeply in their hearts the wonderful example set by Lenin--the one who always linked revolution with science and theory with practice; who was highly enthusiastic, dynamic, courageous, and creative and always remained calm, clear-sighted, and confident in the people and the revolutionary cause; and who led a simple life marked with closeness with the people.

Our party and all of our communists must celebrate Lenin's birthday by constantly caring for party building in accordance with the standards set by Lenin and by complying with his advice for preserving the persistence, firmness,

and purity of the party and for trying to increasingly improve the qualities and role of party members.

The world revolution, including our country's revolution, has never had such a bright prospect as it has today. Imperialist and international reactionary forces are facing crisis and disintegration and will certainly totally collapse. Socialism and communism are winning and will be crowned with total victory. Marxism-Leninism is guiding the way for the world's revolutionary people to make steady headway. We are determined to remain eternally loyal to the only correct revolutionary doctrine and to protect the purity of unchallengeable Marxism-Leninism.

Facing Lenin's homeland, we expressed our profound gratitude for the strong support and the great and valuable assistance given by the party, state, and people of the Soviet Union to our people's revolutionary cause.

In order to celebrate Lenin's birthday in a concrete manner, our party and people are determined to eternally hold high the banner of national independence and socialism, develop revolutionary heroism and the spirit of self-reliance and self-support, overcome all difficulties and ordeals, carry out successfully the resolution of the Fifth Party Congress and the many resolutions of the party Central Committees and score new successes in building socialism and defending the socialist fatherland.

CSO: 4209/357

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

THAI BEAM ON BANGKOK'S 'HOSTILE' POLICIES

BK291859 Hanoi International Service in Thai 1130 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Unattributed commentary: "The Ultrarightist Clique in Thailand Is Deliberately Trying To Block the Trend Toward Dialogue"]

[Text] On 14 and 18 April the ultrarightist clique in the Thai ruling circle opened up barrages of gunfire and infiltrated soldiers and spies into Ken Thao and Paklai districts of Sayaboury Province in Laos. Two local inhabitants were killed and 15 were injured. This is the fourth time the Thai side has committed incursions and crimes against Lao civilians in the three hamlets since the beginning of this year despite the fact that Laos has many times proposed to the Thai side a resumption of talks aimed at settling the problem of Thailand's violation of the three Lao villages since June 1984. Thailand unilaterally suspended the talks with the Lao side but refused to completely pull out its troops from Lao territory.

The incidents committed by Thailand demonstrate that some people in the Thai ruling circle still adopt a policy of confrontation and are trying to undermine the Lao people's construction and defense task. Those incidents took place simultaneously with Thailand's violations of Cambodian sovereignty. Thai aircraft from 15 to 18 April violated Cambodian airspace on several occasions, while Thai ships intruded into Cambodian waters 87 times. Thailand also fired heavy weapons into Cambodia 18 times in support of the remnant forces of the Cambodian reactionaries staging attacks from Thailand to disrupt the peaceful life of the Cambodian people.

The latest incidents committed by the Thai side took place not long after the visit to Thailand by Chinese state leaders. During their meeting in Bangkok in the middle of March, the Chinese stage leaders reaffirmed to Thai Government leaders China's foreign policy of continued support for the CGDK. Thailand in turn stressed its full support for Chinese foreign policy. The incidents also took place amid reports that the United States has decided to give to Thailand military aid worth more than \$100 million in 1985 for use in opposing the revolutionary struggle of the countries in Southeast Asia. Thailand on 24 April received a shipment of 5,000 tons of military equipment, including tanks, artillery pieces, and armored vehicles from the United States.

