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18 November 1983

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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MINISTER DISCUSSES ABSENCE OF LAND USE LEGISLATION

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 27 Sep 83 p 2

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--The absence of land use legislation is a serious and basic problem with far-reaching consequences for the forestry sector in Indonesia. Minister of Forestry Soedjarwo made this statement at Forestry Headquarters Building on Monday [26 September] to the Consultative Forum for Tropical Wood Producers/Exporters of the Asia-Pacific Region.

The minister said that without such legislation there is no guarantee and security in the use of land in Indonesia. As civilization expands, forests are changing gradually to farmland, mines, settlements, roads, industries, etc.

As development proceeds rapidly, the transfer of forest land to other uses is occurring more quickly. Many conflicts of interests are occurring because of the lack of agreement on priorities and the lack of concrete planning.

The first step toward land use legislation is a joint land use plan for each province. The plan will guarantee balance in use of ground water and provide for control of floods and erosion through on conservation principles. On the other hand, wood and forest products are needed by the people.

Maps for joint land use plans have been processed for 22 provinces, and maps for 19 [as published] other provinces are under consideration. The locations of forest land in each province are determined by regional governments in accordance with demands for other types of land.

Insufficient Forest Land In Java

After the opening of the forum, Minister Soedjarwo admitted to the press that forest land in Java is insufficient. Ideally, forests should cover 30 percent of the land, but in Java forest land falls below that standard. In fact, according to Ir Hartono, principal

director of Perhutani Public Corporation, only 3 million hectares, or 20 percent of the land area, of forest land are left in Java.

Hartono added that land in Java now being converted to reservoirs, roads, etc., has reached 80,000 hectares, which means that the 3 million hectares have been reduced even further.

Minister Soedjarwo said, however, that when forest land is transferred to other uses it will be replaced by land areas of equal value. For example, steep mountainsides with frequent erosion problems will be categorized as Java forest areas. Thousands of hectares of forest land in Kedung Ombo, Central Java, were recently released for construction of a reservoir, and forest land in Cilacap has been converted to farmland.

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CSO: 4213/27

GARUDA RESPONSE TO CESSATION OF AIR LANKA FLIGHTS

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 27 Sep 83 p 2

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--Air traffic rights that permit an airline to operate are discussed by the civil aviation officials of the respective governments.

Indonesia and Sri Lanka approved a memorandum of understanding, and the decision to limit Air Lanka flights was the result of normal negotiation procedures based on air traffic rights.

Garuda public relations official Bambang Wibisono said this in response to a statement by the Air Lanka representative in Jakarta that the Sri Lanka airline will terminate its flights to Jakarta at the end of October.

According to statements by Air Lanka in Jakarta and Colombo, as quoted by REUTERS and ANTARA, the termination of Air Lanka flights is a result of limitations set by Indonesian civil air authorities and Garuda Indonesia Airways. They stated that Indonesia had limited Air Lanka to 150 passengers per week beginning in November. Air Lanka now has two flights per week to Jakarta using wide-bodied Lockheed L-1011 Tristar aircraft.

"That number of passengers is not enough and does not economically support operations. We therefore plan to withdraw Air Lanka flight activity to Jakarta effective 31 October 1983," C. N. Pereira, Air Lanka's Jakarta representative, told KOMPAS last week.

This means that Air Lanka flights between Jakarta and Colombo will be stopped altogether. Although this action will not interfere with the tourism activity of the two countries, Air Lanka believes that it will have great effect on the flow of tourists to Indonesia. This clearly is contrary to the new policies of the Indonesian government, which projects visits of 1 million tourists to Indonesia by March 1984.

C. N. Pereira stated that his company, which is one of the newest in Asia, at least could help achieve that goal.

Meanwhile, Garuda announced in a press release on Saturday [24 September] that it had deleted Colombo as a stop on its flights to Europe in April 1983 in order to offer its customers faster service with fewer stops.

Bambang Wibisono stressed that Garuda's activities were not for the purpose of winning the European market for Sri Lanka. "It is the policy of the Indonesian national airline to win part of the market for itself. In the case of service to Sri Lanka, since Colombo-Jakarta traffic was disappointing, Garuda decided to stop it," he explained.

In response to the statement by the Air Lanka Jakarta representative on the flow of tourists, Bambang Wibisono stated that Garuda is giving close attention to the new policy of the Indonesian government. Garuda has its own program for introducing Indonesia in connection with the policy to promote tourism.

Garuda's public relations chief said that he strongly regretted the Air Lanka representative's statement, particularly since the air traffic rights granted by Indonesian civil air officials provided a suitable market.

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CSO: 4213/27

DECREASE IN STRIKES REPORTED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 27 Sep 83 p 12

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--Strikes by workers in Indonesia have been declining during the last several months. There were only 56 strikes from April to August of this year. There were 15 strikes in April, 16 in May, 7 in June, 17 in July, and 1 in August.

Minister of Manpower Sudomo provided this information yesterday at a working meeting with DPR [parliament] Commission VI, led by deputy chairman Drs Sukarno MPA.

According to the minister, strikes occur because many companies do not give enough guidance and instruction on labor matters to their workers. Problems then arise because workers lack understanding, particularly related to P4 [guidelines for expressing and practicing Pancasila].

He added that, in general, strikes are the result of inadequate guidance of workers. "They occur possibly because workers have not attended P4 training," he said.

Nevertheless, Sudomo said, wages will not be paid to strikers. "Yes, because they are not at work. This is consistent with labor laws. But strikes here should not be viewed as the same as those occurring in other countries, where strikes go on for months or even years. Strikes in Indonesia last only a few hours," he continued.

The FBSI [All-Indonesia Labor Federation], the Department of Manpower, and companies from all over Indonesia are working together to solve this problem. One method is to teach and train qualified workers, with the result that they will have extensive knowledge as well as skills.

The minister of manpower hopes that companies will set aside some of the funds needed for this program for teaching and training workers, although such funds cannot now be required by law. "The problem is that in our country there are large, middle-sized, and

small businesses. If such a demand were made, small businesses, whose workers are native Indonesians, would suffer," he said.

Sudomo was accompanied at the meeting by Sutopo Juwono, secretary general of the Department of Manpower, and other first echelon officials.

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INCREASE IN EXPORTS OF NONAGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, ESTATE CROPS URGED

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 20 Sep 83 pp 1, 8

[Article: "Trade Minister Opens Nonoil Export Commodity Symposium; Exports of Products Other than Agricultural and Estate Crops Must Be Stimulated"]

[Text] Trade Minister Rachmat Saleh said there will be some problems with Indonesian nonoil export commodities in the future because most of our nonoil exports consist of the traditional agricultural and estate crops.

"The experiences of other countries show that agricultural and estate crops exports will not grow over the short term. We, therefore, must stimulate the export of other commodities."

To increase nonoil exports, Rachmat Saleh said in his speech given during a symposium on the stimulation of nonoil export commodities, conducted by the Indonesian KADIN [Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry] in Jakarta yesterday [19 September], attention must be given to removing obstacles such as protectionism, instituted by some countries against the exports of other countries.

The symposium was opened by the trade minister who represented President Suharto in reading the opening prayer and sounding a gong.

Initially we thought protectionism was intended to hold down unemployment in the importing country, but apparently protectionism is instituted to protect certain branches of production that are no longer competitive with the more modern commodities offered by other countries.

The minister said this creates problems for us except when the country concerned would like to eliminate those branches of production that are no longer efficient and reconstruct its industrial sector.

Heavy Pressure

Recently our balance of payments, Rachmat Saleh said, has been under heavy pressure because of the drop in revenue from foreign exchange in both the oil and nonoil sectors.

In this situation it is clear that we must greatly increase the volume of our nonoil export commodities.

From all indications in the United States, it seems that the world economy will no longer be in recession by the end of this year. We are, therefore, expecting that the value of our nonoil exports by the end of PELITA IV [fourth 5-year economic development plan] will double in value compared to that achieved by the end of PELITA III. At that time the value of nonoil exports was estimated at \$4.4 billion, while in fiscal 1983 the value of nonoil exports totaled \$3.9 billion.

To double the value of nonoil exports, that is to export nonoil commodities valued at about \$9 billion by the end of PELITA IV, there must be an annual increase in nonoil exports of 15 to 16 percent.

Rachmat Saleh said this, of course, will be difficult considering that our nonoil exports consist of agricultural and estate crops. Additionally, we must view the world economic situation as a whole.

No Negative Impressions

Meanwhile, Sukamdani S. Gitosardjono, general chairman of the Indonesian KADIN, in his opening address, said the purpose of this symposium, among others, is to research possible new export markets to develop new export commodities and services. We must improve export facilities that involve capital investment, transportation, product quality and standardization; we must eliminate inconvenient procedures, and so on.

In addition, we must improve the climate for nonoil exports through conferences and satisfactory government regulations that do not confuse the public but rather ensure the future of Indonesian exports in general.

Sukamdani said that the many seminars, workshops and symposia held, which are called "mildew that grows during the rainy season," are not negative factors.

They are a means for solving the mutual problems of various sectors. He did admit, however, that the results of such meetings are not always carried out to conclusion.

KADIN did not want any negative impressions to be carried away from this symposium.

Therefore, KADIN had decided earlier that the target sought would not be a "mirage" but would be based on valid data supported by calculations and projections based on facts.

Regional Export Commodities To Be Decided Upon

On this occasion the Minister of the Interior, Soepardjo Rustam, noted that his department had instructed all regional chiefs to support and direct regional government agencies to step up the production of nonoil commodities

by motivating the producers and by providing the broadest and most intensive information. These agencies also were to determine what kind of export commodities could be developed most fruitfully in their respective regions.

Further, Decision No 6 of 1967 restricts regional decisions to fostering the production of low cost and nonoil export commodities.

The minister feels that KADIN plays an important role in participating in the organization of both macro and sectoral development planning.

In this connection the minister hoped that KADIN would provide regional governments with ideas, proposals and suggestions, and that KADIN's regional members would search for any potential commodities, conduct development research and surveys, and assist the people in these regions in cooperative efforts toward increasing nonoil exports.

Equal Shares

In his speech the minister also touched on regional and sectoral development, both of which are being attempted harmoniously so that sectoral development will truly be adapted to the potential and priorities of the regions. Overall regional development is also a force for achieving national goals.

The minister also clarified that in the context of carrying out development more equitably in the homeland, attempts are being made to equalize the growth rate among the regions. Greater attention is also being given to the development of relatively underdeveloped, isolated and border regions.

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ALI WARDHANA OUTLINES MONETARY POLICY

Jakarta HARIN UMUM AB in Indonesian 20 Sep 83 pp 1, 8

[Article: "EKUIN Minister Ali Wardhana: Indonesia To Keep Taking Cautious Monetary and Taxation Policies"]

[Text] Indonesia is continuing to take cautious monetary and taxation policies to support the development momentum in progress even though many developing nations are now faced with crippling overseas debts.

Prof Dr Ali Wardhana, coordinating minister for economics, finance and industry, and supervised development, pointed this out on Friday [16 September] in his message to 50 foremost international businessmen who were participating in a seminar held by the European Management Forum (EMF).

He said Indonesia had taken a series of economizing measures that were coordinated with the drop in revenue from oil exports and the world economic recession.

These measures will make it possible to maintain an annual average economic growth rate of 5 percent during REPELITA IV [fourth 5-year economic development plan].

The minister also noted that Indonesia is ready to reap the full benefit of the improving world economy which now shows promise of continuing.

Indonesia, Wardhana said, does not display pride in saying that it has a cautious and healthy taxation policy. "We are taking the right measures to avoid a heavy debt load and the resultant problems experienced by other developing nations."

Minister Wardhana noted that the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other financial organizations had praised Indonesia for taking measures to maintain a healthy economy.

Measures taken included budgetary savings for fiscal 1984, devaluation of the rupiah in March, rescheduling of 48 development projects as well as changes in the monetary policy that eliminated credit ceilings and a fixed rate of interest on deposits.

Regarding capital investment, the minister said Indonesia will continue to give the highest priority to attracting foreign investment.

At this seminar Minister Wardhana was accompanied by Suhartoyo, chairman of the Capital Investment Coordinating Board [BKPM]. The BKPM chairman will head a delegation of Indonesian officials and businessmen to discussions with capital investors on opportunities for investment in Indonesia. These discussions will be held in Frankfurt, Amsterdam, and Paris following the EMF meeting in Geneva.

BKPM will host the Pan-European trade meetings held in Amsterdam, estimated to be attended by some 3,000 businessmen. The meetings are planned to be held on 26, 27 and 28 September.

Mistakes Will Not Be Repeated

Ali Wardhana said Indonesia is determined not to repeat the mistakes made by other Third World countries by borrowing more than they were capable of repaying.

He said Indonesian policy to date has been to maintain what is left of the country's foreign exchange reserves which are sufficient to ensure liquidity and freedom from debt repayment problems.

"I am troubled when I read press reports about the crisis between banks and countries such as Mexico, Brazil or Poland, reports which routinely include Indonesia with the clear implication that we are in the same position," Ali Wardhana said.

"We desire to maintain sound policies and to handle them prudently. We are determined to avoid the experience of other nations that have borrowed beyond their capacity to repay."

Ali Wardhana said Indonesia is still able to borrow up to one-half of the 360 million gold bank note limit (special drawing rights) agreed upon by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) at the end of July.

Early this year, Indonesia also drew out a \$1 billion loan from an international bank consortium and smaller loans from the yen and guilder markets.

"With our present foreign exchange reserves, I am convinced we are strong enough to resolve any unexpected problem," the minister said during the European Management Forum session.

He also noted that some \$3 billion will be saved by rescheduling a number of government projects. "It is unwise to maintain an increasing government sector investment program when our foreign exchange reserves could better be spent on projects that could create jobs immediately," the minister said.

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MINISTER REPORTS ON NATIONAL PLYWOOD PRODUCTION CAPACITY

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 26 Sep 83 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] Jakarta, AB--Forest product industries, as a part of forest development, will be expanded in both quantity and quality so that forest use will serve a socioeconomic function for the growth and even distribution of national development.

This expansion will be accomplished by improved forest management through use of forest industry units with specific business goals.

Minister of Forestry Soedjarwo made these statements at the dedication of the expansion of PT Kayu Lapis Indonesia [Indonesian Plywood, Ltd], which was a part of his two-day official visit to Central Java on 23 and 24 September. The factory's expansion consists of a wood adhesive unit.

The minister said that the government's forest policy in Pelita [five-year development plan] III has produced quite gratifying results.

Through this policy, the government is determined to change Indonesia's position as an exporter of wood raw materials to that of an exporter of processed wood. In addition, the objective of forest products industries is to fulfill domestic demands for forest products in ample quantities and at reasonable prices.

The minister said that the development of the plywood industry reflects the government's goals in the forest products sector.

A Potential Source of Foreign Exchange

The minister also stated that the production of plywood in Indonesia has an important role as a potential source of foreign exchange. This can be seen clearly from the raw material potential of 64 million hectares of production forests, complemented by the 64 plywood factories in production as of July 1983 with an installed capacity of 3.39 million cubic meters of plywood. Meanwhile, the world market for hardwood and plywood has

been improving since the beginning of 1983, guaranteeing that plywood has potential for earning foreign exchange in the future.

The minister noted that the higher prices since the first quarter of 1983, resulting from the beginning of recovery from world recession, must be maintained and must be accompanied by clear efforts by the Indonesian plywood industry to expand use of installed capacity, improve efficiency and quality, and expand markets. Market expansion may be accomplished through promotions, improved market intelligence, and expanded cooperation among producers to strengthen our bargaining position.

