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26 March 1985

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CAMBODIA

HUN SEN SENDS THANKS TO AFGHAN PRIME MINISTER

BK191050 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the PRK, sent a message of thanks and greetings in reply to Comrade Soltan Ali Keshtmand, prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The message stressed:

I agree with you that the bonds of friendship and solidarity between our two governments and peoples will be strengthened and developed further for the interests of our two countries and contribute to the building of peace, stability, and cooperation in the region. All maneuvers of interference and aggression of the U.S. imperialists, the Chinese hegemonist-expansionists, and other international reactionaries will be definitely defeated due to the solidarity forces of our peoples, supported and assisted by peace-loving peoples the world over, in particular by the peoples of the socialist community.

May you enjoy the best of health so that you achieve more new successes in fulfilling your noble duty for your country and nation, and may the fraternal Afghan people enjoy prosperity and score victory in the defense and construction of their country.

CSO: 4212/50

CAMBODIA

REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 18-24 FEBRUARY

BK250919 [Editorial Report] Cambodian media monitored by Bangkok Bureau carried the following reports on agricultural developments during the reporting period 18-24 February:

National level: SPK in French at 0424 GMT on 22 February reports that during a 4-month period up to the end of January, Cambodian fishermen caught 23,600 metric tons of freshwater fish, an increase of 32 percent over the same period last year. Part of this catch was converted into 500 metric tons of dried fish and 177,000 liters of fish sauce. The report adds that the plan for this year is to catch 60,000 metric tons of freshwater fish; 55,000 metric tons were caught last year.

Takeo Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 1300 GMT on 18 February reports that by early February, peasants in Batri District had harvested over 15,000 hectares of rainy season rice and had transplanted over 600 hectares of dry season rice so far. At 1300 GMT on 19 February, the radio reports that by 6 February, peasants in Treang District had sold over 160 metric tons of paddy to the state. At 1300 GMT on 20 February, the radio says that peasants in Prey Kabbas District had by 6 February transplanted over 2,000 hectares of dry season rice--68 percent of the plan--and had harvested over 300 hectares of flood receding rice. At 1300 GMT on 21 February, the radio says the Samraong District trade office has so far bought 350 metric tons of paddy--out of the target of 1,500 metric tons--from peasants. In the same district, by early February, peasants had transplanted over 3,000 of the planned 4,300 hectares of dry season rice, according to a report carried by the radio at 0430 GMT on 23 February. In another report broadcast on 24 February at 1300 GMT, the radio says that in 1984, the Bati District veterinary service vaccinated 118,378 head of cattle against various diseases.

Battambang Province: At 1300 GMT on 19 February, the radio reports that by early February, peasants in the province had sold over 5,500 metric tons of paddy to the state.

Kandal Province: According to SPK in English at 1126 GMT on 20 February, by last month, peasants in S'ang District had planted 2,270 hectares of rice out of the 5,800 hectares planned for this dry season. The same report adds that during this period, 20,400 metric tons of natural fertilizers were produced and 1,360 hectares planted with ground nut, tobacco, sugar cane, maize,

cassava, sweet potato, beans, and vegetables. SPK in English at 1112 GMT on 23 February reports that at the end of last month, peasants in Kaoh Thom District had planted 3,460 hectares of rice, including 1,400 hectares of high-yielding IR-36 rice strain, and also planted 2,500 hectares of subsidiary crops, including 750 hectares of tobacco. The report adds that during the same period, peasants in Ponhea Loe District planted 2,300 hectares of dry season rice and harvested 7,900 hectares of monsoon rice--2,260 hectares of which were affected by last year's floods--and says the district agricultural service supplied 200 metric tons of chemical fertilizers to peasants.

Kompong Som municipality: At 0430 GMT on 20 February, the radio says that so far, peasants in the municipality have harvested over 8,600 hectares of rice with an average yield of 1.5 metric tons per hectare.

Kampot Province: According to the radio at 1300 GMT on 20 February, between early January and mid-February, the provincial trade service bought over 4,000 metric tons of paddy from peasants. In another report broadcast at 0430 GMT on 21 February, the radio says fishermen in the province caught over 3,000 metric tons of fish, 300 metric tons of prawns, and 1,500 metric tons of other seafood.

Kompong Chhnang Province: At 0430 GMT on 22 February, the radio reports that by mid-February, peasants in the province had transplanted over 2,400 hectares of rice. In another report broadcast on 24 February at 0430 GMT, the radio says that so far, peasants in Baribo District had transplanted over 5,000 [as heard] hectares of various types of rice.

Kompong Speu Province: According to the radio at 1300 GMT on 24 February, by 10 February, peasants in the province had harvested over 25,000 hectares of rainy season rice out of the 57,450 hectares planted with a total yield of over 23,470 metric tons. The report adds that over 800 hectares of dry season rice and over 800 hectares of subsidiary crops were also planted.

Kompong Cham Province: SPK in French at 0427 GMT on 22 February reports that last year, the rubber plantation at Tapao produced over 6.5 million liters of latex, over 3,200 metric tons of rubber crepe, and planted over 1,850 hectares of rubber trees.

CSO: 4212/50

CAMBODIA

BRIEFS

COMMANDER DESCRIBES SWEEP OPERATION--The brigade launched its sweeping operation at 0700 on 11 December 1984 as planned by higher authorities. After a battle lasting from 0700 to 1200, the brigade took complete control of the Sok San battlefield. As a result of the brigade's fighting, we killed a total of 139 enemy soldiers; captured 1; and seized 13 weapons--as well as destroying 8 others, including 1 82-mm mortar--and 40,000 rounds of ak ammunition. We also destroyed a number of barracks and some equipment, including an ammunition depot and a rice depot. [Excerpt] [Statement of station correspondent by (Khul Savoan), commander of "Victory" Brigade on the western border front; date not given--recorded] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 26 Feb 85 BK]

HENG SAMRIN THANKS ZAIL SINGH--Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, has recently sent a message of thanks to His Excellency Zail Singh, president of the Republic of India, for his congratulations on the 6th anniversary of the Cambodian people's National Day. The message stresses: On behalf of the Cambodian Government and people and in my own name, I would like to express sincere thanks for the warm congratulations you sent on the occasion of the 6th anniversary of the 7 January National Day. We firmly believe that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries will further develop and be strengthened in accordance with the aspirations of our two peoples. I would like to wish you good health, longevity, and new successes in your noble tasks. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 16 Feb 85 BK]

HUN SEN THANKS GANDHI, ALAM KHAN--Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers and foreign minister, has recently sent a message of thanks to His Excellency Rajiv Gandhi, Indian prime minister, and Khursid Alam Kham, minister of state in the Indian External Affairs Ministry, for their congratulations on the occasion of the 6th anniversary of the Cambodian people's 7 January National Day. The message stresses: On behalf of the Cambodian Government and people and in my own name, I would like to express sincere thanks for the congratulations you sent me on the occasion of the 6th anniversary of the 7 January National Day. We are happy to note that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries are developing well in accordance with the aspirations of our two peoples and those of peace-loving nations the world over. I would like to wish you good health, longevity, and new successes in your noble tasks. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 16 Feb 85]

KAMPOT ARMED FORCES' SUCCESSES REPORTED--In 1984, our Kampot provincial forces launched several sweeping operations against the bandits in many localities. We killed 71 enemy soldiers on the spot, wounded 55, and captured 20 others. We seized a large quantity of war materials and (?61) assorted weapons. Aside from this, the Kampot provincial armed forces have carried out mass persuasion work well, in addition to the work to build strong communes and villages and the work to proselytize the misled people into returning home and rejoining the revolutionary society. In fact, we opened 717 political courses for the population and fulfilled the recruitment plan set by the higher authorities. [Excerpt] [Statement to station correspondent by (Toch Thi), commander of Kampot provincial armed forces, on success of emulation campaign in the province--recorded] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 25 Feb 85 BK]

SIEM REAP-ODDAR MEANCHHEY BATTLES--Between 17 and 22 February, the armed forces, people, and militiamen in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, in close cooperation with the Vietnamese Army volunteers, launched several sweeping operations against the Pol Pot remnants with successful results. As a result, we killed 20 Pol Pot remnants, took 24 others prisoner, put out of action 46 others, and seized 26 assorted weapons and some ammunition and war materiel. At the same time, four enemy elements surrendered to us. This brilliant victory greatly elated the people in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province. They pledged to nurture great indignation against the enemies and to allow their sons to join in the army. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 28 Feb 85 BK]

MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN SIEM REAP--Between 17 and 22 February, in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, the Army, people and militia force, in cooperation with the Vietnamese Army volunteers, took the initiative in launching active operations to sweep up the Pol Pot remnants and scored good results. We killed 20, took 24 prisoners, and put out of action another 46. We also seized 26 weapons, ammunition, and some war materiel. Furthermore, four enemy elements surrendered. This brilliant success has made people in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province very happy. The people also harbor hatred against the enemies and urge their children to join the army in large numbers. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 1 Mar 85 BK]

10 FEBRUARY KOMPONG THOM ACTION--In cooperation with the Vietnamese army volunteers, on 10 February our combatants in Stoung District [Kompong Thom Province] launched a mopping-up operation against the enemy, killing 10 enemy soldiers, seizing 4 B-41's, and forcing several other enemy soldiers to surrender. This success has greatly encouraged our armed forces in their sweeping operations against the bandits in order to ensure security for the population. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 1 Mar 85 BK]

CSO: 4212/50

LAOS

LEADERS RECEIVE GREETINGS FROM CSSR COUNTERPARTS

BK211213 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] Vientiane, 21 Feb (KPL)--Kansone Phomvihane, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party CC, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Souphanouvong, president of the republic and of the People's Supreme Assembly of the Lao PDR, have received a greetings message from Gustav Husak, general secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia CC, president of the republic, and Lubomir Strougal, chairman of the Council of Ministers, in connection with the 5th anniversary of the signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Laos and Czechoslovakia.

"On behalf of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia CC and the Czechoslovak people, and in our own names, we convey our greeting and best wishes to you, to the Lao People's Revolutionary Party CC, the Council of Ministers, and to all Lao people on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Laos and Czechoslovakia," said the message.

It pointed out that the signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the two countries reflected the genuine aspiration and determination of the two countries in unceasingly developing our fraternal friendship, solidarity and cooperation on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

"Czechoslovakia highly evaluates the friendly relations and cooperation between Laos and Czechoslovakia, for strengthening the forces of the socialist community, against the aggressive policy of imperialism, and for peace and prosperity in the world," wrote the message.

It stressed that Czechoslovakia would do its best to further consolidate the friendly relations between Laos and Czechoslovakia.

The message wished the Lao leaders and all the Lao people success in the socialist construction in Laos.

CSO: 4200/623

LAOS

INTERNATIONAL STORE GETS GOODS FROM SRV

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 30 Jan 85 pp 1, 4

[Article: "The City's International Store Is Very Popular With the Masses"]

[Text] The commercial undertaking of the international trade branch of Vientiane City is very popular with the masses. Comrade Suli-nyong, a deputy director of the Vientiane branch of the international store, told Vientiane Mai on 29 January 1985 that since the Vientiane branch of the international store officially opened on 15 December 1984 until now, it appears that the people, cadres, soldiers, police and workers both domestic and foreign like and admire the goods in the store very much. The daily average of foreign currency which the store takes in is quite high when compared with the beginning of this sort of trade in Vientiane City.

The deputy director also said: by relying on the treaty of cooperation between the two capitals, Vientiane and Hanoi, and between Vientiane and Ho Chi Minh City in the past and now, we [have been able] to order goods directly from these cities, and it appears that the prices are lower than goods from Thailand.

The kinds of goods sold now are generally daily use items such as household necessities, handicrafts, building tools, agricultural implements etc. The domestic items sold include handicrafts such as woven items, pants and shirts. The forestry and agricultural items are exported; they are in great demand abroad.

In ending the deputy director said that: the goal for international trade in Vientiane City now is to quickly open a second branch store at the morning market where forest and agricultural products could be purchased which were brought in by the people. These products could be exchanged for goods our people want from the two cities (Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City). This will meet the demands of all the people.

8149
CSO: 4206/94

LAOS

INSTRUCTION FOR, PURPOSES OF CENSUS

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 7 Feb 85 p 2

/"Studies on Population Census" Column: "What Are the Purposes of the Population Census?"/

/Text/ The purpose of the population census is to collect basic data on population and labor in society to be used as a strong foundation for the construction of the national socioeconomic expansion plan, and for appropriate allocation of work in each locality and also nationwide. It is also meant to be a foundation for economic management and to steadily raise the standard of living of the people so they will continually prosper.

To achieve these goals and expected levels of the population census, some work must be carried out as follows: Each level, each work section, and each locality must deeply absorb the significance of the population census. This means there must be guidance, organization, and unanimous implementation. Throughout the registration period the population census must be taken as the main issue; the entire party and the people must put all of their energy into making it a glorious success. Everyone must carry out his task and answer correctly. The census cadres must go to each family and arrange for a time to suit the family they are responsible for registering so there will be no interference in the people's production. This means they must work out a detailed schedule and make appointments with the families to be registered.

The target of the population registration. According to Item 1, Section 1, of the article "Regulations on the 1985 Population Census," "the target of population registration is all Lao people (including aliens who have renounced their own nationality and have become Lao) who normally live in Lao territory, those who are assigned for long-term work and study abroad, and aliens who normally live in Laos for the purpose of making a living. All are targets of the population registration regardless of sex, age, or religion whether they are young or old, male or female."

In the population census each individual will be registered only once at only the actual place where they normally live, which would be their permanent place, or a fairly permanent one in terms of their living conditions. Therefore, the people must register where they normally live, and not at where they live or work temporarily.

Registering where they normally live avoids repeating registration or /omitting/ anyone. This means each individual must be registered only once and at only one place where they are located permanently or fairly permanently.

9884

CSO: 4206/98

LAOS

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT RECEIVES UNESCO'S M'BOW

BK081130 Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Vientiane, 8 Mar (KPL)--Phoumi Vongvichit, Political Bureau member of the LPRP CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, received here yesterday a delegation of UNESCO led by its Director-General Amadou Mahtar M'Bow.

During the warm and cordial meeting, A. M. M'Bow informed Vice-Chairman P. Vongvichit of the present situation of UNESCO and the viewpoints of some of its members. He reaffirmed continued UNESCO assistance to Laos.

P. Vongvichit thanked UNESCO for its assistance to Laos in the past as well as at present. He wished the delegation success in its visit here.

The same day, a delegation of the National UNESCO Committee of Laos led by Prof Bountiam Phitsamai, acting minister of education and chairman of the committee, conferred with A. M. M'Bow.

The two sides discussed cooperation between the Lao Government and UNESCO and the latter's help to Laos in building educational, cultural, and mass media projects.

CSO: 4200/622

LAOS

FORESTRY COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH SRV

BK251229 Vientiane KPL in English 0918 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Vientiane, 25 Feb (OANA-KPL)--An agreement on cooperation and mutual assistance in forestry work was signed here yesterday between Laos and Vietnam.

Signatories were the Lao side, Kham-ouan Bouphe, first deputy-minister of industry, handicraft and forestry, the Vietnamese side, Tran Van Que deputy-minister of forestry. [sentence as received]

The agreement spells out the Vietnamese cooperation with the forestry enterprise number 2 in Sepon District, Savannakhet Province, cooperation in the surveying and managing of forestry activities in Luang Prabang Province, in Nam Ngum reservoir area and southern Saravane Province. Also included in the agreement is long term forestry cooperation between Laos and Vietnam.

In attendance at the signing ceremony were the Lao side Maisouk Saisompheng, member of the LPRO CC, minister of industry, handicrafts, and forestry, the Vietnamese side, Dam Xuan Dung, economic counselor of Vietnamese Embassy to Laos. [sentence as received]

CSO: 4200/622

LAOS

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT ON PARTY HISTORY, YOUTHS ROLE

BK201047 Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Vientiane, 20 Feb (KPL)--A lecture on the history of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party was given here recently to over 3,000 students and teachers at the Dong Dok Teachers' College by Phoumi Vongvichit, Political Bureau member of the party CC and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers.

The vice-chairman spoke of the long tradition of heroic struggle of the LPRP, saying that the party, derived from the Communist Party of Indochina with the late Ho Chi Minh as leader, has always been faithful to the Lao working class.

From the LPRP's founding day (22 March 1955) to the 3rd Party Congress in April 1982, the LPRP led by Secretary General Kaysone Phomvihan has successfully guided the entire Lao people in carrying out the task of national liberation and steadily advancing towards socialism bypassing the stage of capitalist development, stressed the speaker.

P. Vongvichit also pointed out the significance of the role and task of the Lao youths in the new phase of the revolution and appealed to them to develop their good tradition of serving the nation in order to obtain more achievements in honour of the two historical days--the 30th anniversary of the party and the 10th anniversary of the Lao PDR.

CSO: 4200/623

LAOS

YOUTHS ASKED TO SUPPORT ARMY WITH GIFTS, LETTERS

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 11 Jan 85 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Report No 05/SN.K.Ph.]

[Text] To: Youth committees for the districts and services around Vientiane City.

Concerning: Encouraging young people and children to give gifts and write letters of appreciation to front line soldiers.

On the anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Army on 20 January which is coming soon, [we would like] to commemorate this important day, show our appreciation for our soldiers who have defended the nation and the peace with a great spirit of personal sacrifice for the society, form an attachment on the part of youth for the army and bonds of firm solidarity between the youth organizations and the army, and arouse great spirit in the officers and soldiers who are serving in the front lines through many hardships.

The committee controlling youth activities for Vientiane City has a plan for there to be visits to show appreciation and give presents to [our] soldiers in many areas especially in the area of fighting at the three villages in Paklai District.

Therefore we would like to inform the youth committees of each district and each service around the city to take care to encourage the youth and children in their responsibility to donate various necessities and food which will be presented as gifts at the front line. In addition [they are] to write messages and letters of appreciation to the soldiers at the front line.

In regard to this matter [we] request every level of the youth committees to organize a committee to be responsible for encouraging their organization so that care is taken to encourage, organize and lead on a broad scale so that this has profound significance and great success.

When the encouragement has been, the items and the messages of appreciation are to be taken to the committee responsible for encouraging gifts of the city youth office no later than 20 January 1985.

It is very much hoped that there will be good cooperation from everyone.

Vientiane, 9 January 1985

The committee for youth activities P.P.L., Vientiane City.

8149

CSO: 4206/94

LAOS

COLUMN: NO UNEMPLOYMENT, BUT YOUTHS RESIST WORK

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 1 Feb 85 p 2

"Letters" Column: "What Can We Do So That Everyone Will Have a Job?"

Excerpts Question Before we discuss the problem, first of all our editorial staff would like to thank and praise Somphon, a member of Ban Na Sok agricultural co-op in Nong Douang Canton, Sikottabonk District, Vientiane Capital, who sacrificed his time in sending his question.

Somphon asked what we can do so that everyone will have a job, and so that youths will not misbehave.

Answer We would like to express our views on this question as follows. The primary goal of our party in leading the Lao people of ethnic groups to successfully carry out the national democratic revolution and advance to socialism without having to go through the capitalist expansion period as today is aimed at wiping out all forms of exploitation among the people and making people live by working. Whoever works a lot gets a lot, whoever works little gets little, and those who do not work get nothing and will be condemned by the people. In other words, to work as you can and to spend depending on the labor you perform.

In the new conversion of our nation our domestic economic situation still consists of many sections and still has many problems. The socialist economy, however, has just taken shape. But this does not mean we have no work to do. We have a lot of work. In some work areas our work force cannot adequately meet the demand for it. In fact, there is no unemployment in our country. There is a small number of people, e.g., among youths about which Somphon was worried they might become unemployed and might become dissolute because they still have the old ideology and the old life style of the old regime. They have not yet been able to get rid of it completely, so they often have the same old unstable ideology, become particular and hesitate to work, and are afraid to do the work the nation needs. Finally, without realizing it a number of them have become victims of the poisonous schemes of the enemies. They become unreasonable and misbehave.

However, our party and government is always concerned and always provides every opportunity for everyone in the nation to reinforce the ability, energy and creativity of everyone and to help them live a good life, to have work to do and to have good living standards and together improve, develop, and advance our country to socialism.

9884

CSO: 4206/98

LAOS

SRV-AIDED SUGAR PLANT IN PRODUCTION

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 25 Jan 85 p 2

[Article by S. Chantho: "A Gift From An Ally"]

[Excerpt] The sugar plant of Hatsaifong District in Vientiane City was the first of the construction projects for an industrial base for which the party committee and administrative committee of Vientiane City has received assistance from the party committee and people's committee of the capital, Hanoi.

Construction for this sugar plant, which is a gift from an ally, was started on 1 April 1983 and completed on 20 April 1983. Then trial production was started. During the actual period of trial production improvements, repairs and changes were made -- this lasted until 16 January 1984. Then normal production started and economic control was taken over by the [local political] base. Vientiane City turned over the plant to Hatsaifong District to administer production directly. Now this plant employs 25 workers in production of which 9 are women. There is an administrative committee of 2, and 20 are involved in production. There are 5 in a reserve production unit and the administrative office. The plant has improve efficiency so it gets the full value of a days work and has increased the work day from 12 to 16 hours.

Because of the untiring struggle of the workers and the increase in production hours which started on 7 December 1984 and continued until today, 15 January 1985, there appears to have been an historic increase [in production]; [they] have been able to produce 5,863 kilograms of sugar, which amounts to a 29.26 percent increase over the entire production for 1983 and 1984.

The factor which brought about this production increase was the close leadership of the party committee and the administrative committee at the upper level together with the enthusiastic acceptance of the policies of the party and state. There was close solidarity and mastery everywhere. In addition external problems such as raw materials to feed the plant appear to have improved because the people who plant sugar cane worked hard and almost doubled production over last year.

Comrade Meng Thamma, the director of the plant, explained that he felt that the plant was one which involved manual labor in production; on the other hand this was the first time that Vientiane City has had a sugar plant. During the period of feudalism and colonialism we did not have anything like this in 100 years.