All the hostile acts committed by Thailand to oppose the revolutionary struggle of the three Indochinese countries, which are in the framework of Thai foreign policy, show that Thailand is actively serving as an underling of Beijing and Washington. This is what the Thai magazine WIKHRO correctly said in its 5th issue--that China wants to use Thailand as a spearhead to solve the Indochina problem and that the United States wants to keep Thailand under domination in its sphere of influence in order to safeguard U.S. interests in the region.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

HANOI HAILS SPIRIT OF BANDUNG CONFERENCE

BK241555 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Station Editor (Nguyen Qui) commentary: "The Spirit of the Bandung Conference Remains Shining"]

[Text] Precisely 30 years ago, the first-ever important conference of Afro-Asian countries was held in Bandung City, a former administrative center of West Java Province, Republic of Indonesia, on 18-24 April 1955.

Following the great victory scored by the Soviet Union and its allied countries over Nazi's fascism and Japanese militarism, a string of colonized and dependent countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America rose up to regain independence. The Afro-Asian countries found it necessary to sit down to discuss and reach unanimity over major problems arising at the moment. The Bandung conference was held against such a background. India, Indonesia, and some other countries were credited with making the conference a success.

Now, looking back over the results of the conference and comparing the situation at that time with that at the present, we can see more clearly that the significance and the value of the Bandung conference remain intact and continue to be the sharp will of the struggle of the Afro-Asian nations against imperialism and colonialism--both old and new--for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

At present the peoples in various Afro-Asian nations and in other parts of the world are continuing to resolve those problems already raised at the Bandung conference 30 years ago; namely economic and cultural cooperation, problems faced by dependent countries, national right of self-determination, human rights, use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, the question of mass-killing weapons, the intensification of the struggle for the maintenance of peace, and cooperation between countries.

It is especially noted that the Bandung conference put forth the five famous principles for peaceful coexistence. The value of the five principles still remains very fresh and necessary to various nations. These principles are: respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, abstention from intervention against each other, abstention from interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefits, and peaceful co-existence.

How beautiful it would be if the five principles were correctly and [word indistinct] by all those concerned!

The U.S. imperialists, the Chinese expansionist-hegemonist clique, and those tailing after them, though clamoring about peace and respect for the right to self-determination of nations, have turned out to be the ones who are sabotaging peace, posing a threat to peace, interfering in the internal affairs of various nations, and brazenly trampling on international law.

It is necessary to lay bare the face of the Chinese and Thai ruling circles who, although being participants of the Bandung conference and signatories to the five principles for peaceful coexistence, are precisely the brazen violators of the five principles.

Despite their failure to carry out their expansionist and hegemonist schemes in Southeast Asia and despite their tragic setbacks in a string of their annexation, interference, and subversive plans against the three countries on the Indochinese peninsula, the Chinese powerholders, in close collusion with Thailand and supported by the U.S. imperialism, have not yet renounced their dirty expansionist schemes.

Both China and Thailand are nurturing the genocidal Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionary groups to oppose the rebirth of the Cambodian people and to restore the genocidal regime.

Both China and Thailand are joining in efforts to bleed and exhaust Vietnam, carrying out a multifaceted war of sabotage against the three Indochinese countries, maintaining a policy of confrontation, and obstructing and sabotaging the trend toward dialogue between the two groupings of countries--Indochina and ASEAN.

Ironically, the Beijing and Bangkok authorities are making more noise than anyone else in claiming themselves as the ones who defend peace and respect the right to self-determination of nations. By looking at facts and deeds rather than by basing on words, the Asian and African peoples all know who are really respecting Bandung conference's five principles for peaceful coexistence, and who are undermining these five general principles.

Public opinion has acknowledged the role and great contributions of the Republic of India--one of the organizers of the Bandung conference. India's unswerving policy and actions consist of peace and international detente and of condemnation against imperialist and reactionary forces that seek to cause tension in the world and threaten aggression against and interference in the internal affairs of countries. The Indian Government is a great friend who shares the same interests and aspirations with other nations and always wishes for and promotes cooperation in economic and cultural development among countries. As chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, India has been taking the lead in the struggle for peace and international cooperation and against imperialism and old and new colonialisms for the sake of peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress. India deserves to be considered as an example in correctly implementing the five principles for peaceful coexistence of the Bandung conference.

