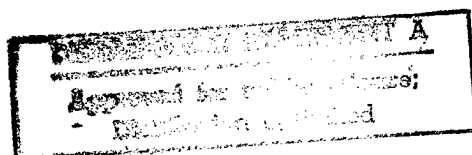


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JPRS-SEA-85-085

31 May 1985



Southeast Asia Report

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31 May 1985

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AUSTRALIA

COLUMNIST ANALYZES USSR'S KAPITSA VISIT

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 26 Mar 85 p 9

[Article by B. A. Santamaria in "Politics: A Personal Viewpoint": "Beware Soviet Envoys Bearing Gifts of Treaties"]

[Text]

THE visit to Australia of the Soviet Union's Deputy Foreign Minister, Professor Mikhail Kapitsa, was short and low key.

More important than his eulogy of Mr Hayden as "a great man, a very nice man" who was leading Australia's international interests along the line of "progressive policies", was the strategic option which Dr Kapitsa quite explicitly offered Australia.

If Australia was prepared to get rid of any bases, and to get rid of any nuclear arms, he said, the Soviet Union was prepared to sign an agreement with Australia that it would never use any arms against this country.

A nice contract, except that Dr Kapitsa did not explain who would enforce it if the Soviet Union broke it, as it broke its agreements with Poland and Hungary, to name only two of its satellites.

To comprehend the underlying purposes of Dr Kapitsa's proffered strategic option, one must understand the objectives of Soviet strategy in the Pacific and East Asia.

It has three essential strategic objectives in this large region:

ENCIRCLE, as far as possible, or at least constrict China, to force the Chinese out of their incipient association with the United States, to compel China at least into neutrality (if not renewed alliance) towards the Soviet Union, or otherwise to face the threat of an ultimate Soviet military attack.

PRE-POSITION its forces in South-East Asia so that in the event of general hostilities they would be in a position to cut Japan's oil line

from the Middle East. This is the purpose of the Soviet-Vietnamese naval base at Cam Ranh Bay. (All of Mr Hayden's talk about reaching an understanding with Vietnam stands or falls on whether the Soviets are to be excluded from Cam Ranh Bay.)

PUSH the US bases out of the Philippines and ensure that Australia does not provide a fall-back position for the Americans. This is the purpose of political activities related to the Philippines and of the undoubted Soviet involvement in the alleged nuclear disarmament campaign in Australia.

The Soviet Union's dispositions on the mainland of Asia are well-known — some 50 divisions armed with nuclear weapons poised across China's northern borders, to which it has now added an additional 140 SS-20 missiles in Kamchatka whose range covers the whole of Asia, the military pact with India, the occupation of Afghanistan, and the transformation of Indo-China into a Soviet colony.

To complement its land power, the Soviet Union has deployed 40 per cent of its naval forces in the Pacific. These include formidable naval units — among them two out of three of its aircraft carriers (Minsk and Novorossisk), its two amphibious assault ships (Ivan Rogov and Alexander Nikolayev) and its command ship (Marshal Nedelin).

The real power of the Soviet Pacific fleets rests, however, on the overwhelming superiority it has in the number of its attack submarines. Of the nearly 300 which comprise most of the Soviet fleet, about 120 are part of the Pacific fleet. The

Soviet builds about nine new submarines a year, of which six are nuclear-powered.

The total establishment represents a formidable challenge to US and allied military power in the region.

To be effective, the Soviet's submarines and surface ships have to get out of their bases in the north Pacific, including Vladivostok, and pass through the narrow straits of the Sea of Japan. It is a difficult but not impossible operation so long as Soviet naval forces can rely on cover from land-based aircraft in the vicinity.

Once they achieve that, they can wreak considerable havoc on the American fleet especially if, having lost its bases in the Philippines, it should be driven beyond Micronesia and Hawaii back to the West Coast of the US. From the West Coast, American ships would need more than 20 days sailing time to get to the vital Persian Gulf to prevent a Soviet Union attempt to cut off the oil reserves of the Middle East from Europe and Japan. That is the central objective.

When this is understood, the nature of the Soviet Union's political strategies in South-East Asia and the South-West Pacific becomes crystal clear.

The objective is to drive American naval, air and nuclear power out of the Philippines, Australia and the South Pacific generally, as they already have from Vietnam, and now from New Zealand. For this purpose they use political means -- infiltration of the labour movement through Socialist Left elements -- as they have in New Zealand.

Parallel with the progressive exclusion of American power from these regions comes the progressive introduction of Soviet power in its place. Apparently harmless limited arrangements for alleged fishing rights with Pacific Islands such as Vanuatu and New Caledonia are to be followed by their expansion into permanent anchorages and naval "facilities", which may ultimately be prepared to receive naval and submarine units. Landing rights for the Soviet airline, Aeroflot are also

sought in the hope that subsequent favourable political developments can lead to the development of air bases for the indispensable land-based air cover needed for the free operation of ships in the South Pacific.

On March 4 Mr Hayden -- who cannot be accused of any fanaticism in these matters -- clearly stated that this tentative growth of Soviet, Libyan and Vietnamese influence in different Pacific islands, such as Vanuatu, Kiribati and New Caledonia, was already a matter of concern.

To sum up: like many others I would like to live in a part of the world in which we would be left alone. But we are not going to be left alone. The Pacific developed inexorably into a major centre of confrontation during the 20 years between the denunciation of the Anglo-Japanese naval agreement and the Japanese attack in 1941. The Pacific is developing in a similar manner today, the protagonists being the Soviet and the more-or-less free world.

Our choices are thus quite limited, being left alone is not one of them.

We can choose to work within a predominantly American system with all its admitted limitations, or we can come to terms with what aims ultimately to be a Soviet system for the whole of our region through the mirage of "neutrality". It is the choices which are made today on a multitude of seemingly unimportant projects and events which will determine which of the two systems it is to be 15 years from now.

Many of the 200,000 undergraduates and high school children, accompanied by a relatively small component of adults marching in anti-nuclear demonstrations on Palm Sunday, might enjoy themselves especially if the weather is fine. They can successfully cloud issues of which they are totally ignorant, and to which, if they knew them, they would be indifferent. But they cannot change the realities which are determined by geography and politics.

AUSTRALIA

GOVERNMENT OIL SHORTAGE FORECAST PROMPTS CONCERN

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 25 Mar 85 p 8

[Editorial: "Worries Over Oil"]

[Text]

FORECASTS by the Federal Government of an anticipated major decline in oil self-sufficiency by the early 1990s in the absence of further major new finds should be of major concern to all Australians.

The Minister for Resources and Energy, Senator Evans, has said that domestic oil production levels, which meet almost 80 per cent of our needs and save the country over \$5.5 billion in foreign exchange, could almost halve by 1993. This would mean a drastic increase in the country's oil import bill and leave the nation unduly dependent on volatile Middle East oil producers.

The warning should force the Government to look carefully at its oil policies to ensure maximum effort is carried out by the industry in the search for new fields to offset the expected decline.

Senator Evans has an ideal opportunity this week when he addresses a major oil industry conference to get the message across that the Government will provide a stable environment in which oil companies can continue looking for oil and receive commensurate returns.

Instead of continually finding ways of increasing the government take — higher taxes, cash payments for offshore permits — the Government should be more concerned with finding new ways of encouraging higher drilling levels. Last year over 260

exploration wells were drilled — a new record — but according to government estimates the amount of oil found was 40 million barrels less than consumed. Even more worrying is that the average amount found over the past 10 years is only 100 million barrels each year.

Even if exploration is maintained at existing rates, the Government predicts oil will be discovered at an average rate of only 65 million to 130 million barrels a year. That is not nearly enough.

The industry is a major investor, spending billions of dollars and creating tens of thousands of jobs. By the end of this year, spending for the 1980s alone will have soared to over \$10,000 million. For the Government it is a major source of revenue. Almost \$4000 million will be reaped from excises on oil production this year, with another \$2200 million from taxes on petroleum products.

So it is in the Government's as well as the nation's interest to ensure that this relatively young industry continues to mature. In his first major speech to the oil industry since taking over the resources portfolio, Senator Evans would help Australia by convincing the delegates (over 100 of whom are from overseas) that this country is a good place for investment. Without a strong oil industry, the economy would soon be at the mercy of costly oil imports.

AUSTRALIA

STATE PREMIER ATTACKS CASH BIDDING FOR OIL PLAN

Melbourne THE AGE in English 26 Mar 85 pp 31, 32

[Article by Peter Gill]

[Text]

The WA Premier, Mr Burke, has attacked the Federal Government's proposed cash bidding system for oil exploration permits, describing the scheme as "inappropriate and undesirable".

His Government's opposition to cash bidding could pose major problems for its use in WA.

The surprising attack came in an opening address to the Australian Petroleum Exploration Association conference in Perth yesterday.

Mr Burke echoed the sentiments of many of those in the exploration industry when he said: "We object to the concept simply because it would increase the cost of exploration and because it will drive small Australian companies out of the most prospective areas.

"The Government must realise that Australian exploration has not been sufficiently successful to allow its cost to be increased by diverting funds away from exploration and into Government revenue," Mr Burke said.

The attack is another example of the intransigence of the State Government when it comes to matters impinging on the development of WA. The land rights debate saw the WA and Federal Governments at loggerheads with WA proceeding with plans for legislation which falls a long way short of Federal aspirations.

The Federal Minister for Resources and Energy, Senator Evans, will now be under increased pressure when he addresses the APEA conference today to defend

the cash bidding proposals.

The proposal to replace the present system — where explorers bid for a certain amount of exploration area with direct payments to the Federal Government — is the cause of heated debate in the oil industry. Mr Burke said cash bidding was an unacceptable means of raising Government revenue — a comment which strikes at the heart of the cash bidding argument because the Federal Government has maintained that it is not so much a revenue raising mechanism as a step towards greater efficiency in the allocation of exploration permits.

"It discourages exploration companies from sinking sufficient wildcat wells to ensure that discoveries are maintained in ratio with the depletion of our known reservoirs.

"This is particularly important for WA which has by far the greatest acreage of prospective exploration in the Commonwealth."

While the cash bidding proposal may not yet pass through Federal Parliament (there is confirmed opposition from the Liberal-National coalition and possible rejection by the Australian Democrats) continuing opposition from the WA Government would hold particular problems for its introduction even if it was passed.

The "joint authority" made up of WA and Federal energy ministers allocate exploration permits and if endorsement is not forthcoming from the WA minister, Mr Parker, on cash bidding, it would pose problems for the release of new exploration areas. To date, five areas in the Timor Sea have been nominated by Senator

Evans as candidates for allocation under the new scheme but areas around the North-West Shelf, requiring joint authority approval, are expected to be released under cash bidding in the longer term.

Re-stating arguments put forward by the exploration industry, Mr Burke said yesterday: "Cash bonus bidding can only be justified, if at all, where there is a record of close and detailed exploration and when there has been a sufficient rate of commercial success.

"In the open pastures of the North-West Shelf and WA's other potential exploration areas there is a need to promote the best possible rate of exploration free from disincentives like the cash bonus bidding system," he said.

Mr Burke also defended the recently announced WA Government's re-negotiation of the North-West Shelf gas supply contract in the face of criticism that it had raised concern among international bankers financing the project.

He acknowledged that Sir Charles Court's Government had contracted to take 30 per cent more gas in the domestic stage than could be sold and said the re-negotiation was a matter of facing realities.

"The North-West Shelf project is rightly regarded as the jewel in Australia's resources crown. But it would be a tawdry bauble if the people of this state were reduced to paupers just to keep international bankers happy," Mr Burke said.

"I'm sure the Government was correct in seeking to have the North-West Shelf contract altered — within the terms of the agreement — to ensure that the economy of this State avoided the burden of an insupportable debt imposed by unrealistic commercial and political expectations."

CSO: 4200/920

AUSTRALIA

ENERGY MINISTER FORESEES FREE MARKET IN OIL

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 27 Mar 85 p 24

[Article by Andrew Main]

[Text]

The Federal Resources and Energy Minister, Senator Evans, told the Australian Petroleum Exploration Association Conference in Perth yesterday that Australia could have a free market in oil within 18 months.

The first step in ending import parity pricing had come into play on January 1, by which only the first 350,000 barrels of oil a day from Bass Strait production would be allocated to refiners at import parity prices.

"But the presumption in the new arrangements has been that this level will be reduced progressively as experience is gained in the working of the free market," he said.

(BHP has long been campaigning for a free oil market, but Australia's refiners have been less enthusiastic.)

He said the Government would look closely at the impact deregulation would have on future exploration, refining and importing, supply security and current retail pricing policies, before further moves. "But you may proceed in the assumption that this Government does recognise the real utility of allowing economic decisions to be made by the free play of market forces."

After two days of criticism of his

plan to auction the right to drill for oil in the Timor Sea, he launched a defiant defence of cash bonus bidding. Speaking soon after Sir James Balderstone (see story below) he made a point-by-point attack on critics.

He described the existing work program bidding system — under which the oil company which promises to do the most work is awarded the permit — as inflexible, inequitable and, in many cases, uneconomic.

"We have difficulty in continuing to support a system which in competitive situations produces numerous more or less identical offers of work commitments which are almost impossible for governments to pick and choose between, and which may subsequently not be met by the successful bidder because the work program proves not commercially viable.

"To allow exemptions from a work program once commenced undermines the credibility of the system and is inequitable to unsuccessful bidders.

"But if pursued to its logical conclusion, the work program system requires the Government to force permittees to complete uneconomic work programs, which is a clear waste of national resources."

His views were given further emphasis in Canberra yesterday, where Finance Minister Senator Walsh strongly attacked WA Premier Mr Burke for his opposition to the cash bonus bidding system.

Senator Walsh told Parliament that Mr Burke had displayed "a degree of conceptual ignorance" matched only by his "political impertinence".

Mr Burke told the conference WA was strongly opposed to the concept because it would increase the cost of exploration and drive small companies out of prospective areas.

"How a cash bid increases the cost of drilling a well must remain a matter for wide-eyed conjecture," Senator Walsh said.

He could only assume Mr Burke did not understand the principle involved in an auction system.

BURMA

PAPER CALLS FOR EFFORTS IN SOLVING PROBLEMS

BK081219 Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 28 Apr 85 p 4

[Editorial: "The Directive of the Party Chairman and Efforts by the Party, State, and People"]

[Text] "How to solve the problem of the rising prices of commodities is something that we have been thinking about and working on. It will not do to give up and do nothing about this problem. If you are part of the human race and if you have no will to do anything but give up whenever a problem that concerns either a person, a group, or a country arises, then, remember that anyone--be it an individual or a country--with that sort of thinking will never be great." That statement was a historic directive by U Ne Win, chairman of the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP], delivered at the 14th meeting of the BSPP on 28 June 1976. He was summing up the essence of how socialists should behave and act in furthering the interests of mankind.

The BSPP, led by the party chairman, has established a democratic socialist state and is solidly building a socialist economic system. Today, the party is about to hold its Fifth Congress.

The process of a socialist economic system is to plan systematically for the means of production in the state and to ensure a proportionate development of these. The objective of the socialist economic system is to enrich the state treasury while improving the economic situation and the standard of living of the people. Moreover, this will also lead to a stronger national defense capability, ensure the perpetuity of our sovereignty, and raise the people's living standard.

In the course of our socialist revolution, we have been able to overcome, through efforts and revolutionary vigilance, difficulties and hardships, ranging from natural disasters to the subversive activities of left- and right-wing deviationists. Under any given situation and whatever the difficulties may be, the Lanzin Party has never lost sight of the basic interests of the people. Coping with changing conditions and times, the party has never deviated from its beliefs and has always worked out a better solution.

The party in particular has been indomitable in spirit in its march toward socialist goals, and has always adhered to socialist nationalism in overcoming difficulties together with the working people. This is the reason that successes have been achieved and good conditions established in all spheres.

Abolishing the old capitalist system and building a new socialist society is in fact waging a revolution, and it is natural that there will be obstacles, difficulties, and negative processes in the course of that revolution. Overcoming such obstacles and difficulties through our own correct outlook will advance us toward a revolutionary victory.

In sum, the Lanzin Party headed by the party chairman is a revolutionary party made up of socialists who have the capability to overcome difficulties, obstacles, and negative processes. Since such is the case, we believe that the entire working people who accept the leadership of the party and, imbued with a spirit of patriotism, will totally devote their diligence and stamina in opposing the self-interested, evil economic system.

CSO: 4211/53

BURMA

BOTATAUNG ARTICLE ON COMMUNIST-KACHIN COOPERATION

BK091008 Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 28 Apr 85 p 8

[Article by Yebaw Bran Shaung: "Operation by Evil Men"]

[Summary] "On 20 March 1985, leaders of the Burma Communist Party [BCP] and the Kachin Independence Army [KIA] met in a jungle camp 35 miles east of Bhamo. They were discussing how to coordinate a military operation. The KIA members had in the past been forced to run for their lives during operations and were determined not to be so naive this time. At a meeting of KIA leaders, Zaw Bun, commander of the 3d Brigade, who could speak effectively with facts, spoke on a joint military operation with the BCP. He said:

"We badly need arms and ammunition for our revolution. Since the BCP is the only organization which can provide arms and ammunition in the long term, it is correct in principle to join forces with the BCP. However, we must be aware of the fact that any organization which has joined forces with the BCP has either disintegrated or been absorbed by the BCP. We have not become BCP lackeys so far because we have taken necessary precautions to avoid this danger. However, we will face difficulties in the long term. That being understood, it is a very good idea for us to join forces with the BCP to attack the Army's Yaw Yong camp because this camp acts as a barrier around Bhamo and Momauk townships and it is difficult for the army to send military reinforcement to this area. This camp also is a hindrance to our military and organizational activities. We have been wanting to smash this camp for a long time. Therefore, in principle, it is a good idea to opt to attack Yaw Yong camp and I support the plan." Zaw Bun's views were supported by Tu Kyaing. [not further identified]

Zaw Bun continued: "I would like to speak mainly about our experiences in fighting alongside the BCP in two major battles. The first was the Tin Wein Pa camp battle of December 1981 which took place 30 miles east of Momauk. The second was the Mahn Wein battle which took place during 1983 at a place 16 miles south of Banmauk. During these two battles, our KIA troops formed chief combat columns in the front while the BCP's served as a supporting force on the side. Both operations were unsuccessful and the KIA suffered heavy casualties. This shows the kopaaally cunning BCP operation of using our chest to receive the knife wounds. As the saying goes: the field is crushed, the chickens are exhausted. The BCP waits for its opportunity to seize power after crushing

our KIA and the army. During this operation, we must let the BCP take the leading position in confronting the army and we must take the responsibility as a supporting force. I would like to urge that this be done."

After Zaw Bun spoke, Tu Kyaing said that the BCP officer in charge of military affairs, Tun Tin, had been approached on the matter and had said that the KIA would be the supporting force this time.

Yaw Yong is a frontline camp located on a hill close to the border and it is surrounded by crop-producing areas much coveted by the BCP and KIA. On 21 March 1985, the local people briefed the military columns on local conditions. At 0535 on 22 March, the military columns began attacking the BCP with heavy weapons. There were at least 500 BCP and KIA troops and the army was outnumbered 6 to 1. After suffering a heavy blow, Tun Tin's BCP forces attempted to fight back by employing their best military strategy and men, but they were crushed by the army and air force. While the BCP combat forces were crushed by the 47th Infantry Regiment's military columns, KIA troops serving as supporting forces were attacked by the 1st Kachin Rifles Regiment. On 23 March, the bodies of 33 insurgents were recovered together with arms and ammunition. It was later learned that the BCP suffered 50 dead and the KIA 20 with about 100 wounded from both sides. The army lost four men and one local civilian was wounded.

The evil insurgents who tried to spring a surprise attack on the army, thus suffered a heavy blow and were criticized by the people for their evil deeds. The Yaw Yong camp battle shows that the end of the BCP and KIA insurgents is fast approaching.

CSO: 4211/53

INDONESIA

TEMPO INTERVIEWS PRC'S WU XUEQIAN 21 Apr

BK081445 Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 27 Apr 85 p 17

["Excerpt" of 21 April 1985 interview given by PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian to TEMPO correspondent Seiichi Okawa in Manila]

[Text] Seiichi Okawa: The Asian-African Conference was held 30 years ago. What are your impressions of the present Asian-African national communities?

Wu Xueqian: Many Asian-African countries have gained their independence since the Asian-African Conference was held 30 years ago. This constitutes a great change. To safeguard and consolidate political independence, it is necessary to develop the national economy, and during the last 30 years, many countries in Asia and some African countries have succeeded in developing their economies. It has to be admitted, however, that there are still many countries in Asia and Africa that are facing economic difficulties, some even quite serious ones.

Therefore, if we look back on what has happened during the last 30 years, we notice that economic development has been the main problem. Besides, politically speaking, we can still find various sustained armed conflicts and hot spots in Asia and Africa. Why? Because these conflicts are caused by external and internal factors with external factors originating from the interference and intervention of the superpowers. The PRC government wishes to solve these conflicts through peaceful negotiations based on the five principles of peaceful coexistence and the Bandung spirit.

Seiichi Okawa: How do you feel as the first high-ranking PRC official to visit Indonesia after diplomatic ties were frozen in 1967?

Wu Xueqian: I am going to visit Indonesia at the invitation of Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja as leader of the PRC delegation to the 30th anniversary commemoration of the Bandung conference. Of course, I highly appreciate this friendly gesture extended by the Indonesian government, and I hope there will be an improvement in Sino-Indonesian relations through contacts with Indonesian leaders during the commemoration. We would indeed like to improve these relations, because in our opinion, such an improvement in relations will benefit the peoples of the two countries as well as peace and stability in Southeast Asia, not the other way around.

Seiichi Okawa: Do you think the timing is suitable for the two countries to normalize their relations, is it possible that more preparations are needed?

Wu Xueqian: As far as the PRC is concerned, we always use a political approach, and we see no problem in this area. However, this problem depends on the two parties. Therefore, if the Indonesian government still has difficulties, we can wait.

Seiichi Okawa: Do you think that an exchange of trade missions and sports visits, for instance, should be further intensified before the normalization of ties?

Wu Xueqian: This poses no problem. The two countries happened to have participated together at international sports events, while indirect trade has been going on for a long time. As for the exchange of visits, if the Indonesian government agrees, we would like to promote it.

Seiichi Okawa: It appears that direct trade links between Indonesia and the PRC will be implemented soon. What kind of Indonesian products does the PRC want to import?

Wu Xueqian: I am attached to the Foreign Affairs Ministry, so it is hard for me to say which products are to be imported from Indonesia. Perhaps plywood and rubber. However, I am confident that once direct trade has begun, bilateral trade will be most likely to increase.

Seiichi Okawa: At present, Indonesian oil is facing stiff competition from the PRC's cheaper Tachin oil in the Japanese market. Will the PRC government review its oil price and export volume so that both countries can share the Japanese market?

Wu Xueqian: This question is difficult to answer, but I shall try to answer it with my limited experience in economics. To begin with, it must be admitted that there is a sluggish world oil market due to the austerity measures adopted by oil-importing countries. Japan wants to buy oil, coal, and other commodities from the PRC, while the PRC must buy various Japanese products it needs. Therefore, in our trade with Japan, we only have to consider our common needs. We never think of pushing other countries out of the Japanese market. On the other hand, the amount of oil we export to Japan is very small--about 7 percent of all Japanese oil imports. This figure remains unchanged until now.

Seiichi Okawa: The Indonesian government has reiterated time and again that as a precondition for normalizing diplomatic relations, the PRC must stop supporting communist movements in Asia, including Indonesia. What is your opinion on this?

Wu Xueqian: During the 12th CPC Congress in 1982, we adopted a resolution governing the CPC relations with foreign communist parties, which are based on four principles: independence, equality, mutual benefit, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

I believe that there is a general phenomenon in this world as far as party relations are concerned. For instance, a socialist party has ties with another

socialist party in another country. The same is true with nationalist parties and mass and religious organizations. The CPC maintains relations not only with other countries' communist parties, but also with other socialist and nationalist parties, as well as other political organizations. However, we will never take advantage of these relations for interfering in other countries' internal affairs. The truth is that now the CPC has no relations with the Indonesian Communist Party.

CSO: 4213/228

INDONESIA

MERDEKA DEPLORES WU MISSING 'GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY'

BK071501 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 29 Apr 85 p 5

[Editorial: "Apparently a Long Way To Go"]

[Text] An event that should be noted by Indonesia took place on Friday. President Suharto gave the PRC foreign minister an opportunity to have an audience with him, but the latter could not accept the invitation because he had to return to Beijing immediately to meet the Danish foreign minister.

Beijing has missed a golden opportunity by leaving deep impressions on both of us. Undoubtedly, the opportunity missed by Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian is an error harmful to the PRC, given that the PRC government has been patiently waiting and concentrating all efforts on softening Indonesia's stand whoing [?] Indonesia to normalize diplomatic relations, frozen in 1967, and political relations, destroyed in 1965.

Objectively, we understand that Wu's visit was at the invitation of the Indonesian government. The invitation was special in view of the absence of diplomatic relations between Indonesia and the PRC and the existence of serious political irritants difficult to eliminate. As such, the commemorative meeting of the 30th anniversary of the Asian-African Conference provided the best moment for the two countries to have the first state-level hand shake if they had made any cautious approaches to eliminate the irritants and heal the old wounds. Indeed, this opportunity should have been seriously utilized. It is undeniable that President Suharto had concentrated his time on the great international event for which he must be nationally responsible. It was difficult for the head of state to receive guests, let alone foreign guests, in such a busy and tight schedule. Special meetings, if any, would certainly be delayed. This was a usual and understandable situation.

In fact, the idea for a meeting with the president originated from Wu Xueqian himself. Prior to his arrival in Indonesia, he had given a press briefing on his desire to meet with President Suharto. A 5-minute meeting between him and the president during a state banquet--as a hospitality program--on Thursday night could not provide an opportunity for any wide-ranging, deep discussions. Consequently, President Suharto's readiness to receive the PRC foreign minister on Friday--a very valuable day for a Muslim--is special.

We would not like to say that Wu considered his program with the Danish foreign minister to be more important than the golden opportunity. Obviously, the PRC foreign minister could not utilize the vital psychological moment. On top of that, he could not understand Indonesia's psychology. The president's readiness to receive Wu was in response to the latter's desire to meet with the former.

This event is, in fact, not a great event, but its value is not insignificant. Since it has taken place, it can be taken as an indication that a "good luck" for the normalization of Sino-Indonesian relations has not yet come. Probably, a longer period will be needed to improve the long-broken relations between Indonesia and the PRC.

CSO: 4213/228

INDONESIA

MERDEKA VIEWS ANNIVERSARY OF FALL OF SAIGON

BK051414 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 1 May 85 p 5

[Editorial: "The 10th Anniversary of the Fall of Saigon"]

[Text] In May 1975, the South Vietnamese capital of Saigon was captured by North Vietnamese troops assisted by local guerrillas known as the "Viet Cong." This was a special historical event because a small agrarian country in Asia was capable of defeating the strongest industrial giant and superpower in the world. The event was just like fiction.

The world, however, has acknowledged this fact. The integration and unification of Vietnam were achieved following the fall of Saigon. What Ho Chi Minh's testament had predicted came true brilliantly. Saigon was renamed Ho Chi Minh City.

The history of the Vietnam war was the history of a modern conflict having special and negative dimensions. Its special dimension was an attempt by the U.S. imperialists to establish their power in Asia under the pretext of containing the spread of communism and Vietnam's stubbornness in resisting the plan. The Vietnam war was a war between a country that loves its national independence and integrity and an international [as published] power that wants to dominate and control the world through its proud and arrogant behavior. The Vietnamese mouse was in fact able to subdue the U.S. elephant.

The war has also left a bitter and tragic memory. Various lethal weapons were used to exterminate a nation. Modern chemical and destructive weapons were used to unleash an indescribable vengeance, making 5 million people their victims. Dry rice fields, rice fields, and agricultural lands were burned by napalm and littered with land mines. An attempt to reduce Vietnam to rubble was carried out fiercely and inhumanly. The bombing of Haiphong and a sea blockade against Vietnam were a sorrowful episode, considered fierce strategic moves but politically a shameful form of intimidation. In addition, the ferocious Lieutenant William Calley committed an atrocity in My Lai.

All this is just a memory now. It was part of the price that was paid to give a moral lesson to the arrogant conquerors and to reunify Vietnam, which became independent in 1946 and was divided into two by the French colonialists in 1954, followed by the U.S. imperialists.

Why did the Vietnam war take place? It took place because of the blindness of France and the United States to a historical demand. They underestimated Ho Chi Minh, a nonconformist who often came up in a "coolie attire" during the armed struggle. Wearing a grass hat, worn-out trousers and shirt, and a pair of bicycle-tire sandals, Ho Chi Minh, who was basically a nationalist with Marxist ideas, was not taken seriously by the French, who wanted to defeat him. But, the legendary battle of Dien Bien Phu was Ho Chi Minh's reply to the French.

The Americans were of the same opinion as the French. Washington did not respond to Ho Chi Minh's hope of cooperating with the United States to resist Japan and exert pressure on France, although Ho Chi Minh showed his sympathy toward the United States in his speech proclaiming the independence of Vietnam in September 1946 [year as published] and other speeches. There was no response from the United States. Thus, the Vietnam war became a means through which the conflict of trust later turned into a violent military competition and an unparalleled forum of revenge. The world eventually saw, after 20 years of harassment by the United States that followed years of oppression by France, a united, strong, and vigilant Vietnam become a reality.

We are convinced that, with its historical achievement of defeating two great colonialist and imperialist powers, Vietnam will not become so arrogant and proud as to be an expansionist power. This country has no ambition. It is only defending its national independence, security, and life. The Cambodian issue is one in which Vietnam must be involved because of its worries that its security is affected by the PRC's political and military maneuvers in Cambodia.

The 10th anniversary of the reunification of Vietnam should become a landmark to normalize broken relations between Vietnam and the United States in the interests of stability and peace in Southeast Asia.

CSO: 4213/228

INDONESIA

PARTY LEADER COMMENTS ON PANCASILA ACCEPTANCE

BK081459 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 2 May 85 p 12

[Text] Manado, KOMPAS--The United Development Party [PPP] has decided to adopt Pancasila as its sole principle with full awareness and conviction and without pretense. PPP Chairman J. Naro made this statement on Saturday [27 April] when opening PPP's north Sulawesi regional conference in Manado.

He noted that Indonesia's national history has proven that Pancasila can overcome all forms of threats, challenges, disturbances, and obstruction against the country and nation. The PPP is filled with conviction in regard to Pancasila because Pancasila is not a religion and will not replace religion, nor does it contradict religion. According to Naro, the acceptance of Pancasila does not mean that PPP members cannot become good Muslims. The opposite is true, because becoming a good Muslim further guarantees the survival of Pancasila. Naro also said that the PPP never dreamed of converting religion into a national ideology. The unpleasant history of past Indonesian Muslims who wanted to convert religion into a national ideology will never be repeated.

Naro also reiterated that there is no ideological conflict within the PPP because there is no ideology but Pancasila within the PPP. Naro called those who claim there is such a conflict slanderers.

Speaking about the current deliberation on a draft bill on mass organizations by a parliamentary committee, Naro said that the PPP Executive Council has instructed the PPP faction in the committee to do its tasks well so that Pancasila can be adopted as sole principle for mass organizations.

During the PPP regional conference in Manado, North Sulawesi Governor Rantung and the PPP regional chief, Haji Hasan Usman, also made welcoming speeches.

CSO: 4213/228

INDONESIA

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON INDONESIAN PERSONALITIES

[Unless otherwise noted, the following information on Indonesian personalities has been extracted from Indonesian language sources published in Jakarta.]