LAOS

BRIEFS

PARTY DELEGATION RETURNS FROM PARIS--Vientiane, 18 Feb (KPL)--A delegation of the LPRP CC led by Khamphai Boupha, alternate member and deputy-head of the Foreign Relations Committee of the party CC, on 16 February, returned here after attending the 25th Congress of the Communist Party of France in Paris. Welcoming the delegation at Wattai Airport were Soulivong Phasitthidet, deputy-head of the Foreign Relations Committee of the party CC, and other officials. Glaude Faye, charge d'affaires A. I. of France here, was also present at the airport. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 18 Feb 85 BK]

CHAMPASSAK DELEGATION TO SRV--Vientiane, 25 Feb (KPL)--A delegation of Champassak Province led by Thong-in Thammakot, vice-secretary of the provincial party committee, recently left for Nghia Binh, its Vietnamese sister-province, on an official friendship visit. During its stay in Nghia Binh, the Lao delegation together with the Vietnamese side will review their last year's cooperation and work out a new plan of economic and cultural cooperation between the two provinces for 1985 and the following years for strengthening the fraternal solidarity and all-round cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0916 GMT 25 Feb 85 BK]

SEMINAR ON LPRP ANNIVERSARY--Vientiane, 25 Feb (OANA-KPL)--The Higher Party and Government School held here on 22 February a seminar in honour of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism. Among those present on the occasion were Chanmi Douangboutdi, member of the party CC, head of the Directorate of the Higher Party and Government School; Osakan Tammatheva, member of the party CC, deputy-minister of defence and deputy-head of the General Political Department of the army; and representatives of various state institutions and mass organizations. Also in attendance were V. Sobchenko, Nguyen Xuanm and Nguon Phansiphon, respectively Soviet, Vietnamese and Kampuchean ambassadord to Laos. [Excerpt] [Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 25 Feb 85 BK]

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT PARTY TRADITION LECTURES--Vientiane, 25 Feb (OANA-KPL)--Phoumi Vongvichit, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, gave a lecture here on 22 February on the history of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party to over 300 youths in honour of the 30th anniversary of the KPRP. He recapitulated the activities of the party since its foundation in the struggle

for national liberation and safeguarding and socialist building. He also brought out the role and task of the youths in the revolutionary cause and appealed to them to develop their god tradition with a view to materializing the resolution of the 7th Party Plenum. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0908 GMT 25 Feb 85 BK]

LEADERS ATTEND SOVIET EMBASSY RECEPTION--Vientiane, 25 Feb (KPL)--The USSR Embassy offered a reception here on 22 February in honour of the 67th founding day of the Soviet Army. It was attended by Sali Vongkhamsao, secretary of the LPRP CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers; General Sisavat Keobounphan, chief of the General Staff of the Lao People's Army and minister of interior; ministers; deputy-ministers; members of the People's Supreme Assembly; and other senior officials. Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Sobchenko, General S. Annissimov, military attache, members of the diplomatic corps, and representatives of international organizations here were present at the reception. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0923 GMT 25 Feb 85 BK]

UNESCO CHIEF MEETS MEDIA OFFICIAL--Vientiane, 9 Mar (OANA-KPL)--Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, general director of UNESCO and his delegation, yesterday visited the State Committee for News Agency, Newspaper, Radio and Television. A. M. M'Bow was welcomed, on the occasion, by the committee's Vice Chairman Thongsavat Gnamani. He informed his guests on the overall mass-media situation including the achievements and difficulties Laos is facing. Thongsavat Gnamani also expressed the Lao side's profound gratitude to the UNESCO constant support and aid. The UNESCO General Director M'Bow pledged to further help the Lao mass-media circles which are instrumental to the socioeconomic development. The UNESCO general secretary and members of his delegation, on the occasion, also inspected the technical departments of the radio and television stations. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 9 Mar 85 BK]

UNESCO'S M'BOW ARRIVES IN VIENTIANE--Vientiane, 8 Mar (KPL)--A delegation of UNESCO led by its Director General Amadou Mahtar M'Bow arrived here yesterday on a three-day friendly visit. The delegation was met at Wattai Airport by Pheli Khounlaleuk, deputy minister of culture, first vice chairman of the national UNESCO Committee of Laos, Phiang Sisoulat, deputy minister of education, and other senior Lao officials. Per Hakam Janvid, representative of UNDP, and experts of UNESCO in Laos, were also present to welcome the delegation. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 8 Mar 85 BK]

TASK, ROLE OF BUDDHIST MONKS--Vientiane, 21 Feb (OANA-KPL)--Addressing about 1,000 monks here, President Souphanouvong, who is also president of the People's Supreme Assembly, congratulated them on their great contribution to the revolutionary cause. President Souphanouvong spoke of the task and role of the Buddhist clergymen in the cause of socialist revolution. He explained the guideline of the party and government towards the Buddhist Association, which is aimed at ensuring popular respect for Buddhism and support for the party policy. He called on all monks to effectively educate the people in actively contributing to national safeguarding and socialist building. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0915 GMT 21 Feb 85 BK]

VIENTIANE PARTY COMMITTEE REVIEWS ACTIVITIES--Vientiane, 23 Feb (KPL)--Vientiane Party and administrative committees yesterday opened their annual conference to review their last year's activities. The session also is to work out a new plan for 1985 and to study the 7th Party Plenum's resolution. Three hundred delegates are attending this week-long conference. Among those present at the opening ceremony were General Sisavat Keobounphan, secretary of the LPRP CC, secretary of the Vientiane Party Committee, Thongmai Thiphommachan, alternate member of the LPRP CC. A conference of the same nature was recently opened by the cultural service of Savannakhet Province. It will last four days and is attended by 70 cultural cadres from all parts of the province. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 23 Feb 85 BK]

MINISTER RECEIVES GDR GUESTS--Vientiane, 27 Feb (KPL)--Prof Boutian Phitsamai, minister of education, received here yesterday a delegation of the GDR Ministry of Higher Education led by Prof Doctor of Philosophy Gerhard Engel. [name as received] During the warm and cordial talk, the two sides exchanged their views on educational work and reviewed the results of the cooperation between the two ministries in the past. They also discussed a new plan of cooperation for 1985-86 and the following years. The GDR delegation arrived here in the afternoon of the same day on a five-day visit to Laos. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0915 GMT 27 Feb 85 BK]

USSR KOMSOMOL GROUP RECEIVED--Vientiane, 27 Feb (KPL)--Mrs Thongvin Phomvihan, member of the LPRP CC, acting first secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union [LPRYU], received here yesterday a delegation of the All-Union Leninist Young Communist League (Komsomol) of the USSR led by Leonid Losbenko [name as received], deputy-head of the league's Foreign Relations Department. The delegation is on a visit here at the invitation of the LPRYU CC. During the warm and cordial meeting, T. Phomvihan hailed the visit of the delegation as strengthening the friendly relations between the youth organizations of the two countries. Also in attendance was Phandouangchit Vongsa, secretary of the LPRYU CC. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 27 Feb 85 BK]

SOVIET FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION VISITS--Vientiane, 21 Feb (KPL)--A delegation of the Soviet-Lao Friendship Association of Latvia Republic led by Oundith Norette [name as received], editor-in-chief of the newspaper LESMAR of the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic visited VIENTIANE MAI newspaper office on 20 February. The delegation was received by Somchit Thipthiangchan, deputy-head of the Information, Newspaper and Radio Service of Vientiane. During the warm and cordial meeting, several questions were raised including the future cooperation between the two newspapers. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0922 GMT 21 Feb 85 BK]

CENSUS TRAINING IN SAVANNAKHET--Vientiane, 22 Feb (KPL)--A training course on population census was recently conducted for 10 districts of Savannakhet Province. It was attended by more than 230 cadres concerned. So far, such courses have been organized for more than 1,340 local population census agencies. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 22 Feb 85 BK]

BOLIKHAMSAI, ATTAPU, CHAMPASSAK TRAINING--Vientiane, 24 Feb (KPL)--Special training courses for the population census agents recently ended in

Bolikhamsai, Attapeu and Champassak Provinces. A number of these agents have now been sent to their assigned work zones to prepare for the actual population census to begin at zero hour of 1 March 1985. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 24 Feb 85 BK]

POPULATION CENSUS TRAINING COMPLETED--Vientiane, 26 Feb (OANA-KPL)--Over 26,000 population census agents throughout the country have completed their special training courses and have now been sent to their assigned work zones to prepare for the actual population census to begin at zero hour of 1 March 1985. Meanwhile, a 1,000-strong mass rally was organized in Vientiane yesterday hailing the forthcoming population census at the meeting, speakers urged the entire Lao people to actively and effectively contribute to this historical event. They further called on the people to maintain high vigilance over the reactionaries' plot against this work. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 26 Feb 85 BK]

SAVANNAKHET BANK DEPOSITS--In 1984 the cadres, workers and multi-ethnic people of Savannakhet Province took the money which they had received for selling various kinds of products and deposited it in the state bank as a part of a drive which brought in more than 2,312,000 kip. [Excerpt] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 29 Jan 85 p A8,9] 8149

LAO-SWEDISH PROJECT--During the past year the cadres of the Lao-Swedish Friendship Machinery Repair Facility which is affiliated with the Ministry of Transportation and Posts strove for achievement and successfully carried out the annual plan conceived by the facility. During this period they accomplished the following: they achieved an income of 21,514,200 kip which on average is 1.63 percent more than the annual plan and provided more than 17,640,700 kip for the budget which is 1.43 percent more than the annual plan. In addition they also opened specialty training for the cadres of four co-operative teams -- 208 hours of theory and more than 550 hours of practice. [They also] opened a study of resolution 4-5-6 of the Party Central Committee, resolution 33 of the Political Bureau, resolution 061 of the Council of Ministers and other orders. [Excerpt] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 29 Jan 85 p A11] 8149

LUANG PRABANG DISTRICT TRADE--In 1984 the commerce and grain cadres of Nan District, Luang Prabang Province concentrated on carrying out their specialty with great efficiency and expanded into the grassroots production areas everywhere. During this period they expanded their network for purchasing forest and agricultural products by 17 locations and their cooperative stores by 4 locations. At the same time they traveled around and bought more than 860 tons of rice from the multi-ethnic people, which is 230 tons more than last year. And they increased their income from trade by 10.9 percent compared to the year before. [Excerpt] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 30 Jan 85 p A7,8] 8149

CAPITAL DISTRICT TAX COLLECTION--From the beginning of January to the end of December 1984 the cadres and workers of the tax department of Chanthabouli District of the City of Vientiane performed their professional duties very responsibly and bravely. While doing their duties during the past year, they were able to perform some real services: they collected the number tax, the profit tax, the enterprise tax, the salary tax, and the tax on the rents and fees of production units etc. Their total income was 48,773,616 kip. [Taxes] were collected from 829 private commercial units affiliated with Chanthabouli District. When compared with the plan, the [collections] exceeded the goal by 45.8 percent. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 12 Jan 85 p 1] 8149

BOUNSAI POPULATION CENSUS CONFERENCE--Vientiane, 20 Feb (KPL)--A conference on population census was closed in Bounsai District, Phong Saly Province, after 5 days of sitting. It was attended by more than 60 persons. During the conference they studied the population census plan for 1985 and measures to carry it out. [Excerpt] [Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 20 Feb 85 BK]

KAYSONE RECEIVES AUSTRALIAN, JAPANESE ENVOYS--Vientiane, 4 Mar (KPL)--Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers, successively received here on 2 March the new Australian and Japanese ambassadors to Laos, John Bruce Campbell and Toshitaka Tada. During the warm and cordial talk, Chairman K. Phomvihan discussed with his guests various issues of mutual interest. He also wished the ambassadors success in their mission to strengthen the friendship relations and cooperation between Laos and Australia as well as between Laos and Japan. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 4 Mar 85 BK]

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT ADDRESSES EDUCATIONAL WORKERS--Vientiane, 21 Feb (OANA-KPL)--The Educational Management School under the Ministry of Education closed its fifth course here on 16 February. Fifty-five attendants from various ministries, schools and educational services throughout the country studied the Marxist-Leninist theory, the policies of the party in socialist construction and in education and educational management. Taking part in the closing ceremony was Phoumi Vongvichit, Political Bureau member of the LPRP CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers. P. Vongvichit delivered a speech to the gathering. He spoke of the need for educational workers to correctly apply the educational policies of the party and state in their work. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0924 GMT 21 Feb 85 BK]

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT RECEIVES JAPANESE ENVOY--Vientiane, 18 Feb (KPL)--Phoumi Vongvichit, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, on 16 February, received here Toshitaka Tada, extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of Japan to Laos. At the meeting, Phoumi Vongvichit and Ambassador Toshitaka Tada discussed the regional and world situation. P. Vongvichit wished him success in his diplomatic mission here for the interests of the friendship and cooperation between Laos and Japan. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 18 Feb 85 BK]

ITALIAN DELEGATION ENDS VISIT, DEPARTS--Vientiane, 22 Feb (OANA-KPL)--A delegation of the Communist Party of Italy CC led by its Political Bureau member Mrs Giglia Tedesco Tato left here on 20 February ending its three-day visit

at the invitation of the LPRP CC. Seeing the delegation off at Wattai Airport were Phoun Sipaseut, Political Bureau member of the LPRP CC, Somlat Chanthamat, member of the LPRP CC and head of the Propaganda and Training Board of the party CC, Soulivong Phasitthidet, deputy-head of the Foreign Relations Committee of the party CC, and other senior officials. While here, the delegation paid a courtesy visit to Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP CC. It exchanged experiences with a delegation of the LPRP CC and toured various production bases in Vientiane. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 22 Feb 85 BK]

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT MEETS WITH ARTISTS--Vientiane, 16 Feb (OANA-KPL)--Phoumi Vongvichit, Political Bureau member of the party CC and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, yesterday had talks here with over 600 amateur and professional artists. On this occasion, P. Vongvichit, who is also in charge of cultural work, spoke of the precious tradition culture of Laos and the party's leadership in this field. He congratulated the artists, writers, song composers and choreographers on their successful work. He finally appealed to them to effectively use their creativeness in stimulating the mass movement to contribute to the national safeguarding and socialist building. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 16 Feb 85 BK]

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT ATTENDS GDR EXHIBITION--Vientiane, 16 Feb (OANA-KPL)--The Ministry of Culture, in collaboration with the GDR Embassy, are organizing a paintings exhibition here to mark the 40th anniversary of the victory against Hitler fascism and the liberation of the German people. Present at the opening ceremony were Phoumi Vongvichit, Politburo member of the party CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and other officials. Members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of international organizations to Laos were also on hand. Speaking to the gathering, Somsri Desakhamphou, deputy minister of culture and Dietrich Jarck, ambassador to the GDR to Laos, brought out the great significance of this anniversary to all struggling for peace, solidarity and social progress. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 16 Feb 85 BK]

POPULATION CENSUS DEADLINE--Vientiane, 8 Mar (KPL)--The main work of the nationwide population census started on 1 March is now completed, according to officials of the population census bureaus of Vientiane and other provinces. On 7 March, over 26,000 population census agents and local officials were going through the data collected to depict any possible mistakes that might have occurred. The next phase will involve the making of random samples and re-checking of population data. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0915 GMT 8 Mar 85 BK]

'MISLED' FAMILIES RETURN HOME--Vientiane, 23 Feb (OANA-KPL)--Seventy-five misled H'mong families which included 525 persons recently returned home from Thailand and were warmly welcomed by the authorities of the Lao central Bolikhamsai Province. The returned reported that when they reached Thailand they were robbed of their possessions and barbarously treated by the exiled Lao reactionaries and the Thai reactionary troops. Twenty persons in the group were killed and injured. The H'mong returnees further expressed their regrets for having been misled by the enemy psychological war efforts and pledged to do their utmost in contributing in the national safeguard and socialist construction under the leadership of the Lao people's revolutionary party CC.

They expressed gratitude to the Lao party and government as well as to the Bolikhamsai authority and people for warm welcome. The people were provided with mosquito-nets, blankets, mats and other household utensils. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 23 Feb 85 BK]

TRADE UNION DELEGATION RETURNS--Vientiane, 15 Feb (KPL)--A delegation of the Lao Federation of Trade Unions led by its Vice-Chairman Somboun Vongnoubountham recently returned here after attending a 3-day conference of Asia and Oceania trade unions in New Delhi. Forty-six delegations from 20 countries attended the conference. They discussed ways to promote development and a new international economic order. The Lao delegation was met at Wattai Airport on its return by Bouapheng Bounsoulin, member of the Lao Federation of Trade Unions Central Committee, and other senior officials. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT 15 Feb 85 BK]

MEMORANDUM WITH SRV PROVINCE--Vientiane, 9 Feb (OANA-KPL)--The norther Lao Xieng Khouang Province and its Vietnamese sister province Nghe Tinh recently signed in Xieng Khouang a memorandum on trade exchange. The Lao side will provide the Vietnamese side among other things forestry products and handicraft items, while Vietnam will give Laos fabric and industrial articles. The signatories were director of the Xieng Khouang Trade Company, Phansi Vongvihan, and director of the Nghe Tinh Foreign Trade Company, Le Lang Tanh. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 9 Feb 85 BK]

VIETNAMESE TRADE COOPERATION--Vientiane, 18 Feb (OANA-KPL)--An agreement on trade cooperation for 1985 was signed in Ho Chi Minh City recently between a Savannakhet trade delegation of Laos and a Ho Chi Minh City trade delegation of Vietnam on the occasion of a trade fair in Ho Chi Minh City. Signatories to the agreement were Bounthon Sonsakda, member of the Savannakhet party committee, head of the Savannakhet trade company, and Nguyen Thanh Lac, director of the foreign trade company of Ho Chi Minh City. The two sides discussed ways to increase their trade cooperation in order to contribute to strengthening the fraternal relations, special solidarity and all-round cooperation between the two provinces. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0913 GMT 18 Feb 85 BK]

HELP FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS--Vientiane, 11 Feb (OANA-KPL)--International organizations in Laos on 9 February handed over relief items to the Lao Government as aid to the victims of drought in Khammouane, Savannakhet, Xieng Khouang and Luang Prabang Provinces. PAM [expension unknown] provided Laos with 3,600 tons of rice, FAO with 200 tons of rice seeds, fertilizers and insecticide, and UNDP [Un Development Program] with agricultural products valued at 495,000 U.S. dollars. The hand-over ceremony was conducted by Per

Hakam Janvid, UNO representative to Laos, and Somphavan Inthavong, vice-chairman of the State Planning Committee. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 11 Feb 85 BK]

VATICAN AID TO LEPERS--Vientiane, 15 Feb (OANA-KPL)--His Excellency Monsignor Renato R. Martino, a representative of the Vatican, handed over aid to the Lao Government here yesterday. This included 20 tons of rice from Misereor to the state committee for social welfare and war veterans as help to the lepers of Somsanouk hamlet, Vientiane, and a quantity of medicines from Ordre De Malte to the Ministry of Public Health as aid to the dermatology and orthopedic centers. The Vatican will soon provide more aid to Laos. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 15 Feb 85 BK]

LPRP MEMBERSHIP IN DISTRICT--The first meeting of the administrative committee of Thoulakhom District, Vientiane Province, was gloriously closed on the evening of 2 January after it had been conducted for 4 days. There were 63 full party member representatives and 237 comrades from all work sections and the district production base. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 5 Feb 85 pp 1,4] 9884

VIENTIANE DISTRICT CO-OPS, YEILDS--In the area of rice cultivation alone Thoulakhom has over 7,000 hectares. Its production capacity has increased. Production in 1984 yielded a total of over 16,160 tons of 402 kg per capita, a 79.40-percent increase when compared with the figures for 1980. In the conversion to agricultural co-ops throughout Thoulakhom District, it has 14 units, 636 families, 3,315 people, and over 550 hectares of production area. Moreover, a number of farmers volunteered to join the labor exchange units which total 104. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 2 Feb 84 p 2] 9884

LOUANG NAMTHA DISTRICT TRADE--In 1984 the trade cadres in Na Le District, Louang Namtha Province, attentively expanded the trade network down to the production bases throughout. During this period they put out all sorts of goods worth over 4,618,000 kip for sale to serve the people of ethnic groups. This was 84.72 percent of the year plan. Meanwhile, they also purchased over 2,589,000 kip worth of forest products from the people in different production bases, including over 5 tons of cardamon, animal skins, garlic, and many other things. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 1 Feb 84 p 1] 9884

VIENTIANE DISTRICT LPRP EXPANSION--We will expand our party members down to where there are still white areas, white cantons, white villages, and white production bases [where there are not party members--FBIS]. In 1984 the Thoulakhom District Party Committee opened a meeting of its party members of different members throughout. They also improved party organization in each location. Now all cantons have their own party chapters and more party members. A number of [all-round guiding party chapters] are taking shape to carry out production and national defense and security. Educational and cultural

work has been expanded with the guidance of the party. In the future we will attentively expand the party /members/ into groups according to the resolution of the /central organization committee/, e.g., accepting members on 22 March and 2 December with quality and quantity in order to increase the number of party members in different villages, offices, and organizations to meet the demands for leadership. Youth were mobilized to carry out national defense and security work. Dry season production was mobilized. Roads were constructed, and schools and hospitals were actively improved throughout the district. They will also pay more attention to all this so it will become fruitful and expand into all areas of work. /Excerpts/ /Vientiane in Lao 6 Feb 85 p 2/ 9884

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY CONFERENCE--Vientiane, 12 Feb (OANA-KPL)--The People's Assembly of Vientiane recently held a conference to review the preparation for the draft of the national constitution and the electoral law. The conference was chaired by Thongdam Manivan, chairman of the Vientiane administrative committee, and attended by Khamphai Oundala, secretary of the Vientiane party committee, and Souvannalat Sai-Gnavong member of the standing committee of the People's Supreme Assembly and also member of the PSA commission for the drafting of the constitution. Delegates from Xieng Khouang and Khammouan Provinces also attended the conference. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 12 Feb 85 BK]

VIENTIANE PROPAGANDA BOARD--Vientiane, 13 Feb (KPL)--A conference was opened here yesterday to review last year's propaganda and training activities of Vientiane. It was attended by 60 persons. Among those present on the occasion were Channong Inthavong, member of the Vientiane party committee, head of the propaganda and training board of Vientiane; Khampheng, head of the propaganda and training board of the LPRP CC. During this conference, the participants will review their last year's activities, study the seventh resolution of the LPRP, a new action plan for 1985. This conference will last four days. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0912 GMT 13 Feb 85 BK]

POPULATION CENSUS TRAINING--Vientiane, 14 Feb (KPL)--The population census preparation is now nearing its second phase throughout the country. Already completed in this phase is the delimitation of zones. The door-to-door population census agencies are being trained for their forthcoming on-the-field work. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 14 Feb 85 BK]

CSO: 4200/624

PHILIPPINES

FURTHER DETAILS ON 10 MARCH 85 OPPOSITION CONVENTION

BULLETIN TODAY Report

HK120433 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 11 Mar 85 pp 1, 19

[By Vicente B. Foz]

[Text] Opposition parties and groups agreed to form an "alliance of forces" yesterday and approved the process of selecting common candidates for the 1986 local elections and the 1987 presidential election.