It is also necessary to mention the role and important contributions of the Republic of Indonesia. Upon reviewing the Bandung conference's five principles for peaceful coexistence, it can be said that Indonesia is also a country that scrupulously observes these five general principles.

For their part in our our people, together with the two fraternal peoples of Laos and Cambodia,--by their protracted, difficult, and hard struggle over past decades; and by their correct, unswerving policies--have made important contributions to the common struggle of the Asian and African peoples for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. All the three countries--Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia--are victims of the aggressive and expansionist policies of the U.S. imperialists and Chinese hegemonist expansionism. The Bandung conference's five principles for peaceful coexistence now correctly meet the aspirations of the three Indochinese peoples. Therefore, we affirm our policy of solidarity and cooperation among countries in Asia and Africa, absolute respect for the five principles of peaceful coexistence, and struggle against those who undermine these five general principles. We pledge to actively participate in the common struggle of nations against imperialism and hegemonist expansionism to gain national independence, defend peace, and promote friendly relations among nations in the region and throughout the world in order to build a prosperous and happy life.

CSO: 4209/357

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

ARMY PAPER MARKS BANDUNG CONFERENCE ANNIVERSARY

BK251449 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 24 Apr 85

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 24 April commentary: "Bandung Conference's Anti-imperialist and Anticolonial Spirit"]

[Text] Thirty years ago, an important political event took place in the life of the Asian and African nations: From 18 to 24 April 1955, 24 countries in Asia and Africa met in Bandung, Indonesia, and asserted the common voice and pressing desire of nations on these 2 vast continents for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress. Representing one of the three great revolutionary tides of the era, the fundamental spirit of the Bandung conference is one of solidarity in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism to firmly defend the gains already achieved and continue advancing the movement for national liberation by a new step forward.

Always current and fresh is the ironclad conclusion pointed out in the communique of the Bandung conference: The Asian and African countries should clearly define where lie the sources of injustice and the violation of human rights. Colonialism in all forms is a scourge that must be quickly put to an end. Enslavement of nations under foreign rule, oppression and exploitation constitute rejection of human rights. The conference declared support for the struggle for the freedom and independence of nations; called for the establishment of equitable relations among nations regardless of size, race, or level of development; and strictly forbade all acts or threats of aggression or the use of force against the territorial integrity and sovereignty of any country. The conference called on the Asian and African countries to unite, coordinate their actions, and enter into economic and cultural cooperation; demanded disarmament; banned the production, testing, and use of nuclear weapons; and called for the settlement of all disputes through peaceful negotiations.

As the national liberation movement was reaching a turning point in the years following World War II, the Bandung conference, with its positive spirit and letter, made an important contribution to the just struggle of the Asian, African and Latin American nations. One-third of a century has elapsed, and the appearance of our planet has undergone profound changes. Immediately after the formation and development of the world socialist system, the struggle of the Asian, African and Latin American nations gained one important

success after another. A series of countries won independence and freedom, and a number of them joined the rank of the vanguard nations of our time in advancing toward socialism. Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Cuba, Algeria, Ethiopia and South Yemen, together with a score of other countries, rose up to deal lethal blows to the colonialists and imperialists, restricting their area of political dominance and broadening the influence of the revolution in each region and throughout the world.

However, beside the vigorous ascent of the national liberation movement, history has also witnessed the fierce counterattack and grim opposition of imperialism and international reactionary forces. Neither resigning to defeat nor idly watching the complete collapse of the system of old and new colonialism, imperialism has intensively opposed and undermined the national liberation movement by resorting to perfidious and crafty maneuvers. The mastermind of frenzied sabotage and opposition against nations is U.S. imperialism. Over the past 30 years, U.S. imperialism has dipped its crime-studded hand of intervention and aggression into all continents. Washington has intensively mustered forces to check the tempestuous development of the national liberation movement and oppose and undermine peace and revolution in the world. It has set up various military blocs and alliances and stepped up the arms race, thereby maintaining continued world tension.

