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INDONESIA

MUSLIM MILITANT SENTENCED TO LIFE FOR SUBVERSION

BK081635 Jakarta Antara in English 1626 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] Malang, Indonesia, May 8 (AFP)--A Moslem militant charged with trying to recruit revolutionary cadre and help carry out bombing attacks in Central Java last year was sentenced to life imprisonment on subversion charges here Thursday.

The accused, Mohammad Akhwan, 37, who was facing the death sentence, was accused by the state prosecutor of trying to discredit and overthrow the legal government through meetings with various "extremist" groups between 1981 and 1985.

The prosecutor also said Mr Akhwan had attended meetings with a group surrounding Mr Mohammad Sanusi, 65, a former industries minister now on trial in Jakarta on charges of trying to assassinate President Suharto.

Specific charges against him were that he had been the go-between in the purchase of explosives used in a series of bombings in Central Java last year, and that he had recruited 93 cadres dedicated to establishing a Moslem state through violence in Indonesia.

The bombings damaged nine stupas on the Buddhist temple of Borobudur, damaged a church and a Christian seminary in 1984 and killed seven people in a bus explosion early last year.

Three co-defendants being tried separately on related charges were all handed sentences of eight years imprisonment.

Indonesia's population is more than 80 percent Moslem, but by law advocating the setting up of an Islamic state is considered an act of treason.

Mr Akhwan last week accused the court of trying to apply "justice as interpreted by the rulers" and said the government rigidly controlled Islamic activities.

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LAOS

THAI VOTE AGAINST U.S. BOMBING OF LIBYA VIEWED

BK071548 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0530 GMT 4 May 86

["Talk": "Genuine Intentions of Peace-Loving Thai People"]

[Text] Respected listeners, according to news reports, the bombing of Tripoli by U.S. planes on 15 April has concerned people throughout the world. This U.S. action has also been opposed by the people of both neighboring and friendly countries, in particular Thailand, which voted against it in the UN Security Council, agreeing with the Nonaligned Movement, which had passed a resolution denouncing the U.S. act as a violation of international law and a danger to international security. Actually, Thailand was put under pressure before the voting. But, the pressure could not stop Thailand from voting against that U.S. action. THE WASHINGTON POST commented that it is clear that the White House did not expect Thailand to oppose Washington's operation against Libya. The paper noted that following that opposition by Thailand, it is necessary to explain to the American people why a U.S. ally behaved in such a way. In fact, the United States has not tried to give the American people any explanation in this regard. It has only continued to carry out slanderous propaganda against Libya and has threatened to carry out further aggression against this country.

Western observers think that Thailand's vote against the United States in connection with this issue does not mean that Thailand is well disposed toward the Libyan people and that the vote might be in retaliation against the United States for the Jenkins bill and Farm Act aimed at limiting the volume of Thai goods and fixing new tax rates on Thai rice imported into the United States, as a result of which Thai-U.S. relations have deteriorated as never before. Regarding this, Western economic specialists believed that Thai rice producers have lost as much as one-fourth of their rice market while losing as much as \$1 billion in profits. In addition, many Thai textile factories have closed while the number of unemployed in Thailand has increased. Regarding this, Thai Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila said that it has also stirred up doubt in Thailand about the sincerity of its so-called great friend.

Thai leaders have, on many occasions, expressed their dissatisfaction over the U.S. Farm Act. This could be seen through the diplomatic message sent

to the U.S. Government and through recent U.S.-Thai meetings at various levels. This is why Thailand made such a decision at the UN Security Council about the piratic U.S. act overseas. Thai paper MATICHON also denounced Reagan's aggressive act against Libya as the act of a mad dog while another Thai paper, NAEON, criticized Reagan's brutal act as that of a hooligan, a cowboy-style adventure, and so forth.

All these have run counter to the aspiration of the United States, which is making every effort to cement further its relations with Thailand. Recently, the United States has supplied Thailand with weapons worth \$100 million per year. The Thai Army has received and put into service the latest models of weapons from the United States. The United States and Thailand have also often held combined military exercises, such as the annual "Cobra Gold" exercise. The U.S. Pentagon is also planning to reactivate its military bases in Thailand. During the recent visit to Thailand by U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, the two sides have agreed to set up a U.S. war reserve stockpile on Thai territory. It is natural that the Thai people cannot stay idle in light of an increase in the already dangerous situation resulting from the Washington-Bangkok military cooperation.

The United States has regarded Thailand as its battlefield in the resistance against the three Indochinese countries. However, the world's and the Thai people know well from history that during the Indochina war, the U.S. planes that bombed various towns of Vietnam and other Indochinese countries took off from U.S. airfields in Takhli and U-Taphao, Thailand. But, it is apparent that the U.S. war of aggression in this region could not help solve problems and that it has led to even more difficulties, which have resulted in consequences remaining until today. Many Thai papers also commented that it is not appropriate to let history be repeated. The Thai representative's vote in the UN Security Council in opposition to U.S. aggression against Libya, together with the bomb explosion at the Erawan Hotel to welcome Weinberger and another recent bomb explosion at the U.S. diplomat's residence in Songkhla Province, Thailand, can reflect the genuine intentions of the Thai people who do not want war or the U.S. war reserve stockpile but want to sell as many agricultural products as possible to solve the economic problem now facing the Thai farmers, who are the majority of the Thai citizens.

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CSO: 4206/96

LAOS

PASASON COMMENTARY RAPS 7-NATION TOKYO SUMMIT

BK070355 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 6 May 86

[PASASON 6 May commentary: "There Is No Change in the True Nature of Capitalism--Making Profit"]

[Text] As everyone knows, the seven major capitalist countries are convening the 12th summit conference in Tokyo, capital of Japan. The seven countries are the United States, Great Britain, France, West Germany, Canada, Japan, and Italy. These countries have held several such meetings in recent years, and the first priority they always discuss is economic cooperation among Western countries. At this conference, one of the important topics on the agenda is, naturally, economic cooperation. Observers note that economic issues are one of the permanent objectives for these nations. It is expected that the United States will step up pressure on its allies to try to reduce their trade advantages over the United States itself, thereby resulting in considerable losses to Washington's allies. At the same time, it will impose its will on these nations to import more goods from the United States to some \$15 billion. Economic experts believe that the Tokyo summit will produce no substantive outcome with regard to economic coordination.

In recent years, the summit conferences of the big seven capitalist countries have more increasingly encompassed the political and military spheres. For example, it has been reported that the United States plans to apply pressure to its allies by cajoling them to join it in the struggle against the so-called terrorism in Washington's style, aimed at dragging them to participate in its neoglobalist scheme. The Reagan Administration clearly displayed the true nature of this scheme by launching aggression against Libya. That incident was undeniable proof that Washington is trying to press the other capitalist countries to support the White House policy of using force against developing countries.

Observers also believe that the United States will use the Tokyo forum to compel its allies to support its policy of stepping up the nuclear arms race and the militarization of space. Britain and West Germany have already made official announcements on their participation in the U.S. Star Wars program and President Reagan has been trying to persuade many other countries to participate in this extremely dangerous scheme.

Another significant point is that it has long been known that relations between these countries and the developing countries are never based on the principle of equality. The capitalist countries are pursuing a policy of protectionism against goods from developing countries. While the prices of goods produced in the developing countries are gradually declining, those of goods imported from the capitalist countries are rising markedly. In the meantime, the financial institutions in the Western countries and Japan have ridiculously increased the interest rates on credits for their raw materials, resulting in the drain of some \$20 billion of capital each year from the countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America despite the fact the developing countries are greatly in need of such large amounts of money for carrying out social and economic development programs to do away with poverty, hunger, backwardness, illness, and illiteracy. The foreign debts shouldered by the developing countries with a total population of some 500 million who barely have anything to eat have gradually increased. Thus, it is not surprising that the developing countries have tried in vain to call on the world community to adopt a new international economic order based on the principle of justice. This aim can be fulfilled only when the preparations of materials for waging a new world war have come to a stop.

At the Tokyo summit, the leaders of the seven capitalist nations have tried to create an impression among the world's people that they stand ready to render assistance to the developing countries while, in fact, their basic policy has never changed a bit, that is, they still continue to promote and preserve the status quo so as to allow the capitalist monopoly companies to make more profits in exploiting the people in the developing countries. At the Tokyo summit, Washington has also tried to press its allies to support its political strategy in dealing with and controlling the developing countries in all fields, including in political and economic spheres.

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LAOS

KHAMPHAI BOUPHA INTERVIEWED ON NONALIGNED MEETING

BK291119 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] You are invited to hear the interview with Khamphai Boupha, acting foreign affairs minister of the LPDR, granted to a PASASON correspondent on 26 April after his participation in the conference of the foreign ministers of the nonaligned countries and his meeting with a Libyan leader after the U.S. aggression against Libya on 15 April.

Asked what was the outcome of the conference of the foreign ministers of the nonaligned countries in New Delhi, he said [read by announcer:] The Lao delegation, which I led, attended the ministerial conference of the nonaligned coordinating office in New Delhi. The primary objective of the conference was to make preparations for the summit of the movement in Harare, Zimbabwe. The meeting was divided into two levels. On 14 and 15 April, the ambassadors or high-ranking officials held a session to prepare for convening the second stage of the meeting--the ministerial conference.

On the first day, 14 April, the ambassadorial-level meeting was conducted in a cordial atmosphere. On 15 April, the morning session was abruptly adjourned due to the serious incident in Libya. The Indian external affairs minister, in the capacity of representative of the chairman of the movement, found it necessary to convene an urgent plenary ministerial meeting at noon on 15 April after receiving reports of the barbarous U.S. attacks on Tripoli and Benghazi. The atmosphere at the meeting was extremely tense. Delegates from nearly 100 countries were very indignant at the U.S. Administration for committing such an aggression. At the meeting, the Lao delegation expressed its sympathy to Libya for the aggression and solemnly condemned the United States. We expressed full support to Libya and demanded that the United States cease its acts of state terrorism in the same manner as a large number of delegations from many countries, such as the DPRK, Uganda, Malta, Yugoslavia, Iran, Afghanistan, Ghana, Vietnam, Ethiopia, Benin, Indonesia, and (Mandiu). In a statement, the meeting unanimously agreed to send a message from Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, in the capacity of chairman of the movement, to the United Nations and the UN Security Council, condemning the United States and demanding that it cease such acts of aggression and pay full compensation to Libya.

All in all, the Nonaligned Movement fully supports Libya and condemns the United States. Only a handful of countries chose to abstain from voting.

Our correspondent asked him about his opinion about the U.S. crime against the Libyan people. He said: The U.S. act against Libya was not only aimed at destroying Libya. The imperialists and reactionaries in general, and the United States in particular, always want to destroy the peace movement and the nonaligned countries. They do not want this movement to consolidate unity. Libya is also in this movement. This U.S. act of aggression against Libya took place only 1 day before the opening of the nonaligned ministerial conference in New Delhi on 16 April. Such an act was construed as a challenge to and an undermining of the movement in accordance with the intentions of the perpetrators of state terrorism. That was why they chose to stage this act on 15 April. It is well known that the fundamental objectives and principles of the Nonaligned Movement are to fight against imperialism, neocolonialism, colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, expansionism, and zionism; for peace and security; against the arms race--especially the nuclear arms race both on the ground and in outer space--and against the Star Wars concept. The implementation of these policies by the movement as well as the consolidation of solidarity and cohesion within the movement run counter to the warmongering policy of the imperialists and their henchmen. Nevertheless, they have failed in their bid to undermine the movement. On the contrary, their warmongering nature has been more explicitly exposed and they have been more isolated. The meeting solemnly condemned the United States. Some of the U.S. allies also joined in the condemnation. Moreover, in addition to its allies in the movement, some of its allies in the UN Security Council did not approve of its acts, for example, Thailand, Denmark, and Australia. Generally speaking, people everywhere accused the United States of committing state terrorism.

In connection with the U.S. aggression against Libya, the meeting accepted a proposal of the Cuban delegation to send a delegation comprising the foreign ministers of six countries led by the Indian external affairs minister to Libya to present the statement of the ministerial conference of the Libyan leadership, expressing full support of the movement to the Libyan people, and subsequently to submit the statement to the president of the UN Security Council in New York and the UN secretary general, requesting their support for the just struggle of the Libyan people.

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LAOS

PASASON EDITORIAL MARKS MAY DAY ANNIVERSARY

BK060600 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 1 May 86

[1 May PASASON editorial: "Let Lao Working Class and Laboring People of Various Tribes March Forward"]

[Text] Today--1 May--marks the centenary of the international labor day. In a brilliant joyous atmosphere, our Lao working class and laboring people of various tribes are proud and jubilant to celebrate the occasion--the festival day of international solidarity of the working class and laboring people in the struggle against imperialism for peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism.

A century ago, on 1 May 1886, more than 180,000 workers in Chicago, the United States, rose up and fought to demand the 8-hour work day and wage increases. The struggle movement had good effects as a result of which the workers' struggle expanded throughout the world. The trade union conference of various nations in Paris, France, on 18 July 1889 agreed to fix 1 May as international labor day. Since then, 1 May has been regarded as the grand festival day for the working class and laboring people throughout the world.

For the Lao working class and laboring people of various tribes, their celebration of international labor day this year is very significant. The celebration of the occasion is being held in an atmosphere in which the Lao working class and laboring people of various tribes are translating into reality the ninth resolution of the third party Central Committee in the first year of the implementation of the second 5-year state plan, and in which they are enthusiastically striving to compete in scoring achievements to welcome the forthcoming fourth party congress. In the past year, despite tension in the international situation as a result of the warlike policy of Reagan and the collusion among the U.S. imperialists, the Beijing big-nation expansionists and hegemonists, and the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles in opposing the revolutions of the three Indochinese peoples, in particular their opposition to the revival of the Cambodian people, thanks to the correct and clear-sighted leadership and guidance of the party, the Lao working class and laboring people of various tribes have closely united and strengthened their special solidarity with the working classes and laboring peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia in systematically smashing all dangerous schemes of the enemies, and have successfully scored great, all-round, and

firm achievements in implementing the two strategic tasks of national defense and socialist construction. We have securely defended our country and no reactionary can obstruct the advance of our young republic.

In the industrial production field, production increased by 55 percent in 1985 as compared with 1984. Timber exploitation increased by 60 percent while trade increased by 20 percent and material supply increased by 11 percent in 1985 compared with 1984. In agriculture, in 1985 a total of 1.5 million metric tons of foodstuffs were produced throughout the country, including 1.35 million metric tons of rice. A total of 1.55 million buffaloes or oxen, 1.42 million pigs, and 7.83 million poultry were also raised. Successful achievements have been also scored in educational, public health, and construction work as well as in the production of other crops.

With these achievements, the Lao working class and laboring people of various tribes are very proud and elated to celebrate the 1 May international labor day today. As the ones who have maintained the decisive roles and taken the initiative in carrying out the tasks of transforming and building socialism in our country, the Lao working class and laboring people of various tribes have always maintained high vigilance and been prepared to crush all schemes and acts of sabotage and subversion of the enemies. They have struggle to enhance internal and international solidarity, in particular the special solidarity with the working class and laboring peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia, promoting and expanding all potential abilities, carrying out socialist emulation campaigns in fulfilling production tasks and practicing thrift, developing agriculture, endeavoring to achieve the target of producing 1.6 million metric tons of foodstuffs, including 1.5 million metric tons of rice, and other targets in accordance with the 1986 plan. Simultaneously, we have positively educated and trained the contingent of our workers to be aware of the roles, responsibility, ideals, and revolutionary traditions of the working class, to maintain a profound sense of the collective mastery, and to maintain the revolutionary qualifications and virtues of the working class.

On this joyous occasion of the celebration of the great festival day of the working class, 1 May, let our Lao working class and laboring people of various tribes be determined to march forward to score new, ever greater achievements in the implementation of the two strategic tasks of defending the country and building socialism, in particular in translating into reality the ninth resolution of the third party Central Committee and the plan for 1986--the first year of the implementation of the second 5-year state plan--as well as in the implementation of the resolutions of the first national trade union congress. Let our Lao working class and laboring people of various tribes march forward and endeavor to promote and expand the 1 May tradition and the spirit of collective mastery, maintain initiatives, regulations and discipline, and high skills and efficiency, and strive to compete in gloriously fulfilling the targets for 1986 to score achievements to welcome the Fourth LPRP Congress. Long live the 1 May spirit!