The minister views the timing of the construction of the wood adhesive plant by PT Kayu Lapis Indonesia as being very appropriate, since the government is now active in developing the plywood industry as a source of foreign exchange from nonoil commodities. Adhesive is a principal raw material in the manufacture of plywood.

There are now five adhesive plants in production or trial production. These plants have a production capacity of 209,100 tons per year.

This capacity will supply merely a small part of the demand for adhesives by the expanding plywood industry.

PT Kayu Lapis Indonesia, which has now expanded its operations by construction of the adhesive plant, began production in 1979 and occupies 38.8 hectares at the village of Mororedjo, Kaliwungu, Kendal.

Production has now reached 186,000 cubic meters per year, 70 percent of which is exported to Europe, the United States, the Middle East, Hong Kong, and Japan. The rest is used for "fancy" processing and for domestic needs. Adhesive production is now only 18,000 tons per year, which represents only 30 percent of the plant's production capacity. With the construction of this adhesive plant, PT Kayu Lapis Indonesia expects to employ 8000 workers.

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CSO: 4213/27

SOUTH SUMATERA MAKES LAND AVAILABLE FOR SMALL ESTATE HOLDERS

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 27 Sep 83 p 2

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--The South Sumatra regional government has made available 175,000 hectares of land for PIR [small estate holder] projects. This land is intended for producing nonoil export commodities like rubber and palm oil and may be used for both private and government-owned estates.

South Sumatra governor Sainan Sagiman made this statement to the press today after meeting President Soeharto at Bina Graha.

"The land is available, but whether it will be easy or not to obtain HGU [land use rights] will depend on the requirements that must be satisfied, such as reimbursement for land, forest "panjung" [meaning unknown] fees, etc.

He added that the matter of reimbursement has so far not been a big problem and should not prove to be an obstacle. There have never been complaints related to land problems in South Sumatra. Available land consists of 20,000 hectares in Musi Rawa, 19,000 hectares in Musi Banyuasin, 35,000 hectares in Lahat, 20,000 hectares in Ogan Komering Ulu, 10,000 hectares in Belitung, and 70,000 hectares in Muaraenim.

"There should be no worries about a 30-year HGU [User's Right] period, there will be the possibility for renewal when that time has expired. A 30-year HGU period, is appropriate," he stated.

The PIR system will be expanded in South Sumatra, since experience has shown that the incomes of farmers who participate in the PIR system are far greater than those who follow traditional methods. Farmers who produce rubber under PIR receive 70 percent of the FOB price, whereas traditional farmers receive only 30 percent.

South Sumatra is expanding production of nonoil export commodities. Natural rubber production is now 170,000 tons per year, coffee 75,000 tons, and pepper 18,000 tons. Production of these commodities will be improved under the PIR system.

Transmigration

From the pre-Pelita [five-year development plan] period through the end of 1982 under Pelita III, South Sumatra has received 124,115 families, or 537,390 people, through transmigration. They are located in various places in tidal as well as inland areas. The province can still accommodate 18,000 more families.

The governor also reported to the president on the implementation of the "eight successes" in South Sumatra. Food production in 1982-1983 reached 1,408,700 tons of unmilled rice per year. At a per capita consumption of 157 kilograms of rice per year, South Sumatra is now self-sufficient in food. This production will be improved further so that in Pelita IV a rice surplus can be expected.

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ARTICLE LAUDS SOVIET CONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE

BK031526 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Feature article: "Lao-Soviet Cooperation Is Blossoming"]

[Text] In building material and technical bases for our new system, fraternal socialist countries, led by the Soviet Union, and other friendly countries have made appropriate contributions. Particularly in carrying out the first 5-year state plan, the Soviet Union alone has given assistance worth millions of rubles to Laos in implementing dozens of projects, including construction of the Nam Kading and Nam Ngum bridges and the survey of the Se Banghiang bridge on Route 9.

The Soviet Union has attached great importance to this construction cooperation --it has assigned a minister [as heard] to take direct responsibility for carrying out the above projects and fulfilling them as expected or overfulfilling them. For this reason, Soviet Government delegations responsible for cooperation with Laos have flown to Vientiane every year to monitor and speed up work in the spirit of mutual interest. Lao Government delegations have also visited Moscow to discuss and exchange lessons on the fraternal cooperation.

Many cooperation projects are nearly completed. For example, construction of the Nam Ngum dam bridge is expected to be completed on 1 May 1984, and the Nam Kading bridge will be completed in 1985. These two bridges will be named (Sithong) and Gagarin, the first Soviet astronaut in space, in memory of the Lao and Soviet heroes and as a symbol of the spirit of friendship and socialist internationalism born of glorious Marxism-Leninism.

In addition to some of these major projects, in implementation of the spirit of the third congress of the LPRP on construction work, the Lao Government has established a state construction organization with an office at the national construction company at kilometer market No 5. This organization is responsible for six sectors of work: 1) a designing institute; 2) a basic vocational construction school; 3) production of material and technique such as ready-made concrete blocks; 4) production of construction material such as bricks, stones, and cement; 5) installation of machines and equipment; and 6) machinery repairing. In these six sectors of work, more than 70 Soviet

experts headed by Comrade (Aleksev) are commendably working in cooperation with Lao construction cadres. One of the sectors deserving of special attention was the setting up of the basic vocational construction school in 1981 with Soviet assistance.

Realizing a common problem of the developing countries--that is, the lack of skilled cadres and workers--the Soviet and Lao sides have joined in training cadres on the job. A school for this purpose, located a kilometer marker No 5 offers 6-month training courses in welding, concrete work, carpentry, and painting. The students' cultural level is based on the true situation in our country, which means that graduates of primary schools and above may attend the school. Importance is attached to practical training during the courses. More than 250 students have finished their basic training courses. Graduates who have been working are expected to return to the school for specialized training. This is an effective method to resolve problems arising from the lack of cadres.

During the past, the state construction organization or the construction company at kilometer market No 5 has recorded considerable achievements: It has completed construction of a satellite station which is a project of the information committee and is building the 150-bed Lao-Soviet friendship hospital and implementing projects of the public health and education ministries. It is also building a polytechnic school.

At each construction site we see Soviet engineers and technicians dressed in work clothes and running machines, paying no heed to heat or rain. Comrade (Somboun), a construction worker at kilometer market No 5, said he sympathized with the Soviet comrades. Despite the difference in climate and shortage of material and cadres, the Soviet comrades have led us and worked as models in all branches of work. They have never held us in contempt, but have worked as blood brothers. This demonstrates their pure spirit of proletarian internationalism.

Comrade (Yevyenyi Niarov), a construction engineer who has worked with Lao workers for many years, offered the following opinion: Lao workers are industrious, patient, sincere, frank, broad-minded, and deserve love and respect. Despite their low salaries, they seek to make an honest living. Even though their technical and scientific level is low, they have made great efforts to score satisfactory achievements in handling modern and semimodern equipment. I love the Lao people and have gained much experience from them.

The Soviet Government's evaluation is that Soviet-Lao cooperation in construction work is exemplary, successful as expected, and conforms with the policy. Our government believes that the Soviet Union, the diamond-hard fortress of the world revolution, has always stood by the Lao side and has given full and effective assistance in our construction work. This is a fine example in the field of cooperation.

A clear conclusion of the above views is that Lao-Soviet cooperation is blooming beautifully. The flowers of Lao-Soviet friendship are blooming, sending forth their fragrance everywhere.

To make the cooperation highly efficient in accordance with the wishes of both sides, the Lao side should strive to train specialized cadres with a high technical and scientific level to handle modern machines. Spare parts should arrive in Laos as scheduled and as required by construction work. Moreover, we should have the necessary material and money to fulfill the various projects as scheduled. By so doing, Lao-Soviet cooperation in construction work will be more fruitful and splendid.

CSO: 4206/27

LAOS

PARTY TRAINING DELEGATION RETURNS FROM KAMPUCHEA

BK251452 Vientiane KPL in English 0914 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Vientiane, 25 Oct (KPL)--A delegation of the propaganda and training board of the LPRP CC led by its head Somlat Chanthamat, who is also member of the party CC, on October 24, arrived here after having attended a conference of the heads of party CC's training board of Laos, PR [People's Republic] of Kampuchea and SR [Socialist Republic] of Vietnam, which opened in Phnom Penh from October 18-19, 1983.

Various important documents for the cooperation among the party CC's propaganda and training boards of the three Indochinese countries were adopted during the conference. In addition, a declaration in support of the statement delivered on September 28 by Y. Andropov, general secretary of the Central Committee of CPSU, and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, was also unanimously put forward by the three sides.

Besides having assisted in the conference, the delegation further paid a courtesy visit to general secretary of the PRPK [People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea], Heng Samrin.

Greeting the delegation at the airport were Thongsing Thammavong, alternate-member of the party CC, deputy head of the propaganda and training board of the party CC, and minister of culture, Son Khamvanvongsa, deputy head of the propaganda and training board of the party CC, and chairman of state committee for news agency, newspaper, radio and television, Sopha Khotphouthon, deputy head of the propaganda and training board of the party CC.

Nguon Phansiphon, PRK ambassador, and Bui Ran Thanh, counselor of Vietnam Embassy in Laos, were also on hand.

CSO: 4200/162

KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN ADDRESSES VIENTIANE CADRES

BK270616 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] On 25 October Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, talked with cadres of the administrative committee of Vientiane municipality, members of the party committees and administrative committees of various districts, leading cadres, representatives of mass organizations, and people from seven districts in Vientiane municipality.

Present were Comrade General Sisavat Keobounphan, secretary of the party Central Committee, minister of interior, chief of the LPA General Staff, and secretary of the party committee of Vientiane municipality; Comrade Lieutenant General Saman Vi-gnaket, secretary of the party Central Committee and head of the party Central Committee's organizational committee; Comrade Khambou Sounisai, member of the party Central Committee, deputy secretary of the party committee of Vientiane municipality, and chairman of the administrative committee of Vientiane municipality; members and alternate members of the party Central Committee; and many ministers and deputy ministers.

On this occasion, Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan proudly recalled the achievements recorded by the entire party, army, and people of Vientiane municipality in the political, economic, social, cultural, educational, and public health spheres, thus bringing tranquillity to the local people and enabling them to build and develop the municipality. Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan also pointed to the dangerous and vicious schemes of the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists who are colluding with the imperialists and other international reactionaries in opposing the LPDR and other Indochinese countries. In particular, they are using psychological warfare to poison the people in Vientiane Province and municipality.

Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan mobilized and called on the people of all strata in the municipality as well as throughout the country always to increase their vigilance; closely unite under the party and state; promptly smash all enemy schemes; jointly safeguard the territorial integrity, tranquillity, and public order in the new society; and provide for the capital of Vientiane a stable economy and developed education, public health, and culture and make it strong organizationally and politically.

CSO: 4206/27

LAOS

ROMANIAN MESSAGE OF THANKS TO LAO LEADERS

BK220500 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania; Comrade Constantin Dascalescu, prime minister; and Comrade Nicolae Giosan, chairman of the Grand National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Romania, recently sent a joint message of thanks to Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Comrade Souphanouvong, president of state and chairman of the Supreme People's Council [SPC] of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. The message reads as follows:

On behalf of the Romanian Communist Party, the Government and the Grand National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Romania, the Romanian people, and in our own names we would like to convey our warm thanks to the LPRP Central Committee, the SPC, the LPDR Government, and the Lao people for the greetings and best wishes extended to us on the occasion of the 39th anniversary of the Socialist Republic of Romania's national day. We are convinced that the friendly relations between our two parties, states, and peoples will be further enhanced for our common interests.

We wish you, comrades, new success in performing your tasks.

CSO: 4206/27

PHOUN SIPASEUT ATTENDS BOAT RACING FESTIVAL

BK240549 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Amid a joyous and enthusiastic atmosphere in which the entire party, army, and people in Vientiane are striving to compete in translating into reality the spirit and contents of the resolution of the third LPRP congress so as to march forward together to score achievements to welcome the forthcoming First National Trade Union Congress and the eighth anniversary of the 2 December national day, on the occasion of the end of Buddhist Lent, on 23 October, the Lao Front for National Construction of Vientiane Municipality, together with mass organizations and residents of Chanthabouli District, organized a traditional boat racing festival for 1983.

Attending the festival to view the boat racing were Phoun Sipaseut, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of foreign affairs; Chanmi Douangboutdi, member of the party Central Committee and director of the party's Intermediate and Advanced Theoretical Training School; Khambou Sounisai, member of the party Central Committee, vice secretary of the party committee, and chairman of the Administrative Committee of Vientiane municipality; various ministers and deputy ministers; diplomatic envoys of various socialist countries; and a large crowd of the fraternal Vientiane residents. Twenty-three boats, including three with female rowers, participated in the race, which was held amidst an atmosphere of solidarity and joy.

CSO: 4206/27

BRIEFS

FOREIGN MINISTRY COURSE OPENED--Vientiane, 2 Nov (KPL)--The Foreign Ministry, on November 2, opened its 2d training course on protocol and foreign relations work. Addressing at the opening ceremony, Foreign Minister Phoum Sipaseut, who is also Political Bureau member of the party CC and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, has pointed out the importance of this working field. He also touched on the foreign relations work of the party and state. He further appealed to all participants to actively concentrate their efforts in this training course. The course, which was attended by 36 personnel from various state institutions, will last 6 months. [Text] [BK021257 Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 2 Nov 83]

SOVIET FILM CENTER--Vientiane, 24 Oct (KPL)--The 50th distributing center of Soviet films in foreign countries was officially opened here on October 22, in Vientiane. Serge Sedoc, head of the film-distributing center, on the occasion of the opening ceremony, addressed on the cooperation between Laos and USSR, namely on the field of film distribution. He added that Soviet films popularity is considerably increasing with each passing day. Present on the opening ceremony were Thongsing Thammavong, alternate member of the party CC, minister of culture; Son Khamvanvongsa, chairman of state committee for news agency, newspapers, radio and television; and V. Sobchenko, Soviet ambassador to Laos; along with other diplomatic envoys of socialist countries in Laos. [Text] [BK241723 Vientiane KPL in English 0857 GMT 24 Oct 83]

SEMINAR ON METEOROLOGY--Vientiane, 24 Oct (KPL)--An international seminar on meteorology, in particular on seasonal stream flow forecasting, was opened in Vientiane on October 21. The seminar was hosted by the secretariat board of the Lao Mekong Committee, and with the assistance of Interim International Mekong Committee [IIMC] and the World Meteorological Organization. Thirty-three participants from the Lao PDR, the SR of Vietnam, the Kingdom of Thailand, and from other Asian regional countries attended this seminar which was presided over by Sisouphan Choummavivong, vice chairman of the IIMC. Issues on seasonal stream flow would be dealt by the participants during the 1-week seminar. [Text] [BK241723 Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 24 Oct 83]

MEKONG COMMITTEE DISCUSSION--Vientiane, 22 Oct (PANA/KPL)--The international seminar on water forecast--the first to be held since yesterday [as published] in Vientiane--continues its debate. The conference, hosted by the Lao National Mekong Committee's secretariat with the cooperation of the International Interim Mekong Committee [IIMC] and the World Weather Forecast Organization, is being attended by delegates from Laos, Vietnam, Thailand, other from the region and officials from the IIMC. The conference, chaired by Sisouphan Choummanivong, vice president of the Lao Mekong Committee, will study questions relating to water volume presented by the World Meteorology Institution, the Technology Institute of Asia and experts of the secretariat of the IIMC. The conference is to last one week. [Text] [BK241723 Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT 22 Oct 83]

OUTGOING PDRY AMBASSADOR--On the afternoon of 4 November, Souphanouvong, president of state and of the SPC, received Yasin Ahmad Salih, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to Laos, who bade farewell to the president prior to his departure for home after completing his 2-year term of service as the PDRY's ambassador to Laos. During the conversation, which proceeded in a friendly atmosphere, President Souphanouvong hailed Ambassador Yasin Ahmad Salih for his fulfillment of international obligations and for his positive contribution to the friendly enhancement of the relations between the two governments and peoples. The president also took the occasion to wish the ambassador success in his new task. The ambassador also expressed commendation and thanks to the Lao party and Government for the facilities provided him in performing his tasks in Laos--tasks which have contributed to improving the friendly relations between the two countries. [Text] [BK051016 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Nov 83]

CSO: 4206/27

VOFA CARRIES ROUNDUP OF EVENTS IN KAMPUCHEA

BK061143 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Here is a roundup on the situation in Kampuchea:

Military intelligence reports this week reveal evidence to prove Vietnam is attempting to change the demographic structure and the people's way of life in Kampuchea so as to facilitate the sending of Vietnamese nationals to settle in that country. According to the reports, on 25 September Vietnam announced that the population ratio of Kampuchean and Vietnamese residents in Phnom Penh is three Kampuchean families to one Vietnamese family. It was also reported that Vietnamese troops in Siem Reap have been persuading Kampuchean women to marry them, promising that any Kampuchean girl marrying a Vietnamese soldier would be given equal rights with Vietnamese soldiers and exempted from hard labor.