The agreement was forged at a National Unification Conference held at Valle Verde Country Club in Pasig, Metro Manila, and attended by more than 1,500 delegates, guests and observers.

The conference approved a 12-point "Declaration of Principles" and called for the "dismantling of the Marcos dictatorship" and replacing it with "a government based on the will of the people expressed through free, honest, and periodic elections."

It also authorized the National Unification Committee (NUC) headed by Member of Parliament Cecilia Munoz-Palma and former Sen Francisco Soc Rodrigo, chairperson and vice chairman, respectively, to dialogue and conclude agreements with the Convenor Group, sectoral and other opposition groups as a means of "establishing the broadest alliance possible."

The NUC was asked to "conclude any agreement deemed fair and reasonable to cover such period and contingencies which may necessitate the calling of a sudden special presidential election."

In a message read before the conference, the Convenor Group of Mrs Cory C. Aquino, former Sen Lorenzo M. Tanada, and businessman Jaime V. Ongpin, stressed that there was no incompatibility between it and the NUC.

The conference decided to create a committee to evolve a more organic or ideological unity through an integration of political platforms. Committee members will be appointed by the NUC which may also set up subcommittees, one of which will reexamine Philippine foreign policy.

"The KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] is a sinking ship being abandoned by its crew," Soc Rodrigo stressed in a keynote speech.

Near the rostrum, newsmen crowded around Laguna Gov Felicisimo San Luis, a KBL, who told them he was a mere observer and that he is barred by law from joining the opposition within a year before an election.

Among those at the main table were former Vice President Fernando Lopez, MP Marcelo B. Fernan, chairman of the resolutions committee; former UP [University of Philippines] President Salvador P. Lopez and former Assemblyman Francisco "Kit" Tatad, who both headed the committee on declaration of common principles; MP Hernando Perez, MP Luis Villafuerte and former Sen John Osmena.

Former Sen Salvador H. Laurel and MP Eva Estrada Kalaw, both potential standard bearers, sat at the secondary presidential table, along with former Sen Ernesto C. Maceda, who flew in from the United States Saturday to join the conference.

Mrs Aurora Aquino, mother of assassinated opposition leader Benigno S. Aquino, Jr., showed up, accompanied by former Constitutional Convention delegate Bren Z. Guiao of Pampanga.

Mrs Aquino said she was "anxious to see the unification of the opposition," adding, "your dreams are the dreams of Ninoy."

Other speakers included Rebamophil Holganza, a PDP-LABAN [Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan] leader in Ceub who came under a 72-hour military pass; Mrs Bonifacio de Luna whose husband is being detained under a Preventive Detention Action (PDA) order in connection with the transport strike last month; and Jerry Climaco, son of assassinated Zamboanga City Mayor Cesar Climaco, who charged that the military had a hand in the killing of his father.

Former Sen Rene Espina, chairman of the credentials committee, reported that 704 delegates and 825 guests and observers came to the conference.

MP Sumulong presented the mechanics of unification which starts at the local level. Members of the special committee which drafted the mechanics were MP Villafuerte, Osmena, and former Rep Jose Cojuangco, Jr., secretary-general of the PDP-LABAN, Co-chairmen, Sumulong and Hernando Perez as members.

After the unification process is completed and the various bodies and committees are organized, the NUC will be replaced by the National Alliance Council.

The NUC will designate the national initiator teams that will initiate the unification in each local area. Each team is composed of representatives from the Nacionalista Party, Liberal Party, PDP-LABAN, and the unaffiliated Unido, and where such exists, a representative of a regional party.

The national initiators will ask the local initiators to call a preparatory meeting to draw up plans for an alliance assembly for their respective provinces or cities.

The local initiators will be classified into three types:

Area A--which are provinces and cities where there are elected MPs, governors or city mayors will be the local initiators. There are 35 districts under this type.

Area B--which are areas in which the opposition candidates would have won in the last Batasan elections were it not for the irregularities or in which they made a very good showing. The local initiators will be the defeated opposition candidates and representatives of each major political party. There are about 29 such districts.

Area C--where the opposition needs a meaningful presence. Local initiators will be named by each major political opposition party. There are about 35 such districts.

Local initiators will invite to the preparatory meeting former public officials identified with the opposition, leaders of opposition political parties, leaders of sectoral and special interest groups identified with the opposition, and community leaders identified with the opposition.

At the preparatory meeting, the national initiators will discuss the objectives and procedures of unification. The group will make the plans for calling the local alliance assembly.

The local alliance assembly for each province or city is intended to be as broad-based as possible, guided by the overriding goal of getting all sectors involved down to the barangay and voting center levels.

Each city and province will select its own local alliance council which will, in turn, choose from among themselves the officers, board, and executive committee members.

The local alliance council will formulate guidelines for selecting the local candidates. Delegates to a joint national convention and elections to an emergency selection of standard bearer will be selected by the council on the basis of objective standards as prescribed by the NUC.

The national convention will nominate the common presidential candidate for the 1987 elections in secret balloting and the members of the National Alliance Council, giving due consideration to appropriate representation of all parties and groups of the opposition.

A regional arbitration committee will be put up in regions where there are conflicts. It will be composed of two representatives each from the four major political parties plus two from the regional party designated as the dominant opposition party, if any, plus a ninth member chosen by the party representatives, who will vote only in case of a tie.

A national arbitration committee will also be organized to resolve appeals from decisions of the regional bodies.

Former Sen Jovito R. Salonga, who did not show up, said in a letter, the conference should first tackle its program of government and national issues before adopting a process of selecting common candidates. But he wished it would succeed in achieving opposition unity.

In her opening statement as NUC chairman, Munoz-Palma said the conference "is not the end of the road, rather it is just the beginning of a long and tortuous path, for the unity of the opposition cannot be complete without bringing into the process other forces which are also essential parts of the entire opposition."

The former Supreme Court justice then asked the delegates to tear down "the barriers of distrust and personal biases." She requested the delegates to join hands and "let the flow and flame of friendship and peace course through our veins in order that this conference may be a labor of sacrifice and love for our country and people."

The opposition declaration of principles include restoring respect for human rights, civil liberties, and fundamental freedoms for all; assuring the satisfaction of the basic needs of the people for food, shelter, and clothing, and promoting a better quality of life.

The declaration also urged a strong national economy based on private initiative and socially determined goals, assuring a more equitable distribution of wealth. It also urged a thorough review of Philippine-American relations, including the military bases, which it said would be in the highest national interest.

It called for the drafting of a new Constitution to ensure "a government of limited powers and effectively prevent the resurgence of authoritarian rule."

The opposition said the government should take special measures to safeguard the interests of the workers, women and the youth, the Moslems and other cultural and ethnic communities in the Cordillera and elsewhere.

The declaration also expressed a belief in a pluralistic society that guarantees the free expression of ideas, opinions and beliefs.

Opposition, KBL Comments

HK121515 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 12 Mar 85 pp 1, 6

[Text] The National Unification Committee of the opposition expressed hope yesterday it will be able to choose on 21 August the presidential candidate it will pit against President Marcos in 1987.

Former Supreme Court Justice Cecilia Munoz Palma, NUC chairman, said at the Kapihan ng Maynila [Manila Coffee Shop] that the opposition is aiming for that date because it has a sentimental significance for them. Former Sen Benigno S. Aquino, Jr., was slain at the Manila International Airport on that date in 1983.

Mrs Palma said she personally favors Mrs Corazon Aquino, the widow of the slain opposition leader, as the opposition standard bearer. But she added that it will be up to all the opposition leaders to decide.

Commenting on the opposition convention, Labor Minister Blas F. Ople said all it produced was a "bland" instrument that was "more notable for what is omitted than what it included, namely the existence of two major issues: the economy and national security."

However, Ople stressed that what was welcome about the affair was that "the opposition, through the NUC, was moving away from the single factor that had seemed to galvanize them in the past the hatred for one man."

"If the proceedings yesterday (Sunday) brought them one step farther away from this kind of orientation as the binding element of their unity, then it must be considered healthy in terms of building up the strength of our democratic institutions," Ople said.

He said he was impressed by the role played by opposition MPs in the convention.

"In the end we will have to consider as the legitimate opposition party those who share the national consensus for peaceful transition and changes through a popular mandate," he said.

Meanwhile, two women opposition leaders yesterday took different views on the possible draft of former Foreign Minister Arturo Tolentino by the united opposition to be its guest candidate in the presidential election of 1987.

MP Palma said it would be difficult for Tolentino to change parties as this would be in violation of the constitution. Furthermore, she said there are many capable men from various political parties who can become president.

Palma stressed that she would rather the opposition tapped someone who has been within its ranks longer.

Tolentino, also an MP, announced Saturday in Cebu City that he would keep the door open to a possible draft by the united opposition in the May 1987 election. He also said he is not leaving the ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan to join another party because the constitution does not allow "turncoatism."

MP Eva Estrade Kalaw (LP, Manila) said Tolentino is welcome to join the opposition.

By joining the opposition, Tolentino could be a more effective fiscalizer and defender of human rights, she said.

CSO: 4200/625

PHILIPPINES

LABOR MINISTER OPLE DENIES ANY ACT OF DISLOYALTY

HK121507 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 12 Mar 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] Labor Minister Blas F. Ople said yesterday he was "completely blameless" for any act of disloyalty attributed to him and that the issue has arisen only because of wrong reports reaching President Marcos.

"I do not think any kind of act was done that could be remotely construed as trespassing the bounds of prudence and courtesy on the part of a Cabinet member," he said.

Ople, one of the guests of the "Kapihan sa Manila" [Manila Coffee Shop] at the Manila Hotel, was asked to comment on the "controversial statements" made in a speech before a symposium on public administration.

Ople offered to resign after he had been asked by the president to explain his "controversial statements."

He said he has not talked to the president since the controversy, but he said: "Informal messages are being carried back and forth."

Ople said his UP [University of the Philippines] Manila speech was meant to give a general perspective on the conduct of government in a developing society and the whole emphasis of the speech fell on the need to develop rational ethical models of government.

He cited in his speech that there were two competing cultures in public institutions, one of which is a modernizing culture based on what Max Weber calls the rational-ethical model where rules apply to everyone.

This culture, he said, clashes with the more traditional culture which owes to families, friends and political supporters which claims that they should be exempted from the rules.

Ople said that because of the traditional culture, developing nations give rise to entrenched special privileges which are difficult to overcome through national rules and rational economic plans.

On reports that he was being considered to replace former Foreign Minister Arturo Tolentino, he said the basis of this speculation was the President's list of possible successors to then Foreign Minister Carlos P. Romulo on the eve of his retirement.

Ople said the list then included Pelaez, Tolentino, former Education Minister O. D. Corpuz and himself.

In a talk with newsmen later, he said he believes that Tolentino's successor should come from the Batasang Pambansa because it is the premier cabinet post. He added that the Foreign Ministry will likely emerge as a major issue in the Batasan as a result of the expiration of the RP-U.S. bases agreement in 1991.

Ople said the foreign minister will be playing a leading role in helping orchestrate the country's global economic diplomacy to raise the Philippines role from minor to a major one as an exporter and as a trading power.

CSO: 4200/625

PHILIPPINES

ASSEMBLYMEN INTRODUCE ANTI-TORTURE BILL

HK111605 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 11 Mar 85 p 8

[By correspondent Mito S. Garcia]

[Text] Seven assemblymen led by MP Emigdio S. Tanjuatco, Jr., have proposed a bill seeking to minimize, if not eliminate, any form of torture by law enforcers.

They observed that torture is employed to extract confessions from accused persons.

Tanjuatco said this is an issue that should not be allowed to become stale because it is "like a disease" that should be eliminated rather than cured.

Parliamentary Bill No 1581 primarily provides that in the event the person being investigated wishes to waive his right to counsel, the investigating agency or office concerned should nevertheless obtain a counsel who will explain to him his constitutional rights and the legal consequences of his waiver.

The bill provides that any confession, admission or similar declaration as a result of such waiver will not be admissible as evidence unless it is shown that the waiver of the right to counsel was made with the assistance of counsel.

Tanjuatco observed that an analysis of torture cases revealed that the torture was perpetrated "by a malicious desire to extract a confession."

He also pointed out that under the Bill of Rights, confession obtained in violation of the right to counsel cannot be used in court.

The present procedure during investigations is for the law enforcer or investigator to simply tell the suspect about his right to counsel, and proceed with investigation whether or not the person under investigation understands fully this right and its legal implications, Tanjuatco said.

The weakness in a person's right to counsel is in the fact that he could be intimidated or threatened into waiving it, Tanjuatco said.

He added that the waiver "opens the judicial doors for the tortured confession."

Oftentimes, to sidestep the constitutional provision that evidence obtained through torture or intimidating conditions cannot be used in court, law enforcement authorities bent on extracting confessions arrest suspects clandestinely and take them to "safehouses," where they can be forced to confess to crimes, Tanjuatco said.

CSO: 4200/625

PHILIPPINES

RESTRUCTURING OF PUBLIC SECTOR DEBTS PLANNED

HK111604 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 11 Mar 85 Business Bulletin Supplement p 23

[By J. C. Concepcion]

[Text] The government hopes to restructure with foreign creditor banks at least 50 percent of the country's public sector debts by the end of this year, Central Bank Senior Deputy Governor Gabriel C. Singson said over the weekend.

He said these public sector debts account for about 60 percent of the country's \$25 billion foreign debts.

Singson was guest speaker during the annual meeting last Saturday of the Philippine Society of International Law.

The CB official also said the 12-bank advisory committee of the country's more than 400 foreign creditor banks will prepare the first draft of the restructuring agreement by late April this year.

Formal negotiations will then start by May, Singson added.

It was earlier reported that the Philippines and its creditor banks will sign on 19 March an agreement covering the rescheduling of about \$6 billion in maturing loans and new money of \$925 million after solving the obstacle posed by the National Commercial Bank of Saudi Arabia.

The CB requested the \$925 million new credits equivalent to 7 1/2 percent of their total exposure as of 17 October 1983.

The loan is repayable in nine years after a five-year grace period with interest at 13/4 percent over the London interbank offered rate (LIBOR) or 13/8 percent over New York prime.

Singson also said that some public debts are not guaranteed by the government and will not be guaranteed by the government.

Loans that are guaranteed by the government will continue to be guaranteed by the government even after the completion of the restructuring being worked out with the country's creditor banks, he added.

Public sector debt covers debts of government entities which include corporations 50 percent of the beneficial ownership of which are held by one or more government entities.

This kind of debt will be restructured over a period of 10 years with five years' grace with interest of 15/8 percent over LIBOR or the adjusted CB rate.

CSO: 4200/625

PHILIPPINES

ALL NEW FOREIGN LOANS WILL NEED GUARANTEE OF GOVERNMENT

HK121509 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 12 Mar 85 Business Bulletin Supplement p 13

[Text] New foreign loans in the future will now carry the unconditional guarantee of the government, whether borrowed by the public or private sectors.

This new policy is expected to partially ease the ban on new guarantees to private corporations undertaking foreign borrowings. But it was considered necessary since Philippine borrowers cannot raise commercial loans in the Eurodollar markets without the express guarantee of the government.

Based on the agreements reached with the country's 483 creditor banks, all loans have to be borrowed by the Central Bank with the guarantee of the Republic of the Philippines.

The CB is the borrower of the \$925 million new loan expected to be signed within this month. Part of the trade facility of \$3 billion, which is also expected to be signed with the new money facility, will also be borrowed by the CB if the lender opts to abide by the proviso that it deposits the foreign exchange for the trade financing with the CB in cases where there is not enough volume of trade to be financed.

Banking sources said that in view of the moratorium status of Philippine principle debts, no company, whether private or public, is expected to raise any new borrowings from the Eurodollar market without the unconditional guarantee of the government.

Before the debt moratorium was imposed in October 1983, a number of Philippine private firms had been able to borrow from the Eurodollar loan market even without the guarantee of the government or of the government financing institutions.

"Not so anymore," said one banker, in view of the low credit rating the country now has to bear after the debt moratorium. When government financial institutions like the Development Bank of the Philippines, the Philippine National Bank and the Philippine Export and Foreign Loan Guarantee Corp were forced to make good on payments for guaranteed loans of private corporations after the economic viability of the projects was weakened by the economic crisis, the government swiftly acted to curb any new guarantees.

THAILAND

OPPOSITION LEADER CALLS FOR PREM'S RESIGNATION

BK030237 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Mar 85 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] Opposition leader Maj-Gen Praman Adireksan yesterday accused the government of showing a bias towards a candidate in the upcoming Nakhon Pathom by-election.

He also accused Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon of expressing anger at the Chat Thai Party's criticisms made at Ramkhamhaeng University last Monday.

Maj-Gen Praman went so far as to call for the government's resignation for its failure on several fronts, particularly economic policies.

The Chat Thai leader also predicted that Gen Prem would dissolve Parliament rather than step down when faced with a political crisis.

Maj-Gen Praman also claimed that Gen Prem had expressed his dissatisfaction during the cabinet meeting last Tuesday with the Chat Thai's remarks attacking the government performance on the economic front at Ramkhamhaeng University. The Chat Thai leader said his party only performed its duty as an opposition party.

He continued that his party was responsible to the people who elected its members to Parliament and did not have to please the government. Instead, he said, Gen Prem should release his statements to refute the Chat Thai's remarks.

He then stressed that when the Parliament reconvenes in May, the party will immediately submit a no-confidence motion against the prime minister.

CSO: 4200/628

THAILAND

BANGKOK POST WELCOMES PC PRESIDENT'S VISIT

BK110155 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 Mar 85 p 4

[Editorial: "A Welcome Visitor From Beijing"]

[Text] President Li Xiannian of the People's Republic of China, who arrives in Thailand this morning is a very welcome visitor to our country. Although other important Chinese leaders have visited Thailand since the two countries established full diplomatic relations in 1975, this is the first time we have played host to the head of state of that great country.

President Li has all the qualifications of a patriot. Born into a poor farming family, while still in his youth he had led a peasants revolt and later participated in the famous "Long March" while fighting nationalist troops. He was also a major force in the courageous Chinese resistance to the Japanese in the bitter days of the Second World War.

Since the formation of the People's Republic of China in 1949, Li established himself in several fields. He came to real prominence through his effective economic policies and has played a leading role in the modernisation of the country.

President Li's visit here is particularly timely in the light of the developments in Kampuchea. China is very concerned about events in Southeast Asia and has displayed a welcome tough response to Vietnamese actions in Kampuchea. It has also roundly condemned the latest violation of Thai sovereignty by Vietnamese troops. The influence of the Soviet Union in this part of the world, especially over Vietnam, is obviously of great concern to the Chinese as it is to all nations in Southeast Asia.

It will not only be politics that will concern the Chinese President. China is also an important trading partner of Thailand and there are great opportunities for Thai investment in China and vice versa. It is expected that during his visit President Li will ratify an investment-promotion treaty between Thailand and China and also discuss other ways of improving trade relations.

President Li's visit cements 10 years of growing friendship between our two countries. There is no reason why that friendship should not continue to flourish and go on from strength to strength for many decades to come.

THAILAND

DRAFT INVESTMENT AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH PRC

BK010125 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] Thailand and China have signed the draft of an agreement which will guarantee the protection of one another's investors in both countries.

The draft agreement was signed by Economic Affairs Department Chief Pracha Gunakasem and a five-man Chinese trade delegation which returned to Beijing on Wednesday.

The agreement is the first Thailand has entered into to protect its investors abroad and the first such agreement China has with a developing country.

The agreement will be ratified by Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila and senior Chinese Government officials during Chinese President Li Xiannian's upcoming state visit to Thailand from 11 to 15 March.

Agreement was finally reached after a 10-day delay caused by Chinese insistence that Thai investors could not export currency. This would have meant that to remit profits back to Thailand investors would have had to buy Chinese goods and then export them for sale abroad.

After 10 days of talks the Chinese side agreed to drop this condition which had stalled an agreement.

The final draft does not set a ceiling for transferrable profits but states that officials of each country would consider money transfer requests with "sympathy and flexibility."

China already has similar agreements with nine developed countries but this is the first with a developing nation.

CSO: 4200/628

THAILAND

BANGKOK POST EDITORIAL ON FALL OF TA TUM

BK120127 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Mar 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Hanoi Betrays Its Words by Deeds"]

[Text] The battle for Ta Tum is over but the war in Kampuchea is more intense than ever. It took one week, eight to nine thousand men, hundreds of dead and probably thousands of wounded, tons of shells, suicidal tactics and gas for the Vietnamese army to take the Sihanoukist base protected by only three thousand soldiers. In the course of the battle the Vietnamese commanders did not hesitate in violating Thailand's territorial integrity. They also never hesitated in sacrificing their men, as they sent them to certain death in climbing the cliffs of Ta Tum.

The National Sihanoukist Army [ANS] certainly has nothing to be ashamed of. The nationalist soldiers fought bravely, they showed tremendous will to defend their base and to fight for their country. They have gained the respect of all men and women who believe in freedom and the right of a country to determine its own future without foreign interference. The Sihanoukist soldiers fought also for all of us who cherish freedom and independence. They fully deserve our admiration and our praise as do those Thai soldiers who died to safeguard our borders.

By shamelessly sacrificing hundreds of its own young men, by using human waves and gas, Vietnam once again has shown the world how little it cares about the most precious values of life and human rights. Until a few weeks ago there were lots of rumours about Hanoi's willingness to talk, to be flexible and make a deal with Prince Sihanouk. The ferocity of the assault against Ta Tum proves how empty all that talk was.

Vietnamese troops have shown no respect for Thailand's sovereignty. Hanoi can deny again and again that its troops are on Thai soil but the whole world today knows it is a lie.

There was no victory for Hanoi in Ta Tum. Every source agrees that Vietnamese casualties have been extremely heavy. The ANS has proved to be a tough force. The nationalists wisely withdrew when the situation became too dangerous. They know that a piece of territory is less important than the lives of their men. They never called back any of their troops from inside Kampuchea. The

resistance, as the Vietnamese General Le Duc Anh himself admitted recently, knows that the most important front is the "inside front."

