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9 September 1982

VIETNAM REPORT

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

ARMY PAPER URGES UNITY AMONG SOLDIERS, PEOPLE

BK251153 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 30 Jul 82 pp 1, 4

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 30 July editorial: "Achieve Single-Mindedness Between Soldiers and People"]

[Text] As children of the people, all cadres and combatants of our army have fought for the people who created them. From the beginning, no matter where they are stationed--on the border, in coastal and delta regions or in urban areas--our troops have always enjoyed the protection, love and assistance of the people. This relationship vividly manifests the tradition of unbroken solidarity between our people and army.

Preserving and promoting that tradition and trying to achieve single-mindedness between the soldiers and the people is the unending responsibility of the armed forces.

Every place inhabited by our people throughout the country holds an important position in the political, social, economic and national defense fields. Therefore, to help them make their localities strong in all aspects is an important task which reflects the single-mindedness between the soldiers and the people in carrying out all strategic tasks to build socialism and defend the socialist fatherland.

Many units stationed and operating in important strategic areas--such as the M-98 regiment, the B-4 brigade and the Cuu Long task force--have achieved a high degree of single-mindedness between the soldiers and the people. Despite the need to maintain a high level of combat readiness and the pressure of their tasks, many units can still help localities in motivating the masses to build combat positions, consolidating relations among agricultural cooperatives, building schools and child-care centers, providing medical treatment for the people and eliminating superstition. Actively implementing various state policies and laws, cadres and combatants of these units have reached the people of all strata in carrying out propaganda which motivates them to struggle against the enemy's reactionary psychological warfare activities. With their exemplary behavior in strictly observing military discipline and their hard-working spirit and devotion to the people, all of our army units have won the love and confidence of their compatriots, and solidarity between the soldiers and the people has been further strengthened. There are, however, some units which still pay inadequate attention

to making the localities where they are stationed strong in the political, military, economic and cultural fields, or which still do not consider this task to be one of their main responsibilities. In addition, by failing to carry out troop management satisfactorily, they have allowed certain soldiers to violate discipline in their relations with the people. Such units would not contribute to making localities firm and strong--an indispensable condition for our army to fulfill all tasks satisfactorily as well as to ensure combat readiness and engage in fighting.

Due to the present situation, all units of the army must pay attention to promoting and achieving single-mindedness between the soldiers and the people. This is especially true for those units stationed in localities which are of strategic importance in the economic and national defense fields, such as the northern border areas, and in densely populated municipalities and cities and major industrial and agricultural areas.

Every unit is duty-bound to educate its troops regularly on this task so that they can understand it thoroughly and know how to organize to carry it out properly. No matter where they are stationed, every cadre and soldier must act as a nucleus in motivating the revolutionary concept of the masses so as to make it possible for them to understand and have confidence in the party policies and lines and implement the state laws scrupulously. Meanwhile, together with localities, all units are duty-bound to consolidate unity in the political and spiritual fields between the soldiers and the people. They must also participate with the localities in carrying out economic and cultural development, maintaining security and order, and smashing all of the enemy's crafty sabotage schemes.

No matter where they are, soldiers must always strictly observe discipline in their relations with the people. In fighting as well as in construction, cadres and soldiers must devote themselves to caring for and protecting the lives and property of the people, respect the local customs, and implement the state laws and local regulations scrupulously. They must absolutely not do anything that could adversely affect the fine nature and revolutionary tradition of the army and the solidarity between the soldiers and the people. They must also offer honest criticism and be determined to correct their weaknesses and shortcomings.

By paying full attention to promoting and consolidating single-mindedness between the soldiers and the people, our army will not only manifest its revolutionary nature and tradition but will also carry out a task of special importance in order to improve its fighting strength.

CSO: 4209/461

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

LAO DELEGATION VISIT--Hanoi, 16 Aug (VNA)--A delegation of the Lao Social Relief and War Veterans Committee led by Mune Somvichit, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and president of the committee, arrived in Hanoi on 14 August. It was met by Song Hao, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and minister for disabled soldiers and social affairs, and other officials. [Text] [OW191105 Hanoi VNA in English 1452 GMT 16 Aug 82]

AID TO KAMPUCHEAN PROVINCE--Hanoi, 18 Aug (VNA)--Since the second half of 1981, the province of Kien Giang on the southwestern coast of Vietnam has helped Kampuchea's coastal province of Kampot restore and develop agricultural production. Under a cooperation agreement between the two sister provinces, Kien Giang has helped Kampot in personnel training, water conservancy, cultivation technique, veterinary medicine, etc. Kien Giang has also supplied Kampot with agricultural materials and equipment, and helped it design irrigation projects and build a sow farm and a fodder factory. Several groups of Vietnamese technicians have been sent to Kampot to help organize a drive of vaccination for domestic animals and build a pilot farm for short-term, high-yielding rice. [Text] [OW191105 Hanoi VNA in English 1509 GMT 18 Aug 82]

CONGOLESE GROUP ARRIVES--Hanoi, 20 Aug (VNA)--A Congolese delegation led by Ngoulou Lois Anselme, external affairs advisor to the minister of cooperation of the People's Republic of Congo, has arrived here for a visit. The delegation is to discuss the cooperation between the two countries in the exchange of experts. It paid a tribute at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and visited the late president's house and office. The delegation made contacts with officials from the services of public health, education, agriculture, building, science and technique and trade, and toured various localities. Today, the delegation was cordially received by Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Tran Quynh. Vice Chairman Tran Quynh expressed his hope that the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Congo would further consolidate and develop. [Text] [OW201810 Hanoi VNA in English 1531 GMT 20 Aug 82]

NEW NORWEGIAN ENVOY--Hanoi, 24 Aug (VNA)--Arne Arnesen, Norwegian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, today presented his credentials to Vice-President of the Council of State Nguyen Huu Tho. Vice-President Nguyen Huu Tho had a cordial talk with the Norwegian ambassador. Present on the

occasion were Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and Deputy Director of the Office of the National Assembly and of the Council of State Le Trang. [Text] [OW241626 Hanoi VNA in English 1510 GMT 24 Aug 82]

NEW MALAYSIAN ENVOY--Hanoi, 24 Aug (VNA)--Abdul Halim Bin Ali, Malaysian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, today presented his credentials to Vice-President of the Council of State Nguyen Huu Tho. The vice-president had a cordial conversation with the Malaysian ambassador. Present on the occasion were Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and Deputy Director of the Office of the National Assembly and the Council of State Le Trang. [Text] [OW241620 Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT 24 Aug 82]

BURMESE ENVOY VISITS THO--Hanoi, 25 Aug (VNA)--Kyaw Thant, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, today called on Chairman of the National Assembly Nguyen Huu Tho. Nguyen Huu Tho cordially conversed with the Burmese diplomat. [Text] [OW252118 Hanoi VNA in English 1548 GMT 25 Aug 82]

OFFICIALS MEET IRANIAN DELEGATION--Tehran, 21 Aug (IRNA)--The Iranian deputy foreign minister for political affairs, Sheikholeslam [name as received], met the vice president of the Council of State of the People's Democratic Republic of Vietnam, Nguyen Huu Tho in Hanoi Thursday and submitted to him a message from President Khamene'i. Iran's stand on the Iraqi imposed war, the Iranian terms for ending the war, the issue of the Nonaligned Movement, as well as mutual relations were discussed in this meeting. In reply, Nguyen Huu Tho requested Sheikholeslam to convey his greetings to Imam Khomeyni, and the Iranian officials as well as to the Iranian nation. Sheikholeslam is leading a delegation, and currently touring certain Asian countries, to clarify Iran's rightful stands about the change in the venue of the upcoming nonaligned summit meeting. The Iranian deputy also met with the Vietnamese foreign minister and reminded him that forming any nonaligned assembly, be it the summit conference or foreign ministers in Baghdad, would jeopardise the movement. The Vietnamese foreign minister (?expressed) his pleasure at receiving the first Iranian delegation after the revolution, (?and) welcomed the Iranian move for expanding the relations between Iran and Vietnam. [Text] [LD212330 Tehran IRNA in English 2006 GMT 21 Aug 82]

CSO: 4220/317

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

MEETINGS TO FULFILL VCP RESOLUTIONS--As of mid-August 1982, 35 party organizations of provinces and cities, and 24 party organizations of sectors and branches subordinate to the central authorities had held conferences of core cadres to discuss measures to implement the Fifth VCP Congress resolutions. Many localities and sectors have organized courses to improve the quality of lecturers, drafted documents and carried out pilot tasks at their establishments and organizations before expanding these tasks to all organs of the entire party. [Text] [BK200833 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 19 Aug 82]

CSO: 4220/320

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

PAPER ON REORGANIZING PRODUCTION UNITS

BK201446 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Jul 82 pp 1, 4

[VNA report on the Council of Ministers' Directive No 120 on reorganizing production and construction establishments]

[Text] After pointing out the requirements, importance, criteria and objectives of the reorganization of various production and construction establishments in the present situation, the directive says: It is imperative to concentrate efforts on fulfilling all major economic norms, with emphasis on agricultural production (grain, food and other key industrial crops). Efforts must be made to develop the production of consumer goods, especially staple goods which are necessary for the people's daily life and for export, as well as goods which can earn large incomes. It is also necessary to develop selectively the number of heavy and key industrial sectors such as the electricity, coal, chemical, engineering, and construction materials sectors.