COL A. A. BARNADI--The position of assistant for operations to the chief of staff of Military Region XVII/Cenderawasih [Irian Jaya], which has been vacant for some time, is presently occupied by Col (Engineers) A. A. Barnadi, who was previously assistant for operations to the chief of staff of Military Region XIII/Merdeka [North Sulawesi]. [Excerpt] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 21 Mar 85 p 6] 5170

COL R. MUDJADI--The position of assistant for personnel to the chief of staff of Military Region XVII/Cenderawasih, which was previously held by Colonel (Engineers) Sugihanto, is presently occupied by Col (Artillery) R. Mudjadi, who was previously assistant for personnel to the chief of staff of Military Region IX/Mulawarman [East Kalimantan]. Colonel Sugihanto will later enter training to become defense attache in the Soviet Union. [Excerpt] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesia 21 Mar 85 p 6] 5170

MAJ GEN SOEHARTO PARTOATMODJO--The Indonesian Government has appointed Maj Gen Soeharto Partoatmodjo, 58 years old, ambassador to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, replacing Ambassador H. Asnawi Mangkualam, who has completed his tour of duty. For Ambassador Soeharto, who received the agreement of the Burmese Government to his appointment last week, diplomatic life is not something new. He previously served as defense attache in Belgrade from 1971 to 1974. His most recent assignment, in the almost 4 decades of his military career in the Army, was that of assistant for personnel to the commander of the Indonesian Armed Forces. Ambassador Soeharto, who was born in Kediri [East Java], is the father of three children and holds 14 decorations. [Text] [Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 23 Mar 85 p 22] 5170

MASTER OF LAWS SOETANTO--On 20 March in the Assembly Hall of the Jakarta Regional Council Master of Laws Hari Suharto, the attorney general, installed Master of Laws Soetanto in office as chief prosecutor for the Metropolitan Area of Jakarta. Soetanto, who is a graduate of the Faculty of Law of the University of Gadjah Mada in Yogyakarta, was previously chief of the Directorate of Investigations in the Office of the Attorney General. He was appointed to replace Master of Laws Singgih, who was designated inspector general of the Department of Justice. Soetanto was born 48 years ago in Bondowoso [East Java]

and is known as a hard worker who spends as much time as is necessary to resolve a difficult case. It was Soetanto, at the time chief prosecutor in Bengkulu, who successfully broke the smuggling case involving the illegal shipment of some 1 million liters of solar oil from Bengkulu to Singapore at the beginning of the 1980's. He is also regarded as having played an important role in handling the legal aspects of the Tanjung Priok case and the explosion at the building of the Bank Central Asia, both of which occurred at the end of 1984. In his position as chief of the Directorate of Investigations Soetanto was in charge of handling the prosecution of these cases. Furthermore, he also handled the cases involving Jos Soetomo, the lumber king, and the smuggling of Holden automobiles in the harbor of Tanjung Perak, Surabaya. [Text] [Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 23 Mar 85 p 22] 5170

PROFESSOR WIRJONO--Prof Dr Wirjono Prodjodikoro, master of laws, died on 2 April at age 82 at PELNI [Indonesian National Shipping Company] Hospital in Jakarta. The last position Wirjono held prior to his death was that of professor at the Catholic University of Parahiyangan in Bandung [West Java]. He left 10 grandchildren by his three daughters.

Wirjono became a justice on the Supreme Court at the end of 1947 when the court was chaired by Doctor Kusumaatmadja. On 13 October 1952 he was appointed chief justice of the Indonesian Supreme Court, replacing the first chief justice who had died. On 31 October 1966 he completed his service as chief justice of the Supreme Court and retired from government service.

During the 14 years he served as chief justice of the Supreme Court he handled many major and important cases. Chief Justice Wirjono was one of five persons assigned to draft the decree issued on 5 July 1959 by President Soekarno.

Wirjono was considered a hard working, productive jurist. He wrote 21 books in the field of law. In addition, he also wrote numerous articles, and his views were also published in magazines on law and law and community affairs. According to a member of his family, Wirjono was unable to continue his activities during the past 2 years because of illness.

Prior to 1983 he found the time to develop the study of law in a formal way, as a professor of international law and the law of civil procedure at the Police Teachers Academy. He was also a professor at the Catholic University of Parahiyangan and professor at the National Defense Institute.

Master of Laws Wirjono Prodjodikoro, who was born in Surakarta [Central Java] on 15 June 1903, held the Maha Putra Star, Class II; the Kartika Eka Paksi Star, Class III; the Satya Lencana Dwija Sista medal; the Independence Struggle Commemorative Medal; the Satya Lencana Anugrah Pendidikan Pengabdian dan Ilmu Pengetahuan [Educational and Scientific Service Medal]; and the Star of the Republic of Brazil. [Excerpts] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 4 Apr 85 p 8] 5170

CSO: 4213/216

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

NEW REGIONAL COMMAND--Indonesian Army Chief of Staff General Rudini has called on all army personnel of the Trikora 8th Regional Military Command [KODAM] to promote disciplinary orders and national vigilance in the Maluku and Irian Jaya regions in view of possibility of infiltration threats. He made the call in Jayapura, Irian Jaya, yesterday when he dissolved Cendrawasih 8th KODAM and inaugurated the Trikora 8th KODAM. He said that infiltration into the Maluku and Irian Jaya regions could come through sea lanes or across the border, in addition to the possibility of smuggling activities, which undermine the government and people. According to the army chief of staff, the condition and composition of a population that is not well distributed hampers the safeguarding of security in national development. On the same occasion, Brigadier General Simanjuntak has been appointed as commander of Trikora 8th KODAM. [Text] [BK091343 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 8 May 85]

NEW GUINEA BORDER TALKS--Indonesian Ambassador to Papua New Guinea Imam Supomo has visited Irian Jaya-PNG border areas to observe the results of development undertaken by the government and local population. [passage indistinct] Meanwhile, an Indonesian-PNG border team has returned to Jayapura following a week-long stay for border talks in Port Moresby. According to team secretary [name indistinct], the meeting between the two parties proceeded smoothly and produced a lot of results. [Text] [BK101439 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 9 May 85]

CSO: 4213/228

MALAYSIA

LEADERS ACTIVITIES ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BK261235 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] This has been an important week for Malaysia's relations with other nations, far and near. The Malaysian prime minister, Dr Mahathir Mohamed has resumed his official visits to countries in the Nordic region after a brief private visit to England. His address at Oxford University on a theme of perceptions of the Western world by the Third World is bound to cause much thought and comment. The prime minister spoke with characteristic frankness, and this was a refreshing contrast to the usual bland and overdiplomatic speeches that many national leaders deliver. The prime minister's visits to the Scandinavian nation have been very useful in not only putting across the Malaysian and ASEAN viewpoints on a wide spectrum of international political issues but also in promoting Malaysian trade and investment proposals. Malaysia believes in pursuing a vigorous policy of attracting foreign investment from all quarters and not in asking for aid. It is certain that as a result of the prime minister's visit, the cordial ties with the Nordic nations and Austria will be further strengthened.

The deputy foreign minister, Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir, attended the meeting of nonaligned nations in New Delhi to discuss the Namibia issue. Malaysia has never wavered in its support for Namibian independence and in recognizing the Southwest Africa People's Organization or SWAPO as the sole legitimate representative of the people of Namibia. Malaysia will be playing hosts to Sam Nujoma, the respected SWAPO leader, as he has accepted the deputy foreign minister's invitation to pay a visit to Malaysia. Although no date has been announced, it is a foregone conclusion that Mr Sam Nujoma will be warmly welcomed. The deputy foreign minister, while at New Delhi, discussed with other heads of delegations Malaysia's position on world issues such as our proposals for a new international regime on Antarctica and its resources, and the ASEAN posture on Kampuchea.

Another important international gathering this week in which Malaysia participated was the commemoration in Bandung to mark the 30th anniversary of the Bandung conference. Malaysia Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen headed our delegation. Malaysians are unanimous about preserving and extending the spirit of Bandung. Malaysia, for its part, has steered clear of involvement

with the superpowers and it is the prime mover of the idea to keep Southeast Asia as a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality. Malaysia will continue to support, as always, all proposals that will be conducive to the better development of the Third World prosperity.

Finally, the week saw the visit to Malaysia by the home minister of Singapore, Mr S. Jeyakumar, to discuss with Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam the vital topic of greater cooperation to fight the drug menace. Both Malaysia and Singapore attached priority to this grave social problem. Thus, Malaysia attempts in a variety of ways to build up and preserve cordial relations with its friends and neighbors in all regions of the world.

CSO: 4200/855

MALAYSIA

VOPM CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT'S CONTROL OF PRESS

BK111405 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaysia in Malay 1230 GMT 9 May 85

["News report": "The Kuala Lumpur Regime Abolishes People's Freedom of Speech and Publication"]

[Text] Even though it is clearly written in the Kuala Lumpur regime's constitution that every citizen is endowed with the freedom of speech and to express his own opinion, in reality this is only a farce. After more than 20 years in power, the regime has covertly and overtly committed innumerable crimes affecting the interests of the country and people. In order to cover up the dishonesty and scandals within the ruling clique, to deceive the masses, and to defend its reactionary government, the ruling regime has tightened its grip on the people's freedom of speech and publication. Only articles praising the regime are allowed to be published; books and magazines brave enough to criticize the regime and point out social injustices are banned. As far as publication is concerned, the Kuala Lumpur regime officials decide everything.

Publication of books, newspapers, or magazines, the contents of which are contradictory to the ambition and interests of the ruling regime is banned under the pretext of threatening the country's survival and security or under other unwarranted charges. This is one of the reasons why the business of publication in our country cannot develop properly, resulting in the lack of good reading material and lack of people's interest in reading.

When they assumed power 3 years ago, Mahathir and Musa Hitam made sweet promises--they said they would start a new era; set up a free, liberal, and democratic government and society; uphold the freedom of publication; and honor human rights. However, not long after they assumed power, their dictatorial administration was thoroughly exposed. They amended the Official Secrets Act in November 1983, stipulating that all news reports including exclusive reports and pictures released by foreign news agencies must be distributed by BERNAMA news agency effective 1 May 1984. They insisted on enacting the Printing Presses and Publication Act on 1 September 1984. These acts aim to obstruct the printing, publication, import, sale, and distribution of newspapers and magazines as well as abolish the freedom of publication and basic rights of the people to voice their opinion.

On 17 March last year, without giving any reason, the Home Affairs Ministry refused to issue a publication permit to Aliran [an independent reform movement]

for its Malay-language monthly magazine called SUARA ALIRAN [THE VOICE OF ALIRAN]. As a mass organization, Aliran has played a positive role in increasing social awareness, and its monthly magazine is fearless in voicing an independent opinion concerning social problems faced by our country. The magazine also carried numerous articles on current events, such as the Bumiputera Bank loan scandal, the constitutional amendment crisis, the New Economic Policy, the Look East Policy, and other issues. These articles inevitably aroused the wrath of the Kuala Lumpur regime officials. To stop the dissemination of correct ideas and progressive ideologies, the ruling reactionary regime refused to renew the permit for SUARA ALIRAN.

On 15 September last year, the Institute of Social Analysis [INSAN] received a notice from the Home Affairs Ministry informing of the suspension of the publication permit of its official organ, NADI INSAN [PULSE OF HUMANITY], effective 1 October 1984. Edited by a group of social scientists, NADI INSAN was a monthly magazine published in Malay and English. The scope of its contents included the promotion of discussion and analysis of various social issues and the promotion of scientific, progressive, and patriotic ideas. Under the pretext that some articles in the magazine might strain diplomatic relations between our countries and [word indistinct] countries, the Home Affairs Ministry decided to suspend the publication permit of NADI INSAN. However, the real reason was that the contents of the magazine had touched on various social injustices suffered by the vast masses in our country, exposed the government's wrongdoings, and aroused the awareness of workers, peasants, fishermen, and other working class people. This made the ruling authorities worried and furious.

According to newspaper reports in [word indistinct] last year, the Home Affairs Ministry was (?watching) a number of comic books suspected of disseminating communist propaganda. Deputy Minister of Home Affairs Radzi Sheikh Ahmad warned [words indistinct] not to sell those comic books--otherwise, their sale license would be revoked. He even warned that book publishers found publishing books of such subversive nature would be prosecuted under the Internal Security Act.

At the beginning of December last year, the deputy minister of home affairs announced that he would take stern action against an English-language daily that once carried news reports on the Bumiputera Bank loan scandal and was scolded by Mahathir for this action. The daily then carried a commentary assailing the draft bill on dangerous drugs. The writer of the commentary, a former political figure who has quit the political arena, criticized the government in his commentary for openly violating people's basic rights.

In the middle of December last year, the Home Affairs Ministry took action against a publishing company accused of involvement in publishing the banned comic books and planned to file the case for court trial.

Deliberating the 1984 Printing Presses and Publication Act bill in parliament, former Deputy Minister of Home Affairs Mohamed Kassim issued high-sounding statements. He said the government wishes to make people read sensible reading material and to eliminate misdirected and irresponsible reading material. However, the opposite is true with the reactionary regime banning books and magazines the contents of which are sensible and conducive to people's progress and [words indistinct] while on the other hand allowing decadent reading materials to proliferate. This is an undeniable fact.

MALAYSIA

VOMD VIEWS PARTY'S ANNIVERSARY STATEMENT

BK061650 (Clandestine) Voice of Malaysian Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 2 May 85

[Station editorial: "Applauding the Statement on the 55th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Communist Party of Malaya"]

[Text] The Communist Party of Malaya [CPM], which is the party with the longest history and richest experience and which has made great contributions to national revolution, freedom, and liberation, was 55 years old on 30 April 1985. The fraternal people of all nationalities and all revolutionary comrades in our country are extremely proud of the existence of a revolutionary party that has long undergone tests. On the occasion of the anniversary of the honorable and beloved party--an exciting day--let us together say: Long live the glorious CPM.

On the eve of 30 April, to commemorate the 55th anniversary of the party's establishment, the CPM Central Committee issued an important statement entitled Fight for the Realization of the Present Special Program, setting forth the party's policies for the present period. Based on the changing situation at home and abroad, this important statement has made several necessary amendments to the special program embodied in an important statement entitled Long Live the CPM, issued 5 years ago, and has accomplished a necessary restructuring of its policies. The party's present amended special program, which contains 12 articles, mainly covers concrete recommendations for the establishment of a democratic coalition government, making the bureaucrat and comprador capitalist class the main target of the present revolution, and opposition to big bureaucrat and comprador capital; a call for firmly preventing the Kuala Lumpur ruling clique from continuing its antipeople and counterrevolutionary war; and the party's stand on the necessity of the people's armed forces firmly launching a revolutionary war as long as the Kuala Lumpur ruling clique continues its antipeople and counterrevolutionary war. The special program also embodies the policy of opposing racial discrimination and assimilation and implementing racial equality and unity; the policy on language, education, and culture; the policy of respecting the freedom to profess religions, firmly based on the solid Marxist universal scientific viewpoint, which not a temporary concept; and other points.

There is no doubt that the establishment of a democratic coalition government is the key issue in the special program, which has indicated a progressive trend for the future revolutionary struggle and social development in our country. In the important statement entitled Fight for the Realization of the Present Special Program, the CPM Central Committee calls on all patriotic and democratic parties, people's organizations, and figures to unite to establish a broadly represented democratic consultative board and to establish through truly democratic and just elections a democratic coalition government consisting of representatives from various parties defending the interests of all nationalities. The statement says that the democratic coalition government will support the system of constitutional monarchy and parliamentary democracy. The statement also firmly states that the CPM, as a patriotic and democratic force, is willing to dedicate its efforts to the establishment of the democratic coalition government in which it will participate.

We believe that the CPM's recommendation which reflects the present and long-term interests of all nationalities and people of various walks of life, will definitely be sincerely supported and actively welcomed by the masses. It can be ascertained that the democratic coalition government will become a new turning point for the history of our country when it is established. It is public knowledge that it was thanks to the bloody battles launched by the CPM and its people's armed forces and the common struggle of the people of all nationalities that the British imperialists were forced to end their colonial rule in our country in 1957 and recognize the independence of the Federation of Malaya. Indeed, it was thanks to the (?sweat) of the working masses that our fatherland could achieve considerable development. However, the reactionaries based in the United Malays National Organization [UMNO]-led clique, with support from their imperialist masters, have seized the gains of independence and imposed a counterrevolutionary war on the CPM and the people of all nationalities. Since independence, the reactionaries have used various reactionary acts to exert pressure on patriotic and democratic forces; break racial unity; and exploit the working masses through various treacherous acts such as corruption, manipulation, deception, and maximum plundering. The CPM, people's armed forces, and patriotic and democratic forces, who had fought bloody battles for national independence, have been totally denied their logical rights and subjected to bloody oppression under the dictatorial reactionary rule of the UMNO-controlled Barisan Nasional government. Meanwhile, the working masses contributing to national wealth have plunged into the abyss of poverty.

Accordingly, the present pressing demands of the masses are to recapture the gains of independence, preserve human and democratic rights, prevent the antipeople and counterrevolutionary war, eradicate poverty, oppose cruel exploitation and oppression, achieve racial equality, encourage racial unity, develop the culture and education of all nationalities, and so on. The implementation of these just and logical demands corresponds with the necessity of the age and history. Certainly, we can in no way pin our hopes on the Barisan Nasional controlled by the UMNO-led clique to accelerate progress and achieve the pressing demands of the masses as rapidly as possible.

The key is to replace dictatorship with democracy and the most reactionary rule of the bureaucrat and comprador capitalist class with a democratic coalition government representing the interests of all nationalities from various walks of life.

The brilliant services of the CPM for the fatherland and people over the past 55 years have long been engraved in the hearts of the people of our country. The people of our country have been firmly following the party in marching courageously, holding high the great banner of social revolution for national liberation and people's democracy. On the eve of the joyful anniversary of the party, the party issued another important statement entitled Fight for the Realization of the Present Special Program.

We have accordingly become more joyful, encouraged, and cheerful. We are convinced that the fraternal people of all nationalities and all revolutionary comrades will no doubt seriously study this brilliant document, comprehend its [word indistinct] and spirit, and actively carry out tasks by [word indistinct] facts in various fronts.

Provided that the people throughout the country and all patriotic and democratic forces unite to fight together, the democratic coalition government will certainly come into being and the people will certainly achieve a new leap.

CSO: 4213/225

MALAYSIA

VOPM ON 26 MAR-4 APR 'BATTLE SUCCESSES'

BK070238 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaysia in Malay 1230 GMT
5 May 85

[Battle report: "Our Strike Force Continues To Achieve New Battle Successes"]

[Text] From late March to early April, a strike force from our army operating in the southern region of the "8502 Strategic Ambush-and-Destroy Operations" launched by the south Thai military authorities, continued to carry out various modes of attacks and achieved new battle successes by inflicting terrible blows on the accursed soldiers who occupied an abandoned camp previously made use of by one of our strike force units. We also shot and crippled an enemy helicopter.

On the eve of 26 March, a strike force unit of our army again launched an attack on the enemy soldiers who were in the camp which was situated in the southeast direction of a nearby hill. Taking the advantage that many enemy soldiers were in the camp, our strike force launched a fierce attack by using various types of rifles and M-79 grenade launchers. During the fierce attack enemy soldiers trembled with fear. Some of them were wounded and cried out in pain. After successfully attacking the enemy, our comrades made their getaway safely.

On 28 March, our strike force comrades attacked enemy helicopters near a hill. At about 1600 that day, three enemy helicopters were flying towards the camp. Our comrades, who were already on the alert, let off a volley of shots using various types of rifles at the helicopters. The second of the three helicopters managed to get away but after being shot at, the hazard warning light was clearly visible. The helicopter was seen to slow down in speed and made a detour and was later forced to make an emergency landing at a military base escorted by a third helicopter.

Besides the encounter at the abandoned camp, the Thai Army soldiers who came to the region set up bases in several areas in the region. On 1 April, enemy soldiers based in a village stepped on landmines planted in the jungle by our soldiers. As a result, two of the enemy soldiers were wounded. On 4 April, a group of enemy soldiers made their way towards the abandoned camp using a foot path previously used by our strike force unit. An enemy soldier

stepped on a landmine planted by our soldiers. Our comrades then let out several volleys of shots at the attacking enemy soldiers. During the encounter, six enemy soldiers were wounded by being shot or booby-trapped. The "8502 Strategic Ambush-and-Destroy Operations" in the south region was launched on 12 February by the south Thai military authorities. According to statistics, the number of enemy soldiers who were either wounded or killed during the clashes or being blown up by landmines totaled more than 90 persons.

CSO: 4213/225

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

THAI ATTACK ALONG BORDER--["Battle report": "Five Thai Soldiers Were Booby-trapped in a New Military Operation"]--On 26 March the south Thai reactionary military authorities started a new counterrevolutionary military operation along the border region. Under the name of "8502 Strategic Ambush-and-Destroy Operation," the Thai military authorities ordered some 400 soldiers to attack our army along the east Kedah-Thai border. On 27 March, the south Thai military authorities, using helicopter gunships, wantonly attacked one of our army unit's camps and nearly area as their land forces moved towards the army camp. Due to our comrades' retreat by using our initiative the attacking enemy soldiers were only able to swiftly capture an empty camp. After entering the camp, the Thai soldiers who had not seen even the shadow of our soldiers, twice stepped on landmines planted by our soldiers. As a result, five enemy soldiers were either killed or wounded by the blast. The attacking enemy soldiers continued their activities for a few days within the empty camp and all around its surroundings. After destroying the camp and also all the vegetation around it, they ended the operation in the area. [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaysia in Malay 1230 GMT 5 May 85 BK]

SABA MINISTER REVEALS COALITION PACT--Sabah's Chief Minister Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan said that Parti Bersatu Sabah [PBC] and USNO [United Sabah National Organization] has signed an agreement to establish a coalition government in an unexpected political arrangement. He disclosed the secret to reporters. He said the basis of mutual understanding for the agreement was only to be implemented if no other party obtained a majority in the recent state elections. The position of chief minister was to be held by the party leader who was victorious in winning a greater number of seats and had the right to choose his cabinet lineup. Concerning the transfer of two documents relating to the mutual understanding by the Berjaya leader, Datuk Harris Salleh, and an English daily, Datuk Pairin said due to his party winning the greatest number of seats, which enables him to establish a new state government based on the understanding, it is no longer valid. [Twxt] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1230 GMT 5 May 85 BK]

NEW AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS--His majesty, the king, on 19 April 1985 received credentials from the new PRC ambassador to Malaysia, (Mr Hu Gang), the Philippines ambassador, (Mr Pablo Suarez) and the Nigerian high commissioner to Malaysia, (Mr G.A. Palsi), at the National Palace in Kuala Lumpur. [Summary] [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 19 Apr 85 BK]

BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT SIGNED--Malaysia and Norway have signed a textile agreement. The signing of the agreement took place in the cabinet hall of the Norwegian prime minister's office in Oslo. Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Dr Tan Tiong Hong signed on behalf of Malaysia, while the Norwegian side was represented by the state secretary of the Ministry of Trade and Shipping. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir and his Norwegian counterpart, Mr Kaare Willoch, witnessed the signing of the agreement. [Summary] [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 23 Apr 85 BK]

CSO: 4200/855

PHILIPPINES

MALAYA REPORTS ALLEGED PLANS FOR MRS MARCOS, VER

Imelda Posed as Foreign Minister

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 25 Mar 85 pp 1, 2

[Text] MANILA, March 24 (AFP)--President Ferdinand Marcos's powerful wife Imelda is being touted by the pro-government press here as a potential foreign minister in place of the sacked Arturo Tolentino.

Newspapers today carried the third installment of a series of official press releases on Mrs. Marcos's latest diplomatic mission to Moscow in which she met with the new Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

A picture of their meeting after the funeral of Konstantin Chernenko graced the front pages yesterday. The accompanying stories played up Gorbachev's reported acceptance of Mrs. Marcos's invitation for him to visit Manila.

Government television has also presented a "special report" on the Moscow trip of the First Lady, who is still out of the country.

Arturo Tolentino, 74, was fired as foreign minister on March 4 by President Marcos for his "incompatible" views on vital issues, especially the chief executive's retention of lawmaking powers from the 1972-81 martial law era.

Marcos has not named any replacement for Tolentino, who occupied the post for only 8 months after the retirement of elder statesman Carlos Romulo. Deputy Minister Pacifico Castro is serving as ministry caretaker.

Mrs. Marcos, 55, is the Minister of Human Settlements and Governor of Metropolitan Manila. She is considered a potential successor of her 67-year-old husband, and has been serving as his ambassador-at large since 1970's.

The campaign from Mrs. Marcos's appointment as foreign minister was apparently started by the column of S. W. Yolanda--widely believed to be the collective pseudonym of a group of prominent writers close to Mrs. Marcos--on March 17.

The foreign ministry portfolio "calls for experience, elan, and extreme proximity to the presidency, which is ultimately the maker of foreign policy," the Yolanda column in the mass-circulation Bulletin Today said.

"In all these particulars, Mrs. Marcos fills the bill," it said.

The series of official press releases came next in the dailies starting Friday, when Mrs. Marcos was described as a diplomat who "has attained an international stature no one else in the Philippines has achieved."

"She is the only Filipino envoy to whom closed doors are opened wherever she goes in her diplomatic forays around the world," the article added.

Ver May Head New Ministry

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 26 Mar 85 pp 1, 8

[Text]

General Fabian C. Ver's pledge to return could be fulfilled soon.

KBL sources told Malaya the military chief on leave may be named head of a new ministry with vast powers, more than the Marcos cousin and loyal ally had as chief of the armed forces and overseer of all intelligence agencies.

The President "is just waiting for the proper time to make the announcement," the sources said, adding the draft decree is already in its final form.

The sources estimated that the announcement could be made before the Batasan resumes session after the Holy Week. The decree, they said, creates the Ministry of Interior which will have wide-ranging powers including custody of state secrets, and operational control of police and military forces to effectively relegate the Defense Ministry to the single focus of taking care of any prospective foreign attack.

Ver, now on trial as accessory in the Aquino-Galman double murder case, had been tipped as sure of acquittal following the public statement of President Marcos that he will reinstate Ver should he be cleared,

and in view of the raging debate on whether or not his statements before the Board can be used as evidence against him.

The sources said that "young turks" in the military had been restive over the reported plan to reinstate Ver. The United States also have been giving strong signals to Marcos that it would not look kindly on a reinstatement.

This opposition to the comeback of Ver gave rise to name him to a new post, the sources said.

However, the promotion is not the compromise and face-saving move usual in these cases, but is designed to place the extremely loyal Ver in a strategic position able to give powerful assist to Marcos, the sources said.

Meanwhile, a military officer said in Baguio City during the graduation rites of the Philippine Military Academy that the young military officers are becoming impatient over what they see as "high level corruption and favoritism rendering the merit system inutile."

The source said there are five military factions with like mind and two of them circulated anonymously their group manifestos in Baguio last week.

The officer said "these are idealistic young officers who are after changes toward the re-professionalization of the armed forces" and that they will likely oppose the reinstatement of Ver.

Plan to Install Imelda

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 18 Mar 85 p 1

[Article by Ray Magallanes]

[Text]

SAN FRANCISCO — A Filipino opposition leader, Bren Guiao, said President Marcos has a plan to install his wife Imelda as head of a military government immediately after his death.

Guiao, a defeated PDP-Laban candidate in the Batasan elections last May in Pampanga, spoke last week before a forum sponsored by the Ninoy Aquino Movement (NAM) here headed by Ruben Mallari at the Dimasalang House, a low-income housing facility, for senior citizens in downtown San Francisco.

Guiao maintained the earlier reported 150-hour contingency plan is still in place.

"When Marcos dies, Malacanang will keep his death under wraps for a week. And during this period, Malacanang will announce decrees purportedly signed by Marcos assigning emergency powers to his wife, Imelda," said Guiao, here on a speaking engage-

ment that will also take him to Los Angeles, Chicago and New York.

The contingency plan, he said, also calls for the immediate arrest of people "critical of the Marcos dictatorship" when Mrs. Marcos is finally installed.

Guiao urged the fragmented opposition to pit Cory Aquino, wife of slain opposition leader Benigno Aquino, Jr., against Imelda Marcos, if the latter decides to run.

"The pressure for her (Cory) to run is tremendous. And if she runs, the problem of unity in the opposition will then be solved," he said.

Guiao disclosed he will run in next year's gubernatorial race in Pampanga, where he lost an Assembly seat, because of alleged cheating, to political neophyte Aber Canlas, deputy public works and highways minister but popularly known here as the "super-foreman" of Mrs. Marcos' many "instant" building projects.

CSO: 4200/907

PHILIPPINES

EDITORIAL BACKS TOLENTINO'S 'BLAST' AT MARCOS

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 23 Mar 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Tolentino's Blasts at Marcos"]

[Text] Tolentino's blasts at President Marcos is welcome by the people, although the opposition may not be moved by the possibility that the maverick KBL man may shift parties when the proper time comes.

Tolentino's stature in the Philippine political arena being one of integrity and respect, so when he talks, the people listen. When the former senator hit the President on his exercise of the Immunity provisions of the Constitution, Tolentino recalled that Mr. Marcos was only following the highest law of the land. But the Filipino people know that the controversial provision was inserted for Mr. Marcos. The problem today is how to amend this abnormal provision in the Constitution.

The reason for Tolentino's blasts are fundamental: on immunity provisions, on decree-making powers, on many others. Tolentino therefore squarely stands behind the popular clamor for a stop to the exercise of these provisions that have riled the citizenry of this Republic all these years.

Whether the opposition likes it or not, Tolentino is helping its cause. And certainly no one can say the leader from Manila is not helping and finding common cause with the people. Tolentino's frank statements are clearly in support of the popular clamor for an end to Mr. Marcos' exercise of despotic powers which no other head of a democratic state enjoys. Let Tolentino say some more against the regime and this will be for the people's benefit.

CSO: 4200/898

PHILIPPINES

CHURCH GROUPS HIT U.S. ECONOMIC POLICIES

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 30 Mar 85 pp 1, 6

[Text]

Local church groups yesterday assailed the United States economic policies towards Third World Nations as one designed to keep poor countries from raising their living standards.

The church groups made the attack as they chided an American pastoral letter for its near-sighted view of the cause of debt crisis in developing countries.

The US pastoral letter took the position that the poor countries are solely to blame for their debt crisis and must all bear the burden of repayment.

"We are in an economic crisis brought about by a debt crisis (which resulted from heavy interest rates and one-sided conditions set by lending rich countries to poor nations) which to us is another claim of foreign capital on our resources and our output," a local church position paper said.

The position paper was put out by the Ecumenical Bishops Forum (EBF), the Justice and Peace Commission of the Association of Major Religious Superiors of the Philippines (AMRSP), the National Ecumenical Forum for Church Response (NEFCR), Theologians for Renewal, Unity and Social Transformation (Trust), and the Interdisciplinary Group of Concerned Citizens

(IGCC).

In addition to the heavy debt burdens imposed by rich lending countries on poor countries, the American economic policies are also used to support and prop up repressive governments in the Third World, the local church groups said.

Although the US pastoral letter marked a significant indictment of the US economic system and its role in the present world economic depression, economics professor Manuel Montes said the American bishops discussed the Third World problems as if borrowing countries were entirely to blame for the debt crisis.

"For the most part, the draft pastoral letter fails to raise the possibility of a socially evil world economic system of which the US economy is a dominating part," Montes said.

The United Church of Christ's Bishop Erme Camba, EBF co-chairman, and Fr. Ben Moraleda, NEFCR chairman, said the "progressive" church groups are already gearing towards a "theology of struggle" which they described as "letting the struggle of the people" speak.

The church groups said the church would prefer a pro-people economic structure instead of the "US imperialist design."

The local church groups' letter was sent to Archbishop R.C. Weakland, chairman of the committee that drafted the US pastoral letter.

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST PONDER'S 'RUMBLINGS' IN MILITARY

HK101345 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 10 May 85 p 4

["Here and Now" Column by Francisco S. Tatad: "Rumblings in Military?"]

[Text] For the first time in the history of the country's armed forces, a reformist movement has emerged, and it has taken the trouble to publicize its existence in the world press.

According to the official account, the movement began in 1984, but it was only in the last few days that it publicly revealed its existence and purposes. Its aims, as its name indicates, are purely reformist, and because it is a movement rather than an organized structure, it is not possible to pinpoint its officers, if at all they exist.

It is said to draw its support mainly from the young officers in the field, many of whom are Philippine Military Academy [PMA] graduates. In fact, all PMA classes from 1971 to 1985 are said to be represented in the movement, although no generals are involved. The reforms sought range from salaries, promotions and schooling of military personnel, to the use of military resources, and finally to strategy and tactics.

Although its very beginning coincides with the growth of the post-Aquino assassination protest movement, the official account says it is completely independent of that movement. And while its appearance in the international media coincides with the rising clamor for the "professionalization" of the country's armed forces both here and in the United States, where military aid to the Marcos regime is being debated, the statement that it began in 1984, before the current debate started, clearly seeks to deny any suggestions that it is the result of, or a response to, or a direct attempt to influence that debate.

Some officers identified with the movement have been heard to say that they seek a thorough reexamination of what the Armed Forces are fighting */for/* [word within slantlines published in italics] in the present conflict. Are they fighting to preserve the nation or a corrupt government? From hereon, duty should be understood by the military as reasoned obedience, not blind obedience, they added.