So the war goes on, bringing suffering and death to the Kampuchean people, to the Thai border villagers and to the young Vietnamese bo dois [Vietnamese: soldiers] forced into a tragic situation they have no control over. As Hanoi is about to celebrate the 10th anniversary of its victory over the Republic of South Vietnam, all it can present to its own people is a broken economy, aging and isolated leaders, malnutrition in too many cities, widespread poverty and the absence of real development. More and more it can also show the bodies of young soldiers that the regime has sent to die in Kampuchea. What a bitter celebration. What a waste.

By so savagely attacking the troops of Prince Norodom Sinhanouk, Vietnam has just reminded the world that it is high time to give those brave Khmers more than just moral support, more than a pat on the back. If the so-called free world really cares about the meaning of freedom, it must do more than offer mere wishes of good luck. It must provide assistance of a more amterial nature.

CSO: 4200/628

THAILAND

PAPER URGES 'EYE FOR AN EYE' OVER SRV INCURSIONS

BK101018 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 9 Mar 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Method to Solve the Cambodian Problem"]

[Text] May we stress once again that the current fighting in Cambodia is not an ordinary event. Vietnam is making a show of military might to boost its political position of permanently occupying Cambodia--not simply to protect the Cambodian people from the danger of the Khmer Rouge as it has claimed, a claim which has won sympathy for Vietnam from some western countries which are cowardly and old-fashioned. Vietnam is adopting a stubborn stand, just as the Soviet Union did when it sent troops into Afghanistan, similarly claiming to help the government of Babrak Karmal, the puppet of that superpower.

We want to ask all countries cherishing righteousness and justice whether they are going to go on allowing "the aggressor" to continue to act as a hooligan like this forever?

It is clear that those countries claiming to love justice are only paying lip service to that concept. They have done nothing concrete to uphold justice. Even the United Nations itself has done nothing despite the fact that the UN secretary general has already inspected the situation on the spot.

Even the PRC, which has talked about giving Vietnam a second lesson, remains reluctant and has done nothing.

We realize that all ASEAN governments are impatient about the situation, especially Thailand, which is a frontline state and has been suffering the repercussions time and again.

We have seen that ASEAN is daily running out of political options to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Cambodian issue. There have been no substantive measures adopted at recent ASEAN meetings with a view to blocking the genocidal warfare in Cambodia.

There has been no response to the ASEAN appeal adopted at the Bangkok meeting calling for political and military support from the international community

for the tripartite Cambodian coalition government. Now Thailand has again had to suffer from the act committed by Vietnam in Surin Province.

We want to ask whether we will continue to let Vietnam do this to us indefinitely?

We want to ask the government whether we should not act like Israel from now on--when Vietnam makes an incursion into Thailand, we should also make incursions into Cambodia to attack Vietnamese units there? Maybe by so doing we will be able to alert all justice-loving countries to pay attention to the problem and make efforts to safeguard justice.

We think that the doctrine of "an eye for an eye" is necessary if we want to survive in this hard world. Although some may say that this stand would be tantamount to dragging the war into the country, we think that is an old-fashioned way of thinking.

Maybe this new approach might serve to provoke all parties into making serious efforts to solve the problem. If we are afraid to take the risk, it is possible that the world will one day fall into the hands of hooligans.

CSO: 4207/144

THAILAND

FIGHTING IN CAMBODIA BLAMED ON SRV 'GREED'

BK281023 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Article: "Vietnam Always Wants More"]

[Text] Almost everyone expected the Vietnamese campaign against the Cambodian resistance this dry season to be fierce because Vietnam suffered setbacks in the international political arena and at the United Nations, which called for withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia. In any event, Vietnam continued to act indifferently to world public opinion. This is the way communist countries behave.

The situation at the Cambodia border remained tense as Vietnamese forces pursued their suppression of Cambodian civilians, forcing them to flee for safety to Thailand as usual. For humanitarian reasons, Thailand must shelter the refugees despite its already heavy economic burdens. This is a result of war, which causes suffering of innocent people. The sufferers are not limited only to Cambodians; Thai people along the border have also been victims of stray shells and have had to desert their farms for safer places provided by the government.

Dear listeners, Vietnam has not ceased its cruel, inhumane acts. What listeners should know is that Vietnam used toxic weapons in the fighting. Recently, Thai authorities captured many articles from the Vietnamese intruders in Prachin Buri. These articles included 2.75-inch rockets containing phosgene and hydrocyanide. SAM-7B missiles, field radio sets, antitank mines, gas masks, and weapons. Eighteen Vietnamese soldiers surrendered to Thai authorities because they were tired of fighting, hungry, and unhappy with the present Vietnamese administrative system.

Fighting in Cambodia has been vicious and there is no end in sight. As long as Vietnamese soldiers remain in Cambodia, the loss of Cambodian lives and property will continue to increase and Thailand will continue to have to shoulder the burden of Cambodian refugees. When can we put a limit to the phrase humanitarian assistance? Our country already has enough problems of its own. The only things present along the Cambodian border are death, the sound of gunfire, and killing. Greed is the cause of this. Although the SRV has successfully occupied both North and South Vietnam, it is not satisfied and has tried to threaten other countries. For this reason, the fighting never ends--although Vietnamese soldiers themselves are tired of endless fighting. Only the United Nations, no one else, could bring peace to this region.

THAILAND

MP ON CAMBODIAN BORDER, U.S. WEAPONS DEPOT

BK031226 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 2 Mar 85 p 16

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Sanan Khachonprasat, MP from Phichit Province and chairman of the House Commission for Military Affairs, told SIAM RAT in an interview that the commission had invited officials of the Defense Ministry and Armed Forces for a discussion of the situation along the border with Cambodia, and it was agreed that our side still has the situation under control despite the recent surge of violent incidents.

The commission chairman also expressed concern over the latest ASEAN resolution calling for international military assistance for the CGDK in its struggle against the Vietnamese military occupation of Cambodia. He said that the resolution must be implemented cautiously, within certain limits, so as to avoid becoming involved as a warring party in the fighting between Vietnam and the Cambodian tripartite government.

He noted that the settlement of the Cambodian conflict rests on the role of China in its negotiations with both Vietnam and the Soviet Union--its military support for the three Cambodian resistance factions, and the pressure it exerts on Vietnam.

Meanwhile, it was reported that the United States might in return play a role in Thailand by setting up an emergency weaponry depot in the country. Lt Col Sanan said he disagreed with the idea because it might aggravate the confrontation with Vietnam.

CSO: 4207/144

THAILAND

AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH OMAN ON CRUDE OIL SUPPLY

BK270111 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Thailand has agreed to buy 10,000 barrels per day of light crude oil from Oman at fluctuating spot prices starting 1 April, Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office Flt-Lt Suli Mahasanthana said yesterday.

He said that Thailand had signed a one-year government-to-government contract with Oman under favourable terms.

Under the agreement, the government is entitled to cancel the contract before the expiration date or to extend it after it expires. In addition, Thailand may also increase or reduce the quantity of oil intake as incorporated in the contract.

Flt-Lt Suli, who is chairman of the Sub-committee for Crude Oil Procurement, returned from Oman on Monday with Deputy Governor of the Petroleum Authority of Thailand Sophon Suphaphong.

The agreement follows a recent visit by a Thai delegation led by Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila to Oman, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait early this month.

Flt-Lt Suli said Oman expressed interest in buying rice and textiles from Thailand. But he added that Thai exporters must improve the quality of their products.

A three-year deal with Saudi Arabia ended on 31 December under which Thailand bought 65,000 barrels of oil per day at OPEC prices.

Thailand has been buying more crude from China, Indonesia and Malaysia to make up for the quantity once supplied by the Saudis.

CSO: 4200/628

THAILAND

PAPERS VIEW ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS' STATEMENT

BK180430 [Editorial Report] Three Bangkok Thai-language dailies--MATICHAN, THAI RAT, and SIAM RAT--on 13-16 February carry editorials commenting on a joint statement issued by the six ASEAN foreign ministers during their special meeting in Bangkok on 11 February.

MATICHON's 13 February editorial, on page 3, entitled "An Alarming Step Taken by ASEAN," notes that the joint statement issued during the ASEAN foreign ministers' 2-day conference in Bangkok says that ASEAN "will provide military assistance for the CGDK struggle to liberate their country from Vietnamese occupation. This new step deserves special attention."

The editorial says: ASEAN considers the Vietnamese military action in Cambodia since January 1979 as illegitimate. However, we might wonder "how necessary it is for ASEAN to turn away from its original concept and become a military organization to act as a policeman in the region the way the now-defunct SEATO did in the past." Having learned a lesson from the mistakes made by SEATO, many ASEAN countries believe that military cooperation with the group should be made only at the bilateral level.

In conclusion, the editorial says: "From the very beginning, ASEAN has been opposing and condemning the Vietnamese aggression and occupation of Democratic Kampuchea through political means and within the framework of the relevant UN resolutions. Although such tactics may not produce an immediate result, it has been carried out steadily and has been highly honored. ASEAN should stick to this line and relentlessly open new political and diplomatic offensives."

THAI RAT's 14 February editorial, on page 3, entitled: "The Role of ASEAN," says: "The ASEAN foreign ministers during a meeting in Thailand issued a statement condemning the Vietnamese aggression against Cambodia and called on Vietnam to withdraw its troops from that country. They also appealed to the international community to provide economic and military assistance for Cambodia. This ASEAN move can be regarded as one taken by countries whose interests are linked with the present situation in Indochina."

Reviewing the history of ASEAN, its objectives, and joint effort at the United Nations to call for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, the editorial urges ASEAN members to resort to "trade and economic sanctions against Vietnam and the countries involved in the aggression against Cambodia" as a means to reinforce their bargaining power.

THAI RAT's 15 February editorial, on page 3, entitled: "New New Role of ASEAN," says "The joint statement issued at the meeting of the six ASEAN foreign ministers which calls for the international community to provide military support for the Cambodian tripartite coalition government in its struggle against the Vietnamese occupation forces has clearly revealed the new policy adopted by ASEAN."

The editorial notes: "It is possible that ASEAN decided to suddenly change its stance because it has run out of patience after Hanoi failed to heed the world public opinion's call for a peaceful solution to the Cambodian issue." Since the Soviet Union gives military aid to Vietnam, other countries should also be able to give such aid to Cambodia. It is now obvious that "ASEAN has switched its stance from a political solution to a military one as Beijing has always adhered to." In conclusion, the editorial expresses the fear that the new policy adopted by ASEAN might "drag the war" into Thailand.

SIAM RAT's 16 February editorial, on page 3, entitled: "ASEAN's revolution," says that the call made by the six ASEAN foreign ministers for military assistance for the Cambodian resistance forces was misinterpreted by the mass media as an act of "dragging the war into the country" and "contradicting ASEAN's objectives." Noting that the joint statement is rather vague, the editorial stresses: "It is obvious that ASEAN is merely appealing to the international community to provide military support. It does not mean that ASEAN itself will provide such support" for the three Cambodian resistance factions.

The editorial notes that Vietnam has always rejected ASEAN's proposed political settlement of the Cambodian problem, the call by the international community for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, and the right to self-determination for the Cambodian people. The editorial says: "We have reiterated on several occasions that Vietnam is being defeated in the international arena, therefore, it must resort to military means to gain the upper hand in Cambodia. The call made by ASEAN for the international community to support the three resistance factions is a must because, at least, it will prove to Vietnam that ASEAN is not 'stupid' and will not just cry for peace through political means."

In conclusion, the editorial says: "It would be quite shameful and odd for the international community, in particular the United States--the leader of the free world--to react indifferently and allow the regional 'hooligan' to blatantly swallow up the Cambodian race."

CSO: 4207/144

THAILAND

MINISTRY ISSUES DIPLOMATIC CODE TO EMBASSIES

BK240242 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 24 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] The Foreign Ministry on Friday sent to embassies and consular offices in Bangkok a circular containing the code of conduct on the dissemination of information, a diplomatic source told THE NATION last night.

The two-page circular shows Thailand's concern in a polite and diplomatic manner. It says that the Thai Government is concerned over the abrasive practices by certain embassies here which were found to have engaged in the distribution of false, defamatory remarks, and dissemination of statements and comments detrimental to the host country.

The circular also reminds the diplomatic corps here that they have duty incumbent to the privileges and immunity provided under international law.

"They also have to recognize the laws enforced in Thailand as a receiving state," the circular says. "They have overriding obligations to refrain from interference with Thailand's internal affairs."

After several meetings, discussions and drafts, the Legal and Treaty Department had sent the final draft to Foreign Minister ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi Sawetsila for approval and that came last week.

Furthermore, the circular says that the Foreign Ministry have asked embassy and consular officials to refrain from:

--Defamatory and disparaging of, or derogatory remarks about Thailand, its national institutions, royal dignitaries or leadership.

--Adverse or critical comments on questions and issues relating to national security, stability, dignity and public morals.

In addition, the circular also asks the diplomatic corps to refrain from using Thailand as a base to attack any third country.

The code of conduct was first drawn up at the end of last year from recommendations formulated in meetings of officials of the Foreign Ministry, the National

Security Council, the military, the Public Relations Department, the Central Intelligence Department, and the police and communications authorities.

It was circulated to 121 embassies and consular offices.

Thailand has made no secret of the fact that the guidelines were jointly drawn up by Thai authorities to curb unconventional diplomatic practices after the Laotian Embassy here held a series of press conferences condemning Thailand over the dispute on the three villages of Klang, Mai and Sawang along the Thai-Laotian border.

CSO: 4200/627

THAILAND

ACADEMICS WRITE TO LE DUAN ON CAMBODIAN ISSUE

BK080749 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Mar 85 p 6

[Text] A petition signed by 765 Thai academics protesting the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea and calling for a negotiated settlement was yesterday circulated to embassies in Bangkok.

The academics expressed concern that continued fighting would cause more suffering for the Kampuchean people and could escalate and spill over into Thailand.

In a letter addressed to Vietnamese Communist Party Secretary-General Le Duan sent to the Vietnamese Embassy yesterday, the academics called on Hanoi to abandon its dream of establishing an Indochina Federation of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea.

The letter referred to a remark made by Ho Chi Minh, who was quoted as saying: "Nothing is more important than freedom and independence."

In a telex message to United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the academics called on the UN to do everything in its power to end the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea to preserve the world forum's reputation as a decisive international organisation.

CSO: 4200/628

THAILAND

BURMESE MORTAR LANDS ON BORDER CAMP, KILLS 1

BK080235 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] Mae Sot--A Thai ranger was killed and another seriously wounded after a Burmese mortar overshot a Karen rebel base and landed in a Thai camp last night.

The incident took place shortly after Rangoon troops launched a heavy artillery and mortar attack on Maw Po Kay camp opposite Tha Song Vang District at about 7 p.m. last night.

Field military sources said that Pvt Kongkham Metha died on the way to hospital while his colleague, Pvt Prasit Thianbut, was admitted with serious injuries from mortar shrapnel.

The two were among a unit of rangers manning a border guard post just opposite the attacked Karen base.

The mortar landed in the same area where a unit of Burmese commandos crossed and crashed with a unit of Thai Border Patrol Police last March during a bid to use Thai territory to attack the Karens from the Thai side of the Moei River.

The Karens last night retaliated with mortars and machine gun fire against the Burmese assault.

There was no report of casualties on either side during the fighting, which dragged on until late into the night.

Maw Po Kay is one of the Karen strongholds along the Moei River which, in places, form the Thai-Burmese border.

Rangoon is trying since late in 1983 to dislodge Karen rebels, who have been fighting for autonomy from the Rangoon administration since after the end of World War II.

CSO: 4200/628

THAILAND

SOLDIERS UNCOVER MALAYAN COMMUNIST STRONGHOLD

BK190202 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 19 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] Betong, Yala--Thai troops uncovered a network of two-layer underground tunnels at what was described as the largest stronghold of the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) ever seized by the military, a senior military official said yesterday.

Col Panthep Phuwanatnurak, deputy commander of a combined task force, told THE NATION that the CPM camp, which fell to Thai troops last Friday, comprised 110 buildings, including a meeting hall, a field hospital, a theatre, a canteen as well as a basketball ground and badminton courts.

He confirmed that the camp was the headquarters of CPM's second operational zone. The CPM force is a Marxist-Leninist faction.

The army officer said that the camp was surrounded by trenches and sentry posts.

The military also seized 230 sacks of rice, several litres of benzine and diesel oil, two fish wells, 80 chickens, 30 ducks and 60 pigs.

"All the more important is the discovery of a network of two-layer tunnels which have nine entries," he said.

It is the biggest CPM camp ever seized by the military and is larger than the Khao Namkhang camp seized by the Fourth Army Region two years ago, according to Col Panthep.

He said that Fourth Army Region Commander Lt Gen Wanchai Chitchamnong and representatives from the mass media would visit the camp soon.

Col Panthep said that about 200 CPM insurgents were formerly based at the camp which was believed to be more than 15 years old.

Thai troops had yet to complete the search of the camp, which was heavily mined, he said.

Four Thai soldiers were wounded by boobytraps during a search Saturday, and two more stepped on boobytraps Sunday. The military has so far found 50 landmines, according to Col Panthep.

The camp is north of Muang Village in Tambon Tano Maero of this border district. It was seized Friday, the last day of a military campaign, codenamed Taksin 8503, which was launched 12 February.

CSO: 4200/627

THAILAND

SAP GATHERS SIGNATURES FOR CABINET RESHUFFLE

BK100246 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 10 Mar 85 pp 1, 2

[Excerpt] Lampang--A group of Social Action Party [SAP] MPs claimed here last night that signatures of about 80 percent of the party's legislators had been obtained to seek a cabinet reshuffle. The sources said that the petition is expected to be submitted to party leader, M. R. Kurkrit Pramot, soon.

The SAP MPs were speaking to THE NATION here at a party to celebrate the 74th birthday anniversary of Mr Buntheng Thongsawat, deputy SAP leader and deputy party leader as well as Lampang MP.

The sources said that a senior executive member of the party had switched on the greenlight for the move to seek signatures from SAP MPs to call for a cabinet reshuffle within the present coalition government especially among certain cabinet members who are SAP members.

The sources said that the move had initially been kicked off by a group of 22 "Young Turk" SAP MPs who had expressed their dissatisfaction with the performance of certain Cabinet members of SAP in the cabinet. At least two SAP Cabinet members in the commerce and agriculture portfolios have become targets of their criticism.

SAP MP from Lamphun, Mr Saman Chomphuthep, told THE NATION in this northern province last night that he was confident that a cabinet reshuffle will take place soon--even before a decision is made to extend the tenure of Supreme Commander and Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, he said.

"The reshuffle may take place before Parliament convenes or it may occur at almost the same time," he said.

Saman claimed that MPs from SAP, Democratic and National Democracy Parties had agreed among themselves to seek a meeting with Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon over the Cabinet reshuffle issue. They plan to raise issues related to economic and political stability of the present coalition government, suggesting that a cabinet reshuffle may defuse the anticipated political tension once the Parliament reopens.

Saman said that the meeting being planned by some MPs from the three parties is unlike the recent one made by Democrat MPs with the premier. "We could do it without seeking advance approval from the party leaders because we can seek a meeting with the premier as MPs. We can later inform the party leaders of the outcome of the talks," he said.

THAILAND

EDITORIAL SAYS VIETNAMESE 'PRESSURE' TO CONTINUE

BK090225 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 9 Mar 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Vietnamese Pressure on Thailand Will Continue"]

[Text] All is not quiet on the eastern front--we mean on Thai soil. But the army and air force have cooperated in a combined operation against the Vietnamese who wanted three hilltops in Thailand to continue their relentless pursuit of the Sihanoukist resistance forces and the Khmer Rouge. What the Vietnamese did not bother about is that the three hilltops are in Thailand and, possibly under orders from Hanoi, violated the international boundary with impunity and met with what they should have anticipated earlier.

As in all guerrilla wars, the full facts never surface. For instance, the question can never be answered as to whether the Vietnamese entered Thai soil because they could not stand the attack on the rear by the Khmer Rouge who have abandoned base and vanished. But one Vietnamese prisoner has been captured and he has said that at least 300 Vietnamese have been killed in the fight against Thai troops and that the Vietnamese, nevertheless, are determined to take the ANS (Sihanoukist) base at Ta Tum in Kampuchea. But if ANS reports are to be believed they have lost only one soldier and 22 wounded and they have plenty of ammunition and other resources to defend the camp.

Ever since the start of the summer offensive, the Vietnamese have chalked up a number of paper victories and have mounted extremely fierce attacks when VIPs have been visiting Bangkok. Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden is coming to Bangkok from Hanoi tomorrow and Chinese President Li Xiannian is arriving Monday. These two have to be informed through the escalation of the ferocity of the fighting that the Vietnamese objective of complete conquest of Kampuchea remains unchanged.

So it is only natural for us to expect that the Vietnamese will have to claim another victory, possibly the occupation of Ta Tum or possibly another incursion into Thailand during the weekend and then continue it to pass on the message to China through Li. But at the moment making a foray into Thailand will be extremely difficult for the Vietnamese because the Thai armed forces are on full alert and ready to take all necessary measures to counter it.

The three strategic hilltops are in Thia funds but the situation there is fluid and may change at any time, because it is quite apparent that the Vietnamese are desperately trying to take the Sinhanoukist base at Ta Tum. The ANS is holding the base more for prestige than for anything else, because losing the base will not be a rout for the rebel forces. The monsoon season is not far away and the Vietnamese forces, using their conventional tactics, will not behold the captured bases once the rains start pouring down.

CSO: 4200/627

THAILAND

DAILY ON SRV INCURSION DURING HAYDEN HANOI TALKS

BK070348 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 7 Mar 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Hayden Peace Talks Merge With Vietnamese Incursion"]

[Text] Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden is right in the middle of his shuttle diplomacy, now having talks with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and Prime Minister Pham Van Dong. Hayden's attempts to try to defuse the critical situation in Western Kampuchean follows a similar goodwill mission by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. During both these visits, Vietnam mounted very fierce campaigns against civilian refugees and the Khmer resistance forces.

During Perez de Cuellar's visit, the Vietnamese attacked with unnecessary ferocity a refugee camp in Khmer territory since the UN is very much concerned about the refugee situation. But during Hayden's overnight visit to Bangkok and trip to Laos and Vietnam, the Vietnamese forces are making a major incursion into Thailand with the object of liquidating the ANS (Sihanoukist) camp at Ta Tum which is better approached, from a geographic point of view, from the Thai side.