Priority must be given to all major sectors and establishments for the development of the state-operated economy and the central level while attention must be paid to developing the local economy through the optimal use of arable land, manpower, materials and equipment in localities. It is necessary to establish business links among various sectors, establishments and economic components within the economic sphere while organizing specialization along with production cooperation and combination in order to achieve economic efficiency and overcome the phenomena of production being dispersed and overlapped or subjected to many incoherent intermediary links, thus leading to waste.

All sectors and echelons must, on a priority basis, supply various major establishments with sufficient energy and materials so as to enable them to develop production steadily. As for those establishments which still do not receive sufficient energy and other supplies from the state, they are allowed to procure additional raw and other materials on their own to maintain and develop production. They should, however, obtain these materials through appropriate business methods and implement correctly the state regulations concerning the collection, purchase and delivery of products, as well as register the products and their quality. They should not compete in buying and selling or use raw and other materials provided for main

production in lieu of secondary production. In case they fail to procure raw materials to carry out production in accordance with their original production schedules, the affected sectors are allowed to adjust their production schedules and product plans in a way that can bring about economic efficiency aimed at using their material and technical bases rationally and maintaining their existing labor forces. However, if they still fail to maintain production despite their many efforts, these sectors can temporarily close down any unit or establishment without work while maintaining its machines and equipment satisfactorily and transferring its manpower to other jobs.

In reorganizing its production, the industrial sector must give priority to ensuring all the conditions necessary for the stabilization of the production of such consumer goods as cloth and paper, and the processing of grain, food and medicine, as well as the manufacturing of bicycle spare parts and ordinary household utensils. The sector must, as its main task, concentrate efforts on stepping up electricity and coal outputs in order to overcome the situation of energy imbalance. It is necessary to reorganize production for all chemical sector establishments in order to manufacture products as substitutes for imported raw materials while attention must be paid to producing fertilizer and insecticides, increasing the automobile tire retreading capacity, reorganizing all paint manufacturing establishments, and changing the production orientations for a number of apatite grinding establishments. Efforts must be made to redetermine production orientations and product plans for the engineering sector so that they can satisfactorily meet the requirements of all other sectors and be in line with the limited production capacity and supply of materials. It is also necessary to use the equipment of all large cement plants to full capacity and rationally, change the production orientations of some small cement producing establishments, and reorganize all brick and tile and prefabricated concrete manufacturing establishments in conformity with the volume of coal supplied and the transport capacity.

In agriculture, we must reorganize the operation of tractor stations in conformity with the conditions in each place, revamp state farms, continue investment in those state farms which have engaged in production steadily and with economic efficiency. We must also carefully check the scientific and technological research system in order to provide materials, equipment, capital and cadres for practical projects that yield economic results.

In capital construction, we must reorganize capital construction projects in such a way as to conform to our capabilities concerning capital and building materials and to meet the demand for building larger-scale projects. We must overcome the situation of dispersed investment, of failing to concentrate capital on key projects and of prolonging the building of projects beyond time limits, thereby resulting in low construction output.

The various sections of the transportation sector must also be reorganized. Great efforts must be made to use our maritime and railway transportation capabilities fully. Meanwhile, mechanized transportation means must be used in coordination with rudimentary ones. The main task of the transportation sector is to reorganize its existing force, complement some of its

means and use them uniformly. The sector must strive to improve the management of its operation in order to increase its efficiency, quicken turn-around time, reduce transportation costs and shorten the time for the transfer of goods from one means of transportation to another. On the basis of reorganizing production and construction, all sectors and localities must arrange manpower rationally among sectors and occupations, especially in agriculture, forestry, fishery and small industry and handicrafts and in each production establishment, district, precinct, province and city. We must unhesitatingly streamline state organization with regard to personnel, make every apparatus light and efficient and reduce intermediary links and particularly the number of administrative personnel. Some of the nonagricultural population and excess personnel in the state sector must be transferred to the agricultural, forestry and small industry and handicraft sectors or service, tax collection and marketing cooperative sectors. Plans must be drafted to use rationally those cadres and workers who have already graduated or are going to graduate from schools but who are still unemployed. Plans must also be worked out to solve the question of unemployment among labor age youths. We must continue the policy of redistribution of manpower and population among regions and determine the scale and guidelines for training cadres and workers to meet the demands of the present economic situation and the demands for economic development in subsequent years.

CSO: 4209/461

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

TRAN DINH HOAN DISCUSSES LAND RECLAMATION ISSUE

BK241350 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 Jul 82 p 3

[Article by Tran Dinh Hoan, M.S., deputy head of the Labor Ministry Department for the Distribution of Labor and Population: "Some Ideas About Exploiting the Potentials in Land and Labor for Building New Economic Zones"]

[Text] Addressing a conference held in early 1982 to discuss the redistribution of labor and population for building new economic zones, Pham Van Dong, chairman of the Council of Ministers, said:

"In order to make extraordinary progress in redistributing labor for reclaiming wasteland and building new economic zones, we must not carry out this task in the same way as we have done over the past few years. We must concentrate on thinking and studying in order to determine appropriate policies and measures. Like other important revolutionary tasks, this task requires revolutionary and scientific methods of examination and handling."

Today the concept for the "reclamation of wasteland" has undergone certain changes in accordance with the changing times. As far as we know, the "reclamation of wasteland" is not confined merely to breaking virgin land in order to open more cultivatable areas, but more than that, it is closely linked with the exploitation of the potentials in land and labor for building new economic zones. With this concept, in reality the reclamation of wasteland for building new economic zones in our country consists of opening the land for the resettlement of compatriots and making full use of virgin land in various localities (provinces, districts and villages) for agricultural, forestry and fishery development. In agriculture, the reclamation of wasteland must be linked with the construction of economic zones.

The three most important factors for the construction of new economic zones are land, labor and capital.

According to 1978 statistics, our country had 6.9 million hectares of land already in use for agricultural production, 3.581 million hectares of land with agricultural potential and 117,000 hectares of ponds, lakes, sloughs and land excavation sites. Among the above 3.581 million hectares of land with agricultural potential, there were 70,000 hectares which could be used for the cultivation of rice, including 600,000 hectares with alkaline soil.

But almost all of the area where rice can be easily cultivated has been exploited. Much of the remaining exploitable land area--approximately 400,000 hectares--is located in the Mekong River delta. Except for a number of exploitable areas in Long An, Kien Giang and Minh Hai, almost all of the remaining areas have highly alkaline soil. Although these areas can be planted with rice, they require large capital investments. We can seek land exploitation in another direction, namely exploiting hilly lands and basalt-soil areas in eastern Nam Bo, in the central highlands and in a number of other provinces such as Binh Tri Thien (former Quang Tri), Nghe Tinh, Thanh Hoa and Ha Son Binh. In these provinces, various kinds of soil found on layers of igneous and neutral rocks and which are usually called basalt soil, occupy relatively large areas totaling nearly 2 million hectares. More than half of these areas have been exploited for the cultivation of industrial and grain crops. This kind of soil is concentrated in large areas, thus becoming very significant for agriculture. Usually found at an average altitude of 25-50 meters and on slopes of 5-20 degrees, this kind of soil forms many thick layers (up to more than 10 meters thick in certain areas), has a high water absorbability and is rich in micro-organisms--about 2.6-3.8 million per milligram of soil.