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CSO: 4206/96

LAOS

COMMENTARY SCORES U.S. FOR KOREA EXERCISE

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 21 Feb 86 p 4

[Text] The American imperialists deploy a military force of 40,000 men in South Korea every year under the pretext of preserving peace on the Korean peninsula and in disregard of the opposition of the People's Republic of Korea and peace loving peoples around the world. This is in line with their bellicose policy of operating in different parts of the world. American and Korean soldiers have engaged in major military exercises; the present one is called "Team Spirit '86," and started on 10 February this year.

For what purpose is Washington conducting this military exercise with the most modern combat means for more than 200,000 American and Korean soldiers? Its purpose is to create regional tensions and to aid plans for improving and spreading its aggressive forces in this region, in addition to threatening and challenging the People's Democratic Republic of Korea and its democratic movement for Korea. It has distributed its forces in every corner of the world. Actual developments confirm clearly that in addition to improving and deploying forces in every locale, Washington has ordered these aggressor troops to carry out military exercises continuously in order to increase its murderous operations, to prepare to engage in aggression and to threaten the patriotism of the peoples of all nations in every region. At present, in addition to military exercises on the Korean peninsula, the 6th Fleet of the United States is conducting military exercises in the Mediterranean to threaten and prepare for an invasion of Libya. The United States is holding joint military exercises with Honduras to threaten and challenge Nicaragua. And it also is planning to hold joint military exercises with Thailand very soon near the People's Republic of Kampuchea. Clearly the United States always carries out a policy of creating tensions and threatening world peace and the well being of the peoples of all nations.

The "Team Spirit '86" military exercise is a direct challenge to the People's Democratic Republic of Korea and also is an insult to the requests and needs of the people of Korea and the peoples of all nations in this region and the world's peoples who support peaceful struggles for national unity.

The Lao people and the peoples of all peace- and justice-loving nations support every just action of the people of Korea and remind the imperialists and their South Korean henchmen to stop all bellicose actions against the strong wishes of the people of Korea and to end their threatening actions towards the peace and stability of this region and the world.

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LAOS

EDITORIAL FAULTS CONTINUING DESTRUCTION OF FORESTS

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 21 Feb 86 pp 1, 3

[Text] Rice farming is a traditional and primary occupation of hill tribe peoples in the mountainous areas in the north and along Lao-Vietnamese mountain chains. Because of inadequate land for growing rice, these hill tribe peoples practice unorganized slash and burn farming, which causes a lot of forest fires, damage and tremendous destruction to our forest resources every year. This destruction of our forests has had a great impact on our environment, such as droughts, floods and other natural disasters.

The party and the state have a detailed definite policy about the preservation of our forests for our next generation because of the obvious danger from such destruction of our forests and to eliminate the cause of natural disasters that threaten our country and our people. These policies are appropriate and reasonable for the hill tribe peoples who farm highland areas. Specifically, the party and the state have urged them to eliminate gradually slash and burn farming and turn gradually to farming by rotation, farming by tilling the soil and terrace farming. For areas without these conditions, these hill tribe peoples are being encouraged to go down and farm in the plains or else they are encouraged to change their occupations to whatever they wish and are capable of doing. The party and state have given necessary assistance to farmers. Essentially, the party and state have taken every approach to eliminate the destruction of our forests, step by step. Along with that, there are serious methods to preserve the forest through tree cultivation campaigns and planned forestry.

With the implementation of that policy over the past 10 years, we can see that our peoples are supporting us quite well. That is shown by the decrease in the forested area that is being destroyed every year and the amount of abandoned highland rice fields; farming by tilling the soil and farming by rotation have become more popular among farmers. In some locales, farmers are gradually turning to growing industrial trees, trees for export and other plantation crops that generate higher revenues than rice. Along with that, certain areas have started improving the control and the preservation of forests. But at the same time, certain areas are not practicing our party policies about this issue that well; people farm without thinking about the advantages and disadvantages. In particular, disorderly slash and burn farming is still practiced and forest fires still occur. These show that our farmers cannot see the dangers of the destruction of the forest; they still consider slash and burn farming normal. More so, farmers still are not aware of preserving and nurturing forests, which are precious resources and a strength of our national economy.

LAOS

POLICE DESCRIBE REGISTRATION, IDENTIFICATION, CENSUS WORK

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 26 Feb 86 pp 1, 4

[Text] The Police Command Headquarters of Vientiane Municipality gave its official annual summary report about census registration in the seven districts around Vientiane Municipality on the morning of 25 February at its clubhouse. Fifty police personnel from the seven districts attended.

Dr Siho Bannavong, vice chairman of Vientiane Municipality Administration, Major Bouaphone Phommasane, deputy chief of the PSS of Vientiane Municipality, the chairman of each district administration, the chief of district police, and the military from the seven districts, along with a large number of guests, were invited to this ceremony.

On this occasion, Major Khamphan Keoduangdy, chief of the Census Bureau Police and the Vientiane Municipality Population Control Division, read the report about census registration in the seven districts around Vientiane Municipality. He stated that the census around Vientiane Municipality. He stated that the census around Vientiane Municipality showed a population of 409 villages with 59,098 households and 4,824 units, with 7,285 chiefs and deputy chiefs of units. There are 7,658 foreigners, of which 2,985 are females, representing 12 nationalities. As of midnight on 1 March 1985, the total population for all Vientiane Municipality was 377,409, of which 184,273 were female. A total of 8,492 identifications have been issued to Vientiane Municipality Administration personnel, of which 3,215 are for women; 7,897 identifications have been completed, of which 2,895 are for women; 54,225 identifications have been issued to the general public, of which 31,329 are for females; and 31,329 identifications have been completed, of which 15,741 are for females. The annual summary report ceremony ended successfully.

12597/9312
CSO: 4206/86

LAOS

VIENTIANE PARTY OFFICIAL DISCUSSES EXPANSION, BAD ELEMENTS

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 26 Feb 86 pp 2, 4

[Some opinions of Comrade Charn Nong Inthavong, permanent member of the Vientiane Municipality Administration Party Committee, concerning its role in the reform and development tasks for Vientiane Capital during the last 10 years]

[Excerpt] Since the proclamation of the LPDR, Vientiane Municipality has become the center of politics, economics, culture and society for the entire country. It has been the front line of the socialist task in our country.

From our special perspective over the past decade of reform and socialist development and of struggle between socialism and capitalism, we see which one would win. The American Imperialist and Beijing reactionary enemies have been conspiring with rightist reactionaries in Thai power circles to try to destroy the Lao revolution with all kinds of schemes to stop the growth and expansion of socialist development in Vientiane Capital.

The Vientiane Municipality Administration Party Committee has seized victory in many areas, namely in Vientiane Capital, through all periods of the implementation of the First 5-Year Plan. Prior to the liberation, it was a nonproductive city, the people were poor and starving, and entirely dependent on foreign countries. Now Vientiane has become a capital that produces and is self-reliant in many areas. The standards of living of the peoples of all ethnic groups have been improved, especially in the supply of foods like rice. The financial condition of Vientiane Municipality, which has been closely controlled by the Central Party, has been higher than expected. Agricultural cooperatives and cooperative stores have improved and expanded, step by step.

Industries, handicrafts, goods distribution, communications, transportation and the post office and the development of the grassroots have been improved and expanded. Education, public health, and culture have been reformed and improved into new and deeper versions. The party has been able to eliminate illiteracy. The traces of the old decadent culture and society left behind by neocolonialism have been destroyed, step by step. The education network and public health have expanded into the basic production areas and guarantee the good health of the working class.

National defense and security have constantly grown and strengthened. We have been able to destroy all enemy schemes promptly.

Building up party membership has been carried out under the measures of the third general congress of the Central Party and Order 53 of the Central Party Secretariat. The Vientiane Municipality Administration Party Committee has gone to the grassroots to improve and form the party organization and a dictatorship of the proletariat to guarantee its role in organizing, guiding and controlling society and successfully performing its two strategic duties.

Party units have been formed and inspected, and party members have been able to guide those who are qualified and enthusiastic to be party members. These persons have been trained and placed in the party organization as members.

Party units have paid special attention not to let opportunists sneak in as party members in expanding the party, the Municipality and the district party committee. Building up the party has been related to political duties and mass movements in order to strengthen it in every area. After the preparations for the celebration of the first general congress, the Vientiane Municipality Administration Party Committee accepted 100 outstanding and progressive persons from mass organizations. Party units have held a successful general congress. Seven districts have had successful party committee general congresses for commemorating the two national historic days. Vientiane Capital contributed to the celebrations by performing the security task successfully. The major victory of Vientiane Municipality justified the correctness of the Central Party with Comrade Secretary General Kaisorn Phoumvihan as leader.

These victories confirm the role and guidance of the Vientiane Municipality Administration Party Committee, which has researched and adhered to the policy of party members and applied it and fit it to real situations in Vientiane Capital.

The Municipality's party committee, party units and members are united in ideology and action.

This confirms the people's solidarity and mutual support and promotes a combative spirit and hard work by the people. People of all classes and also foreigners in Vientiane Capital have given their full and hearty cooperation to the Vientiane Municipality Administration Party Committee.

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CSO: 4206/86

LAOS

UN-AIDED HYDROPOWER REPAIR IN LUANG PRABANG DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 28 Feb 86 p 2

[Article by Somlat Oulaidi: "Major Repairs on the Nam Dong Hydropower Plant Are Now Completed"]

[Excerpt] The Nam Dong hydropower plant was in disrepair for many years. The central electricity company along with the electricity company in Luang Prabang Province began major repairs in a collective repair project of the Se Labam-Nam Dong hydropower plants with aid from the United Nations and the Lao government. The repair project was divided into three stages: immediate repairs, major repairs, and repairs on cracks in the dam.

The rush repairs were to fix several ruined parts. They began in August 1983 at a cost of 1,005,872 kip. They repaired vibrations in all three turbines, changed part of the speed control for generators No 2 and 3, changed the pump mechanism of generator No 2, repaired the oil pump, changed the oil in the speed control of the three generators, installed an automatic pressure control box for generator No 3, etc.

On 11 February 1985 the major repair project got started. It consisted of four experts in this field from the center and two from abroad, along with workers in the Nam Dong hydropower plant. It took over 10 months for the repairs valued at a total of 43,245,140 kip, which were divided into two sections. On the machinery they repaired turbines, changed a water sprayer, repaired a speed regulator, put on a new belt, installed a speed meter, and installed valves for opening and closing by hand with automatic controls.

For electricity, they installed a complete generator and an [electrical box] and changed to a new electrical system, changed and repaired five units of "sada" boxes making them automated, installed and repaired different machines in the central control room, repaired the electrical system within the plant as well as provided electricity for emergency use, and installed a telephone line between the crest of the dam and the factory.

Repairs of the cracks in the dam cost a total of 37,081 kip. There were 16 meters of cracks in the dam that were filled in. They also surveyed the

movement of the dam and gave a course on how to protect the dam crest for the workers in the plant.

The major repair project also constructed and repaired different places valued at 2,108,780 kip, including filling the retaining wall of the dam along the edge of the workers' houses; they repaired the workshop, mechanics' offices, and the water system for use within the dam so that it would not be wasted, and they also repaired the machine shop and built an engine storage area, housing for the workers, and a collective kitchen.

The major repair project also involved putting all the energy and intelligence of the workers in cooperation with the workers of Luang Prabang Province electrical company in order to complete their repair of generator No 3 prior to the plan; they repaired the places where the water was obstructed so it could flow easily to the front of the dam, maintained the voltage at 6,600 volts, and guaranteed 100 percent electricity production.

The successful repair project has now been officially handed over.

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CSO: 4206/90

LAOS

SRV ROLE IN PLANT MODERNIZATION NOTED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 1 Mar 86 p 2

[Article by Ketmeuang: "Bringing Modern Technology to Production in the Phon Tong Manufacturing Coop"]

[Excerpts] In 1985 the net production of the manufacturing coop in Phon Tong exceeded the amount for 1981 by a factor of 10, from 1,400,000 kip to 14,441,000 kip. This confirms the growth of the Phon Tong coop. One of the primary and important factors which has raised the production capacity of the coop many times over what it was before was the application of new techniques in production starting in 1981-82, after the chief of the coop board of directors went on an educational trip to Hanoi in the SRV. Later there was cooperation between Vientiane Capital and Hanoi. The manufacturing coop had a chance to welcome three experts from the SRV. Having these Vietnamese experts is the first step in bringing new technology to the coop to which a number of pieces of machines and equipment have been given at no charge.

In the first stage there was assistance in installing the machines and in training technicians right at the coop. As a result, the coop has four looms, three for weaving regular material and one for silk, and one electric dryer run by the technicians who are coop members here.

In 1984-85 the Vietnamese experts helped to install two electric looms for weaving materials for handkerchiefs and one spinner. The Phon Tong manufacturing coop has two additional electric motors.

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CSO: 4206/90

LAOS

UN-AIDED COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT SCHOOL DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 4 Mar 86 p 2

[Article by Niti Saigna: "School for Agricultural Coop Economic Management"]

[Text] Now that we are familiar with the widespread agricultural coop movement, we should also become acquainted with the school for agricultural coop economic management because it trains many cadres and technicians for agricultural coops throughout the nation.

Mr Thon Vong-Onkeo, chief of the board of directors, told us the history of the school. It was set up in 1979 with additional funding and training from the FAO and Vietnamese experts. The school is in Tha Ngon, Saithani District, Vientiane Capital. Training is divided into three systems: 1, 3 and 6 months. There are 21 lessons that are divided into 5 sections. Since it was set up, there have been over 1,000 cadres of different levels of agricultural coops from various provinces and agricultural coops throughout the nation.

What is being taught is what is most suitable and most important for setting up, managing, and expanding agricultural coops in the early period of socialist transformation and construction in our country. For example, the lessons deal with improving weak agricultural coops, production plans, labor organization, the division of income, and the significance of intensive agriculture and outstanding coop units, along with guidance, etc.

The application of what the trainees have learned has helped in the setting up and improvement of agricultural coops nationwide so they will expand in depth and revolving capital. As a result, their savings and the income of their members will increase steadily.

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CSO: 4206/90

LAOS

ARMY TRANSPORT UNIT NETWORK DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 13 Mar 86 p 2

[Article by Boun Gnong Sainoi: "Army Internatioanl Transport Battalion Unit 404 Fulfills Its Duty"]

[Text] Battalion Unit 404 is oen of many transport units in Savannakhet. It was set up in the middle of the period of national transformation and socialist construction, and it is now 7 years old.

The comrade who is responsible for Battalion Unit 404 told me during the celebration of the 37th anniversary of the establishment of the LPA that in hte beginning the battalion was only a joint international unit. Its only job was to transport materials and equipment from the port of Danang in the SRV into Laos to be sent on to the General Technical Supply Department.

Because of the present work situation, and to make it consistent with the actual situation and also to make ti convenient for commanding and defending pillus organizing, carrying out, and guiding the experiences of the cadres along with the drivers in the battalion, in December 1984 the higher echelons decided to allow the joint international transport unit to become a separate unit called [the International Transport Unit 404] under the direct control of the Transport Department of the General Quartermaster of the LPA.

In order to fulfill the direction and duty assigned by the higher organization, starting from the first day, the day on which it was set up as International Transport Unit 404 the cadres and combatants along with the drivers have put theri efforts into overcoming the thousands of obstacles and difficulties. They ahve carried out the construction and improvement of their transport battalion so that it could progress and become strong in both political ideology and organizing and also to guarantee its efficiency in transporting and in protecting all publci property from getting lost and from being needlessly damaged. For these reasons, years later International Transport Unit 404 has been able to strive for satisfactory achievement in transporting over 42,000 tons of materials from the port of Danang to Laos, as follows: Danang-Seno, Danang-Vietnam, Seno-Vietnam, Vientiane-Luang Prabang, Vientiane-Sayaboury, Vientiane-Pakse, Vientiane-Thakhek, Seno-Pakse, Seno-Thakhek, Danang-Xieng Khouang, Vientiane-Khamkert, Seno-Khamekeut, Seno-Gnommalat, and Seno-Savannakhet.