Perhaps this deliberate attack on guerrillas loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk is purposely timed to coincide with Hayden's visit to Southeast Asia because Hayden met and discussed the Kampuchean problem with Sihanouk in Canberra when the prince visited Australia. Much of this could be taken as grandstand play because those in the know of things say that the Khmer resistance forces have not in any way been defeated although their bases have been captured.

We do not know how desperate the Vietnamese are getting and what sort of a deadline they are fighting against but there is no excuse that they should arrogantly infringe on Thai territory. Thailand has shown great restraint and has tried every possible diplomatic move including several complaints to the UN. But we are glad that the armed forces are retaliating and are mustering all the power available to push the Vietnamese back.

The Vietnamese want the control of three hilltops in Thai territory so that they can move with ease against the ANS base in Ta Tum inside Kampuchea as well as against the Khmer Rouge who are continually harassing both the Vietnamese troops and disrupting their logistics. This may make sense to the

strategists in Hanoi, but certainly they must be shown that Thai territory cannot be violated with impunity. If the Vietnamese only understand the language of bombs and bullets, then that is the language that Thailand must speak.

The situation at the moment is very fluid and it is not clear who has the control of the strategic hilltops. But until now at least the Sihanoukist guerrillas seem to be holding out. While Nguyen Co Thach and Pham Van Dong are talking peace with Hayden, what they are actually doing is to allow Vietnamese forces to enter Thai territory and engage Thai armed forces. Hayden is being taught a very crucial lesson.

CSO: 4200/627

THAILAND

PREM SAID READY TO CONFRONT NO-CONFIDENCE DEBATE

BK030320 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 3 Mar 85 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon is ready to confront the opposition in a no-confidence debate in Parliament.

"Anybody who thinks Gen Prem may dissolve Parliament because he can't stand the heat of a no-confidence debate against him raised by the opposition doesn't really know him well enough," said a close aide of the prime minister yesterday.

Lt Gen Chanthrakhup Sirisut, secretary general of the prime minister, said the cabinet, during its last weekly conference of 26 February, discussed Chat Thia Party's verbal assault against him one day earlier on Ramkhamhaeng campus.

Informed sources said that Gen Prem had listened to the criticism hurled by some outspoken members of the opposition which upset him.

"But Gen Prem also told the cabinet members that he had been briefed on the Chat Thai's attacks on him and the government. The premier said the opposition speakers were somehow too critical against the government," Lt Gen Chanthrakhup said.

The premier's senior aide said some Chat Thai MPs had predicted that the premier might dissolve Parliament because he might not be able to tolerate some critical and harsh remarks against him and the government. But Lt Gen Chanthrakhup said: "Those who made such a statement do not know this prime minister well enough."

Asked whether there will be a cabinet reshuffle in the near future, Lt Gen Chanthrakhup said: "I don't know about that since it is the prime minister's own political prerequisite and if a cabinet reshuffle should be effected, it would be out of necessity based on political reasons or strategy and not personal conflicts."

Informed sources said that although some advisers close to the premier had suggested that there should be a cabinet reshuffle before Parliament reconvenes to preempt the opposition's anticipated political attacks, most advisers have informed the prime minister that he could tide over the no-confidence debate without any severe difficulty.

THAILAND

AIR FORCE SETS RULES TO PROTECT RADIO MESSAGES

BK260125 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 26 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] The Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF) recently issued a new set of guidelines to all units under its direct command to prevent "enemy" eavesdropping on classified radio messages, an informed RTAF source told THE NATION yesterday.

The source said that the RTAF Intelligence Directorate recently received an intelligence report from the Armed Forces Security Centre of the Supreme Command about the leakage of secret messages through radio communications in the RTAF.

According to the intelligence report, the "enemy" has been eavesdropping on radio communications and had learned much secret information, including the plans of the Thai military, this way.

The RTAF has thus instructed its units to carry out seven new guidelines to prevent leaks of classified information through eavesdropping by the other side, the source said.

The first measure calls for classified information on urgent tactical situations to be in code. The second guideline calls for a frequent but irregular change of the coding system. The "one-time pad" system must be applied on every possible occasion.

The third instruction is for units which are capable of monitoring in-house communications to closely monitor the communications and submit reports on their work to their superiors on a regular basis.

The source said the fourth measure prohibits the combination of common language and coded messages in radio communications.

Sound signals have to be changed frequently to prevent the other side from interpreting the meaning of the signals, according to the fifth guideline.

The sixth measure calls for a change in radio frequency at intervals. The last guideline stipulates that the repetition of coded messages in spoken language must be discontinued.

CSO: 4200/627

THAILAND

VIETNAMESE SEIZE 300 FISHERMEN 24 FEBRUARY

BK260107 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] Samut Sakhom--About 300 Thai fishermen aboard 11 trawlers were seized by attacking Vietnamese warships and taken prisoner on Sunday [24 February].

A radio report from trawler O Prakchai 9, which managed to escape with 28 other vessels, said the captives were crewmen of 11 fishing boats also confiscated by Vietnam.

Fishing Marketing Organisation (FMO) official Thawat Chanprasit, who received the message yesterday, said 40 Thai trawlers were earlier fishing near a Vietnamese island of O. B. Lek, about 70 nautical miles off Vietnam's western coast.

At 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, three Vietnamese warships reportedly converged on the fishing fleet.

The FMO official said a number of trawlers were hit but damage and casualties were not known.

A total of 11 boats valued at 60 million baht were taken, while 29 others sailed away to safety and were reportedly continuing to fish at an undisclosed position.

Ten of the 11 captured trawlers had set sail from Samut Prakan Province, while one came from this province.

All were reportedly escorted to O. B. Yai Island not far from the site of the attack.

Mr Thawat said the seized boats were Mitphaibon, Saengchai 7, So Promnalin, Kiatsamut 7, Chirasamut 8, Detphaibun 4 and 5, Krasansin, Wattanchi 2 and 5, and O Prakochai Nawi 17.

One report said the latest incident meant that around 1,000 Thai fishermen have been arrested and detained by Vietnam since December last year.

In a related development, it was announced that fishermen will face tough penalties for operating in a prohibited area along the eastern coast from now until the middle of May.

The Fisheries Department said that the 25,000-square-kilometre non-fishing zone stretches from Prachuab Khiri Khan to Nakhon Si Thammarat and is abundant with mackerel and other edible fish.

Their breeding season is from 15 February to 15 May and no fishing will be allowed during that period.

CSO: 4200/628

THAILAND

AFP REPORTS SRV SEIZURE OF 11 THAI FISHING TRAWLERS

HK260523 Hong Kong AFP in English 0419 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Bangkok, 26 Feb (AFP)--Vietnamese gunboats attacked 40 Thai fishing trawlers at the weekend, damaging some and arresting about 300 fishermen aboard 11 boats detained, fisheries officials said here today.

The officials said the incident occurred Sunday near an island about 30 nautical miles off Vietnam's coast.

They added that 29 of the 40 trawlers involved escaped, but that some were damaged by gunfire from the three gunboats.

The boats were allegedly fishing in Vietnam's territorial waters, the officials said, adding that 300 fishermen had been arrested.

Arrests of Thai fishermen for allegedly poaching in Vietnamese waters have occurred frequently in the past. In mid-November, Hanoi released 86 Thai fishermen detained for more than a year for poaching.

A 350 dollar fine had been paid for each fisherman before they were allowed to return home, diplomatic sources said in Hanoi at the time.

CSO: 4200/628

THAILAND

PAPER ON COMMUNIST UNITS IN LAO BORDER AREA

BK221020 Bangkok MATICHON SUT SAPDA in Thai 10 Feb 85 pp 12, 13

[Unattributed report]

[Excerpts] According to a 2d Army Region headquarters source, the Thai-Lao border areas in Na Haeo, Dan Sai, Phu Rua, Tha Li, Pak Chom, and Chiang Khan Districts of Loei which are separated from Laos by the Huang River have great military and security importance to Thailand. This area is about 250 km wide along the border and about 10-15 km deep. Communists in Tha Li, Chiang Khan, and Pak Chom Districts have had little activity. Most activity in the area concerns drug trafficking. But there are frequent activities of the new party (Green Star) in Na Haeo, Dan Sai, and Phu Rua Districts and in Phitsanulok's Chat Trakan District.

The Na Haeo, San Sai, and Phu Rua District area is an operational target of the Thai People's Revolutionary Movement, whose members are former Communist Party of Thailand insurgents. The Thai People's Revolutionary Movement, Sayaboury operational zone, is led by Comrade Muang Thong, whose real name is Pruang Chomphu. Units of this operational zone have crossed the border to operate in Ban Na Kha, Ban Pak Pong, and Ban Nam Moei in Dan Sai District since 1983. These units are led by Mong Sanmano--alias Comrade Wiset or Sangwan--son of a Ban Pak Pong headman, and Bot Wanthongsang, alias Comrade Bunmi. These two attempted to surrender to the Thai Government but were unsuccessful because their conditions were not met. In any event, the Thai People's Revolutionary Movement has now coordinated its activities with the new party which is led by Comrades Kham Doi and Phichai.

According to Thai military reports, eight units of the new party crossed into Thailand to operate in Na Haeo, Dan Sai, and Phu Rua Districts of Loei and in Chat Trakan District of Phitsanulok. They are:

Comrade Kham Doi's unit, comprising 35 members, operated in Na Haeo, Dan Sai, and Phu Rua Districts; Comrade Phichai's unit, about 60 strong, collected information and conducted mass agitation in the entire area; Comrade Soem's unit, about 20 strong, operated in Na Haeo, Phu Rua, and Dan Sai Districts; the unit of Comrades Rop and Sangop, Comrades Somchit and Somchai, about 20 strong, operated in Na Haeo and Dan Sai Districts; Comrade Sombun's unit, about 30 strong, operated in Dan Sai and Phu Rua districts; the unit of Comrades Yot and Saithong, about 25 strong, operated in Dan Sai and Phu Rua

Districts; and the unit of Comrades Wiset and Bot, about 30 strong, operated in the area bordering Na Haeo, Dan Sai, and Phu Rua Districts.

The new party (Green Star), whose headquarters is located at Phonchat Camp, Boten Village, Sayaboury Province, has Domrade Sombun as secretary general. The party's and the unit of Comrade Phichai (Red Star), whose operation base is at Phu Miang, negotiated an attempt to merge several times but could not reach an agreement due to the contention over positions. These two groups operated in both mountainous and plateau areas in Thailand near Laos and cultivated villagers farming in remote areas for food supplies, information, and manpower.

CSO: 4207/144

THAILAND

SIAM RAT APPEALS FOR LIFTING OF ORDER ON MATICHON

BK191024 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 18 Feb 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Do Not Obstruct the Right To Be Informed"]

[Text] The mass media theory divides the role of the mass media into two major categories--mass media serving the democratic capitalist system and that serving the dictatorial system. In the democratic capitalist system, the mass media acts as a medium between the government and the private sector by trying to enhance understanding and unity and to provoke ideas beneficial to social development. For this reason, the constitution guarantees the right to be informed and the right to free expression. This means that the mass media is free to gather and disseminate information and express ideas so long as others' rights and freedom and good ethics are not violated.

In the dictatorial system, the mass media performs only as a mouthpiece for the system and the system controls the mass media to perform in accordance with its policy line.

Thailand is a democratic capitalist country and, although it is not completely democratic, the Thai mass media enjoys full independence and freedom to be informed and to express itself, more so than in any other ASEAN country. Some even feel that Thailand permits excessive freedom to the mass media, particularly as far as good ethics are concerned. For this reason, the Press Act and the Revolutionary Party Order No 42 are necessary to control the press as long as it cannot control itself within the bounds of good ethics. As the Thai press still resorts to sensationalism in its reports and comments, this has led to many libel suits.

We are not saying that it is not right for General Athit Kamlang-ek to sue MATICHON. The law, not arbitrary closure of papers, should be relief upon to settle this sort of issue. However, what we wish to say is that banning MATICHON reporters or photographers from performing their duties in military installations or withholding military-related information from them should not be the form of punishment that is carried out too long. We think MATICHON has already felt enough of the punishment. We appeal to whomever issued the order against MATICHON to rescind it soon. To prolong the punishment could cause a negative reaction--that the army lacks sympathy. MATICHON has many

readers, and blocking MATICHON reports about the military is tantamount to blocking readers of the right to be informed, which could cause them to have negative views of the army.

Compromise is a fine quality of Thai society which has helped Thailand to remain independent. Let us not give others the opportunity to use the MATICHON issue to label our country as being semidemocratic-semidictatorial.

CSO: 4207/144

THAILAND

THAI SUPPORT TO KHMER GUERRILLAS DISCUSSED

HK100906 Hong Kong AFP in English 0902 GMT 10 Mar 85

[By Allen Nacheman]

[Excerpt] Greenhill Evacuation Site, Thailand, 10 Mar (AFP)--Khmer guerrillas were fighting alongside Thai troops today to drive back introducing Vietnamese forces from strategic heights near a besieged resistance base on the Cambodian border, a guerrilla officer said.

Men Bun Phun, an officer with the First Brigade of the Sihanoukist National Army, said several hundred Vietnamese were still inside Thailand, battling to retain control of two strategic hills they seized early last week in a bid to attack from the rear the Tatum base of the faction of Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Vietnamese and Thai gunners exchanged fire across the border shortly after dawn, he said, although no shelling was heard here mid-morning.

He said his guerrillas were being ferried between this former Cambodian refugee camp and the border in Thai army trucks. About 200 of them were awaiting transport to the Tatum area at that moment, he added.

The officer told an AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE correspondent his men had used this site, seven kilometres (four miles) inside Thailand, as a recuperation camp since the Tatum base was attacked by Hanoi forces on Tuesday.

Some 35,000 Khmer civilians, evacuated to Greenhill from Tatum base since last April, were moved further into Thai territory after Tuesday's attack.

Although the camp is inside Thailand, the guerrillas here today spoke only Khmer and French.

An AFP correspondent and photographer entered the camp, were abruptly expelled by a Thai officer on a motorcycle, who confiscated their film.

The officer, who did not identify himself, warned them not to talk about what they had seen here, but would not give reasons for his caution.

Thailand has, however, consistently claimed to be militarily neutral in Cambodia's six-year guerrilla war, allowing to armed guerrillas on its territory.

A dirt road leading south from this camp to the Tatum base was choked with Thai army vehicles, from jeeps to huge tank recovery rigs.

A Thai artillery base was seen hidden in the woods about two kilometers (one mile) north of here, its guns trained on the border.

CSO: 4200/627

26 March 1985

THAILAND

1 SOLDIER KILLED, 40 WOUNDED IN RAIDS ON CPM

BK280233 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 28 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Betong, Yala--One Thai soldier was killed and 40 wounded in several raids last week against the strongholds of the Communist Party of Malaysia (CPM) at this border town, a senior army official told THE NATION.

Col Panthep Phuwanatnurak, deputy commander of the Joint Task Force, said last week military operations against the CPM guerrilla strongholds in Betong area were highly successful. "We were able to occupy CPM base (Marxist-Leninist) group," he said.

Col Panthep said that the occupied CPM base was the largest stronghold of the guerrillas in the area comprising more than 126 resident units, well-equipped with water and electric systems including training compound and sport fields, he said.

The deputy commander added that a Thai soldier was killed by a booby trap and 40 wounded from the fighting with the CPM.

"This guerrilla group has been active in the past 10 years, they have about 200-250 armed men. Being able to occupy this stronghold will bring peace to this area again," he said.

The co-ordinated operations against CPM strongholds along the Thai-Malaysian border between Thai and Malaysian soldiers have been active for years.

CSO: 4200/627

THAILAND

VOFA EXPANDS INDOCHINESE LANGUAGE BROADCASTS

BK150922 [Editorial Report] Beginning with announced program changes effective 4 February 1985, the Thai Radio Voice of Free Asia [VOFA] has provided more extensive air time for its Indochinese-language programs. The radio's Cambodia, Lao and Vietnamese programs have been increased from three to five programs per week each. At the same time the Thai, Vietnamese, and English-language programs have been moved to new timeslots.

There are now 30-minute programs in all five languages beginning broadcast Monday through Friday, as follows: Thai 1030-1100 GMT (1730-1800 local); Lao 1230-130 GMT; Cambodian 1300-1330 GMT; Vietnamese 1330-1400 GMT; and English 1500-1530 GMT. The Thai program has been moved back a half hour, the Vietnamese program has been moved back 1 hour, and the English program has been moved from the late afternoon to the late evening.

The format and content of the VOFA broadcasts have not changed significantly, though since a week before the above changes there has been extensive attention to Prince Norodom Sihanouk during his presence in the region. The only new feature thus far on any of the programs has been one on Thai stories, entitled "Thai Literary Program," which was inaugurated on the Lao-language service only as of 4 February.

A typical format for a Lao broadcast includes approximately 3 minutes of world news, news related to Indochina, and/or ASEAN regional news followed by about 3 minutes of news on Thailand or Thai-related events. A concluding feature deals with such topics as local Thai issues, Lao-Thai relations, criticism of Vietnamese policies, news about ASEAN, and Thai literature. Broadcasts of VOFA's other services have similar formats, with corresponding emphasis on news and features related to the respective target. The content of VOFA programming is somewhat tailored to individual language beams. Some items are carried in only one language or in languages directly related to the content of the item. For instance, a message to the Cambodian people from DK President Norodom Sihanouk on 2 and 4 February from Prime Minister Son Sann on 8 February were only carried in the Cambodian language program. The English-language program tends to parallel the earlier Thai program, while adding selected items that have appeared in the other language services.

CSO: 4200/627

THAILAND

BRIEFS

HEAVY PATROLS ON MALAYSIAN BORDER--Yala--Four main roads in Betong District are now under heavy patrol by policemen and troops following Monday's ambush to two buses which left four people dead and 20 injured. Immigration officials said that the incident had lowered the number of Malaysian tourists coming here. Meanwhile, two rangers and a soldier were injured when Communist Party of Malaya guerrillas attacked a government contingent occupying a captured CPM camp 10 kilometres northwest of Betong. The extra road patrols are the result of an earlier meeting yesterday between officers of the Combined Civilian-Military-Police Force 43 and Betong District officials. They agreed that pickup trucks with mounted machine guns and tanks should alternately patrol four roads known here as Ban Lamong, Ban Chanthalak, Betong outside checkpoint and Ban Ayo Buchang. In addition, Border Patrol policemen will accompany all buses travelling along these routes. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Mar 85 p 1 BK]

230 RELEASED FISHERMEN RETURN--Some 230 Thai fishermen released by Vietnam arrived in Samut Prakan yesterday aboard two trawlers. The fishermen were on 11 trawlers seized by the Vietnamese last week. Vietnam has kept the remaining trawlers. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Mar 85 p 1 BK]

IN TAM CHARGE REJECTED--The representative office of Prince Norodom Sihanouk yesterday dismissed as groundless a statement by former Kampuchean Prime Minister In Tam accusing Thailand of having designs on Kampuchean territory. Prince Sihanouk also expressed deep regrets over the statement. The office said in a press release that In Tam's accusation was "purely and simply his own fabrication" and did not represent the opinions of the Kampuchean leadership. In Tam, in a letter sent last week from the United States to the AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE office in Bangkok, said that Thailand has designs on the Kampuchean provinces of Battambang, Siem Reap, Oddor Meanchey, Preah Vihear and Koh Kong. Thai officials dismissed the statement as unfounded. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Mar 85 p 3 BK]

INDUSTRY MINISTER DENIES RESIGNATION REPORT--Industry Minister Op Wasurat yesterday denied reports that he had submitted a resignation letter to Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon. The rumour about Op's resignation came after he had expressed his discontentment with the prime minister's decision to reverse an Industry Ministry committee's ruling that former Permanent Secretary of Industry Minister Wira Susangkarn was guilty of negligence and malfeasance in office in allowing a cut in whisky prices in 1982. [Excerpt] [Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 13 Mar 85 p 3 BK]

ARAB LEAGUE DELEGATION MEETING--An Arab good-will delegation led by the president of the Council of the Arab League, Nabin al-Nimr, yesterday paid a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila. They exchanged views on regional issues. Foreign Ministry spokesman Sawanit Khongsiri reported that the Arab officials reported to the Thai officials on the latest developments of the Iran-Iraq war and the Lebanon problem. This would benefit Thailand in its role as a member of the UN Security Council. The Arab team is paying a 5-day visit to Thailand as guests of the Foreign Ministry. The purpose of the visit is to promote economic and political co-operation with Thailand as well as other ASEAN members. The Arab good-will delegation will leave Bangkok for Tunisia tomorrow. [Text] [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 26 Feb 85 BK]

CABINET RESHUFFLE; F-16 PURCHASE--Responding to a newsman's question at Government House this morning about a cabinet reshuffle, Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon said that he had no thought of reshuffling the cabinet. Regarding news reports that the United States will study in detail about Thailand's purchasing power for F-16 [as heard] fighters, the prime minister said that it would be good if such a study is made. When newsmen asked whether the U.S. Government has made any confirmation, he replied that there was still no confirmation. The prime minister added that the purchase of F-16 fighters was at the request of the armed forces. [Text] [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 13 Mar 85 BK]

CSO: 4207/144

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

LENGTHY INVESTIGATION UNCOVERS TELEPHONE POLE THIEVES

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Feb 85 p 3

[Article by Luu Quang Hung as recorded by Phuong Quang: "Telephone Line Saboteurs Captured"]

[Text] When I heard the Kien Giang Stone Enterprise Director say that unsavory elements had recently destroyed a telephone line 5 kilometers long and taken the 36 telephone poles (made of Japanese treated pine), I was astonished.

This was not a simple case of economics but had a political significance, upsetting the communications of the enterprise with other agencies in the district. If the culprits were not found and a number of their ringleaders not apprehended, they would become even more arrogant and vicious. Thinking in this manner, I talked to the investigative personnel about sending a number of agents to investigate and determinedly break the case.

The first questions I had to answer were, "What did they intend to do with the treated pine poles?" "If they were going to use them as building columns or to construct beds, cabinets, etc., who was the distributor?" "Where had they been taken?" "By what route?"

Carefully examining the evidence, I learned that the power poles weighed 300 to 400 kilograms each and could not be carried by one man. Therefore, there must be from two to three or more culprits involved in this case. There were many canals and ditches in the area and they probably carried the poles off in a boat. The pivotal point would be to find out who had this type of treated pine lumber.