At a meeting between Vietnamese and Heng Samrin puppet regime officials in Siem Reap on 25 September, the Vietnamese-Kampuchean solidarity organization to encourage the Kampuchean people to be more cooperative with the Vietnamese side. [As published] As the suppression of the Kampuchean people continues, the meeting agreed on a new suppression drive against Kampuchean resistance groups along the Thai-Kampuchean border. The offensive will first be launched at Varin District in Siem Reap Province.

On 28 September, the Vietnamese side summoned villagers in Pipet District, Battambang Province, to recruit young men aged from 16 to 28 to be soldiers and vowed to punish the families if any deserted. What should be closely followed is that Vietnam is picking out Kampucheans who know the Thai and Lao languages for a mission in Thailand because Vietnam plans to send Vietnamese, Lao and Kampuchean troops to occupy Thailand with military support from foreign countries. The said plan is detrimental to Thailand's stability and reflects on Vietnam's aggressive attitude toward these countries.

Economically, Vietnam is now behaving like a parasite living off Kampuchea's natural resources and produce which is hardly enough to feed the Kampuchean people themselves. On 25 September, Vietnam's puppets ordered farmers to sell 40 percent of the rice they produce to the government and send 20 percent to help Vietnam. On 12 October, Vietnamese economic advisors in Battambang ordered Kampuchean and Vietnamese fishermen to catch more fish to supply more food to Vietnam.

CSO: 4207/31

THAILAND

ATHIT ATTENDS CEREMONY FOR FORMER INSURGENTS

BK021000 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Excerpts] A welcome ceremony was held this morning for the Thai national development participants in Ya Rang District of Pattani Province. The ceremony was presided over by Supreme Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek. In his report to the supreme commander, Lieutenant General Wanchai Chitchamong, the 4th Army Region's commander, said:

[Begin recording] The Thai national development participants who are attending the ceremony today are 165 democracy-loving patriots who once joined the Communist Party of Thailand, 437 from a separatist movement, 44 from the Communist Party of Malaya, and 34 others from a terrorist movement. The total number of the participants in today's welcome ceremony is 680. [end recording]

Supreme Commander General Athit then addressed the gathering. He said:

[Begin recording] Dear compatriots, as you know, we have confronted numerous problems accumulated from the past. However, the government of His Majesty the King under the leadership of His Excellency Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon has been sincerely doing its utmost to strengthen peace and tranquility, upgrade the living conditions, and to secure safety for the life and property of the Thai people in the southern border provinces. Now, everything has begun to turn toward the right direction. The end of the killing among the Thai people is an example. All groups of the Thai compatriots have turned to each with good understanding to jointly develop our beloved motherland, Thailand. His Majesty the King once said that the Thai people, regardless of their faiths and differences of dialect and tradition, live under the same flag and share the same fate and aspirations. My dear compatriots, I wish to express my admiration for the correct conscience which you have demonstrated today. [End recording]

CSO: 4207/31

INTELLIGENCE CHIEF ON NEW COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

BK291356 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 27 Oct 83 pp 1, 12

[Excerpt] On 26 October the Internal Security Operations Command [ISOC] held a meeting at Chulachomkiao Military Academy to evaluate anticommunist operations from April-September 1983. Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon, cabinet members, and senior officials--a total of 887 people--attended the meeting.

At the meeting, Colonel Bunthaloeng Anaman, ISOC chief of intelligence operations, reportedly gave a briefing on a new communist movement [presumably the Phak Mai movement]. Bunthaloeng said founding members of the movement are Bunyen Wothong, Thongpak Phiangket, Adison Wiangket, Wichai Sewamat, and Sayan Saisaengtham. Adison, Wichai, and Sayan have already surrendered to the government. Now only Bunyen and Thongpak remain with the movement, with Bunyen the most senior official of the movement.

According to Bunthaloeng, the movement's administrative structure consists of the national congress, which is the supreme leadership organ, the 20-person central committee, and the three regional committees. The 1st regional committee controls Chiang Rai, Nan, Uttaradit, and Loei. The 2d regional committee controls Nong Khai, Udon Thani, Nakhon Phanom, Mukdahan, and Yasothon. The 3d regional committee operates in Champassak Province in Laos.

The movement's policy is to carry out political operations both inside and outside Thailand. Operations outside Thailand emphasize acquisition of support from Laos and Vietnam. After the movement is firmly established, it will set up a government-in-exile to gain recognition from the Indochinese countries. The movement will try to establish armed units in Laos by persuading communist terrorists who have become disaffected with the Communist Party of Thailand [CPT] to undergo arms and political training and then become armed. The movement espouses Marxism-Leninism.

Bunthaloeng said the movement now operates training schools in Laos and has regularly recruited people along the Thai-Lao border for training. Those who completed training are sent to operate in the Mukdahan and Nong Khai areas near the Mekong River. Most recent reports have indicated that some CPT guerrillas have joined the movement.

CSO: 4207/30

DAILY CAUTIONS KRIANGSAK ON PHNOM PENH VISIT

BK030419 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Nov 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Cut Vietnam Visit Short After Hanoi"]

[Text] Gen Kriangsak Chamanan is off on a visit at the end of this month to a neighbouring country. General Kriangsak, a former prime minister, will be heading an official parliamentary delegation to Vietnam, in his capacity of the House Committee for Foreign Affairs.

His visit to Hanoi has raised some mild criticism from some quarters of the country. The criticism is valid and is most certainly well-meant. We, however, will not join in it at this moment. We will not criticize the parliamentarians' trip to Vietnam for two reasons. First, General Kriangsak is a senior and veteran politician with vast experience in foreign affairs. We do not believe that his motives for the Hanoi visit can be criticized, nor do we believe that General Kriangsak is likely to provide any real propaganda points to the Vietnamese.

Secondly, General Kriangsak is deservedly a senior member of parliament, which constitutionally and actually is a separate branch of the Thai Government. Members of parliament such as General Kriangsak have the right, and indeed the duty, to inform themselves as to the running of the affairs of this country. The former prime minister himself was a major architect of our nation's Vietnam policy in the extremely sensitive period after the communists took over Saigon and before they took Kampuchea. His position in parliament makes it mandatory that he investigate our foreign policy. The investigation itself should not be criticized, at least before it occurs, although of course any of his recommendations must be carefully looked at by all sectors.

We do, however, take issue right now with General Kriangsak's trip on one point. We do not believe that any trip to Phnom Penh should be considered, let alone carried out. Right now, according to a committee spokesman, secretary-general Dr Phaithun Khruakao, General Kriangsak and his party are seriously considering such a trip to the Vietnamese-controlled parts of Kampuchea. Even consideration of such a trip should be abandoned, and we oppose the trip itself under any current circumstances.

Vietnam is a country with which we have many conflicts and problems. But it is a country with which we maintain diplomatic relations. Heng Samrin's Kampuchea is another matter entirely. We do not recognize its existence for a number of very good reasons. On the contrary, we recognize the legal alternative to the puppet regime in Phnom Penh, Democratic Kampuchea, and we welcome its leaders--President Prince Sihanouk and Prime Minister Son Sann--in our own country.

A trip to Kampuchea would most certainly be misunderstood by the Heng Samrin regime--on purpose of course. It would be reported to the world as signifying support for that regime by some highly respected citizens of Thailand, as a similar mission was misreported, misunderstood and misinterpreted last year. Vietnam-controlled Kampuchea is not a real country. It is a puppet of Hanoi. General Kriangsak and his delegation should be free to visit Hanoi if they so desire. But they should immediately drop all thought of visiting Phnom Penh. If they really want to go to Kampuchea, the coalition government could certainly arrange such visits into the large parts of the nation which they control.

CSO: 4200/163

JOURNAL CONCERNED OVER KRIANGSAK'S SRV VISIT

BK021002 Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai 29 Oct-4 Nov 83 pp 16, 17

[Article: "Kriangsak-Indochina: "A Problem Path"]

[Excerpts] General Kriangsak Chamanan, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, has announced that he will visit Vietnam for a week at the end of November. His planned visit clearly shows that a conflict exists in the Thai Government's foreign policy and that there is a problem about unity of this government.

One of the bad points of the planned visit is that it will cause the allies of Thailand in ASEAN and elsewhere in the world to lose trust and confidence in Thailand's ability to spearhead efforts to resolve the Kampuchean problem. For example, Australia has clearly indicated that its toleration of the Vietnamese presence in Kampuchea has become more generous than before. This will certainly affect foreign assistance to Thailand and its national security.

The second bad point is that the visit will be exploited for propaganda purposes by the Indochinese countries and the USSR, which was the case following General Kriangsak's previous visit.

These two bad points will affect the credibility of Thailand's policy toward Kampuchea, which could further affect the unity of the ASEAN countries. These would have repercussions on the refugee problem in Thailand. This does not concern only the financial aspect of the problem, but also concerns the Thai people's feelings toward its government as the result of their incorrect understanding of the government's assistance to the refugees.

The planned visit of General Kriangsak will also reflect the lack of unity in the Prem government and will quietly erode the stability of General Prem himself. In this political game, it is common knowledge that General Kriangsak still has hopes of returning to the prime ministership despite his currently weak support in the military and other establishments. General Kriangsak's image in the eyes of some foreign countries is still quite good, particularly in the eyes of the Indochinese countries and the USSR. A government source has confirmed that he is the power in the government on which the Soviet Union places the greatest confidence, as is evident from frequent visits between Kriangsak and the Soviet and Indochinese ambassadors.

There is even a bigger concern when Kriangsak said he might continue on to visit Phnom Penh after Vietnam. The Thai Government does not recognize the Phnom Penh government and neither does the United Nations.

Many senior government officials are now very concerned by the fact that Deputy Prime Minister Phichai Rattakun of the Democrat Party also supports General Kriangsak's policy. While Kriangsak is building his image in the eyes of foreign countries, his action has also projected an image of dispute and confusion in the Prem government.

CSO: 4207/30

NEED FOR REVISION OF MEKONG BOUNDARY WITH LAOS DISCUSSED

Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 5 Sep 83 p 4

["News Commentary" Column by Sangwansai Somkeo: "Thai and Lao Are Waiting for Benign Times"]

[Text] As we all well know, the Mekong River forms the boundary between Thailand and Laos. It is a definite and natural dividing line. However, Thailand and Laos continue to have border problems.

This is because of the impropriety of this boundary. According to the protocol between the Thai and French governments in 1926, along the Mekong River where it separates into different streams because of islands, the deep channel will be considered the boundary between the Kingdom of Siam and Indochina. For part of the Mekong River where it separates into many streams because of islands far from Siam shore, and the current flows between at all times during the year, the channel of the Mekong that encroaches near the Siam shore will be counted as the boundary. In the areas where the stream near the nearby Siam shore is sand-filled or becomes shallow and dry and causes what was once a distant island far from the shore to become connected to the shore [permanently], according to boundary principles the channel of the stream that becomes shallow by becoming sand-filled or which just becomes shallow and dry must be taken as the original one.

However, when a case like this occurs we have to file a complaint with the High Commissioner of the Mekong River to decide on each case based on the facts. In a case like this the High Commissioner of the Mekong River might suggest moving the boundary to the channel nearest to that stream if they think the move is desirable as it was agreed upon. Also, the High Commissioner must have approval from the governments from both sides first before moving the boundary. This must include putting the boundary on the Mekong River map with a scale of 1:10,000, and boundary markers must be set along the Mekong River in all sections where it is necessary.

The setting of the markers for the Mekong River boundary between Thailand and Laos based on the above-mentioned protocol has always been a disadvantage to the Thai because we cannot depend on the deep channel according to international law but on the contrary they consider the deep channel as a rule to be near the Thai border. This has always caused problems.

For example, the problem concerning the right of ownership over parts or important islets, for example, Don Tan and Don Tham Ngeun which is in the area of Don Tan District, Mukdahan Province. Particularly in Don Tham Ngeun there are approximately over 3,000 rai, 250 meters from the Thai shore and 750 meters from the Lao shore. There are approximately 30-40 Thai families who have settled there for more than 30 years. If we base the boundary on the 1926 protocol, Don Tham Ngeun would belong to Laos.

An incident occurred in November 1968 when Lao officials went to Don Tham Ngeun, arrested the Thai people, and forced them to sign their names giving up their cultivated land and property. They let the Thais go, and also told them not to go back there again. Later on there were head-on incidents in this area again. Another problem is the usage of the deep channel in patrolling the Mekong River. Because the Thai patrol boats are big, sometimes it is necessary to travel in deep channels which are in Lao territory. In the beginning the Lao government eased up in this area.

However, in the period when Laos changed to the new form of government and put forces along the Thai border, this caused some collisions between the Lao forces and the Mekong River Operations Unit (MROU).

From the boundary issue we can see that as long as the problem of setting and marking the boundary between Thailand and Laos is not solved according to international principles by using the deep channel based on international law, as a boundary it will always be a disadvantage for Thailand. What is more important is that it will be easier for infiltration, sabotage and political expansion into Thailand by using this advantage on the Mekong River.

On this case it is not that the Thai government does not try to solve the problem, but they run into the problem mentioned. Thus, there is only one solution, and that is to revise the protocol on the boundary. Even now there are many who still doubt whether this will be solved.

9884

CSO: 4206/4

COMMANDER INTERVIEWED ON CPT ACTIVITIES

BK031429 Bangkok MATICHON SUTSAPDA in Thai 30 Oct 83 pp 12, 13

[Interview given by Commander of the Special Branch Police Major General Kasem Saengmit to unidentified newsman--date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] There was a report saying that a faction of the Communist Party of Thailand [CPT] is trying to overthrow the group of Wirat Angkhathawon and rebuild the party again. Do you know anything about that?

[Kasem] It is quite clear now that after the 4th congress, the CPT experienced a serious rift within the party. This has not been resolved and does not seem it will be resolved easily. Opposition to those supporting the current leadership by those against it will continue, especially from the communists in the northeast who charged that majority rule was not used in adopting the congress resolutions. This conflict has still not been resolved.

In my opinion it is not quite correct to use the word overthrow because this is a rift in the thinking within the party. Yet it can be destructive or constructive. For them, the rift is based on an opposition to a line of thinking. But there is also a rift which does not stem from opposition. We can grasp this from their publications. Some members left the party with destructive thinking. I do not know whether we can use the word overthrow because I do not know whether they have that destructive intention.

[Question] Do you mean that the faction with the new line in thinking is not happy with the growth of the old group?