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CSO: 4206/90

LAOS

EDITORIAL CRITICIZES PLANTS, MINISTRY, PACE OF REFORMS

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 11 Mar 86 pp 1,4

[Editorial: "We Should Heighten Factory Capability"]

[Text] By absorbing the significant role of industry in the national economy, which is "to carry out industrial reforms step by step with emphasis and to take socialist industry as a central duty in the period of transformation," up to now along with the revival of old factories many new factories have been built in both the center and the localities. By 1985, there was a total of 295 factories consisting of 19,000 workers. Special attention has been given to important fields such as electricity, construction materials, tree-felling, manufacturing, machinery, and light industry. The production of these primary fields all exceeded the levels for the period prior to the liberation. Vientiane Capital led in the number of industrial factories with a total of 87 factories in 1985.

If we think in terms of quantity we have made fairly good progress. However, in terms of quality we still have not yet done a good job, and in particular the capability of the factories has not yet reached full scale. This was shown by the production of the factories not being at their normal basis, which was caused by many reasons from both inside and outside, causing industrial production not to increase as it should and limiting the ability of industry to serve agriculture and the standard of living of the people.

Therefore, in the coming years, and especially from the beginning of this year, the Ninth Plenum of the Third Session of the party Central Committee stated that the production of existing factories must be expanded and must be carried out on a regular basis. To achieve this, the Ministry of Industry must become a driving force in consulting with the different sections concerned on detailed measures to solve the problems and problems in foreign currency, raw materials, equipment, spare parts, food for workers, prices, and expected figures in terms of labor, techniques and materials, the wage and welfare system, and the standard of living of the workers. In particular, the managerial machinery must be improved, enterprise accountability must be carried out, and various enterprises must be brought into the new managerial machinery. Meanwhile, the machinery bases in different localities must be improved and effectively used. There must be a plant to set up small machin-

ery groups where there is none now in order to produce and modify manual agricultural tools for use in agriculture and forestry, manufacturing, vehicle repairs, and communications and transportation and must pay special attention to the rapid expansion of small hydropower plants along with small-scale irrigation. They must employ water pumps working with water pressure in order to serve agricultural production, the manufacturing industry, and the standard of living.

These are the directions of the general duties which the industry section will break down in detail in order to make the factories operate on a regular basis. For this to happen we must deeply absorb the new directions and duties indicated for industrial work in the Ninth Plenum of the Third Session of the party Central Committee. We must carry it out properly and apply it creatively in real situations and must make a decision to wipe out the centralized power of the managerial machinery and the administrative subsidiary and move to new and complete enterprise accountability.

If we do this correctly we will be able to boost the capacity of the existing factories and increase their capability in the future. It is certain that industrial production will be increased and will reach the expected figures we are striving for in 1986 and also become a significant foundation for carrying out the government's Second 5-year Plan with great success.

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LAOS

BRIEFS

CSSR FILM WEEK OPENS--Vientiane, May 5 (KPL)--The Ministry of Culture and the Laos-Czechoslovakia Friendship Association are sponsoring a film week to mark the 41st national day of Czechoslovakia (May 4). Among those present at the opening ceremony was Sali Vongkhamsao, secretary of the party CC, vice-chairman of the Station Planning Committee along with other high-ranking officials. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0858 GMT 5 May 86 BK] /6662

COOPERATION PLAN WITH MPR--Vientiane, May (OANA-KPL)--The Lao PDR and the Mongolian People's Republic are to further strengthen their cooperation in the field of culture and science, as stipulated in a cooperation plan signed here on Wednesday by Soulivong Phasitthidet, deputy-minister for foreign affairs of Laos and the Mongolian ambassador Yadmaaguine Dashnyan. This document stipulated that the two sides will further intensify the exchange in the field of culture and art troupes. The two sides pledged to better inform their respective people on the implementation of the resolutions of the 4th Congress of the LPR and the 19th Congress of the MPRP which are to be held soon. The increase of scientific cooperation was also mentioned in this document. As far as the cooperation in public health are to further concretise the implementation of the agreement signed in 1982 over the exchange of experiences in the use of medicinal herbs in the treatment of patients. The cooperation plan signed on this occasion was in accordance with the Lao-Mongolian Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation signed in 1979 which linked the two countries. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 2 May 86 BK] /6662

TRADE WITH SRV PROVINCE--Vientiane, May 5 (KPL)--Lao and Vietnamese twin provinces of Savannakhet and Binh Tri Thien are to broaden their trade exchange for the current year, this was stipulated in an agreement recently signed by the trade companies of these two provinces. Goods to be exchanged are among other things agricultural tools, household utensils and consumer goods. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0859 GMT 5 May 86 BK] /6662

COOPERATION WITH PRK--Vientiane, May 5 (KPL)--Several documents on the cooperation in the fields of communication, transport and post between the Lao PDR and the People's Republic of Kampuchea for 1986, were signed here on May 3d. Signing the documents for the Lao side was Phao Bounnaphon, minister of transport and post, and for the Kampuchean side was Tie Banh, minister of

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communication, transport and post. The documents are in accordance with the spirit of the summit meeting of the Indochinese countries which was held in Vientiane, on March 23, 1983 [month as received] and the economic, scientific, cultural and technical cooperation plan among Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam for 1986 which was signed in Hanoi, on January 12, 1986. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0856 GMT 5 May 86 BK] /6662

HIGHWAY NO 13 REPAIRED--Vientiane, April 29 (KPL)--The road and bridge construction company of Savannakhat Province, in collaboration with over 16,000 persons from Khamthabouli, Songkhon and Champhon districts, recently repaired and upgraded a portion of 115 km of the National Highway Number [13] linking Savannakhet to Se Bang-Nouan River. Meanwhile, the similar company [in] the southern Champassak Province has mobilized members of the youth organisations of Lakhonpheng, Vapikhamthong and Khongsedon districts to repair and upgrade another portion of 126 km of this Highway Number 13 from the Se Bang-Nouan River to Champassak. These works are expected to be achieved before the end of this month to welcome the 100th anniversary of the international labour day. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0919 GMT 29 Apr 86 BK] /6662

UNIONS OBSERVE MAY DAY--Vientiane, May 6 (KPL)--The president of the Lao Federation of Trade Unions CC, Thit Soi Sombatdouang, met here on May 3 delegates from friendly countries' trade unions, who participated in the celebration of May Day here. These delegations included that of the Vietnamese Federation of Trade Unions headed by its executive member Tu Le, that of the Kampuchean Trade Unions led by Xuan Cheng, deputy-secretary of the Phnom Penh branch of the KTU, that of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions of the USSR led by the secretary of its educational service V. Beresin, and that of the Labour Council of Thailand led by its secretary Sanen Phitsaphan. The host and the guests, on the occasion, exchanged views on the increasing of the exchange of activities among their respective organisations. They also pledged to enclose their cooperation in the struggle for the safeguard of workers interests, the world peace, and international security. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 6 May 86 BK] /6662

SOVIET, DANISH VISITORS--Vientiane, May 6 (KPL)--Sali Vongkhamsao, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, chairman of the State Planning Committee, received here yesterday a visiting delegation from the Ministry of Construction of the Soviet Union led by its first deputy-minister Losev. The vice-chairman highly evaluated the Lao-Soviet cooperation in the field of house building. Both sides exchanged views with the aim of further developing the cooperation in this particular field. The Soviet delegation arrived here on May 1 for a week-long visit. Among other projects assisted by the Soviet Union, there are the 150-bed hospital, the polytechnical schools and the 150-kw radio antenna station in Vientiane. Earlier on the same day, S. Vongkhamsao met with John Furze from the Denmark-Laos solidarity organization. They discussed ways to widen the cooperation in the field of trade, education, and economy between the two countries. J. Furze arrived here last month and planned to stay here till May 10. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 6 May 86 BK] /6662

PAVED ROADS, TELEPHONES IN USE--There are presently 12,983 km of roads of which 2,460 km are controlled by the central government and of which 2,259 km are paved. There are 94 main telephone exchanges, 7,390 installed telephones in use and 108 telephone stations. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 2 Feb 86 pp 2, 3] 12597/9312

SRV AID IN FILM MAKING--In line with the use of film making in the revolutionary, cultural and ideological struggle, the Lao film making section is trying to produce filmed news releases, which are shown promptly at important national events, for example, the 10th anniversary of the LPDR. The film making section is also competing to get aid from other socialist countries for the production of films that are essential and important to party and state needs. Over the past 10 years in particular, the Lao film making industry has produced a total of 30 news and documentary films with the aid of the SRV. Specifically, in 1981, the SRV assisted in making a 35 mm film named "The Sound of Guns From the Plain of Jars." In 1984, to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of the LPDR, a long documentary film was made, entitled "10 Years on the Road to Socialism." And also in 1985, the Soviet Union assisted in the making of a film called "The Past 10 Years." The Czechoslovakian Army also has given aid for making some films. All these films were released and shown to the public on the 2 December 1985 National Day celebration. This shows that the evolution, organization, performance, creativity and foreign aid for elementary film making in Laos has been developed. Film making has gathered a small group of people, such as producers, directors, editors, actors and administrative cadres for developing it in Laos, step by step. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 27 Feb 86 p 2] 12597/9312

DISTRICT TAX COLLECTION INCREASE--From January to the end of December 1985, the cadres and workers of the Foodstuffs Corporation of Sisattanka District have actively and attentively performed their duty. Results are: 919,738 kilogrammes of rice paddy and rice grains were bought from farmers around the district, an increase of 17.97 percent over 1984's figures. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 26 Feb 86 p 1] 12597/9312

VIENTIANE MASS ORGANIZATION GROWTH--In 1985, there were three mass organizations: the LPRYU, the Patriotic Lao Women's Association and the trade union. Every mass organization around Chanthaburi, Vientiane Municipality, has been improved and expanded. For example, the LPRYU had 1,098 members, of which 511 are female; in 1985 alone, its membership grew by 497 and there were 13 units. The Patriotic Lao Women's Association had a total 2,388 members; in 1985 alone, it grew by 673 members, with 160 units. The trade union had a total 340 members, of which 187 were female; in 1985 alone, it grew by 66 members, with 17 units. [Excerpt] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 24 Feb 86 pp 1, 4] 12597/9312

MILITARY RECRUIT TRAINING--There was an official exercise for military training Class 4 the evening of 15 February 1986 at the Vientiane Municipality's Military Command Headquarters clubhouse. The training session lasted 36 days. Mr Chan Lian, director of the school, reviewed the different areas of the training curriculum on this occasion. he said that the requirements had been completed as follows: military science by 82.6 percent; strategy by 84.7 percent; individual qualifications by 18.5 percent; and shooting by 58.4 percent. Gifts and commendation certificates were presented to 10 men with outstanding performances of first class, and to 15 for second Class performance. The ceremony ended successfully. [Excerpt] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 18 Feb 86 pp 1, 4] 12597/9312

VIENTIANE TAX COLLECTION--The cadres of the Finance and Taxation Section of Sisattanka District were active the entire year of 1985 in collecting a total 29,776,540 kip in income taxes and agricultural taxes in 607 basic production areas around the district. [Excerpt] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 27 Feb 86 p 1] 12597/9312

LOUANG NAMTHA ROAD CONSTRUCTION--(KPL) From early January to early March the youth union in various localities in Louang Namtha Province successfully constructed a road from Namtha District to Na Le District, which is 12 km long. In the same period they also successfully cut a new road from Sing District to Meuang Gnom Canton, a distance of 18 km, and repaired over 100 km of broken roads from Bokeo Province to the salt evaporation plant and other places. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 12 Mar 86 p 1] 9884/9312

CHAMPASSAK DISTRICT SECURITY, FOOD COOPS--Champassak District is 1 of 10 districts in Champassak Province. It consists of 6 cantons, 88 villages, and 41,2812 people and has a total of 12,240.58 hectares for growing rice. In the past 10 years the people in Champassak District have made many glorious achievements. For example, national defense and security work has become the people's affair. They have been able to be self-sufficient in terms of the food supply every year. Yearly production is over 750 kg of paddy rice per capita. There was improvement and expansion of agricultural coop units after the passage of the plenum of the party central Committee Politburo on "turning farmers to organizing collective-style production by means of agricultural coops." The district thus organized authorities to mobilize farmers to earn their living actively and voluntarily by collective living according to the principle of the three benefits--for the government, the collective group, and the individual agricultural coop member. The conversion of people in Champassak District to agricultural coops is growing every year. In 1985 throughout the district there were 94 agricultural coop units, which covered 11,759.76 hectares of ricefields and 75 percent of the total number of families, and production was as much as 858 kg of paddy rice per capita. In late November 1985 Mr Bounmi Sisavat, a member of the provincial party committee and secretary of the district party committee in Champassak District, also pointed out the direction the district should strive for in the next 2 years (1986-87) in which they would mobilize 100 percent of the farmers to join agricultural coops and for production to yield 939 kg of paddy rice per capita. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 6 Mar 86 p 2] 9884/9312

WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP, COMBAT--There are a total of 131,705 women in Vientiane Province, and 30,149 have already become members of the Lao Women's Association of which 2 are members of the district women's association, 102 are canton party members, 1,054 are village party members, and 96 are on agricultural coop boards of directors. Besides participating in guard duty in offices and localities, outstanding are the women from Kasi District who along with the men have effectively suppressed the counterrevolutionaries. [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 28 Feb 86 p 2] 9884/9312

IRRIGATED PADDY FIELD TOTALS--(KPL) Based on the report of the committee responsible for the irrigation department, on the morning of 12 March of this season the agriculture, irrigation, and agricultural coops along with the irrigation sections in many provinces which are the centers throughout the country have focused on improving small and medium-size irrigation system in order to guarantee the upcoming wet-rice production to be able to obtain water amounting to 8,000 tons for 10,000 hectares. [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 13 Mar 86 pp 1, 3] 9884/9312

CSO: 4206/90

NEW CALEDONIA

KANAKS WARN ON LOSS OF REGIONAL POWERS

Port Moresby PAPUA NEW GUINEA POST-COURIER 2 May 86 p 6

[Text]

NOUMEA: The new Government of France announced yesterday it would transfer most regional powers in New Caledonia to its high commissioner.

But the change was temporary.

The move brought immediate charges of provocation and colonialism from independence leader Jean-Marie Tjibaou.

Minister for Overseas Departments and Territories Bernard Pons outlined to the territory's elected congress the new plans which largely dismantle the structure set up last year by the former Socialist administration.

That divided the Pacific island into four regions, three effectively controlled by the independence-seeking Melanesian minority.

The fourth, around the capital Noumea, is dominated by pro-French European settlers.

The regions were given extensive administrative and budgetary powers in what was

seen as a way of giving the Melanesians a large measure of control over their economic development.

The new conservative Government has said it will retain the idea of independence in association with France.

Some European farms and businesses in the interior of the island were destroyed by Melanesian independence militants.

The island has been generally calm for the past few months, and Pons said the Government would not allow any agitation "from whatever side" to affect the rebuilding of the island's economy.

European leader Jacques Laffeur said he was "very satisfied" with Pons' speech.

Tjibaou said he and other Melanesian leaders would fly to France next week "to tell whoever wants to listen: watch out."

"I don't think the situation tends towards calm," he said.

He described Pons as "blowing hot and cold, but the tone is very colonial."

He said no-one could have confidence in any French government. "We can only count on ourselves," Tjibaou said.

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CSO: 4200/1014

PHILIPPINES

WEEKLY FINDS SYMPATHY, SOLID SUPPORT FOR MARCOS IN ILOCOS

Manila MR. & MRS. (Special Edition) in English 11-17 Apr 86 p 8

[Article by Candy Quimpo: "Solid North Still Sold on Marcos"]

[Text]

THE sun still sets in all magnificence on the horizons of Ilocos beaches. In Laoag, the Laoag Cathedral's bell tower still sinks a half-millimeter a year, just as it has been sinking for the last 300 years. Vigan still sprawls in elegant decay, turn-of-the-century buildings huddled along its narrow, once-cobbled streets. The Ilocanos are still as maddeningly frugal and industrious as ever. And the Solid North, solid for Ferdinand Marcos during the Marcos years, remains just as solid.

In the last election only 880 people voted for Cory Aquino out of the Laoag population of 80,000.