The difficulty was that we could not enter just any house to investigate. That would not only violate the collective ownership rights of the people but also create loopholes allowing the unsavory elements to conceal and disperse their spoils.

Suddenly, I got the idea to become acquainted with Thieng, a well-known carpenter of this area, because he had constructed houses, beds and cabinets for many people and perhaps knew many stories. Knowing that he was straightforward and honest in casual conversation, I introduced myself and said, "In this area, there is probably no one who can build more beautiful beds and cabinets than you."

Thieng appeared pleased and said, "You exaggerate but it is true that if anyone can join tenon joints as tight as this, I will give up my trade."

As he spoke, Thieng pointed out a table he had just built. I echoed his opinion and then asked in a friendly fashion, "You have worked in this area for a long time. Could you tell me if anyone sells Japanese treated pine lumber so I can buy a little?"

"Yes, I do. In this area, I have only seen Mrs Chi with that type of lumber. However, you must keep that to yourself or I will be incriminated."

In order to legally investigate the home of Mrs Chi, I played the role of a state farm worker. Dressed in worker clothes, a visored cap and glasses, I went to her home to inquire about purchasing buffaloes for the state farm. While talking to Mrs Chi, I noticed that her home had nine columns of a striking rose color made of shiny grained wood. Although the carpenter had tried to plane the wood smooth, glossy black lines remained in several places. "They were the treated pine poles of the stone enterprise!" Elated, I continued the pretense by asking Mrs Chi, "Where did you buy such good treated pine lumber to make those columns? Tell me so I can buy a little."

The question seemed to cause Mrs Chi to turn slightly pale and I noticed then that her attitude was unnatural. She pretended to invite me in for a drink of water and said, "That's right. It is a kind of gie lumber that I went all the way to Phu Quoc to buy."

"You don't say. It looks like treated pine to me."

Mrs Chi tried to evade the subject but I persisted until she told the truth, that she had purchased the lumber from Tran Van Nghia at Ba Hon. Carefully investigating Nghia, I learned that he had a wife and three children presently living in Nam Thai Son Village. In 1978, he was arrested for complicity in a case involving assistance to those illegally departing the country and was imprisoned for a time. Returning from his period of reeducation, he became increasingly involved in crime, burglary and smuggling. Based on the police record and past history of Nghia, the border security post wrote him a notice to appear for education but apparently he "smelled a rat" because he left home for parts unknown. Not long afterward, an agent informed the post that Nghia was living on R. Island. It was an island little visited by people with many deep caves and narrow trails. I accompanied three fully armed soldiers to R. Island to investigate. I had just slipped into a rock cave when suddenly I heard a "whipping" sound pass my ear. I dodged behind a rock and at that moment, two daggers struck the rock in a shower of sparks. I was confused about what had happened when I saw Nghia and two other men with disheveled hair appear before me. I drew my pistol and shouted, "If you want to live, all of you raise your hands!"

Nghia pretended to raise his hands while trying to draw his weapon. I grabbed his hair and knocked him down. Seizing this opportunity, the other two jumped forward but at that moment, the three soldiers advanced to arrest all three men and return them to the post. Nghia confessed that he had taken the 16 treated

pine poles of the stone enterprise and sold them to Mrs Chi. The amount of lumber recovered was much less than that lost. Could it be that Nghia was not telling the truth? While temporarily holding him for questioning, we expanded the scope of the investigation for other clues.

Not much later, an agent told us that there was treated pine lumber at the home of Do Van Thanh and Duong Van Nuoi. We secretly investigated and found that the report was true. I dispatched an agent to the location to buy some of the lumber. While the agent was making the deal and receiving the goods, I made arrangements to catch them in the act. With clear proof, Thanh and Nuoi hung their heads and admitted their guilt.

After more than a month of investigation, we had found the culprits, apprehended three of the ringleaders and recovered 36 treated pine poles for the stone enterprise. Due to this case, thefts in the area have greatly declined.

7300

CSO: 4209/269

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

BOGUS GOODS MANUFACTURERS DISCOVERED

Hanoi DOC LAP in Vietnamese 23 Jan 85 p 7

[Article by C.M.: "News of Bogus Goods"]

[Text] There recently appeared in the Ho Chi Minh City market many kinds of bogus goods bearing foreign trademarks to deceive the buyers, especially those coming in from the provinces of the Mekong Delta to shop.

Thanks to intensified inspection and control, the Market Management Unit of Phu Nhuan District inspected businessman Nguyen Phuc of 272 Truong Tan Buu Street, discovered the production of bogus "pullover" clothing and confiscated 136 empty counterfeit 555 and Captan cigarette packs printed in his home.

In the 11th Precinct, the market management unit discovered that the owner of 582/7 Nguyen Chi Thanh Street had allowed Vuong Ai Le to rent the house in order to produce bogus bicycle parts bearing a Japanese trademark without a production business license.

The 5th Precinct market management unit inspected and prosecuted businessman Ly Viem of 200 Van Tuong Street for manufacturing bogus perfumes bearing foreign labels.

Bogus goods not only disturb the market but are also "phony" goods bought with real money! Public opinion strongly condemns them and hopes that the legal agencies severely punish those producing bogus goods and the profit seekers who rent buildings as a location for producing or storing bogus goods.

7300
CSO: 4209/261

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

STIFF PENALTIES ASKED FOR SPECULATORS, SMUGGLERS, BOGUS GOODS MAKERS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 8 Dec 84 pp 1, 4

[Editorial]

[Text] The reform of private industry and commerce which has taken place in our city is aimed at creating a new socialist production relationship, allowing the state to get hold of commodities and money, to control prices, to stimulate the development of production, and to stabilize the workers' lives. This reform has met with a favorable response from the working people and from industrialists and businessmen who have opted for socialism and are willing to put their capital and professional and management skills to stimulate the city's economic activities.

Everybody should realize that in order for the reform of private industry and commerce to achieve the expected results, along with the rapid development of the socialist commerce forces to gradually replace the disorganized market and to guide private industry and commerce to enter the socialist order, there is a need to strengthen market and price management and to punish properly dishonest merchants, speculators, smugglers and counterfeit goods makers. This is an indispensable and urgent requirement because if we still tolerate those illegal traders in their speculating and hoarding of commodities, we will be unable to ensure the good achievements of the reform, prices cannot be stabilized and the lives of the working people will still be in hardship.

Recently, taking advantage of the disorganized development of the "free" market, the illegal activities of dishonest merchants have placed the economy and the people's lives in serious jeopardy. One of their most dangerous activities is the making of bogus commodities. They have counterfeited many high-consumption goods such as drugs, cigarettes, liquors, beer, jeopardized consumers' health and in several instances caused death (to users of drugs and food, primarily). They not only disturbed the market, the makers of counterfeit goods destroyed the prestige of state economic units through their making of bogus state-produced merchandise, and stimulated the lust for foreign goods.

The serious crimes of dishonest merchants were also perpetrated through the mustering, hoarding and selling of smuggled commodities. They threw money and supplies into rural areas to compete with the state to buy grain and

other agricultural products for hoarding, lowering purchasing prices and raising selling prices. Taking advantage of weaknesses in economic management, they established contacts with disintegrated and degraded elements to pilfer supplies from warehouses, enterprises and commerce units, primarily those strategic supplies, such as gasoline and oil, fertilizers and chemicals imported by the state with large amounts of foreign currencies. With their rich experience in economic subversion acquired since before the liberation coupled with their ability to go through loopholes in state control measures in recent years, the ringleaders have expanded the dispersion of their commodities in a very sophisticated manner. They have even used private businessmen and a whole group of small businessmen to serve as their running dogs in the gathering and selling of their goods.

The serious sabotage done by border smugglers is noteworthy. They connived with international smugglers and comprador bourgeoisie who had escaped to foreign countries, and leaned on the support of imperialists and of the Peking expansionist clique to throw a wide variety of merchandise including luxury goods into our country to buy gold and certain precious special products to weaken our economy. They bought up some degraded elements in government agencies to use state means of transportation to haul smuggled goods on road, river, and even sea lines.

In terms of fiduciary circulation, unscrupulous merchants did not miss any opportunity to exert their sabotage. They printed counterfeit currency, expanded their illicit currency transfer, aiming at getting hold of foreign currencies with a rate higher than the official exchange rate, and used our money to buy gold and special products to send abroad.

One of the direct causes of market disturbance is the economic sabotage activities of dishonest businessmen, speculators, smugglers, bogus goods makers, and traders of bogus goods. They are the allies of our imperialist and Peking expansionist enemies who are waging a multifaceted war in our country of which our city is a key objective. While they do not have the means to destroy our city militarily, their insidious scheme is economic sabotage, market disturbance, and erosion of the people's confidence in socialism. This economic struggle is directly related to the struggle between us and our enemies.

It is crystal clear that dishonest merchants, speculators and smugglers are the principal offenders of market disturbance, unsteady prices and an insidious assault on the lives of working people. They are a major hindrance for the reform and the reconstitution of a socialist order in the area of commodity distribution and transportation, because they abuse and attract bourgeois and even certain small businessmen in their criminal activities. From cultural and ideological viewpoints, unscrupulous merchants are criminals because they try to win over and spoil a number of party cadres and members, stimulate the lust for foreign goods, and spread the "everything foreign is superior" syndrome contrary to our people's beautiful spirit of self-reliance and self-strengthening. Whenever those dishonest businessmen and speculators remain in existence, a new class of unrestrained lavish spenders living on illegal resources appears and social injustice is maintained. Therefore, severely punishing speculators, smugglers and bogus goods makers is a crucial

mission in economic management, market stabilization, protection of political security and social order. It is the aspiration of the city people, including those small industrialists and businessmen who are traveling their way of making an honest living. Dishonest ringleaders must be brought before justice and dealt the stiffest measures.

Struggling against dishonest businessmen is not the responsibility of the police or the market management authority alone, it is in the first place the mission and tasks of each city worker in the capacity of a collective master of social management. Regardless of how cunning unscrupulous businessmen are, how sophisticated their schemes are, the villains cannot escape the scrutiny of the people in each ward, village or city cell. A bit of information, a small discovery pertaining to their economic sabotage activities will actively contribute to market control. If each and everyone of us will wholeheartedly cooperate with the forces of the dictatorship of the proletariat to relentlessly pursue speculators, smugglers and counterfeit goods makers, we will create an inescapable net to isolate and neutralize them.

The struggle against dishonest merchants needs to be linked with the fight against internal negativism to protect socialist properties. Each agency and unit should arrange their systems of responsibility and management well to protect money and supplies and to uncover and deal appropriately with degenerated, degraded and hooker elements who assist unscrupulous businessmen in disturbing the market. We will resolutely not let state commodities and supplies leak through dishonest merchants to supply the "free" market.

Having a good grasp of the dictatorship of the proletariat, developing the working people's right to collective mastery in market and price control, punishing severely speculators and smugglers are urgent needs that ensure the success of the reform of private industry and business, and the stabilization of prices and of the people's lives.

9458

CSO: 4209/222

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

CRACKDOWN ON SPECULATORS, BOGUS GOODS MAKERS REPORTED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 8 Dec 84 p 1

[Article by M.C.: "In November, the City Uncovers and Deals with 800 Speculators and Bogus Goods Makers; 50 Taels of Gold and Goods Worth Tens of Millions of Dong Confiscated"]

[Text] (SGGP)--In November 1984, in cooperation with youth groups, market control forces, economic police and customs uncovered and dealt with 800 cases of goods speculation, bogus goods making, and unlawful business activity in the city. They confiscated goods worth 1.7 million dong, and generated an income for the state of over 800,000 dong in fines and back taxes. With the cooperation of popular groups, the city economic police forces uncovered 10 smuggling cases, confiscated 50 taels of gold and an amount of goods worth tens of millions of dong.

In conjunction with the base youth organization, the city's Subdepartment of Customs conducted searches on oceangoing ships HL, NR, NL, uncovered smuggled goods worth tens of millions of dong.

Many serious violations involving prior offenses and merchandise worth over hundreds of thousands of dong were transferred to the organs of control for prosecution. Most noteworthy was the case of a robbery chain specializing in stealing and selling cars, in which 11 individuals were arrested and 10 previously stolen cars and tens of tons of accessories car thieves had dismantled recovered. In Binh Thanh District, the market control group uncovered an illegal shipment of incense including 57.65 kg and worth over 3.6 million dong. In Tan Binh District, the district economic police searched the house of Dinh Ngoc Huong and caught him redhanded for unlawfully concealing 400 varieties of drugs worth over 1 million dong. The 11th District market control group arrested the Tran Trong Dung household for making counterfeit brandy under the state brandname, confiscated 124 bottles of liquors, 2,400 liters of prepared liquors, 6,500 empty bottles and several production tools.

9458
CSO: 4209/222

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN ON SINO-THAI ESPIONAGE ROLE

BK280226 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 13 Jan 85 p 4

[Third and last installment of unattributed article: "Concrete Evidence of the Hands of China and Thailand in the Espionage Operation Against our People" --quotation marks as published]

[Text] Tran Van Ba, coded number K-09, was a spy organized by China and Thailand to control the operations of infiltrating Vietnamese territory. This "commander of the secret base" who was "in charge of the security" of the spies --henchmen of Beijing and Bangkok -- made the following statement:

"In June 1980 I was taken to Thailand to organize activities. At first, I stayed in a hotel; then I moved to street No. 59 of Sukhumvit road. We were operating clandestinely with the assistance of a Thai police second lieutenant named Sakchai who constantly stayed with us. In December 1980, our first base was established on Cambodian territory adjacent to Sok Sann base (of the Son Sann Khmer reactionaries). When the Sok Sann base was attacked, we were authorized by the Thai intelligence service to move deep into Thai territory. All the expenses for our food, weapons, ammunition, military equipment, and training facilities were borne by China. When China successively gave us money, weapons, and ammunition for our activities to overthrow the current Vietnamese regime, Thailand suggested that we developed our forces. If China gave us aid, the aid would have to go through Thailand, then Thailand would have a chance to swindle. At the beginning, a Thai major named Nop was appointed liaison officer and ordered to stay with us and to help fulfill our demands in conducting activities to overthrow the Vietnamese regime. While obeying Beijing's order and seeing an opportunity to make some profits, the Thai Army Intelligence Department under General Chawalit's command appointed a specialized unit to positively support us. This unit was composed of nearly 20 men ranking from corporal to field grade officers, including Colonels Wimon And Phan, Lieutenant Colonel Khom, Majors Suang, Nat, Thon, Warang, and Captains Thakon, Chit, and Den. The Thai Army Intelligence Department used border defense outpost No. 505 to protect and supply our base. Here, nearly 200 of us attended many training courses on intelligence, information, and military. The ports of Rayong and Surat Thani in the Gulf of Thailand had been used by us to conceal the two boats that infiltrated Vietnam. Rayong was also the place for receiving Chinese weapons and for dispatching our weapons, ammunition, and men back to Vietnam. Every infiltration trip was escorted by

thai Army Intelligence Department men as far as the sea zone adjacent to Vietnam's territorial waters, after such trip had been discussed with China.

After returning from trips to Beijing to work with Han Nianlong Tuy told me: China intends to support all anti-Vietnam forces, if these forces are not controlled or heavily disposed of by another country. China helps these forces weaken Vietnam or cause many difficulties to Vietnam. China considers the enemy of its enemy as its ally. Han Nianlong and the officials of Chinese foreign and defense ministries, during talks with Tuy and Hanh, all pledged to positively and comprehensively help overthrow the current Vietnamese regime.

Although our relations with China and Thailand were such good, Tuy still sent me out to get in touch with five Americans in Bangkok, including Donald Coleman, second counselor of the U.S. Embassy in Thailand, to report the situation to the United States. Through Son Sann and his son Subert, the United States wants to maintain close relations with Tuy and Hanh.

From mid-1981 when Tuy fell sick, I was charged with picking all the phone calls because I can speak English and French fluently. I was maintaining contact with the Chinese Embassy in Bangkok through telephone. My code name was K-09, but I usually said K-9 to the Chinese Embassy official named Yang Yi Yun through telephone number 2795056 whenever I contacted the Chinese Embassy. To preserve secrecy, when arranging an appointment for Tuy to work with the Chinese Embassy I said: T-4 wants to see the embassy and not C-4 that was Tuy's code name. When so required, I personally delivered Tuy's mail to the embassy or picked it up from there. [MORE 13 JAN]

0974

CSO: 4209/289

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN ON SINO-THAI ESPIONAGE ROLE, CONCLUSION

BK280228 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 13 Jan 85

[Text] Also beginning 1981, China allowed us to have access to Chinese-made weapons stored on Thai soil. Still kept in boxes bearing Chinese markings and labels and placed in the custody of the Thai army intelligence and security service, these arms were transported to the ports of Rayong and Surat Thani and turned over to us for smuggling into Vietnam. As for money, "we" were supplied by China through an account held by Tuy at the Bangkok Bank.

As the man who directed infiltration activities, I had to submit to the Thai Army Intelligence Department, through Major Nop, an operational plan in English 1 month in advance for each infiltration trip. According to these plans, Major Nop would direct a number of Thai army security officers in using trucks with military escort to transport weapons from Chinese depots on Thai soil to the piers at night for loading on to infiltration boats. The Thai officers also took charge of the task of taking our men of the K and Hk groups from our secret base to the boats.

Since 1982, I have directly led 10 incursions into Vietnamese territory and have smuggled several groups of our well trained men and large quantities of Chinese-supplied weapons and ammunition into Vietnam. Aside from this, I also made two trips to China on boats B-2 and B-3 to receive special merchandise for direct delivery to Vietnam. This merchandise consisted of counterfeit Vietnamese currency in 10- and 50-dong denominations printed by China and intended for circulation in Vietnam both as a way to sabotage the Vietnamese economy and a means of support for our men. For these incursions all our boats used Rayong or Surat Thani as ports of departure.

China also equipped us with Chinese-, Japanese-, or U.S. -MADE radio transceivers with a radius of operation reaching thousands of kilometers. While the equipment was supplied by China, the training in communications technique was given by Thai army officers. We built a communications network with its central station set up at NO. 130 Oraphin Lane, Rama VI road. There were two other communications stations, one at our "secret base" and the other inside Vietnam. During the infiltration trips, our boats also carried a radio transceiver to maintain contact with our "general headquarters" and with Vietnam.

In compliance with Beijing's instruction, we also maintained close contact with the Pol Pot and Son Sann cliques who were using Thai territory to oppose Mr Heng Samrin's regime. It was Pol Pot's men who served as guides for the group under my command that infiltrated Vietnam by land from Thailand."

These are just a few of the great many declarations made by the spies. However, they are enough to lay bare the crimes of the Chinese and Thai reactionaries, who are speechless in view of the glaring evidence of their criminal activities. Their odious and despicable actions as well as their evil intention have grossly violated the security of Vietnam, an independent and sovereign country. Let the Chinese people denounce the Deng Xiaoping clique for spending their hard-earned money to support the murderers and traitors and for the clique's frenzied opposition to the Vietnamese people -- a people who desire nothing more than to live in peace so as to build a new life and to live in friendship with all other peoples, especially their neighbors, and who always set great store by the Sino-Vietnamese friendship.

0978

CSO: 4209/289

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SOVIET MILITARY ATTACHE SPEAKS ON ARMY DAY

BK240701 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 22 Feb 85

[Statement by Navy Colonel (Basiliev), navy and air force attache of the Soviet Embassy in Vietnam, to Voice of Vietnam listeners on the occasion of the 67th founding anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy -- date not given -- recorded in Russian fading into Vietnamese translation]

[Summary] Dear Vietnamese listeners, I would like first of all to express my profound gratitude to the Voice of Vietnam for allowing me to speak to you on the 67th founding anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy. Founded by Lenin in 1918 to protect the gains of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the Soviet Armed Forces have won glorious victories during the civil war and the great patriotic war and are now fulfilling their sacred missions to defend the Soviet people's creative labor, ensure the security of the Soviet Union, and, together with the armies of the fraternal countries, safeguard the security of the socialist community as a whole.

In 1941, fascism waged war against the Soviet Union. This was the fiercest war ever experienced by our fatherland. After ending the war with a global historic victory, the Soviets have, over the past 40 years and more, lived and worked in peace. Implementing Lenin's peace strategy which is reflected in the peace program adopted at the 26th CPSU Congress, the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community have tried their best to ease world tension and eliminate the threat of a nuclear war. The most recent initiatives of the Soviet Union, including those put forward at the talks with the United States on nuclear and space weapons, are aimed at realizing the above objective.

However, the world situation remains complex. The achievements of socialism and imperialism's loss of power to rule over and decide the destiny of nations have touched off intensive opposition from international reaction, especially the U.S. ruling circles. Faced with the danger of war, the Soviet Union has been forced to consolidate its national defense capability and maintain its armed forces in combat readiness.

"Dear comrades, the current generation of soldiers of the armed forces defending the Soviet land are performing their duties in the unified rank of the armies of the Warsaw Pact member countries, the VPA, and the armies of

other socialist countries. Loyalty to the principles of internationalism and to the ideal of friendship among nations is boosting the fighting spirit of our countries' armies which are day and night defending the gains of socialism. The friendship and cooperation between our two parties, peoples, and armies are guided by Lenin's thoughts; and they are inseparable from the success of the Great October Socialist Revolution."

On this great anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces, we, the cadres and combatants of the Soviet Army and Navy, convey to the Vietnamese people our warm greetings and wish them happiness and prosperity. May our comrades-in-arms -- combatants and sailors, noncommissioned officers and officers, generals, and commanding naval cadres of the Vietnamese people's armed forces -- win many new successes in training, combat, and political education, in consolidating national defense, and in defending socialism in Southeast Asia!

"The fraternal friendship between our two peoples will be constantly consolidated and developed.

"Long live the militant alliance between the armed forces of the Soviet Union and the SRV!"

Thank you.

1098

CSO: 4209/289

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SRV: HANOI REPORTS GORBACHEV NAMED CPSU CHIEF

BK121048 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The CPSU Central Committee on Monday held an extraordinary plenary meeting. On instruction of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, member of the Political Bureau, secretary of the party Central Committee, opened the meeting. Participants to the meeting stood in silence in respect for Konstantin Chernenko. The meeting pointed out: The communist party and the people of the Soviet Union suffered a great loss. The meeting highlighted the great services of President Chernenko.