It sounds like a pretty tough declaration against the capricious and whimsical use of the Armed Forces for the defense and preservation of vested personal interests. But so far, says Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, there has been no challenge to the chain of command, no mutiny, no defiance of orders. Nor is any such thing expected.

How does the leadership feel about it?

Mr Marcos has not said one word about it, while Mr Enrile appears to have ended a long period of official reticence to the press by suddenly becoming too forthcoming with the official viewpoint. He is not encouraging the movement, he says, nor is he happy about it, but he sees no reason to stop it, although he believes he can stop it, should it become necessary to do it.

Both reactions deserve studying in depth. Mr Marcos' silence about the movement, and about Mr Enrile's statements on the movement, it is untypical as Mr Enrile's new media eloquence. Several weeks ago, Mr Marcos need not even have hinted at it, and Mr Enrile would have recognized and conceded that it was the President's sole prerogative to pronounce on so sensitive a subject. Not only would Mr Enrile have found every excuse to avoid a news conference; Mr and Mrs Marcos, or one of them at least, would not have missed the opportunity to convey serious displeasure about the defense minister projecting himself in such a news conference.

Malacanang's irrationality on this matter is well known, and Mr Enrile is one of those most familiar with it. And yet he has been much too confident in discussing the subject with press, and not one word of recrimination has been heard, unless of course the lightning and thunder has been delayed, from Mr and Mrs Marcos. This is a rather unusual occurrence.

Is it because for the first time in their lives, they are confronted with a reality potentially bigger than anything else they have had to face? Or is it because whether or not the reformist movement has emerged with the president's prior knowledge, it might yet be utilized to accomplish some of the president's hidden purposes? Wherever the answer lies, Mr Marcos appears to have taken the position that his alter ego, rather than he himself, should for now discuss the movement, even if it means giving Mr Enrile some exposure on American TV and so many column inches in the world press.

Time will tell whether the growth of the movement in the Armed Forces extends to any degree, or narrows down to a minimum, the options available to the president. It could go one way or the other, depending on developments. But clearly there is much more good than harm to be derived from it. In recent times, the honor of the military has been compromised. Corruption and abuse, [word indistinct] its image, and in many parts of the country, the military is more feared than its known enemies. This must be corrected and reversed.

The honor of the military must be made one with the honor of the nation, and those who now tremble in fear upon sight of the heavily armed man in uniform must finally find the peace of soul to embrace the latter's protection, without having to spend sleepless nights worrying about who will protect him from his protectors.

PHILIPPINES

MILITARY ACADEMY ALUMNI PREPARING PAPER ON REFORMS

HK081425 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 8 May 85 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association (PMAAA) which has over 3,000 members is expected to submit in a week's time its position paper on the movement for reforms in the Armed Forces.

PMAAA sources said the paper would be submitted to the President through acting Armed Forces Chief Lt Gen Fidel V. Ramos and Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile.

The position paper, which has been submitted periodically in the past few years or as often as PMAAA leadership changes, is about 85 percent consistent with proposals for reforms submitted to Mr Marcos by the so-called "reformist group."

The "reformist group" reportedly includes 75 percent of the PMAAA members, with the rest coming from "integress" and "reserve group in the active and inactive service."

The "reformist group" members from the PMAAA are mostly young PMA graduates, with some field and star ranks, sources said.

Both the PMAAA and "reformist group" do not intend to undermine society, the government, or the presidency, Enrile said at the "Kapihan sa Manila" ["Manila Coffeeshop"] forum last Monday.

Enrile had studied proposals of both groups and assured that there was "no incipient insurgency" in both.

The two groups, he said, were working for the improvement of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] on matters such as discipline, unity, training, promotions, assignments, and changes in tactics and doctrine of counter-insurgency efforts.

The "reformist group" which was formed sometime last February, barely a month before the "PMA March Week" preceding the graduation in Baguio City of PMA Class 1985, surfaced actually during the 22 March PMA graduation when some PMAers marched at the PMA parade grounds in Baguio City carrying a banner

with the slogan "We belong...We belong...We belong PMAers." PMAAA President Brig. Gen. Pedro Balbanero reportedly approved the act.

That "We belong...We belong" group also carried banners demanding sweeping reforms in the AFP. Since then, a series of meetings among the "reformist leaders" have been going on prompting the president to order an investigation into what the "reformists" really wanted.

Sources said the result of the investigation has already been submitted to the president. This was confirmed at the "Kapihan" by Enrile, who said the reformists' demands were reforms proposed earlier by the PMAAA.

Sources at Camp Aguinaldo said that while the PMAAA groupings were making the proposals, "they seemed not aggressive in following up the proposals except to have their hands akimbo on whatever decision the AFP hierarchy makes."

In the wake of this development, a phone called who requested not to be identified told of an anti-"Reformist group's" attempt to throw a "monkey wrench" on the movement by calling the "Reforms Against Military Officers in the Service" as belonging to the "Ramos" group.

He said the anti-reformist group wanted to show that the "Reforms" (stands for R) against (for A); Military for M; officers (for O); and service for S; or when put together, "Ramos" grouping.

Col Hernani F. Figueroa, chairman of the "Reform of AFP Movement," said yesterday that the enhancement of the traditional values of unity, loyalty and discipline in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) are among the overriding goals of the group.

"Our primary goal is to unify, not divide," Figueroa said in a statement. He said the group has no intention whatsoever to undermine the government, commit any unlawful act, or engage in any activity that would subvert the AFP chain-of-command.

He said that, in fact, the group has been using the AFP chain-of-command in pressing for reforms, "reforms which the president himself enunciated and initiated in order to uphold the honor, integrity and prestige of the AFP and to enhance unity, discipline and the operational effectiveness and efficiency of the military, particularly in its counter-insurgency campaign."

He said the group officially informed Lt Gen Fidel V. Ramos, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and President Marcos of its purposes and goals.

Figueroa said the movement fully supports the policies of the government and that one of the primary concerns of the movement is to foster and inculcate among its members the ideology developed and articulated by the president in his writings.

In line with this, Figueroa said his group is undertaking a study of the problems that confront the military organization today, not in order to find

fault or to undermine anyone, but to come up with proposals whose sole purpose is to strengthen the AFP.

Figuerola said that the core of the reformist group came from PMA classes 71 to 85, representing 70 percent of the PMA officers now in the AFP.

CSO: 4200/912

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST ON MILITARY REFORM MOVEMENT'S PLANNED MARCOS MEETING

HK110054 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 9 May 85 p 4

["Past Due" Column by S. J. Severino: "The Military and Ideology"]

[Text] One of the interesting features of the recently publicized officers' reform movement in the Armed Forces of the Philippines is its adherence to the Filipino Ideology has enunciated in the president's book "Democratic Revolution in the Philippines." It is interesting because until recently the general impression was that the military establishment has been uninterested in ideology in spite of the seminars and conferences on the subject now and then reported in media. But it looks now that the reformist group, far from being opposed to the status quo, actually wants to preserve it on its own terms, based on its own tenets.

This can only imply, if it does not directly state, that there are enclaves within the establishment which are behaving in a manner contrary to the vision, principles, and recommended practices of President Marcos' democratic revolution. The constituents of this contrary behavior are, of course, graft and corruption, abuses, and other forms of lamentable behavior.

The reformist group is careful to emphasize that it is not at all clandestine and operates within the "chain of command." This is important, for even now, it is being rumored to be encouraged and financed by the American CIA. If unfounded, as it seems to be, the allegation is not better than the "witch-hunting" which confuses nationalists with communists, radicals with revolutionists.

Moreover, the reformist group is apparently an "internal" organization concerned with affairs secular to the military establishment. It is concerned with its own and not with matters outside the system. In short, it is non-political.

The group is going to meet with the president, who is its commander-in-chief. Indications are the meeting will be more "clarificatory" rather than confrontational. This is to say, there is no intention to present demands but to present a perspective about the present state of affairs in the country's military organization.

The question for the government is whether to make the meeting "closed" or "open." Very likely, some parts will be "closed" and some "open." It will take some amount of sophistication to distinguish which is which, and it is important, therefore, not to leave the matter in the hands of amateurs.

Whether we like it or not, the penchant for publicity is not a monopoly of civilian officials. There is nothing more momentous and tempting than a chance to be publicly seen presenting one's case to the president. Nothing succeeds more, however, in blurring the issues than emotionalism and vanity.

Not that the reformist group is motivated by vanity. An action fraught with danger to one's career is not undertaken to satisfy the ego. In a sense, the reformist group is as much on trial as the establishment it wishes to reform.

No doubt, many of the group's members are responsible enough; they might even wish that such a project as theirs did not have to be undertaken. Its necessity, however, much have been so obvious they had to come together for a common objective.

In another sense, the reformist group was inevitable. With businessmen, academics, bishops, conferring and making their own notes about present conditions, why not the military, indeed, which is a part of society?

We await the outcome of the group's meeting with the president.

CSO: 4200/921

PHILIPPINES

DAVAO EDITORIAL CITES ABUSES BY MILITARY

HK060923 Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 21 Apr 85 p 2

[Editorial: "Abuses Still the Worst Enemy of the Military"]

[Text] The military establishment is undoubtedly doing its best to "win the hearts and minds of the people" as it wages an undeclared war against the insurgents who are also stepping up their guerrilla warfare in this part of the country.

While the communist insurgents are indeed the implacable foes of the Philippine armed forces, this cannot be avoided since it is the ideological commitment which dictates their fight against the state.

On the other hand, the military faces an enemy perhaps worse than the insurgents because it cannot be killed by bullets. And we refer to the propaganda war being waged against the military mainly on the abuses and other lapses of discipline on the part of military discipline.

While communist insurgents can be eliminated during raids and encounters and even probably by "salvaging," antagonistic ideas against the military persists in the minds of the people because they are often fueled by military abuses.

Region XI, to our mind, is not only the battle ground for combat troops against communist militants but also a testing ground for the superiority of ideas or ideologies in a more sensitive battle-ground--the hearts and minds of the people.

Whatever the outcome of this struggle, we can only hope that the military will realize that they will suffer a disadvantage so long as their commanders cannot instill better discipline among their officers and men.

The disadvantage is even exacerbated by the fact that the military is supposed to uphold the rules of fairness, of justice and humanity. They are not supposed to resort to the tactics of the enemy. But this is also the strength of our democracy.

CSO: 4200/912

31 May 1985

PHILIPPINES

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL OPENS LOCAL CHAPTER

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 28 Mar 85 pp 1, 2

[Article by Joel C. Paredes]

[Text]

The Philippine chapter of the controversial Amnesty International (AI), whose reports on human rights violations around the world had shaken quite a few authoritarian leaders, was formally organized this week at the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP).

More than 40 local founding members, mostly coming from church-based organizations, attended the simple launching ceremonies.

"Our people should be aware of the pattern of human rights violations in other parts of the world, make the struggles of other people part of our own" to generate a more intense and widespread human rights consciousness in the Philippines, remarked Ed Garcia, a University of the Philippines professor, in his keynote speech.

Garcia, one of the main organizers of the local AI chapter, is a former London-based political scientist who led the AI mission which documented 600 human rights violations cases in Columbia in 1981.

The UCCP human rights desk coordinator, Alvaro Senturias, said the AI Philippines, now becomes "part of a network of care and concern for the outraged people of the world."

Garcia said the local chapter will give AI international "a Philippine voice, a more determined Third World direction in AI work, and solidarity with human rights work in the world."

Initially, the AI Philippines will join the campaign on Guatemala's cases of disappearances, El Salvador's extra-judicial killings and Chile's torture cases.

Under the AI international guidelines, the local chapters can only participate in the human rights campaigns outside their country.

To generate human rights consciousness, the local AI will hold every last Monday of the month symposia on human rights situations in other countries and participate in the AI "Prisoner of the Month" campaign.

The AI has received two nobel prize awards for its continuing support to human rights and the welfare of political prisoners since 1961.

The movement has a three-fold mandate:

- First, it seeks the immediate and unconditional release of all prisoners of conscience, those imprisoned because of their beliefs,

colour, religion, ethnic origin, sex, or language, who have not used or advocated violence.

- Second, it advocates fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners and works on behalf of such prisoners detained without charge or trial.

- Third, it opposes torture and the death penalty in all cases.

It will be recalled that AI was instrumental in documenting alleged human rights violations in the Philippines in 1975 and 1981. President Marcos later remarked that the AI is a "communist front" when newsmen presented to him a copy of the AI report on the Philippines after the President denied human rights violation in the country during his state visit to the United States in 1981.

CSO: 4200/907

PHILIPPINES

PAPER DISCUSSES OPPOSITION LEADERS' FLIP-FLOPS

HK080805 Quezon City VERITAS in English 5 May 85 pp 3, 9

[By Myrna Gojar]

[Text] One of the most interesting aspects of the political opposition, and its leading personalities, is the yawning gap between image and reality, as it applies to the public's perception of these people.

Today's anti-Americans and so-called nationalists were yesterday's staunch defenders of the "American faith." Similarly, many of those who are heralded as champions of the poor and defenseless were yesterday's mouthpiece of the "status quo" establishment.

Former President Diosdado Macapagal today rants and raves about American imperialism and the U.S.-Marcos alliance, for instance, [words indistinct] for the legalization of the Communist Party. Yet those who chronicled the "New Era" of his four-year dispensation recall him as being one of the most unabashedly pro-American of our presidents. It was he who reversed the nationalistic economic policies of his predecessor, Carlos P. Garcia, who espoused the "Filipino first" policy. And few can forget that in an extreme case of official paranoia, Macapagal banned the entry into our country of Yugoslavia's basketball team, fearing for the ideology safety of Philippine sports.

Poor Dozh Laurel is now being called the "American boy," and yet his forebears, particularly the illustrious Dr Jose P. Laurel, was one of America's favorite whipping boys in his time, much like Don Claro M. Recto. Laurel's grandfather, the revolutionary Don Sotero died of dysentery after a long confinement in an American concentration camp. Is Laurel, a batangueno, likely to forget these?

Few people know that the grand old man of the opposition, Sen Lorenzo Tanada, was a young liberal senator in 1947, during the reign of the late President Manuel Roxas, and that he supported that administration's stand for the military bases and the parity rights agreement. Of course, together with Don Claro, he later adopted a nationalist stance.

Nor do many recall that in the fight for land reform, which Sen Raul Manglapus championed in the Senate during the Macapagal era, it was Sen Tanada, who

voted against the measure, calling the same "unconstitutional." When Salvador Laurel later authored enabling laws to implement land reform more effectively six years later, as a neophyte senator during the Marcos regime, it was again Lorenzo Tanada and the late Sen Juan Liwag, who fought the measures.

Jose Wright Diokno shot to prominence when as Macapagal's secretary of justice, he fought the Stonehill empire. Macapagal unceremoniously sacked Diokno on that issue, yet today, Jtokno and Macapagal are strange bedfellows in the so-called "cause-oriented" groups.

Sen Jovito Salonga of the Liberal Party attacked in the senate what was then considered the first major corporate acquisition of the Marcos economic octopus--the Benguet Bahamas deal. Benguet, one of the country's largest and most profitable mining companies has allegedly remained within the Marcos octopus, through control of its shares by alleged Romualdez front companies. Its president and chief operating officer, Jaime Ongpin is now Salonga's ally in the Convenor Group.

MP Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Doy's elder brother, sponsored the then Senator Ferdinand Marcos' entry into the Nacionalista Party, giving the latter his chance to fight Macapagal for the nation's highest office, over and above Amang Rodriguez' vehement objections. The late "Amanone of the country's most colorful political figures, Mr Nacionalista in his time, rebuked Laurel, Jr., saying, "You will live to regret what you did."

Laurel, Jr., is indeed regretting, and has been saying his "mea culpas" since 1979, but the late Amang's politician-son, Isidro, Perennial Rizal governor, is still with Marcos. Isidro's wife, Adelina, is one of the Madame's favorite Metro Manila leaders, being the mayor of Quezon City.

MP Eva Estrada Kalaw battled Marcos on the issue of sending Filipinos to fight with the Americans in Vietnam, when she was then a Nacionalista senator. This started their parting of ways, and Eva transferred to the Liberal Party. Such a nationalistic posture, although not necessarily the same, is a departure from her present stand of supporting the continuation of American military bases in the country.

MP Leonardo Perez is today acknowledged as the apologist par excellence of Marcos. Few remember that when he was then a young congressman from the province of Nueva Vizcaya he exposed then Sen Ferdinand Marcos' alleged land-grabbing of thousands of hectares of Vizcaya territory. This sensational expose was headline material for many weeks in the now defunct MANILA TIMES and CHRONICLE.

When Marcos, Pelaez, Lopez, Puyat and Tolentino were battling for the Nacionalista Party convention at the Manila Hotel in 1965, the Laurel brothers were split. Pepito was for Marcos, while the young Doy was for Pelaez. Marcos and Imelda never forgot this, so when, in 1967, Doy wanted to run for the Senate, the Marcoses made no bones about their dislike for this upstart--they campaigned against Doy among the convention delegates. This time, Pelaez helped Doy, and the young Laurel got the nomination, defeating the reelectionist Don Lorenzo Sumulong, brother of Cory Aquino's mother, Dona Metring.

Another opposition "old guard," the athletic Sen Ambrosio Padilla, is now seen in the company of the urban poor and the landless in the so-called "parliament of the streets." Padilla, one of the richest Manila landlords, owns scores of apartment units occupied by the lower middleclass. Records will show that he is a consistent champion of the right to private property, and is a nemesis of rent control, something which no less than Jose Diokno conceptualized in the defunct Senate. His own son, Alex Padilla of the Nationalist Alliance, speaks often in support of socialistic tenets. When and how is this?

There are really so many other instances that will show that popular perception of political leaders may not necessarily be so. Historical realities are often beclouded or forgotten by the hotter issues of the day.

Of course, as eloquently stated by the Spanish, "Es propio de sabios cambiar de parecer." ["It is proper for wise men to change their appearance."] And definitely, the opposition leadership being composed of great minds, they are capable of change.

The message intended by this piece for our people is that the overemphasis by certain opinion writers on consistency and perceived credibility of our leaders in the opposition, should be taken in the light of their appreciation of changing conditions and circumstances.

If Laurel or Kalaw can be damned for their "reneging" on the boycott issue last 14 February, 1984, why not a Macapagal for his history of pro-Americanism, at a time when it mattered most--when he was the president of the country?

What is most important is that we perceive our leaders in the opposition as human beings capable of mistakes--and change. And for those who lead us to be trusting of the good faith and intentions of their peers, for only if we all succeed in discarding mutual distrust can the unity of the opposition really start to be forged.

CSO: 4200/912

PHILIPPINES

AFP OFFICER REBUTS NEWSWEEK'S VIETNAM ANALOGY

HK080313 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 7 May 85 p 5

[Article by Col Eduardo R. Ermita: "The Philippines Is Not Vietnam"]

[Text] The NEWSWEEK account of the counterinsurgency efforts by the Philippine Government, (Marcos vs. Rebels; 22 April, 1985), while interesting, did not adequately consider the following points:

The present counterinsurgency drive of the government gives strong emphasis on civilian participation. The Philippine military recognizes civilian supremacy and authority. While muscle is definitely important in the fight against Communism which believes in the doctrine that "political power grows out of the barrels of a gun," as currently exemplified by the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines]/NPA, a combination of muscle and wisdom is even better. We see the need to improve our arms, but we also recognize that arms alone won't solve insurgency. We have realized that the fight against godless Communism is and must be a people's war. Filipinos are basically religious, and they will shun Communism once they understand its evils. The fight is primarily the Filipino people's war against Communism, with the military just providing the necessary back-up.

--The Philippine military has been advised by the president to avoid "search and destroy" operations. "Body count" is not our aim since our adversaries, even if they are Communists, are also Filipinos. It is only when the civilian safety is in danger as a consequence of the offensive actions of Communist terrorists that the government security forces conduct combat operations in the nature of expanded police operation and law enforcement. Unlike the Communists who have been known for their ruthlessness as shown by recent records of atrocities and depredations especially against the civilian population, our policy, following the guidelines of the president, is reconciliation and development. Majority of captured rebels have helped us in the pacification campaign because they themselves realize the grim picture of the Philippines being under a totalitarian regime.

--To prove that civilian participation is necessary, the president has directed all government civilian agencies to join in the development thrust. He also ordered the transfer of supervision and direction of the police forces in the country to the municipal mayors.

--NEWSWEEK stated: "Support for the rebels seems as strong as ever, and growing in many areas." NEWSWEEK should have qualified such a statement. Place your staff writers in the shoes of Filipinos in far-flung villages. When a band of terrorists sweeps into a barangay, how will your staffers respond if NPAs ask for money, food, and farm animals? Will they refuse even if they want to? I don't think so. They will give out of fear, especially since anybody who refuses to help NPA terrorists is considered their enemy and is dealt with accordingly. Now, "support" means aid wholeheartedly given to an individual or a group. But when people in remote barrios are forced or coerced to give to NPA terrorists out of fear, do you consider that as "support"? In fact, NPAs have become abusive that in certain instances, civilians openly defied them. This happened among the tribes in South Cotabato, the Davao provinces, and the Zamboanga provinces.

NEWSWEEK wrote: "In Davao, NPA's sparrow liquidation teams assault policemen and anti-rebel officials." NEWSWEEK failed to take note of a previous report by no less than the acting chief of staff, Lt General Fidel V. Ramos, that starting December 1984, the joint civilian-military effort has reversed the picture in the Davao provinces. In Davao City, all the 16 barangay revolutionary councils (BRCS) were booted out by the combined efforts of the civilian population, the Philippine Marines, and the Davao Metrodiscom [Metropolitan District Command]. The NPAs lost civilian sympathy because of their abuses, especially among civilians who refused to cooperate with them. It is significant to note that Ex-MNLF Commander Nur Khan, the most trusted field commander of MNLF Commander Nur Misuari, and his armed men as well as thousands of their civilian mass base, have turned their guns and their ire on the NPA terrorists when they were provoked. This development is historical. These Muslim rebels who were once against the government are now open against the Communists. The Muslims want to preserve their religion, and they know that this cannot happen under totalitarian Communism noted for its iron hand in stamping and destroying any form of religion. Now, if NPAs are running from these Muslims fighters who are now helping the government, what kind of offensive are the Communists talking about?

--The morale of the Philippine military is high. I have yet to meet a soldier who doesn't want to fight the NPAs. During the first quarter of 1985, the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] has seized the initiative from the insurgents with very encouraging results. Our men realize that the fight is for lives and freedom--their freedom, the freedom of their families and friends, and the freedoms of our people. While it is true that soldier's salaries are low, the Philippine military is willing to make sacrifices for the sake of our people. We are thankful that our president is making every effort to upgrade the salaries of the Filipino soldier in spite of the present economic limitations.

--The communists always claim that they are fighting for the people's welfare. They have plundered the properties of poor tribesmen and farmers, and liquidated the ones who refused to cooperate with them. How many widows and orphans have suffered because of NPA atrocities? In certain cases, like in the Nabbotuan, Cagayan massacre, the NPAs even burned the corpses of farmers and two soldiers they killed. They have also massacred even women and children

in Misamis Oriental, the Davao provinces, and the Zamboanga provinces. The people they murdered were poor ones. They have also turned and destroyed heavy equipment of certain private companies which refused to yield to extortion. These companies were forced to stop their operations. Who then are the people the communists are claiming to serve?

--On the other hand, the Philippine Government and the military which have been pictured by the communists and their allies as "oppressive" continue to help our people. Obviously, there were mistakes in the past. But we are trying our best to right the wrongs. Internal reforms not only in the military but also within the civil government are being vigorously undertaken. Aside from the P [Pesos] 1-billion civic action program that government is now implementing to remove the socio-economic causes of social unrest, a concerted information drive is likewise being launched to enlighten our people about the evils of communism. We believe that an enlightened citizenry is the best antidote to communist propaganda. The military has organized several disciplinary barracks where erring military personnel are undergoing orientation training. Regular troops and CHDF [Civilian Home Defence Forces] are also undergoing re-training programs.

The Philippine is not Vietnam. Continuous foreign support for the Vietcongs was possible because South Vietnam shared borders with North Vietnam and Cambodia. Such is not the case in the Philippines. The communists here have been denied any significant by massive reinforcements in men, equipment, and arms by the fact that our country is an archipelago.

We also have to note that a communist giant like China refuses to support the NPAs. This was stated by no less than Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian.

How can we liken the insurgency problem in the Philippines to Vietnam when the NPAs highest caliber weapon is an M-60 machine gun, and they even lack supply of ammunitions? Can their "agaw-arms" [arms snatching] sustain their need for arms, when our forces also recover these weapons.

CSO: 4200/912

PHILIPPINES

CABINET FINALIZING REVIEW ON GOVERNMENT CORPORATIONS

HK131514 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 13 May 85 p 3

[Text] The cabinet is finalizing a review to reduce the number of government corporations and to transfer some of these enterprises into the hands of the private sector, Prime Minister Cesar Virata said last Friday.

Speaking before the 25th meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations--Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ASEAN-CCI), Virata said the Philippine Government "will definitely cut down the number of government corporate enterprises and their activities."

In the case of government financial institutions, Virata said a review is also being undertaken to change the structure of these enterprises and orient them more to the specific needs of small and medium enterprises.

He said the financial crisis which has enveloped the economy since October 1983 should be "one great warning period for the government people and for the businessmen."

Virata said the Philippines has probably reached the bottom of the cycle and "efforts are now being taken to have the system cleaned up, so as to be able to set a better foundation for future planning."

He said a lot of the enterprises which have gone down as a result of the crisis are still economically viable. He said it was possible only their equity and debt structures were faulty and they could still be revived. Toward this end, Virata invited ASEAN businessmen to consider investing in some of these enterprises. "If there is sufficient equity capital that is put in these enterprises, then, we could make a go of it," he said.

Looking ahead, Virata said the country cannot go back to most of its previous activities. "We have to prudently utilize all available foreign resources and we cannot hope to return to some of our excesses we have been noted for," he added.

"Sometimes we have more banks than necessary, more television stations than necessary, more cement plants than required," Virata said. He noted that despite so-called government guidance through the Board of Investments (BOI) and many other control devices, businessmen still think alike.

He said hopefully, with the lowering of interest rates, the revival of agriculture and business enterprises would be possible.

He said with the signing of the new money facility of \$925 million and revival of the \$3-billion trade facility, the business sector would hopefully make use of these funds wisely for their export and import requirements.

CSO: 4200/921

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST CRITICIZES NEGROS SUGAR OLIGARCHY

HK101520 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 9 May 85 p 4

["Echoes" Column by Roberto Magdamo; "Negros: A New Powder Keg"]

[Text] The dire predictions of an impending social explosion in Bacolod and the Island of Negros are becoming louder. The end of the million season, and the displacement of hundreds of thousands of sugar workers during the off-season: the lack of possible re-employment even as the sugar season begins again but much later on in the year because of the slowdown in sugar production in the next season--all these are grave cause for concern about Negros being the next locus of social unrest.

Already there are signs of growing NPA strength on the island, and it seems the situation may likely grow worse before it gets any better.

It is the government's distasteful task to react, and in a number of instances, absorb the failures and the results of the errors of the country's citizens. While we may argue that the government failed to appreciate the extreme vulnerability of the island to sugar: or that the mismanagement and abuse of the Nasutra led Negros to its present state of affairs, no one can deny that the fundamental cause for Negros' precarious situation today has been the irresponsibility and the lack of concern of the wealthy sugar barons. This was the sugar oligarchy that made billions of dollars from the rich Negros land, and the sweat of generations of poor farmers and peasants, yet cared little to return part of the money they made to the island to ensure the continuing economic viability of Negros and of its farmers and peasants.

The sugar oligarchy, which was particularly strong before martial law, not only had the wealth, but also because of that wealth, they had the political muscle to ensure the continuing economic viability of Negros.

In the early 50's and 60's, the so-called sugar bloc greatly influenced the country's political trends, policies, measures and the political fortunes of influential politicians. In fact, one reason we granted the U.S. parity rights was the promise of preferential treatment for Philippine sugar in the U.S.

It is ironic, therefore, that after all that power and wealth Negros now is a poverty-stricken place and looms as a serious social problem. The landlords

made their money but did little to transform their vulnerable sugar economy into something more durable and permanent. Bacolod and Negros have little new industry--they remain a one-crop economy. No real investments in other industries were made; no real attempts to diversify were tried by the sugar capitalists who had so much money it was flowing out of their ears. Instead of investing in their land and transforming their island, the landlords took their money and invested in Manila-based industries; in fancy houses and cars; in jewelry and foreign assets, and once upon a time, in glittering Kahirup balls.

Negros represents the dark side of capitalism: the unequal distribution of wealth, the profligate rich that became richer by trundling the backs of poverty-ridden farmers who became even poorer; the skin-deep concern of the rich for the poor and yet their appalling indifference about the long-term prospects and fortunes of the poor. This was a land and society that could have become one of the richest provinces in the country but it is now one of the poorest.

There is little sympathy for Negros sugar barons. Even now they ride on the backs of their poor. The government and the rest of the country are called upon to divert part of their scarce resources, ostensibly to help the peasants who will find no work, who will still get poorer. The concessions will once more be given and again, these concessions will flow through the rich. And if previous patterns hold, the Negros rich will again benefit more than the poor, who will stay poorer than ever.

CSO: 4200/921

PHILIPPINES

DAVAO PAPERS REPORT PROTEST AGAINST REALTY TAXES

Tax Proposal Opposed

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 23 Mar 85 p 2

[Editorial: "The Last Straw"]

[Text] The multi-sectoral groups in Region XI have taken their common problem to the "court" of last resort for solution: President Marcos.

In a signed petition they have asked the President to suspend the increase in realty taxes this year in the face of an unprecedented economic dislocation, further aggravated by a deteriorating peace and order condition.

The fact that scores of establishments in the region, nay the country, have closed shop and thousands upon thousands of people have been left without jobs or means of livelihood is a clear indication of the predicament business and other sectors have found themselves in. They did not close down for nothing. And more will follow suit unless the economic downtrend is reversed.

Increasing real estate taxes is not the only answer to the government's need for money with which to run the country. Instead of raising realty taxes the government can find other sources of funding. Tax exemptions to small entrepreneurs will give them incentive to produce, hence employ more people. Tax collection should be intensified. Idle lands should be taxed. All these steps can go a long way towards earning money for the government coffers.

But increasing realty taxes now will definitely work the other way around. It will constitute the last straw that would break the proverbial camel's back. And if that happens there will be a run of bankruptcy throughout the land that will stagger the imagination with its repercussions. It could trigger a massive and final collapse of the Philippine economy beyond recall.

Mr. Marcos will do well to ponder on the possible consequences of an increase in real estate taxes this year. The pen in his hand which signed the proposed increase shall have worked like a sword, instead, that decapitated the national economy in one fell swoop--unless he heeds the plaintive plea of his people to suspend such an increase until better times shall have dawned upon this hapless land.

'Landed Gentry' Opposition Hit

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 24 Mar 85 pp 1, 6

[Editorial: "Multisectoral Groups of Landed People?"]

[Text]

A group of big landowners in Davao City obviously headed by Edmundo Madrazo, president of the Davao City Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc., has issued an urgent appeal to Pres. Marcos asking for the further suspension of the increase of realty taxes this year by further claiming that they represent the multisectoral groups in Region XI.

A look, however, at those personalities who signed the petition addressed to the President showed otherwise because they appear to be the landed gentry of the region. In other words, the petitioners apparently represent the oligarchy instead of the multisectoral group, most of whom do not own a piece of land and who would not care less whether realty taxes will increase or not. After all the increase in realty taxes will only affect the rich in spite of their protestations to the contrary because a poor man or a worker can never be a partner of a rich man in progress, but he can only be a tool to achieve a rich man's insatiable needs for more riches such as owning more lands.

It is therefore a surprise to many that the big realty estate owners, after trying to amass so much properties that they could take, have now to complain about the increase in realty taxes. They should have known beforehand that it is the price they have to pay for literally taking too much than what one can swallow.

The landowners should also stop from using the ruse of alleged unprecedented economic dislocation, the adverse peace and order in the region and the unemployment problem and the alleged thousands of alleged homeowners and alleged consumers who allegedly could not take it anymore.

While this ruse sounds subversive, we doubt if they are really echoing the voice of the poor or perhaps only their own. Lands in Davao City or in the region for that matter are only in the hands of a few privileged people and now they are the very ones who demand for more privileges such as the suspension of the increase of realty taxes this year. If they can not pay their realty taxes, it is about time that the President should expropriate their lands to those who do not own a piece of land to be called their own. That might even make the President popular among the cross-section of the truly multi-sectoral group in the region. After all, Marcos did this in Manila before to the consternation of the landed "Manilenos" who were dispossessed of their properties for the common good.