[Kasem] There is a definite trend of difference and conflict. The leadership group tried to justify their move by saying that it was based on correct steps under the principle of democratic centralism, but the new group does not understand this explanation and what the old group means by correctness.

[Question] Is the new group the same as the "Green Star" movement?

[Kasem] No. We are talking about opposition within the party itself and not outsiders who have already left the party. Anyway, there are other groups as well, but then this no longer means internal rift within the party. Opposition factions within the party may join the party in fighting against other groups.

We must understand that there is an acute rift within the CPT while the CPT itself is also faced with a serious challenge from the outside enemy.

[Question] How does the "Green Star" movement fit into this?

[Kasem] The origin of the "Green Star" group is as follows. You must remember that there was a definite trend of CPT party members and front members breaking away from the party because of disagreements since 1979. Some of those people were in Laos and were reported to have set up a new party, what we call Phak Mai. This is the group of Bunyen Wothong, Wichai Sawamat, and Wichai Hinkaeo. In fact, they have not formed a party so far, but we call them Phak Mai anyway. They are still in Laos.

Also in 1977, the CPT set up an armed unit called Battalion 121. The men were trained in Vietnam and sent to operate in northern Thailand. Later there was a rift between the high-level and the low-level operatives of the unit. The high-level faction comprised those who were educated in China and had close connection with the leadership group, whereas the other faction comprised those who were trained in Vietnam. As a result, about 200 people left the battalion. Some of them went to Laos, some to Thailand, and some stayed with the villagers since they could not put up with the CPT in the jungle. Of the latter group, some still wear uniforms and keep contact with the rest of the 200 breakaways. Because of all those factors and the geographic conditions at the border as well as the strained relations of the two countries, there have been intelligence-gathering activities going on there. It is also possible that spies have been sent from the other side to gather information on our side. Our villagers have seen them. They came in small armed bands. Our people then reported to the local authorities. It is also possible that what the people described was not very accurately reported. Anyway, the central unit has received a report from local units since March about a group operating in green uniforms with a green star emblem.

Our intelligence units obtained this piece of information for analysis in order to determine the veracity of the report and who is in this group. We are still in the stage of trying to identify them. When Lieutenant General Chawalit Yongchaiyut [deputy army chief of staff] made this public, I did not doubt his intentions. I think he meant to alert the public that there is another CPT group operating in that area and they are referred to as the group wearing green stars, not red stars.

[Question] What do you think about Thailand being used as a center for espionage activities by other countries?

[Kasem] Espionage is a form of intelligence gathering and all countries are competing in this. Thailand, unfortunately, is located half way between those countries--China, the Soviet Union, Vietnam, Laos, and the free-world countries. The United Kingdom, France, and the United States have their activities here too. Thailand is not the only country with this same problem. And news gathering does not only mean spying for government secrets, since it is also aimed at achieving good relations between the two countries. They also want to know what kind of information we have on their respective countries.

But, between antagonistic countries, news gathering might be a fierce fight for information. This is nothing unusual. Please don't think that they would fight for news to the point that they would make out country collapse. Everything must be kept within the law.

[Question] What progress has been made in finding out the persons responsible for selling official secrets to the Soviet spy, Baryshev?

[Answer] This is an official secret. Anyway, I can limit my answer on this question by telling you that we had clear evidence justifying out arrest and this is why they have not protested. It means that they accepted our proof. That is all I can say.

CSO: 4207/30

'SOURCES' NOTE CPT'S FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS

BK230153 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Major cutbacks in foreign financial aid in recent years have forced the Communist Party of Thailand [CPT] to restrict its armed operations, and its current budget is only enough to enable its survival, according to well-informed government intelligence sources.

The sources told the BANGKOK POST that the CPT's annual budget has suffered serious cutbacks over the years, bringing it down to only 50 million baht this year, a drastic reduction when compared to the peak of 200 million baht reached after the October 6, 1976 bloodbath at Thammasat University.

The peak in financial resources resulted from the exodus of students and intellectuals to the jungles following the 1976 incident, the sources said.

Since then, the sources said, foreign financiers of the Thai communist movement have drastically cut back their aid.

The budget for next fiscal year could be lower still, the sources predicted.

China, according to the sources, was the CPT's main financial backer.

The sources said a large chunk of this year's reduced budget would be only enough for the CPT's clandestine urban subversive activities, while the remainder would help to keep the party alive as a revolutionary organization.

Before the October 14, 1973 student uprising, the CPT received about 100 million baht a year, according to the sources. Contributions increased between 1974 and 1975.

Contributors during the peak period of financial aid after the bloody October 1976 riot included China, Vietnam and Laos.

However, the sources said, the China-Vietnam conflict in 1978 led to the withdrawal of financial support by Vietnam and Laos.

In 1979, the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Thailand under Prime Minister Gen Kriangsak Chamanan caused China to reduce its financial contribution and halt its arms aid to the CPT, the sources said.

Explaining the party's budget preparation procedure, the sources said that each operational zone in various provinces would notify the CPT's Central Committee of its required fund.

Once the Central Committee gave its approval, the allocation would then be passed on to the party leadership for further consideration before the aid request was forwarded to China.

Each CPT operational zone reportedly has an estimated 500,000 baht in reserve funds for use in emergencies, such as attack on government troops in remote rural areas.

The sources also revealed that CPT cadres operating in the urban areas are entitled to 300 baht a month, and are allotted extra funds for special assignments.

Apart from China, the CPT has other sources of funds, the sources said.

These included restaurants, bookshops, printing and publishing houses, bakeries and housing estates owned by CPT members.

Money also comes from sympathizers both inside and outside the country, a monthly contribution of five baht from each member, and money extorted from local traders, the sources said.

They added that intelligence agents were closely monitoring several Chinese joint undertakings in Bangkok as it had been suspected that these could be further sources of money for the CPT.

Special Branch Police Commander Pol Maj Gen Kasem Saengmit claimed recently that the CPT was also receiving money in the form of dividend payments from certain industrial firms and financial institutions in which its members held shares.

CSO: 4200/163

ATHIT REPORTEDLY RESCINDS ORDER AGAINST HAN AIDE

BK291104 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 29 Oct 83 pp 1, 16

[Text] According to an army report, Army Commander in Chief General Athit Kamlang-ek on 30 September ordered that a committee be set up to investigate Major Pathomphong Kesonsuk, a former aide of Gen Han Linanon now attached to Supreme Command Headquarters, for giving an interview to the mass media when he participated in a panel discussion held on 26 September by the College of Natural and Environmental Studies, Mahidon University, on the topic of "Whether the Kra Canal Project Should Be Implemented." This is a breach of the army regulation issued on 1967 by Field Marshal Thanom Kittikhachon.

According to the report, the committee ruled that Major Pathomphong was found guilty and was thus put under a 15-day house arrest and given a 1-year probation. He would then be relieved from government service if he were to violate the army regulation again during the probation. After learning of the committee's ruling, Gen Han Linanon, former commander of the 4th Army Region, rushed to see Gen Athit Kamlang-ek at the Bangkok Peacekeeping Command to explain the situation. According to General Han, Major Pathomphong attended the panel discussion on behalf of General Han because the latter was held up by work, and permission had been sought from the then deputy commander of the 4th Army Region, Major General Wanchai Chitchamnong, who is now the 4th Army Region commander. General Han also noted that there was no press interview after the discussion as can be seen from the fact that no newspapers reported Major Pathomphone's statement.

According to the report, General Athit rescinded the order after learning the whole story because this was not an official offense. However, General Athit's decision has not been implemented because the 4th Army Region, where Major Pathomphong is still working, still waits for a written order to be issued by General Athit. Major Pathomphong has also sent a petition to his superior over such an unprecedentedly high penalty.

The report said Major Pathomphong has not returned for house arrest in the 4th Army Region where he is stationed but is now waiting for the ruling on his appeal while helping General Han at the Supreme Command. He will appeal to a higher superior if his appeal to General Athit does not achieve results.

CSO: 4207/30

LAWMAKER DISCUSSES NEW SEPARATIST GROUP IN SOUTH

BK271440 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 27 Oct 83 pp 2, 3

[Text] Social Action Party MP Chaloe Benhawan of Yala Province told reporters at the parliament building on 26 October that a new separatist movement is born and it is known as the BSN Group [expansion unknown]. This separatist group took shape after the dissolution of the PULO [Pattani United Liberation Organization] group late last year.

According to MP Chaloe, the BSN was formed from the merging of PULO and BRN [Barisan Ribatasion Nasional--National Liberation Front]. It has about 300 armed members and about 1,000 front members operating in Yala, Pattani, and Narathiwat provinces. The group is trying to expand its influence to reach Songkhla and Satun. MP Chaloe said the group is growing quickly because of favorable conditions created by local police officials since the transfer of Lieutenant General Han Linanon, who was replaced by Lieutenant General Wanchai Chitchampong as commander of the 4th Army Region. He said that, after the transfer of Lieutenant General Han, the situation has changed. The lack of police cooperation under the Tai Rom Yen plan resulted in an outbreak of robberies and banditry, a situation quite different from that previously.

MP Chaloe held the police responsible for creating conditions favorable for the rebel group. Policemen were unfair to the civilian people. In Raman District, Yala Province, there were cases of police assaults on civilian suspects. The people are building a negative attitude toward policemen, a situation different from when Lieutenant General Han was commander of the 4th Army Region. He said more people are joining the new separatist group as front and armed members because of pressure from local authorities. This is an urgent task for the new commander of the 4th Army Region to solve, he said.

CSO: 4207/30

LOCAL POLITICIANS ASSESS LAO BORDER RELATIONS, 'GREEN STAR'

Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 6 Sep 83 pp 1, 2

[Article: "Lao Soldiers Capture 12 Thais in the Middle of the Mekong River. This Causes Fear Throughout"]

[Text] It was learned that Lao soldiers had captured 12 Thai along with their boats at Keng Kabao while they were fishing and were blown far from the shore by stormy winds. A member of parliament urgently asked the Ministry of Interior to solve the problem before it got bigger because Thai fishermen are becoming scared. He supported the idea of opening border trade on both sides, pointing out that relations between villagers on both shores of the Mekong are still deep. He claimed that there is no "Green star" but an "extortion star."

Mr Wirawon Sitthitham, Nakhon Phanom MP, Social Action Party, disclosed that at 1700 hours on 24 August, 12 Thai were captured by Lao officials along with 8 boats and boat equipment in Ban Saimun, Nam Klam Subdistrict, That Phanom District, Nakhon Phanom Province. They were taken to Savannakhet Province.

The reason for the arrest, Mr Wirason said, was that the 12 Thais had gone out to practice boat-rowing in the Mekong River in order to get ready for the boat races at the end of the Buddhist lent. After the practice they started fishing. At that time there were heavy rains and strong winds. The boats were blown near the Lao border by the storm. Armed Lao soldiers captured them in the Keng Kabao area which is a Lao port.

Mr Wirawon added that now Mr Wirot Ammarat, Nakhon Phanom governor, is contacting Mr Chamlong Latprasert, Mukdahan governor, to make radio contact with the provincial administrative committee chairman of Savannakhet which is on the opposite side of Mukdahan in order to ask them to return the Thais.

Mr Wirawon said the contact would probably be difficult because from what happened in the past they were often investigated for months by the Lao government. Now the people along the border have low morale as a result of this incident because they are afraid they might be captured again. Most of the villagers live on fishing. General Sitthi Chirarot, Minister of Interior, should urgently find ways to solve the problem because this small problem might get bigger later on.

Mr Wirawon talked about the issue of trade between Thailand and Laos and mentioned that relations between the 2 countries are still good. The difference is only the Lao administration. The people on both Mekong banks are related to each other, and normally they visit back and forth. Thus, the governments should accelerate opening up the border more in order to trade as before. Although now the border is closed off, there are still goods being smuggled because they are relatives.

Mr Wirawon also said that opening trade will help our country to gain revenues. Now we are spending time worrying about strategic goods and even bicycles are considered strategic, even though Japan itself exports them everywhere. Nowadays no one wants to use bicycles in war. This is not the battle of Dien Bien Phu war. Therefore, we should strive to trade with Laos. Moreover, we have learned that the Lao people still love to listen to radio and television broadcasts from Thailand although they are absolutely forbidden by their government.

Mr Thanong Siriphrichaphong, also a Nakhon Phanom SAP MP talked about "Green Star." From questioning the villagers in Dong Louang Subdistrict adjoining Na-kae District, Nakhon Phanom Province, the villagers know nothing of "Green Star." He claims there is no "Green Star" here. If there were there would be some silver and gold stars of military men, police and extortion stars. No one at all talks about "Green Star" in Mukdahan.

9884

CSO: 4207/4

AIR FORCE ROCKETS TO BE USED FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 6 Sep 73 pp 3, 10

[Text] The assistant to the air force commander discussed the experimental rocket station, a project to be built in Thailand that is a rocket experimentation station only for scientific research. The Air Force which is expert in firing rockets has been working in cooperation with the National Research Council and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Energy to adopt the project.

Air Chief Marshal [ACM] Arun Phromthep, assistant to the Air Force commander, continued by saying that whether or not the rocket experimentation station will be possible depends on the budget, because it requires a lot of money, over 100 million baht. However, this project has attracted a lot of interest from foreign countries, and especially if we are able to conduct it scientifically we might be able to get help from foreign countries. This would be very beneficial for Thailand, from making artificial rain by firing rockets to disperse chemicals in the clouds to sending up our own satellites.

As for the experimental station site, ACM Arun disclosed that it might be in Prachuap Khirikhan Province because it has a beach for firing rockets into the sea, which would be safer than elsewhere. There has already been rocket firing experimentation in the area of the Aviation Division in Prachuap Khirikhan aimed at targets in the Gulf of Manao. Moreover, there has been small rocket firing experimentation with rockets of approximately 3.5 inches.

ACM Arun said that concerning this rocket experimentation station Thai scientist Dr Winit Khamsombun, who is working on controlling the return of aircraft at NASA, USA, sees the significance of air experimentation. He has persuaded scientists in Asia to work together in space development in order to be as advanced as in the European countries. Dr Winit has travelled to tell about his experiences to Thai officials and he will also be willing to send any data we need.

In response to the question of our reporter concerning the mistakes in rocket production for military use, the assistant to the Air Force commander said that most of the problem lay in the propellant for it is very difficult to hold to a single standard. However, we will try to solve the problem by making purchase orders for a propellant testing machine.

9884

CSO: 4207/4

GOVERNMENT TROOPS RECAPTURE 6 VILLAGES IN NAN

BK080409 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 8 Nov 83 p 3

[Text] Nan--Government troops yesterday recaptured all the six villages which served as supporting bases for one of the three communist-infested zones in the south of this province with little resistance from communist guerrillas in a military operation launched last Friday, field military officers told THE NATION REVIEW yesterday.

After 650 villagers also surrendered to the authorities in yesterday's operation, which is part of the offensive, codenamed "Bloodless Operation" or "Suriyaphong Five," according to the officers.

The six villages, Ban Sing, Ban Don, Ban Klang, Ban Pung, Ban Prong and Ban Den, which had never been accessible to government officials, were under the jurisdiction of the "Ban Phuluang Zone," Alias "Zone Five" of the Communist Party of Thailand [CPT], the officers said.

The government troops, who suffered no casualties in their inroads into the six villages, will today start advancing into the other two suboperational zones in the south of this province, Zone Three and Zone Six as codenamed by CPT, the officers said.

"We sustained no casualties because we were supported effectively by a political campaign in which Nomad aircraft installed with loudspeakers flew over the communist-infested areas to persuade the villagers to defect from the communist guerrillas.

The political campaign has been so far quite successful," one army officer said.