Trampling grossly on international conventions and law, the United States has waged a score of wars of aggression, blatantly using force in an attempt to subdue the will to struggle for independence of nations. Washington lent a hand to the racists in South Africa and the Israeli expansionists in the Middle East, frenziedly opposed Cuba, crudely interfered in Central America and the Caribbean, and conducted the biggest war of aggression since World War II against the peoples of Vietnam and other Indochinese countries.

By using the trick of economic aid, U.S. imperialism has infiltrated many Third World countries in a bid to bring them under its control. Washington has also sought to sow division and conflicts among nations so that the United States could fish in troubled waters, and pulled the right-wing forces into the U.S. orbit with the aim of establishing U.S.-style colonialism in those countries.

China was a participant in the Bandung conference, but it has never been a friend of socialist countries. Beijing has loudly proclaimed that China is a country of the Third World and also a nonaligned country, and that its foreign policy is one of neutrality and standing in between the two superpowers. However, its deeds have belied all this rhetoric. Beijing has actively colluded with U.S. imperialism, the main enemy of nations, praised the aggressive blocs set up by the United States, and encouraged the imperialist countries to step up the arms race and cause tension in the world. More blatant still, it has started border disputes with neighboring countries. In 1962, Chinese troops attacked the Republic of India and illegally occupied hundreds of thousands of square kilometers of India's territory. China is also plotting to turn Indonesia into a springboard for its strategy of expansion in Southeast Asia. Beijing has also betrayed the liberation cause of the Vietnamese people in a bid to partition our country for a second time, and, together with the

United States, divided the sphere of influence in this region to jointly oppose the world revolution. It used the genocidal Pol Pot clique to attack our country in a scheme to annex all three Indochinese countries and open the way for expansion toward Southeast Asia.

However, the frenzied counterattack of imperialism as well as the reactionary policy of betrayal by forces that claim to be friends of nations has only made the peoples of various countries heighten vigilance and strengthen solidarity in their struggle. In the current struggle of nations, the attitude toward imperialism is a test for any nation. One cannot be a friend of nations unless one resolutely opposes imperialism and colonialism. Developing the anti-imperialist spirit of the Bandung conference, India, Indonesia and many other countries that are striving for the unity of nations have resolutely exposed the divisive and sabotage maneuvers of the imperialists and colonialists while simultaneously striving to develop friendship, cooperation, and mutual trust among Third World countries. However, the ruling circles in some nationalist countries have run counter to the spirit of Bandung and turned themselves into Trojan horses to undermine the national liberation movement. Nevertheless, faced with the uncheckable growth of the national liberation movements, those who embrace imperialism will court only stern condemnation from the world public and the people in their own countries and will be unable to avoid isolation and ignominious setbacks.

Vietnam, a participant that positively contributed to the success of the Bandung conference, persists in the struggle for the total liberation of all oppressed nations and resolutely strives for the abolition of colonialism in any form. As a nation that was subjected to oppression and exploitation by old and new colonialism for 100 years and spent over 1/2 a century struggling for its own liberation, and with full understanding of the sacred truism that nothing is more precious than independence and freedom, we are resolved to join the Asia, African and Latin American nations in a united struggle to defeat all the schemes and acts of sabotage by imperialism and international reaction led by the United States in the interest of peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

CSO: 4209/357

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

DELHI NAMIBIA MEETING--An extraordinary ministerial meeting on Namibia was held in New Delhi from 19 to 21 April by the Coordinating Bureau of the nonaligned countries. Our country's delegation, led by Minister Vo Dong Giang, attended this meeting. On 19 April, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi presided over the opening of the meeting. In an important speech, the Indian prime minister affirmed the Nonaligned Movement's support for the struggle of the Namibian people and declared that the Republic of India would offer full diplomatic status to the South West African People's Organization, SWAPO, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people. Addressing the meeting, Minister Vo Dong Giang severely condemned the South African racists for prolonging their colonial occupation of Namibia and carrying out aggression against the frontline countries in southern Africa with the help of the U.S. imperialists and international reactionary forces, thus causing instability and undermining peace in the region. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 23 Apr 85 BK]

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