PHILIPPINES

ARTICLE CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT TV NEWS BROADCASTS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 27 Mar 85 pp 1, 2

[Article by Ed Maranan, Philippine News and Features: "The Other Reality in Government TV"]

[Text]

The bright-eyed, gushing newscaster of the Philippine government's official government television station, Channel 4, beamed as she went on with the 7 o'clock evening edition of the news.

"And now here's good news for housewives. More items have been taken out of the price control list!"

Unwitting, unthinking, or both? Such lapses may sound incredible, but have become commonplace in the unfunny world of controlled media, Philippine style. The newscaster was in fact referring to the government move allowing the prices of certain commodities in the market to "seek their proper level" (i.e., to go up), following the last peso devaluation. Her quip was but symptomatic of the conditioned reflexes of the Marcos administration's spokesmen, TV newscasters and newswriters included. Pro-government journalism in both broadcast and print media has, during the Marcos years, charted a middle course between the absurd and apologetic, between the pathetic and pathological.

The net effect is the cultivation of a separate reality. Political commentators rue the fact that President Marcos, in good health or ill, seems to have grown increasingly distanced from what actually goes on in the Philippines. This alienation from reality is translated by the dutiful media into the cult of "developmental journalism," whose

underlying principle (at least in the Philippines) is that all the news must be good and the government can do no wrong. The most potent use of this propaganda weapon is witnessed everyday as Channel 4 projects the official line.

Subsidized by public taxes, government television hardly conceals the fact that it has always allowed itself to be used as a political tool of the elite ruling party, the Kilusan ng Bagong Lipunan (New Society Movement).

With the recent announcement by President Marcos of plans to "rationalize" the broadcast industry, there are fears that the ruling party is preparing to consolidate its control of radio and television for what may be the most crucial elections in Philippine history: the local elections in 1986 and the presidential elections in 1987. The belief persists that the latter may take place much earlier, possibly in mid-1985, due to the failing health of the Philippine President.

The flurry of political activities by the KBL, and the active response of the opposition, is being closely monitored by government media, but in a very contrasting fashion. When the Philippine traditional political parties, led by the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO) of ex-Senator Salvador Laurel, held their National Unification Conference (NUC) on March 10, Channel 4 showed a film clip of it on the evening news.

Viewers saw the opposition leaders gesticulating as they delivered speeches -- minus the audio. The news item's voice-over consisted of snide commentaries quoted from ruling party notables who dismissed the conference in the

cavalier and condescending manner for which KBL spokesmen are noted.

In contrast is the regular coverage of the KBL's field campaigns in Metro-Manila and the provinces. Mrs. Imelda Marcos is invariably shown leading in the distribution of "goods, services and promises," gracing the inauguration of civic projects or community centers, addressing a crowd of urban poor, or just generally being visible with the usual retinue of KBL "public servants." The frenetic KBL activity is a sure sign that the country has entered another election season.

Political oppositionists are generally not given equal time with government politicians. Televised committee meetings and hearings at the Batasang Pambansa (National Assembly) usually highlight the performances of KBL speakers. The station has regular talk shows, personality interviews, and panel discussions which, from time to time, accommodate the views of administration critics and an occasional political activist mildly or formerly identified with the Left, but for the most part project the thinking of the authoritarian administration.

On any given day, cabinet ministers, KBL members of parliament, or government technocrats would appear to defend the economic policies of Marcos or predict a bright future for the country. Military and police generals use the venue to downplay the country's insurgency problem or to justify their very physical handling of public protest. Youth leaders drilled by government prop-men and ex-activists turned paid trainers preach the government's new-found Filipino Ideology.

As an arm of the Ministry of Information, Channel 4 has not been above disinformation. At the height of the Manila public school teachers' strike, a classroom filled with pupils was shown as proof that the strike was a failure because most of Manila's teachers were allegedly holding classes.

The striking teachers themselves said on another channel news program that the strike had actually majority support. Independent television coverage and other media reports proved them right. In the contest between the strikers and the government for public support and sympathy, Channel 4 was obviously bent on putting the teachers in a bad light. Despite this, however, support for the teachers (who gained recognition of their demands) was widespread.

Disinformation, selective and sanitized reporting, outright politicking: these may well sum up government television's idea of "developmental programming." The political nature of Channel 4 has neutralized whatever positive impact is better, "non-political" programs used to have. Despite an impressive schedule of skills-training docus, sports coverages, concerts and other cultural events, and educational science films, this is one government television station that has consistently been running very low in the annual ratings.

In terms of credibility, according to a University of the Philippines survey, it ranks lowest, but this seems to be the least of the information ministry's worries, since it is in the business, after all, of putting together everyday a separate reality about life in the Philippines.

CSO: 4200/907

PHILIPPINES

BIR SEEKS BACK TAXES FROM TV, RADIO STATIONS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 27 Mar 85 pp 1, 8

[Article by Erwin Tulfo]

[Text]

The country's four private television networks, three of them owned by the President's close personal and political ally Roberto Benedicto, and a radio station chain are being dunned by the Bureau of Internal Revenue for back tax accounts from 1979 to 1981.

BIR Deputy Commissioner Tomas Toledo, who sent the collection notices to the four networks, would not say how much in back taxes was involved but other BIR sources said they could run up to over P100 million, excluding surcharge and interest.

Sent the collection notices were Radio Philippines Network (Channel 9), Interisland Broadcasting Corporation (Channel 13), Bananaw Broadcasting Corporation (Channel 2), and GMA Channel 7. The

first three are owned and controlled by Benedicto while Channel 7 is owned by a group headed by Meynardo Jimenez. The fifth TV network, Maharlika Broadcasting System which runs Channel 4, is government-owned.

Also sent a collection notice was the Radio Mindanao Network, which operates a chain of radio stations in Metro Manila and in the provinces.

The networks were given 10 days after receipt of the notices to reply to the assessments.

Under Section 113 of the National Internal Revenue Code, as amended, taxpayers with deficiency taxes are liable to 10 per cent surcharge and 20 per cent interest per annum on the amount due as part of the tax in case of late tax payments.

CSO: 4200/907

PHILIPPINES

ARMOR USE, OTHER DETAILS OF DAVAO BATTLE REPORTED

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 22 Mar 85 pp 1, 6

[Text] Six NPA rebels were killed while two members of the military intelligence team were wounded in an encounter with PC men along KM. 62 along the national highway of Tagun, Davao del Norte at about 4:45 a.m. yesterday.

After a 30-minute gunbattle against about 70 armed rebels, the beleaguered 5-man patrol team of the PC were reinforced by government men led by Col. Geronimo Valderrama, backed up with a war tank.

The seriously wounded PC soldiers who were brought to the Davao Regional hospital in Davao City were identified as PC Sgt. Michael Tulin, 35 years old, and Police Corporal Florentino Salboro, 46 years old. Slightly wounded was identified as CIC Francis Corrales.

Reporter Ben Wang of the People's Daily Forum, who went together with the reinforcement led by Col. Valderrama said that the seventy rebels were posted at the highway about 200 meters distance. During his interview with the residents in the battle area, the rebels before withdrawing from the battle scene, retrieved their dead wrapped in blankets taken from civilian residents.

The rebels withdrew towards New Balanban, Tagum, which is about 10 kilometers away from Tagum town. Reporter Ben Wang said when they arrived at San Agustin del Monte, where the fight occurred, the houses of the residents were empty, and only some few children were left.

Also left by the withdrawing rebels were their "baon," or food provisions consisting of rice and "pirit." Blood were also found splattered at the scene of the gunfight.

The 5-man patrol team of the military was led by PC Sgt. Michael Tulin.

The timely arrival of the reinforcement team led by Col. Valderrama saved the 5-man patrol team led by PC Sergeant Michael Tulin from what could have been a complete "wipe out," report said.

CSO: 4200/898

PHILIPPINES

PESSIMISTIC ESCAP VIEW ON ECONOMIC GROWTH REPORTED

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 24 Mar 85 pp 2, 10

[Article by Feliciano H. Magno]

[Text] Philippine economic growth this year will be slow and painful at best while its sisters in the Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN) can look forward to at least above 5 per cent growths in their respective gross domestic products (GDPs).

The prediction is rendered by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in its recently issued "Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1984" annual report.

ESCAP's member countries will take up the report's findings and their implications on socio-economic development in the region during their 41st annual session to be held in Bangkok next March 19-29.

The survey found collective economy of developing Asia-Pacific nations grew faster than that of counterparts in other world regions in 1983 and 1984.

Citing preliminary data collected before the new oil price cuts were effected, ESCAP said the figures provide ample indications that GDP growth of ASEAN members will hit an average of 5.5 per cent in 1985 except that of the Philippines.

The UN agency underscored that the GDP growth managed by the ASEAN members last year and that projected this year are impressive since world average growth for all developing countries in 1983 was estimated at only 3.5 per cent.

However, ESCAP emphasized that its projected GDP growth for the ASEAN members and other countries in the region hinge on favorable weather ensuring increased agricultural production and on degree of protectionist policies in the developed countries which constitute the major markets of Asia-Pacific nations which bank on exports for economic growth.

In its assessment of the Philippines' chances for better economic performance this year compared to 1983 and 1984 which saw the Filipino economy suffering unprecedented nosedives ESCAP cited two crucial factors:

--Successful completion of the rescheduling of the country's \$46 billion foreign debt before the end of 1985.

--Inflow of new money to enable the country to resume normal trade activities.

The survey said that if the two factors produce positive results, "some improvement in economic performance" can be expected. However, ESCAP refrained from forecasting what level of GDP growth the Philippines can expect.

On the other hand, the United States-based Data Resources Inc. was reported as indicating that the Philippine economy will decline by 2 per cent this year due "to continuing economic difficulties."

CSO: 4200/898

PHILIPPINES

CAPITAL GOODS IMPORTS DECLINE 42 PERCENT IN JAN-FEB

HK071445 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 7 May 85 p 2

[Text] Importations of capital goods for the January-February period this year dropped 42.27 percent from the year-ago level. Central Bank [CB] data showed. The freight-on-board (FOB)-value of imported capital goods amounted to \$127 million, down \$93 million, from the \$220 million worth of imports in the same period last year.

Generally, the decline in the importation of capital goods could be attributed in weaker market demand caused by the eroded purchasing power of consumers.

With the current economic uncertainties, businessmen do not find it viable to import machineries and equipment, although the CB raised the monthly limit for imports of capital goods in January this year. Businessmen agree, however, that the higher import ceiling may be useful in financing the importation of spare parts. They explained that since many manufacturing firms have cut down productions, while some others have completely closed shop, existing equipment and machineries just have to be tuned up while waiting for business to pick up.

Among the capital goods imported during the period, the biggest decline was recorded by transport equipment which registered an 83.72 percent drop. From \$43 million worth of transport equipment imported during the first two months of 1984, the import figure plunged to \$7 million for the same period this year.

This was followed by the importation of aircraft, ships and boats with a 60 percent decline, while non-electrical machinery came third with a 36.47 percent decrease. From \$5 million worth of aircraft, ships and boats imported last year, this year's figure came only to \$2 million. Meanwhile the importation of non-electrical machinery dropped from \$85 million to \$54 million.

CSO: 4200/912

PHILIPPINES

PAPER NOTES BANKS INVOLVED IN RESCUE PACKAGE

HK080340 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 7 May 85 pp 3, 6

[Text] Only a very small group of foreign banks will account for most of the funds that will go into the financial rescue package for the Philippines scheduled for signing 20 May, according to a list of the major contributors to the new money and revolving trade facilities.

According to the list made available to BUSINESS DAY, out of the country's over 400 creditor banks, only eight international banks will maintain credit lines to the country amounting to \$1,528 million, more than half of the \$3,000-million revolving trade facility. On the other hand, 10 banks will contribute \$384 million to the \$925-million new commercial loan, 42 percent of the total.

Citibank N.A., which has a branch with full commercial banking functions in Manila, dominates both lists. Its involvement in the trade facility will amount to \$750 million, a quarter of the \$3-billion total. The next biggest contributor to the trade facility, the Chase Manhattan Bank N.A., will have a very much smaller exposure in the facility, at \$151 million. Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co. (Mantrust), chairman of the 12-bank committee organizing the financial rescue package for the country, is ranked only fifth among the major contributors to the trade facility, with its exposure amounting to \$105 million.

The other five major participants in the trade facility, with their respective exposures, are the following: Morgan Guaranty Trust Co of New York, \$131 million; the London-based Barclays Bank International Ltd., \$129 million; the U.S. Chemical Bank, \$102 million; First Interstate Bank of California, \$90 million; and Bank of America (which also has a branch in Manila), \$70 million.

Citibank, N.A.'s \$130-million contribution to the new money pool is also the largest, accounting for 14 percent of the total, with the next biggest contribution a far second--\$36 million from the Bank of America. The participation of Mantrust, agent for the \$925-million syndicated loan, is only the third largest, at \$35 million.

The seven other major participants in the new money facility, with their respective contributions, are: Chemical Bank, \$31 million; Chase Manhattan Bank, \$30 million; Bank of Tokyo, \$29 million; Barclays Bank, \$27 million;

Bank of Montreal, \$25 million; Banque Nationale de Paris, \$21 million; and Credit Lyonnais, \$20 million.

All of the major contributors to the new money and revolving trade facilities are members of the 12-bank advisory committee for the Philippines, except two--first Interstate Bank of California and Credit Lyonnais. Another member of the advisory committee--Dresdner Bank, AG--was not listed among the top participants in the rescue package. Dresdner Bank was the last foreign bank to extend a major medium-term loan--a \$15-million loan to Union Bank of the Philippines which was signed in June 1983--before the country declared a moratorium on its debt payments.

In most of the debt restructuring arrangements for other countries, the bank with the biggest loan exposure in the particular country assumed chairmanship of the advisory committee for that country, since it has the biggest stake in that country. Sources in the foreign banking committee here, however, said Citibank, the largest creditor to the country, begged off from heading the advisory committee for the Philippines on two grounds. First, it argued that it was already leading the major debt restructuring program for Brazil, whose debt-crisis has one of the biggest implications for the international community. Second, one source claimed, Citibank had expected that its role as chairman of the advisory committee would be weakened because of the controversy over the interbank deposits it had frozen last year.

The controversy over the interbank deposits involved foreign banks' deposits with the Citibank branch in Manila. This was one of the first obstacles in organizing the rescue package for the country, since a number of creditor banks to the country protested Citibank's earlier position that their \$600-million deposits--allegedly made only a few months before the moratorium started--should be included in the country's debts to be restructured.

A compromise solution to the problem was reached when Citibank agreed to remit 46 percent of the interbank deposits. Foreign bankers also disclosed that part of the solution involved Citibank's inclusion of half of the interbank deposits into its debt base.

This apparently would explain the slightly larger amount of Citibank's exposure to the country. Based on the formula that each bank creditor would contribute 7.5 percent of its exposure in the country to the new money pool, Citibank's \$130-million contribution means that its debt base amounts to about \$1.7 billion. This figure is a bit higher than the \$1.6 billion Citibank, N.A. had reported as its total foreign exchange exposure in the Philippines at the end of 1984.

In the meantime, sources in the banking community said a solution to the problem posed by Planters Products, Inc.'s (PPI) foreign debts still has not been reached. The advisory committee in its communication last week to the country's foreign banks pointed out that a satisfactory solution will be reached before the scheduled 20 May signing of the accords. The sources noted that a final go-signal for the 20 May signing will be indicated when the advisory committee circularizes, as it has promised, the printed loan documents on 17 May.

PHILIPPINES

OIL IMPORTS FROM OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES TO INCREASE

HK091427 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 9 May 85 p 2

[Text] Energy Minister Geromino Z. Velasco yesterday said the country will increase its oil imports from major oil producing members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Velasco said the current 30 percent share of the ASEAN-sourced oil imports will be increased depending on what the country's Asian neighbors can give. He said the increase will be mainly in imports covered by government-to-government contracts.

The energy minister thinks that the shift in oil import sourcing will not have much effect on the country's current commitments with other oil producers, notably those in the Middle East.

Reports from official sources have it that the Philippines together with Singapore and Thailand will buy oil from their ASEAN partners Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei if the exports of those countries fall below 80 percent of the amount they normally export. The reports said the proposal was already discussed by ASEAN energy ministers in Bangkok, Thailand, recently.

The move by ASEAN oil-producing countries to export more oil to their neighbors was dictated mainly by the worldwide glut in oil which is adversely affecting their oil exports, particularly that of Indonesia.

Indonesia is already beginning to feel the pinch resulting from China's entry into the oil export market. China, which is the biggest Asian oil-producing country outside the Middle East, is planning to increase its 2.4-million-barrel daily production to four million.

Indonesia, the second biggest producer in the Far East after China, produces at present 1.189 million barrels of crude daily under an Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) imposed ceilings.

CSO: 4200/912

PHILIPPINES

\$1 BILLION IN OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE SOUGHT

HK091423 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 9 May 85 p 3

[By Rigoberto D. Tiglao]

[Text] The Philippine Government will be asking approximately \$1 billion in official development assistance (ODA) loans from multilateral institutions and foreign governments to bridge the country's financing gap for 1986, BUSINESS DAY sources in the diplomatic community here said.

This figure is a major upward revision from the \$457 million Prime Minister Cesar Virata earlier said will be the country's ODA requirements next year (see BUSINESS DAY 28 January). The figure Virata gave them was consistent with the data contained in the Central Bank's [CB] economic memorandum to the international banking community that states the country requires \$430 million to cover its foreign exchange shortfall in 1986.

However, the \$1-billion request for 1986 jibes with a recent National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) study which states that ODA requirements for the government's "ongoing and proposed pipeline projects" for 1986 amount to \$1.1171 billion, the NEDA study said the country will be needing \$1.3 billion in ODA loans annually from 1985 to 1989 in order to achieve a "reasonable" level of economic growth of 3.8 percent yearly.

The sources said Virata had planned to officially inform multilateral institutions and donor-countries of the country's 1986 ODA requirements in a briefing on the state of the Philippine economy during the World Bank-International Monetary Fund's consultative group subcommittee late last month. The scheduled conference for the Philippines, however, was indefinitely postponed. Unconfirmed reports said one reason for the postponement was the uncertainty regarding the country's economic adjustment program due to the delay in the finalization of the new money and revolving trade facilities to be extended by the country's bank creditors.

The Philippine Government's ODA requests for 1984 to 1985 amounted to \$2.1 billion, or \$1 billion yearly. Monetary authorities had said earlier that the \$1 billion for 1984 actually had already been disbursed. This is supported by the CB's 1984 annual report which indicated that there was an inflow of \$1.3 billion in medium and long-term loans last year. The CB report noted that \$493 million of this comprised "exceptional financing/new money" from the

Commodity Credit Corp (CCC), World Bank, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECE) and the U.S. Eximbank.

Because of its debt crisis--which made the country a high-risk country for international commercial lending--and also because of the shift of international banks away from lending to developing countries, the Philippines would be relying heavily on ODA Loans to finance its economic growth.

The ODA Loans now constitute virtually the only "real" loans for the country, in the sense that new loans from commercial banks, such as the \$925-million new syndicated loan to be raised by the advisory committee for the Philippines, are actually merely refinancing loans. This means that they are only intended to enable the country to pay its interest payments punctually. On the other hand, the ODA loans can be used to finance increased importations to maintain and increase economic production.

If the World Bank lives up to its commitment that its new loans to the country in the next few years will average about \$500 million, it will be accounting for the bulk of the \$1-billion ODA loans in 1986. The rest is expected to come mainly from the U.S. and Japan. Statements from Japanese officials indicate that Japan's new loans in the next few years will be maintained at least at their 1983 level. This means new Japanese loans amounting from \$250 million to \$300 million annually.

CSO: 4200/912

PHILIPPINES

GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES TO FERTILIZER COMPANIES VIEWED

HK061556 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 6 May 85 pp 12, 11

[By Ramon Tomeldan]

[Text] The government gave the fertilizer industry P[pesos] 5.526 billion in subsidies from 1973 to 1984, according to documents from the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA).

Direct cash subsidies amounted to P2,937 billion, while tax exemptions for firms importing fertilizers and raw materials amounted to P3.489 billion.

Four fertilizer firms--the so-called "Big Four" benefited from these subsidies.

These are Planters products, Inc. (PPI); Maria Cristina Fertilizer Corporation; Atlas Fertilizer Corporation; and Fertilizer Marketing Corporation of the Philippines.

PPI, once the biggest of the four but which is now in dire financial straits, got 60 percent of the total subsidies. The balance was equally divided among the three remaining firms, the documents show.

The subsidies were given to the four firms on the condition that they would sell fertilizer at prices lower than the prevailing commercial costs.

The tax exemption privilege was meant to enable the four to offset or minimize their raw material import cost.

Despite the enormous subsidies, however, fertilizer cost in the country remained one of the highest in Asia.

Studies conducted by the Los Banos-based International Rice Research Institute showed that Filipino farmers needed at least 4 kilos of palay to pay for a kilo of nitrogen fertilizer.

Thus, at the present palay support price of P3.35 a kilo, nitrogen fertilizer per kilo costs P13.40.

Farmers in other Asian countries pay only P1.70 for a kilo of nitrogen fertilizer, the same study said.

Sources say the failure of the four firms to maintain fertilizer cost at reasonable levels despite the subsidy contributed to the government's decision to scrap the subsidy late last year and to allow other firms to import the product.

The decision to scrap subsidies, however, was also due to pressures from the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank--two financing institutions which account for the bulk of the credit facilities accorded the local fertilizer industry.

The ADB and WB wanted a "rational" approach to fertilizer distribution and manufacturing in the country, sources said.

Some quarters, though, claimed that the rationalization of the fertilizer industry paved the way for the state-owned Philippine Phosphate Fertilizer Corporation (Phiphos) to assume control over the local manufacture of the product.

The Phiphos monopoly began when the Big Four, succumbing to high operating costs and tight credit, signed an agreement with Phiphos under which the Big Gour would become mere marketing arms of Philphos.

Another state-owned firm, the Philippine International Trading Corporation, monopolizes the importation of urea, a fertilizer grade not manufactured by Philphos.

The fertilizer subsidy issue refuses to die as the PPI continues to press the government to pay its (PPI) remaining claims.

Payment of the claims would enable the PPI to settle some of its P1.64 billion debt to nine local banks.

The government's commission on Audit [COA] recently ordered the release of P229 million as payment for PPI's subsidy claims totalling P321.437 million under the direct cast subsidy program.

PPI wanted payment for another P22.6 million as reimbursements for the 10 per-cent ad valorem tax imposed on its imports.

Payment of PPI's total claims was withheld pending the completion of audit by the COA.

CSO: 4200/912

PHILIPPINES

BREEFS

JUSTICE MINISTER ON REDUCED PENALTIES--Justice Minister Estelito Mendoza yesterday [9 May] cited the beneficial effects of reduced penalties for rebellion, subversion, and other crimes against public order and national security. He said it may be invoked by persons already charged with or convicted for the offenses. Minister Mendoza said Presidential Decrees 1974 and 1975 may be given retroactive effect. The new decrees issued last 2 May scrapped the penalties or forfeiture of rights of citizens or confiscation of property and decreased the penalties in varying decrees for the crimes of rebellion, subversion, conspiracy, and proposal to commit rebellion, and giving aid and comfort to the perpetrators to such crimes. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 9 May 85 HK]

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE'S CITIZENSHIP QUESTIONED--President Marcos yesterday [9 May] ordered the Justice Ministry to investigate the citizenship of Supreme Court Justice Claudio Teehankee. The order was prompted by charges raised by Member of Parliament Arturo Pacificador that Teehankee is not a natural-born Filipino citizen and his appointment as Supreme Court justice violates the constitution. In issuing the order to investigate Teehankee's citizenship, President Marcos said the charges are serious, considering their legal repercussions, including a possible infraction of the constitution itself. Pacificador has questioned Teehankee's citizenship in relation with the case pending in the court against him. He claims Teehankee was born in Manila but his parents are Chinese. Teehankee was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1969. He was reported to be next in line to Chief Justice Enrique Fernando who is retiring in July. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 9 May 85 HK]

RAMOS ON REFORMIST MOVEMENT--Acting AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos yesterday [8 May] declared support for positive reforms in the armed forces. He said he is willing to meet with the AFP reformist movement and other such groups as long as their position does not conflict with the guidelines of the commander in chief and the AFP programs and rules. Gen Ramos explained his position on the reform movement in his address to the class 22 of the AFP Command and General Staff College. He also said the reformist group in the AFP is working for three basic goals, which is to restore and maintain the people's faith in the armed forces, to improve the soldiers' morale and discipline, and to increase the operational effectiveness of the armed forces. He said those basic goals should be the task of everyone in the military during these crucial times. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 8 May 85]

SUPREME COURT HALTS NUCLEAR PLANT HEARINGS--The Supreme Court yesterday [7 May] stopped the Philippine Atomic Energy Commission from holding public hearings on the licensing of the nuclear plant in Bataan. The restraining order is effective until 14 May when the Supreme Court will hold hearings on the two petitions filed by five parties to stop the commission on grounds that it is incompetent to judge the plant's safety. The petitions also accused the commission of being biased in favor of the National Power Corporation. The corporation is seeking the Philippine Atomic Energy Commission's license to operate the more than \$2 billion nuclear plant. The plant will generate 620 megawatts for the Luzon grid. The Supreme Court also ordered the Atomic Energy Commission, the National Power Corporation, and the opposition to submit their position papers by May 12. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 7 May 85 HK]

MANILA MAYOR OPPOSES SECRET MARSHALS--Manila Mayor Ramon Bagatsing today opposed the fielding of secret marshals in Metro Manila and said these plainclothes law-enforcers should be replaced by uniformed policemen. The mayor declared that human rights are being violated by the continuance of the operations by secret marshals. He added that the presence of more uniformed policemen around Metro Manila and its environs will discourage muggers and purse snatchers from playing their trade. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 10 May 85 HK]

CSO: 4211/53

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

PAPER DISCUSSES SIHANOUK'S REASONS FOR RESIGNATION

BK250259 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Apr 85 p 1

[By Jacques Bekaert]

[Text] Prince Norodom Sihanouk would be the first person to realise that nobody in the Kampuchean Coalition Government wants to see him go.

Without the prestige and international recognition attributable to the prince, the coalition would lose most of its diplomatic and political appeal, not to mention one of its best psychological weapons inside Kampuchea.

Health reasons? The prince is now 62-years-old and has some health worries including diabetes. His doctors have strongly recommended that he takes a rest.

But medical reasons are probably not the real cause of the prince's action. "The prince is angry and has reason to be angry" a senior American diplomatic source said.

Well informed sources see two main reasons why Sihanouk has once again threatened to resign, leaving Prince Norodom Ranarith in charge of the Sihanoukist faction (Funcinpec-ANS) within the coalition.

Sihanouk is concerned about the way Son Sann, the coalition prime minister and president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), referred to the Kampuchean problem during his recent visit to Washington. The prince may also be disturbed by some recent comments from Indonesian officials.

American officials have complained privately about Son Sann's lack of enthusiasm for nationalist [words indistinct] Washington. "He speaks only of the KPNLF, never said a word about his Sihanoukist partners and is always trying to get assistance solely for his group," an American source told the POST.

Another source complained about the way Son Sann allegedly tried to prevent Prince Ranarith, who was also in Washington at the time, from meeting the press, especially after an encounter with Secretary of State Shultz.

However a third source said that Son Sann may have objected to a remark made by Prince Sihanouk during a recent interview with NEWSWEEK describing the KPNLF's military's capabilities as "Zero," even if later in the interview Sihanouk refers to Son Sann as "an honourable man."

An ASEAN source said "Sihanouk has been very careful to include somebody from the KPNLF on all his travels. He tries hard to speak in the name of the coalition and not just Funcinpec. Son Sann sometimes gives the impression that he is only the president of the KPNLF and not the prime minister of the coalition government."

The prince may also be disturbed by recent comments made by Indonesian personalities, according to an ASEAN diplomat. This includes a suggestion made by foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmakja that Sihanouk was not going to the Bandung conference so as not to antagonise the Vietnamese. "This could give the impression that Sihanouk is about to strike a deal with Hanoi or Phnom Penh," the diplomat said.

The prince has tried very hard during the past few months to dispel the suspicions of some--especially with the KPNLF--that he had held a secret meeting with Hun Sen or had negotiated a deal with Vietnam. "Mr Mokhtar's remarks may not have made him very happy," concluded the [words indistinct] to Indonesian authorities for not going to Bandung in which he stated that he would be glad to visit Indonesia whenever it would be convenient for the host country.

Sihanouk has frequently expressed disappointment at the reluctance of some Kampucheans to acknowledge the coalition's unity. "Nationalists attacking each other gives a very bad image to our struggle," he has said repeatedly.

CSO: 4200/854

31 May 1985

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

BANGKOK FUNCINPEC ASKS SIHANOUK TO STAY ON

BK260357 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 26 Apr 85 p 2

[Excerpt] Bangkok-based Sihanoukist staff and Prime Minister Son Sann of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) have sent messages to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, urging him to continue leading the tripartite Khmer coalition fighting the Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea.

Informed sources told THE NATION that the cable sent from the Bangkok office of the Funcinpec [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Wednesday was signed by Prince Norodom Rannarith in his capacity as head of the Bangkok staff and supreme commander of the Army of Nationalist Sihanoukists (ANS).

The brief cable pleads with Prince Sihanouk, who is now in Pyongyang, to stay on for the sake of the struggle to liberate Kampuchea from Vietnamese occupation, according to the sources.

They said that despite some health problems troubling the president of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK), these could possibly be only a "nice excuse" because the health problems are not serious enough to prevent him from leading the Kampuchean struggle against the Vietnamese.

They cited a letter from the Indonesians to the prince about 2 weeks ago as the "likely cause" of his move.

Details about the letter were not available but the sources said that the "wording" in part of the contents of the letter appeared "improper" and could have disheartened the prince.

They said that the prince was frustrated by constraints obstructing his freedom to take initiatives.

"If he is given a free hand, then it would be better," one source who asked not to be identified said.

He dismissed speculations that the prince was depressed as a result of some problems with Son Sann, leader of a non-communist partner in the coalition.

However, the sources said they believed that the prince should not step down.

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

THAI PAPER ON ANS STRENGTH IN INLAND AREAS

BK270350 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 27 Apr 85 p 5

[Text] The Sihanoukist force has fielded 6,500 guerrillas into the inland areas as far as Siem Reap as of the middle of this month and plans to send 1,200 more by mid-May, a Sihanoukist spokesman told THE NATION yesterday.

Laysreng Lu, head of the Information Department, said that the Army of Nationalist Sihanoukists (ANS) has prepared itself for inland military activities well before the Vietnamese attack on the former ANS stronghold of Ta Tum, opposite Surin Province, in March.

The ANS has so far set up four logistic bases and a network of small caches inside Kampuchea away from the Thai-Kampuchean border to back up the strategy of moving into the interior to conduct guerrilla warfare, he said.

So far, the ANS has staged six guerrilla operations, three of which were launched before the Vietnamese attack on Ta Tum, to mount small-scale assaults on Vietnamese military positions in the interior, Lu said.

"As of 16 April, we have sent 6,500 fighters into the interior and by the end of this month or mid-May, our guerrillas inside should have increased to 7,700," he said.

He said that ANS has now about 11,000 armed fighters and 1,000 reservists who have not been armed yet.

"Right now, we don't have any problems of insufficient flow of weapons from China and some other friends. It's enough now," Lu said.

He added that the ANS commanded by Prince Norodom Ranariddh, who is currently personal representative of Prince Norodom Sihanouk in the region, planned to increase its strength to about 18,000 men by the end of this year.

Lu said that the six military operations launched by the ANS since January included "Angkor Chey III" in areas straddling Battambang and Oddar Meanchey, "Kralahom Kong" in Seam Reap and "Oddar Meanchey I" in Oddar Meanchey.

Speaking of his impression of the ANS, Lu said that when he came to the border from the United States last year, he seriously doubted the military capability of the non-communist resistance force, by far the smallest of the three factions in the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) headed by Prince Sihanouk. The other two forces are the Khmer Rouge and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF).