The informed sources said the government troops, mainly rangers, were expected to overrun Zone Three, nicknamed "Ban Bang Hom Zone," within today and would continue advancing into the other zone, also known as "Ban Renu," which would be the last stronghold of northern communist guerrillas.

Most of the villagers in Zone Three and Zone Five are Lua hilltribes people while the majority population in the other zone is Mong hilltribes people.

On last Thursday, 33 Mong people gave themselves up to the authorities, the sources said.

The sources added that the strategy of the fresh military operation, which is expected to last about one month, is to avoid fighting by trying to win over the support from the villagers to isolate the communist insurgents.

CSO: 4200/163

OFFICER SAYS 12 CPT LEADERS ARRESTED IN LAOS

BK010129 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 1 Nov 83 p 6

[Text] Lao authorities have arrested a number of Thai communist leaders, including former Central Committee member of the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) Atsani Phonlathan, who fled to Laos from a military offensive against communists in Nan last March, a senior military official said yesterday.

Chief of Staff of the 32d Civilian Police Military Unit Col Udomchai Ongkhasing said the group of 12 communist leaders were in charge of CPT's fourth operations zone in northern Nan.

The CPT operations zone was closed by the military operation, codenamed Suriyaphong Four, launched by the Third Army Region last March. Col Udomchai said the fate of this group of communist leaders was still not known.

"We have yet to find out whether the Lao authorities have set free Atsani and whether he has defected to Vientiane," he said.

Atsani, also a leftwing novelist under the pen name of "Nai Phi," was elected a member of the CPT Central Committee during the Third Party Congress, but was not elected to the communist leadership in the Fourth Party Congress, held last year. He is, however, regarded as a "veteran" whose advice had been sought by the CPT leadership in Nan.

Colonel Udomchai said the communist leaders held by Lao authorities include the wives of Thong Chamsi and Wirat Angkathawon, who are both members of the CPT Politburo, the top policy-making body of the outlawed party.

The CPT's Zone Four in northern Nan, straddling Pua and Thung Chang districts, was the party's strongest stronghold in the north until the Third Army Region launched its campaign. Government troops in the military operation sustained heavy casualties due to many factors, including the rugged terrain, which favoured the communists.

CSO: 4200/163

ARMY MOVES AGAINST CPT BASE; 1,000 SURRENDER

BK070459 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 7 Nov 83 p 6

[Text] Nan--The Third Army Region late last week embarked on a fresh military offensive against a communist stronghold in the south of this northern province, which is the last bastion of the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) in the region, a field military officer told THE NATION REVIEW over the weekend.

The first phase of the "Suriyaphong Five" or "Bloodless Operation, which was geared toward political campaigns to persuade the insurgents and their sympathizers to surrender rather than clashing head-on with them militarily, had by far seen about 1,000 people giving themselves up to the authorities since the operation began last Friday, according to the military source who asked not to be identified.

The Civilian Police Military Unit 32 (CPM-32), which has been entrusted to carry out the operation, however, sent the apparent defectors back in a bid to convince the remaining insurgents and their supporters of guaranteeing their safety if they surrender, the source said.

He added that while authorities have been airdropping leaflets over the communist-infiltrated areas and broadcasting an appeal for their surrender to avoid unnecessary bloodshed, rangers, who made up the mainstay of the troops in the suppression, had started making inroads into the infested areas.

"The government troops have yet to reach the inner sphere of the communist operations zone and therefore have not encountered communist guerrillas, but fierce fighting is expected in the middle of the week," he said.

The communist stronghold, called "Southern Nan Operation Zone," covers three suboperations zones straddling Pua, Mae Charim districts and Santisuk Sub-district. The strength of the communist operatives in the zone, also known as "Phu Samliam," is estimated at about 200 armed guerrillas plus about 2,000 sympathizers, according to the source.

He said the first phase of the political campaigns served as "the last warning" for the communist remnants before the campaigns shift to military attacks. The Third Army Region started the intensive political campaign to persuade the remnants to give up to the authorities when it mounted Suriyaphong Four

Operation against the CPT's major operations zone in the north of this province in March. It initially intended not to launch a suppression against the Phu Samliam stronghold, but changed its mind after having concluded that only political campaign would not dissolve the last CPT's bastion in the north.

The source said that most of the 1,000 people who reported to the authorities since the fresh operation started last Friday are Mong sympathizers and north-eastern communist operatives who had long worked in the north.

The people had also turned in a number of weapons, including carbine rifles, he said.

CPM-32 plans that the operation would last about one month, said the officer who added that it will take a long time for the government troops to reach the "target areas" in the communist-infested zone because of the rugged and heavily-wooded terrains.

Unlike the Suriyaphong Four Operation which involved air-bomb operations, the rangers and government troops resorted to jungle treks to flush out the communist remnants, according to the source.

CSO: 4200/163

TROOPS RETAKE 5 MORE VILLAGES 'WITHOUT FIGHT'

BK090250 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 9 Nov 83 p 6

[Text] Nan--Government troops were yesterday welcomed into another [as published] five villages which were once under the influence of the communist insurgents as part of the on-going offensive launched last week, a senior army official said.

He said the villagers raised white flags as government planes flew over their villages before the ground forces moved in.

Col Wirot Wantrong, deputy commander of the 32d Civilian Police Military, told THE NATION REVIEW by phone that almost 1,000 villagers believed to be communist sympathizers "surrendered to the authorities" without any resistance.

"It is politically a success we did not anticipate," he said, adding that the villages in Santisuk Subdistrict had remained inaccessible to government authorities until yesterday.

"But after our political offensive, we were able to win the hearts of the people who surrendered wholeheartedly without any fight," he said.

The capture of the five villages came on the fifth day of the offensive code-named "Operation Bloodless" launched by the government troops.

He said so far there had been no clashes with the insurgents.

The government troops on Monday seized six villages which were said to have served as a supporting base for the insurgents in one of the three communist-infested zones here which were the target of the offensive.

Colonel Wirot said originally, the offensive was expected to last up to about a month "because he [as published] had anticipated resistance from the insurgents. But now we hope that we can end the operation soon," he said.

The next area where the government troops will move in is in Mae Charim District. Planes with loudspeakers calling on the villagers to surrender had already been sent up, he said.

CSO: 4200/163

POLICE COMMANDER VIEWS NEW COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

BK100319 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 10 Nov 83 p 5

[Text] Special Branch Division Commander Pol Maj Gen Kasem Saengmit believes that a plan to build a well-organized pro-Soviet communist movement, known as Phak Mai, is just a "dream" of a group of Thai leftists who have defected from the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) and are now taking refuge in Laos.

In a recent interview with THE NATION, the newly-appointed commander of the police intelligence division said the group led by former lecturer Bunyen Wothong comprised only about four or five people and still had no capability of organizing an effective movement among a substantial number of communist insurgents who have severed their affiliation with CPT but have not surrendered to the government, although Bunyen's group is believed to have connections with some of them.

"I don't think the leaders of the Phak Mai Party have been able to organize this breakaway group. But if the group is organized, I believe it would be very loose and at a low level," he told THE NATION.

He also theorized that the mainstay of the dissidents were about 200 armed communist insurgents who had deserted a CPT's "regular force," known as the 121st Battalion whose ranks have been recruited from northeastern villagers and trained in Laos.

About half of the 200 dissidents are now scattered in the northeast while the other half are taking refuge in Laos, according to the police commander.

He said that CPT itself believed that these dissidents were members of the Phak Mai Party. "The people in CPT are also afraid of the prospect," he added.

And it might be some of the dissidents whom villagers had come across and reported their presence to authorities, leading to the emergence of a new communist movement, called Green Star, he said.

"These deserters from the 121st Battalion might still wear their old uniforms, but have replaced their red star insignia with the green ones just to show their split with CPT," he said.

He said that northerners also have a "tradition" of serving as "mercenaries of sort"--some of them have also served in Lao armies in the past--and some of them might still wear uniforms at homes with a hope of being employed again.

Pol Maj Gen Kasem said if Laos and Vietnam fully supported Bunyen's group, the probability would be higher that the "dream" to build a well-organized Phak Mai movement would come true.

But he said he did not think the two countries are now ready to lend full support to the idea because of several constraints, including the desire on the Lao part to improve ties with Thailand and to prompt the Thai Government to re-open more border passes with Laos.

He said Laos is now only giving assistance to the Thai Marxists in their capacity as refugees only.

Pol Maj Gen Kasem also said that a relative of Bunyen, reportedly leader of the pro-Moscow communist group, contacted Thai authorities more than one year ago to try to find out how he would be treated by the government if and after he gave himself up.

"We told the relative that he would be welcome like other defectors because the government adheres to the policy embodied in the PM's order No 66/23," he said.

Pol Maj Gen Kasem, however, said he did not think that he is now ready to surrender to the Thai Government for two reasons: He is still not sure whether he will be given an occupation compatible with his qualifications and his children are now still studying in the Soviet Union.

The idea to form Phak Mai could be traced back to the period when the "Thai Isan Kuchat Group," formed by Bunyen's group in about 1975-1976, broke ties with the now defunct Coordinating Committee for Patriotic and Democratic Forces, a frontline organization set up by CPT because of their ideological conflicts, according to the special Branch Division commander.

CSO: 4200/163

THAI PAPER ON REGROUPING OF RIVAL CPM FACTIONS

BK310332 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 Oct 83 p 2

[By Thara Chin]

[Text] After more than a decade of ideological conflict and infighting, two breakaway groups of the Communist Party of Malaya--CPM (Marxist-Leninist) [ML] and CPM (Revolutionary Front) [RF]--have regrouped in a last-ditch effort to resist mounting Thai and Malaysian military pressure, according to a rare joint communique issued by the two factions.

The merger, agreed to after recent talks, was thought to have injected new life into the weakening CPM which had been suffering from continuous suppression.

The communique, written in Chinese and a copy of which was obtained exclusively by the BANGKOK POST, says the talks were held recently in a jungle redoubt along the Thai-Malaysian border.

The CPM (ML)--active in the Betong Salient that juts into Malaysia--was thought the strongest Chinese communist group in southern Thailand fighting to turn Malaysia into a Marxist state. The CPM (RF) operates in isolation in Sadao District of Songkhla Province and has about 300 active members.

The merger has increased the force of the two factions to more than 1,000 armed guerrillas.

The communique said both factions reviewed their past errors and conflicts during the talks and had compromised on certain crucial issues in order to "attain our revolutionary cause."

"We also exchanged our views on internal and external situations and have agreed to adopt the same policy toward our common foes."

The split of the CPM into three factions--CPM (RF), CPM (ML) and the party proper--in 1970 was the result of Chen Ping's suspicion that the party had been infiltrated by government agents.

The suspicion had driven Chen, believed to have been in China since 1961, to order a campaign which allegedly slaughtered more than 200 cadres suspected of being government agents. The killings were followed by a purge of all members who had joined since 1963.

In the revolt that followed, the 8th Regiment moved to Sadao to form the CPM (RF) in February 1970 while a few months later the CPM (ML) broke from the 12th Regiment and set up its own party in August 1974, including its own clandestine radio, Voice of the Malayan People, which broadcasts in Malay, Chinese and Indian dialects.

The communique claimed representatives of the factions realized their "urgent duty to liberate" Malaysia and that "the revolutionary goal can be achieved only through our unity."

Further talks reportedly will be held to decide whether the two parties should come under the same banner.

"There is a high possibility that they will change their names to jack up their lost faith among sympathizers previously loyal to them," the source said.

An official source also confirmed the regrouping report, but failed to give details of the talks.

The Betong-based source said the factions were "forced" by necessity to regroup because "they have been in disarray following anti-insurgency operations launched by Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur."

The course claimed that the merger had at least temporarily rejuvenated the guerrillas and boosted morale, the source noted.

The factions have preached cooperation at least since the early 1970s and their leaders had toyed with the idea of merging, but distrust and ideological differences proved formidable stumbling blocks.

Of the three groups, only the CPM proper is recognized by the Chinese Communist Party.

According to official figures, the combined strength of the two breakaway groups and the CPM proper operating in Thai areas is between 1,800 and 2,400.

At the outset, the "Malayan" communist insurgents had 12 regiments in southern Thailand and Malaysia with combined membership of more than 10,000.

But defection and suppression had reduced the number regiments to only three--8th, 10th and 12th--with an estimated membership of 2,700.

According to the brief communique, representatives of the outlawed factions had shown "responsibility, humility and understanding" during the talks and past differences had been resolved.

The communique gave no details of the factions' new joint strategy after the merger. It also was silent on plans, if any, to return to the fold of the mainstream party.

It simply said they would unite to fight their "enemies."

CSO: 4200/163

AIDE TO GENERAL HAN UNDER HOUSE ARREST, PROBATION

BK280322 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] A close aide of Gen Han Linanon, former commanding general of the Fourth Army Region, has been placed under one-year probation and house arrest after being investigated by an army committee for allegedly breaching military discipline by giving a public speech without authorization.

An informed source said that Army Commander in Chief Gen Athit Kamlang-ek issued the order to Lt Gen Wanchai Chitchamnong, the new commanding general of the Fourth Army Region, to investigate Maj Pathomphong Kesonsuk after the major, on behalf of General Han, attended a seminar on Kra Canal held by environment-conscious groups at Mahidon University in September.

The source said that Major Pathomphong made a speech at the seminar without permission from his superiors, including General Athit. The major, the source said, was also accused of disclosing official secrets to the public.

Major Pathomphong, who is also secretary of the Senate Dark Force Suppression Committee headed by General Han has asked to be transferred to the Supreme Command along with his boss who was appointed chief of staff officers of the Supreme Command in the military reshuffle.

Another informed military source said yesterday that both the major and General Han had already submitted a petition to General Athit requesting a review of the punishment.