In reality, only 6 months after the arrival of the first resettlers, many localities in these areas have been able to obtain good crop harvests, with the yield for each crop reaching 2-3 tons per hectare. The central highlands alone now has approximately 1 million hectares of land on which we can develop large agricultural areas for such industrial crops as coffee and tea. We can also interplant grain crops in the fields of industrial crops or we can go ahead and plant only grain crops now. However, in general the cultivation of industrial crops requires large capital investments and much attention to solving the water problem for men and the crops. It should also be noted that we have not done much so far in basic soil surveys. Because the planning staff remains very small (capable of conducting soil surveys on only 10,000 hectares per year) and also because there is no appropriate capital investment, the current documents on soil studies are very few. Most of our new documents contain only an initial assessment of land potentials. Even the drawing of 1:10,000-scale maps of highlands and 1:10,000-scale maps with pedological data have not been finished. Experiences obtained from many countries in the world show that the failure to reclaim wasteland for expanding cultivable areas and building new economic zones is due mainly to a lack of careful soil surveys. In our country, the surveys of soil and water resources has not been adequate. That is why we have encountered numerous difficulties in performing our work. For instance, though previously regarded as suitable for raising dairy cows, Duc Trong, a district in Lam Dong Province where a new economic zone has been built by Hanoi, has been found by Hanoi experts, after 7 years of study, to be unsatisfactory for raising dairy cows for the following reasons: First, water is scarce in Duc Trong and, second, milk is now a very cheap farm product on the world market. Over the past 7 years, Hanoi has planted various kinds of grain crops in this area, mainly corn and potatoes. But experiments show that the soil in Duc Trong is most suitable for the cultivation of tea and coffee.

As of the end of 1980, our country had a population of 53.7 million, including a work force of 19.1 million engaging in various domains of activities of the national economy. In this workforce, there were 13.7 million youths between 16 and 30 years of age, constituting 55 percent of the total workforce. This does not include millions of technical cadres and workers and a significant number of soldiers who are now on economic construction missions. All these are an endless source of strength and the most precious assets needed to reorganize production and exploit the abundant natural resources of the country. These latent potentials have remained untouched. Among the people of working age, the number of unemployed has accounted for 11.55 percent of the total employed in 1976. This figure shot up to 23.8 percent in 1980.

During the 15-year period (from 1965 to 1980), our country's population increased from 34.9 million to 53.7 million. The average per-capita grain output during the 1976-80 period varied between 250 and 270 kilos. By the end of 1980, the country's nonagricultural population was 16.5 million, constituting 30.7 percent of the total population. This ratio is regarded as too high, considering the current rate of our economic development. If the natural population growth rate continues to increase as it is now (2.6 percent), our population will rise to nearly 100 million by the year 2000. This is one of the toughest problems which requires that the state, on the one hand, to work out a policy to reduce the natural population growth rate and, on the other hand, to come up with measures to expand the cultivable area and to carry out intensive cultivation in order to increase crop output and yield.

According to statistics provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, during the 5-year (1976-80) period, we sent 1.5 million persons (including 750,000 laborers) from various populous and land-scarce areas and cities to many new economic zones. This figure is 1.6 times the total number of people sent for land reclamation during the period 1960-75. People going to reclaim wasteland have usually been sent to remote and sparsely populated areas where all comforts of life--both physical and emotional--are nonexistent or inadequate during the initial stage, and where we must establish an appropriate structure for labor and population. Facts obtained from many new economic zones during the period 1976-80 allow us to reach the conclusion that if a person is sent to reclaim wasteland and build new economic zones, all the members of his family must be allowed to accompany him. We must send laborers in advance to areas where land has just been exploited and where facilities are not available, in order to prepare necessary facilities. Naturally, this task must be carefully calculated and organized in such a way as to shorten the time needed to prepare these facilities to quickly bring in resettlers. Reclaiming wasteland and sending the people to build new economic zones is a very comprehensive task. This is aimed not only at building new economic zones, but also at building new population units and new social organizations. Therefore, among those sent to reclaim wasteland, in addition to laborers skilled in agricultural production, there must be managerial cadres, teachers, health cadres and a number of workers who are skilled in other professions such as capital construction, mechanical engineering, and so forth.

Before determining production activities in new economic zones in motion, we must secure advance allocations of funds. Without this, the reclamation of wasteland for building new economic zones and the carrying out of production activities in these new economic zones will be impossible. We have found that the state plan for reclaiming wasteland and building new economic zones is imbalanced in many areas. That is why it cannot guarantee uniformity when applied, thus reducing the fruits of production. According to documents provided by the State Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance, during the 5-year (1976-80) period, capital invested in the reclamation of wasteland for building new economic zones only accounted for 33 percent of the planned budget. This very amount of capital was also reported to have been not fully used for reclaiming wasteland to build new economic zones (because localities misused it for other activities).

In the framework of this press article, we can only analyze the forms under which the three factors--land, manpower and capital--are combined and the role of the manpower factor in combination with the other factors.

When discussing the combination of the above three factors, one usually deals with the importance of these three factors, particularly with the roles of state farms, cooperatives and individual peasants. After many debates, economic experts from many socialist countries have finally reached the conclusion that in building socialist industry objectively two forms of ownership will exist--the ownership of all the people and the ownership of collectives.

In view of the specific conditions in our country, there are differing views as to how the reclamation of wasteland for building new economic zones and the establishment of state farms and cooperatives must be done. Some people hold that economic zones are suitable only for state farms and that the application of cooperative and individual cultivation forms there is inappropriate. They stress that only with the managerial system of state farms can investment be made on a large scale and in a uniform and perfect manner and can conditions be created to overcome multifaceted difficulties in the economic zones. Other people maintain that because of the difficulties with investment, it is essential to send laborers and other people to build new economic zones in the forms of cooperatives, production collectives and individual settlers. Our opinion is that in view of the actual situation in our country (concerning land, capital, manpower and so forth), we must apply the numerous forms of these three factors (as utilized in the state farms, cooperatives, production collectives and individual peasants). As far as the conditions of the land are concerned, eastern Nam Bo and the central highlands are suitable for the building of large areas of industrial crops such as rubber, coffee, tea and so forth, which are of great export value. But recently, because the cultivation of these crops was developed indiscriminately and not in conformity with technical regulations, many areas have had to be destroyed after they were planted. Moreover, according to the reports of the Rubber General Department and the Coffee Corporation, about 24,000 dong--calculated at the old market rate--must be invested in a hectare of rubber during the period of its growth; for coffee, it costs 20,000 dong. Thus, because our capital and technical knowledge are still

limited, we are not in a position to build new economic zones on a large scale and in the state-run form. These facts allow us to come to the conclusion that in building new economic zones, we must, beside applying the state-run form, set up cooperatives and production collectives.

In our opinion, in the next 2 or 3 years we must move more laborers and other people to consolidate those zones where wasteland has been reclaimed during the past few years. We must also send laborers to build new economic areas in districts and provinces either in the north or the south. As for the sending of people to faraway places (from the north to the south), it must be calculated carefully according to correct economic and technical plans and projects that surely bring about results.

After succeeding in determining the forms of coordination, we must organize coordination, which is a matter of greatest importance and of a decisive character. Let us take the following fact as an example: According to a report of the Rubber General Department, from 1975 to 1979 the rubber sector constantly experienced a shortage of manpower. The entire country had 69,000 hectares of rubber trees and 15,000 hectares of immature rubber trees. If they had been fully exploited and well taken care of, some 50,000 tons of latex could have been harvested and processed. Late in 1978, some 13,000 hectares of rubber trees were left unattended to and unharvested because of a lack of manpower. As a result, for 3 years (from 1977 to 1979) the rubber production dropped from 8.8 to 7.7 quintals per hectare. This shortage of manpower resulted from the fact that every year the rubber sector recruited about 10,000 workers on an average. Because of the policy of employing only unmarried workers, about 70 percent of them quit their jobs. Late in 1980, the Ministry of Labor and the Rubber General Department petitioned to the Council of Ministers to allow the rubber sector to recruit workers together with their families.

As a result of changes in the system of recruiting workers and the implementation of measures for contract and product-based wages, in 1981 the Rubber General Department employed as many as 50,000 people (nearly 24,000 of them workers). It is gratifying to note that these changes have made it possible for the workers' families to quickly settle and engage in production. And for the first time in 5 years, the rubber sector overcame the shortage of manpower.