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

THAI'S REPORTEDLY BOMB PRK TERRITORY--On 1 May, two Thai F-5 jets dropped eight bombs in the vicinity of the beginning of Hiway 56 in Pursat Province before four Thai marine companies illegally intruded into the area. On 4 May Thailand sent L-19 planes to fly a spy mission and F-5 aircraft to bomb the same area. On 30 April and 1 May, Thai troops fired artillery pieces, mortars, and other lethal weapons into Cambodian territory. Meanwhile, Thailand is helping the Khmer reactionaries sabotage and undermine the peaceful livelihood of the Cambodian people along the border. [Text] [Hanoi International Service in Thai 1130 GMT 8 May 85 NK]

CSO: 4207/203

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

TRIAL WITNESSES REVEAL ESPIONAGE DETAILS

Hanoi DOC LAP in Vietnamese 20 Mar 85 p 15

[Article by Do Quang: "Witnesses of the Trial"]

[Text] From the moment that the first session of the trial began, along with our fellow correspondents from foreign countries and a full thousand others present in the courtroom, we gave our attention to the six witnesses of the trial for the spies of China and Thai military intelligence led by Le Quoc Tuy and Mai Van Hanh. Those six witnesses were Le Hong Du, cover number K34; Tran Ngoc Minh, number K18; Son Hanh, number HK138; Phuc Nam, number K17; Nguyen Van Quy, number HK122; and Bui Van Nam Son, cover number K14. Included in this group was one who was once the leader and assistant leader of spy commando teams infiltrating our country by land and by sea; a communicator and radio team chief; and also an individual who was once an important personage with status in the "General Headquarters" located in Bangkok and at one time the commander of the Tu Thang secret base. He was once issued papers by the Thai Army Intelligence Directorate identifying him as a member of the Thai Infantry Training Center with the alias of Xmut Inthon in order to join Tran Van Ba, in charge of internal security, and Thai officers to grope about the Thai concentration and transfer camps for those fleeing the fatherland, using every stratagem to recruit individuals, transfer them to a secret spy training base and thrust them back into Vietnam for operations to resist and destroy the revolution.

In this extremely serious and major spy trial, previously on the other side to resist the fatherland and the people but today acting as witnesses, every one of their statements was an accusation condemning the venomous and shameful crimes and ambitions of China and the Thai Army Intelligence Directorate, and exposing every action to betray the fatherland and assist the enemy in resisting and destroying the revolution of the Le Quoc Tuy, Mai Van Hanh, etc. group.

It was truly pleasant to hear Bui Van Nam Son (one of the earliest colleagues of and an individual entrusted by Tuy and Hanh to many important tasks in the organization and also an individual whose secret death warrant was signed by Tuy and Hanh while he infiltrating back into Vietnam) expose China and the Thai Intelligence Directorate. Bui Van Nam Son stated that he had participated in the spy organization of Tuy and Hanh since June of 1980. Immediately after meeting him at the Ambassador Hotel at Soi 2, Sukhumvit in Bangkok, Le Quoc Tuy introduced him to General Chawalit, Army Chief of Staff and Chief of Thai army

Intelligence. Chawalit directed his aide, Senior Colonel Mon, to obtain the necessary papers for Nam Son and a few others to operate openly and to easily enter the concentration camps for so-called "refugees" to recruit individuals for spy training at a secret base. Each time Nam Son entered a concentration camp, Senior Colonel Ba Suoc, Chief of the Songkhla Police, sent 1st Lt. Phac Dun with a police team to accompany Nam Son in order to make up rosters and to take photographs of individuals being recruited in the Tuy-Hanh organization. The lists of these preliminary choices all had to be sent back to Tuy and Hanh and to the Thai security directorate for review and approval.

The Thai Army Intelligence Directorate rented secret residences for Tuy and Hanh to train Minh Vuong Session I at 40/3 Soi 59 on Sukhumvit Street, and 34/1 Soi 3 on Inthammarat along with a large house at 130/1 Soi Oraphin on Rama VI Street to establish a radio station for communicating with the Chinese Embassy in Bangkok, the Thai Intelligence Directorate, the "secret base," the infiltration ships concealed at Rayong Port, and the reactionaries within Vietnam.

While still in the organization of Tuy and Hanh, Bui Van Nam Son once visited a number of Chinese weapons dumps hidden right in Bangkok, at Aran in Prachin Buri Province, in Surrat Thani Province, etc. in order to give Thai army intelligence the mission of transporting the arms down to the infiltration boat units of Tuy and Hanh for shipment to Vietnam.

The Thai Army Intelligence Directorate sent experienced specialists to the "secret base" for spy training, Chinese lackeys and communications, operations, movement and surprise attack technicians, established weapons dumps for Tuy and Hanh at Port Rayong, Samui Island, and Ko Kra and Ko Kong islands, and continuously used Port Rayong and Surat Thani as locations to conceal three boats identified as B1, B2 and B3. Among these three boats was one seized from the boat people by the Thai police and brought back to replace the engine and repair to resemble a fishing boat. Construction of the other two was financed with 500,000 baht (Thai currency) by the Chinese to resemble Vietnamese state-operated fishing boats but with modern ocean-going Japanese engines. During the past few years, these boats transported many agent teams and large amounts of Chinese weapons, ammunition, equipment and tools for intelligence activity, and counterfeit Vietnamese money to Vietnam for the internal reactionaries to use in their destructive activities and efforts to overthrow the current regime. The Thai Army Intelligence Agency dispatched many alternating teams to directly handle the interior activities of the Tuy-Hanh operation; specifically as follows: from 1980 to 1981 at the general headquarters, the team of Senior Captain Fal had Senior Captain Nop Nawoa as an aide. Kham Sak taught communications. Sak was the medic and there were a few drivers and security men; in 1982 and 1983, besides Major Nop Nawoa, there was Senior Captain Den, an aide assistant. The Thai Army Intelligence Agency also established a radio relay station and hospital specializing in the treatment of wounds and malaria for the Son Sann Khmer Rouge rebels and the so-called "resistance war army" of the Le Quoc Tuy-Mai Van Hanh spy organization. In charge of this hospital was Senior Captain/Dr. Fal of the Thai army. Following the instructions of the Chinese embassy, the Thai Army Intelligence Directorate had a mission of directly assisting, training and organizing the Vietnamese traitor and Beijing lackey Tuy-Hanh groups to resist and destroy the Vietnamese revolution. They allied themselves with remnants of the Pol Pot-Son Sann army and assisted them in destructive resistance to Vietnam and in creating disturbances along the Thai-Cambodian border.

When Mai Van Hanh stood before the court with his large physical build, we were almost bowled over by the statement of Le Hong Du. A few years ago, Hanh and Tuy had personally chosen Du to serve as chief of a land infiltration team opening a route to Vietnam in the extremely important first phase in order to contact Le Chon Tinh, alias Ba Tinh, in the Chau Doc-An Giang area. Le Hong Du revealed that agent ringleader Mai Van Hanh was nurtured and organized by China and Thai military intelligence.

According to Le Hong Du, after ending their training in Thailand, a group of Thai intelligence personnel, specifically Non, Kol and Srithundon, had turned him and more than 20 others over to the Khmer Rouge at a base in Trat Province (in Thailand) in order to prepare for their infiltration into Vietnam. At that location, Tuy sent a message from Bangkok telling him that he was working with Ieng Sary and the Chinese embassy and after concluding a meeting, Tuy and Hanh would come to see off the agent team. That night, Tuy and Hanh met privately with Du and K18 and assigned them a mission of carrying a secret letter and a few items of proof to identify them to Ba Tinh. Tuy and Hanh photographed Du and K18 with the Khmer Rouge as a precaution against Du and K18 becoming disloyal and to shackle them with the decisively foremost and important task of the first agent team to infiltrate the territory of Vietnam. Tuy and Hanh told Le Hong Tu and K18 that when they met Ba Tinh to tell him to communicate with Tuy and Hanh via the radio carried by K18 and Du, to use the Bay Nui area as a base and to strive in developing up to 35,000 men, primarily acquired from among the Hoa Hao reactionary forces. He was also to find means of transporting weapons and ammunition to equip these forces. Tuy and Hanh straightforwardly stated that this espionage organization was being assisted by Beijing, was being supported by Thailand, and had as allies the Pol Pol and Son Sann Khmer Rouge. If he needed money, Ba Tinh was to go to the home of LTK to obtain 3,000 dollars for temporary funds.

After many days of following the Khmer Rouge as they crept through thick brush, climbed mountains and crossed forests, hungry and sick, they met Ba Tinh, accepted each other through the items of proof and delivered the letter sent by Tuy and Hanh. Ba Tinh stated that it was difficult at that time to find a location in that area for a "secret base" and to conceal troops and weapons. Bay Nui is an economic foundation of the revolutionary administration with state farms and military camps everywhere and to enter there would sooner or later result in death. The arms could not be transported into Vietnam at any time, by land would be difficult and by sea would eventually end in discovery. These situations were received by Tuy and Hanh in reports sent back by several individuals, including Tran Van Ba whose position was a commander representing the "headquarters" and who followed the initial raider espionage team to lead the way for the espionage incidents which dragged on for 4 years.

Also in this first infiltration was Tran Ngoc Minh. He distinctly and specifically stated that before he returned to Vietnam, Tuy and Hanh, the latter now standing before the court, had ordered him to establish a military force for operations in Tra Vinh and Soc Trang. They instructed him to aim at the revolutionary economy and strike; to seek means of assassinating collective chiefs and cooperatives directors and attacking and stealing from state warehouses; and to strike the Ben Gia Transformation Camp to select transformation candidates for supplementing his forces. Tuy and Hanh persistently instructed Minh

to seek every means to attract and use young shoemakers, pedicab drivers and prostitutes to throw hand grenades into theaters and to place explosives at bus stops. He was told to destroy power plants and major bridges on the routes of communications. The point which Tuy and Hanh emphasized the most was that he must set mines to destroy the My Thuan, Can Tho and Vam Cong ferry landings.

Such were the instructions; if anyone appeared hesitant or fearful and stepped back in search of escape or to resist, Tuy and Hanh ordered that he be shot to death. They ordered that one individual shoot another with the purpose of terrorizing each other and forcing every individual to obey them absolutely.

If they fled to Pol Pot and Son Sann, they were shot. If they fled to the Thai people, they were shot. If they became discontented or resisted, they were shot. They even received the death sentence if they were not liked. That was the case of Tran Ngoc Minh. From the time he realized that they were heartless lackeys for China in resisting and destroying the fatherland and extremely cruel in their treatment of those in the "secret base," Minh was unusually half-hearted in complying with their orders. Tuy and Hanh signed a death warrant for Tran Ngoc Minh but luckily, it was not carried out in time.

Minh made the following accusations to the court: from beginning to end, Tuy and Hanh had sentenced nine people to death. They included K56, K63, K77, HK152, HK153, HK207 and K83. In June of 1981, Tuy ordered the death of HK121, also known as Nguyen Quang Vu, and HK125, also known as Thach Van Teng, by knocking them over the head while aboard a boat and throwing both into the sea after additionally shooting them. They were killed only because they were well-acquainted with Thach Kim Hoa, Tuy's lover.

What about Son Hang? What about Huynh Phuc Nam? And Nguyen Van Quy? Each spent a part of his life experiencing the mistakes of following the Tuy-Hanh gang as a lackey agent of the Chinese and Thai army intelligence. After returning to confess, surrender to the revolution and atone for their sins, each fact they presented to the court, to Mai Van Hanh and Tran Van Ba, and to their other colleagues standing before the bar gave testimony to their crimes of betrayal and espionage and increasingly exposed the true face of the enemy and increasingly bared the degrading inner feelings of a countryless, traitorous and anti-popular group that joined hands with the Chinese hegemonic expansionists and the Thai Army Intelligence Directorate to insanely resist and sabotage our country.

Their presence before the court as witnesses of the trial was eloquent proof in itself, verifying the series of documents and items of evidence exhibited in the case against Le Quoc Tuy, Mai Van Hanh, Tran Van Ba, Le Quoc Quan, Huynh Vinh Sanh and Ho Thai Bach who joined their colleagues to spy on and betray the fatherland; and strongly condemning the Chinese hegemonic expansionists and the Army Intelligence Directorate of Thailand who came forward to organize and nurture them.

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

NHAN DAN MARKS DIEN BIEN PHU VICTORY ANNIVERSARY

OW070831 Hanoi VNA in English 0709 GMT 7 May 85

[Text] Hanoi, 7 May (VNA)--"With great pride and new forces brought on by the historic Dien Bien Phu and the victories of spring 1975 and spring 1979, the Vietnamese people are putting all their energy in implementing the two strategic tasks of building and defending the socialist fatherland while carrying out their internationalist obligations toward fraternal Lao and Kampuchean peoples."

This came in an article in the daily NHAN DAN marking the 31st anniversary of the Dien Bien Phu victory today, 7 May.

NHAN DAN noted that "the anniversary of Dien Bien Phu comes at a time when the Vietnamese people throughout the country have just jubilantly celebrated the 10th anniversary of the complete victory of the anti-U.S. resistance war for national salvation and the world is commemorating the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitler fascism."

The article said that Dien Bien Phu was a further development of the Vietnamese tradition of heroic struggle and the culmination of nearly 25 years of revolutionary struggle under the leadership of President Ho Chi Minh and the Communist Party of Vietnam. It put a definitive end to the old-type colonialist regime in Vietnam, the paper added.

CSO: 4200/911

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

TRAN VAN GIANG ARTICLE ON PEOPLE'S NAVY

OW131347 Hanoi VNA in English 0723 GMT 13 May 85

[Article: "See VNA Supplement 30th Anniversary of the Vietnam People's Navy [VPN] (May 7, 1955)"]

[Text] [No dateline as received] [VNA introduction] Born 11 years after the founding of the first units of the revolutionary army of Vietnam, the people's navy, small and poorly equipped as it was, played a significant role in the defence of the socialist north in the first years after liberation from French occupation. But it was during the confrontation with the U.S. air and naval forces that the V.P.N. gave a full measure of the strength of people's war, particularly in the fight against the U.S. sea blockade (1972) and in the running of a secret supply route on the sea to the south--a saga little known to many, including Vietnamese.

Contents

--On Building People's Navy.

--In Celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Vietnam People's Navy.

--The Ho Chi Minh Trail on the Sea.

--Weekly Press Review. [end introduction]

"On Building a People's Navy: Excerpts From an Article Written for the Army Paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN on May 6, 1985 by Rear-Admiral Tran Van Giang"

In spite of a still poor economy and the heavy consequences of war, the Communist Party of Vietnam, right after the complete liberation of the north in 1954, decided to build the Vietnamese People's Navy as a component of the Vietnam People's Armed Forces for the defence of the north, the liberation of the south, and the reunification of the country.

Over the past 30 years, the Vietnamese navy, under the party's leadership, has surmounted many difficulties, hardships and trials, fought bravely and imaginatively and recorded glorious exploits.

Our country's territorial waters hold a very important position in both national defence and economic development since it lies on the sea route from the Pacific to the Indian Ocean. To defend our territorial waters, the navy must be built into a modern and ever better equipped revolutionary force with high combat readiness and determination to fight in defence of our sovereignty on the sea and defeat all enemy's schemes and acts of aggression from the sea. At the same time, it must actively participate in productive activities, in the exploitation of our maritime resources to contribute to national construction.

To build the navy into a regular and modern force in the conditions of a still under-developed economy and a young defence industry, it is necessary to firmly grasp the guiding principles of self-reliance, of combining economy with national defence and making the most of our strong points. The navy itself has to actively participate in the exploitation of our maritime resources, in the processing of seafoods, in transport and in ship repairs according to state plans in order to accumulate funds and gradually build itself into a modern navy.

We must fully grasp and apply the viewpoint on the all-people national defence and people's war, in order to build and train our coastal guard naval units and ground militia units along the coast, on the islands, in the air, on each sea zone, which will be a basis for us to conduct an effective people's war for national defence on the sea.

On the basis of a rational structure and equipment, the navy must attach importance to raising the political awareness as well as fighting capacity of its men in order to create an efficacious strike force which need not to be big numerically but must be formed by well-trained units. At the same time, we have to pay much greater attention to solving problems of military science for a naval force, especially the relationship between man and weapons, between simple and modern weapons, between building and fighting and between quantity and quality, in the light of the practical conditions of our sea.

CSO: 4200/926

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

'HO CHI MINH TRAIL ON THE SEA' DESCRIBED

OW131313 Hanoi VNA in English 0748 GMT 13 May 85

[Article: "The Ho Chi Minh Trail on the Sea"]

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 13--The supply route of the Vietnam People's Army from north to south running all the length of the Truong Son Range between Vietnam and Laos was known to millions in the world as "the Ho Chi Minh Trail," a word coined by the aggressors themselves. But nothing or little has been known about another strategic route that also made a significant contribution to Vietnam's victory. It was the secret route to the south dubbed "Ho Chi Minh Trail on the Sea," this time by the resistance forces themselves.

After Dien Bien Phu in May 1954, the French were made to withdraw from the three Indochinese countries. Capitalizing on the Geneva Agreement which temporarily divided Vietnam into two zones, the United States took hold of South Vietnam and assisted its (?policemen) to repress the patriotic forces in order to perpetuate the partition and turn South Vietnam into a military base and neo colony of the U.S. Bloody massacres of former resistance workers followed. In these hard years, however, the people and revolutionaries in the south did not lose faith in the ultimate victory and kept their undying loyalty to the communist party headquartered in the north. From the southernmost part of the country, five vessels sailed northwards. Braving a (?rough) sea and privations of all kinds, they slipped through the enemy's tight security, and eventually reached a northern harbour. That successful voyage inaugurated a secret supply sea route from the north to the south, embryo of the future "Ho Chi Minh Trail on the Sea."

The resolutions of the Party Central Committee's 15th Plenum (January 1959) and the Political Bureau's meeting (May 1959) decided to open strategic supply routes to back the revolutionary struggle in the south... Only two months after sappers of Engineering Unit 559 (May 1959) began felling trees to open the Truong Son Trail, the first north-south fleet codenamed 759 (July 1959), predecessor of the present M.25 unit of the Vietnam navy, was founded. The two strategic supply routes, both named after President Ho Chi Minh and running parallel to each other, were like two arms of the north stretching out to embrace and defend the south.

The "Ho Chi Minh Trail on the Sea" was officially inaugurated in winter 1961. During the first years, the transportation of weapons and other supplies was

undertaken by small motorised wooden boats. These were poorly-equipped vessels with a freight capacity of from five to ten tonnes. Each lone boat would set out to sea without any guide but an old-type compass. The first voyages were full of risks and dangers since the boats had to weather frequent storms and to dodge the enemy's radar and patrol ships. There were no fixed time-table nor printed charts but only a map of destinations scattered along the southern coast. These first shipments of weapons, however, were very instrumental in enabling the revolutionary forces in the south to launch devastating attacks on the enemy, notably at Binh Gia in the southern coastal province of Ba Ria which stunned the U.S. aggressors and their stooges.

But the route was soon detected by the enemy. They increased the patrol of South Vietnam's sea area while intensifying espionage activities against the movement of unit 759. In not a few cases, the boats were surrounded and the sailors used diversionary moves to escape and reach their destinations. On other occasions when they had to fight, they fought till the last man and would rather sink their vessels and die than fall into enemy hands.

From 1969 onwards, fighting became more frequent. Unit M.25 grew rapidly and was better equipped. Steel boats, each with a freight capacity of from 80-100 tonnes, were added to the fleet.

Realizing the serious threat, the U.S. and Saigon increased their patrol and installed a radar system all along the southern coast with a radius of action extending to 20 nautical miles. The main sea lanes on the East Sea such as Bangkok-Saigon, Philippines-Saigon and Indonesia-Saigon were closely monitored by up-to-date electronic equipment. Ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet patrolled the adjacent areas of South Vietnam's territorial waters in coordination with major raids launched by the Saigon navy and surveillance by U.S. aircraft, all with a view to putting the supply route out of action.

Unit M.25 promptly introduced new modes of operation to cope with the new measures of the enemy. When the enemy blocked the coastal route, boats of the unit took wider berth. When the enemy blocked the deep sea route, they sent farther from the shore, even using international sea lanes, then approaching the shore by circuitous ways around the islands. When the enemy finally blockaded all infiltration routes, the liberation army fleets organized relay stations and set out to sea in the most unexpected moments, often disguised as fishing or merchant vessels. Many new routes were opened at different degrees or longitude and many new clandestine ports and depots were built. Diversionary measures were introduced to confuse the enemy and take the war supplies to destination in safety.

Weapons and other supplies were not only safely delivered to resistance bases along central Vietnam's coast but also shipped to the liberation-forces right in Saigon Port and the Ca Mau Point on the southernmost tip of South Vietnam. These consignments enabled the revolutionary forces in the coastal areas and part of the Mekong River Delta to maintain their combat strength and take part in many major attacks and military campaigns.

In the historic Ho Chi Minh military campaigns in spring 1975, unit M.25 mobilized all its ships to transport tens of thousands of tonnes of weapons and

other war means and tens of thousands of soldiers to the southern battlefields. In their pursuit of the fleeing Saigon troops, the sailors assumed both tasks at the same time, transporting supplies to the liberation army and engaging the enemy when necessary. A section of the fleet arrived in time at the Bach Dang Wharf on April 30, 1975 to capture the headquarters of the Saigon navy while other ships joined the air and ground forces of the revolutionary army to liberate many off-shore islands such as the Truong Sa Archipelago, the islands of Thu and Phu Quoc in the southwestern waters.

In 16 years (1959-75), unit M.25 of the people's navy transported more than 160,000 tonnes of weapons, fought more than 300 battles against enemy vessels and 1,200 battles against enemy aircraft, removed or deactivated more than 400 sea mines dropped by the enemy, sank or damaged 10 enemy ships, shot down five U.S. aircraft and wiped out hundreds of Saigon puppet troops.

With these achievements, unit M.25 has been twice awarded the title of "Hero Unit" of the liberation army, and 311 medals and other distinctions have been conferred on its officers and sailors. Three vessels and five individuals of the unit have received the title of "Hero of the Armed Forces."

CSO: 4200/926

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL MARKS NAVY ANNIVERSARY

BK081438 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 May 85

[NHAN DAN 7 May editorial: "Heroic Vietnam People's Navy"]

[Text] Today, the Vietnam People's Navy [VPN] is 30 years old. The 30 years of construction and combat undergone by our navy form one of the glorious pages of history of our army. These 30 years have been an extremely difficult and hard period. Nevertheless, developing our forefathers' tradition of fighting the enemy in rivers and at sea and being led and educated by Uncle Ho and the party, the VPN has scored great armed exploits and become one of the heroic armed services of our heroic armed forces.

During the anti-U.S. resistance for national salvation, our navy fought with courage and resourcefulness, bravely confronting a first-rate naval power of the world. In coordination with the anti-aircraft force and the militia and self-defense units of many localities, the VPN sunk, damaged, or set afire many enemy warships and gunboats, downed hundreds of enemy aircraft with its deadly fire power, and destroyed large quantities of war material and a sizable vital force of the enemy.

Our people's navy cleared our sea routes and rivers of thousands of mines and bombs dropped by the enemy, ensuring safe riverine and maritime transportation and foiling the enemy's blockade of our ports and territorial waters. The VPN victoriously defended the sea area and islands in the north and contributed to the northern armed forces' and people's resounding victories over the two drives of the U.S. air and naval war of destruction.

Another legendary feat of our people's navy that has gone down in our national history as a brilliant armed exploit is that it blazed the Ho Chi Minh Trail on the sea to transport arms, ammunition, food, medicines, cadres, and men to the south. The Ho Chi Minh Trail on the sea will forever be a symbol of Vietnam's revolutionary heroism and of our navy's wonderful courage, ironlike determination, dynamism, and creativeness. Thousands of navy sappers--Yet Kieus [legendary naval officer in Vietnamese history] of the Ho Chi Minh era--with the people's protection and assistance, recorded resounding armed exploits at Ham Luong, Saigon, Danang, and Cua Viet. During the 1975 spring general offensive and uprising, the navy, fighting in coordination with the units of the 5th, 8th, and 9th Military Regions, liberated a series of islands from the east

to the south and the southwest, contributing to the total victory of the anti-U.S. resistance for national salvation.

Since 1975, our people's navy, always standing ready for combat, has day and night defended the fatherland's territorial waters and islands, safeguarded national resources, protected production activities, and appropriately countered all acts of provocation and encirclement by the enemy, thereby firmly ensuring our sovereignty over territorial waters and islands. Our people's navy, fighting in coordination with the fraternal Cambodian revolutionary armed forces, contributed to completely liberating Cambodia's coastal provinces from the genocidal scourge and totally destroying the naval force of the Pol Pot clique--henchmen of the Beijing reactionaries--thus fulfilling its glorious internationalist duty.

While fighting and standing ready for combat, our people's navy has been contributing to economic construction by engaging in sea fishery, repairing domestic and foreign ships, producing building materials, stepping up food production, and so forth.

Our people's navy is worthy of the praise given by Comrade Truong Chinh, member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of State: Over the past 30 years of construction while fighting and standing ready to fight, the VPN--upholding revolutionary heroism, overcoming all sacrifices and hardships, and displaying valor, creativeness, positiveness, and industriousness--has recorded many glorious exploits, thus contributing worthily to national liberation as well as to national construction and defense and fulfilling its internationalist duty. It has developed a fine tradition of valiant, resourceful, and creative combat and of determination to fight and win in defense of our territorial waters. It is worthy of being a heroic people's naval force of the SRV's heroic armed forces.

Today, all our party and people send their warm loving feelings, admiration, and gratitude to cadres and combatants of the heroic people's navy--the valiant sons of the nation who have, in defiance of towering waves and violent gales, of the modern fleets of hostile forces, and of a myriad of difficulties and hardships, always firmly defended the fatherland's territorial waters and islands.

Our country's territorial waters hold a very important strategic position. To master it, exploit its resources, and defend it together with all the fatherland's islands is a sacred task of vital significance to our nation and to our present and future generations. Our enemy is harboring many wicked designs and undertaking very sinister acts against our territorial waters. The multifaceted cooperation among the warlike, expansionist, and militarist forces in the Pacific constantly reminds us not to relax our vigilance for even a moment.

Fully aware of the situation and of their heavy responsibility, cadres, combatants, workers, and other personnel of the VPA should develop their glorious tradition and outstanding exploits, constantly strive to master the use of ever more modern equipment and technology, and enhance their fighting strength in order to firmly defend our fatherland's territorial waters.

On the occasion of this glorious anniversary, our people and their beloved navy jointly pledge to fulfill the instruction and last wish of great Uncle Ho: Our country's coastline is long and beautiful. We must know how to defend it.

CSO: 4209/389

VIETNAM MARKS FOUNDING OF PEOPLE'S NAVY

OW131401 Hanoi VNA in English 0734 GMT 13 May 85

[Article: "In Celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Vietnamese People's Navy"]

[Text] [no dateline as received]--May 7, 1955 when the first coastal defence unit was set up has been made the founding date of the Vietnam People's Navy [VPN].

Right after its founding, the coastal defence force, though poorly equipped and having little experience in naval battles, upholding the tradition of a revolutionary army and wholeheartedly supported by the people, have quickly destroyed many bands of sea pirates, effectively countered the enemy's plan of forcing people from Northern Vietnam to go south after the signing of the Geneva Agreement in 1954, and contributed to maintaining political security and social order and ensuring safety for fishermen on the sea.

During the anti-U.S. resistance war, the young Vietnam People's Navy, though much inferior to the enemy in both quantity and equipment, bravely fought against the modern air and naval forces of the United States.

On August 2, 1964, the V.P.N. drove away the U.S. destroyer "Maddox" when it encroached upon North Vietnam's waters and shot down a U.S. plane. On August 5, 1964, when the U.S. launched a large-scale and surprise air attack on North Vietnam's defence installations and civilian targets, the V.P.N., in close cooperation with other armed forces, shot down eight jet planes, damaged many others and captured many U.S. pilots.

Inspired by these initial victories, the V.P.N. courageously fought back against U.S. aircraft and warships during their war of destruction against North Vietnam. In 716 battles it shot down 118 jet planes, and shot ablaze or damaged 45 U.S. warships including missile-carrying destroyers, the battleship "New Jersey" and the cruiser "Camberra."

When the U.S. started its blockade of North Vietnamese harbours the V.P.N. underwent very trying days, coping with intensified air attacks and a large-scale mine laying operation of the enemy. U.S. planes dropped 60,000 mines on 655 square metres of North Vietnamese sea and water ways, both near the coast and deep inland. They resorted to many perfidious manoeuvres, combining air

raids with mine dropping, dropping mines in all weather, by day and by night, intercalating real with fake mines, concentrating on the main waterways. At the same time, U.S. aircraft conducted an almost round-the-clock surveillance over the sea to prevent Vietnam's mine sweeping operations.

The fight against the U.S. blockade was actually an all-round test to the Vietnam People's Navy, its will and its strength both in the material and technological fields. In cooperation with other forces of the Vietnam People's Army, it has defied all dangers and hardships to deactivate or destroy the major part of the mines and bombs dropped by the enemy to ensure smooth traffic on the principal waterways.

It has devised many original means and very intelligent methods to defeat every new move of the enemy in their blockade. It has made 1,879 trips covering more than 1.7 million nautical miles to transport some 153,000 tons of weapons, enough to equip 80,000 combatants, fought 300 battles against the U.S. air force, deactivated 4,000 sea mines, shot down or damaged 10 enemy ships and five enemy planes, killed hundreds of enemy troops, and rode out more than 20 big storms.

Joining the liberation armed forces and people in the south in the fight against the U.S. imperialists, the special force of the V.P.N. adopted very creative and effective methods of fighting. At the Cua Viet Port in the then enemy-occupied Quang Tri Province, it sank 339 U.S. and Saigon warships and damaged 32 others including a 15,000 tonner.

In the general offensive and uprising of spring 1975, the VPN either fighting on its own or in coordination with other forces largely contributed to the liberation of the land territory as well as offshore islands of the motherland. One of its units crossed some 500 nautical miles in stormy weather to attack the enemy stationed on the Truong Sa Archipelago and captured all the enemy forces together with their weapons.

The V.P.N. also played the crucial role in taking over and reactivating all the ships, ports and other technical facilities abandoned by the Saigon navy.

Implementing its international obligation the VPN gave timely assistance to the Kampuchean Revolutionary Army in making short work [as received] of the Polpotist Navy and liberating Kompong Som Port, Koh Kong Province and all offshore islands of Kampuchea, while sending its force to take part in the fight to liberate Phnom Penh. Later, the VPN has helped Kampuchea and Laos to build their own naval forces. At the same time, it has enhanced its friendship, militant solidarity and all-round cooperation with the navy of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

In the defence against the Chinese aggressors, the V.P.N. has since 1979 sunk a Chinese ship and captured many others disguised as fishing boats to enter Vietnamese waters for reconnaissance purposes.

Thirty two units and 22 individuals of the Vietnam People's Navy have been conferred the title of "Hero of the Armed Forces."

JPRS-SEA-85-085
31 May 1985

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

NAVY COMMANDER MARKS 30TH FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY

BK091013 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 6 May 85

[Statement by Vice Admiral Giap Van Cuong, commander of the SRV Navy on its 30th founding anniversary--recorded, date not given]

[Text] On 7 May 1955, the party and state decided to establish the navy to defend the northern coast and territorial waters, thereby contributing to carrying out the two strategic tasks.

During the struggle against the U.S. war of destruction to protect the north, the SRV Navy accomplished many military exploits in shooting down aircraft and sinking warships, thereby blocking the enemy's riverine and sea communications' lines. In its counterattack against U.S. aircraft, the navy closely coordinated with other forces, fought staunchly, and scored victory in its first battle on 5 August 1964, shooting down a U.S. aircraft and capturing its pilot. Subsequently, the navy shot down 118 aircraft of various types, thereby contributing significantly to defending key positions in the north.

In its counterattack against U.S. and the puppet regime's warships, the navy bravely chased the destroyer "U.S.S. Maddox" out of Vietnamese territorial waters on 2 August 1964. Using its ships and applying various attacking methods, the navy, together with the VPA, sank and destroyed many U.S. warships, including the cruiser "U.S.S. New Jersey," the destroyer "U.S.S. Washington," and the nuclear-powered cruiser "U.S.S. Canberra."

In its struggle against the U.S. torpedo blockade, the navy, localities, and other forces carried out activities in many parts of our sea and rivers; and studied and invented tools and methods to destroy torpedos, thereby neutralizing thousands of torpedos, contributing to foiling the enemy's strategic measures, and ensuring thoroughly safe communications by sea routes.