A tourist bus makes a tight turn around Aurora Park in Batac. Along the park is a tall, white-washed building. "This is the Marcos Hall of Justice," the tour guide intones to ogles within the bus, "where our pre — er — the ex-President was incarcerated during the Nalundasan case."

The mistake is understandable. The guide, young Rizal

Rombawa, voted for Marcos during the February elections, and still finds it hard to shrug the Marcos mystique away after a month under another president.

Along the highways of Ilocos Norte and Ilocos Sur, bougainvillae of all varieties lend color to the roadside. Neat bamboo fences of ornate designs form the boundaries of houses on the way to the Malacanang of the North. The residents have yet to uproot markers along the road painted in Bagong Lipunan red, white and blue. In Laoag, Sarrat, Batac and Vigan, Marcos posters have yet to be scraped off the walls.

"We were behind on the news," says Rizal of the rebellion days, "We did not know what reports were true or not. It was only the day after Marcos fled that we found out." Marcos' escape was not greeted with jubilation and dancing in the streets in the Ilocos. "It was like *Araw ng Patay*," (Day of Mourning), says

Rizal.

A pretty waitress at Fort Ilocandia blushes furiously when asked how she felt about Marcos' leaving.

"*Para kaming naulila* (We felt like we were orphaned)," she finally says.

If People Power was all that was needed, says a Laoag government employee, Ilocanos were willing to rally in Manila in support of Marcos. But the distance and the cost of such an adventure were too great.

"If only Marcos went to Paoay," a Paoay resident groans, "We could have taken care of him. They drugged him and forced him to go to Hickam. He should come back and live with his people."

Should Marcos return, says another waiter from Fort Ilocandia, there would be a bloody revolution. "This time, we will fight by his side." Like the American civil war, remarked a slightly intoxicated patron at the bar.

As the tourist bus glides past two checkpoints towards the Malacanang of the North, a sleepy scout ranger toddles closer to open the doors. Yes, I voted for Marcos, he tells the guests later, his look of bewilderment betraying his shock that anyone would have done otherwise. "Didn't the scout rangers join the Ramos forces during the rebellion?" one visitor asks.

Sgt. Ranger Al Corpuz shrugs, "I was sympathetic to them because we were in the same division."

"*Sinasabi mo lang yan*, (You're just saying that)," mocks Rizal. "Can I have my picture taken with you?" Corpuz asks a guest, ignoring the barb.

Even in Sarrat's muggy heat, the Sta. Monica Church gives one a feeling of awe. The "instant" bougainvillae planted along Sarrat's streets just before Irene Marcos' grand wedding in Sta. Monica, continue to thrive — a riot of testimony to the province's long love for the erstwhile president. But the

Sta. Monica Church's facade, cleft by an earthquake in 1983 seems a lonely reminder of a glorious leader lost.

"We loved Marcos," Dr. Ofelia Pastor, an Education Ministry supervisor says, "We did not believe the exposés about him. Now we feel ashamed that many of the reports have been proven to be true." Of Corazon Aquino, she smiles, "She's a woman and I know how women work. Besides, she is a devout Catholic. She is simple, approachable and humble."

When the Bishops' Pastoral Letter was read in the Ilocos, Rizal says, the Region's magnificent churches shook with the indignation of the people. Unlike the stagey walk-outs in Manila, the walk-outs in Ilocandia were motivated by honest outrage.

The Laoag International Airport, unlike the Manila International Airport, does not sport long lines of well-wishers and voyagers.

Its flight schedule boasts only of three scheduled flights: Manila to Laoag, Laoag to Basco, Laoag to Manila. Should Marcos decide to stage a comeback, the Laoag International Airport would probably be his destination. "There were no plans for Marcos to fly to Laoag from Malacanang," says security officer Col. Pedro Hufana. "There was no such message radioed here though we expected it. No, no preparations were made in case he decided to come here."

Along the darkening roads, farmers wearily making their way home; canny young men in basketball shorts; children out for last minute frolic all flash the L-sign at the homeward bound tourist bus. In Ilocos, the L-sign has added meaning. In Ilocos, L stands for Loyalist.

PHILIPPINES

MR. & MRS. MEMORIALIZES FALLEN FEMINIST GUERRILLA

Manila MR. & MRS. (Special Edition) 11-17 Apr 86 pp 17, 18

[Article by Roland Pascual: "On Remembering a Hero No Matter Her Color"]

[Text]

*"Look how bravely our ranks
Bloom into each gap
With the same intense
purity and fragrance
We are learning to
overcome..."*

— Lorie Barros

WHILE officers of the AFP Reform Movement this early warn of Communist infiltration in the new government, while the armed rebels in the countryside speak of "principled peace", citing "the objective conditions... do not (as yet) permit surrender of the people's right to bear arms in defense of revolutionary gains in the past 17 years", while everything that is "underground" was sideswept by the peculiarity of a February revolution as projected in the media and other circles, some found time to remember a *Neps* (New People's Army guerilla), with dignity and with honor.

She is but one of the butchered daughters of what

she endeared as her *Inang Bayan* (Mother Country). Maria Lorena Morelos Barros. A staunch feminist, she founded in 1969 the first Filipino militant women's group that bannered in red *Malayang Kilusan ng Bagong Kababaihan* (MAKIBAKA, Liberation Movement of the New Women). "No male chauvinist can stop me from joining the New People's Army," she once said. And being the most sought-after armed rebel of a lost Marcosian era, she was literally a prized possession for the military — she was worth ₱30,000.

March 25, 1978 came to Batrío Cagsigay 11, Mauban, Quezon province, by the foot of Mt. Banahaw. At 28, she was dead. It was five in the morning. They shot her in the head.

Who, still, is she? Alex Dacanay, in private remembrances, never has put introductions so lovingly: "She was the friend of a friend. She had long hair, a

beautiful body and a pair of the most soulful eyes I have ever seen. They were capable of anything: immense depth, quick compassion, sly mischief or remorseless cruelty." Curiosities from a teen researcher-writer once struck the wits out of Dacanay: "How could this boy think to put together the facts of her life like

many sticks and stones, the dead leaves of what she said and did, those mysterious objects she left behind as poems — all her passion's tombstones — and dare call the heap Lorena? ... It was oppressively silly."

And where are Barros' fellow MAKIBAKA girls of the late 60s and early 70s? They who officially went *makibaka* at one Bb. Pilipinas beauty contest coronation night, April 18 of 1970, to flaunt placards sporting sloganeerings on the "commercialization and degradation of women and beauty"? For that novelty

of action, they made good front-page copy then but where are the girls who, with Lorie, loudly sang in staccato "*tamad na burgis*" (idle bourgeoisie) during the awarding ceremonies of the 1971 Manila's Best Dressed by the front steps of then only five-star hotel, the Manila Hilton?

At least 20 of them were there, a Thursday of a

March 25, to mark a decade of private remembrances too, since Lorena's demise. At one Protestant Service Center, Church of the Risen Lord at UP, they sat proud in their stirring public tribute to their martyred sis.

Weeks before the release of alleged topnotch political prisoners and the late-piyem-to-dusk memorial service, the MAKIBAKA girls planned only for an intimate sharing of the life and times of Lorie. But another "revolution" happened in between. Key members of the once Communist Party of the Philippines politburo, if allegations are to be believed, joined in to first-handedly give eulogies to a fallen "comrade". They too were talking of first of firsts amid a new politics simply dubbed "Cory". Once-detained men and women of the underground sat now on a "democratic space" — cadres, alternate central committee members, military and political commission heads, firebrands in their youth, strikingly red in their views, and of course Joma Sison and Kumander Dante.

Some were in yellow. "A sign of goodwill," smiled one. But deeply etched in the hollowed eyes is a torturous and violent "armed struggle" of a persevering, continuing revolutionary past. A ceasefire has yet to be called.

Lorie left, upon her death, a ragtag Quezon province guerilla band which now flowered into a 16,000-strong full-time-efficiently-armed guerilla force nationwide (U.S. State Department count).

Lorie, her comrades-in-arms and at-heart intimated, was not the typical towering figure of a feminist movement in the late 60s; not the typical guy who flowered as a UP scholar-activist during the First Quarter Storm of the early 70s; not quite your dreaded guerilla amazon. She wrote poems, among others.

"A Skull Among The Flowers" was one, but rejected by Sunday Times Magazine in the mid-60s, the editors screaming . . . "Why do you write about skulls and dirt and this stuff? At your age, your world must be beautiful."

This is but one of the tidbits Ramon Bernardo gathered to write an autobiographical sketch of Lorie titled "The Immortal Legend of a Historic Decade" and soon to see print in UP's The Dillman Review. Her life spanned historical decades indeed.

She once proclaimed the new Filipina as no longer a "mindless ornament and drudge, one who has discovered the exciting

realm of responsibility, fully engaged in the destruction of feudalism and imperialism and the building of a new democratic society. Not a woman-for-marriage, but more and more a woman-for-action. A comrade."

Rhetorics transformed her into something drastically un-Lorie, as her family call her. Said co-MAKIBAKA girl Rosa: "From a Bohemian type, she became all that is in a poor peasant struggling for change. Metamorphosis."

Rosa admitted Lorie often handled the defense of women's issues singlehandedly (MAKIBAKA was a splinter group from the radical youth organization *Samahan ng Demokratikong Kabataan* (SDK) — Movement of Democratic Students. The open left mass movement then considered women issues to be secondary.) "The thing about being an all women's group is that we draw our strength from the uniqueness of our experience as women but we also begin to acknowledge our weaknesses as part of the struggle for self-discovery and self-renewal. We assessed our

collective neurosis in a new light, but because of the political expedencies of those times and our fear to get beyond the 'official political line' — we were in some ways unable to confront the very personal concern that were barriers to our liberation."

Lorie, Rosa admitted, while being part of them, was also larger than the rest. All of them were kids

back then, Rosa concedes, but now as they pay tribute to a dead colleague, all realized how their collective experiences as professional, mother, community worker, middle-class wife have emboldened them to better appreciate and more effectively take part in the "national democratic struggle". In fact, MAKIBAKA was initially launched to attract the convent-bred *colegialas* who would be hesitant to join more radical groups like the SDK and the *Kabataang Makabayan* (Nationalist Youth and now the Communist Party's underground youth organization).

That night of tribute to Lorie, the girls sang the poignant memorial hymn "Unang Alay" (First Offering). They each lighted their candles laced with a red ribbon from the fire burning on Nanay Alicia's, Lorie's aging mother. They remembered Lorie, the conscientious Anthropology scholar, the activist, one of the few female members of the Movement for a Democratic Philippines (then the broadest coalition of democratic forces), the tortured political detainee-turned-escapee, the community organizer, the amazon. And a scarred old heart.

She outlived the violent deaths of two boyfriends, both comrades, and suffered the political and personal betrayal of a husband. The two died in an encounter with government troops; one in 1971, the other in 1976.

While she was detained at Ipil-Ipil Rehabilitation Center in Camp Bonifacio in 1974, she learned how her husband, Ramon Sanchez, a high-ranking rebel officer,

"surrendered" and sang revealing tunes to the military. She condemned him. She had two sons by him; the first, Emil, now 11 years old; the second was involuntarily aborted during a military interrogation she underwent when arrested.

She was born on March 18, 1948, two years after the "liberation" of the Philippines from the Americans. Little did she know that in her 20s she'd be fighting the very country that supposedly liberated her countrymen. In the streets, she questioned the "unequal treaties" — Parity Amendment and Bell Trade Act, the continued existence of the U.S. bases, the stuff that saw loud print on the red banners. Ten years after her death, now in 1986, she was pitted alongside the Old Testament's Judith who mutilated the oppressive King Holofernes; Joan of Arc; the women of Egypt who denounced the imperial order to kill Israelite infants; and all others revolutionary, and martyred.

"Is she really newsworthy? I really don't know her," remarked one journalist as he elbowed his way into the service. He could have said Lorie is just one of those revolutionary cadre-guerilla now dead. So be it.

Anonymity of heroes is that which really stuffs all revolutions advancing the sincerest and noblest of causes.

But let Lorie's dear friend Alex continuously be enriched by his poignant private remembrances of "a bigger soul that admitted other friendships, other worlds". "Ultimately," Alex contemplates, "she (Lorie) must be remembered too, for her cause. (N)othing of the heart ever ends. They exist forever in memory." Yes.

The last of the countryside gunfire has yet to see fruition in the harvesttime of Lorie's cause. That day entails no screaming, shallow much less fake heroics.

PHILIPPINES

BIG LABOR FEDERATION SPLITS INTO TWO GROUPS

HK260236 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 25 Apr 86 p 22

[Text] The Federation of Free Workers (FFW), one of the country's biggest labor federations, has split into two groups. Both of which claim the support of the majority of some 400,000 members.

The split came about during the national convention of FFW held at the Teachers' camp, Baguio City last April 14. A group led by Efren P. Arazamendez, former FFW national vice-president, walked out of the convention. He claimed that the election of FFW officers was rigged by its president of more than three decades, Juan C. Tan.

Arazamendez's group held its own convention and elected the following as its legitimate and legal representatives: Arazamendez, president; Oscar B. Silvestre, vice-president; and Cesar F. Saligumba, treasurer.

Meanwhile, Tan's group proceeded with the convention and elected the following officers: Tan, president; Ramon J. Jabar, vice-president; and Felicisimo O. Josen, treasurer.

Each group now claims to be the "real" FFW.

"It must be emphasized that this group is still FFW," Arazamendez said. He told BUSINESS DAY that his group controls the majority of the unions in Laguna, Bataan and Metro Manila. Tan's group controls the unions in Mindanao and the Visayas, and a minority in Metro Manila, he added.

Arazamendez said many of the incumbent members of the FFW executive board are with him, numbering eight of the total 15 board members.

Tan however, claimed his group controls the majority. In his letter to labor ministry officials, Tan maintained that his group is the "real" FFW.

Reacting to Arazamendez's use of the name FFW, Tan asked the ministry that the rival faction "be enjoined and prevented from doing so since the illegal use of our Federation's name of long standing would cause confusion in the minds of employers, workers and the public at large."

Considered as a moderate labor group, FFW has about 400,000 members nationwide.

The unions supporting Arazamendez, however, come mainly from Metro Manila and the Bataan Export Processing Zone, two areas where major labor disputes emanate. On the other hand, Tan was able to maintain the support of the majority of unions in the drug industry, aside from the Visayas and Mindanao local unions.

Before the split, FFW had members in the textile, semi-conductor, drug and food industries.

The split in the federation's ranks does not necessarily mean its eventual dissolution. But inter-union battles are expected over who will act as the bargaining agent in companies where FFW has a foothold. Competition between the two will be more intense in companies where both factions have consolidated their own spheres of influence.

The labor ministry is not expected to intervene in the FFW split as a policy.

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CSO: 4200/950

PHILIPPINES

TWO MNLF LEADERS, FOLLOWERS SET TO SURRENDER

HK260232 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 25 Apr 86 p 22

[Article by Pete G. Esber]

[Text] Two top commanders of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and their armed followers are set to surrender to the new government following secret negotiations between emissaries from the military and a civilian mediator.

In an interview with Radyong Bayan [Radio of the Nation], formerly the Voice of the Philippines (VOP), Serad Alonto, alias Commander Jerry and Commander Alex, an emissary of Serad, told the government-owned radio station "they are willing to return to the fold of the law in response to the call of President Corazon C. Aquino to pursue the policy of national reconciliation and if their demands and conditions are met."

Commanders Jerry and Alex met with a high-ranking military officer, this reporter and a well-known Bicolano religious, civic and social leader in an undisclosed place recently.

In that meeting, the duo presented their demands and conditions for their surrender and the military man and the civilian mediator promised to withhold the information until the two rebel commanders are presented to higher authorities.

Commander Jerry is acting chairman of the Bukidnon-Misamis Oriental Revolutionary Committee (BMORC), member of the original 90's (the Magnificent 21 Group) and MNLF Green Guard.

In 1968 to 1970, he and some hardcore members of the MNLF went to Middle East country where they trained in Special Tactical Combat Operations.

Sometime in 1983, he and Commander Amil Alonto returned to the country, presumably to surrender. According to him, they were intercepted by Assemblyman Jamil Lucman who persuaded them to personally give up to then President Marcos.