On instruction of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee, Mr Gromyko, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee, proposed the appointment of Mikhail Gorbachev as general secretary of the CPSU. The meeting unanimously approved this proposal.

Mikhail Gorbachev expressed his profound gratitude to the credibility of the party Central Committee and said he is well aware of his great responsibility. Mr Gorbachev pledged to do his best to serve the party and the people and the cause of great Lenin, to carry out the party's programs, ensuring the implementation of the resolutions and tasks, further consolidating the economic and national defense strength of the Soviet Union, increasing the people's social welfare, consolidating peace, and persistently carrying out the Leninist home and foreign policies of the party and state.

1122

CSO: 4200/618

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VIETNAM: INDIAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

BK231615 Hanoi VNA in English 1536 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Text] Pushkar Johari, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of India, today presented his credentials to State Council Vice President Nguyen Huu Tho.

The Vietnamese vice president had a cordial conversation with the Indian diplomat.

Present on the occasion were Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and Director of the Office of the State Council and the National Assembly Nguyen Viet Dung.

0854

CSO: 4200/618

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SRV, THAI EDUCATION MINISTERS MEET IN BANGKOK

OW091716 Hanoi VNA in English 1556 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Vietnamese Minister of Education Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh paid a courtesy visit to Thai Minister of Education Chuan Likphai in Bangkok Friday.

The two ministers expressed their hopes of further contacts for the exchange of experience to pave the way for educational cooperation between Vietnam and Thailand, in the interests of the two sides and for strengthening mutual understanding and friendship between the Vietnamese and Thai peoples.

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Bin was in the Thai capital as Head of a Vietnamese Delegation to the conference of Education Ministers of Asian and Pacific countries organized by UNESCO.

8503

CSO: 4200/618

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VNA CITES CUBAN, MPR MEDIA ON PRC 'PROVOCATIONS'

BK271730 Hanoi VNA in English 1533 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] The Cuban Magazine "BOHEMIA" in a recent commentary condemned the Chinese authorities [words indistinct] armed provocations along the Sino-Vietnamese border.

The magazine said that China had moved a big force together with a large number of combat aircraft and a great quantity of war means close to the common border with Vietnam while (unceasingly) vociferating the threat to teach Vietnam "another lesson."

The tabloid underscored the Vietnamese Government's goodwill and constructive stance in finding a negotiated solution to the outstanding issues between Vietnam and China. It welcomed Vietnamese Party General Secretary Le Duan's speech delivered at the meeting in celebration of the 55th founding anniversary of the Communist Party of Vietnam. Le Duan, in this speech, (?reiterated) the Vietnamese state and people's readiness to normalize relations with China and voiced the belief that the friendship between the Vietnamese and Chinese people would surely be restored.

The Mongolian news agency "MONTSAME" in a commentary on February 26 said: Beijing knows that the Vietnamese Armed Forces would have long withdrawn their volunteers from Kampuchea had China and Thailand ceased their support to the Polpotists who are clinging to the ambition to restore its barbarous regime. Beijing's position has been the main obstacle to the settlement of the issue, Montsame stressed.

It went on: "The brazenly hostile policy of Beijing, Washington and Bangkok runs counter to the Indochinese countries' good will in settling disputes in the interest of peace in Southeast Asia.

1053

CSO: 4200/618

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

MARITIME TRANSPORT PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH GDR

BK271702 Hanoi VNA in English 1531 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] A protocol on cooperation in maritime transport for 1985 between Vietnam and the German Democratic Republic has been signed recently in Berlin.

Signing for the Vietnamese side was Nguyen Dinh Doan, vice-minister of communications and transport, and for the GDR side [words indistinct] Heinz Rentner, vice-minister of transport.

While in the GDR, the Vietnamese delegation was received by Herr Otto Arndt, minister of transport.

1060
CSO: 4200/618

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS LEADER SUPPORTS INDOCHINA

OW111151 Hanoi VNA in English 0701 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] The three Indochinese countries' proposal for dialogue with concerned parties to solve issues relating to southeast asian situation is correct and conforms to the international laws, said Joe Nordman, President of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers (aijd).

Speaking at a recent meeting in Belgium of the a.i.j.d. Secretariat, Joe Nordman expressed his deep concern over the exacerbating situation in Southeast Asia, especially areas along Sino-Vietnamese and Kampuchean-Thai borders. He acclaimed the goodwill stance of the three Indochinese countries aimed at solving the regional issues through negotiations.

8096

CSO: 4200/618

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

AMBASSADOR ATTENDS PARIS WORKERS' SOLIDARITY MEETING

OW120033 Hanoi VNA in English 1523 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] A social was held on the outskirts of Paris in the evening of March 9 by the Federation of Book and Printery Workers of France in solidarity with the Vietnamese people.

This is the biggest solidarity action of the French working close with Vietnam in the past decade.

Present at the gathering were Ha Van Lau, Vietnamese Ambassador to France; Le Phuong, Vietnamese Ambassador at the UNESCO; Jacques Pios, Secretary General of the Federation; Charles Fourniaux, Secretary General of the France-Vietnam Friendship Association; and others.

Ambassador Ha Van Lau sincerely thanked the entire personnel and leaders of the federation of book and printery workers for their assistance and support for Vietnam full of militant solidarity and internationalism.

A performance of Vietnamese traditional arts was arranged later by the Vietnamese residents' union in France.

8120
CSO: 4200/618

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

TO HUU CHU HUY MAN VISIT ARTS EXHIBITION

BK281038 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] On the occasion of the CPV's 55th founding anniversary, an exhibition of works by artists of various nationalities has opened at No. 29 Hang Bai street in Hanoi. The exhibition displays paintings and sculptural works depicting the daily life activities and state of combat readiness of the people of various nationalities in all parts of the country.

Among the visitors were Comrade To Huu, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Senior General Chu Huy Man, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of State, and head of the VPA General Political Department; and Comrade Hoang Truong Minh, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Nationalities Council of the National Assembly.

Viewing with interest the paintings and sculptural works on display at the exhibition, Comrades To Huu, Chu Huy Man, and Hoang Truong Minh praised the creators for having manifested broadly and vividly the numerous aspects of the people's life. There are beautiful paintings and sculptural works with a strong nationalistic touch, such as Festival at Dong Chau by (Xuan Mai), Harvest Season by (Duong Thi Noi) Giao Wedding Ceremony by (Nguyen Duc Viet), and Tender Age by (Ca Tha San).

Comrades To Huu, Chu Huy Man, and Hoang Truong Minh have expressed the hope that the Ministry of Culture and the fine arts sector would help create favorable conditions for artists and the people of various nationalities to develop the mass movement for the creation of fine arts more broadly and deeply aimed at further improving the cultural life of the people of various ethnic minority groups.

1094
CSO: 4209/289

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AWARDS LOCALITIES FOR GRAIN

BK230655 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] The Council of Ministers has awarded 7 rotating banners and 14 certificates of commendation to various localities and units for their outstanding achievements in grain production.

The provinces and units that received rotating banners are: Ha Tuyen, Thai Binh, Phu Khanh, Dong Nai, and Tien Giang Provinces and the Binh Minh state farm and the Y-Yen agricultural machine repair station in Ha Nam Ninh. The provinces and units that received certificates of commendations are: Hoang Lien Son, Quan Ninh, Ha Son Binh, Ha Nam Ninh, Nghe Tinh, Nghia Binh, Ben Tre, Cuu Long, Hau Giang, and Binh Tri Thien Provinces; Ho Chi Minh City, and the animal husbandry institute, the mechanized land reclamation corporation, and the cooperative management committee of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Ministry of Agriculture has also awarded many emulation banners, intensive cultivation achievements banners, and certificates of commendation to 81 provinces, cities, districts, and various other units. Meanwhile, it has also noted the intensive cultivation achievements of 635 cooperatives and production collectives.

The 1984 successes on the agricultural production front were great and relatively comprehensive. However, these achievements were still far below the requirement, considering the population growth rate. The average per--capital grain output in the country was only 310 kilos -- an increase of 12 kilos over 1983. In general, efforts to tackle the country's grain problem were still not steady enough. Therefore, tackling the grain problem continues to be an urgent and most important task of our people.

Fully aware of the importance of the final grain production year in the 5-year (1981-85) plan, the agricultural sector advocates concentrating on stepping up grain production and trying to attain the target of 19 million metric tons of grain in terms of paddy. Main efforts must be directed at stepping up intensive cultivation for higher crop output and carrying out multicropping while making active efforts to further expand the rice areas in localities where conditions permit, trying to carry out intensive cultivation as soon as rice areas are expanded. It is necessary to expand high-yield rice and subsidiary food crop areas, uniformly increase the areas of various crops,

capitalize on favorable conditions to boost grain production in various areas, resolve satisfactorily all requirements for farmland irrigation, draft of animals, crop seeds, and fertilizer; vigorously introduce technical innovations into production; and pay attention to and provide close guidance for prevention and countermeasures against harmful insects, drought, and torrential rains. Simultaneous efforts must also be made to develop the strengths of every locality, boost the production of industrial and export-oriented crops, link crop cultivation with animal husbandry, and ensure that they develop evenly and comprehensively.

Along with improving and enhancing management activities with emphasis placed on capital investments, the agricultural sector and the state must promptly recommend an incentive policy toward the production and circulation of marketable farm products to create conditions for promoting production development.

0823

CSO: 4209/289

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VU DINH LIEU ON AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION

BK280635 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2220 GMT 26 Feb 85

[From the review of NHAN DAN for 27 February 1985]

[Text] At the top of page 2, the paper carries an article by Comrade Vu Dinh Lieu, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, entitled: Complete the Transformation and Reorganization of Production in Order To Move Agriculture in Tien Giang Forward. In the introduction, Comrade Vu Dinh Lieu writes:

Through the transformation and reorganization of production, Tien Giang Province has not only been able to develop its agricultural production, but it has also succeeded in advancing agriculture gradually to large-scale socialist production. Transforming and reorganizing production in the economic sector in general and in the agricultural sector in particular are not simple because they are part of the toughest revolutionary struggle to decide on who will triumph over whom. That is why Tien Giang, like other localities, could not avoid difficulties in the initial stage. Selected by the central government as an experimental site for organizing agricultural cooperatives, Tien Giang failed in its initial attempt making the situation more difficult and complex. Despite difficulties in the initial stage, the majority of party committee echelons, local administrative officials, mass organizations, sections, branches, and party cadres and members appeared to be firm and persistent in studying the party's policy and guidelines on transformation so as to understand them more thoroughly. Taking into account the local socioeconomic situation, they invented more creative and appropriate working methods.

The comrade Council of Ministers vice chairman continues by analyzing problems faced by Tien Giang and its working methods, stressing the need to strengthen the linkage between districts and the grass-roots level and to achieve gradual perfection.

He concluded by saying that the successful experiences of Tien Giang are also regarded as good examples for the entire country, especially for those provinces in the former Nam Bo region that are now struggling to complete their agricultural transformation work this year. Only by completing this task can they carry out the 5-year -- 1986-90 -- plan smoothly. There is now not much time left for performing this task. The extent of cooperativization attained so far by these provinces is still very small. Only 36 percent of

peasant households and 30 percent of cultivable lands have been brought under cooperativization so far. Therefore, every province must reexamine its situation to understand it thoroughly, formulate specific plans, and concentrate intensive guidance on implementing the resolution of the congress [as heard] and other resolutions of the party Central Committee. We are determined to fulfill this task. However, we must do it satisfactorily and not perfunctorily or carelessly. I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to announce the launching of a movement among the provinces and cities in the former NamBO region to learn from Tien Giang Province and to compete against one another for the second and third places.

1084

CSO: 4209/289

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

KIEN GIANG TELEVISION STATION--Kien Giang has put a television broadcasting station into operation. A broadcasting radius of nearly 100 km. The cadres, reporters, and editors of the station are now capable of broadcasting nearly two-thirds of their planned daily programs. Along with installing equipment and broadcasting on an experimental basis, the Kien Giang radio and television broadcasting station has also built two television relay stations in Ha Tien and Phu Quock Districts and has increased its broadcasting power to reach viewers in all parts of the province. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 21 Feb 85]

BINH TRI THIEN WIRE-RADIO--Ben Hai District, Binh Tri Thien Province, recently developed and consolidated its wire-radio stations, ensuring continual operation of a network comprising 175 km of cable, nearly 200 public loudspeakers, and more than 1,000 family loudspeakers. The district actively motivated various villages to contribute tens of thousands of dong and thousands of man-days to build 8 more kilometers of radio cable and a number of grass-roots wired-radio stations. To date, wire-radio stations have been built in 10 villages, 1 town, and 6 public offices and enterprises in Ben Hai District. The district is continuing to expand the wire-radio networks in the new economic zones and in mountain and sea areas while adopting measures to manage satisfactorily and protect radio cables to ensure smooth operation. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 21 Feb 85]

AN GIANG TROOPS RECRUITMENT--As of 6 February, more than 8,000 youths in an Giang Province were ready to depart to fulfill their duty of defending the homeland. Of this number, nearly 700 voluntarily applied for military service. In some localities, such as Phu Tan and Long Xuyen, a youth movement for voluntary military service has developed to a high level. At present, the party committee echelons, people's committees, and mass organizations of various localities are continuing to step up political indoctrination and to implement the Army welfare policy to ensure satisfactory fulfillment of the troop recruitment norms and to achieve high quality in this task. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 23 Feb 85]

QUANG NAM-DANANG RICE BLAST--In Quang Nam-Danang, 4,000 hectares of winter-spring rice, or one-tenth of the province entire winter-spring rice area, were recently affected by rice blast. Most of the stricken acreage was located

in the high-yield rice area of the districts in the northern part of the province. In Dien Ban District in particular, the disease at times spread over an area of up to 1,700 hectares, 200 of which were seriously affected. This outbreak of rice blast in Quang Nam-Danang was due partly to poor weather but mainly to the failure to clean up the ricefields previously affected before the winter-spring rice was transplanted. Owing to the timely application of various prevention and control measures, to date the province has managed to stamp out rice blast in 3,000 hectares. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 23 Feb 85]

SETTLEMENT OF NOMADS--Over the past 10 years, to lead tribesmen gradually along the road of collective production and a new life, Gia Lai-Cong Tum has built 94 villages and motivated 230,000 nomads to move in to take up farming and a settled life. Settling nomads has created favorable conditions for improving the tribesmen's knowledge in all fields, developing production, and leading them on the road of collective production. In the 191 villages of Gia Lai-Cong Tum, a total of 90 cooperatives, 1,060 production collectives, and 500 production solidarity teams have been organized, with 65 percent of the local peasant households having joined collective production units. [Excerpt] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 24 Feb 85] 0980

CSO: 4209/289

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

CREDIT COOPERATIVES IN SOUTH REPORTED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 8 Dec 84 pp 1, 4

[Article by M.V.: "A Total of 1,820 Villages in the South Have Credit Cooperatives"]

[Text] (SGGP)--On 5 and 6 December 1984, in Ho Chi Minh City, the National Bank organized a conference to summarize the creation of credit cooperatives in provinces and cities in the south. Many representatives from banks in the south attended. Comrade Nguyen Duy Gia, director of the Vietnam National Bank, presided over the conference.

Up to now, provinces in the south have created 1,820 credit cooperatives, taking 64 percent of the total number of villages in the whole area and mobilizing a total of over 112 million dong in capital. With additional capital granted by local banks, credit cooperatives made loans worth over 116 million dong to their members, 90 percent of the loans going to production.

In its evaluation, the conference determined that the credit cooperative movement in provinces developed rapidly and was geared in the right direction. It efficiently supported the collectivization of agriculture, contributed to the development of production, fought the bad practice of private loans at heavy interest rates and assisted local banks to gradually expand credit and money management in rural areas. Nevertheless, the movement for the creation of credit cooperatives has not developed uniformly in each locality because mobilized capital was not substantial enough to assure high efficiency and because professional knowledge, and accounting and financial skills were marginal.

The conference decided to build credit cooperatives in villages where they were lacking and to strengthen existing and newly created credit cooperatives in terms of organization and professional activities, from now until June 1985. Each cooperative must try to raise the present average capital from 60,000 dong to 500,000 dong at the end of 1985, and augment the capital turnover cycle from 3 to 4 times per year. They will continue to encourage the people's participation so that by the end of 1985, 80 percent of the population reaching working age become members of credit cooperatives. On the basis of expansion of capital sources, credit cooperatives need to

increase loans for production and also for the timely solving of problems related to members' lives.

In order to achieve those missions, the conference unanimously agreed to intensify propaganda activities to make everyone understand the role, function and missions of the credit cooperative. Banks at various levels need to formulate plans and concrete measures to assist local party organizations and governments in providing closer leadership in the building and strengthening of credit cooperatives. Each locality has to summarize the creation of credit cooperatives in the recent past to learn from it and to multiply credit cooperative models in total or in part.

9458

CSO: 4209/222

26 March 1985

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

GAM CAU TEXTILE MARKET DISSOLVED

Hanoi DOC LAP in Vietnamese 23 Jan 85 p 7

[Article by Ha Chau: "The Textile Market"]

[Text] Standing on a street corner in the city during the months approaching the lunar new year of the ox at the location of many of the capital's markets such as Dong Xuan-Bac Qua, the Gam Cau Textile Market, etc., we see an atmosphere of busy animated holiday buying.

This spring, the people of Hanoi have fresh flowers, delicious cakes and bags of holiday goods in their hands. Surely, none of us can forget the spirit of devoted service of the cadres and personnel carrying out their mission on the distribution and circulation front, including the inspection and control forces who operate night and day against those engaged in speculation, smuggling and the manufacture of bogus goods, doing their part to maintain prices at the market in order that the people may feel peace of mind in making their holiday purchases.

The closer the new year approaches, the more the streets of Hanoi shine with gold and orange and the trees are covered with fresh green buds like a signal that spring is beginning. However, to the cadres and personnel of the Textile Market Management Committee and the Dong Xuan Ward market management team, the signs of spring sprouted early because the guidance of businessmen at the Gam Cau Textile Market beginning their primary job of supporting the holiday purchasing requirements of the people had already drawn the market management committee into activity.

During these days, we have had an opportunity to wander about the textile market. It may be said that man's next requirement after food is clothing and at the end of the year, everyone wants a beautiful set of clothes to show off during the holiday. Here, on more than a hundred counters are displayed all kinds of beautiful clothing of good quality and of rich colors such as chocolate and buttercup, silk, smooth and velvety satin, cloth of subdued checks, and all kinds of expensive fabrics such as woolen tweeds, sailcloth, etc. in keeping with the preferences of the consumer. Therefore, the density of buyers at the Gam Cau Textile Market becomes increasingly greater but no appreciable fluctuations in the prices have occurred. Do Bao, Chairman of the Market Management Committee, said that the prices of a number of types of fabrics here were "softer" than those of state-operated trade by one to two times.

With such an orderly marketing environment in the textile market at the present time, one cannot help but recall the days before the existence of the Gam Cau Textile Market when it was necessary each time that holiday preparations were made to travel to the "assembly points" on Nguyen Thiep, Nguyen Thien Thuat, Hong Phuc, etc. streets to buy fabric or ready-made clothing. These locations had up to hundreds of "strong and vigorous" youths specializing in personal trade. At that time, the customer who brought an unused piece of cloth here for sale was immediately subject to their arbitrary pricing, when someone had to buy something, decoys gathered around to inflate the price, and there were not a few people who came to the capital from distant provinces for their holiday preparations but were swindled with bogus fabrics. Normally, they were like bunches of duckweed gathering to trade in illegal textiles but when the market management cadres were spotted, they rapidly dispersed into the alleys to avoid inspection and control.

To assist in the management of social order in the capital, the Dong Xuan Ward People's Committee was assigned a mission by the city of bringing the local textile traders under the concentrated management of the state. In June of 1982, the Gam Cau Textile Market was officially opened with an objective of eliminating the "assembly points," long engaged in mobile textile marketing on the sidewalks, and bringing these businessmen under tax collection management. Thanks to this, textile market order was restored in the Dong Xuan and Bac Qua market areas, restricting the surreptitious trading and occurrences of cheating the customer. From a previous situation of tax loss, from 500,000 to 600,000 dong in taxes were collected each month during 1982.

Because the textile market was situated on a section of sidewalk on Gam Cau Street 165 meters long and not quite 2 meters wide and was next to a heavily populated complex, many difficulties were encountered in administrative management. During the last few months of 1982 and the beginning of 1983, the entire market had 248 businessmen engaged in trade but when the state implemented the new tax law, they automatically quit their business in droves and dispersed their goods, leaving behind only 36. Faced with this abnormal situation, the Market Management Committee and tax collection team both explained their policies and resolutely struggled with reason and feeling against the tax evaders. Recognizing the situation, a number of private operators bribed the cadres and resorted to dishonest tricks such as two businessmen operating at one counter or joining capital but only placing one name on the business register. However, because the members of the Market Management Committee and tax collection team remained firm in proper compliance with the tax law, 300,000 dong in taxes were tracked down and collected from the businessmen quitting their trade.

Aimed at managing the Gam Cau Textile Market into a location of wholesome goods interchange, the Market Management Committee reminded and guided the businessmen in precisely following the stipulated procedures and coordinating with the market management unit in strengthening inspection and control. It was through this that many businessmen carrying and hoarding illegal textiles were discovered. For example, Nguyen Thi X brought 197 meters of Nam Dinh diagonally woven silk into the market, and Hoang Thi N. carried 380 meters of cheese cloth. A businessman on Gam Cau Street carried 468 meters of Nam Dinh satin. Businessman M. on Nguyen Thiep Street and S. on Hang Dau Street had turned

their private homes into "warehouses" for storing thousands of meters of cloth and hundreds of suits of clothing brought up from the private operators in Haiphong and gradually introduced to the markets for assignment to the counter owners.

During some periods, the state stores had only synthetic cloth and thread for sale at the trade business price while the Gam Cau Market had all kinds of multicolored fabrics preferred by the consumers. What was the source of these textiles? It is noted here that the businessmen, besides deploying personnel in direct sales, also used a "force" of leg-men specialized in meeting and directing clients. They were largely the children or acquaintances of the counter owners. Consequently, they controlled a fairly large volume of textiles from many sources such as the Intershop store, from Ho Chi Minh City via Noi Bai Airport, from Haiphong or from returning visitors to foreign countries. Goods awarded to the cadres and workers of textile enterprises and brought here for resale also accounted for no small amount. They included even smuggled textiles discovered by the Dong Da District public security forces in 77 bales sent by mail to eight businessmen in Hanoi from Ho Chi Minh City with a total of 15,000 meters of cloth and hundreds of suits of ready-made clothing. Thanks to this rich source of textiles, the Gam Cau Textile Market created a picture of bustling trade.