The sending of workers and other people to build new economic zones usually takes place during the first and fourth quarters of the year. Therefore, the tasks of planning the sending of workers and preparing areas and capital are to be done during the fourth quarter of the previous year. Everything must proceed in a uniform manner.

In building a new economic zone, the first step is to combine the three factors into a definite form in a chosen area. Next comes the struggle to solve the problem of how to be able to start production in the new area successfully in order to encourage the new settlers to stay. The period when the crops are growing is the very stage of struggle full of difficulties and hardships. This requires not only the steadfast determination of the new settlers to overcome all difficulties and ordeals, but also the support

of the state. One of the weak points in the movement to build new economic zones is that there is only a general policy toward the settlers throughout the country. Actually, there must be different policies for the Mekong River delta region, the central highlands, the northern mountainous region, the border areas and the offshore island areas. In formulating these policies, it is necessary to determine clearly the new settlers' rights and obligations. Besides state policies and regulations on building new economic zones, there must be the initial assistance from the local cooperatives to the new settlers.

In our opinion, the state and local cooperatives should give loans in money or grain to cooperatives and production collectives in the new economic zones under preferential terms, such as low interest rates and reimbursement in money or products that can be produced by the new economic zones, in order to encourage production and prevent a shortage of grain in case of crop failure. In particular, the state should adopt policies which encourage the development of family-sided economy in the new economic zones.

Today, we are making every effort to implement the resolutions of the fifth party congress successfully and with new vigor. We believe that with the care and leadership of the party and state over the reclamation of wasteland for building new economic zones, and with the experiences drawn from the success and failure of this task over the past years, the exploitation of potentials in land and labor for building new economic zones will be carried out with ever greater results, thereby helping to solve immediate difficulties and improve the national economy in the years to come.

CSO: 4209/461

AGRICULTURE

VIETNAM'S AGRICULTURAL SITUATION BECOMES DISTURBING

Paris LE MONDE in French 2 Jul 82 p 6

[Article by Patrice de Beer: "Agricultural Situation Remains Worrisome"]

[Text] On 1 June last, the Vietnamese government adopted a major resolution designed to solve the food crisis through a nationwide mobilization. That document provides for an increase in production and in the mandatory deliveries to the state (20 percent of the total amount) in order to eliminate the need for grain imports. Not only for cooperatives, but also for groups and families that enjoy the "contract" system and farm land which is apportioned to them individually, it emphasizes the need to make full payment for taxes and services under penalty of requisition.

During a conference sponsored in Amsterdam in June by the Washington Transnational Institute, many participants studied Vietnam's agricultural problems. Mr Nguyen Huu Dong, of Paris-X, cited the results of a conference held in Hanoi in 1981, expressing the belief that there might be a serious danger that farm workers operating on a "contract" basis would lose interest in working collectively within the cooperative after the first year, for the sake of giving their own land their exclusive attention.

Although initial results of that system were promising, still, it should not make it possible to eliminate grain importations within the next few years. Besides, the system is "temporary," as the publisher of the VIETNAM COURRIER explained. While that system is important at this time because of its ties to a manual and individual method of production, according to Mr Hoang Nguyen, it will in turn be replaced by collectivization, once agriculture has been mechanized, within the framework of that "heavy-yield Socialist agriculture" advocated by the VCP's secretary general and party warhorse for the 80's, Mr Le Duan.

Will such a prospect encourage the farmers who were given land for individual farming for a few years? This is all the more open to question since, according to a release from British university professor Alec Gordon, a sizable portion of the cooperatives have in fact been controlled since the 1960's by middle-income or even wealthy farmers, who took advantage of the vacuum caused when Communist cadres were sent South during the war. The result, reportedly, is

that, here and now, more than one-third of the northern farmlands, while they have officially been collectivized for the past 25 years, have passed into the hands of private individuals.

If liberalization bore its first fruit in 1981, the figures provided by Mr Gordon are disturbing. By cross-checking to remedy the lack of statistics, he established that the per capita grain production was still lower, by a wide margin, than that of the 60's in the North, and even lower than the tolerable minimum, which is 280 kilos a year, according to North Vietnamese economist Le Chau. From 330 Kg in the 60's, production dropped to 278 in 1976 and to 272 in 1981. The plan had projected 388 kg for 1980. Upon revision, it now projects 325 kg for 1985. From 1976 to 1981, the paddy production hardly showed any increase in absolute value (12.57 million tons, as opposed to 12.07). On the other hand it dropped from 247 to 226 kilos per person per year (243 in 1955 and 241 in 1963, a crisis year). Showing an increase was the sector of substitute crops, shifting from 1.52 million tons of paddy-equivalent to 2.53, but that figure is equal to the 1960 figure for the North alone.

More serious still: in the North, not only is there a decrease in the area being farmed (2.25 million hectares, as opposed to 2.4 in 1960), but also in yield (21.75 quintals per hectare in 1981, as opposed to 24 in 1974 for the main crop), Mr Gordon adds. In the South, only the increase in yield since 1975 made it possible to compensate for the decrease in the farmed acreage (2.48 million hectares in 1976, 2.49 in 1980 and 2.25 in 1981--which leads us to believe that Vietnam's agricultural crisis is not temporary, but--quite the contrary--structural and long-lasting. The very high birthrate--highest in Asia and equal to Pakistan's, or 28 percent--goes far beyond the food production rate. In addition, it will take more than political decisions to plow through bureaucratic red tape, whether inherent in the regime or inherited from Confucianism. Thus, agricultural activities are regulated through some imperative rules and indices.

Nostalgia For Past

This explains the harsh criticisms expressed by Mr Le Duan during the VCP's Fifth Congress held in March, and also explains his wistful comments in 1979 regarding the Vietnamese farming tradition¹: "On the same plot of land, [where] once upon a time the farmer worked alone or assisted by one other person, the cooperative now has 10 to 15 persons working, but the results are hardly better (...) Staying up late, getting up early, braving the sun or the early morning frost, such were the virtues of yesteryear's farmer. Today (...), this type of conscientious work is no longer to be found." Such a statement explains the reason for returning to a "contract" system, although it was condemned in 1969. What, in the northern farmlands, could be the political consequences of this admission of the failure of collectivism--it is too soon to tell.

The situation in the South is different but just as complex: there, private enterprise is encouraged, while the "Socialist transformation", which is supposed to be completed in 1985, together with the plan, is being carried on.

1. See articles by Mr Nguyen Duc Nhuan, researcher for the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) in the June MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE and in POLITIQUE AUJOURD'HUI (issues 1-2, 1982).

The development of cooperatives is lagging in the Mekong Delta, where the majority of farmers are well off, which does not fit in with the North's ideological scheme of things.² In exchange for increased deliveries to the State--and these are now bringing a higher price--the farmers are asking for agricultural equipment, fertilizers and fuel, as well as consumer goods.

During the Fifth Congress, in order to remedy all those problems, Prime Minister Pham Van Dong had reaffirmed the need to go forward in implementing the "contracts" and in increasing the food crop production. He had also stressed the urgent need to accelerate the "redeployment" of the population from the overcrowded northern regions to those with sparse population and underdeveloped resources (the highlands and the Mekong Delta). A figure of one million persons per year was cited. In 1980, Hanoi's expert demographer, Mr Che Viet Tan had written in TAP CHI CONG SAN, the VCP's monthly: "Within a firm strategic position where Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia are interdependent, we need to combine the system of strategic and economic regions, and to organize and distribute the labor and populations in order to build bases for grain production, for industrial zones, and for support structures (...)" This, more clearly stated, meant shifting the Vietnamese demographic overflow to its under-populated neighbors. In his report, Mr Dong strictly referred to redeployment within the borders of Vietnam.

2. In 1967, only 16.8 percent of agricultural workers were without land, while 92.2 percent of the rest owned more than 0.5 hectare, according to Australian university professor Melanie Beresford.