CSO: 4200/163

BRIEFS

CONSUMER FOOD PRICES--In 1982 a Thai spent 4,672 baht on the average for food, only a 4 percent increase from the 1981 average which was 4,489 baht per person. This is the lowest rate of increase in 10 years. This is a report from the newsletter of the Census Division, Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board, which said that because inflation in 1982 was much less, the increase in the prices of goods in general is very low for 1982, especially for food prices. The price index for food consumers increased only 2.8 percent in 1982 as compared with a 10.6 increase in 1981. The newsletter of the Census Division also said that most of the food expenses, 77 percent, was rice, starch, fish, vegetables and fruit; the remaining 23 percent was other food expenses such as milk, eggs, sugar, fat, etc. Rice and starch are still the main food for the Thai people, and that is why the average for rice and starch expenses is still higher than for other food. In 1982 the average expense for rice and starch was 1,170 baht per person, a 5 percent decrease from the 1981 average which was 1,230 baht per person. This is the lowest rate of increase in history because the price of rice in 1982 was less than that for 1981. However, when comparing the proportion of food expenses in 1982 and 1981, the proportion of rice and starch expenses decreased from 27.4 percent in 1981 to only 25.0 percent in 1982, which is also the lowest proportion in 10 years. [Text] [Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 14 Sep 83 p 3, 12] 9884

POSSIBLE NIGERIA EMBASSY--Mr (I Apoua), Nigerian charge d'affaires in Thailand and Nigerian ambassador to India, disclosed that Nigeria is considering setting up an embassy in Thailand. The Nigerian charge d'affaires said that his country is considering setting up an embassy in Thailand in order to strengthen the good relations between the two countries because both countries are developing countries. Thus, they will protect their common interests. Both Nigeria and Thailand produce tin and participated in signing the agreement for establishing a tin-producing association which demonstrates the unification of the tin-producing countries to together "protect their own interests." Mr (Apoua) explained that the importance in setting up this association is to help to guarantee the tin price to be stable and to help each other in marketing. Mr (Apoua) added that the policy of the ASEAN and African groups has the same goals of maintaining peace in the region and in the world. By uniting, each region will also become an impetus to help in solving world problems. [Text] [Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 12 Sep 83 pp 3, 5, 10] 9884

300 INSURGENTS 'FLUSHED OUT'--The Third Army Region's political campaign has flushed out more than 300 communist insurgents in the past two months, a spokesman claimed yesterday. The campaign was part of the Third Army Region's "Operation Bloodless" launched by the [words indistinct] 32 Unit in Mae Charim District in the southern part of Nan Province where a number of armed insurgents were still active, he said. No arms were used in the operation, emphasis being placed on political campaigns launched by mobile film units, radio broadcasts and leaflets inviting the guerrillas to surrender. [Text] [BK060408 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Nov 83 p 3]

GUERRILLAS' ACTIONS IN SOUTH--On 20 October Colonel Prasoet Wangdi, spokesman of the Combined Task Force for the suppression of guerrillas of the Communist Party of Malaya [CPM] along the Thai-Malaysian border, reported that, on 30 September at about 1000, a group of some 30 CPM guerrillas ambushed a unit of 52 soldiers in Ban Dida, Tambon Tham Thalu, in Bannang Sata District, Yala Province. Four soldiers were killed and three others wounded. Two CPM guerrillas were believed killed as officials found two abandoned M16 rifles and two uniforms. According to the spokesman, the incident was publicized by the CPM guerrillas as their big victory as they have killed as many as four soldiers. Earlier on 5 September, the soldiers of the same company clashed with a group of CPM guerrillas in Ban Dida and killed one of the guerrillas. Colonel Prasoet said CPM guerrillas have lately stepped up activities including collecting protection fees from the people, launching antigovernment propaganda campaigns and urging owners of the rubber plantations not to recruit newcomers as workers. The activities indicated their efforts to restore lost influence. From 21 September to 19 October, four CPM guerrillas surrendered to the authorities of the Cobmine Civilian-Police-Military Task Force Unit 43. [Text] [BK221519 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 21 Oct 83 p 3]

'GREEN STAR' MOVEMENT--Interior Minister General Sitthi Chirarot, reporting on his 22 October trip to meet with the police chiefs and governors of nine northeastern provinces, said he was told that communist terrorists are still active in some areas. The communist terrorists have conducted mass mobilization campaigns. He was also informed that although large numbers of communist terrorists have surrendered to the government, large amounts of weapons still remain hidden. Talking about the Green Star movement, the identity of which is still to be positively verified, General Sitthi said he thinks there is a movement which tries to recruit communist terrorists who belong or used to belong to the old movement. General Sitthi said: "Not a single member of the new movement has been arrested so far. I would like to see one captured, dead or alive, so we can verify the movement and thus end confusion on the matter. So far the presence of the Green Star movement has not been confirmed in any province." [Text] [BK270751 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 25 Oct 83 p 3]

SHIPPING AGREEMENT WITH ROK--The South Korean Government has agreed to sign a bilateral shipping agreement with the Thai Government. When the Thai proposal to South Korea enters into agreement, cargo aboard ships will be divided into 40:40:20 basis between buying, selling, and third countries. This proposal is based on the UNCTAD implementation code of conduct on liner conference. [Text] [BK131405 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1230 GMT 12 Oct 83]

SITTHI'S TALK WITH EEC'S THORN--[Statement by Foreign Minister Air Chief Mashal Sitthi Sawetsila on his meeting with European Economic Community Commission President Gaston Thorn--date and place not given; recorded]--He expressed full support for our stand on the Kampuchean issue. We thanked him for that. But the important problem we raised with him was the refugee problem. We need continued support from the European Economic Community [EEC] to help the refugees as well as the Thai border people. There are still about 220,000 refugees waiting at the border area. We stressed the importance of the aid program for the border refugees to prevent a further influx into Thailand. He took this under consideration. We also thanked the EEC for the outcome of the UN vote on the resolution on the Kampuchean situation. The EEC president told us that the EEC fully endorsed our stand on this matter. Concerning economic matters, we discussed the tapioca quota. We wanted an additional quota, but he pointed out to us that the EEC has difficulty on this. While we still enjoy an economic growth rate of over 60 percent, the EEC has a growth deficit. [Text] [BK010922 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 31 Oct 83]

LOSSES, DAMAGE FROM FLOODS--The director general of the Local Administration Department, Chalong Kanlayanamit, in his capacity as secretary general of the Civilian Committee for Prevention of Disasters, has reported on the latest figures of flood damage and losses as follows. Provinces hit by floods now number 53, while flood damage and losses have been reported in 273 districts. Over 50,000 people have been affected. A total of 5,674 houses were damaged, 49 people were killed, about 4.4 million rai of farmland were inundated, about 100,000 rai of fish and shrimp ponds were damaged, about 50,000 domestic animals were reported killed or missing, and 3,354 items of public utilities were damaged. Overall estimates of damage reported by the provinces so far stand at about 633 million baht. [Excerpt] [BK041108 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 3 Nov 83]

CSO: 4207/31

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

PUBLIC SECURITY FORCES HELP CONTROL MARKET IN HANOI

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Sep 83 p 3

[Article; "Studying and Working in Accordance with the Six Teachings of Uncle Ho, the Hoan Kiem Ward Public Security Force Participates in Market Management"]

[Text] Since the start of 1983, the public security, army, Trade Union and Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union forces in Hoan Kiem Ward, Hanoi, have coordinated well and investigated and resolved many cases involving profiteering, smuggling and evasion of commercial taxes, thereby helping to restore order within distribution and circulation in the ward. In many subwards, such as Cua Nam, Dong Xuan, Hang Buom, Hang Trong and Tran Hung Dao, public security forces have truly served as the staff of the subward party committee and people's committee in managing the market, building neighborhoods and removing the beverage counters and food stands that occupied sidewalks and spilled over into the streets, thereby cleaning up streets, maintaining order and maintaining traffic safety. In the various drives conducted to enforce the laws concerning industrial and commercial taxes, take legal action against the owners of large homes that were constructed by means of illegally acquired capital and promptly break up many gangs of smugglers, profiteers and persons who were stealing property of the state and people, the ward's public security forces have gained the increasing trust of the people. During the past 9 months, thanks to thousands of pieces of information supplied to them by the people, the cadres and soldiers of the subward and ward public security forces promptly solved many thefts, reclaiming hundreds of millions of dong for the state.

Recently, in order to develop upon the achievements that have been recorded, the Hoan Kiem Ward Party Committee and People's Committee launched a phase of activities to summarize the experiences gained in coordinating these four forces and using them as the nucleus of the movement to maintain the security of the fatherland. The entire public security force of the ward has organized and effort to study, gain a deep understanding of and thoroughly implement the six teachings of Uncle Ho; at the same time, the subward public security forces have collected various materials and opened unit tradition rooms. Through the assistance of the subward people's committee and party committee and a number of agencies and enterprises within the subward, Dong Xuan, Chuong

Duong and Cua Nam Subwards have opened tradition rooms. Tran Hung Dao, Cua Dong and many other subwards are preparing the materials and facilities needed to open their own tradition rooms.

Coordinating the implementation of the six teachings of Uncle Ho with upholding the tradition of their basic units, the cadres and soldiers of the Hoan Kiem Ward Public Security Force are endeavoring to excellently complete the task assigned to them and are determined to earn the title "Determined To Win Unit" in 1983.

7809

CSO: 4209/39

FRENCH-VIETNAMESE MEDICAL COOPERATION DISCUSSED

Paris DOAN KET in French No 351, Sep 83 p 16

[Article by Jacques Fauconnier, a CNRS [National Center for Scientific Research] and "French Popular Relief" Physicians technician: "Beyond Numbers."]

[Text] The Joint Vietnamese-French Commission for Scientific, Technical and Cultural Cooperation will meet, this time in Hanoi, in a few weeks. We will be dealing there, naturally, on the governmental level. The original aspect of this cooperation between France (a "Northern" country) and Vietnam (a "Southern" one) the quality, if not the quantity, of which has received praise from all sides, is that it is enriched by a non-governmental dimension. Excellent relations have existed over a long period of time between the two countries' scientific and technical organizations, based on the individual and organizational contributions of the French, as well as the Vietnamese nationals residing in France.

In this issue, we are publishing the comments of a French technician who has completed five missions within the framework of the cooperation between the French Popular Relief Organization and the No 2 Pediatric Hospital in Ho Chi Minh City. DOAN KET is always happy to offer space to those contributing to cooperation between Vietnam and France.

This cooperation has increased somewhat, but not to the level of the potential and need. To be sure, this quantitative aspect should not be overlooked, but, in addition, the quality of cooperation must be assessed.

Do the projects take the real needs of Vietnam into account? Are they adapted to the current economic realities of the country? Are they really leading our Vietnamese partners toward autonomy? All of these are questions we cannot avoid.

A Pediatric Research Center

As a contribution to this necessary debate, we would like to offer some factors for consideration on the work done for nearly 2 years now by the Popular Relief Physicians at the Pediatric Research Center in Ho Chi Minh City, headed by Dr Duong Quynh Hao, and, more recently, in the No 2 Pediatric Hospital as a whole.

This work is characterized, among other things, by:

- a) A long-term programmatic approach, defined with the aid of the Vietnamese partners;
- b) Intermittent assignments, allowing each team to reevaluate the goals on the basis of the work done during the intervals;
- c) Multidisciplinary teams (pediatricians, physicians specializing in biochemistry and bacteriology, laboratory and maintenance technicians, pediatric and other nurses);
- d) A general advance toward the speediest possible assumption of responsibility for the Center by the Vietnamese, on both the conceptual and material levels.

The long-term program could be summarized as follows:

- 1) Research on the conditions under which malnutrition develops. This aspect of the work is part of a scientific program of social and preventive pediatrics.
- 2) More basic research on the major deficiencies characterizing the various forms of malnutrition in Vietnam.
- 3) The perfecting, in conjunction with the results of this research, of diets for nutritional rehabilitation in hospital and out-patient settings (taking the real economic potential into account).

In this case, the intermittent assignment of French teams should not be reduced to a problem of resources. It is a seldom used form of "follow-up" work which seems to us the most profitable. It is important for the center to operate at its own pace, which is somewhat disturbed during these assignments. The period separating two missions (4 to 6 months) is basically very important. It is during that time that the benefits and difficulties and the necessary corrections can be evaluated.

One of the original aspects of this cooperation is seen in the many disciplines represented on the teams. Serious research work requires serious equipment, and this equipment is necessarily somewhat sophisticated.

Whence the necessity of including in the medical teams laboratory technicians with day-to-day experience with such equipment and maintenance technicians with a good understanding of it. In the same vein, hospital operation does not depend solely on the competence of its physicians, but also on the qualifications of its paramedical personnel and their capacity to organize the work rationally.

The logical outcome of this trend is the assumption of responsibility by the Vietnamese. To fail to achieve this end would mean sinking into "generous neo-colonialism!" How can this autonomy be achieved?

By training, first of all. But what type of training? All of us, physicians and technicians alike, have been faced with this problem. Training of the "pompous lecture" type very quickly proved ineffective. Practical and supervised work and other advanced training courses quite soon emerged as better forms of training.

Next, tapping the local economic potential. The country's underdeveloped situation makes support necessary for any cooperative effort. We felt it desirable, however, to limit this support whenever equipment or products could be found or manufactured locally. This is one of the steps toward autonomy.

Finally, the assumption of responsibility by the personnel and the valorization of their work. While taking the material difficulties encountered by the personnel into account, it seemed to us unrealistic to expect autonomy for the center without the commitment of each individual to his work. This permanent involvement may not be the most spectacular aspect of our cooperation, but it is nonetheless one of the keys to its success.

After five missions carried out between October 1981 and May 1983, our purpose is not to point to our work as a "model." Our work undoubtedly has its weaknesses and unanswered questions as well as the financial limitations of an ONG [nongovernmental organization], although the French Popular Relief Organization has made a tremendous effort to make this operation a success. We simply deem it useful to bring to the attention of the Vietnamese community in France an example of what seems to us an altogether unusual approach to the possibilities for cooperation between our two countries.

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CSO: 4219/6

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

ONLY ONE PATH SEEN FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 30 Sep 83 pp 54-55

[Interview with Nguyen Co Thach by Alberto Vilamala; date and place not given]

[Text] It was not a difficult task to obtain an exclusive interview for BOHEMIA with Nguyen Co Thach, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and foreign affairs minister of that country. After the obligatory introduction, the Vietnamese diplomat expressed his willingness to answer the questionnaire we had previously sent him. The time he had available was short, because other commitments awaited him. However, the interview took place without haste, in a pleasant and cordial atmosphere, free of protocol, giving the meeting an informal tone. Thus without even without a preamble, we embarked on the subject matter directly.

[Question] Could you describe for us the main problems affecting peace and detente in Southeast Asia at the present time?

[Answer] Despite the designs of China and the United States, the Vietnamese and Lao revolutions are firm and strengthened. The Kampuchean revolution has made basic qualitative advances. Once free of the genocide, the Kampuchean people have, beginning at zero, won marvelous successes in their renaissance. Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea are daily more united, are mutually aiding each other in the building of their respective fatherlands, and maintain close links with the Soviet Union and the socialist community.

The annual withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer troops from Kampuchea shows the strengthening of the people's republic of Kampuchea, Vietnam's respect for the independence and sovereignty of that country, and the desire of the Indochinese countries for peace. Within this context, the victories of these three countries represent a great contribution to peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

However, continuing the attacks they have carried out for 30 years against the Indochinese peoples, the Chinese leaders are attacking Vietnam and using Pol Pot and the member nations of the ASEAN to oppose our peoples. The last 5 years have seen the greatest efforts made by China against Vietnam and Indochina, while at the same time marking the most bitter defeats suffered by China in Southeast Asia.

On the other hand, various circles within the ASEAN countries have realized with increasing clarity that the attempts of China to push them into confrontation with the Indochinese countries benefit only the hegemonistic ambitions of China in Southeast Asia, and go against the interests of the ASEAN countries.

There is only one path for Southeast Asia, that of peaceful coexistence among the groups of nations with different social systems. The peoples of Southeast Asia have the hope of and a great interest in maintaining peace and stability in this region. The trend toward dialogue with Indochina is developing forcefully in the ASEAN countries. International public opinion and that in a number of the countries in the world support this dialogue. China alone is worried and is using every means to block and sabotage it. We, for our part, are sparing no effort to promote dialogue with the ASEAN, and we are optimistic about the prospects.

[Question] At this time, what is the attitude of China and the United States with regard to the repeated Vietnamese proposals to normalize the diplomatic relations of that country with China and the United States?

[Answer] The good will and the readiness of Vietnam to normalize relations with China and the United States are in fact real. However, these countries are continuing to implement a hostile policy, blocking and isolating Vietnam. Both China and the United States are forcefully urging solution of the Kampuchean problem as a prior condition for the normalization of relations with Vietnam, which is basically nothing but a pretext designed to justify their hostile policy toward our country.

The normalization of relations between Vietnam and China and between Vietnam and the United States would not only benefit those countries, but world peace as well. The Vietnamese position in the foreign policy realm involves normalizing the bilateral relations between the countries without any condition involving a third country.

On this point, we believe it timely to stress that if indeed some Western countries, such as Japan and Australia, playing the game of the United States and China, have seen a deterioration since 1979 in their relations with Vietnam, currently such countries as Finland, Sweden, France and Australia are maintaining magnificent relations and a spirit of cooperation with our country. Recently, the labor government in Australia put an end to the foreign policy of the conservative government and began to implement a policy of friendship and cooperation. Other Western countries too are increasingly demonstrating an attitude of understanding and are step by step improving their relations with Vietnam.