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PHILIPPINES

FORMER MP STRESSES SOLUTION TO MINDANAO PROBLEM

HK270854 Hong Kong AFP in English 0821 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Text] Manila, April 27 (AFP)--A former MP who represented Mindanao Island has said that President Corazon Aquino should immediately attend to the problems on the southern islands or support for the idea of secession would spread, a Manila newspaper said Sunday.

Homobono Adaza said previous administrations had neglected the region and if such neglect continued, its separation from the Philippines "may become inevitable", the TRIBUNE reported.

"Unless the government of President Aquino attends immediately to the problems of Mindanao, the idea of secession will catch fire," Mr Adaza said.

The newspaper said Mr Adaza, whose Mindanao Alliance Party supported the presidential candidacy of Mrs Aquino, was reacting to an aborted plan by the Mindanao independence movement to establish a separate state in the south.

The group, led by defeated presidential candidate Reuben Canoy, has put off its plans indefinitely following blunt warnings by the Manila government that members would be arrested for sedition if they pushed through with a formal declaration.

Resource-rich Mindanao, the country's second largest island, has been the focus of a 14-year rebellion by the minority Moslems and lately a hotbed of activity by the communist New People's Army (NPA).

Mr Adaza, who could not be reached for comment here Sunday, was quoted as saying the island's 12 million inhabitants were not sufficiently protected from landgrabbing, cattle thieving and other crimes.

He said an earlier proposal by Agriculture Minister Ramon Mitra for the appointment of a deputy president for the region would be "a step in the right direction".

If this could not be done, a ministry for the region should be created to show residents the central government's concern for them, he added.

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PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

BACUNGAN TOWN HALL RAIDED--Manila, April 25 (AFP)--Some 200 armed men believed to be communist guerrillas stormed the Bacungan Town Hall in the southern Philippines, the official PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY (PNA) said Friday. They carted away mail parcels, mailbags and office equipment from the post office inside the building, PNA said. It did not say when the attack was made or if there were any casualties. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 1406 GMT 25 Apr 86 HK]

PRIVATE ARMY ORGANIZATION DENIED--A retired military official has denied press reports linking him to the training of a 3,000-man private army in Lanao del Sur to topple the Aquino government. Retired Brigadier General Pedro Safra told reporters that his family is now well settled in the United States, and he has no reason to go to the mountains and organize an illegal army. Safra, a veteran of the government's antidissident campaign in Mindanao, was one of those linked by the reports to the alleged training of an antigovernment army. The others were former deputy defense minister Carlos Cahelo, former Southern Command chief Major General Delfin Castro, and retired general (Surnam Cioduque). Safra said he returned to the country last January to oversee the sale of his real estate in Ilocos Norte. [Text] [Quezon City DZFM Radio in English 0200 GMT 26 Apr 86 HK]

GOVERNMENT SEEKS TRADING AGREEMENTS--The country is planning to negotiate with its major trading partners bilateral agreements with extended terms instead of the existing 2-year terms. Trade and Industry Minister Jose Concepcion said he plans to negotiate for a 6-year trade pact to enable local exporters to fully tap export markets. Concepcion likewise announced that he expects to hold negotiations next month with the U.S., Canada, Norway, Sweden, members of the European Community, and Japan on new bilateral trade pacts. The present agreement expires this December. [Text] [Quezon City DZFM Radio in English 0700 GMT 27 Apr 86 HK]

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CSO: 4200/950

THAILAND

OPINION LEADERS CONTINUE CRITICISM OF U.S. POLICIES

'Crossroads' in Relations Seen

Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 14 Apr 86 p 16

[Nui Bangkhunthian column: "What Can Be Done With Such a Good Friend?"]

[Excerpts] On 10 April 1950, the United States gave Thailand weapons and road construction equipment worth 200 million baht. That was the first real help it had given us. The objective was to have Thailand suppress the communists. And so the Thai government concentrated on suppressing the communists, with the result that the communists expanded their activities throughout half the country. The more we tried to suppress them, the stronger they became. This was because the United States and Thailand's leaders viewed the communists very differently than did the villagers.

In 1954 the United States took the lead in forming the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization, or SEATO. The eight members countries were Australia, France, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, the United States and England. SEATO's main task was to prevent the expansion of communism in Asia. A few years later, Thailand's leaders and the United States secretly signed the Thanat-Rusk Treaty.

Thai in that period were brainwashed into thinking that communists were devils who used people instead of buffalo to plow the fields, who killed monks and old people to make fertilizer and who forbid children from showing respect to their parents. By chance, the economy was good at that time and so the villagers were not interested in what their leaders were doing. They viewed politics as a struggle among those who were interested in rank and titles.

Thus, the United States was able to do whatever it wanted in Thailand. As a consequence of the Thanat-Rusk Treaty, Thailand became a military colony. The United States sent in troops and weapons. Thai did not have the right to enter the military bases even though they were the masters of the country.

Finally, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos were lost, and the Revolutionary Council was toppled by the people. Politicians and power groups forced the government to obtain parliament's permission before allowing anyone to establish military bases in the country.

The last time that the United States violated Thailand's sovereignty was in 1975, when, without asking permission, it sent forces to seize the merchant ship Mayaguez, which had been seized by the Khmer Rouge. It was not until after the incident was over that the United States apologized to Thailand. The day that U.S. leaders shook hands in joy, which appeared on television reports worldwide, they laughed loudly about their accomplishments even before the Thai government or the Thai people knew anything about what had happened. When I heard about this, I felt like crying. I felt sorry for the government and for myself over the fact that we had to let a great friend bully us.

The people have come to a crossroad. We should stop and think before taking another step. The peoples of the world will probably laugh at us if we allow the United States to bully us with a war reserve stockpile after all that has happened in the past.

Columnist: U.S. Would Collapse with Peace

Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 16 Apr 86 p 16

[Nui Bangkhunthian column: "Is the United States Building or Destroying Peace?"]

[Excerpts] Mr Reagan criticized the weakness of Jimmy Carter, charging that he had compromised too much and that he had hallucinations about building peace. Reagan believes that real peace can be achieved only by having greater military strength.

Reagan has restored the cowboy spirit. The American people elected him president, and he has done everything that he said we would. When the Americans waged war against the Red Indians, the war was fought using ordinary guns and explosives. When the first atomic bomb was dropped on Japan 41 years ago, war, in the view of the United States, implied the use of nuclear weapons. The United States is not a kind-hearted and wise Uncle Sam. Rather, it is a hawk that lives off the flesh and blood of others.

During the 200 years since it became a country, the United States has destroyed countless smaller countries. Many countries have been swallowed by the communists. And many countries have fought civil wars. The United States has grown powerful from the corpses and stench of blood.

The Farm Act will destroy friendly agricultural countries. War, which is another important export commodity, will make American weapons producers rich, and Americans will have jobs. The president and people will prosper. If all the countries lived together in peace, the United States would collapse.

The military strike against Libya on 15 April alarmed people throughout the world. Al-Qadhafi is not a pig. If this 44-year-old president really was unstable, he could not have been a thorn in the side of the United States for so long.

It is estimated that more than 10,000 of the 50,000 nuclear warheads in the world are positioned in Europe. These warheads were built in order to wage war. And now the United States has lit the fuse.

If the United States wants to end terrorism, all it has to do is open negotiations with Al-Qadhafi and take a friendly attitude. No one would be bothered. There are several ways to solve the problems so that everyone can live in peace. The fact that the United States has opted for war shows the true nature of this great power.

Peace comes from love and understanding and from refraining from exploiting others. Weapons are the enemy of peace.

Thongbai on Anti-U.S. Activism

Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai 13 Apr 86 pp 33, 34

[Article by Thongbai Thongpao: "The United States Must Stop Dropping Economic Atomic Bombs"]

[Text] On 5 April, I participated in a seminar on Thai-U.S. relations sponsored by students from Chiang Mai and Kasetsart universities. The seminar was held at Chiang Mai University on the occasion of the "love the Thai farmer, oppose the Farm Act" movement.

During the seminar, Achan Sawat Banthoengsuk said that this was the largest gathering of students in a year.

I spoke about Thai-U.S. relations and cooperation in the recent past, that is, since the end of the Second World War. Thailand has had friendly relations and cooperated closely with the United States. It has regarded the United States as a "great friend." When the United States opposed the Soviet Union, Thailand followed suit and opposed the Soviet Union, too. Even though we repealed our anti-communist law after the war, we continued to follow an anti-Soviet policy, standing shoulder to shoulder with the United States.

When the United States took the lead in establishing NATO in order to block the expansion of socialism or the influence of the Soviet Union in Europe and wanted to establish a line of containment from Europe to Asia, Thailand stood side by side with the United States in establishing SEATO. Thailand was the only country in Southeast Asia to embrace the United States. The only other countries in Asia to join this organization were Pakistan and the Philippines.

When the United Nations, with the United States in the lead, waged war in Korea, Thailand was the only country in Southeast Asia to send troops to fight side by side with U.S. forces. We joined in ostracizing China, which had a socialist government. We refused to sell them goods that the United States labeled "war materials." This included rubber. The people in the south, who grow rubber trees, cried because the price of sheet, or smoked rubber, fell

to only 2-3 baht per kg. Merchants had to sell the rubber to Malaysia at a very low price. Malaysia sold the rubber to China and other countries at a high price and made a nice profit. And it sold rubber to the United States, which just stockpiled the rubber based on its policy of helping its friends.

The Thai government drafted a new anti-communist law by copying the security law of the United States. In 1950 we followed the lead of the United States very closely. During that period, travel to socialist countries was forbidden. Thai who visited a socialist country were arrested by police on their return. At the same time, the door was opened wide for Thai or Thai students who wanted to visit or study in the United States.

After the end of the Korean War, the United States became involved in the war in Indochina. Again, Thailand followed the lead of the United States. We secretly sent troops to fight in Laos and finally became involved in the war in Vietnam. We fought against the Vietnamese people side by side with the United States. We were the only country in Southeast Asia to join the United States in that dirty war.

The Thanat-Rusk joint communique affirmed Thai-American cooperation. Besides sending troops to fight alongside American soldiers, Thailand humored its great ally by allowing the United States to establish military bases in Thailand to support the fighting in Vietnam. Bases were established at at least seven places, including Utaphao, Nakhon Ratchasima, Ubon Ratchathani, Udon Thani and Takhli in Nakhon Sawan.

We opposed the policy that the Thai monarchy had used to save the country from the colonialists, and we went against the Thai proverb that says "don't invite the enemy into the house."

We have cooperated with the United States in not trading with Vietnam. We have refrained from selling "war materials" to either China or Vietnam. We have not sold textiles to Vietnam or the other countries in Indochina. We have not sold rice to these countries even though they need food and our markets are being taken from us. We have allowed Singapore and Malaysia to buy our goods at low prices and sell them for a profit. We have done this for the sake of Thai-American friendship.

Look at how much we love the United States. Thailand produces large quantities of tobacco. The people in the northern region cannot find markets for all their tobacco. But we still import several hundred million baht worth of tobacco a year from the United States for use by the Thailand Tobacco Monopoly based on the policy of selling "American type cigarettes."

It can be seen that Thai cigarettes such as Ruang Khao, Phra Chan and even Klet Thong are gradually disappearing from the markets because of our policy of promoting "cigarettes with an American taste."

Haven't we done enough to show our love for the United States? We have become enemies with our neighbors in order to please our great friend across the ocean. We have gone against our customs while everyone else has opposed the "ugly American," or the disgusting or filthy American.

Thailand has been a loyal friend of the United States. But in return the United States showed its love for Thailand with the protectionist Jenkins Bill. This was followed by protectionist measures against steel pipe and tuna. And then it implemented the Farm Act. Now it plans to promulgate a copyright and patent law and a law known as the Omnibus Trade Bill.

What all of this means is that the United States is waging an economic war. Our great friend has dropped one economic bomb after another on us. These economic bombs that the United States has dropped on us have destroyed our stability and security. And they have destroyed Thai-American friendship. That is how the Thai people feel. The following expresses how the Thai people feel about Thai-American friendship:

"America is dangerous. Love the Thai farmer and join together in opposing the Farm Act. Be careful not to let Thailand become the slave of the United States. All Thai must join together in expelling the Americans and opposing the Farm Act. We must join together in the struggle and, with great confidence, oppose the Farm Act."

Achan Narong Phetprasoet, who is a member of the Faculty of Economics at Chulalongkorn University, participated in the seminar, too. He said that "Americans don't know the meaning of the word 'sympathy.' All they understand is an exchange of interests. People who day dream about the United States should be careful. The United States will profit from them."

This is how some Thai feel about the United States. I think that this feeling will become even more widespread unless the United States does away with its "economic bombs." The deep friendship will turn to great resentment. The words "ugly American" will be heard everywhere again. In the past, those who opposed the policy of following the United States were arrested. But I don't think that will frighten patriotic Thai.

I want to voice my support and sympathy for the Korean people who are struggling for independence. I have followed the struggle of people everywhere for freedom and justice. When Senator Aquino was killed at the Manila airport, I was the first person to condemn that political assassination. I said that President Marcos had to take responsibility. I also said that I did not understand how ASEAN leaders could associate with such an evil dictator. The details can be read in the BANGKOK POST, which printed my remarks the day after Aquino was shot.

I am very happy that the Philippine people have won freedom and justice. But dictatorship has not been eliminated completely from Asia. Ershad still controls Bangladesh. Zia continues to oppress the people of Pakistan. And the military clique of Suharto is still in firm control in Indonesia. In South Korea, where Thai shed their blood to preserve freedom, the Korean people do not have freedom or justice. The dictator Chun Doo Hwan is still in power. He has curtailed the rights and freedoms of the Korean people.

As a Thai and because Thai soldiers once shed their blood in Korea to protect freedom, I would like to say that those Thai soldiers did not fight and die to

protect a dictator. They fought and died for the freedom of all Koreans.

Thus, today, because the Korean people have been robbed of their freedom, I want to be part of the struggle for freedom and justice. I wish to express my support for their just struggle. The Korean people will surely be victorious.

Editorial on 'Real Nature' of U.S.

Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai 16-22 Apr 86 p 2

[Editorial: "We must Stand on Our Own"]

[Text] Finally, an economically secure country like the United States has encountered severe economic problems. The clearest sign of this is that the United States gradually began implementing trade protectionist measures against its allies. Now, those measures have greatly affected the allies of the United States. Thailand, for example, is now experiencing great problems with textiles and agricultural products.

Before the United States began experiencing economic problems, it acted as if it were very wealthy, giving aid to countries all around the world. That aid spawned a host of underlings who ruled their countries by oppressing the people. Even though problems were encountered in implementing policies, these client countries had to implement a foreign policy (and even domestic policies) acceptable to the United States.

Even after the United States began experiencing economic problems, it did not abandon its desire to rule the world, to be the leader or to get involved in everyone's affairs.

The only way that the United States can maintain its position as leader and lord is to solve the pressing economic problems. The United States has promulgated various laws that have given its allies cause to feel that the United States is trying to implement protectionist measures or promote the export of American goods to friendly countries that are weaker and poorer than the United States. These countries have concluded that the United States is not sincere or loyal and that it does not have good intentions toward its allies. In the end, these countries have begged the United States to show compassion and relax its measures so that they can survive.

We agree with trying to solve the immediate problems by asking the United States to show some sympathy. But for the long term, we must understand the real nature of the United States. We have to understand what they want and why they are acting like this.

The United States is not the only country that is like this. This is the real nature of all countries. That is, they will exploit others and pile up profits whenever they have a chance. We feel that international relations, regardless of the countries involved, allows us to draw this conclusion. Thus, the long-term problem is one of self-reliance. As for following them in the hope that they will show sympathy and compassion, it's time to abandon that idea.

Editorial on U.S. 'Behavior'

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 11 Apr 86 p 5

[Slap in the Face column by Pleo Singoen: "War Merchants"]

[Excerpts] Because of the unfriendly reaction on the part of several countries that used to be allies of the United States and because of the present situation in the world, it is not surprising that a bomb was exploded during Mr Weinberger's visit to Thailand. Thailand is not the first country where such things have happened during visits by senior people from the United States.

Americans are not safe anywhere, even in the White House in the United States. Believe me.

Events have convinced me that neither Thailand nor the United States is sincere about bringing the war in Indochina to an end.