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AGRICULTURE

DEPUTY MINISTER ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

OW240657 Hanoi VNA in English 1604 GMT 23 Aug 82

[Text] Hanoi, 23 Aug (VNA)--Vietnam's agriculture has constantly developed and recorded substantial achievements despite numerous difficulties caused by the three successive wars waged by French colonialism, U.S. imperialism and Chinese expansionism, and by natural calamities, said Deputy Minister of Agriculture Duong Hong Dat in an exclusive article for V.N.A. on the occasion of the 37th anniversary of Vietnam's August revolution (19 August) and National Day (2 September). He wrote:

Before the August revolution in 1945, yearly food production in Vietnam averaged more than five million tonnes of grains. In 1981 the country harvested over 15 million tonnes, and animal husbandry also produced a yearly output double that in the pre-war period.

The acreage under beans has expanded considerably. Particularly in recent years, the acreage under soybean, groundnut and green bean increased by four to six times.

New plantations of industrial [word indistinct] have taken shape. The acreage under rubber trees which dropped drastically during the war years has been restored and expanded. The coffee area has been broadened on the central highlands and in the northern part of central Vietnam. Tea production has developed in the northern mountainous provinces and in the central highlands.

The growing of fruit trees such as bananas, pineapples, and oranges has been pushed up, and large areas have been for these and other fruit trees.
[Sentence as received]

These achievements have completely changed the face of the Vietnamese countryside. Muddy roads and flooded fields which characterized the Red River delta have given the place to clean brick-paved or gravel roads passable to cars and small lorries. Every hamlet has its own primary school. A great number of villages have secondary schools, infirmaries and kindergartens. Many of them including those in mountainous villages have been supplied with electricity, public address systems, kerb wells, bathrooms and composting latrines.

On the agricultural policy in the new stage, Deputy Minister Duong Hong Dat said:

The development of Vietnam's agriculture is based on the two main factors: its natural resources, and abundant labour forces. Developing from a small-scale and scattered economy of a heavy autarchical character Vietnam's agriculture has to find its own road for development in the conditions of a nascent industry, particularly engineering, chemical and energy industries which will require a long time to meet the needs of agriculture.

That is why, the rich natural resources, and the great manpower potential can be fully made use of when objective laws are grasped, and science and technology are turned into a direct productive force to boost agricultural production chiefly through the labour of man and the organisation of manpower. The application of science and techniques in the form of equipment mechanisation and intensive supply of fertilizer and equipment, can be considered only as an important but not primary factor.

In order to develop agriculture in the above-mentioned direction we should make the best of the achievements in biology along with making effective use of the achievements in industry and economic science. To make the most of the achievements of the biological science means to fully understand and to develop the economic-efficiency of the laws of the agro-ecology chiefly of the plants and animals in Vietnam. We have so far accumulated a wealth of experiences in the use of biological methods such as in the preparation of organic fertilizer, the growing of azolla pinnata, the crossing and selection of seeds, etc.

Vietnam's agriculture must be developed in direction of intensive cultivation, specialized cultivation and multi-branch rural economy.

Intensive cultivation is to rely on the gains of science and technology and the application of well-tested experiences.

Specialized cultivation is intended to achieve close combination between agriculture and industry in order step by step to form groups of qualified experts in each sector of agriculture.

The multi-branch economy should be [carried out in depth] i.e. to make various uses of the same plant or animal including ready [word indistinct] for-use products, half-processed products, and industrially processed products. The multi-branch economy can also be undertaken in a larger sense through the growing of different kinds of plants on the same land, including the main plants and subsidiary plants, with a view to making the most of the land resources, and increasing economic efficiency and work productivity.

Extensive cultivation is carried out along with the increasing of crops and the expansion of cultivated land. The tropical climate enables the planting of many crops on the same area in a year. New crops have been added owing to the achievements obtained in the selection of more suitable species of plants and the more rational use of the heat, sunlight and water

in each season: The spring rice crop (lasting from December to May of the next year), the winter crops (from September to December) including soya, bean, potato, garlic, melon, and vegetables. Inter-cropping and catch cropping must also be practised where possible.

To boost production must go along with preserving and enriching of the soil and improvement of the environment. In this sense, nationwide programs have been adopted with a view to combining agriculture and forestry, exploiting and transforming sloping land, and re-greening the bare hills.

Farm production is carried out in three sectors: State, collective and family, which operate in a harmonious way on a national scale, supplementing each other and making it possible to rationally distribute farm land, technical means, and materials, and process the farm produce.

The agricultural cooperatives in the northern and central provinces, and the production collectives in the southern provinces form a system of collective production.

The agricultural cooperatives in the northern and central provinces, and the production collectives in the southern provinces form a system of collective production.

The agricultural cooperatives, each encompassing 200-300 hectares of arable land together with production collectives, which are smaller in scale, produce the bulk of food and foodstuffs for society.

The family economy plays an important role in the economic life. It helps meet part of the food problem and involves farmers in other productive work for the benefit of the national economy. It consists chiefly of gardening, and the raising of fish, pigs and poultry. The gardens are grown mainly with vegetables, fruit trees, medicinal herbs and ornamental flowers and plants.

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AGRICULTURE

ARMY PAPER REPORTS ON GRAIN COLLECTION IN NORTH

BK250422 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 Jul 82

[VNA report]

[Text] This year, having obtained a bumper winter-spring crop, the northern provinces and cities have satisfactorily fulfilled their grain collection task. The collection target for this crop in the northern localities was the highest ever and represented a 10-percent increase over the 1981 winter-spring crop. As of 20 July, these provinces and cities had fulfilled 98.1 percent of the general collection target for the 5th month-spring crop, or 101.8 percent of the fixed grain obligation target.

The midland, delta and former Zone 4 provinces and Quang Ninh Province have fulfilled their fixed grain obligation target. Specifically, Nghe Tinh, Ha Nam Ninh, Thanh Hoa, Quang Ninh, Ha Son Binh, Ha Bac and Hai Hung Provinces and Haiphong City have fulfilled their general grain collection target for the 5th month-spring crop.

This year, though starting the harvesting 15 days later than they did in the previous year, the northern provinces have delivered grain to the state granary at a faster rate. To date, they have delivered 122,600 tons more than they did during the same period last year. All in all, they have turned over to the state 520,000 tons of grain in only 38 days.

For its part, Nghe Tinh Province had fulfilled its fixed grain obligation target by 22 June and its general grain collection target by 26 June, the first among the northern provinces and cities to do so. Elsewhere, Ha Son Binh, Ha Nam Ninh, Hai Hung, Thanh Hoa, Quang Ninh, Hai Phong and Ha Bac have also made many efforts to fulfill their general grain collection target early.

Thai Binh has obtained a fairly good crop with the highest rice yields among the northern provinces and cities; however, it has been slow in collecting grain. As of 12 July the province had only managed to fulfill its fixed grain obligation target and as of 20 July it had fulfilled only 91.5 percent of its general grain collection target. For their part, the mountain provinces have begun the harvesting late. For this reason, to date they have only fulfilled 39.5 percent of their general target and 51.8 percent of their fixed target. With the exception of Quang Ninh, which has fulfilled

both its general and fixed grain collection targets, all the provinces have fulfilled only a low percentage of their target. Specifically, Cao Bang has fulfilled only 8 percent of its general target and 10 percent of its fixed target; Son La, 17.7 percent of its general target and 26.6 percent of its fixed target; and Ha Tuyen, 24 percent of its general target and 30 percent of its fixed target.

For this year's 5th month-spring crop, the central authorities have planned to purchase 80,000 tons of paddy more than they did in the 1981 5th month-spring crop. This amount was to be purchased in excess of the obligatory grain sales by the people to the state. At the beginning of the crop season the grain sector had collected cash, materials and goods and had them shipped to various localities early in preparation for the purchase and exchange of grain. As of 20 July the northern provinces and cities had procured 118,114 tons of paddy in excess of obligatory sales. Of this amount, 17,984 were bought at agreed-upon prices, 54,929 tons were obtained through barter for nitrate fertilizer, 1,964 tons through barter for clothing material, 1,926 tons through barter for bicycle tires, and 38,211 tons through barter for other commodities.

Thanh Hoa has collected 27,716 tons of paddy in excess of obligatory sales through purchases and exchanges, setting the pace for all other northern provinces. For its part, Ha Nam Ninh has purchased 17,000 tons of paddy in excess of obligatory sales.

The provinces and cities, however, have been slow in preparing for the reception of supplies and goods for bartering purposes. Moreover, some goods items have not satisfied the peasants' taste and needs.