In the case of liberating South Vietnam, the navy used the Ho Chi Minh Sea Trail, transporting tens of thousands of metric tons of weapons, ammunition, and war material from the fifth zone to Nam Bo, especially in areas where the land trail was inaccessible. These weapons and this ammunition were supplied to various fierce fighting areas, thereby contributing to various important victories and offensives during the war years.

On the sea and rivers in South Vietnam, the navy, especially its sapper units, creatively launched many unique attacks and scored high results. The navy trained thousands of naval officers and sapper personnel for battlefields throughout South Vietnam. These officers and personnel sank and destroyed 7,473 ships of the U.S. and the puppet regime's navies. The 1-26 Naval Sapper Group, during its 7 years operation in the Dong Ha Sea, sank and destroyed 336 ships of various types, including a 15,000-metric oil tanker.

During the great 1975 spring victory, the navy, together with forces of the 5th Military Region, attacked, eliminated the enemy, and liberated the Truong Sa archipelago in the South China Sea, 500 to 600 km from the mainland. The navy, together with forces of the 9th Military Region, liberated the fatherland's southwestern archipelago. After the unification of the country, the navy, in defense of the fatherland's southwestern sea, together with VPA forces, foiled all schemes of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique, henchmen of Beijing. The navy afterward joined the forces of the Cambodian people and their army in liberating Phnom Penh, Kompong Som port, islands, and coastal provinces of Cambodia, thereby fulfilling its internationalist obligations.

In almost one-third of a century of building and fighting, the Vietnamese People's Navy has successfully established a glorious tradition, fought bravely, and worked creatively, thereby mastering the fatherland's territorial waters. The navy is determined to fight and to win and has been honored with the noble Ho Chi Minh Order. It has fostered many units and heroes of the Armed Forces, two units of which were twice commended heroic units. In particular, the 1st Naval Sapper Group was three times commended a heroic unit.

Our country's territorial waters and islands are sacred and inviolable parts of our fatherland. They have been attached to our nation's existence and development generation after generation. At present, our fatherland has 1 million square kilometers of territorial waters, a 3,260-km coast, thousands of small and large islands, and a rich and beautiful continental shelf.

There are abundant natural resources in our country's sea and continental shelf, including oil and natural gas. Our sea and continental shelf are a source of life and a very great potential ensuring prosperity for our country and a happy life for our people. To become masters and protect and exploit natural resources of our sea are tasks of our entire party, people, and the Armed Forces. These tasks can be achieved only by relying on the combined strengths of the whole country, the central and local sea economic sectors, and the People's Armed Forces--various military regions and armed branches and services with the navy as a key force. For this reason, we must build the navy in a revolutionary manner, strengthen its standardization, and improve its modernization. The navy must always be combat ready resolve to defend the sovereignty of the territorial waters, and foil all schemes and acts of the aggressive enemies from the sea, while enthusiastically participating in labor productivity, thereby contributing to exploiting the sea's natural resources, building the country, and fulfilling internationalist obligations.

To become master and firmly defend the fatherland's territorial waters, continental shelf, and islands are very heavy tasks for the SRV Navy. To fulfill these glorious tasks, the Vietnamese People's Navy must firmly and profoundly

grasp the party's revolutionary and political lines and clearly understand its tasks in the new revolutionary stage. It must heighten vigilance, remain combat ready, resolve to defend the territorial waters and islands firmly, strive to strengthen standardization and improve modernization, positively carry out sea economic activities, urgently improve the quality of various armed branches, increase the fighting strength of armed units by vigorously accelerating the movement to develop the fine characters and increase the fighting strength, positively participate in labor productivity, practice thrift, and develop the spirit of self-reliance to build a firm, strong navy.

In commemorating its 30th founding anniversary, the Vietnamese People's Navy fully realizes that its victories have relied chiefly on the party's correct and clear-sighted leadership and the attention and care of President Ho Chi Minh, esteemed party General Secretary Le Duan, and the national defense minister. Officers and combatants of the navy are very proud of and grateful for this kind concern. The navy is grateful to the people, especially those of the coastal regions and islands and particularly those of Haiphong municipality. It is grateful to various party organizations, military regions, and armed branches and services for creating favorable conditions for the navy to strengthen its capability to fight and to win. It is grateful to various fallen heroes for their sacrifice for the revolution and for the navy to become master of the sea. It is grateful to the great and effective assistance of the Soviet Union, fraternal socialist countries, and other friendly nations.

Developing the fighting tradition of our forefathers, who sank many aggressors' ships in the Bach Dang, Ham Tu, Rach Gam, and Soai Mut battles; applying experiences drawn during the 30 years of construction and combating, and assisted by friendly nations, the People's Navy is determined to fulfill triumphantly all assigned tasks and to be worthy of the party's and people's confidence.

CSO: 4209/389

31 May 1985

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

RADIO 'ARTICLE' MARKS NAVY'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

BK081124 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 7 May 85

[Unattributed "article" marking 30th founding anniversary of Vietnam People's Navy]

[Text] Thirty years since its establishment, the Vietnam People's Navy [VPN] has been successfully defending the country's territorial waters. One year after the Dien Bien Phu victory, on 7 May 1955, the Vietnamese Navy came into being with a property of 20 canoes, more than 30 sailboats, and 2 flotillas with a total crew of 174 men. That was the embryo of the naval forces of today.

In the past 30 years, [words indistinct]. That was the U.S. Navy and the lackeys trained and armed by them. Then the Chinese Navy has been constantly intruded into Vietnamese territorial waters with provocative actions. Prevailing herself throughout these confrontations, the Vietnamese Navy on 6 August 1964, the first battle against the U.S. war of destruction in North Vietnam was fought by the navy. [sentence as heard] In 8 consecutive years, Vietnamese naval vessels involved in 716 battles, shot down 188 U.S. planes, sank and damaged 353 enemy ships including cruisers, torpedo boats, and missile-carrying destroyers.

For the enemy, the most feared force of the VPN was the naval commandos. Take an example: On 8 August 1969, the U.S. cargo ship "(Noshiubi)" with a tonnage of 15,000 was sunk at Cua Viet Harbor. A conventional naval attack against that ship would require dozens of warships and a great quantity of ammunition and casualties would be unavoidable. But involved in that battle were only three frogmen and a few hundred kilograms of explosives. That huge U.S. oil tanker was exploded and slowly sank and hundreds of panic-stricken and hapless crews on board a horde of patrol boats around and the three frogmen of the VPN returned to their base safe and sound. [sentence as heard]

In the 20 years of the anti-U.S. resistance war, together with the Ho Chi Minh Trail along the Truong Son Range, the Ho Chi Minh Trail on the sea also successfully fulfilled its task of transporting weapons, food, and soldiers from the northern rear to the southern front. In spite of more than 60,000 mines laid by U.S. warships and aircraft at river mouths and along the northern coast, Vietnamese cargo ships staunchly cruised to South Vietnam's sea

lanes, transporting 260,000 tons of goods to the South. In the Spring 1975 general offensive and uprising, warships of the VPN directly involved in the liberation of 16 offshore islands, including the islands in the Truong Sa archipelago.

Now, confronting Beijing's sinister designs, the VPN is sharpening its vigilance, determined to defeat the enemy in any circumstances to defend their territorial waters.

CSO: 4200/911

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

316TH DIVISION RECEIVES HO CHI MINH ORDER

BK110320 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] Amidst the atmosphere of enthusiasm in greeting the major anniversaries in 1985 and their traditional day, the officers and soldiers of the 316th Division recently held a solemn ceremony to receive the Ho Chi Minh Order, the noble award of the party and state.

Delegated by the military council of the Defense Ministry, the colonel general commanding the 2d Military Region solemnly pinned the Ho Chi Minh Order on the division's determined-to-win banner.

On behalf of the military council of the 2d Military Region, the colonel general warmly commended the 316th Division for having outstandingly fulfilled its tasks as a regular mobile unit and for building its very glorious traditions of resolute and positive revolutionary spirit in preserving national unity and army-people and international solidarity. He also commended the division's members for their modesty, loyalty, fortitude, and stamina to endure hardship, perseverance, and creativity. He repeatedly urged the officers and soldiers to develop the heroic traditions of the army as a whole and of the division in particular.

Also on this occasion, the major general commanding the R2 group solemnly awarded the Defense Ministry's rotational banner--reserved for the outstanding units under the emulation movement to enhance the fine nature and combat strength of armed forces--to the division. This is the third year in a row since 1982 that the 316th Division has received the rotational banner, firmly maintaining its tradition of being the leading unit in the competition among units of the R2 Infantry Division Group.

CSO: 4209/389

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN ON BONN SUMMIT CONTRADICTIONS, DIVISION

OW070833 Hanoi VNA in English 0713 GMT 7 May 85

[Text] Hanoi, 7 May (VNA)--Never before in the past ten years have the seven leading capitalist countries met with such contradictions and deep division as they did at this year's Bonn Summit, notes NHAN DAN in a commentary today.

The Vietnamese national daily remarks that sharp contradictions arose at a time when the United States was badly needing "Western solidarity"--be it on the surface--to bargain with the Soviet Union in the current as well as future negotiations.

The most glaring political setback of the summit was that the six other countries did not approve the United States' views and policy concerning its strategic defense initiative (SDI), the paper says.

Another political failure of the United States, NHAN DAN says, is that these countries did not support Washington's economic embargo on Nicaragua. The United States' isolation on this "issue" became starkly clear when Western countries--as the foreign minister of the Federal Republic of Germany said in Bonn--declared that they would not join the U.S. in the embargo on Nicaragua and would continue dialogue with Central American countries, it says. Economically, the paper says, after eleven summits, Western countries still have not overcome contradictions and difficulties resulting from the general crisis of capitalism.

On the contrary, these contradictions have become ever more acute, foreshadowing serious economic crises in the future, NHAN DAN concludes.

CSO: 4200/911

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SOVIET AMBASSADOR SPEAKS AT V-DAY BANQUET

OW091125 Hanoi VNA in English 0725 GMT 9 May 85

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Hanoi, 9 May (VNA)--Following are excerpts from the speech delivered by Soviet Ambassador B. N. Chaplin at a banquet here yesterday evening in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism:

"The people and armed forces of the Soviet Union who have won victory in the fight for national salvation are today, under the leadership of the Communist Party, doing their all to safeguard the independence and freedom of their socialist fatherland and defend the gains of the great October revolution. They have made decisive contributions to liberating European countries from the fascists and saving the civilization of the world, successfully discharging their national and international obligations.

"Nations in the world are celebrating the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism in the context of a dangerous situation caused by the United States' and Nato's policy to break the military strategic balance and to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union and the entire Warsaw Treaty Organization. But all attempts to gain world hegemony and to impose one's will on other countries, including the Soviet Union, are completely absurd and dangerous to all nations.

"Today, 40 years after the great victory, we have seen even more clearly the lessons of the word, the most important of which is the need to fight against war before it breaks out.

"Mindful of the extremely high price they had to pay for the victory over Nazism, the Communist Party and Government of the Soviet Union hold that main aspect of the Soviet foreign policy is to prevent a new war, a nuclear holocaust.

The peaceful foreign policy of the Soviet Union, Vietnam and other socialist countries and their peaceful and constructive proposals are receiving warm welcome across the world. We firmly believe that with our joint efforts we will defeat all sinister forces of aggression and brutality and will not allow the imperialists and their henchmen to kindle the flame of new world conflagration."

JPRS-SEA-85-085
31 May 1985

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SOVIET ENVOY, TO HUU ADDRESS VICTORY DAY BANQUET

OW120957 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] Today's papers report that Soviet Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to our country Chaplin and his wife hosted a banquet on the evening of 8 May on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism. Chairman Truong Chinh and many comrade party and state leaders attended the banquet.

In his address, Ambassador Chaplin said: The UN decision declaring 8 and 9 May 1985 days marking the 40th anniversary of the victory over Nazism and fascism has met the aspiration of the world's democratic public opinion. The past many centuries in the history of mankind has witnessed so many wars, but no war can be compared with World War II. That war caused the deaths of 50 million people. The war imposed on the Soviet Union claimed the lives of 20 million sons and daughters of our country.

In his speech, Comrade Chaplin praised the 10th anniversary of the total liberation of South Vietnam. He said: Vietnam's historic victories are great contributions to the common struggle against imperialism (?and for national independence). Those victories prove the invincible strength of the Marxist-Leninist ideology, the indomitable strength of a people who waged a just struggle for their own liberation, and the strength of socialist internationalism.

Ending his speech, Ambassador Chaplin wished the Vietnamese people many achievements in implementing the resolutions of the Fifth Party Congress in building Socialist Vietnam into a strong and prosperous country, a solid outpost for peace and socialism in the Southeast Asian region.

In his reply speech, Comrade To Huu said: Amid the jubilant atmosphere of a great festive day, we are gathered here today to solemnly celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's historic victory in their great 1941-45 war for national defense. That victory made a decisive contribution to smashing fascism to save human civilization from annihilation.

On behalf of the CPV Central Committee, the Council of State, the Council of Ministers, and the entire people and armed forces of Vietnam, I warmly welcome the comrade ambassador and the other Soviet comrades present here, and through them, we convey to the party, government, and people of the Soviet Union and the fraternal Soviet Armed Forces our finest and warmest greetings.

The Vietnamese people always keep in mind that had it not been for the October Revolution and the Soviet Union's victory in the war against the German fascists and Japanese militarists, there could not have been the August Revolution and a new Vietnam. In that sense, the August Revolution and the birth of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the first worker-peasant state in Southeast Asia, is one of the direct results of the victory in the anti-fascist struggle and at the same time, an important factor that contributed to promoting that great victory.

In conclusion, Comrade To Huu said: Built on the firm basis of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, the unshakeable friendship between the two peoples of Vietnam and the Soviet Union is developing extremely better, and is a factor of paramount importance in guaranteeing victory for the Vietnamese revolution. The 1978 Vietnam-USSR treaty of friendship and cooperation is a new developmental step in the military solidarity and all-round cooperation between our two countries. The regular summits, filled with the spirit of solidarity and fraternity, between the comrade leaders of the two parties and states are a great, new source of strength that spurs the cooperation between our two countries.

In the jubilant atmosphere of the glorious anniversary, Ambassador Chaplin, Chairman Truong Chinh, Comrade To Huu, and all those present toasted the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism and the ever-steadfast militant solidarity, great friendship, and all-round cooperation between the two peoples of Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

CSO: 4209/389

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SOVIET AMBASSADOR'S ARTICLE ON DEFEAT OF FASCISM

BK101427 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2220 GMT 11 May 85

[From the review of NHAN DAN for May]

[Text] On the occasion of the historic 40th anniversary of victory over fascism, NHAN DAN today introduces to Vietnamese readers the article "40 Years of Great Victories" by Comrade Chaplin, Soviet ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the SRV.

In his article, he pointed out: The Soviet and Vietnamese peoples, all other socialist countries, and all those on earth who love peace and progress, are commemorating the 40th anniversary of the great victory in the war against German fascism and Japanese militarism. He asserted that the armed exploits of the Soviet people, who bore the brunt in the struggle against fascism, are great and eternal.

After clearly pointing out the NATO leaders' attempts to underplay the significance of this great victorious event, Comrade Chaplin emphasized the great sacrifices endured by the Soviet people to save mankind from the disaster caused by the Hitlerite fascists.

These sacrifices reversed the world situation to the advantage of the forces of peace and progress. He also mentioned the great contributions of the Asian, African, and Latin American nations to the victory over fascism and Japanese militarism, including the Vietnamese people's great contributions.

In the present world situation, the warlike imperialist forces still nurture many great ambitions. They have arrogantly launched a crusade against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, threatening world peace. Faced with such a situation, it is necessary to strengthen the militant solidarity among the fraternal socialist countries, especially Soviet-Vietnamese friendship. This is a priceless asset.

Finally, he concluded: The peace-loving foreign policy of the Soviet Union, Vietnam, and other socialist countries, and their specific and constructive peace initiatives have always received the eager support of countries around the world. Among the vanguard ranks of the peace fighters are the children of those who laid down their lives to save life on earth.

We are firmly convinced that with common effort, we will defeat the dark forces of violence and aggression. We will not allow the imperialists and their henchmen to rekindle the flames of war.

CSSR AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENT ON 40TH NATIONAL DAY

BK120606 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 9 May 85

[Statement by Bohuslav Handl, CSSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the SRV, on the occasion of the CSSR 40th national day 9 May--recorded in Czech fading into Vietnamese translation]

[Summary] "Dear comrades and friends: I am deeply honored to have the opportunity to address you on the day the Czechoslovak people mark the most momentous event in their modern history and when nations throughout the world are celebrating the anniversary of the Soviet Union's victory over Hitlerite fascism."

Forty years ago today, the heroic Soviet army entered Prague to assist the people in the capital in rising up to oppose the fascist aggressors and liberate the city. With this campaign, the Soviet army completely liberated our country and ended the war in Europe. The date 9 May 1945 has thus become the beginning of a new era in the life of our people of various nationalities. Immediately after liberation, the Czechoslovak people enthusiastically began to build the basis for a people's democratic state. "Under the leadership of the Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ], they have continued to bring into play the revolutionary gains already recorded. In February 1948, our people liquidated the reactionaries inside the country and began to implement the program of the Ninth CPCZ Congress--a program for building the bases of socialism. Our people decided to follow forever the Soviet Union in the solid bloc of unity with other countries that was shaping up in the socialist community."

Over the past 40 years, we have carried out far-reaching revolutionary transformations. We have industrialized the country, successfully built large-scale socialist agriculture, raised the people's living standards, and overcome economic and cultural backwardness in some areas of our country. In solving the complex problems of the building of a new society, we have proceeded from the Marxist-Leninist doctrine and relied on the Soviet Union's selfless and comprehensive assistance and experiences.

"We highly appreciate the new concrete proposals for peace filled with goodwill put forth by Comrade CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Gorbachev." Once again the Soviet Union has clearly shown its will to contribute to achieving a reasonable solution to mankind's most important issues.

"Our two fraternal countries--Czechoslovakia and Vietnam--hold identical views on all these issues. This is because we stand on the same front, share similar objectives and ideals, and have common friends and enemies.

"Early this year, we solemnly commemorated the 35th anniversary of the establishment of our diplomatic relations and the 5th anniversary of the signing of our treaty of friendship and cooperation, a document bearing the signatures of the two highest leaders of our two fraternal parties and countries: Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the CPV, and Comrade Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ and president of the CSSR. We note with joy that the past 5 years can be rated as a period of development of relations of higher quality and that our relations of cooperation are developing in all domains and at all levels of social life in our two countries. What captures our utmost attention is the planned cooperation currently developing in the economic, scientific, and technical fields. In Czechoslovakia, young Vietnamese men and women are studying and improving their skills.

"As in the past, at present the Czechoslovak party and people always stand by the side of their Vietnamese brothers in their heroic struggle against all enemies and their hostile activities. We highly value the thoroughly anti-imperialist and pacifist policy of the SRV and its contributions to the cause of socialism, independence, and peace. We fully support the militant solidarity and fraternal friendship among the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia and their efforts to bring about and consolidate peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

"Dear comrades and friends, on the occasion of this solemn anniversary, on behalf of the Czechoslovak people, I would like to extend to you our congratulations on the 10th anniversary of the complete liberation of the south and wish you many successes in implementing the resolution of the Fifth Party Congress and in building the socialist society and consolidating national defense in your beautiful country.

"Long live the friendship between the peoples of Czechoslovakia and Vietnam!"

CSO: 4209/389

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SRV POET COMMEMORATES VE-DAY ANNIVERSARY

OW121104 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] Dear friends: On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism, Poet Huy Can [Cu Huy Can] has composed a poem entitled, "40 Years Later, Remember, Don't Forget," respectfully dedicated to the Soviet people.

Following are some of the poet's thoughts about the poem. He said: [Begin Huy Can recording] Dear listeners, 40 years ago to the day, on 9 May 1945, the Soviet Union defeated Hitlerite fascism in Europe and, later, in August 1945, defeated the Japanese militarists in the East.

The meritorious service of the Soviet Union, its people, and its armed forces for mankind is immeasurable. The Soviet Union has saved all nations, the whole of mankind, from the catastrophe of living under barbarian and ruthless fascist rule. Yet, there are some people in the world who want to forget that meritorious service; still others, who owe their national liberation to the Soviet Union, have now forgotten their benefactor's deeds and, sometimes, even want to show their hostilities toward the Soviet Union.

Anger, and indignation over that ingratitude, has prompted me to compose the poem, "Forty Years Later, Remember, Don't Forget." I think we must voice aloud the Soviet Union's meritorious service and our gratitude toward the Soviet Union, toward socialism in the native land of Lenin, toward the great Soviet Union, the pillar for peace, the pillar for socialism, the pillar for the world revolution.

The poem, written a few weeks ago to mark the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism, is respectfully dedicated to the United of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The poem reads as follows:

Forty years later,
Who already forgets? Who still remembers?
How can we forget that period of great war destruction and ruthless killings?
How can we forget the smoke from the crematoria billowing,
And forming black swastikas in the sky?
Forty years later,
Who already forgets, who still remembers
The Red Army soldier?

A star on his cap glistening,
And his feet numb from biting snow, he kept firing
At the enemy, to kill off the Nazi devils and save mankind.
Forty years later, don't be narrow of mind.
If brotherhood does not exist in life,
And if comradeship is absent in human dealings,
Then darkness and ruin is all that is left for the earthlings.
Forty years later, we have entered outer space,
With Gagarin blazing the path,
To make peace shine
In the starry sky,
Not to bring war to the constellation.
Einstein, as you have made a vow,
Dismantle the atomic force to prevent human extinction.
Forty years later, let us stamp out
The conflagration of obliteration.
Forty years later, don't forget, it is the time to remember now.

[end recording]

CSO: 4209/389

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL MARKS V-DAY ANNIVERSARY

OW091259 Hanoi VNA in English 0730 GMT 9 May 85

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Hanoi, 9 May (VNA)--"From the victory over Hitler fascism and Japanese militarism, various nations can draw many useful lessons," says the Communist Party of Vietnam daily in its editorial today marking the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitler fascism (9 May).

In the present international conjuncture, those lessons bear a burning topical character, the papers says.

It points out:

"The U.S.-led warlike forces, unwilling to draw lessons of the past, are feverishly conducting a crusade against the Soviet Union, the socialist community, the national independence movement, the non-aligned movement and freedom and peace-loving countries.

They are frenziedly stepping up the arms race and the militarization of space in an attempt to gain military-strategic superiority over the socialist countries, and at the same time accelerate activities against the surging revolutionary movements on various continents, and kindle wars of aggression, regional wars and wars by proxy.

"While Europe had had 40 years of peace, Asia has all the time been suffering from war, most of them directly or indirectly provoked by the United States, including the U.S. war of aggression in Vietnam, the biggest, bloodiest and costliest war since World War II."

NHAN DAN continues:

"The first big lesson of the victory over fascism is that of vigilance. The present world situation has become more strained and complicated than at any time in the past 40 years. That is why the whole of mankind must heighten vigilance in the face of the danger of a new world war which is being feverishly prepared by the U.S. imperialists...more than ever before, the strategic task of struggling for peace is closely bound to the revolutionary cause of all nations.

"The second big lesson is to prevent a world war before it breaks out.

"The third big reason of the anti-fascist struggle is that the factor of decisive importance for victory is the combined strength of the socialism.

"The fourth big lesson is the necessity to constantly widen and strengthen the front of struggle for peace comprising the socialist countries, the communist and international workers' parties, the non-aligned countries, and the forces of nationalism, democracy, peace and progress in the world, the coordination of the common efforts may create a real possibility to defeat the imperialists and reactionaries' war-mongering and aggressive policy, effectively prevent the arms race and avert the danger of nuclear war."

CSO: 4200/911

JPRS-SEA-85-085
31 May 1985

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

FOREIGN PARTIES, ORGANIZATIONS GREET NATIONAL DAY

OW091305 Hanoi VNA in English 0739 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] Hanoi, 9 May (VNA)--The Communist Party Central Committee, the state and mass organizations of Vietnam have received more messages of greetings from many countries on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the liberation of South Vietnam (30 April).

The messages were from the Communist Party of Honduras, the Communist Party of Guadeloupe, the leadership of the Baron National Liberation Front [as received], the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association, the Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association, the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples and the Cuban Committee for Solidarity with Vietnam, the Hungarian Solidarity Committee, the Afghan Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with Vietnam, the Ethiopia-Vietnam Friendship Committee, the Ethiopian Solidarity and Friendship Committee, the U.S. Committee in Solidarity with Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos, and other progressive mass organizations in the United States; the Philippine Council of Peace and Solidarity, the Asian-African Peoples' Solidarity Organization, the president of the Vietnam-Laos-Kampuchea Committee of Sweden, the All-India Peace and Solidarity Organization, the Central Committee of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, the representatives of the Committee for International Solidarity of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and the Revolutionary Democratic Front of El Salvador, the League of National Revolutionary Solidarity Union of Guatemala, the Chilean Anti-Fascist Movement, the Socialist Women's Organizations of Australia, and the Vietnamese Residents' Union in France.

They included messages from Romesh Chandra, president of the World Peace Council; Z. M. Kruglova, president of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries; Gherman Titov, president of the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society; 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, general secretary of the Yemen Socialist Party and president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the Yemen People's Democratic Republic; Gilberto Rincon Gayardo, secretary of the Central Committee of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico; Jorge Cruickshank Garcia, general secretary of the National Leadership of the Central Committee of the Mexican Socialist People's Party; and Antonio E. Vary, general secretary of the Philippine Council of Peace and Solidarity.

GDR AMBASSADOR MARKS 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF V-E DAY

BK111027 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 8 May 85

[Statement by GDR Ambassador to SRV Hermann Schwiesau on occasion of "40th Anniversary of Victory Over Fascism"--recorded in German fading into Vietnamese translation; date not given]

[Summary] Dear Vietnamese comrades and friends:

It is an honor for me to speak to you today in commemorating the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism. I recall events 40 years ago that ushered in a new stage of world history, thereby setting a new future for many nations. During the arduous war, which involved 72 countries and resulted in 50 million deaths, peoples of the allied countries against the Hitlerite regime successfully defeated German fascism and Japanese militarism, thereby liberating mankind from the yoke of the most barbarous and hostile political system.

"The establishment of the German worker-peasant state was a turning point in the history of the GDR and Europe. Closely cooperating with the Soviet Union and other countries in the socialist community, the GDR has developed into a powerful socialist state with a foreign policy of peace, mutual understanding, and international cooperation." Together with fraternal countries in the Warsaw Pact, the GDR has contributed to maintaining peace in Europe and has made great efforts to bring about a detente and an atmosphere of peaceful coexistence in international relations. Comrade Erich Honecker, secretary general of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and chairman of the GDR Council of State, has reaffirmed this on many occasions.

"The defeat of Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism has created favorable conditions for the Vietnamese people in liberating their nation. The building of a new society without labor exploitation in Vietnam is eloquent proof of the invincible strength of Marxism-Leninism and the developing law of the socialist revolution and construction. Vietnam's firm position has resulted in the victory over U.S. aggression and the complete liberation of South Vietnam."

The GDR and SRV parties, governments, and peoples have maintained fraternal friendship and comprehensive cooperation based on the Marxist-Leninism outlook and the identity of views on basic problems pertaining to socialist construction and the common struggle for peace, detente, and disarmament. "The signing

of the GDR-SRV treaty of friendship and cooperation on 4 December 1977 has set forth key orientations for cooperation between our two parties, states, and peoples."

The GDR people are very proud to have their reliable Vietnamese friends. Our friendship developed favorably during the Vietnamese people's anti-U.S. resistance war for national salvation. "I can assure you that in the future, the GDR will continue to stand firmly beside Vietnam and will do its best to consolidate our friendship, which developed vigorously during decades of our two countries' common struggle against imperialism."

"Dear comrades and friends, I wish you many new achievements in implementing the Fifth CPV Congress resolution and in carrying out the domestic and foreign policies of your country. Thank you for your attention."

CSO: 4209/389

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON VICTORY OVER FASCISM

BK111307 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 8 May 85

[9 May NHAN DAN editorial: "Major Lessons of the Great Victory"]

[Text] Together with the people of the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries as well as all progressive humanity; today our people grandly celebrate the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism.

Looking back over the past 40 years, we are all the more aware of the extremely great results that the victory brought humanity and realize even more profoundly and excitingly the historic and epochal importance of this victory--the second greatest victory scored by the world's revolutionary forces in the 20th century following the October Revolution. The Soviet Union, the world's first socialist country, made its great and decisive contributions to this great victory, compelling the forces that provoked World War II to surrender unconditionally. The people and the army of the Soviet Union, led by the glorious CPSU, under the banner of Lenin and relying on the strength of the new regime, fought very bravely and destroyed the invading fascist army, thus saving humanity from the fascist ruling yoke.

The world communist and worker movement and various antifascist nations and alliances took part in the fight and, together with the Soviet Union, scored a heroic victory over fascism--a brutal enemy of humanity. This victory marked a historic turning point of universal character as it helped defend the world's first socialist state, weaken a significant part of imperialism, tip the balance of forces in the world, and create favorable conditions for a high-tide revolution movement in the world.

Since its coming to life, the socialist system has continued to expand on various continents, has increasingly developed its role as a decisive factor, and has represented the growing trend of human society.

Reminiscent of the last earth-shaking decisive strategic attack on the hideout of fascism 40 years ago, all the people now living on this planet feel very grateful to the genuine heroes of our time--those who fought and sacrificed themselves for independence and freedom and for preserving the loftiest values of humanity. We face toward the Soviet Union, the homeland of great Lenin, with admiration and boundless gratitude to the people and army of the Soviet

Union for having gloriously accomplished their historic mandate of defending themselves and humanity, saving various nations from the scourge of fascism, and creating conditions for a string of European and Asian countries to rise up for self-liberation, thus opening up a new era for the evolution of modern history.

Over the past 4 decades, especially in this decade--and it will certainly be so in the future--the imperialists and other international reactionary forces have been resorting to all tricks aimed at distorting history, discrediting the great and decisive role played by the Soviet Union in defeating fascism, and revising the outcome of the war and the agreements signed during and after World War II between antifascist allied countries, thus creating tension and new confrontation. Their current distortion campaign, which testifies to their panic and their weak position, is designed to defend their reactionary policy against communism and to justify their plans for arms race and for the militarization of space. These pose the gravest danger to peace and life.

From the victories over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism, various nations can draw many very useful lessons. In the present international circumstances, these lessons bear a burning topical character. The U.S.-led warlike forces, unwilling to draw lessons of the past, are fervorishly conducting a crusade against the Soviet Union, the socialist community, the national independence movement, the Nonaligned Movement, and freedom- and peace-loving countries. They are frenziedly stepping up the arms race and the militarization of space in an attempt to gain military-strategic superiority over the socialist countries, and at the same time are accelerating activities against the surging revolutionary movements on various continents and kindling wars of aggression, limited wars, and wars by proxy.

While Europe has had 40 years of peace, Asia has been suffering constantly from war, most often directly or indirectly provoked by the United States, including the U.S. war of aggression against Vietnam--the biggest, bloodiest, and costliest war since World War II.

The first major lesson of the victory over fascism is that of vigilance. The current world situation has become more strained and complicated than at any time in the past 40 years. That is why all humanity must heighten vigilance in the face of the danger of a new world war that is being feverishly prepared by the U.S. imperialists. Peace and security of various nations are in great danger. More than ever before, struggling for peace is now the urgent and most important task of the people in various countries and of all conscientious people on earth. And also more than ever before, the strategic task of struggling for peace is closely bound to the revolutionary cause of all nations.

The second major lesson is to prevent a world war before it breaks out. All peace and democratic forces must realize the need to concentrate their forces on resorting to all forms of struggle to avert and foil all the plots and acts of war of the imperialists and the international reactionaries and to oppose and foil all their plans for interfering in the internal affairs of other nations and for persecuting or suppressing the revolutionary and progressive forces.

The third major lesson of the antifascist struggle is that the factor of decisive importance for victory is the comprehensive and combined strength of socialism. Today, beefing up the comprehensive strength of the socialist community--of which the Soviet Union is at the core--is of decisive importance for the safeguarding of peace.

The fourth major lesson of the victory over fascism is the necessity to constantly widen and strengthen the front of struggle for peace comprising the socialist countries, the world communist and workers parties, the nonaligned countries, and the forces of nationalism, democracy, peace, and progress in the world. Coordination of the common efforts in accordance with correct guidelines and mutual agreements is an objective prerequisite of the struggle and may create a real possibility of defeating the imperialists' and reactionaries' warmongering and aggressive policy, effectively preventing the arms race, and averting the danger of nuclear war.