What has happened clearly shows that there is no hope of the Vietnamese and Cambodians living together peacefully. Vietnam will soon swallow Cambodia. And Vietnam will not stop there. It will expand the war in accord with its objectives. Thailand and the United States know this and so it is necessary to establish a war reserve stockpile. They don't want to restore peace through negotiations. Rather, they want peace through military confrontation.

Actually, I understand and sympathize with the United States. Their behavior since the end of the Second World War has shown that without war, they would not have become rich so quickly. The more countries that the United States can get to go to war, the more weapons it can sell.

As for Thailand, now that the communist terrorists have been defeated, who else is there to suppress? They have had to use the Vietnam war as a threat. Thailand exports very little to the United States. But even so, the United States has implemented protectionist measures. They have offered to establish a weapons stockpile. But why are they making us purchase the F-16 aircraft? And why are they painting such a worrisome picture about an invasion by a neighboring country? In order to sell weapons, right? Is this showing sympathy for a friend?

THAI RAT Questions 'War Reserve'

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 16 Apr 86 p 5

[Slap in the Face column by Pleo Singoen: "Down the Old Path"]

[Text] No one has yet explained to the people the real significance of the war reserve stockpile. Whatever we say may be right or wrong and may just cause arguments. It seems as if the United States is acting like a weapons company that plans to set up an office in Thailand. Thailand does not have to use the weapons. But if it does, it will have to purchase the weapons from them.

The Thai military, including both retired soldiers and soldiers on active duty, support this project. To make people feel better, they have added that "there will definitely not be any nuclear weapons in the stockpile." I don't know whether the person who made that statement was in any position to give such a guarantee. As for why it is necessary to establish a war reserve stockpile in Thailand, people have said that the purpose is to ensure that we have the same capabilities as Vietnam, which the Soviet Union is supplying with large quantities of new weapons. We have to be prepared in order to ensure "mutual fear."

None of this makes much sense. It's a pity that this is part of the policy for bringing peace to this region. If the Soviet Union puts nuclear weapons in Vietnam, for the sake of equality we will have to allow the United States to install nuclear weapons in Thailand. Then, we will be equal.

I still believe in using the "politics leads the military" policy to solve the problems. I don't believe that Thailand and Vietnam can negotiate peace. We can't get along. Our policy on this matter puts us in the position of being the shoes of the United States. Before we can do anything, we have to ask the United States first. Even in voting on UN resolutions, we have openly followed the instructions of the United States.

As for the Vietnamese, Cambodian and Thai problem, which involves the Soviet Union, too, we have constantly "blocked ourselves." We have portrayed the Soviet Union as more fearsome than it really is. This is the same as in the past when Thailand followed the American policy toward China, with the result that the people became fearful of China. But today the governments of Thailand and China are very close to each other. China is not a devil, which is what the United States once tricked Thailand into believing.

We are trying to solve the problems by creating new problems. We are trying to stop the fighting using provocation.

The question I have for all those who support establishing a war reserve stockpile here is, "How can you be sure that there won't be fighting if a war reserve stockpile is established and how sure are you that we won't lose?"

Look at the war between north and south Vietnam. Look at the wars in Cambodia and Laos. Not only did the United States set up war reserve stockpiles, but it mobilized huge amounts of weapons and large numbers of men and spent a fortune. But North Vietnam, the Khmer Rouge and the Pathet Lao were able to fight the B-52s and artillery and defeat the United States using spikes and mines.

Sattahip is a likely location for the war reserve stockpile. This is what people think. But we can't allow this. Thailand does not belong just to Prem, the military and the 43 ministers. This must be discussed in greater depth.

27 May 1986

U.S. Called 'Thug'

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 18 Apr 86 p 5

[Robert Niap column: "The Sympathy of a Great Ally"]

[Excerpts] There is an old saying that says, "it's easy to make casual acquaintances but difficult to find loyal friends." This seems to fit Thailand's present situation very well. Our friend, or "great ally" as they refer to themselves, is not honest with us. Besides failing to help a friend in distress, this friend of ours is making things even worse for us. Our friend is destroying us.

Let's stop and think for a moment. Should we continue to associate with a great power friend such as the United States? Besides failing to help a friend who is in trouble, they are striking at us with evil intentions. Both the Farm Act and the Farm Bill are bad for us.

We are like a chick in their fist. They will kill us if they squeeze their fist. And we will die even if they don't. Have you ever noticed? The United States has always had influence over Thailand. The powerholders in every period have had to kowtow to them. We have had to follow their lead in everything.

We have never taken advantage of this friend. They have always taken advantage of us. We have constantly suffered losses. They have always given us the scraps and left-overs. They have never given us any "meat." In the case of both weapons and other matters, we have been delighted with the scraps that they have offered us. But whenever they have a chance, they rush to sell weapons and war materials. We have had to rely on them for everything from toothpicks to warships.

They are very clever. They always try to make a profit. But they share their profits with only certain groups. Senior Thai officials engage in corruption and are paid commissions for trading with them.

Now they have launched a new operation. They want to establish a war reserve stockpile here. I don't see how this will help us. But one clear disadvantage is that this will "invite the enemy into the house." People can't claim that we will be able to use the weapons immediately in time of war. They won't give us the weapons free. We will have to pay for everything we use. Thailand is not a "relative" of the United States. They won't give us anything free.

This friend just steps on us. The most recent examples are the Farm Bill and the Farm Act. But our leaders just ignore this. None of them has been affected. Our friend has constantly insulted us and then tried to mollify us, and we have just kowtowed to them. Because of what they have done in the past and because of how they are now treating their allies, particularly Thailand, should we call them a great friend or a thug?

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CSO: 4207/221

THAILAND

OFFICIAL, EDITORIAL REACTIONS TO FARM ACT CONTINUE

Columnist Links Farm Act, Stockpile

Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 17 Apr 86 p 16

[Nui Bangkhunthian column: "The War Reserve Stockpile and the Farm Act Are Linked"]

[Text] I don't know what criteria our leaders are using to assert that the Farm Act (which will destroy Thailand's rice markets during the next 5 years) is not related to the project to establish a Thai-U.S. war reserve stockpile.

Obviously, if everything is considered separately, then nothing is related to anything else regardless of whether it's rice, fertilizer, F-16 aircraft, squid, corn or tapioca. Each is a separate problem and must be solved separately. But if these problems are considered from the standpoint of the nation's interests, there is a linkage between all the problems. And the end result is a trade deficit, a budget deficit and debt. These things affect everyone in the country.

The Farm Act is an unfair trade system. The United States and Thailand have been allies for a long time. We have fought enemies side by side many times. The United States, which is the leader of the Free World, has started searching for rice markets and is trying to gain a monopoly. Thailand has the right to protest this.

What the Thai government and private organizations are protesting concerns the nation's interests. This is because the great majority of the people in Thailand are farmers. If the farmers can't make a living, the country will collapse. But the situation is different in the United States, where the Farm Act is just a minor matter. This is because there are fewer than 30,000 farmers in the United States. The United States will produce 4.2 million tons of rice this year and consume 2.4 tons domestically. It can export 1.9 tons. Revenues from rice represent only a small fraction of total export revenues.

Thailand produces 16-18 million tons of rice a year and consumes 12-13 million tons domestically. It exports about 4 million tons. However, revenues from exporting rice are our lifeline. Revenues total 20 billion baht a year. In terms of revenues, rice is our leading export.

The Farm Act will result in Thailand losing rice markets to the United States. Our market losses will total about 1 million tons worth 6 billion baht, which is equal to 6.144 percent of revenues from agricultural exports. For the United States, 6 billion baht is equal to only 0.599 percent of export revenues.

Thus, this problem must be considered from Thailand's position. That is, Thailand's interests have been affected so seriously that the country faces a crisis. This should not be considered from the standpoint of the United States, which views this as a minor issue.

As a result of the Farm Act, Thailand will grow poorer and more backward. This situation, plus the fact that Thailand is still being pressured by the communist powers, may result in Thailand experiencing the same fate as Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. And before Thailand suffers that fate, the Thai-U.S. war reserve stockpile will exert pressure on them to fill the gap.

In my view, the Farm Act and the war reserve stockpile are linked. They can't be considered separately. If Thailand's farmers are not poor and the United States doesn't seize our rice markets, our economy will improve. What that means is that we will grow stronger politically, economically and socially. But if we can't sell our rice, things will grow much worse. If Thailand grows weak, the communists will make advances here, and Thailand will be forced to use weapons from the war reserve stockpile and accept help from the United States, just like Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos when they were still in the Free World bloc.

The war reserve stockpile is a sign of war. No one would oppose strengthening our combat capabilities this way if Thailand had no other options. But the question is, is that the case today?

Government Spokesman on Countermeasures

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 22 Apr 86 pp 1, 16

[Excerpt] Commerce Reports to the Cabinet on the Farm Act

Mr Trairong Suwannakhiri, the spokesman for the Office of the Prime Minister, announced the results of the economic cabinet meeting on the evening of 21 April. He said that at the meeting, the Ministry of Commerce made the following recommendations for mitigating the effects of the U.S. Farm Act:

1. The United States promulgated the Farm Act in order to use it as a tool to combat the unfair trade practices of competitors, particularly the EEC and other countries that support agricultural exports in order to seize markets unfairly. Thus, Thailand has been included among the countries that engage in unfair trading practices even there is no evidence of this. The problem is that most congressmen do not know the facts.

2. The way to prevent this from affecting Thailand is to have the United States repeal or revise this law.

3. To get the United States to repeal or revise this law, we must try to make the U.S. congressmen from the 47 states that do not grow rice understand that Thailand has never supported rice exports.

4. To get the United States to understand and accept the truth, the matter must be discussed within the context of GATT, or the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Ninety-six countries are members of GATT. We must point out that the action taken by the United States is contrary to the objectives and intentions of GATT and will have an adverse effect on Thailand.

5. The United States will probably not revise this law this year because of the congressional election in November. If the United States does revise the law, it will be after the election, that is, around the beginning of next year. Thus, what should be done during this period to solve the problem?

6. At the same time, in order to prop up rice prices for Thai farmers, the ministries of agriculture and commerce should purchase paddy and milled rice on the markets in order to compete with the private sector and drive rice prices higher. The rice purchased by the Ministry of Agriculture or Ministry of Commerce can be exported when there are government-to-government rice sales.

Establish Rice Bank, Request Funds From the United States

7. However, if the government wants the domestic price of rice to increase, the government can purchase more rice based on the "rice bank" program, in which rice is stockpiled in order to help poor people or is sold at low prices to help poor people with low incomes, people who are starving and people, both here and abroad, who have suffered losses as a result of a natural disaster.

8. The problem is, where will we obtain the money to purchase rice for the rice bank program? We must ask the United States to pay us compensation for our losses concerning rice. The United States issued an unfair law that has affected Thailand's revenues and so it should pay compensation. This can be paid in cash or in kind in order to enable us to purchase rice for the rice bank. In asking the United States to pay compensation, we must cite the fact that the United States is engaged in trading activities that are unfair to Thailand and that have resulted in our suffering losses. Another question is whether the United States will agree to pay the compensation. That is difficult to answer because no negotiations have been held. We should open negotiations with them. The reason why we should open negotiations on this is that the United States has now agreed to compensate Thailand and several other countries for losses suffered when it cut sugar import quotas. They cut our sugar import quota by approximately \$2 million. The United States has proposed compensating us by paying us in kind with goods worth \$2 million. But the effect of the Farm Act on Thai rice is much greater than was the case with sugar. We should ask them to compensate us for our losses.

9. Demanding that the United States compensate us for our losses stemming from their unfair trade practices will have an effect on the U.S. Congress and administration. This will make the United States realize that its trade

activities have been unfair to Thailand. Thus, it will be easier to revise the Farm Act. Actually, to overcome the adverse effects of the Farm Act, the Farm Act itself must be revised. Otherwise, this law will continue to have an adverse effect on Thailand's rice trade.

Mr Trairong said that after the economic cabinet considered matters, it approved the following: 1. To overcome the adverse effects of the Farm Act, the Farm Act itself must be revised. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs must use political and diplomatic means and appeal to GATT in order to ensure that this law is revised. 2. It approved establishing a rice bank. The Ministry of Commerce is responsible for this. The Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Lt Suli Mahasanthana, the minister attached to the Office of the Prime Minister, will help coordinate things in seeking funds here and abroad in order to ensure that this program is implemented as quickly as possible.

Prem Proposes Four Ways To Solve the Problems

Mr Trairong said that the prime minister discussed the rice problem at the meeting of the economic ministers. Gen Prem told them that simply trying to solve the rice problem without trying to find other crops to increase revenues will not solve our problems. The rice problem must be solved. But attention must also be given to finding other crops that can earn foreign currency for the country.

Mr Trairong said that Gen Prem suggested four ways: 1. The farmers must be encouraged to cooperate with each other as much as possible in order to create a force in maintaining the prices and quality of the goods exported. The Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Agriculture are responsible for getting the farmers to join together. 2. Thailand must produce goods for sale by ensuring that quantities and quality match world market requirements. 3. The Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are responsible for obtaining information and informing the farmers about what goods are needed where and about quality and quantities. 4. All factions must help revise the regulations in order to facilitate exporting goods quickly.

Columnist Sees Act as 'Economic War'

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 9 Apr 86 p 7

[Article by Likhit Thirawekhin: "The United States, From a Political to an Economic War"]

[Excerpts] The United States has played the role of world policeman ever since the end of the Second World War. It has been the leader of the Western world ever since the decline in power of England and France. Through the Korean War, the Cold War and Vietnam War to today, the United States has expanded its military role in Asia, Latin America and elsewhere.

Whenever possible, based on its policy of opposing communism and expanding its political power, the United States has constantly tried to interfere in the internal political affairs of other countries, particularly the countries

located in politically strategic areas, in order to block the expansion of communism.

Their interference in the internal political affairs of others and their support for or direct participation in wars, such as the Korean and Vietnam wars, have been clear military/political acts aimed at implementing their policy of blocking the expansion of communism.

Unfortunately, in many countries in which the United States has intervened or which it has helped, things have ended in failure and defeat. Clear examples are South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. It has almost become a truism that as the military and political role of the United States grows larger in a country supported by the United States, defeat and collapse become apparent more quickly.

As for the attempt by the United States to wage an economic war, on one hand it must be admitted that this is a reflection of the weakness of the United States. Looking at this fairly, the main target of the United States is probably other developed countries such as Japan. At the same time, a distinction must be made between executive power and legislative power. For example, the Farm Act was proposed by the legislative branch.

However, in discussing international problems, the tendency is to view the country as a whole without making a distinction between the legislative and administrative branches. This is because this is an internal matter, and the matter is too complex.

It is expected that if the United States implements the various provisions of the Farm Act fully, Thailand will experience social problems, debt, a loss of jobs, migration, loss of morale, loss of all desire, an increase in banditry and other crimes and an increase in psychological problems. And finally, there will be political problems. The development of democracy here could come to a halt because of interference by outside variables, which could destroy our political equilibrium.

The U.S. policy aimed at protecting the interests of American farmers will affect the lives of hundreds of millions of people outside the United States. Many of these countries, particularly Thailand, have been allies of the United States for decades. In effect, the United States is waging economic war against Thailand.

The strong stand that Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon has taken against this U.S. policy is to be expected from the country's leader. There has to be a reaction when the majority of the people in the country have been adversely affected by a country that we have considered to be a close friend and that we have relied on so closely.

The sad thing is that the United States has made one political mistake after another because of holding erroneous beliefs and implementing policies based

on a double standard. While the United States has said that it wants to promote the development of democracy, it has implemented a policy of economic war, which is destroying democratic foundations.

Isn't it time that Uncle Sam reviewed its roles and policies, including those of both the administrative and legislative branches?

Columnist Demands Policy Changes

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 17 Apr 86 p 5

[Ta Mo Lo column: "The Farm Act: Doesn't the Government Have Any Ability?"]

[Excerpts] The United States has cut the price of its rice by 20 percent in order to force Thai rice, which is a competitor, out of world rice markets. The value of Thai rice sales have dropped by 2.7 billion baht a year because of having to cut prices to match those of the United States. And they will have to be cut even more if the United States cuts its prices again.