Through several days of wandering about the textile market, we noted that the monthly 3 million dong in taxes collected at that time still did not accurately reflect the business income of those dealing in textiles and ready-made clothing. "Market pursuit alliances" by a number of businessmen who pool their capital and engage in joint sales to avoid taxes were fairly widespread. There were also occasional disturbances caused by a number of the youths trading in the "disheveled clothing" style and methods of repressing these occurrences had to be promptly initiated.

In order to bring management order to the textile sector, the city on 5 January 1985 dissolved the Gam Cau Textile Market and transferred all the textile merchants to the Dong Xuan Market.

7300
CSO: 4209/261

AGRICULTURE

SONG BE PROVINCE PROMOTES AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVIZATION

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 5 Feb 85 p 3

[Article by Dang Xuan Mai: "Forward, Firm Progress in Agricultural Cooperativization Movement of Song Be Province"]

[Text] Some pleasant changes have recently occurred in the agricultural cooperativization movement in Song Be Province. To the present time, the province has established and consolidated 287 production collectives and 144 cooperatives to attract more than 28,900 farmers and nearly 26,800 hectares of farming land (37 percent of the area and 39.75 percent of the population) into collective work under the two production collective and cooperative forms. Moreover, the entire province also has had 583 production solidarity teams training the farmers to become familiar with the procedures of collective work and creating the preconditions necessary for establishing production collectives in the near future. The two districts of Loc Ninh and Phuoc Long have basically completed cooperativization with 90 percent of the farm families, and 38 villages in the province have organized from 70 to 90 percent of the farm families in collective work. Nearly every district in the province has examples of villages or hamlets that have completed cooperativization. Of special interest, the previously weak movements in the districts of Tan Uyen and Ben Cat have now become stronger.

If compared with the overall development rate of the agricultural cooperativization movement in all the provinces of Nam Bo, the results attained in Song Be are still low according to requirements. Nevertheless, according to an evaluation by the Provincial Agricultural Department, much progress has been made recently in the agricultural cooperativization movement in Song Be in both quantity and quality, creating a favorable foundation for Song Be during 1985 to rise to basically completing cooperativization along an active and firm course with appropriate forms throughout the province.

One of the reasons the agricultural cooperativization movement in Song Be has been restricted during the past few years is that land possession and exploitation is still fairly widespread in the local areas. After a year of actively implementing Directive 19 of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee on land reallocation and agricultural transformation, the entire province has re-allocated the land of more than 1,600 category 4 families and more than 830 category 5 families to recover more than 550 hectares for distribution to those farmers with little or no land for farming. At the same time, the conditions of field encroachment, illegal field possession, etc. have been gradually overcome. If all the field land yielded, offered and recovered up to now through

the movement is calculated, Song Be has reallocated more than 2,100 hectares to thousands of production farm families, and exploitation in the rural area has been gradually eliminated. Closely coordinated with field reallocation, the movement to consolidate and develop forms of collective work has also been strengthened. Thanks to this, in only a short period of time, 78 production collectives, 10 cooperatives and hundreds of production solidarity teams have been established in nearly all the local areas. Many districts in the province have developed the effect of the collective work movement in land clearance, area expansion and intensive cultivation for multicropping and increased crop yields. Specifically: Tan Bo Cooperative in Tan Uyen District, the cooperatives of My Hao and Chanh Loc in Chanh My Village and Thu Dau Mot City, the production collectives in Dinh Thanh Village of Ben Cat District, etc., thanks to the movement of small-scale water conservancy, field transformation and good use of new short-term, high-yield rice varieties, have upgraded a large portion of the one-crop fields to two crops or have interplanted one subsidiary food crop between two rice crops and applied methods and techniques of intensive cultivation to raise the average yield of wet rice from 20 quintals to from 25 to 30 quintals per crop hectare; with an occasional location achieving 40 to 60 quintals per crop hectare. The average yields attained for terraced field rice were previously only 10 quintals per hectare but have now risen to 15 to 17 quintals per hectare. Of special interest, in the ethnic minority villages of districts in the northern part of the province such as Dac O Village in Phuoc Long District and the villages of Hung Phuoc and Loc Quang in Loc Ninh District, thanks to collective work, the farmers have gradually replaced their backward farming practices of "nomadic farming and nomadic life" and "clearing suckers, punching holes, casting seed" and are now using draft animals and plows to work the land, are constructing levees and blocking streams to turn terraced plots into fields, are applying organic fertilizer to improve the soil and are practicing settled farming, settled life and production development to end hunger and change their lives. The work of production collectives and cooperatives is orderly, is superior to individual work and creates an air of enthusiasm and confidence among the farmers.

The implementation of production contracts in conjunction with methods of collective economic management has produced many results in achievement of the production plan. Area, yields and output have clearly increased. In 1981 before the new contract methods were implemented, the rice output in the collective area of the entire province was only 11,400 tons but that amount has now been nearly tripled. In distribution division, the three interests are also more correctly implemented. If we include the amount in excess of contracts, nearly all the cooperatives and collectives have achieved averages of more than 10 kilograms of rice per man-day (compared with the previous figure of only 4 to 5 kilograms of rice per man-day). Obligations to the state in the collective area have been met quickly, fully and in excess of norms. The two districts that have basically completed cooperativization, Loc Ninh and Phuoc Long, have continuously fulfilled and exceeded grain obligation levels and are also the two districts with the highest mobilization grain amounts in the province. Conversely, in locations where the cooperativization movement is slow, production and payment of grain obligations usually fail to assure norms and encounter many difficulties.

Along with promoting grain production, many cooperatives and production collectives also give attention to short and long-term crop development, stock raising development, trade business expansion, etc. in order to serve production, life and exports. Many cooperatives and production collectives in the districts of Loc Ninh and Phuoc Long have fully utilized the land and labor to raise hundreds of hectares of cashew nuts and thousands of pepper spikes for export. My Hao Cooperative in Chanh My Village has raised up to 10,000 ducks to increase the collective income by tens of thousands of dong. Traditional trades such as the making of bricks, ceramic articles, and polished lacquerware, sugarcane pressing, agricultural implement repair, etc. have been restored and developed in the cooperatives of Tan Ba in Tan Uyen District, Viet Quang in Loc Ninh District, and Chanh Loc in Thu Dau Mot City. Only preliminary statistics from eight cooperatives with trades in four districts of the province indicate a total annual trade income of up to 6 and 7 million dong. Chanh Loc Cooperative alone made nearly 4 million dong in trade income.

Thanks to production development, the material and technical base of cooperatives and production collectives has been appreciably strengthened. Nearly all the cooperatives and production collectives have constructed warehouses, drying yards and work offices, and have purchased additional production tools such as plows, mechanical pumps, insecticide sprayers, etc. Many collective units have millions of dong in investment capital. For example, the fixed assets of Tan Ba Cooperative are worth up to 4.5 million dong, those of Chanh Loc Cooperative 1.7 million dong, etc.

A new feature in the cooperativization movement in Song Be is that parallel with the consolidation and development of production collectives and agricultural cooperatives, many districts have emphasized expansion of the marketing cooperative and credit cooperative network in the rural area, gradually developing an effect of serving production and life. To the present time, the entire province has 109 primary level marketing cooperatives, accounting for 82.5 percent of all villages in the province and attracting the participation of more than 170,000 cooperative members with contributed capital of more than 1.7 million dong. Many marketing cooperatives undertake both the distribution of production support materials such as fertilizer, insecticides, agricultural implements, etc. to the hands of the producer, and participate in the marketing and control of agricultural product sources in the local area and the delivery to each village, hamlet, production collective, etc. of essential consumer goods to support the lives of the farmers.

Credit cooperatives are also in the first steps of construction with 21 pilot locations accounting for 15.2 percent of the villages in eight districts and the city. A number of credit cooperatives in An Loc Village of Binh Long District, Dac O of Phuoc Long District, Chanh My in Thau Dau Mot City, etc. have begun operations and despite low interest rates have fully utilized the idle capital of the people to support the development of agricultural and marketing cooperatives, restricting high interest borrowing in the rural area.

Development of the agricultural cooperativization movement has assisted in improving aspects of cultural, public health and social life in all local areas of the province. Especially in the ethnic minority villages of Loc Ninh and

Phuoc Long districts, new settlements have been established with spacious housing, sanitary water wells, cultural units, regular athletics, etc. and the social ill of superstition has clearly declined. A new rural appearance is being gradually constructed, truly a change in life.

Generally speaking, the agricultural cooperativization movement in Song Be has changed and has many new factors with rich lessons in experience which the province advocates disseminating widely.

Nevertheless, the development rate of the cooperativization movement in Song Be Province is still slow and diverse in the districts and there are still 15 villages without a production collective. Implementation of land reallocation and especially the intensive cultivation situation have not yet been thoroughly resolved. Cooperatives and production collectives also still have many problems in quality which require concentrated solution. Because the marketing and credit cooperative forms are new and experimental, an effect on the cooperativization movement at the primary level has not yet been created. Because the training of movement and management cadres in cooperatives and production collectives is still lacking and weak, not a few collective production units are still confused about the formulation of production plans and in organization, business management, etc.

Using their lessons in experience during the past few years to develop the agricultural cooperativization movement along an active and firm course, the party organization and farmers of Song Be Province are striving to advance with the purpose of basically completing the transformation of socialist production relations in agriculture during 1985.

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LIGHT INDUSTRY

CONSUMER GOODS QUALITY NEEDS FURTHER EMPHASIS

Hanoi TIEU CONG NGHIEP, THU CONG NGHIEP in Vietnamese 1 Feb 85 p 3

[Article by Phan Duc Thang, Chief of the Product Quality and Measurement Management Department, Ministry of the Interior: "The Small Industry and Handicrafts Sector and the Problem of Consumer Goods Quality"]

[Text] Due to the production development policy, the small industry and handicrafts sector has recently made an active contribution toward the production of many consumer goods. The increase in quantity and multifaceted richness in variety are a source of pride and enthusiasm worthy of strong encouragement.

To our country, in the transitional period of rising to socialism in which small-scale production is primary, the presence of small industry and handicrafts is an objective necessity.

In fact, nearly 50 percent of all social consumer goods funds are produced by small industry and handicrafts, clearly illustrating their position in the economy. The appearance of increasingly greater numbers of new and traditional products on the counters to answer internal consumer requirements; and the presence of well-received goods produced by small industry and handicrafts in the international markets clearly indicate the vitality and great capabilities and skills of Vietnamese craftsmen.

The 11th Precinct alone, one of the precincts of Ho Chi Minh City with developed small industry and handicrafts, has 4,000 primary level production units in all 21 wards with an output value of more than 450 million dong, accounting for one-fifth of the total small industry and handicrafts output value of the entire city.

According to data acquired in September 1983, the precinct has 10 cooperatives with seven key production sectors: machinery, rubber chemicals, construction materials, glass, forestry products, weaving-leather-sewing, cultural products, grain and food and other industries, with more than 14,000 pieces of production equipment and tools. Much is modern high-capacity equipment imported from foreign countries. The high level technicians and abundance of skilled workers with many fine machines have created an extremely large production capability. Many products are able to meet state and export quality standards.

The Hanoi small industry and handicrafts sector has many traditional goods and a perfectly formed goods sector structure from rubber chemicals, machine plastics and construction materials to glass and ceramics--and Hanoi has many outstanding craftsmen and many who are recognized by the state as meeting trade

standards. In an international exhibit held during 1983, the municipal small industry and handicrafts sector won 17 medals, including six gold medals. The equipment receives investment attention; in Dong Da District alone, there are 12,000 laborers using more than 2,000 machines.

Due to dynamism and a flexible management mechanism, the equipment utilization efficiency of small industry and handicrafts is high. The entire sector has an equipment value equal to 10 percent of the local industry but has achieved 57 percent of the gross product.

The goods of our small industry and handicrafts sector have inherited the essence of the people, passed from one generation to another and constantly developing. From the Ly Dynasty in the 11th Century to the Hau Le Dynasty in the 17th Century, the various types of our porcelain and ceramics passed through a period of brilliant and unique development in form, decoration design and color and produced an individual, simple and healthy personality creating a deep impression and feeling.

Ceramics, molded pieces of clay, have a soul and extraordinary attractiveness. It is no wonder that gold medals were awarded to Vietnamese ceramic goods at the international exhibitions held at Sofia in Bulgaria and Leipzig in the German Democratic Republic.

The art objects of Vietnam have crossed the oceans to countries throughout the world, are esteemed by many foreign customers and have earned prestige and admiration. Many of the other goods produced by small industry and handicrafts also have that honor.

There is no reason for allowing the traditional essence of the small industry and handicrafts sector to become obscured.

During a time in which our country still has many difficulties and our people are still suffering many privations, further increasing the amount of goods for internal consumption and export is an active way of assisting to overcome the imbalances in the economy at the present time. However, an increase in quantity can only produce true effectiveness when closely connected with an increase in quality in one inseparable unity. In unilateral business production which pursues quantity with no concern for quality standards, the harm is clearly revealed. However, if the specific economic and technical conditions are deviated from and the quality requirements solidified, it will also be impossible to achieve the highest standards for determining the relationship between quantity and quality of economic effectiveness.

Many people cannot help but worry about why the quality of many goods produced by the small industry and handicrafts sector has recently declined. Can the goods long trusted by domestic and foreign consumers be maintained?

That we are short of goods is a fact of which everyone is aware. However, we can never answer the minimum requirements of consumption if the utilization value of the goods produced is too low or nonexistent with the final answer being waste and ultimately additional needless tension in the market. For example, we need soap but a soap product is made which contains 7 percent fat

(stipulations call for 50 percent) while water accounts for 75 percent. When this type of soap is purchased, one is buying primarily water. The primary function of soap, to wash your hands, is impossible. Farmers have an extreme need for hoes in production but in one local area, the price per hoe of 25 dong was reduced by 5 dong but no sales were made because the quality was too poor.

In the recent "stretching out" of small industry and handicrafts production, some confusion and loss of order occurred. Investigation of a number of bicycle parts production facilities indicated that: one producing bicycle frames signed a state contract for 13,500 items but actually produced up to 60,000 and sold 46,500 on the free market; and two others signed contracts to produce 10,000 hubs but actually produced 70,000 and sold 60,000 on the free market. A key production facility signed to produce 50,000 keys but actually produced a total of 300,000 and sold 250,000 on the free market. When the amount of goods lost to the outside is unmanaged, it is also difficult to speak of quality management.

Many primary level production units and private individuals have produced bogus goods bearing the trademarks of state enterprises, both to cheat the customers and to easily sell the goods for profit. In the South, the production of goods bearing counterfeit trademarks is fairly prevalent. These counterfeit trademark goods are usually bicycles and parts, food, liquor and soft drinks, drugs, cigarettes, art objects and readymade clothing. Some inspections have uncovered thousands of bicycles with bogus bearings and cracked frames. Even bogus electric fans have been discovered.

When speaking of goods quality, we usually mention the requirements of function, consumption and durability. For a long time, an apparent unwillingness to mention industrial esthetic requirements has existed. Actually, an improper remark could easily lead to misunderstandings or tendencies inconsistent with the actual situation. In consumer goods, the beauty in pragmatic art is something to be admired but is closely connected with the theme and function of the product. In a beautiful product, the organic esthetic principles of form, decoration and design conform with the function which that product performs during the process of use. The theme of a beautiful product is closely connected with its pragmatic role in life.

Therefore, the esthetic qualities of a product in conjunction with others such as consumer usefulness and technical perfection form the consumption value of the product. Moreover, if pragmatic relations under forms of consumption usefulness, etc. are expressed during the process of product use, emotional and mental relations are expressed in the product in the forms of esthetic qualities and thanks to these special relations, the user is esthetically satisfied during the use process.

We probably should not only be not hesitant about mentioning the esthetic quality requirements of consumer goods but should more actively emphasize the matter. It has increasing significance when the consumer production industry of our country has an objective of rising to occupy a definite position on the international market. This position can only be attained by producing goods consistent with quality standards, including both quality and esthetic requirements.

Nevertheless, progress toward beautiful consumer products is a complex process. Even the recognition of goods esthetics has definite difficulties. It is primarily because the relatively specific and special standards of quality and esthetics cannot be unified that people seek the beautiful by deceptive means with attention to external forms not closely connected to the function and material theme of the product. The beautiful becomes the dandified and confused decorations, complex styles and gaudy red and green colors which we often see in no little amounts in the handmade products displayed on all the streets.

Thus, we must have objective standards as a basis for evaluating the esthetic qualities of a product. It probably must be examined from two aspects, the esthetics in substance and those in form. It is only possible to speak of true beauty--that is, the beauty in the substance aspect--when the structural form, color and other factors of the product not only follow esthetic laws but are also consistent with the usefulness and function of the product and express a rational "product-man-environment" relationship. In other words, beauty must be reflected through the essence of usefulness and only then can the esthetic characteristics have an effective significance and the esthetic quality no longer be a generalized and external quality but one effectively serving man.

A pragmatic product must have authenticity in its modern and creative factors; while simultaneously expressing the national character in form and style as well as decoration and design. Every exaggeration causing the form to become unusual, draw excessive attention and stimulate unwholesome preferences is a direction of formalism and is inconsistent with the esthetic viewpoint of the proletariat class concerning pragmatic products.

Above are a few of the summarized features and esthetic requirements of industrial goods. So, the specific requirements of an examined product are beauty; beauty must be located within the unified shape of a beautiful product; usefulness: a gentle relationship between function, structure and form; a consistent style; high processing, decoration and raw material quality; and assured color harmony.

The requirements above are only the general requirements for consumer goods. The specific requirements of each group of products are different. Some goods require special attention to durability requirements and some to consumption but there are also some requiring greater concern for the decoration and design requirements.

Briefly, the requirements in product consumption quality are extremely rich and complex. Efforts to achieve these requirements are a job demanding the persistence, patient and creative labor and collective ownership conscience and responsibility of the craftsman. No recommendation or interesting advertisement has the persuasive power of true quality products to the consumer because everything that is quality will be most fully revealed in use.

Surely in the not too distant future, we will strongly develop small industry and handicraft production, enabling the structure and quality of consumer goods to become increasingly rich and innovative.

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HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

BRIEFS

BUDDHIST SCHOOL OPENS--(SGGP)---On the morning of 4 December, the Buddhist Superior School celebrated the opening of its first course. Superior Monk Thich Tri Tinh, chairman of the Central Board of Management of the Vietnamese Buddhist Church; Superior Monk Thich Thien Sieu, chairman of the Central Clergy Education Committee; Superior Monk Thich Minh Chau, secretary general of the church and rector of the Buddhist Superior School, Campus 2; other superior monks of the Board of Advisors and of Management, many Buddhist priests and nuns and Buddhist faithful, and 60 student monks and nuns from Ho Chi Minh City and other southern provinces, attended the ceremony. Also in attendance were comrades representing the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front and of the Ho Chi Minh City Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, representatives of the Central Commission on Religions and of the Ho Chi Minh City Committee on Religions, a representative of the Ho Chi Minh City's People's Committee, a representative of the Ministry of Superior and Professional Secondary Education, and a representative of the Ho Chi Minh City Department of Education. In his opening speech, Superior Monk Thich Thien Sieu, stressed the meaning and the importance of the education of buddhist monks and nuns in the context of the motto, "Religion-Nation-Socialism" that the Vietnamese Buddhist Church has taken at present in order to serve both religion and society in this phase of national building and protection of the socialist fatherland. [Text] [Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 6 Dec 84 pp 1, 4] 9458

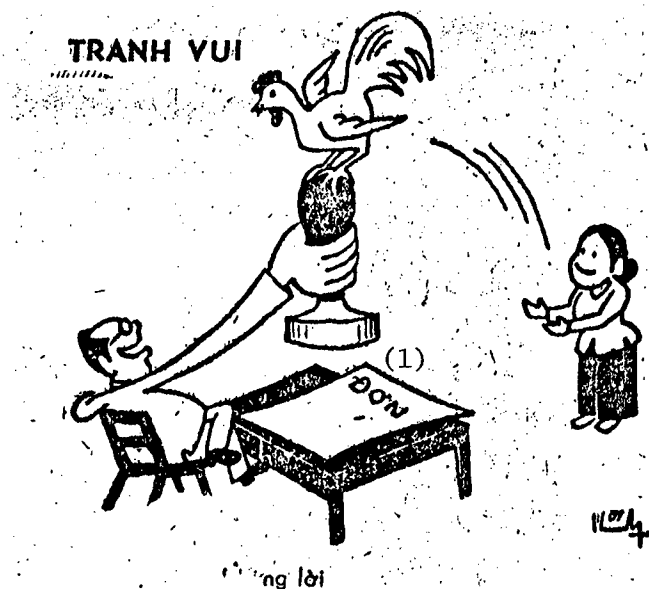
CSO: 4209/219

POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

CARTOON SHOWS EFFICACY OF BRIBE IN EXPEDITING APPLICATION

Hanoi DAI DOAN KET in Vietnamese 16 Jan 85 p 14

[Cartoon]



Key: 1. Application

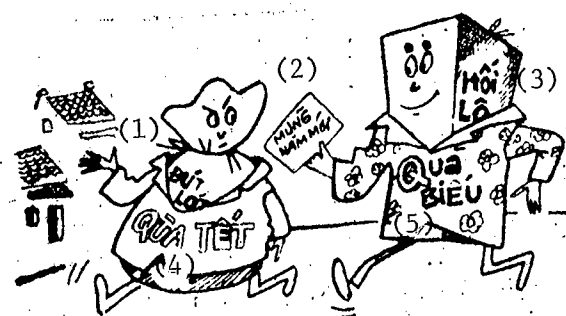
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POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

CARTON DERIDES SOPHISTRY OF BRIBES LABELLED AS GIFTS

Hanoi DOC LAP in Vietnamese 9 Jan 85 p 16

[Cartoon]



(6) — Ngày Tết, có cái áo mới này cảnh ta
«xuất hành» thuận lợi hơn...!
VĂN THANH

- Key: 1. Bribe
2. Happy New Year
3. Bribe
4. Holiday gift
5. Gift
6. On New Year's Day it is best to be wearing holiday clothing when making the holiday offering.

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END