[Question] Why, if China supported the struggle of the Vietnamese people in the past, is it now opposing Vietnam?

[Answer] This is not a special situation with regard to our country. Everyone knows that in the past, China regarded the Soviet Union as its best friend and the United States as its most dangerous enemy. Nowadays, the

Soviet Union is for China its most dangerous enemy, and the United States its best friend. While in the past China condemned NATO, it now calls itself the NATO of the Orient.

The same thing can be seen in Africa. In the past, China supported the national liberation movement on that continent, but in the 1970s, China gave its support to the reactionaries, to the detriment of the African peoples. Chinese aid to the counterrevolutionaries in the FNLA [Angolan National Liberation Front] and the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] was given in violation of the interests of the Angolan revolution and people.

In brief, it is a question of a whole strategy on the part of China whereby today's friend may be termed China's enemy tomorrow, and vice versa. What is important for Chinese leadership is not the revolution or the lack of it. What is important is what is consistent with its hegemonic interests. In the words of Deng Xiao Ping, it is not important if the cat is white or black, provided it catches rats.

Even internally, within China, Mao Tse Tung regarded Lin Piao as his closest comrade-in-arms and as his successor, in the 1960s, but in 1971, Lin Piao was accused of being a reactionary and was assassinated.

[Question] How do you assess the role of the ASEAN in Southeast Asia, and what possibility is there that it will become a military alliance?

[Answer] Throughout 3 decades, the majority of the countries in the ASEAN have taken part in the war of aggression pursued by the United States against the Indochinese countries, but they were defeated. In the last 4 years, the policy of confrontation pursued by China, the United States and the ASEAN against our country has also failed.

Currently, there are two trends in the ASEAN country group. One urges dialogue with the Indochinese countries in order to resolve problems through negotiation, while the other wants to continue confrontation, trying to convert the ASEAN into a military alliance. However, if this organization adopts that path, it will certainly end in failure, as was the fate of the SEATO.

[Question] What is your assessment of the role of the United Nations with regard to peace in Southeast Asia and the Kampuchean problem?

[Answer] Everyone knows that the struggle waged by the three Indochinese peoples for the past 30 years is a just struggle for national independence.

Regrettably, representatives of reactionary governments promoted an improper attitude within the United Nations organization 2 decades ago with regard to the resistance of the Vietnamese people to the U.S. aggression, while the whole world was supporting Vietnam.

Nowadays, this same situation favors the adoption of resolutions recognizing Pol Pot's genocidal gang and opposing the rebirth of the Kampuchean people, while progressive humanity energetically condemns the barbarism of the Pol Pot faction.

The United Nations is called upon to play a worthy role in the cause of peace in Southeast Asia. If it is to do so, the support of the genocidal gang of Pol Pot must be abandoned, these genocidal resolutions opposing the rebirth of the Kampuchean people must cease, and the desire for dialogue which is developing in Southeast Asia must be encouraged.

[Question] What is your view about the role the Movement of Nonaligned Nations plays in connection with the legitimate interests of Kampuchea?

[Answer] The Sixth Summit Meeting of Nonaligned Nations held in Havana in 1979 approved a proper resolution concerning the Kampuchean problem, calling for refusal to recognize Pol Pot's gang and leaving the Kampuchean seat vacant.

The Seventh Summit Meeting held early this year in New Delhi confirmed this resolution and approved yet another, urging the Southeast Asian countries to ensure withdrawal of all foreign troops from the region and the undertaking of dialogue and negotiations involving all parties for the resolution of the problems in a spirit of mutual respect, equality and nonintervention by foreign powers. This resolution was approved thanks to a consensus among the chiefs of state or heads of government representing almost a hundred countries, without any reservations.

Obviously, the Nonaligned Movement has established the foundations for a peaceful and equitable solution of the problems affecting Southeast Asia. We believe that the United Nations should respect the resolutions of the Summit Meeting of Nonaligned Countries, and the Southeast Asian nations should also implement them in order to contribute to transforming this region into a zone of peace, stability and cooperation.

[Question] Recently, capitalist news agencies have reported a vast anti-Vietnamese campaign, stating that Vietnam is repopulating Kampuchea with its own citizens, while at the same time secretly replacing the Vietnamese volunteer troops in that country. What is the real situation in this connection?

[Answer] This is not the first slander against Vietnam by the imperialists and the international reactionaries. The United States invented the "Tonkin incident" as a pretext for attacking Vietnam. Now China and the United States are accusing Vietnam of being the aggressor in Kampuchea, in order to justify their frenetic anti-Vietnamese campaigns.

The annual withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops in Kampuchea is a denial of these slanders, as a result of which China and the United States have hastened to put out the stories of the so-called "civilian occupation of Kampuchea by Vietnam."

In the past, some 500,000 Vietnamese lived in Kampuchea. Tens of thousands of them were massacred by the Lon Nol and Pol Pot regimes, while hundreds of thousands of others had to return to their home country. Since the defeat of Pol Pot, some of these Vietnamese have returned to settle in Kampuchea again. But now there are only 50,000, in other words only a tenth of the number in the past, and they represent a smaller number than do the Chinese nationals currently residing in Kampuchea.

[Question] What implications might the scheduled tour of the President of the United States through Asia have on the political picture in Southeast Asia?

[Answer] For more than 30 years, U.S. presidents who have visited Asia have brought nothing positive in terms of peace to this region of the world.

The scheduled visit by Reagan, a fanatical promoter of a warlike and adventurous policy, will occur at a time when the United States is trying to promote its military alliance with Japan and South Korea, at a time when collusion with China is intensifying, an effort is being made to transform the ASEAN into a military pact, and Japan and other nations are being urged to increase their military budgets and to engage in extensive military maneuvers in the region.

In this context, this visit can certainly bring nothing benefitting peace to Southeast Asia. Similarly, the claims Reagan nurtures in this region will certainly fail, just as those of the presidents who preceded him did.

[Question] This year, the 10th anniversary of the visit paid by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro to Vietnam and the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Cuban Committee for Solidarity with Vietnam are being celebrated. What is your assessment of these historic events?

[Answer] These two anniversaries are of the most profound and grandiose importance to the relations between Vietnam and Cuba. The fervent, broad, deep and multifaceted activities pursued by the Cuban Committee for Solidarity with Vietnam, closely linked with the patriotic resistance of the Vietnamese people to Yankee aggression, represent for us a powerful encouragement in our struggle for national independence and socialism.

After the signing of the Paris agreements on Vietnam in January of 1973, Comrade Fidel Castro was the first and only chief of state to visit the liberated zones in the south of Vietnam in September of 1973, bringing our people an extremely valuable message of support and solidarity, full of the proletarian internationalism of the Communist Party of Cuba, the government and the people of Cuba. Two years after the visit paid by Comrade Fidel Castro, the southern part of Vietnam was fully liberated and our fatherland was totally reunified.

On this occasion, on behalf of the party, the government and the people of Cuba, Comrade Fidel Castro decided to aid Vietnam with certain major projects. Immediately, Cuban technicians and workers, along with their

equipment and materials, were sent to Vietnam, where they worked in a truly communist and internationalist spirit, and in a short time these projects were completed.

At the present time, these projects are playing a significant role in the economic and social development of Vietnam. They are the beautiful flowers of the fraternal friendship and combative solidarity existing between Vietnam and Cuba, and they represent a contribution to the effort to build the more prosperous and beautiful Vietnam of which our beloved Uncle Ho dreamed.

From the depths of their hearts, the Vietnamese people sincerely thank the Communist Party, the government and the brotherly people of Cuba, led by their esteemed president, Fidel Castro, for this valuable and generous support, aid and solidarity.

[Question] Can you tell us of some of your impressions on your visit to our country, and about the prospects for development in the multifaceted relations between the peoples of Vietnam and Cuba?

[Answer] This is the third time I have visited Cuba. Each visit gives me an opportunity to assess the marvelous achievements of Cuba in the economic, social and cultural realms directly. In comparing the situation in Cuba with that I saw during my earlier visit in 1979, I can say that the successes achieved by the Cuban people in the last 4 years are very great, within the context of the serious crisis in which the countries on the Latin America continent find themselves plunged. In addition, these encouraging and admirable successes have been achieved by the Cuban people despite the permanent threat and blockade by the Yankee imperialists confronting them.

I am profoundly impressed by the revolutionary spirit, the consistency and the self-sacrificing work of the Cuban people, as well as the unity between the masses and their leaders and the confidence and optimism of our Cuban brothers concerning victory.

During this visit, my talks with Minister Malmierca and with the other Cuban leaders have confirmed our total agreement on the issues pertaining to relations between Vietnam and Cuba, as well as on international problems.

The economic and scientific-technical collaboration between our two countries is also developing happily in various sectors, such as agriculture, communications, public health, transportation, etc. Through the interviews I have had with the JUCEPLAN [Central Planning Board], the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, as well as the recent exchanges of views between the counterpart bodies in our two countries, we have realized that there are still many other fields in which we can promote our bilateral cooperation.

We are much moved by and grateful for Cuba's policy of approaching trade exchange and economic and scientific-technical cooperation in a desire truly to aid Vietnam.

At the end of this year, the Vietnamese-Cuban Intergovernmental Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation and the economic delegations representing the governments of Vietnam and Cuba will meet. On this occasion, the two parties will reach agreement on new fields of bilateral cooperation.

Thus neither in the past, nor in the present nor in the future has there been, is there or will there be any obstacle capable of preventing the harmonious development of the multifaceted relations linking Vietnam and Cuba.

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CSO: 3248/90

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

THAI BINH, MINH HAI HOLD CONFERENCES ON RESOLUTION OF 4TH PARTY PLENUM

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Sep 83 pp 1, 4

[VNA News Release: "Thoroughly Understanding the Resolution of the 4th Party Plenum: Thai Binh and Minh Hai Provinces Intensify Their Ideological and Organizational Work and Bring About New Changes in Production, Distribution and Circulation"]

[Text] The Thai Binh Provincial Party Committee recently held a conference of key cadres of the province, districts and cities to study and gain a thorough understanding of the resolution of the 4th Party Plenum.

The conferees confirmed the victories that have been won in the recent past and reviewed and shed light on the shortcomings and mistakes in attitude, thinking and the organization of implementation, shortcomings and mistakes that have led to weaknesses and deficiencies in economic and social development. Within agriculture, grain production has increased slowly and rice yields, although higher, are not commensurate with the investments that have been made. Industrial production, small industry and handicraft production and capital construction have developed slowly and even stopped developing in some areas; labor productivity is low, production costs are high and product quality is poor. In the field of distribution and circulation, there are still many weaknesses and loopholes, especially in procurements to control the sources of goods, the organization of which is still weak. Socialist commerce has not made strong progress; market management and the management of cash are not being performed well. In the countryside, the socialist production relations have not been firmly strengthened.

The guidance and organization of implementation by the various party committee echelons and levels of government are still marked by bureaucracy, by a lack of specific measures, a lack of inspections and supervision, which have led to poor returns from the guidance that has been provided. The responsibilities of each level, each sector and each person have not been clearly defined. There are still serious negative phenomena among some cadres and party members, such as irresponsibility, conservatism, slowness, rightism and the lack of a serious attitude with regard to complying with the directives and resolutions of the party and the policies and laws of the state; such as misappropriation, abuse of one's position, the theft of public property and

conspiring with private merchants; such as arbitrariness, authoritarianism, departmentalism, intimidation of the masses and so forth.

The Thai Binh Provincial Party Committee has established the following tasks as tasks of immediate, pressing importance: bringing about a profound change in the thinking and awareness of cadres and party members, primarily the various party committee echelons and levels of government, concerning the struggle between capitalism and socialism and the struggle between us and the enemy; improving the methods employed to provide guidance; and bringing about a strong change in socio-economic development. In agricultural production, efforts must be made to successfully resolve the grain problem, meet needs within the province and fulfill obligations to the state while increasing the accumulation of capital by the locality and by agricultural cooperatives. The various party committee echelons must concentrate on providing the guidance needed to correct the weaknesses that exist. The specialized sectors must research and propose specific measures designed to rapidly increase rice yields and raise the uniformity of rice yields among the various districts, areas and cooperatives in an effort to achieve a province-wide yield of 7 tons of paddy per hectare. It is necessary to overcome the weaknesses in distribution and circulation and attach importance to expanding socialist commerce, controlling the majority of retail sales and expanding the sale of certain necessary products at business prices while concentrating goods in the hands of the state, strengthening the management of cash, guaranteeing the necessary supply of rationed goods to cadres, manual workers, civil servants and so forth.

In the cultural field, it is necessary to accelerate the campaign to establish the new lifestyle and mold the new, socialist man, maintain a diligent, simple, pure and wholesome style of life, be determined to eliminate licentious lifestyles and the influences of the decadent, reactionary culture, abolish superstitions and bad customs and intensify the teaching of revolutionary tradition to cadres, party members and the people, especially to youths and teenagers.

The various party committee echelons and sectors must launch a phase of political activities among cadres and party members to practice self-criticism and criticism and resolutely expel from the party and dismiss from state agencies elements who have degenerated or become deviant and persons who abuse their authority, steal, engage in misappropriation, accept bribes, conspire with dishonest merchants or abuse their authority to suppress and intimidate the masses. The actions of cadres who take advantage of their position to do things that are wrong or conceal the mistakes and shortcomings of subordinate cadres must be uncovered and dealt with in a harsh manner.

It is also necessary to strengthen the basic organizations, train and accept fully qualified persons into the party and improve the management of cadres, party members and state personnel. In the immediate future, key cadres must be re-evaluated and plans must be adopted to supplement and strengthen the corps of cadres, especially on the district and basic levels.

The Minh Hai Provincial Party Committee has held a conference of key cadres to study and discuss ways to implement the resolution of the 4th Party Plenum.

The Conferees confirmed the achievements that have been recorded in the recent past and, at the same time, harshly criticized themselves and others for such shortcomings as the following: among some cadres and party members, there are still manifestations of the thinking of meritorious officials, of satisfaction with past achievements, of selfishness, remoteness from the masses and a lack of vigilance, all of which have allowed them to be taken advantage of by the enemy; there is confusion about the struggle between socialism and capitalism, so much so that dishonest merchants and bourgeoisie have disrupted the market, caused prices to soar and caused the living standards of cadres, manual workers, civil servants and the laboring people to be unstable; and the right of collective ownership of the laboring people is not being upheld.

The lifestyles of some cadres and party members, including a number of leadership cadres, are unwholesome in some ways: they have built houses using illegally acquired money and materials; they have used public property in any manner they see fit, in a manner that does not comply with regulations; they live lives of luxury, are depraved, wasteful and so forth.

The party organization's program of action for the final months of 1983 and the start of 1984 is designed to develop upon strengths, rectify shortcomings and bring about new changes in production and the organization of daily life, beginning with planting all land and cultivating crops within the high yield rice growing areas well, preventing and controlling pests, promoting pisciculture, increasing the harvesting and processing of marine products, increasing the sources of export goods, zoning forests for cultural and conservation purposes and so forth in order to insure the fulfillment of the plan for the procurement and mobilization of grain for the state, strengthen market management, reorganize distribution and circulation, stabilize prices and so forth.

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NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON HOG PRODUCTION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Sep 83 p 1

[Editorial: "Developing Livestock Production"]

[Text] In order to gradually become a main production sector, one that is balanced with crop production, livestock production must be developed in a comprehensive manner, in a manner that attaches importance to the size of livestock herds, to improving the quality of livestock and to expanding livestock production in all three sectors, the household sector, the collective sector and state-operated sector.

As a result of production habits and existing favorable conditions, hog production has become one of the most important production sectors, a sector that has rapidly met consumer needs for meat and lard and supplies a large quantity of fertilizer for crop production.