Some provinces, due to their confusion over management regulations, have been slow in carrying out collection and bartering activities. The lack of a uniform rate of exchange among various provinces in a region has caused differences in commodity prices, thereby creating difficulties for the provinces in grain procurement.

In the coming days, the northern provinces and cities are determined to develop the successes already achieved and to overcome all difficulties so as to successfully fulfill their grain collection task in the 5th month-spring crop.

Having fulfilled their general grain collection target, Ha Nam Ninh, Thanh Hoa, Haiphong, Nghe Tinh and Hai Hung have procured through barter more than 50,000 tons of paddy in excess of obligatory sales.

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AGRICULTURE

PAPER REPORTS ON LAND REALLOCATION IN SOUTH

BK191239 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 Jul 82 pp 1, 4

[VNA report]

[Text] Late in 1981 the party Central Committee's Agriculture Department, the General Statistics Department and various sectors investigated the landholdings of rural people of all walks of life in 80 hamlets belonging to 40 districts of 13 former Nam Bo Provinces. The places selected for the investigation are typical of eastern Nam Bo and western Nam Bo. These places are in areas growing one or two rice crops a year, food crop and short term industrial crop areas and fruit tree and perennial industrial crop areas; and have different average per capita landholdings. The investigation revealed that the situation concerning landholdings and distribution varied greatly: While 68.25 percent of the families had on the average per capita landholdings of 2,000 to 3,600 square meters, as many as 29.32 percent had only 275 to 658 square meters. Disparities in landholdings were found between provinces and economic zones as well as within a province, a district and even a village.

To date the number of landless peasants has dropped drastically. Of the families of both peasants and other people engaged in other lines of work in the countryside, those which are landless account for 9.5 percent; and for peasant families alone, only 5.71 percent have no land for production. However, generally speaking, some landless peasant families can still be found at the sites investigated. At present the families that either have no land or have insufficient land of their own to work still account for 24.5 percent of the total. Meanwhile, the situation in which some families own too much land and use it for exploitative purposes has yet to be completely put to an end.... This situation presents an obstacle to the use of labor for developing production and to the introduction of peasants to collective work....

Since early in 1982 almost all the provinces in Nam Bo, especially the Mekong Delta provinces, have adopted many specific measures aimed at continuing to step up the reallocation of land among the peasants. Many provinces have set up a land reallocation committee whose members are selected chiefly from provincial and district agricultural committees and peasants' associations; and they have devised creative measures suitable with the local

conditions to ensure the requirements for voluntariness and solidarity among the peasants. Virtually all the provinces have closely linked reallocation of land and distribution of land to the peasants with the redistribution of the labor force among various areas and with the building of production collectives. Long An Province has organized landless and land-deficient peasants from its southern part into 40 production collectives and moved them to the vast and sparsely populated northern districts where they can be allocated land to work and settle on permanently. Making use of the experience gained by Long An, Song Be Province has also recently achieved fairly good results in the reallocation of land and the building of production collectives. Both Long An and Song Be Provinces have used local funds to finance the reallocation of land and the building of new economic zones. Minh Hai and An Giang Provinces have gained a lot of useful experience in reallocating some of the land belonging to peasants with a high average landholding and who are unable to practice intensive cultivation to those needing lands....

Between 1975 and 1981 the Nam Bo provinces reallocated more than 212,000 hectares of land to hundreds of thousands of landless and land-deficient peasant families. In the first 6 months of 1982 alone, the various provinces reallocated more than 30,000 hectares of land to peasants lacking land for production. In many provinces, the land area reallocated to peasants since the beginning of this year is equal to one-third of the area readjusted between liberation day and the end of 1981. Hau Giang Province, in a 5-year period between 1976 and 1981, readjusted more than 34,000 hectares; and in the first 6 months of this year, reallocated more than 15,000 hectares to peasants. In the first 6 months of this year Long An Province completed the reallocation of lands to peasants in 11 out of the 30 villages that had launched a successful campaign for this purpose, distributing a total of 2,500 hectares of ricefields to 1,200 families and setting up 44 new production collectives. To date 54 out of 82 villages belonging to eight districts and cities in Tay Ninh Province have investigated and readjusted landholdings while setting up new production collectives; and the collectives have been entrusted with allocating more than 3,500 hectares of ricefields to over 3,000 landless or land-deficient peasant families.

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AGRICULTURE

'NHAN DAN' DISCUSSES AGRICULTURAL LAND MANAGEMENT

BK231219 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 21 Jul 82 p 2

[Article by Ton Gia Huyen, acting director of the Ministry of Agriculture General Department for Land Management: "Use and Manage Agricultural Land"]

[Text] With an asset of 33 million hectares, Vietnam ranks 58th in the world in terms of land. However, due to its large population of 52 million, which places it among the 15 most populous nations, our country has a very low average rate of land distribution--only 0.6 hectare per capita. This puts it in the 159th place in the current total of more than 200 countries.

Our country is in a tropical region which receives large amounts of rainfall and has a hot climate. Our land is, therefore, subject to strong mineralization, wash and erosion. Its original fertility is easily degraded and affected by the elements and can be restored only with difficulty. Therefore, the use and management of land must be closely coordinated with the control of nature, with social reforms, and with environmental protection.

Only about 21 percent of our land assets have been devoted to agricultural production, 35 percent to forestry, and 4 percent to other special purposes. Thus, more than one-third of our land has not yet been fully exploited to promote the national economy.

The rice area now accounts for approximately two-thirds of the nearly 7 million hectares of land devoted to agricultural production, while the subsidiary food crop area accounts for one-fifth; the perennial plant area, one-twelfth; and the pastures, one-twenty-fifth (the area of planted grass represents only 3.5 percent of this acreage). About one-sixtieth of these 7 million hectares is water-surface area devoted to agricultural purposes.

Many rice-planting areas have achieved a yield of 10 tons per hectare; the national average, however, is only about 22 quintals per hectare. On the other hand, while some areas have managed to grow three or four crops a year, most still plant only two crops annually. Nationwide, only one-third of the arable land is put to use. In some years, this percentage has been reduced to 1.17, and in some areas, to 0.9. The percentage of single-crop fields is still high, accounting for about 50 percent of the rice area. Each year, vast areas are still allowed to lie fallow. These facts show that there still is great potential for increasing the number of crops on our agricultural land.

We can still increase our arable land by more than 3 million hectares, thus bringing the total of the entire country's agricultural land to more than 10 million hectares, or 30 percent of the natural land. Over the years, we have achieved results in opening new land to increase the arable area. However, in carrying out this task, many localities have wantonly destroyed forests, causing a serious shortfall in our forestry resources and adversely affecting the environment. This has resulted in many areas being allowed to lie fallow again. This shortcoming was due to the failure of these localities to attach importance to forest and land preservation; to conduct surveys and devise concrete plans when organizing the opening of new land; to define clear guidelines for the use of land; to fulfill their manpower, supply and technical plans; and to satisfactorily implement the regulations on opening new land and rural construction.

Our forested land is vast, accounting for about 60 percent of our national territory. However, in reality, the forests which still meet the standards of canopy, density and productivity represent only 29 percent of this land. About 10 million hectares are newly planted forests, bushland, grassland, barren hills, and so forth; about 500,000 hectares of this area are eroded, gravelly and stony land in the central highlands, former Zone 4, the southern Trung Bo coastal region.... At present, the forested area is gradually decreasing, while the area of virgin land and barren hills is increasing rapidly.

This situation imposes weighty tasks on us in the management and use of land. To carry out these tasks satisfactorily, we deem it necessary to draw the attention of the organs concerned on the following seven specific tasks:

1. Basic Land Survey

On the basis of acquiring a firm knowledge of both the quantity and quality of our country's land resource, we must administer land management according to a rational plan. Adequately investing in land surveys creates conditions for utilizing our land resource most effectively.

Land surveys have been carried out since the late 50's. National land maps of 1/1,000,000 and 1/500,000 scales have been drawn. Many provinces have drafted 1/100,000-scale land maps; districts have drawn 1/25,000-scale maps; and many villages and cooperatives have been equipped with 1/10,000-scale and 1/5,000-scale maps. Numerous production installations have begun to draft 1/4,000-, 1/2,000- and 1/1,000-scale maps for each plot of land. The information collected has been abundant but still not enough to meet the new demands in economic building and development. Statistics about the area of various kinds of land in use and the state's reserve land have not yet been uniformly established in all sectors and levels. This has reduced the legal effects of various long-term and short-term economic development plans and has limited the scientific quality and effectiveness of various land development projects.