Unless we do something about this, our rice, corn and cassava farmers will all go bankrupt. The government still doesn't have a plan to deal with this problem. It seems that everyone in the government, from the top on down, has been fooled by the United States, which has patted us on the back saying, "never mind, never mind, this won't affect Thailand." And so Thailand continues to dream.

During the past period, the government has begged the United States to show compassion. This has achieved nothing. Thus, we must change our tactics.

If possible, the Thai government should attack the United States in the United Nations on the issue of the United States harassing Thai rice. This is an economic offensive by a great power against a small, poor country. And what is most important, the government must break its silence on this. The government must take the lead in uniting all the forces to fight the United States in order to save Thailand's 35 million farmers. All Thais must join together and voice their opposition to the United States as loudly as possible.

The government must change its international political line. It must try to promote closer relations with Third-World countries. It must not let the United States use the war reserve stockpile program as a bribe to get Thailand to keep its mouth shut. What is more, the government must reconsider this program in order to get the United States to reconsider the Farm Act.

As for our farmers, the government must implement measures to help the farmers and keep them from going bankrupt. The farmers are now in dire straits. Forty percent of the rice is still in the hands of the farmers, and prices are continuing to drop. Today, the price is about 1,800-2,000 baht per kwian [1 kwian equals 2,000 liters]. Prices are dropping because of the great effect of the U.S. Farm Act. All that will remain of the farmers is a pile of debts.

Thus, it's time that the government made some sacrifices. It must take 2.7 billion baht from the Bank of Thailand to keep the price of rice from

falling any further and save the farmers. Long-term plans can be discussed later. The government must maintain the price of rice regardless of its losses. It must stop being afraid of inflation. Otherwise, the farmers will die even sooner.

11943

CSO: 4207/222

27 May 1986

THAILAND

CENTRAL BANK FEARS REBIRTH OF ILLEGAL TRUSTS

Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 17 Mar 86 pp 1, 2, 16

[Article: "Shares of Link Trusts Are Popular Again After Interest Rates Drop"]

[Text] The Bank of Thailand is concerned about the return of illegal trusts after the drop in interest rates. Officials have been sent to investigate this thoroughly, and they reveal that shares of Ponzi-scheme share funds have come back into the market.

Mrs Chusari Daengpraphai, the head of the special task force of the group that controls financial institutions for the Bank of Thailand, disclosed that because of adjustments in interest rates which caused the interest rates in the financial markets within the system to decrease rather sharply, there may be an opportunity for investment companies outside the system to thrive again, which causes concern at the Bank of Thailand.

Previously the Ministry of Finance had announced a lowering of the interest rate, which was to be effective as of 5 March; the interest rate for term deposits fell from 11 to 9.5 percent, and the interest rate for savings accounts fell from 8.5 to 7.25 percent.

The decline in interest rates, it is feared, will cause the illegal trusts and investment companies to start up again since these companies offer a higher interest rate than the financial institutions within the system. They offer interest rates over 16 percent but they are not secure at all and so may cease operations and disappear, causing difficulties for their depositors as in the past.

The head of the special task force for the Bank of Thailand also said that there now appears to be more activity in the shares of these trusts, which caused the officials of the special task force to take a greater interest in illegal financial institutions.

"As far as we are concerned these trusts are not needed either in theory or practice; it is not desirable to have capital outside the system," Mrs Chusai said.

8149/9312

CSO: 4207/210

THAILAND

EDITORIAL: UNITED STATES BULLIES, PROVOKES LIBYA

Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 26 Mar 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Irrational Methods"]

[Text] The powerful navy of the United States of America has been the last resort for carrying out U.S. foreign policy since World War II. Now even if there is no large stage on which to make a "big play" and show its full strength, it is still used as an effective threat.

It is probably for this reason that the small naval battle took place off the shore of Libya, an Arab state on the Mediterranean led by "strongman" Colonel Mu'ammarr Qadhafi. The intractability of the leader of this small country was also a factor which changed the show of naval strength of the United States into a provocation followed by the largest naval battle since the Falkland's War between England and Argentina 4 years ago.

The losses of men and equipment in this naval battle are still not certain, and the same is true of the diplomatic losses which the government of President Ronald Reagan must accept as the side which started the provocations by starting maneuvers off the coast of this country 3 months ago and ordering warships into the Gulf of Sidra, which is claimed by Libya.

The loss to the United States was in the doubt aroused among U.S. allies about its policy of "confrontation" on the world stage, especially in the Middle East, which has caused the world situation to become very tense even though basically the allies understand the danger of the doctrine of state terrorism which the Libyan leader is supporting and even directing behind the scenes.

The United States should not claim that to threaten Libya is to "punish" terrorism or that the "risk" this time was taken to block the influence of the Soviet Union. The United States should not expect any applause from the world society because the "methods," meaning provocation and intimidation, which the United States used this time cannot promote a worthy goal.

These are irrational methods. Even when dealing with "one who is considered irrational," those using methods will be seen as irrational also.

8149/9312
CSO: 4207/210

THAILAND

UNION LEADER HEADS ANTI-MULTINATIONAL BUSINESS PROTEST

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 28 Mar 86 pp 1, 16

[Article: "Students and Workers Protest 'Japan'"]

[Excerpt] At 1100 hours on 27 March about 600 Thai workers employed by 5 Japanese companies including Minibaer, Ltd., Thainelon, Ltd., Thai Arrow Garment, Ltd., went over to protest in front of the Japanese embassy in Thailand on Asoke-Dindaeng Road because embassy officials did not supervise these companies and allowed them to take advantage of Thai workers and ignore Thai labor laws.

Our reporter said that at the protest of workers from these companies there was something new: they lectured from the roof of a bus and attacked Japan for taking advantage of Thai labor and firing workers. Mr Phaisan Thawatachainan, the president of the Thai Congress of Worker Organizations and Labor Federation, led the lecture. In addition, the workers carried posters objecting strongly to Japanese labor practices, for example, "Thailand is poor because of the influence of foreign capitalists," "let's work together and get the oppressive foreign capitalists off the back of Thai labor," and "Prem...please extend the term of Chanthana also." In addition, an effigy of a Japanese who had taken advantage of Thai workers was burned.

Mr Phaisan stated that it was common for Japanese companies to take advantage of Thai workers and fire them with insufficient reason and that this normally happens in every country where another country makes investments. This was especially true of underdeveloped countries which were oppressed and taken advantage of by a selfish Japan. The union official insisted that they would resist this to the end.

Mr Phaisan also said that Thailand had the lowest wage rate in Asia, which was very bad for Thai workers. At the same time foreign capitalists, especially the Japanese, took advantage of Thai workers, putting them in a very bad position.

Mr Phaisan said that Japan was a small island country which was able to build a prosperous economy; it has taken unjust advantage of other countries in order to make itself an economic superpower. In addition it has immorally

exploited the natural resources of other countries, especially underdeveloped countries, in order to supply itself.

Mr Phaisan said that one problem for Thai labor was that Thai individuals themselves were helping the foreign capitalists to oppress Thai workers; they have cooperated with the executives who were working for their own profit and causing difficulties for the workers.

Later at 1130 hours Mr Phaisan and eight workers' representatives who came to protest went in and gave a letter to Mr Khawanobe, a security official at the Japanese embassy, and to Mr Kamura, an embassy secretary for labor. This letter to the Japanese government stated that it should: (1) quickly clear the way for the importation of Thai goods into Japan and abolish the regulations blocking Thai goods; (2) quickly achieve a trade balance and a payments balance between Thailand and Japan; (3) force Japanese companies to act responsibly with regard to Thai labor and accept it as it is; and (4) give the Japanese embassy responsibility for solving the problem with Thai labor.

After this Mr Phaisan and all the workers' representatives who had come to protest went in to talk with officials of the Japanese embassy. At 1200 hours they came out and Mr Phaisan said of their talks that they had not achieved the desired result this time because embassy officials said that they would consider the demands before replying whether they would accept them or not. A reply is expected within a week.

In regard to this problem of Thai labor, Mr Phaisan said that during the talks embassy officials had responded that it was up to the Thai side to correct the law because the embassy had no function in this area; the problem occurred because Thai labor laws were lacking and therefore the embassy could not help. The reporter asked what they would do about this in the future. Mr Phaisan responded that if the demands of Thai workers in Point 1 went unheeded, then they would have to take further measures; they would work with other groups to boycott all Japanese goods sold in Thailand.

8149/9312

CSO: 4207/210

THAILAND

COLUMNIST FAULTS UNITED STATES ON LIBYA MOVES

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 2 Apr 86 p 4

["Stop the World" by Chet Prithasana: "The Libyan-American Conflict and the Problem of Maritime Rights"]

[Excerpt] The principal argument used by the United States to justify its retaliatory attack on Libya was based on the U.S. refusal to accept Libya's claim that the Gulf of Sidra was Libya's territorial waters--in the U.S. view the Gulf of Sidra was international waters through which anyone could freely sail. Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger compared Libya's firing of SAM missiles at U.S. planes which were conducting exercises with someone being shot at while traveling on a public road. This conflict points up some aspects of the problem of maritime rights for various countries; it is becoming the political problem of the present age.

Libya is like most countries in that it claims 12 miles of territorial waters except for the Gulf of Sidra, which juts into Libya and Libya considers to be Libyan waters. Mu'ammar Qadhafi, the Libyan leader, drew a line in the ocean which he called the "line of death." The line is at 32.5 degrees north latitude and is the line between Libyan territorial waters and international waters.

The United States claimed that its military maneuvers were in international waters because they were not closer than 12 miles from the coast, but Libya felt that going beyond the line of death was a violation of its sovereignty and the battle ensued.

In fact, analysts believe that the U.S. statements are merely a justification in order to appear consistent in dealing with Libya because there is no need for the United States to conduct military exercises in the waters off Libya even if they are more than 12 miles away. Libya's claim that the exercises were a provocation has some basis, and it is known that since the United States began military exercises in March, Libya has had to keep its naval and air defenses ready at all times in case the exercises turned into an invasion of Libya similar to the United States action against Grenada in 1982. For this reason during the exercises the situation in this area was tense, and the battle was the culmination of the tensions.

Another aspect of this is that Libya is not the only country with problems concerning territorial waters. If the United States claims to protect international waters it will have to deal with many countries which have proclaimed a 150-200 mile limit. But the United States chose to deal only with Libya because of the prejudices of the Reagan government.

The conflict between the United States and Libya is an example of a big country bullying a small country. Even though the United States claims in addition that Libya is supporting terrorism, nevertheless the United States does not have the duty to act as a policeman to control terrorism in the world. In addition there are other governments whose behavior is more serious than Libya's such as the racist government of South Africa. And Israel's policy is more violent than Libya's, but the United States has friendly relations with these countries and supports them.

For these reasons there is no doubt that the United States is responsible for the conflict between the United States and Libya, and it is not surprising that the United States has been opposed by most of the Third World and all Arab countries. Only England and Israel support the United States.

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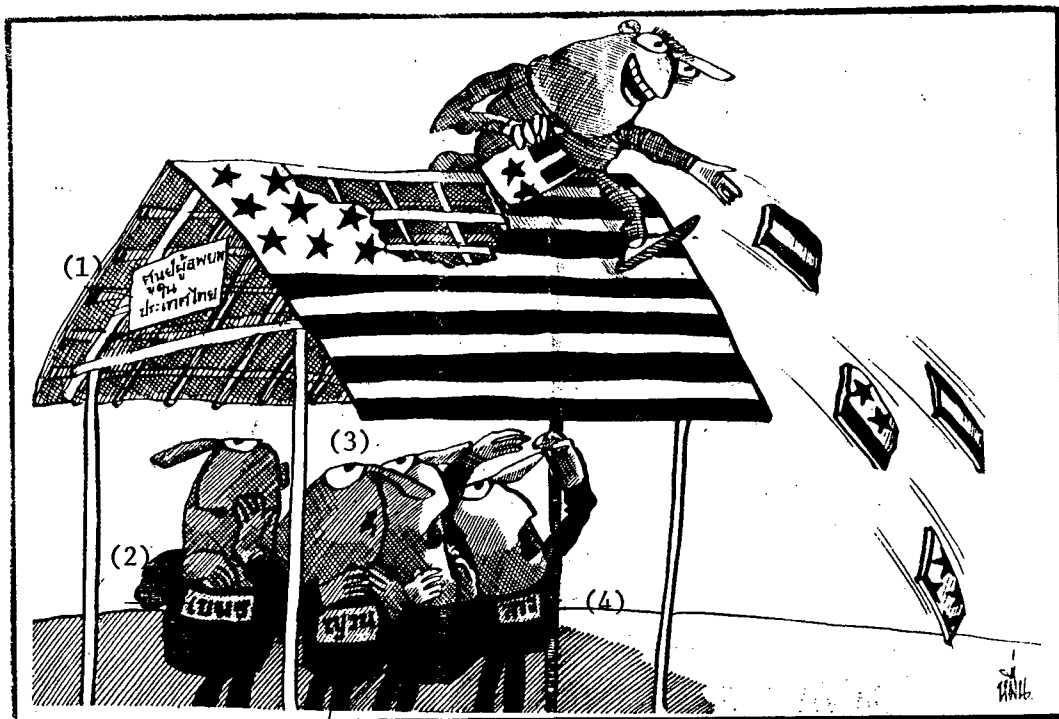
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THAILAND

CARTOON LAMPOONS U.S. INTEREST IN INDOCHINA REFUGEES

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 4 Apr 86 p 6

[Text]



1. Refugee center in Thailand
2. Cambodian
3. Vietnamese
4. Lao

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CSO: 4207/210

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

SPK HAILS ANNIVERSARY OF 17 APRIL VICTORY

BK180701 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1136 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK April 17--Today, the entire Kampuchean people are enthusiastically celebrating the 11th anniversary of the victory over the U.S. imperialists (April 17).

The brilliant victory, obtained with an enormous sacrifice of the Kampuchean people in their long and hard patriotic struggle will remain forever in the history of the Angkor land.

The victory of April 17 has also stemmed from the Kampuchea-Vietnam-Laos strategic alliance, particularly the direct, timely and disinterested aid of the Vietnamese Army volunteers. And now, the genuine and unshakable ties of friendship and solidarity among the three Indochinese countries which have been tempered through difficulties and trials have become a law of survival for each country's revolution.

The wing-spread of the April 17 victory is more clearly seen in the defeat of the 100,000 American soldiers and South Vietnam puppet troops' intervention in Kampuchea in 1973. And the latter's had been packed off before the iron-will of the Kampuchean people.

Unfortunately, Pol Pot, an opportunist, infiltrated in the party. Having succeeded to upsurge the power, this traitor who devoted himself to Maoism, had turned the triumphant day of the Kampuchean people into the beginning of a dark period till the victory day of the nation.

The Kampuchean people will never forget the thousands of tonnes of U.S. bombs dropped on the land of Angkor causing heavy losses in lives and properties. They will neither forget the over three million Kampucheans massacred by Pol Potists in their three years, eight months and twenty days. While celebrating this commemorative day, the Kampuchean people profoundly thank the Vietnamese volunteer Army who have made the noble sacrifices for the cause of the Kampuchean people, liberating them from the danger of extermination.

To promote the spirit of April 17, the Kampuchean people will always enhance their vigilance to foil all attempts of the U.S. imperialists, who, in collusion with the Chinese expansionists and other reactionary forces in the region, continue their support for the counter-revolutionary Khmers in their opposition to the peaceful life of the Kampuchean people.

The Kampuchean people and their armed forces are determined to further strengthen their solidarity with the Vietnamese Army volunteers so as to deal more telling blows to the Khmer reactionaries, and gradually take the country toward socialism.

/6662

CSO: 4200/1008

27 May 1986

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

TALK IN PHNOM PENH MARKS AFGHAN NATIONAL DAY

BK291600 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1120 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK April 29--The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Commission for External Relations of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea jointly organized a talk at the Soviet Cultural Center in Phnom Penh last Sunday on the eighth anniversary of the April revolution of Afghanistan.

It was attended by Prach Sun, vice president of the commission, representatives of various ministries, public offices and youth association in Phnom Penh, and others.

On that occasion, Ung Sean, chief of the Asian-Australian Department under the Foreign Ministry highlighted the history of the struggle for liberation and independence of the Afghan people against British and U.S. imperialism and other reactionary forces, and hailed the victory of the April revolution of Afghanistan as a turning point in its national development.