In recent years, hog production, especially within the household sector, has developed rapidly. In 1981, the total number of hogs in the country exceeded 10 million, a 4.8 percent increase over the previous year; in 1982, the number of hogs continued to increase, reaching roughly 11 million, the largest number ever. Hog production yields high economic returns and is a major source of income in the household economy.

Recently, a situation deserving of concern has developed: collective and state-operated livestock production has seriously declined; in particular, the raising of breeding stock has also declined. In 1982, the sow herd only constituted 14 percent of the total hog herd and brood sows only amounted to 11 percent. During the first 6 months of this year, hog production declined in eight provinces in the North. The decline in the number of brood sows being raised caused a sharp rise in the price of young feeder pigs and limited the number of hogs being raised by the people while having an adverse effect upon the rate of development in subsequent years.

The pressing requirement in insuring the regular development of hog production is for every locality, especially the lowland areas and areas that produce subsidiary food crops, to raise more breeding stock and create a solid breeding base in an effort to increase the number of sows to 15-16 percent of

the total hog herd and the number of brood sows to 12 percent. These are norms that must be met in order to have enough feeder pigs to satisfy meat needs and eliminate poor quality sows.

The brood sow herd must be developed in all three sectors of the economy. Every effort must be made to encourage the people in agriculture, the handicraft trades and the non-agricultural production sectors as well as manual workers and civil servants of the state to raise sows; at the same time, we must restore and expand those areas that have the habit of raising breeder hogs and brood sows. As regards household agriculture, cooperatives and production collectives, we should implement a policy of setting aside 2 percent of grain output or 2 percent of farmland for the production of feed for livestock to support those persons who raise sows; families who are not engaged in agricultural production should be given veterinary assistance and sold supplemental feed or be allowed to purchase products under economic contracts and at negotiated prices; and, in areas that produce breeding stock, we can reduce or waive their obligation to sell pork. Under no circumstances should we allow those persons who raise sows to incur losses compared to those persons who raise meat hogs. Cooperatives and production collectives that have centralized hog production operations must raise a reasonable number of sows. Places that have sow farms for the purpose of providing feeder hogs for collective and household production must improve their management procedures and enter into product contracts with groups of laborers and individual laborers in order to insure that hog production yields economic returns. Installations that lack the necessary experience or do not have hog pens can enter into sow production contracts with economic-technical quotas with the people in coordination with household livestock production and create the conditions for eventually achieving a centralized sow production operation. State-operated livestock installations must expand and improve the quality of their breeder hog herds, not only to meet their own needs, but also to supply good breeding stock and feeder pigs to collective livestock production units and the people.

In order to rapidly increase the number of feeder pigs, reserve sows should be allowed to farrow one litter, but the poor quality pigs of those litters should be eliminated. Localities that export subsidiary food crops and livestock feed should shift these raw materials to hog production in order to export livestock products, which would yield higher economic returns.

In the process of gradually upgrading livestock production to large scale, we have established the necessary material-technical bases, especially a relatively complete breeding system extending from the central to the local levels. We have also recorded achievements in selection and in improving the quality of several high yield domestic breeds of hogs. We have acclimated a number of good foreign breeds and established crossbreeding formulas that yield economic returns. By restoring and taking steps to make good use of this breeding system, especially the breeding farms on the district level, in coordination with strengthening those areas in which breeding stock is raised by the people, we will help to increase the size and quality of the herds of sows and boars used for breeding purposes.

The target of the livestock production sector is to be raising 13 million hogs by 1985. To achieve this target, hog production must increase at a rate of 4 percent, that is, by 700,000 hogs, per year.

Only by guiding and organizing implementation better and strongly developing the breeding base in both the selection and development of good breeds and the expansion of the raising of breeding stock is it possible to lay a firm foundation for achieving this target.

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GIA LAI-KONTUM MINORITIES RELUCTANT TO RAISE WET RICE

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Tran Dinh Hieu, Gia Lai-Kontum Province: "Gia Lai-Kontum Province Coordinates the Expansion of Rice Paddies with Intensive Cultivation"]

[Text] Gia Lai-Kontum, a province that possesses abundant economic potentials, measures more than 26,000 square kilometers, which include 1,600,000 hectares of forests and nearly 700,000 hectares of agricultural land. Water is plentiful, the amount of rainfall is high and there are many rivers and streams uniformly distributed throughout the province. The province's climate and weather are suited to various species of crops and livestock.

Following liberation day, the greatest difficulties facing the province were that the majority of the members of the ethnic minorities were still nomadic, the province had virtually nothing by way of cropland, buffalo and cattle and its people lacked food and salt and wore tattered clothing. In the face of this situation, the party organization decided to accelerate the production of grain by clearing wilderness, building water conservancy projects, establishing fields, bringing about the settlement of nomads, stabilizing the standard of living of the people and receiving laborers from other places.

This policy, because it was consistent with the situation and the ardent aspirations of the people, encouraged efforts on the part of the entire province to move forward. In a short period of time, Gia Lai-Kontum cleared more than 68,000 hectares of land; built 40 medium-scale water conservancy projects and 75 small-scale water conservancy projects by means of "the state and the people working together"; established hundreds of fields measuring a total of 22,000 hectares; increased the amount of area on which settled farming was being practiced from 17,000 to 85,000 hectares; and raised total grain output from 100,000 tons in 1975 to 225,000 tons in 1982. As a result, Gia Lai-Kontum has not only achieved self-sufficiency in grain, but has also contributed to the state about 37,000 tons each year. It has settled more than 230,000 members of the ethnic minorities and received more than 100,000 persons from lowland provinces to build new economic zones; at the same time, it has constructed a number of initial material-technical bases supporting the production and daily lives of the people.

The achievements that have been recorded in the recent past have laid the material bases for Gia Lai-Kontum to record even larger victories in the years ahead.

However, in agriculture, the province still has many shortcomings: the clearing of land is haphazard and not closely linked to the construction of water conservancy projects and the establishment of wet rice fields; the production of grain is still non-intensive in nature and importance has not been attached to intensive cultivation; the burning of forests to make upland fields is still quite prevalent; grain output has increased rapidly with each passing year but forest and soil resources have seriously declined. According to data compiled by the province, it is estimated that as many as 30,000 hectares of forest are destroyed each year through forest fires or the burning of forests to make upland fields.

If this situation is not quickly corrected, both of the province's largest strengths, its forest economy and its agricultural economy, will be affected.

This problem was presented to the provincial party organization congress for discussion and many corrective measures were proposed. One important measure of a decisive nature is to rapidly increase the amount of area under the cultivation of wet rice in conjunction with practicing intensive cultivation in order to raise crop yields. In the years ahead, total grain output can only be raised on the basis of expanding the amount of area under the cultivation of wet rice and practicing intensive cultivation, not on the basis of upland fields and non-intensive cultivation.

At present, the province only has 22,000 hectares of wet rice fields, or an average of 1,000 square meters per laborer. The amount of land in wet rice fields is small and the way in which this land is being used is only yielding low economic returns. The majority of this land (about 73 percent) is only used to produce one rice crop per year with an average yield of roughly 18 quintals per hectare. Another phenomenon is that the people of the ethnic minorities do not like to work rice paddies as much as they like to raise rice in upland fields. Many places have incurred major expenses in clearing land, building water conservancy projects and establishing rice paddies only to have the people of the ethnic minorities abandon them after a few seasons and return to destroying the forests to make upland fields. This has happened because slash and burn cultivation is a long-standing habit, a habit that cannot be broken in 1 or 2 days. Secondly, production tools have not been improved and the use of buffalo and cattle to provide draft power in place of manpower is still very limited and has not become a widespread practice. Thirdly, there has been a failure to widely apply the methods of intensive cultivation in fields, consequently, yields have been low, sometimes lower than the yields from slash and burn cultivation. Therefore, in the process of encouraging the ethnic minorities to raise rice in paddies, propaganda activities, educational work and the effort to raise their awareness must be closely coordinated with the implementation of the various economic incentive policies.

For the foreseeable future, the province has decided not to promote the clearing of wilderness as it did in the past, but to build water conservancy

projects and rice paddies (especially high yield fields); resolve the draft power problem; and apply advanced techniques in fields in order to take the initiative in matters regarding the seasons, the varieties used, fertilizer, crop protection and the control of erosion and soil depletion. Between now and 1985, an effort will be made to increase the amount of area under the cultivation of wet rice from 22,000 hectares (1982) to 35,000 hectares, with winter-spring rice accounting for 6,000 to 10,000 hectares. On all land under the cultivation of wet rice, in addition to water conservancy measures, intensive cultivation must be thoroughly practiced under the guidance of the agricultural sector in an effort to achieve an average rice yield of 30 quintals per hectare per season.

Broadening the scope of wet rice cultivation in conjunction with practicing intensive cultivation to achieve high crop yields are efforts that are still brand new to the ethnic minorities of the Central Highlands. Gia Lai-Kontum has attached importance to establishing models within each district and city; the practices of these model units will be widely introduced. Together with the intensive cultivation of wet rice, the province has attached importance to the intensive cultivation of both dry land rice and subsidiary food crops, considering this to be one of the measures that must be taken to prevent the destruction of the forests and the "exploitation" of the soil. At present, the province has more than 54,000 hectares of farmland. In the immediate future, the province must build area and plot embankments, plant windbreaks and gradually apply intensive cultivation measures on all of this land.

The process of advancing from the nomadic practice of "slashing, burning, poking a hole and planting a seed in it" to the adoption of a settled lifestyle, the cultivation of wet rice and the practicing of intensive cultivation is clearly a process of profound and thorough revolutionary change to the ethnic minorities. Although it involves many difficulties and complications, it is a process that Gia Lai-Kontum will surely carry out with success.

The most valuable asset in this regard is that the province has, over the past several years, established units that are models of land clearing, the construction of water conservancy projects, the construction of wet rice fields, the use of buffalo and cattle to provide draft power, the use of fertilizer and the intensive cultivation of wet rice. The practices of these model units are being widely introduced. Today, practically all districts and cities have models, have rather good advanced model units. In particular, in 1982, for the first time in the new land areas that have been cleared to establish rice fields, many cooperatives recorded yields in excess of 80 quintals per hectare and one district recorded a yield of more than 70 quintals per hectare, thereby becoming members of NHAN DAN Newspaper's "10 Ton Village and District Club" and creating new factors in the campaign to have the masses practice intensive cultivation and raise crop yields. The district was Sa Thay District, which averaged 74.7 quintals per hectare on all of its land under the cultivation of wet rice; the cooperatives were Sa Son, Sa Long, Hoa Binh and Sa Nhon, which recorded yields ranging from 92 to 96 quintals per hectare; five other cooperatives (Sa Nghia, Sa Binh, An Dung, Dien Binh and Dac Cam) recorded yields ranging from 81 to 89 quintals per hectare; in addition, many districts, cities, cooperatives and production collectives

recorded yields ranging from 50 to 65 quintals per hectare. Deserving of attention is that the list of units that are advanced models in the intensive cultivation of wet rice includes one unit that consists entirely of ethnic minorities; many units consist of both ethnic minorities and ethnic Vietnamese. Thus, not only are ethnic Vietnamese who have long experience in wet rice cultivation but only recently learned how to practice intensive cultivation, but even members of the ethnic minorities who have just begun the cultivation of wet rice are capable of practicing intensive cultivation well.

The results that have been achieved in the campaign to cultivate wet rice, although they are only initial results, have been highly persuasive to the members of the ethnic minorities in Gia Lai-Kontum and have, at the same time, opened a correct course for the province's agriculture to follow.

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HANOI NEZ EXPANDS WET RICE CULTIVATION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Sep 83 p 2

[Article: "The Hanoi New Economic Zone in Lam Dong Province Shifts the Cultivation of Rice from Hillsides to Paddies"]

[Text] In previous years, the cooperatives in the new economic zone of Hanoi in Lam Dong Province directly sowed their rice crops on hillsides and recorded low, unstable yields. The first crop yielded 5-6 quintals per hectare and subsequent crops yielded only 2 or 3 quintals, at some places only 30 or 40 kilograms per hectare. The main reasons for this were the very small amount of fertilizer that was applied and the loss of the entire layer of topsoil due to erosion caused by rainstorms in the forests.

There are many low hills in the Hanoi new economic zone. In between these hills are "depressions" that regularly contain water. The fertile soil there is suited to the growth of rice. The majority of the farmers in the new economic zone previously lived in the outskirts of Hanoi and have much experience in the transplanting of wet rice. Beginning in the 1981-1982 winter season, the cooperatives there reoriented their operations, made full use of the fallow land lying on the edge of hills, along streams, in valleys and so forth, cleared wilderness for the transplanting of wet rice and allocated the land in hills for the cultivation of subsidiary food crops and industrial crops. In only a short amount of time, the cooperatives had expanded the cultivation of wet rice from 84 to more than 160 hectares. At those places where wet rice has been transplanted, cooperative members have invested additional livestock manure and green manure, selected suitable new varieties of rice and transplanted their crops on schedule, as a result of which rice crops have grown well. The first crops yielded 2 to 3 tons per hectare and subsequent crops, as a result of practicing intensive cultivation better, have yielded more than 3 tons. The Dan Phuong 1, Dan Phuong 2, Hoai Duc and other cooperatives have recorded yields in excess of 4 tons per hectare.

These are the economic benefits derived from clearing land, shifting the cultivation of rice from hillsides to paddies, making full use of fallow land, replanning the use of arable land, building small and medium-scale water

conservancy projects, using reserve water to irrigate rice, using much livestock manure and green manure and improving the soil.

The amount of land that can be transplanted with wet rice in the Hanoi new economic zone is very large, especially in the Nam Ban area. If the clearing of land is well organized, the wet rice plant will become much more prevalent there are the transplanting of wet rice will become a realistic capability.

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POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

HA NAM NINH PROVINCE PLANS ADDITIONAL NEW ECONOMIC ZONES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Sep 83 p 1

[VNA News Release: "Ha Nam Ninh Province Sends Nearly 2,000 Laborers To Build New Economic Zones"]

[Text] As of August, Ha Nam Ninh Province had sent nearly 800 families, 2,000 laborers and 3,300 persons to build new economic zones. Of this number, 300 families, 700 laborers and 1,180 persons have gone to new economic zones within the province and the others have gone to Lam Dong, Gia Lai-Kontum, Minh Hai and several other provinces.

This year, the province has attached special importance to formulating the necessary economic-technical argumentation in six new economic zones within the province: Con Lu and Con Ngan in Xuan Thuy District, Thanh Bong in Thanh Liem District, Con Thoi in Kim Son District, Yen Son in Tam Diep District, Nghia Dien in Nghia Hung District and Thanh Binh in Hoang Long District. Importance has also been attached to conducting surveys in order to formulate the argumentation for a number of new areas in Hoa Lu and Gia Vien. The new economic zones within the province have excavated and spread nearly 200,000 cubic meters of dirt in the construction of such water conservancy projects as dams, dikes, canals and ditches, the construction of main roads and so forth. Tam Diep and Nghia Hung Districts have completed the construction of several drainage sluices and water control sluices within fields, thereby establishing complete new economic zones in order to quickly put them into production.

The Nghia Dien new economic zone in Nghia Hung District, the Con Thoi new economic zone in Kim Son District and the Mua Thu new economic zone in Tam Diep District have taken shape and are becoming stabilized. These new economic zones have begun to develop the potentials that lie in their arable land, begun producing rush products, tea, rice and so forth, thereby raising the income of farmers and providing more grain to the state. The new economic zones of Con Lu, Con Ngan, Con Thoi and so forth have planted thousands of hectares of high yield, high quality rushes. Practically all of the families that have gone to build new economic zones have begun producing products during their very first year there.

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