In October 1980 the government issued a directive on land survey, classification and registration throughout the country. This was aimed at contributing to the efforts to overcome these shortcomings.

Surveys are necessary for the drafting of land maps and for acquiring a firm knowledge of the area of each kind of arable land, each administrative unit and each production unit. These data are the kind of information we need first in order to utilize and manage land satisfactorily.

Classification is meant to help planners and users accurately assess the quality of land in order to devise effective measures to fully exploit the potential of this resource.

Land registration is intended to serve as a legal basis for the right to use land and for the implementation of various land-management measures and systems.

Implementing the directive on land survey, classification and registration throughout the country is to take another step forward in carrying out basic land surveys and to create proper conditions for acquiring a knowledge of both the present quantity and quality of land and for promoting land management work.

2. Combine Agriculture and Forestry With Animal Husbandry in Land Utilization Plans

A balanced combination of agricultural production with forestry production in the same area has been considered as the most rational way to exploit our tropical land and climatic conditions.

In the past, under the conditions of small-scale production, this method was reflected in the planting of bamboo thickets around delta villages, or in the scattered small forests grown at the entrance of mountain and midland villages.... With the implementation of the new production guidelines, additional conditions have now been created for the formula of combining agriculture and forestry with animal husbandry to be applied effectively.

Many forest belts have been built as barriers against the wind and sand. Hilltop and watershed forests have been spared when virgin lands were opened to grow industrial crops. Many pastures have been improved and new ones have been developed with proper tree canopies so as to promote animal husbandry. In the plains, roadsides and canal banks have been fully exploited to grow trees as a source of timber and firewood, a way to control climatic conditions, and a means to increase the income of cooperative members. In the mountain and midland regions, a new kind of "orchard forest" suitable for the local soil and manpower conditions has been developed to satisfactorily exploit and protect land resources. This formula, however, has not yet been widely applied, partly because of a lack of foresight on the part of the planners, and partly because of the absence of a system of appropriate policies aimed at encouraging land users to actively apply this formula.

3. Intensive Cultivation and Multicropping, the Most Important Measures

Preparing the soil on schedule, satisfactorily preserving the moisture of the soil, practicing crop rotation and companion cropping, using fertilizers, paying attention to the planting of leguminous plants, and improving the soil and crop varieties--these are effective land-saving measures; however, they have not yet been widely implemented. This fact shows that there is still considerable potential for applying intensive cultivation on our land, especially agricultural land.

Among the various measures necessary for intensive cultivation and multicropping, water conservancy is the most effective and economical. The area which can be effectively irrigated and drained still accounts for only a very small part--about 10 percent--of the land cultivated annually.

There are also very great potentials for multicropping on rice-growing land. Theoretically, the coefficient of land use should have been 1.50; but, in reality, it was only 1.22, meaning that no less than 1.6 million hectares were allowed to lie fallow. The land-use coefficient in the Mekong River delta, eastern Nam Bo and the central highlands is lower. It is possible to increase this coefficient to 1.50 or around 2 if water conservancy work is stepped up and an adequate system of incentive policies is instituted.

4. Combine the Opening of New Land and the Expansion of the Cultivated Area With the Nationwide Redistribution of the Work Force

While the average national population density is 157 people per square kilometer, there are provinces where this density has soared to 1,082 (Thai Binh Province) or dropped to 17-25 people per square kilometer (Lai Chau and Gia Lai-Cong Tum Provinces).

While the current average nationwide allocation of agricultural land is 1,318 square meters per capita, in Thai Binh Province it is only 707 and in Minh Hai it is no less than 3,083 square meters per capita.

The Red River delta, while accounting for only 5 percent of the national land area, houses up to more than 22 percent of the population. Meanwhile, the three central highlands provinces represent 16 percent of the country's area but are home to less than 3 percent of its population.

To overcome this imbalance, we must implement the decisive measure of increasing the area of agricultural and forestry production. Since 3.5 million hectares of potential agricultural land and 6.5 million hectares of potential forestry land are concentrated mostly in sparsely populated areas, it is important to increase the population of new economic zones so as to fully exploit all the potentials of these lands.

5. Protect, Exploit and Develop the Forested Land Asset

There is now very little forested area left. The average forested land allocation is only 0.18 hectare per capita, that is, 7-26 times less than

the rate in many other countries. The percentage of land covered by forest canopies is 29 percent, or only half the rate in other countries. This is a consequence of war, nomadic farming, forest fires and wanton land reclamation and grazing. On the other hand, the area of forestry land (already afforested or suitable for afforestation) accounts for almost 58 percent of the national territory. However, due to our inadequate investment of manpower and technical means in the forestry sector, we lack the minimum conditions for stopping the constant decrease in forestry land. If we effectively pursue the aim of and measures for greening barren hills, fully exploiting our land for afforestation purposes, applying intensive cultivation, strictly managing forestry land, and so forth, our forest assets will not only make a positive contribution to economic development but also play a highly significant role in promoting scientific study and environmental protection.

6. Protect and Fully Exploit Fertile Areas While Adopting Effective Plans for Utilizing and Improving Arid Land

Nearly two-thirds of the country's rice-growing land are concentrated in the Red River and Mekong River deltas. Also concentrated in these two regions are areas of fertile fluvial soil, a large percentage of which benefits from concentrated irrigation facilities. Expanding the rice area in the regions and strictly protecting two-crop and three-crop fields and effectively irrigated land are the best and most economical way to quickly increase rice production.

Arid land now accounts for about 20 percent of the national territory. As this land is mostly concentrated in various new economic zones, how to utilize and improve it is a highly significant task. Utmost attention should be paid to areas of alkali and saline soils, leached soil, swampy soil, podzolized soil, and so forth.

7. Strengthen Land Legislation and Land Management Organization

The laws promulgated over the past 20 years or more have played a practical role in laying the foundations for a system of land regulations. However, these laws, which were often designed to resolve immediate problems, still lacked a universal and systematic character. Resolution No 201-CP issued by the Council of Ministers on 1 July 1980 on strengthening and unifying land management nationwide has helped overcome some of these shortcomings.

In view of the new requirements of state management and economic building, improving the land laws has become an urgent task not only for the state management organs at all levels but also for the people, who are tilling the land.

In implementing various land laws, aside from using propaganda to enable all people to fully understand and abide by them, we should also strengthen the apparatus and activities of the land-management sector. In this matter, building a system of village land management cadres as stipulated in Decree No 404-CP issued on 9 November 1979 is a task of great significance. This is because these cadres are the ones who, before anyone else, directly follow the situation and settle all problems arising from the process of land utilization and management.

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

MINH HAI 10TH-MONTH RICE--As of 10 August, peasants in Minh Hai Province had planted 10th-month rice on nearly 117,000 hectares. This figure represents some 60 percent of the slated area and shows a two-fold increase compared to the same period last year. [BK201151 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 16 Aug 82]

HO CHI MINH CITY STATE FARMS--Since early this year 14 state farms in Duyen Hai District of Ho Chi Minh City have received 6,200 more resettlers. These state farms have also opened up 1,600 hectares of virgin land, dug or embanked 78,000 cubic meters of dirt for water conservancy purposes, built 4.2 km of roads, and planted 32 hectares of coconut trees. [BK201151 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 16 Aug 82]

STATISTICS FOR 10TH-MONTH RICE--According to the General Statistics Department, as of 15 August the country had planted 2,381,000 hectares of 10th-month rice, achieving 70.4 percent of the plan norm. This is 126,000 hectares less than in the same period last year. In the north, due to prolonged warm weather, many localities are faced with water shortages. Thanks to the efforts by various sectors, echelons and the peasants who utilized all available facilities to supply water to the ricefields, the provinces in the north as of 15 August have planted more than 1,277,500 hectares, achieving 96.1 percent of the plan norm for 10th-month rice. With the present comparatively favorable weather conditions, the northern provinces should be able to fulfill their planned 10th-month rice area. Provinces which have overfulfilled their plan norms are Lai Chau, Hoang Lien Son, Quang Ninh, Hai Hung, Ha Nam Ninh and Thanh Hao. These provinces are concentrating on caring for their ricefields with special attention given to the eradication of harmful insects. Southern provinces and cities as of 15 August had planted 1,840,000 hectares of 10th-month rice, achieving 52.7 percent of the plan norm. Provinces from Thuan Hai southward planted 884,000 hectares and provinces in the Mekong River delta planted 765,000 hectares, achieving 49.4 and 51.4 percent of their plan norms, respectively. [Text] [BK210950 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 20 Aug 82]

CSO: 4220/320

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

MEASURES ADOPTED TO STEP-UP CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION

BK241650 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 Jul 82

[VNA report]

[Text] A conference was held by the Council of Ministers 20-22 July to review capital construction work during the first half of this year and to discuss measures to successfully implement the 1982 capital construction plan. The conference was attended by the comrade leaders of various ministries and sectors at the central level and of the people's committees of various provinces, municipalities, and so forth.