To commemorate the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism, our people memorize the meritorious deeds of all the fighters on various continents who fought and sacrificed themselves for the noble just cause. We express our admiration and deep gratitude to the fighters of the great struggle. They shouldered the heaviest load of this struggle in order to save themselves and humanity, including the Vietnamese people.

Our people also feel very proud of their contributions to the common cause. Under the correct and creative leadership of our party, during the period immediately before and after World War II, our people participated actively in the antifascist democratic front. By linking their national with international duties, seizing opportunities, and applying flexibly various methods of struggle, our people actively and directly participated in the antifascist and antimilitarist struggle and succeeded in gradually advancing their revolution toward achieving glorious victory.

Right from the beginning, our people sided with and supported the Soviet Union as they knew well the importance of the struggle of the army and people of the Soviet Union. We highly appreciate the Soviet Union's extremely great deeds toward the Vietnamese revolutionary cause. All the successes scored by our people and our national revolution over the past 40 years stem from the victory over fascism and are factors for developing the effect of this great victory.

Esteemed Comrade General Secretary Le Duan said: The outcome of the August Revolution--which led to the founding of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam--is inseparable from the Soviet Union's victory over fascism and all our successes scored since then in the war for national salvation and in national construction and defense are also inseparable from the great and valuable support and assistance given by the Soviet Union.

On the occasion of this grand anniversary, our people extend their heartfelt affectionate sentiments toward the Soviet people and warmly wish the fraternal Soviet people--led by the CPSU--still-greater successes in perfecting the developed socialism and in ensuring that the fatherland of Lenin will increasingly develop its role as a solid pillar of peace and a reliable prop of the world revolution.

Our people welcome and support the Soviet Union's initiatives on disarmament and reduction of nuclear arms. Our people also welcome and support the important statements made by Comrade Gorbachev on 11 March 1985 and yesterday, 8 May.

We are determined to try our best to contribute to increasing the strength of the socialist community with the Soviet Union at the core. We will coordinate our efforts with those of peace-loving forces in the world in building a large front to effectively avert the nuclear arms race, dispel and do away with the danger of a new world war, and foil the imperialists' and reactionaries' war-mongering and reactionary policy.

Our people's most important and realistic contribution to the common cause involves efforts to be made everywhere and at every moment in implementing the two strategic missions already laid down by our party of building socialism and defending our socialist fatherland. As Comrade Le Duan put it: Earlier, with the spirit of nothing is more precious than independence and freedom, our people were able to fight well and were crowned with victory. Today, our people must strive even harder to steel ourselves in and improve this spirit by eternally maintaining our independence and freedom and by building our country into a prosperous and powerful socialist nation, thus completely implementing the sacred testament of highly esteemed Uncle Ho.

We persistently advocate dialogue and we struggle for a peaceful, stable, friendly, and cooperative Southeast Asia, thus contributing to building peace in Asia and the world.

Despite numerous hardships, complexities, and difficulties still lying ahead, the trend of the world revolution and of our country's revolution is steady and constantly growing and there is a very fine prospect.

Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the complete victory of the anti-U.S. resistance for national salvation and commemorating the 40th anniversary of our country's August Revolution and National Day, our people assert our determination to join with the Soviet people, the fraternal Lao and Cambodian peoples, and the people of other socialist countries as well as all progressive humanity in struggling to regain new successes for the cause of peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism.

CSO: 4209/389

JPRS-SEA-85-085
31 May 1985

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VCP, GOVERNMENT DELEGATION ATTENDS MOSCOW PARADE

OW101305 Hanoi VNA in English 0933 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 9--The Vietnam party and government delegation, led by Chu Huy Man, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party Central Committee and vice-president on the State Council, to the U.S.S.R. for the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism has paid floral tributes at the Lenin Mausoleum and the Unknown War-Dead Memorial and attended the V-day meeting and military parade and other functions in Moscow.

On behalf of the C.P.V. and the Vietnamese government and people, Chu Huy Man warmly congratulated the Soviet party, government and people on this glorious anniversary. He affirmed that thanks to the October revolution, the Soviet victory over fascism and U.S.S.R.'s great, effective and allround support and assistance, the Vietnamese people successfully carried out the August revolution, founded the first worker-peasant state in Southeast Asia, defeated successive wars of aggression of the imperialist and reactionary forces, liberated and reunified their country, and have embarked on socialist construction on a national scale.

V. P. Nikonov, secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee, on behalf of the C.P.S.U. C.C. and the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet, conferred the Soviet commemorative medals pertaining to the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism on Chu Huy Man and his party.

V. P. Nikonov highly appreciated the allround achievements recorded by the Vietnamese people in national construction and defence, exalted the C.P.V.'s pure internationalist spirit, and stressed that the friendship, militant solidarity and comprehensive cooperation between the U.S.S.R. and Vietnam constituted a strong factor for the consolidation of friendship among socialist countries and in the world revolutionary movement.

While in the USSR the delegation visited Tashkent and Volgograd.

CSO: 4200/926

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ACCLAIMS USSR'S PEACE STANCE

OW110729 Hanoi VNA in English 0710 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 11--NHAN DAN today editorially acclaim General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's speech and the appeal of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Council of Ministers as "a noble response to the most burning aspiration of all nations, namely to defend peace and life on our planet."

The paper says:

"In the name of the main bearer of the burden of the fight in World War 2 who made decisive contributions to the great victory over fascism four decades ago, the Soviet Union once again declares its resolute support for a world without war, a world without weapons. Once again, it reaffirms that the historical competition between the two world political systems should not be resolved by military means."

NHAN DAN continues: "The position and the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union, as expounded in the speeches by Mikhail Gorbachev on March 11 and May 8, as well as in the appeal of the CPSU C.C., the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Council of Ministers, unequivocally spell out the Soviet Union's loyalty to the policy of peaceful co-existence, to the ideal of peace and freedom, which are the aspirations of the millions who laid down their lives during the second world war, and of all nations in the present-day world."

"This," the paper stresses, "is also a manifestation of true humanism and the high sense of responsibility of the Soviet people towards the destiny of the entire humankind."

"World opinion," the paper goes on, "now has seen more clearly than ever the sharp contrast between the Soviet Union's peace policy and the warlike policy of imperialism and international reaction headed by U.S. imperialism."

"The lesson of the anti-fascist battle still retains its burning topical character. It reminds all nations of the need to heighten vigilance and focus efforts on foiling the dangerous bellicose policy of the U.S. imperialists and checking the danger of another world war before it breaks out," the paper concludes.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN MARKS WARSAW TREATY ANNIVERSARY

OW140757 Hanoi VNA in English 0735 GMT 14 May 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 14--Practice in the past three decades has testified to the outstanding contributions of the Warsaw Treaty Organization (WTO) to the common cause of nations on our planet," says NHAN DAN in an article marking the 30th anniversary of the WTO today.

The WTO's contribution of paramount importance, the paper points out, lies in the realization of a strategic military equilibrium which has existed for many years, which constitutes the material basis for detente and the safeguarding of peace.

The paper goes on:

"Its nature of a defensive alliance, its loyalty to the principles of peaceful co-existence and its high sense of responsibility toward peace and international security have been clearly demonstrated in its successive proposals for the abolition of both the WTO and the NATO, firstly of their military organizations; for the signing of mutual agreements on non-aggression and non-use of force in international relations and for increased cooperation among nations. These put into bold relief the difference in nature of the WTO and the NATO."

NHAN DAN stresses that in face of the scheme of the United States and other NATO countries to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union and the other WTO countries, the renewal of this treaty for another 20 years is not only a necessity but also the desire of all peace- and freedom-loving nations."

NHAN DAN continues:

"The world situation has changed greatly since the second world war," NHAN DAN further says. "The sphere of imperialist domination has shrunk and the imperialists' capability of imposing its will on sovereign nations has also declined considerably. Progressive mankind is now fully capable of checking the acts of the militarists' circles. The isolation and setback of the United States found a most glaring expression in the recent visit of President Reagan to Western Europe. The strong movement of the world people, including the American people, protesting against the bellicose policy of Washington, against its 'star wars' program, and demanding that it adopt a serious attitude at the talks with the Soviet Union...are so many proofs that the struggle for peace, though still facing many difficulties and complexities, continues to go forward."

CAMBODIAN LEADERS SEND GREETINGS ON 1975 VICTORY

OW021646 Hanoi VNA in English 1626 GMT 2 May 85

[Text] Hanoi, 2 May (VNA)--Vietnamese leaders have received a message of greetings from their Kampuchean counterparts on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the complete victory over U.S. aggression.

The message was jointly addressed by Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and president of the State Council; Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly; and Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea; To Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; Truong Chinh, president of the State Council; Pham Van Dong, chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the National Assembly. It says:

"The 30 April victory in 1975 was the outcome of a long struggle full of hardships and courage of the heroic Vietnamese army and people against the U.S. imperialists. It marks a historic turning point in the Vietnamese revolution and guarantees the basic national rights of the Vietnamese people.

"This great victory of the National People's Democratic Revolution in Vietnam ushered in a new era, the era of an independent and unified Vietnam advancing toward socialism.

"The Kampuchean people greet with admiration and pride the major achievements recorded by the heroic Vietnamese people and army. Their victory and heroism are a great encouragement to the Kampuchean people and army in their struggle against the common enemy, i.e., the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists in collusion with the U.S. imperialists and other international reactionary forces, for national independence and a happy life of the peoples of Kampuchea and Vietnam and in the interests of peace, stability in Indochina and Southeast Asia as a whole.

"On this great occasion, we would like to express our deepest gratitude to the Vietnamese party, government, people and army volunteers for their moral and material support and their assistances to the Kampuchean people and army in every stage of their long and difficult struggles against the U.S. imperialists and the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists as well as in their present efforts in national construction and defence.

"We wish the fraternal Vietnamese people and army, under the clearsighted leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, still greater successes in defeating all schemes of aggression of the Chinese expansionists and the U.S. imperialists and in building a strong and prosperous Vietnam.

"May the militant solidarity, special friendship and cooperation in all fields between the peoples and armies of Kampuchea and Vietnam last forever."

CSO: 4200/911

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VNA REVIEWS EVENTS OF WEEK ENDING 11 MAY

OW121153 Hanoi VNA in English 0704 GMT 12 May 85

[Article: "Events of the Week"]

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 12--A Vietnamese party and government delegation led by Chu Huy Man, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice president of the State Council, paid a visit to the U.S.S.R. at the invitation of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee and the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet to attend the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory over fascism. For the same purpose a Vietnamese delegation headed by General Le Trong Tan, member of the C.P.V. C.C., chief of the General Staff of the Vietnam People's Army and vice minister of defence, arrived in Moscow on a visit at the invitation of the Soviet Defence Ministry.

"The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the Vietnamese National Assembly, State Council and Council of Ministers sent a joint message of greetings to the C.P.S.U. C.C., the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. on the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitler fascism. The message reaffirmed that the victory of the Soviet people and Red Army had created favourable conditions for the victory of the Vietnamese revolution. It exalted the constant development of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and the U.S.S.R.

"A meeting was held at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi under the joint sponsorship of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, the Ministry of Defence and the Hanoi party and people's committees to celebrate the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism (May 9, 1945). Truong Chinh, Political Bureau member of the C.P.V. C.C. and president of the State Council, was present on the presidium of the meeting. In a speech delivered on the occasion, General Hoang Van Thai, member of the C.P.V. C.C. and vice minister of defence, pointed out that the Vietnamese people's August revolution and their resistance wars against aggression by big imperialist powers and their fight to defend their fatherland against Chinese expansionism were the continuation of the Soviet people's Great Patriotic War against fascism and their historic victory in the Second World War.

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory over fascism, the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam conferred order of Ho Chi Minh, a high distinction of Vietnam on Marshal of the U.S.S.R. S.L. Sokolov, defence minister, in acknowledgement of his great contributions to

the promotion of the fraternal friendship, militant solidarity and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

"Soviet Ambassador B. N. Chaplin hosted a banquet in honour of the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitler fascism. Truong Chinh, Political Bureau member of the C.P.V. C.C. and president of the State Council, attended the party.

"A scientific symposium entitled 'Victory Over Fascism-Historic Lessons' was arranged in Hanoi by the Vietnam Committee for Social Sciences in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism. The meeting heard 36 reports by professors and researchers of the Vietnam Committee for Social Sciences, the Nguyen Ai Quoc Higher Party School, the Vietnam Institute of Military History, the Museum of the Revolution, the History Faculty of Hanoi University, and the Hanoi Teachers' College No 1. Seventeen reports were selected to be printed into a book titled 'In Honour of the 40th Anniversary of the Victory Over Fascism-Historic Lessons.' The Central Committee of the Vietnam-U.S.S.R. Friendship Association, in collaboration with its chapters in Hanoi and the Hanoi Teachers' College No 1, arranged 'ten days of Vietnam-U.S.S.R. friendship' to widely introduce the Soviet people and Red Army's victory over Hitler fascism and Japanese militarism in World War 2 and Vietnam-U.S.S.R. friendship and cooperation.

"The Vietnamese government issued a statement warmly welcoming and fully supporting the Warsaw Treaty members' decision to extend the treaty by 20 years.

"The Vietnamese Ministry for Foreign Affairs in a statement vehemently condemned the U.S. trade sanction against Nicaragua. The statement reaffirmed the Vietnamese people and government's militant solidarity with and firm support for the Nicaraguan people's just cause.

"A delegation of the World Preparatory Committee for the forthcoming 12th World Youth Festival in Moscow, led by J.C. Kennedy, coordinator secretary of the committee, paid a visit to Vietnam during which it had working sessions with Vietnam's National Preparatory Committee.

"Pham Van Dong, Political Bureau member of the C.P.V. C.C. and chairman of the Council of Ministers, cordially received here the visiting delegation of political cadres of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces [CRAF] headed by Colonel Gustavo Milian Rivero, chief of the Political Direction of the C.R.A.F. Pham Van Dong said: "Vietnam and Cuba are brothers and we are for ever side by side."

"C.J. Hurford, Australian minister of immigration and ethnic affairs, paid an official visit to Vietnam from May 8-9 with the aim of promoting friendship and mutual understanding between the two countries.

"The Vietnamese navy, which is being built into a regular and modern force of the Vietnam People's Army, celebrated its 30th anniversary (May 7, 1955). In a message of greetings to the navy on the occasion, State Council President Truong Chinh instructed the force to heighten its vigilance and stand prepared to defeat all eventual foreign aggression in order to firmly defend Vietnam's territorial waters.

"Dong Sy Nguyen, Political Bureau member of the C.P.V. C.C. and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, cordially received S.O. Kurilov, director-general of the Intersputnik on a visit to Vietnam. Dong Sy Nguyen expressed gratitude to the Soviet party and state, to Intersputnik and the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Communications for their assistance in the building and commissioning of the 'Lotus 2' ground satellite station in Ho Chi Minh City.

The Thang Long Bridge, the largest bridge in Vietnam built with Soviet assistance across the Red River on the Hanoi outskirts, was entirely opened to traffic on May 9 in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism. It is an event of paramount importance for communications not only in Hanoi but throughout the country. With 15 spans, its main part across the river is 1,688 metres long and supported by 14 pillars and two abutments. In addition, the bridge has access ways on both banks of the river.

The agricultural collectivization program has been under way for ten years in the area formerly known as South Vietnam since its liberation in 1975. By now 71.7 percent of South Vietnam's peasant households have joined 30,578 collectives and 492 cooperatives which are tilling 64.5 percent of the arable land in the region. Their output of rice and subsidiary crops is much higher than that of private families. Seventy-five percent of South Vietnam's peasant families are expected to join in collective production by the end of this year and 75 percent of the region's cultivated hectareage will be in the hands of production collectives and cooperatives.

"On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of its liberation (May 13, 1955), the port city of Haiphong (Northern Vietnam) put into service its civil airport and a cultural, sport, servicing, trade and tourist centre which consists of the Sat Fair, the Tam Bac Lake, an exhibition ground, Lhong Lan (Orchids) Restaurant, the city square, four parks and a stadium, in service of the city population and foreign sailors.

"The Hanoi Pharmaceutical Materials Enterprise received and put into operation the C.I.D.S.E.-funded serum mill which can produce one million bottles of serum a year. Most of its equipment has been supplied by Sweden and the Federal Republic of Germany.

"Three battalions and four companies of the Chinese army, covered by artillery (?fire) nearly 22,000 rounds, from May 4-7, opened dozens of attacks day and night on hills 685, 300 and 400, Quan Sat and Co Ich Hills in Vi Xuyen District in Vietnam's northern border province of Ha Tuyen.

The local people and armed forces duly punished the Chinese intruders, putting out of action some 500 Chinese troops, decimating two enemy infantry battalions and one company and destroying two artillery pieces and two mortar sites.

"A Vietnamese foreign ministry spokesman on May 10 released a statement flatly rejecting the Thai authorities slanderous allegation that Vietnamese troops had intruded into Thailand's territory and that Vietnam wanted to annex 17 northeastern provinces of Thailand. The statement said this allegation is aimed at diverting public opinion which is strongly demanding that Thailand stop ganging up with China in using polpotists and other Khmer reactionaries to sabotage the Kampuchean nation's rebirth.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

CHINESE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA TERMED 'FIFTH COLUMN'

BK111601 Hanoi International Service in Thai 1130 GMT 10 May 85

[Unattributed "article": "China Uses Fifth Column To Serve Its Expansionist Policy"]

[Text] Dear listeners;

The continuing tense situation in Southeast Asia is the result of China's expansionist and hegemonist policy. The Chinese leadership has been hatching this insane ambition for 1,000 years. In 1965, Mao Zedong, then Chinese leader, openly said that we--meaning China--must control the whole of Southeast Asia consisting of southern Vietnam, Thailand, Burma, Malaysia, and Singapore.

(Mao's ambition has been inherited and carried on by the Chinese leadership until today. They will not hesitate to employ all tricks including armed border provocations, all-out war, and assisting, training, and arming reactionaries to engage in internal subversion in foreign countries. Another no less dangerous trick is using Chinese residents in various countries to manipulate the economy and create political unrest. There are over 20 million Chinese residents in the Southeast Asian countries, most of them are rich and enjoy high economic status. They control 60 to 80 percent of the internal trade and 40 percent of the foreign trade of those countries. Nearly all markets in the region are in their hands.

In Malaysia, 26 percent of the owners of rubber and oil palm plantations are Chinese. Chinese capitalists own four or five banks in the Philippines. In Indonesia, the Chinese form only 3 percent of the population but control 70 percent of the country's economy, 60 percent of trade, and 90 percent of finance. There are 65 big capitalist families, mostly Chinese, in Bangkok. They control as much as 70 percent of the gross national product and manipulate Thailand's economy. Half of Bangkok's 5.5 million population is Chinese. Chinese capitalist control 80 percent of the country's industries and trade and 16 of 20 commercial banks. Bangkok Bank, the biggest commercial bank in Southeast Asia, belongs to Chinese. Moreover, some ministries that are important to the economy are run by Chinese.

Since there are so many Chinese living in the Southeast Asian countries with important economic roles to play, China uses them as its tool to undermine

financial stability and economic development in those nations. International public opinion has rightly labeled these Chinese residents as China's fifth column. Meanwhile, China, in line with its selfish big-nation chauvinism, tries to help the Chinese residents gain important positions in the governments of the countries in which they are living. After having infiltrated into the administrative mechanism and with their dual citizenships, these people will be forced to take orders from their fatherland. They will then be used to create turbulences in trade, economy, politics, and society in those countries. The unrest that took place in Indonesia in 1960, for example, led to the severance of diplomatic relations between China and Indonesia.

In 1983, China accused Mongolia of expelling Chinese residents as it did with Vietnam before. It can be said that the Chinese residents have caused a problem in Southeast Asia. They have become China's trump card in its move against the countries in this region. At the same time, China continues to provide assistance for the Maoist reactionary groups in Malaysia, Burma, Thailand, and the Philippines to act against the governments.

The ultrarightist factions in the Thai ruling circles can recall the Maoists who once caused a headache to them for some time. China gave them money and weapons and allowed them to operate a radio station on its territory to launch propaganda against Thailand. However, they still tail after China's hostile policy against the countries in Indochina.

The Indonesian paper MERDEKA once noted that the words and deeds of the Chinese leadership are often contradictory, particularly in dealing with the Southeast Asian countries. Its expansionism has constantly threatened this region. Probably for this reason, Indonesia must be vigilant as it is unable to normalize its relations with China.

During his visit to the Vietnamese northern provinces along the border with China in 1984, Indonesian Supreme Commander General Murdani said: I have now realized that the real threat to Southeast Asia comes from China. As a matter of fact, the ultrarightists in the Thai ruling circles should consider his opinion. If they continue to tail after China, nobody can guarantee that they will not face a problem similar to that caused by the Chinese residents in Indonesia.

CSO: 4207/204

BRIEFS

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNISTS GREET VICTORY ANNIVERSARY--[From the review of NHAN DAN for 10 May] Today, the paper front-pages a message from the Australian Communist Party Central Committee to our party and state leaders, greeting the 10th anniversary of our victory in the anti-U.S. resistance struggle. [Text] [BK110306 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2220 GMT 9 May 85]

THAI CHARGES OF INVASION REJECTED--[From the review of NHAN DAN for 12 May] NHAN DAN carries a commentary entitled: "When Will Bangkok Listen to Reason?" The commentary says: Over the past few days, the Bangkok ruling circles have once again sought an excuse to oppose Vietnam. The Thai Foreign Ministry issued a statement cooking up the story that Vietnamese troops had invaded Thai territory and that Vietnam wants to annex Thailand's 17 northeastern provinces. This is a blatant fabrication totally contrary to the truth. The commentary goes on to stress: The situation in Cambodia is stable and steadily improving. Cambodia's posture and strength are very firm. All schemes against the Cambodian people's revival have fallen through and will certainly face complete bankruptcy. Meanwhile, the forces propped up by international reaction around the three Indochinese countries are collapsing. The situation is now favorable for dialogue and for anyone who wants to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and stability. [Text] [BK120843 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2220 GMT 11 May 85]

DELEGATION ATTENDS PRAGUE MEETING--A grand meeting was held in Prague's (Cesna) Square on 9 May, to mark the 40th anniversary of Czechoslovakia's national day, featuring a military parade, in the presence of comrade leaders of the party, state, National Assembly, and national front of Czechoslovakia, foreign delegations, and large numbers of the capital's people. Our party and government delegation, led by Comrade Vo Van Kiet, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, was also present. [passage describing parade omitted] [Excerpt] [OW121416 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 11 May 85]

PRC ATTEMPTS TO ARM AGENTS--[From the review of NHAN DAN for 13 May] Spread across seven columns in the lower half of page 3, in the feature: "Maintain Vigilance for National Salvation," NHAN DAN runs an article by Do Quang entitled: "The Hunting Rifles." The article says in part as follows: (Wang A Lo) sat in front of the public security combatant, facing two bundles of rifles that had been unwrapped and placed on a wooden table. Before making a declaration about the firearms, which he claimed had been hidden in a grave in the cemetery,

(Wang A Lo) begged for clemency. He had received three hunting weapons on the other side of the border, he said. Plainclothes Chinese public security agents had bluntly told him that if he could distribute a rifle--that was, put it in the hands of a Vietnamese citizen--he would receive 400 yuan as a reward. If he could obtain for China Vietnamese currency or amomumxanthioides [sa nhaan], gynura japonica [tam thaats], and opium in exchange for firearms, he would receive even bigger rewards. These guns, of course, were not bonafide hunting shotguns. They were weapons with which the Chinese expansionists were trying to openly arm their henchmen inside Vietnam, thereby enabling these elements to conceal their designs from our people and to wait for the right opportunity to act. [Text] [BK130423 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2220 GMT 12 May 85]

CSSR NATIONAL DAY MARKED--Hanoi, 9 May (VNA)--A photo exhibition on Czechoslovakia was opened in Ho Chi Minh City Wednesday marking the 40th national day of Czechoslovak Socialist Republic (9 May). Mrs Do Duy Lien, vice-chairperson of the municipal people's committee, and Jan Gonzor, Czechoslovak consul-general in the city, cut the inaugural ribbon. More than 100 photos on show portray the Czechoslovak people's fight against fascism and their achievements in socialist construction over the last 40 years. A week of Czechoslovak films is on in Ho Chi Minh City on this occasion. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0710 GMT 9 May 85 OW]

DELEGATION ARRIVES IN PRAGUE--Hanoi, 9 May (VNA)--A Vietnam party and government delegation led by Vo Van Kiet, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party Central Committee and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, arrived in Prague on Tuesday for the celebration of Czechoslovakia's 40th national day. On 8 May, the Vietnamese delegation and those from other socialist countries laid wreaths at the cemetery of fallen combatants in Prague. The same day, Gustav Husak, general-secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia Central Committee and president of Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, cordially received foreign delegates. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1619 GMT 9 May 85 OW]

MELBOURNE ON MINISTER'S HANOI VISIT--The immigration minister, Mr Hurford, has arrived in Hanoi for talks with the Vietnamese Government on implementing a program for Australia to accept more Vietnamese refugees on a family-reunion basis. Speaking in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday, Mr Hurford said the total number of Vietnamese to be allowed entry to Australia would rise from 3,500 to 6,000 during the next financial year. The plan aims to reduce the number of Vietnamese fleeing their homeland illegally in boats. Our Australian sources in Hanoi said Mr Hurford met the Vietnamese foreign minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach, before attending a banquet in his honor. Mr Hurford leaves for Bangkok today. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0130 GMT 9 May 85 BK]

NICARAGUAN GROUP SCHEDULED TO VISIT--Hanoi VNA May 13--A delegation of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (SNLF) and the Nicaraguan government led by Henry Ruiz, member of the National Leadership of the SNLF and minister of international cooperation, will shortly pay an official visit to Vietnam, the Vietnamese Ministry for Foreign Affairs announces today. It is invited by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. [Text] [OW131601 Hanoi VNA in English 1459 GMT 13 May 85]

CZECHOSLOVAK FILM WEEK--Hanoi VNA 5 May--A Czechoslovak film week was opened here on May 4 in honour of the 40th national day of Czechoslovakia. Present at the inauguration were Dang Huu, alternate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and president of the Vietnam-Czechoslovakia Friendship Association; Vu Khac Lien, vice minister of culture; Nguyen Van Trong, deputy-head of the International Department of the Party C.C.; Trinh Ngoc Thai, general secretary of the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With Other Peoples; Vo Van Sung, assistant to the foreign minister; and others. Ambassador Bohuslav Handl and staff members of the Czechoslovak embassy in Vietnam, and members of the visiting Czechoslovak film workers' delegation also attended. The film week will be held in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Haiphong, and other major towns. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1022 GMT 5 May 85 OW]

LECTURERS' SOVIET UNION VISIT--Hanoi VNA 5 May--A lecturers' team of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam paid a visit to the Soviet Union from 18-29 April at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The team included Senior Lieutenant General Hoang Ming Thao, director of the Higher Military Institute of the Vietnam People's Army, and Phan Dau, standing member and head of the Department for Propaganda and Training of the party committee in Quang Nam--Danang Province. The team made a lecturing tour of Moscow, Kiev, and Riga. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1011 GMT 5 May 85 OW]

SWEDISH AID--Hanoi VNA 3 May--The Swedish parliament has adopted the government's proposal for a gratuitous aid of 300 million kronor (U.S. dollar 35 million) to Vietnam in the 1985-86 fiscal year. The aid will be used to support the Vinh Phu Paper Mill, the Vietnam-Sweden Children's Hospital in Hanoi and the Uong Bi Polyclinic in Quang Ninh Province, to restore a number of industrial establishments in southern Vietnam and to help Vietnam import a quantity of necessary goods. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1540 GMT 3 May 85 OW]

SPEAKER ON WORLD WAR II VICTORY--Hanoi VNA May 8--The Hanoi committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam held a get-together here this morning for I. N. Miakotnyka [spelling as received] minister counsellor of the Soviet Embassy to talk on the Great Patriotic War of the Soviet people. The speaker pointed out among other things that the United States and other Western powers are scheming to narrow the great significance of the Soviet people's victory and arouse anti-Sovietism in the West. He condemned the U.S. and its allies for intensifying the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race and the militarization of

outer space and dressed [as received] the Soviet Union's policy of disarmament. He also said that the achievements in economic development and national defense of the Vietnamese and other Indochinese peoples are important contributions to the safeguarding of peace. The Vietnam, USSR Friendship Association also held a talk here today on the victory of the Soviet people in World War Two. [Text] [BK081643 Hanoi VNA in English 1618 GMT 8 May 85]

BULGARIAN LEADER'S VISIT TO TRADE FAIR--Hanoi VNA May 8--Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and president of the State Council, on May 6 called at Vietnam's pavilion at the international spring fair opened in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, the same day. He was received by Hoang Ormng Nhu, Vietnamese ambassador to Bulgaria, and Dang Xuan Son, director of the pavilion, who showed the Bulgarian leader Vietnam's items such as lac-querware, ceramics, artcraft articles and farm products. General Secretary Todor Zhivkov acclaimed Vietnam's pavilion and expressed his wish that Vietnam would produce more items so as to contribute to promoting the goods exchange between the two countries. [Text] [BK081625 Hanoi VNA in English 1527 GMT 8 May 85]

COUNTRY CELEBRATES VE DAY ANNIVERSARY--Hanoi VNA May 9--A week of Soviet films begins today throughout Vietnam under the sponsorship of the Ministry of Culture here, in honour of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism. Forty documentaries and 40 feature films produced by the Soviet Union will be screened in the week, praising the revolutionary heroism of the Soviet people and army in defeating fascism, defending their country, liberating other nations and bringing peace back to mankind. The Hanoi Federation of Trade Unions opened here today a photo exhibition on the Soviet Union's policy of peace, cooperation and friendship. On show are nearly 100 photos reflecting the Soviet people's great patriotic war and their great achievements in economic, cultural, scientific and technological development and in the conquest of cosmic space. In the northern border province of Lang Son, the provincial chapter of the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association and its branch at the Na Duong Coal Mine held a teach-in today to celebrate the 40th V-day. Mass meetings for the same purpose were also organized in the central highlands province of Lam Dong this morning and the central coastal province of Quang Nam--Danang yesterday. [Text] [OW101107 Hanoi VNA in English 0950 GMT 10 May 85]

CONDOLENCES SENT TO AL-QADHDHAFI--Hanoi VNA May 11--President of the State Council Truong Chinh today sent his condolences to Colonel Mu'ammur al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the glorious Libyan September one revolution, over the death of his father. [Text] [OW111718 Hanoi VNA in English 1539 GMT 11 May 85]

ECONOMIC DELEGATION LEAVES FOR BULGARIA--Hanoi VNA May 11--A Vietnamese government economic delegation left here today for Sofia to attend the 12th session of the Vietnam-Bulgaria Inter-Governmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation (V.B.I.C.E.S.T.C.). The delegation is led by Vu Dinh Lieu, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Vietnamese section of the V.B.I.C.E.S.T.C. [Text] [OW111551 Hanoi VNA in English 1537 GMT 11 May 85]

HO CHI MINH CITY, PHNOM PENH PROMOTE COOPERATION--[no dateline received]--Minutes of a meeting on cooperation for 1984-85 between Phnom Penh and Ho Chi Minh City

have been signed in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Signatories were Mayor of Phnom Penh Keo Chanda and Deputy Mayor of Ho Chi Minh City Pham Van Khai. The two officials warmly welcomed the development of cooperation in different fields between the two cities, including goods exchange, construction of cultural and economic establishments, techno-scientific cooperation and exchange of visits. [Text] [OW120803 Hanoi VNA in English 0734 GMT 12 May 85]

MINORITY TEMPLE RESTORED--Hanoi VNA May 13--The restoration of the Cham Ethnic Minority's ancient temple of Poklong-Giarai at Phan Rang Town, in the central province of Thuan Hai, was in the main completed recently with Polish assistance. The temple, decayed by time and damaged by war, has been restored to its former shape. Thirty six stone sculptures and statues and 350 earthenware decorative motifs and 15,000 bricks were restored and assembled at the right places. The finishing touches are being put to the restoration work so as to make the temple a tourist attraction. [Text] [OW130809 Hanoi VNA in English 0715 GMT 13 May 85]

MILITARY DELEGATION ENDS VISIT TO USSR--Hanoi VNA May 13--The Vietnamese Military delegation led by General Le Trong Tan, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, vice minister of defence and chief of the general staff of the Vietnam people's army, on May 12 concluded a visit to the Soviet Union on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Soviet people's great patriotic war against Hitler fascism. The Vietnamese delegation attended the ceremony to confer Vietnamese distinctions on several senior Soviet officers. On May 11 the delegation called at the Malinovskiy Institute of the Armoured Forces where Le Trong Tan, on behalf of the Vietnamese state, pinned the military order on the institute's traditional flag. [Text] [OW131613 Hanoi VNA in English 1513 GMT 13 May 85]

CSO: 4200/926

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VICTORY OVER FASCISM MARKED IN HO CHI MINH CITY

OW091708 Hanoi VNA in English 1627 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] Hanoi, 9 May (VNA)--A 700 strong meeting in honour of the 40th anniversary of the Soviet Union's victory over fascism (9 May) was held in Ho Chi Minh City Tuesday.