Comrade Do Muoi, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, presided over the conference.

After assessing the successes achieved during the first 6 months of 1982, the conference pointed out a number of shortcomings, including the slowness and the lack of coordination in the construction of some projects designed to serve the communications and transportation, agricultural products processing and export sectors, and of certain spare parts production and machine repair projects of the mining and coal sector. This has prevented some completed projects from operating efficiently. This state of affairs stemmed from the fact that the money invested in capital construction has been spread thinly and the targets of the key projects have remained too ambitious. The number of construction projects costing more than the standard allocated funds has reached 599 this year, 79 more than last year. Due to limited supplies and the lack of proper emphasis on project development, over the past 6 months, on the average each of these projects has been able to fulfill only one-fifth of their construction plan.

To ensure that the 1982 capital construction investment plan will be satisfactorily implemented, the conference discussed and agreed on the adoption of a number of measures to step up the rate of capital construction during the second half of this year.

These measures include the following:

--In planning and guiding the implementation of plans, all levels should continue to concentrate every mean necessary on achieving the key projects and targets of the state. They should increase capital investments for a

number of key projects which have made satisfactory progress during the first 6 months of the year despite insufficient capital.

--Postpone a number of projects which, though provided for in the construction plan early this year, are now deemed to be infeasible due to the lack of preparations in design development and in organization of construction work, and due to a shortage of some special materials. This should be done in order to concentrate more means on the key projects.

--Reduce the size of a number of regular projects, especially those which cannot be completed in 1982, so as to save capital for the key projects. If we deem it impossible to proceed with a key project within the limits of the capital allocated early this year, we can also reduce the size of such a project to avoid stagnation and an artificial shortage of capital.

--Continue to reexamine and reorganize construction investment work and encourage the implementation of the formula "the state and the people work together," especially in the construction of projects designed to directly support the people's lives.

--Utilize more effectively the extra capital allocated to some sectors for major maintenance projects which still lie unused in the banks. This is aimed at reducing the amount of capital concentrated in the state.

--Closely combine house repair and improvement with the building of new homes and infrastructure projects in the cities and concentrated industrial zones, especially in Hanoi capital.

--Do our utmost to care for the living conditions of construction cadres and workers so as to reduce their difficulties.

CSO: 4209/461

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

BRIEFS

BRANCH RAILWAY COMPLETED--Hanoi, 11 Aug (VNA)--An 8.5-km railway connecting Cua Lo Port with the trans-Vietnam railway has been completed. Cua Lo is a major port of northern Vietnam under construction in Nghe Tinh Province, more than 300 kms south of Hanoi. The first freight train arrived at Cua Lo on 30 July. For the moment, this railway will primarily be used for the transportation of materials for the building of Cua Lo so that ships may enter the port ahead of schedule. [Text] [OW191105 Hanoi VNA in English 1456 GMT 11 Aug 82]

CSO: 4220/317

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

DIRECTIVE ISSUED ON USE OF GRADUATES

BK251016 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 31 Jul 82 p 1

[VNA report]

[Text] The Council of Ministers recently issued a directive on the distribution and use of graduates of colleges and advanced and vocational middle schools in the immediate future in order to fully use and develop the abilities of trained cadres and technical workers in overcoming the imbalance between cadre training programs and economic and social development projects.

The directive said: The State Planning Commission, the Central Council for Training and Distributing of Scientific and Technical Cadres, the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education, the Vocational Training General Department and ministries and schools concerned are responsible for distributing graduates to various sectors and occupations which need their trained skills. Distribution should be carried out according to the following concrete line: Outstanding students who graduate from colleges, advanced and vocational middle schools will be distributed--on a priority basis and in accordance with their abilities and educational background--to various schools and research institutions. A number of these students will be selected to further their studies in various fields which have not been available thus far due to a lack of facilities.

Students who have graduated from colleges in foreign countries and are not immediately needed for distribution and use in Vietnam will be allowed to stay and further their studies abroad. The Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will negotiate with fraternal countries to determine the number of these students. College graduates and vocational training teachers who have acquired a good knowledge of foreign languages and whose qualifications meet the prescribed standards may be assigned to tasks concerning labor cooperation with foreign countries.

The majority of graduates must be distributed to production and business establishments--both state and collective. As from this year, the State Planning Commission will coordinate annually with the Government Organizing Committee, the Central Council for Training and Distributing of Scientific and Technical Cadres, the ministries of labor, finance, higher and vocational education and the Vocational Training General Department in formulating

plans for distribution of graduates and in establishing annual staff recruitment target for sectors and localities.

The Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education, the Vocational Training General Department, the State Planning Commission and organizations concerned must also adjust the present curriculum of colleges and vocational schools in order to improve the quality of students to meet the requirements of future distribution and use.

Negative phenomena in tasks concerning the distribution of graduates and in the implementation of the decision on distribution of jobs will be scrupulously and promptly eliminated in order to uphold state discipline.

The directive also provided the following basic and long term guidelines for various sectors, organizations and localities: Combine planning with training of cadres and selection of students with distribution of cadres for localities and regions; study and contribute ideas to improving rules and regulations in order to encourage and assist outstanding and excellent graduates and those with assignments to outlying areas; strive to improve the training network of colleges, advanced and vocational middle schools to meet the requirements of the national economic and social development program thereby solving the problem of training cadres not in the category for distribution and use.

CSO: 4209/461

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

'NHAN DAN' REPORTS DECREE ON SCIENCE PROGRAMS

BK190726 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 30 Jul 82 p 4

[Text] To ensure the successful implementation of key state scientific and technological progress programs, the Council of Ministers recently promulgated a decree formulating a management system for these programs.

The decree comprises five chapters: General principles; establishment and planning of programs; financial investment and incentive system; responsibilities of scientific and technological organs and cadres toward programs; and implementation clauses.

The decree said: The key state scientific and technological progress programs are a uniform system of scientific and technological tasks (including survey, research, planning, experimentation, trial production, application of advances to production, improvement of organization and rationalization of production) and of measures of implementation (such as organization, investment and capital construction). These tasks and measures are aimed at helping to attain one or more important objectives of the national economy on the basis of applying scientific and technological achievements to production. Therefore, scientific and technological progress programs must be included in the 5-year and yearly plans under a uniform state management system. In view of its chosen objectives, each program must consist of two duties: Applying scientific and technological achievements, and conducting surveys and research. While doing survey and research work and applying scientific and technological achievements to production on a definite scale, it is necessary to fully mobilize the potentials concerning cadres and the material and technical bases of various sectors and localities in order to ensure the attainment of set objectives. Sectors and echelons must see to it that the status of cadres, money and materials is made available on a priority basis so that scientific and technological progress programs, which are included in state plans, will be implemented successfully. Programs must be managed in combination with the application of regulations in force concerning planning work, the signing of contracts and the implementation of moral and material incentive systems. Each program must be placed under the responsibility of a board of managers headed by a program director whose appointment shall be decided by the chairman of the Council of Ministers. A plan must be formulated to organize and regulate the implementation of each program. It must be approved prior

to the inclusion of the program in state plans. Control and evaluation of the implementation of programs must be instituted after their completion and particularly after the conclusion of each important stage of a program.

The decree added: By virtue of this decree, the State Science and Technology Commission, the State Planning Commission, the ministries of finance and supply and other related sectors--within the scope of their functions--are responsible for promulgating specific documents providing guidance for the implementation, followup and control of the implementation of this decree by all echelons and sectors.

CSO: 4209/461

END