The meeting was jointly sponsored by the city's party committee, people's committee and fatherland front committee, the city chapter of Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association, and the command of the city's garrison.

The participants included Mai Chi Tho, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and chairman of the City People's Committee, and the local consuls-general of the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Cuba, Bulgaria, Kampuchea, the German Democratic Republic and France.

Speaking at the meeting, Phan Van Khai, member of the CPV CC and vice-chairman of the City People's Committee, highly praised the ardent patriotism and remarkable revolutionary heroism of the Soviet people and army in their great patriotic war, and expressed the Vietnamese people's full support for the Soviet Union's peace policy.

On Wednesday evening, O. A. Volkov, Soviet consul-general in Ho Chi Minh City and his wife gave a big reception on the same occasion.

Their guests included Nguyen Van Linh, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and secretary of the City Party Committee; and consuls-general of socialist countries in the city, and representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in Vietnam.

CSO: 4200/911

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

SRV LEADERS CELEBRATE LIBERATION OF HAIPHONG

OW111758 Hanoi VNA in English 1617 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 11--A meeting was held at 3:00 p.m. today in Haiphong Port City to celebrate its 30th liberation anniversary (May 13) and receive the Gold Star Order awarded by the Vietnamese State Council.

It was attended by more than 1,000 representatives of the local population and armed forces; by Chan Phin, secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee; representatives of the Soviet and Kampuchean provinces of Vladivostok and Kompong Thom which have sworn brotherhood with Haiphong City; Soviet Ambassador to Vietnam B.N. Chaplin; Kampuchean Ambassador Sieng Saron; Czechoslovak Ambassador Bohuslav Handl; a counsellor of the Lao embassy; the Soviet consul-general in Haiphong; and others.

Present on the presidium of the meeting were Pham Van Dong, Political Bureau member of the C.P.V. Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Pham Hung, Political Bureau member of the Party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of interior; Do Muoi, Political Bureau member of the Party C.C. and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers; Le Thanh Nghi, member of the Party C.C. and vice-president of the State Council; Dong Si Nguyen, alternate Political Bureau member of the Party C.C.; Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the Party C.C. and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers; Le Quang Dao and Nguyen Thanh Binh, secretaries of the Party C.C.; Huynh Tan Phat, member of the Party C.C. and president of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee; Nguyen Duc Thuan, member of the Party C.C. and president of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions, and many others.

After the opening speech delivered by Mayor Nguyen Dan, Doan Duy Thanh, member of the Party C.C. and secretary of the Haiphong Party Committee, brought out the resounding victories and great achievements recorded by the Haiphong population over the past 30 (thirty) years.

Le Thanh Nghi read the State Council's decision to confer the Gold Star Order on the city's people and army. Chairman Pham Van Dong then pinned the order on the city's traditional flag.

On behalf of the Party Central Committee, the State Council, the Council of Ministers, Chairman Pham Van Dong commended the city people and armed forces for their achievements over the past 30 years. He urged them to do their best

to make Haiphong an industrial and port city, and a fortress of the country. He also called on the local population to uphold their revolutionary tradition, bring into full play their sense of creativeness to promote the industrial, agricultural production as well as the exploitation of marine resources; to improve economic management, promote culture, education, healthcare; stabilize and gradually improve the people's living conditions; hold high revolutionary vigilance and consolidate national defence, thus contributing to defeating the enemy's land-nibbling attacks and multi-faceted war of sabotage, and ensuring political security and social order.

Doan Duy Thanh expressed gratitude toward the party and state for presenting the city with this high award.

Then, a parade was arranged with the participation of the city's armed forces and mass. In the evening a firework was displayed at Tam Bac Lake. An exhibition-fair was also opened to honour the anniversary.

CSO: 4200/926

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

HANOI COMMEMORATES DIEN BIEN PHU VICTORY

BK090751 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 May 85

[Text] Today, 7 May, together with progressive mankind, our people celebrate the 31st anniversary of the heroic Dien Bien Phu victory. Coming in the wake of our nationwide, jubilant celebration of the complete victory in the anti-U.S. war of resistance for national salvation, and at a time when our entire country is joining the world's people in commemorating the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism, the current anniversary of the Dien Bien Phu victory takes on a very profound significance.

The Dien Bien Phu victory, which illustrated the heroic tradition of our forefathers and the achievements recorded by our people in nearly 25 years of revolutionary struggle under the leadership of great President Ho Chi Minh and the glorious CPV, definitely ended the old colonialist regime in our country. Bringing into full play the Dien Bien Phu tradition, after decades of struggle full of hardships and sacrifices, our people defeated the aggressive war of the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen in the spring of 1975, ending the anti-U.S. war of resistance for national salvation in complete victory, terminating the neocolonialist regime in the south, and regaining national independence, freedom, and unification.

Taking great pride in and drawing fresh strength from the historic Dien Bien Phu victory, the historic great 1975 spring victory, and the glorious 1979 spring victory, our people are making every effort to carry out two strategic tasks--building and defending the socialist homeland--while discharging their international duty toward the fraternal peoples of Laos and Cambodia.

Our people are very heroic. They will memorize forever great Uncle Ho's teaching that nothing is more precious than independence and freedom. Having written glorious pages of history, they will surely bring into full play their courage, intelligence, talents, creativity, and their spirit of collective mastery and will overcome all difficulties and hardships to achieve the socio-economic objectives set forth by the resolution of the Fifth Party Congress, thereby making active contributions to building and defending the socialist homeland.

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

TO HUU SPEAKS AT SOVIET AMBASSADOR'S BANQUET

OW091658 Hanoi VNA in English 1522 GMT 9 May 85

[Text] Hanoi, 9 May (VNA)---"Without the October revolution and the Soviet people's victories over German fascism and Japanese militarism there would have been no August revolution and no new Vietnam," said Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers To Huu. At the banquet given by Soviet Ambassador to Vietnam B. N. Chaplin here yesterday.

"With that significance," To Huu said, "the August revolution and the foundation of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the first worker-peasant state in Southeast Asia, constitute direct fruits of the victory over fascism and, at the same time an important factor contributing to promoting that victory."

"Today," Vice Chairman To Huu continued, "the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has become a firm outpost of socialism in Southeast Asia, an active factor for peace, stability and cooperation in the region, the Vietnamese people are always grateful to the Soviet party, government and people for their great, valuable and effective assistance to Vietnam's past resistance war for national salvation as well as its present socialist construction and national defence."

CSO: 4200/911

31 May 1985

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VAN TIEN DUNG, CHU HUY MAN AT AWARD CEREMONIES

BK090747 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 May 85

[Text] On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the complete victory of the anti-U.S. war of resistance for national salvation, the SRV Council of State has decided to bestow the Ho Chi Minh Order and Independence Order on veteran army cadres in recognition of their revolutionary activities. By order of the Council of State, the Defense Ministry has held grant award-presentation ceremonies in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. In Hanoi, the ceremony was held on 28 April to present the orders to recipients from the northern provinces. Attending were comrades Senior General Van Tien Dung, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of national defense; Senior General Chu Huy Man, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and director of the VPA General Political Department; Senior General Hoang Van Thai, member of the party Central Committee and vice minister of national defense; Colonel General Tran Van Quang, vice minister of national defense; Lieutenant General Le Ngoc Hien, deputy chief of the VPA General Staff; and representatives of the party Central Committee Organization Department and various organs of the Defense Ministry. On behalf of the party and the state, Senior Generals Van Tien Dung and Chu Huy Man presented the recipients with the Ho Chi Minh Order and Independence Order.

Speaking at the ceremony, Senior Gen Van Tien Dung stressed the high appreciation of the party, the state, and the army for the services rendered by the comrades receiving the honors on this occasion. These were people who had been awakened early to the revolutionary cause and had zealously devoted their whole lives to the cause of national liberation and to the entire revolutionary undertaking of the party, thereby making worthy contributions to the efforts of the entire army in writing up shining golden pages of history.

On behalf of the recipients, Major General Tran Tho expressed their enthusiasm and honor of receiving the state's noble award, voiced their gratitude for the education, guidance, and training given by the party and the army, and promised to continue developing the party's and army's traditions, to be loyal to the party and the revolution, and to firmly preserve the revolutionary qualities and virtues of the VPA cadres. On the evening of 1 May, a grand ceremony was held in Ho Chi Minh City to present the orders to the recipients from the southern provinces. On behalf of the party and the state, Senior Gen Van Tien Dung presented the Ho Chi Minh Order and Independence Order to the award-winning comrades.

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS COMMENDS NGHIA BINH

BK020524 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 2 May 85

[Text] The Council of Ministers recently commended the Nghia Binh Provincial Party Committee and People's Committee for their very high revolutionary spirit, sense of responsibility, and determination as they have, for the sake of Hanoi and of those combatants guarding the fatherland's frontline, made the following correct decision:

--to fulfill the 1985 quota for grain delivery to the central government between the end of April and the first half of May 1985.

--on the basis of doing a good job in the summer-fall crop, to continue to procure and further make an above-plan delivery of 10,000 metric tons of grain to the central government.

--to fulfill the quota for the delivery of 500 metric tons of slaughter cattle, 100 metric tons of fat, 100 metric tons of dry fish, and 50 metric tons of processed meat to the central government.

The Council of Ministers is convinced that by developing their built-in fine revolutionary tradition, the party organization and people of Nghia Binh Province will certainly be able to carry out in an outstanding manner all the guidelines already set forth and to satisfactorily meet all the requirements of the central government as well as of the locality on the basis of stepping up production, practicing thrift in consumption, and intensifying purchase activities in order to put all the sources of goods under state control.

CSO: 4209/389

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VAN TIEN DUNG ATTENDS NAVY ANNIVERSARY

OW071815 Hanoi VNA in English 1756 GMT 7 May 85

[Text] Hanoi, 7 May (VNA)--A meeting was held today by the Vietnam People's Navy to celebrate its 30th anniversary (7 May).

The meeting was attended by General Van Tien Dung, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and minister of national defence; Le Quang Dao, secretary of the party Central Committee; Senior Lieutenant-General Tran Van Quang, vice minister of national defense; Lieutenant General Nguyen Nam Khanh, member of the party Central Committee and deputy chief of the General Political Department of the Vietnam People's Army; Lieutenant General Nguyen The Bon, member of the party Central Committee and deputy chief of the VPA's general staff; VU Mao, member of the party Central Committee and first secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Central Committee; and representatives of the Ministry of Interior, the Fatherland Front Central Committee, other services of the Vietnam People's Army, and various organizations. The military attaches of the Soviet, Lao and Kampuchean Embassies in Hanoi and the Soviet consul-general in Haiphong were present on the occasion.

Vice-Admiral Giap Van Cuong, commander of the Vietnam People's Navy, read President of the State Council Truong Chinh's letter of commendation to all officers, sailors, workers and other personnel of the Vietnamese Navy on this occasion.

Addressing the meeting, General Van Tien Dung commended the navy and other forces defending the country's sea, islands and coasts for their worthy contributions to the struggle for the defense of the North, liberation of the South and reunification of the country.

Regarding the situation and Vietnamese Navy's tasks at present, General Van Tien Dung said:

"In many centuries past, the foreign feudalists and imperialists often took advantage of sea routes to invade our country.

"At present, the reactionaries in the Beijing ruling circles, frantic with their ambition of expansion to Southeast Asia, regard our eastern sea as an

important strategic direction to annex other countries in the region. They have been occupying our Hoang Sa archipelago, claiming sovereignty over our Truong Sa archipelago and arrogantly re-drawing sea maps with the aim of incorporating 80 (eighty) percent of the Eastern Sea into the China Sea.

"The U.S. imperialists have been defeated in Vietnam but they are seeking a comeback to Southeast Asia, colluding with the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists to carry out their Asia-Pacific strategy. To defend our territorial waters is the task of our entire party, people and army, in which the people's navy is the key force. All naval officers and sailors should be fully conscious of their tasks in the new revolutionary stage, enhance their vigilance, and stand prepared to fight and crush all aggressive designs and sabotage activities by any enemy to defend our sovereignty over our territorial waters and their resources, and at the same time, should do their utmost to join the entire people in national construction...."

CSO: 4200/911

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

DO MUOI ATTENDS THANG LONG BRIDGE OPENING

OW101021 Hanoi VNA in English 0945 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 9--The Thang Long Bridge, built with Soviet assistance across the Red River in Hanoi, was entirely opened to traffic at an official ceremony held here today by the Vietnamese Communications and Transport Ministry.

The 15-span double-decked bridge has been completed seven months ahead of schedule to welcome the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism and the 95th birthday of the late President Ho Chi Minh.

Present at the ceremony were Do Muoi, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguyen Duc Tam, Political Bureau member and secretary of the C.P.V. C.C.; Dong Sy Nguyen, alternate Political Bureau member of the C.P.V. C.C., vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of communications and transport; Hoang Tung, secretary of the CPC C.C.; Tran Vy, member of the CPV C.C. and chairman of the Hanoi People's Committee; Vu Mao, member of the C.P.V. C.C. and first secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union; B.N. Chaplin, Soviet ambassador to Vietnam; and many Soviet experts working at the project.

On behalf of the C.P.V. Central Committee and the Vietnamese government, Vice-Chairman Do Muoi expressed his sincere gratitude to the communist party, the government and the people of the Soviet Union for their great and effective assistance to the Vietnamese people in their past struggle as well as in their present task of national reconstruction and socialist industrialization. He described the Thang Long Bridge as a concrete manifestation of the great Vietnam-Soviet friendship.

On this occasion, Ambassador B.N. Chaplin warmly congratulated the Vietnamese people for having one more major project commissioned to accelerate the tempo of their national economic development.

He affirmed that the Soviet party, government and people continued to help the Vietnamese people overcome difficulties in socialist construction.

Vice-Chairman Do Muoi and Ambassador B.N. Chaplin cut the ribbon to inaugurate the Thang Long Bridge.

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

CULTURE MINISTER'S ARTICLE ON SOCIALIST CULTURE

OW100753 Hanoi VNA in English 0717 GMT 10 May 85

[Article by Nguyen Van Hieu, minister of culture: "Building a Socialist Vietnamese Culture"]

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 10--The revolutionary power holds in great respect all national values, both material and spiritual, forged in the course of the centuries. Far from advocating a break with tradition, it strives to perpetuate what is best in tradition in a spirit of historical continuity. Our state, ever since its creation has undertaken to this end work on a scale hitherto unknown in our history, the more so since it is a multi-national state. Its policy in this field consists in revalorizing the cultural patrimonies of all ethnic groups living on its territory, not only that of the Viet, the majority nationality, but also those of the 53 minority nationalities living either in concentrated or scattered fashion in the north, the centre and the south. It paves the way for the cultural development of each of those human communities in every respect: language, literature and art, customs and habits...for all the fraternal ethnic groups to contribute on an equal footing to the blossoming of the multinational Vietnamese culture, we regard as absolutely alien to us the assimilation of one culture by another.

Our research institutes, cultural services at all levels, museums, theatres, cinemas...our art ensembles, both professional and amateur, our publishing houses and libraries..., with their bodies of cadres sprung from various ethnic backgrounds, have greatly contributed to the revolorization and development of our many national cultures, including those of ethnic minorities formerly threatened with extinction under the old regimes. Such an undertaking, an immense one, let's keep this in mind, is being carried out on the basis of scientific norms and a judicious selection, aiming at social progress and common objectives shared with other branches of activity in the building of socialism.

Modern Vietnamese culture, socialist in content and national in character, does seek not only to inherit traditional Vietnamese cultures but also to absorb the accomplishments of human culture, holding in high esteem the moral and spiritual values of other peoples in the world, with a reserve put on cultural cosmopolitanism which is another evil to be combated in addition to cultural chauvinism.

On the basis of these principles and stronger cultural ties with other countries and specially with our neighbours within the Indochinese bloc, the three peoples

of Indochina have sealed their brotherhood-in-arms in the course of a century-old struggle against foreign aggressors, for the conquest then the defence of national independence and at present for the building of socialism.

As a matter of fact, cultural cooperation and exchanges between the three Indochinese countries have continued over a number of years and encompass nearly all branches of activity: plastic arts, music, choreography, circus, drama, cinema, library and archives, publishing, printing, museum and conservation, exhibition, mass culture, cadre training...traditional music and dance festivals of Indochinese countries, held in Phnom Penh in 1982, in Vientiane in 1983 and in Nha Trang (Vietnam) in 1984 achieved great success. The first conference of culture ministers of the Indochinese countries, held in Phnom Penh in April 1984, adopted important resolutions on the combination of efforts to build for each Indochinese country a new culture, socialist in content and national and popular in character, and to effectively struggle against penetration by decadent and reactionary cultures. Vietnam, which is one step ahead of the two fraternal countries in socialist building continues to give them all necessary assistance to this end, in an internationalist spirit.

Likewise, we attach prime importance to cultural cooperation with the other socialist countries, members of the council for mutual economic assistance, first of all with the land of Soviets, the pioneer in socialist revolution and the mainstay of the world socialist community. In our cultural work we are inspired by Lenin's teachings and Soviet experiences. We are also grateful to the Soviet Union for the effective material and technical assistance it has been giving to the building of our modern culture. Our common efforts on the cultural plane are part of the comprehensive cooperation inaugurated by the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics signed on 3 November 1978 and developing ever since then. Following the "Days of Soviet Culture" organized in Vietnam in December 1982 on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the USSR, next May will see the opening in the land of Soviets of "Days of Vietnamese Culture" marking great anniversaries of the Vietnamese revolution. A delegation of 250 Vietnamese artists and cultural workers will present to the Soviet public the peculiar features of traditional Vietnamese culture and the cultural achievements recorded over the past forty years in a former colony which has opted for the socialist road, by passing the stage of capitalist development.

A resolute partisan of peaceful coexistence and international cooperation the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is for the establishment and tightening of cultural ties with all countries of the world, regardless of political regime, in the interest of all.

We are very conscious of our geographical and ethnolinguistic ties to Southeast Asia. That is why we wish to develop and, why not, gradually systematize our cultural contacts with Indonesia, Malaysia, the other Asean countries and Burma, those close neighbours with undeniable affinities to us. India, with its marvelous, universally recognized, culture, has always shown sympathy to our cause and one can measure the prospects of multiform cooperation between our two republics by the success of the official visit to the country of Mahatma Gandhi by Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam,

in September 1984. France, once French colonialism eliminated remains our friend--didn't its great people extend whole-hearted support to ours at difficult moments? And fruitful cooperation between the two parties can be hoped for. The same holds true for Australia and Sweden, to mention only these two, which are among our new friends. The situation in the world is getting better and one may believe that the time will come when our relations with the United States and even with China will be normalized, on the basis of mutual respect of national independence and sovereignty, in the common interest of the parties concerned and that of the great human community.

CSO: 4200/926

BRIEFS

LAM DONG PARTY MEMBERS--Since 1984, Lam Dong Province has recruited 500 new party members from the local ethnic minority groups. In 1976, the province had 100 grassroot party organizations and almost 2,000 party members. At present, the number of party organizations increased by fourfold and party members increased by threefold. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 6 May 85 BK]

PARTY PAPERS HOLD SEMINAR--Delegates from the party papers of six central coast provinces--Phu Khanh, Nghia Binh, Quang Nam-Danang, Binh Tri Thien, Nghe Tinh, and Thanh Hoa--recently held a symposium in Thanh Hoa Province to improve the quality of party development propaganda through papers. The symposium further enhances the knowledge that the revolutionary press, especially the party papers, must perform its primary tasks of reporting the party tasks and of asserting the position and importance of party development propaganda in the local press. The delegates devoted a great amount of time to discussing the contents, requirements, themes, objectives, and types of propaganda to develop the party in the new situation and the necessary measures to help enhance the quality of party development propaganda in the local press. The delegates stressed the urgent need to organize and train the force of reporters specializing in party development tasks and to arrange for other reporters specializing in other fields to also reflect the party development theme. The delegates particularly emphasized the need to build the force of collaborators, especially among the party committee members at all echelons, who will participate in making party development propaganda in the press. [Text] [BK110410 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 10 May 85]

CHU HUY MAN ACTIVITIES--At the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union, our party-state delegation led by Chu Huy Man, member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of State, went to the Soviet Union to attend the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in their great national defense war. The delegation laid a wreath at and visited the Lenin mausoleum and the unknown soldier monument and attended the solemn military parade in Moscow and other functions to mark the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in their great national defense war. Comrade Nikolov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee and the Supreme Soviet Presidium, conferred on Chu Huy Man and his delegation members commemorative awards of the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism. He highly evaluated the Vietnamese people's comprehensive achievements

in national construction and defense, praised the Communist Party of Vietnam for its clear and bright internationalism, and stressed: The Vietnamese-Soviet friendship, militant solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation constitute a strong factor in consolidating the friendship between socialist countries and the world revolutionary movement. The delegation also visited Tashkent City, the capital of the Soviet Socialist Republic of Uzbekistan, and the heroic city of Volgograd. [Text] [BK100838 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 9 May 85]

BUILDERS GET HO CHI MINH ORDER--Hanoi VNA May 8--The Union of Thang Long Bridge-Building Enterprises held a big ceremony here today to mark the completion of the construction of the Thang Long Bridge and receive the Ho Chi Minh Order, a high distinction of the Vietnamese state. The bridge, built with Soviet assistance, was completed 235 days ahead of schedule to welcome the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism and the [figure indistinct] birthday of the late President Ho Chi Minh (May 19). Present at the ceremony were Dong Sy Nguyen, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of communications and transport; Tran Vy, member of the C.P.V. C.C. and chairman of the Hanoi people's committee; Mrs Nguyen Thi Dinh, member of the C.P.V. C.C. and president of the Women's Union; Nguyen Duc Thuan, member of the C.P.V. C.C., and president of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions; and representatives of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Central Committee, central and Hanoi offices, Vietnamese workers and cadres and Soviet experts working at this project. Dong Sy Nguyen conferred the Ho Chi Minh Order on the Union of the Thang Long Bridge-Building Enterprise, then Tran Vy, Mrs Nguyen Thi Dinh and Nguyen Duc Thuan presented it with gifts, and an embroidered scroll. [Text] [BK081805 Hanoi VNA in English 1657 GMT 8 May 85]

CSSR PHOTO EXHIBITION--Hanoi VNA May 9--A photo exhibition on 40 years of peaceful construction in Czechoslovakia and 30 years of the Vietnam-Czechoslovakia treaty of friendship, was opened here this morning in honour of the Czechoslovak national day, under the auspices of our agency and the Czechoslovak agency O.R.B.I.S. Present on the occasion were Hoang Tung, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam; Cu Huy Can, minister in charge of culture and arts at the office of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Writers and Artists' Union; Le Xuan Dong, deputy director of the C.P.V. Central Committee's Department of Propaganda and Training; Bohuslav Handl, Czechoslovak ambassador to Vietnam; and the cultural attaches of many other embassies here. On display were 150 black-and-white colour photos of Vietnam news agency and the Czechoslovak agency O.R.B.I.S. on the Vietnamese and Czechoslovak peoples' struggles for independence, freedom and socialist construction; on the fruitful multi-faceted cooperation between the two countries; on Czechoslovakia's valuable assistance to Vietnam and commitment to world peace; and on other aspects. [Text] [OW101335 Hanoi VNA in English 0929 GMT 10 May 85]

JPRS-SEA-85-085
31 May 1985

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BRIEFS

BEN TRE COOPERATIVIZATION--As of 26 April, Ben Tre had established almost 2,000 production collectives, 7 agricultural cooperatives, and collectivized 93 percent of peasant families and over 68,910 hectares of ricefield. Ben Tre is the third province in the south, after Tien Giang Province and Ho Chi Minh City, that has basically completed the cooperativization task. The province is striving to improve fishery and forestry to develop agriculture comprehensively. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 5 May 85 BK]

CSO: 4209/389

AGRICULTURE

WEEK'S AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION REVIEWED

OW111025 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] Dear friends: The noteworthy features of the situation in agricultural production during the past week are as follows:

The southern provinces have concentrated on completing the winter-spring rice harvest. Due to late transplanting, the Eastern Nam Bo provinces have now begun reaping the main rice crop. In general, the winter-spring rice in the northern provinces is developing well.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture's initial report, the current winter-spring rice crop in some localities, including Haiphong and Thai Binh, is better than the previous one. Of serious concern is that ricefields are currently affected by insects and blight. As many as 43,000 hectares have been stricken by drought, and the affected area will possibly be expanded in the days to come. The rice area infested with harmful insects now amounts to nearly 210,000 hectares, a 3.4 percent increase over the same period last year. The provinces and cities with most ricefields affected by crop pests include: Thanh Hoa with 33,000 hectares, Thai Binh with 39,000 hectares, Ha Nam Ninh with 31,000 hectares, Hai Hung with 27,000 hectares, and Vinh Phu with 4,000 hectares, and Haiphong City with 10,000 hectares. These localities are currently concentrating on securing sufficient water for ricefields, and on preventing, and eradicating, crop pests.

Many localities are now switching their field work to soil preparation and summer-fall crop cultivation. An Giang, Long An, and Cuu Long provinces have plowed 85 percent of the planned summer-fall crop acreage. Tien Giang Province has sown rice on 75 percent of the planned acreage, while Nghia Binh has sown 50 percent, Cuu Long 41 percent, and An Giang 45 percent.

Along with summer-fall crop cultivation, localities have prepared soil and readied fertilizers and rice seedlings for the 10th-month rice production. Those southern provinces with large floating rice areas have begun sowing.

Regarding the 10th-month rice crop, the northern provinces are now examining rice seeds and preparing sufficient draft power for soil preparation. In particular, the mountainous provinces have begun sowing the 10th-month rice seeds.

The season for planting spring vegetables and subsidiary and industrial crops in Northern Vietnam is now over, but the cultivation plan is still unfulfilled. The cultivated acreage of corn, manioc, vegetables, galingale, peanut, tobacco, garlic, and cotton is larger than in the past year. The corn acreage has increased, especially in the lowland provinces with many alluvial plains. The increase in corn acreage in the mountainous provinces is insignificant. Meanwhile, the cultivated acreage of sweet potatoes, beans, soybeans, jute, sesame, sugarcane, and mulberry has decreased.

Dear friends: According to the Meteorological and Hydrological General Department's forecast, the weather next week will be sunny and hot. The northern localities should pay attention to properly managing all sources of water, with a view to securing sufficient water for riceplants to head. Attention should also be paid to preventing, and eradicating, crop pests through combined measures in order to economize on insecticides and obtain good results. Currently, well-prepared fields must be reserved for planting rice seedlings for the next crop season. At the same time, it is necessary to secure, and distribute, sufficient good seeds to all areas, ensure proper crop cultivation patterns for winter season production, carry out initial plowing of fields reserved for the 10th-month rice seedlings, and make preparations for summer-fall crop cultivation.

The southern provinces should take advantage of the favorable weather conditions to quickly sow the summer-fall rice seeds and to grow an additional acreage of vegetables and subsidiary and industrial crops.

CSO: 4209/389

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

BRIEFS

SEA TRANSPORT INDUSTRY GROWTH REPORTED--The Vietnamese sea transport industry is 20 years old today, 5 May. At present, sea transport tackles 2 million tonnes of cargo a year and 8 million ton-kilometers on all home and international lanes. Vietnamese oceanliners have called at more than 100 seaports of various countries in Southeast Asia, Europe, and Latin America. There are 17 seaports operating now in Vietnam, scattered all along the 3,000-km long coast. Vietnamese shipyards are now able to build and repair modern ships up to 15,000 tons, and they are beginning initial steps to do business with foreign customers. [Text] [Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 5 May 85 BK]

DANANG RADIO STATION--Since liberation, the Danang radio station in Quang Nam-Danang Province has improved its network remarkably. To date, it has a 7,000-kw broadcasting station and has established 47 wired radio stations at various subwards, organizations, enterprises, and schools. The city radio station has also improved its broadcasting programs to promote knowledge among the local people. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 8 May 85 BK]

CSO: 4209/389

JPRS-SEA-85-085
31 May 1985

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

BRIEFS

PAPER'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY MARKED--SAIGON GIAI PHONG [SAIGON LIBERATION], the official organ of the Ho Chi Minh City party organization, made its debut only 4 days after Saigon-Gia Dinh was liberated. Now 10 years old, the paper has published 3,063 issues with hundreds of millions of copies, serving its readers daily. Over the past 10 years, because of the care of the city's party organization, SAIGON GIAI PHONG has actively participated in the revolutionary action movement of the people of Ho Chi Minh City, satisfactorily discharging step by step the functions of an organ of the city's party organization. On the afternoon of 5 May, on the occasion of the paper's 10th anniversary, its editorial staff held a cordial meeting with nearly 500 contributors, including comrades working in many different fields of the central agencies, in Ho Chi Minh City, and in other provinces. Comrades Mai Chi Tho, member of the Party Central Committee, and chairman of the city's people's committee; Phan Minh Tanh, deputy secretary of the city's party committee; and many other comrades in charge of the press agencies at the central level and in various localities attended the commemorative ceremony. Earlier, on 4 May, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, member of the Party Central Committee and secretary of the city's party committee, called on the cadres, reporters, workers, and employees of the paper. He commended the paper's outstanding contributions to the very great common successes of Ho Chi Minh City over the past 10 years. [Text] [BK090937 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 May 85]

CSO: 4209/389

POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

KHMER KRAOM ETHNIC MINORITY IN NAM BO

Hanoi DAI DOAN KET in Vietnamese 13 Mar 85 p 14

[Article by Hai Au: "On the Khmer Kraom Compatriots"]

[Text] The Khmer Kraom ethnic minority in Nam Bo is among the largest, led only by the Tay.

According to the 1979 census, there were 729,068 Nam Bo Khmer Kraom but recent provincial reports indicate this figure has risen to about 900,000.

The largest concentrations of Nam Bo Khmer Kraom compatriots are in five provinces: Hau Giang, Cuu Long, Kien Giang, An Giang and Minh Hai. Only 10 percent live in the districts along the Vietnamese-Cambodian border in the provinces of Tay Ninh, Song Be, An Giang and Kien Giang. There are also small groups in Ho Chi Minh City and in other provinces.

The Khmer Kraom have joined the ethnic Vietnamese in developing the Mekong River Delta into a rice granary and in resisting their common enemies, cruel rulers and aggressors.

The uprisings of Acha Cui (1820) and Tava Som (1841) in Tra Cu and Vinh Long against the Nguyen feudalists were supported by the ethnic Vietnamese.

The Khmer Kraom and ethnic Vietnamese joined efforts against the French as in the movement of Truong Quyen and Monk Pucompo (1864), the movement of Acha Soa and Sicotha with the Vietnamese revolutionary army at That Son, etc.

After the party was formed, the Vietnamese-Khmer Kraom farm movement in the Mekong River Delta developed, especially during the years of 1931, 1937 and 1938.

During the war of resistance against the Americans, the Khmer Kraom resisted the policies of the Americans and puppets to separate them from the ethnic Vietnamese, responded to the coordinated uprising movement at Bay Nui, and resisted the policies of the enemy to concentrate the people, construct hamlets and separate them from the revolution.

There have been several examples of sacrifice by soldier heroes such as Chau Ut at O Lam-Bay Nui and by intellectuals and monks such as the Venerable Son Vong, Superior Bonze Thach Sem, etc.

The Khmer Kraom have an extremely rich and diversified cultural heritage composed of language, folk songs, legends, etc; with folk songs of various forms: the lullaby, work song, conversational song, etc. There are the legends of Chau Thanh, Chau Thong (Thach Sanh, Ly Thong), Nieng Moronac Meda (Tam Cam), etc., similiar to those of the ethnic Vietnamese. The jokes and fables of the Khmer Kraom are also rich as typified by the poetry of Manh Chay.

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CSO: 4209/359

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