Ung Sean also spoke of the all-round successes scored by the Afghan people during the last five years under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan despite the manoeuvres and sabotage of the enemy. He also praised the steady development of the Afghan-Soviet relations which has contributed to the strengthening of security, independence and territorial integrity of the two countries.

On this occasion a documentary film titled "Under the Banner of the April Revolution" was screened.

/6662

CSO: 4200/1008

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

94 'MISLED' PERSONS RETURN--Phnom Penh SPK May 8--In April this year, 94 people misguided by the enemy propaganda, reported themselves to the revolutionary authorities in Kompong Thom Province, 150 km north of Phnom Penh. They brought along 31 guns and a quantity of other ammunition. The figure represents an increase of 23 such people over the same period last year. The returnees were welcomed by the local authorities and population who also helped them to embark on a new life. In the first quarter of this year, 47 Polpotists and 44 Sereikas reported themselves to the revolutionary authority at Mongkol Borei District, Battambang Province, 300 km northwest of Phnom Penh. The returnees brought along two rocket-launchers of B-67 and B-40, one machine gun, 41 AK automatic rifles and a quantity of ammunition. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1058 GMT 8 May 86 BK] /6662

THAI TERRITORIAL VIOLATIONS IN APRIL--Phnom Penh SPK May 7--In April, Thai aircraft of L-19, A-36 and F-5 types and helicopters, 107 times, or 40 times more than March's figure, violated the Kampuchean airspace over the Kampuchean-Lao-Thai border intersection, northern Preah Vihear, Don Sar, northern O Bok and Poipet. On sea, Thai armed vessels made 942 intrusions into Kampuchean waters from 13-75 kilometers off Kaoh Kong and Kaoh Tang Islands, or 281 times more than the previous month. On land, in the first week of April alone, Thai troops made from 500-1,000 artillery and mortar shellings to support Khmer reactionaries' infiltrations into Kampuchean soil. In all, 233 enemy acts of sabotage were recorded in April. The Kampuchean Revolutionary Armed Forces duly intercepted the intruders, killing or wounding 1,780 of them, capturing 274, forcing 232 others to surrender and seizing 425 weapons and a quantity of ammunition. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1102 GMT 7 May 86 BK] /6662

TRADE MINISTRY MEETING--Phnom Penh SPK May 1--The Ministry of Home and Foreign Trade has just held in Phnom Penh a meeting to review its past activities and set new tasks for 1986. A report at the meeting said that in 1985, Kampuchea topped its plan for industrial and farm products by 21 percent, achieved its plan for the export of products, including rubber, wood, maize, soya beans and tobacco, by 97 percent, and surpassed its plan for goods sale to the population by 40 percent. The Council of Ministers awarded the trade service in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province with a rotary banner and the trade services of Kompong Speu, Takeo, Kandal, Pursat, Kratie, Stung Treng and Kompong Cham Provinces with certificates of merit. The provinces of Battambang, Kompong Thom and Preah Vihear received the rotary banner of the

ministry. Speaking to the meeting, Hun Sen, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and premier, highly appreciated the results of the trade service across the country and urged the participants to do their utmost to fulfill all tasks set by the state for this year as well as for the coming year. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1152 GMT 1 May 86 BK] /6662

USSR FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION'S VISIT--Phnom Penh SPK April 30--A delegation of the USSR-Kampuchea Friendship Society led by Vice President Razorenov left Phnom Penh Monday after ending its official friendship visit to Kampuchea. The delegation was seen off at Pochentong Airport by Min Khin, deputy general secretary of the National Council of the United Front for Construction and Defence of the Kampuchean Fatherland and general secretary of the Kampuchea-USSR Friendship Association; and D. Toursnov, first secretary of the Soviet Embassy. During its stay, the delegation held talks separately with Men Chhan, vice chairman of the front; Pen Navut, candidate member of the party Central Committee and minister of education and vice president of the association; Sin Song, director of the state inspectorate and Klot Randi, deputy ministry of industry. The delegation gave many lectures on the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the 116th birthday of great Lenin at various public offices and educational establishments. It also visited several places of interest. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1111 GMT 30 Apr 86 BK] /6662

INDIAN ARCHEOLOGICAL DELEGATION--Phnom Penh April 17--Hun Sen, premier and foreign minister, received in Phnom Penh Wednesday afternoon a delegation of the archeological survey of India headed by Dr M.S. Nagaraja Rao. Hun Sen welcomed the visit as a significant one. He also exchanged views with the guests on the programme for the restoration of Angkor Vat temple within seven years from 1986. He also asked his guests to convey best regards from the Kampuchean leaders to his Indian counterparts. For his part, Nagaraja Rao pledged that he would do his utmost to help restore the historical relics. He also thanked the Kampuchean officials for providing facilities to him during his stay in Kampuchea. A.K. Pandey, Indian charge d'affaires to Kampuchea, was also present. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1116 GMT 17 Apr 86 BK] /6662

CUBAN JUSTICE MINISTRY DELEGATION--Phnom Penh SPK April 8--A delegation of the Justice Ministry of the Republic of Cuba, arrived in Phnom Penh Tuesday afternoon for an official friendship visit to Kampuchea. The delegation led by Juan Escalona Reguera, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and minister of justice, was welcomed at Pochentong Airport by Uk Bunchhoeun, minister of justice and other Kampuchean officials. Viriato Mora Diaz, Cuban ambassador to Kampuchea was also presented. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1113 GMT 8 Apr 86 BK] /6662

GREETINGS FROM CUBA'S MALMIERCA--Phnom Penh SPK April 16--On the occasion of his 35th birthday, Hun Sen, Kampuchean foreign minister, has received warmest greetings from his Cuban counterpart, Isidoro Malmierca. In his

message, Malmierca said: "Your devotion to the struggle against the genocidal Polpotists has contributed to the liberation of your heroic people to the consolidation and the promotion of the achievements of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and to the construction of the new society. On this occasion, I would like to wish you new successes in your highly responsible tasks, the best of health and happiness, and at the same time to assure you of my consideration and appreciation," the message concluded. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1146 GMT 16 Apr 86 BK] /6662

CSO: 4200/1008

27 May 1986

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

VIETNAM

CU CHI DISTRICT ABANDONS ECONOMIC CHECKPOINTS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 12 Mar 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by M.V.: "Cu Chi Abandon Controls Posts Within District"]

[Text] On 14 March 1986, the People's Committee of Cu Chi District decided to abandon the control posts in the district, including those on the border with other districts.

Previously, to block dishonest merchants engaged in speculating, smuggling and competing with the state to purchase agricultural products, Cu Chi established control posts on Route 22 (in Tan Phu Trung Village) and on Route 15 (in Tan Thanh Dong Village). Now, complying with the city's position of creating favorable conditions for the production and commodity circulation of farmers, Cu Chi District has abandoned these control posts.

After abandoning the control posts, to requisition and purchase many products from the farmers, Cu Chi District has applied methods of: actively encouraging farmers not to sell their agricultural products to dishonest merchants; investing capital and materials in the agricultural cooperatives to develop the production of agricultural and export products aimed at creating a stable base of supply; expanding the network of agricultural product requisition and purchase agents all the way to the marketing cooperative and agricultural cooperative; instituting methods of suitably rewarding individuals and units selling many agricultural products to the state, etc.

After abandoning the control posts, Cu Chi District suggested that localities and nearby units actively support Cu Chi in the maintenance of distribution and circulation order, assisting the district to properly manage local agricultural products and to completely halt the buying and selling competition that causes additional disruption of market prices and adversely affects production and the lives of the people.

The elimination of unnecessary control posts and ending the "forbidden markets, blocked rivers" situation is in strict compliance with decisions of the Council of Ministers and the city. Public opinion applauds this action by Cu Chi. It was a necessary and decisive step aimed at creating conditions for the favorable development of production, circulation and distribution, and for avoiding agitations to the people and normal negative occurrences. To ensure the requisition and purchase of agricultural products and good market management, the principal problems posed occur in proper economic methods, in management at the

source, and in reasonable prices and good organization of requisitioning and purchasing while simultaneously creating every condition for assisting the farmers to overcome difficulties in production and life, encouraging them to conscientiously sell their products to the state. On the other hand, local areas and units must maintain economic discipline and order, not through a "control fence."

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CSO: 4209/471

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VIETNAM

FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER GIVES SPEECH ON FOREIGN TRADE IN 1985

Hanoi NGOAI THUONG in Vietnamese Jan 86 pp 5-9

[Summary of Speech by Minister Le Khac at a conference to recapitulate the work of the Ministry of Foreign Trade in 1985: "Continue To Bring About New Transformations in Foreign Trade"]

[Text] The old year has passed and the new year has arrived. We have just successfully fulfilled the 1985 export-import plan and attained a number of results in carrying out the Ministry's work plan set forth at the beginning of the year. In addition to being greatly inspired and motivated by the important historical events in our country and the world, and the new advantages, under the light of the resolutions of the Party and the initial transformations of the sectors and echelons with regard to foreign trade in 1985, we encountered considerable difficulties and obstacles in guiding and organizing the fulfillment of the export-import mission.

Our country's economy was still severely imbalanced in many respects: there were serious shortages of raw materials, energy, materials, and especially imported materials. One natural disaster after another caused many serious losses of people and materiel. Meanwhile, the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists, along with the international reactionary powers, continually waged border encroachment, sabotage, and economic isolation warfare. The struggle between the socialist and capitalist paths was fierce. Difficulties abroad. The world market situation underwent upheavals. Domestic prices were unstable. The balances in the production and state purchasing of export goods were not ensured. But under the direct leadership of the Party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers, and with the coordination of the sectors and echelons, and the efforts of all foreign trade cadres, workers, and personnel from the central level down to the local level, and in our country and abroad, the export-import plan set forth at the beginning of the year was fulfilled.

In 1985 the export index increased by about 8 percent in comparison to 1984 and was twice that of 1981, the first year of the 1981-1985 5-year plan. The indices of some products were quite high. Obligations to deliver goods to foreign countries, especially the Soviet Union and the other fraternal countries, were fulfilled at increasingly higher levels and new advances were made. The organization of production and the creation of sources of export

goods began to undergo transformations, especially in the sphere of promoting exports produced by the local economy and in the districts. A number of localities began to be concerned with investing in the production of export goods and with creating and developing a number of new products. However, in comparison to the requirements and capabilities exports increased slowly. The quality of many products was still low. Sufficient attention was not paid to complete production and investment plans to create principal export products. The disparity between exports and imports was reduced but was still great.

Last year the import index increased 10 percent more than planned and increased 1.5 percent over 1984. A number of important goods based on import norms set by the central echelon, such as POL, fertilizer, insecticides, steel, etc., were imported in a timely manner to serve production in our country. In the case of some products, even though we encountered difficulties with regard to foreign exchange we ultimately found ways to import them and meet the needs of the economy. Progress was gradually made in importing and there were positive effects on production, life, the division of social labor, and the creation of sources of export goods. In addition to the localities which made all-out efforts to fulfill obligations to deliver goods to the central level and promote local exports, and thereby were able to import essential materials and goods and contribute to correcting the imbalances in production and life, a high ratio of the imports of a considerable number of localities were consumer goods, including many types of goods which we are capable of producing domestically, or high-level products, which wasted foreign exchange and created consumption habits which were not in accord to our present consumption policy.

Export-import management, including both organization and cadres, made a number of advances last year. But in comparison to the above-mentioned tasks, that sphere was still weak and not much was accomplished in performing the necessary tasks. After studying and drafting documents 128/HDBT and 177/HDBT on encouraging exporting and strengthening export-import management, so that they could be submitted to the Council of Ministers for promulgation, we did not concretize those decisions in the form of implementation guidance documents that were appropriate to the situation of expanding the right to engage directly in exporting. That limited the results and prevented us from attaining our goal of strengthening management: promoting exporting effectively and in correct accordance with policies. From a strict point of view, our export-import management, including policies, regulations and professional matters, was still beset with many deficiencies and therefore to a certain degree adversely affected the general situation, especially in the sphere of distribution and circulation. Domestic prices increased, in part because the management of the buying and selling of export goods was not good.

The accomplishments, and lack of accomplishments, during the past year cannot be separated from guidance by the Ministry and the organization of implementation by units in the sector. A considerable number of units, from the central level down to the local level, and both management organs and commercial organizations, made initial advances with regard to economic thought and the improvement of working methods. Although still heavily characterized by the bureaucratic centralism-state subsidy type of administrative management, many units made progress made new advances and

dared to think and do in developing sources of goods, expanding the market, and organizing transportation. Although some were only initial advances they held much promise.

In addition to the results that were attained, and the fulfilled and unfulfilled tasks mentioned above, a number of other matters were included in the Ministry's work program. We will work together to study them and endeavor to do a good job of carrying them out in 1986.

We are beginning 1986, the first year of the 1986-1990 5-year plan, a plan of decisive significance in fulfilling the missions and attaining the economic goals in the first phase of the period of transition, which were set forth by the Fifth Party Congress.

The missions of the 1986 state plan were confirmed by the ninth plenum (fifth term) of the VCP Central Committee, with the principal guidelines of continuing to regard agriculture as the foremost front, especially the rapid increasing of food production; the strong development of the production of consumer goods and export goods; the key heavy industry sectors serving agriculture, the consumer goods industry, and communications and transportation; the promotion of export-import and foreign economic activities, especially export-import activities; the positive implementation of a new division of labor; the redeployment of labor; the rearrangement and reorganization of production; the state mastering the market and gradually stabilizing the price, financial, and monetary situations and the living standards of the people; socialist transformation and the consolidation of socialist production relations, the formation of the new management structure; the rectification of the state management apparatus; and the consolidation and strengthening of national defense.

In implementing those guidelines, missions, and goals, foreign trade plays an extremely important role. In advancing to building and developing a socialist economy on the basis of an economy in which small-scale production is prevalent, which has experienced many years of continuous warfare, and in which there are still many imbalances in production and life, objective requirements, and also an economic matters of a law-like nature in building and developing the economy in the initial phase of the period of transition, are tying the domestic economy in with the world market and economy, especially the world socialist economic system and combining agriculture, industry, and exporting-importing to form a unified system from the very beginning, thus creating a status as solid as that of a "three-legged trivet."

That is an extremely important matter which determines the contents and working methods of foreign trade under our country's conditions. In 1982, at a national foreign trade sector, we reached conclusions based on the actual situation. They were contents which we must fully understand, at present and in the future, in order to do a better job of carrying out the following tasks:

With regard to exports, all-out efforts must be made to attain an export index at least 14 percent greater than in 1985, as approved by the National Assembly. We must fulfill our international commitments, first of all with

the Soviet Union and the member nations of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, especially with regard to such important commodities as tin, rubber, coffee, tea, peanuts, jute, coconut oil, etc., and continually improve the quality of export goods. At the same time, we must increase exports to countries outside the socialist market in order to meet some of our import needs. To fulfill those requirements it is necessary to, along with the sectors and localities, ensure the supplying of materials for production and the state purchasing of exports, as stipulated by Decision 177/HDBT of the Council of Ministers on policies and measures to promote export and strengthen export-import management. In other words, "In the state plans it is necessary to set aside 50 percent of the foreign exchange or materials resulting from exports for reproduction and the state purchasing of exports." We must, along with the relevant sectors, transform those policies into a mechanism. We must continue to perfect and supplement policies that have been promulgated regarding exporting-importing to encourage the development of production, the increasing of the sources of export goods, and the promotion of exports by the local economy, with the district serving as the sphere for organizing the production of export goods. The policy of encouraging exports has a great significance and role in increasing the sources of goods but will have a limited effect if attention is not paid to investing to bring about a new transformation in the production of export goods. Therefore, attention must be paid to investment to create additional capability or capacity to produce agricultural, aquatic, industrial, small industry, and handicraft exports. Investment must be complete and must simultaneously affect all three factors of export potential: such labor objects as land, natural resources, and the various kinds of raw materials and materials; such labor means as machinery, equipment, tools, material infrastructures, etc.; and labor, including the skills of both producers and those engaged in commerce.

During the recent period investment in exports has not been complete and the level and ratio of investment in exports in the total investment by the national economy, as well as each sector, locality, and unit, have been too low, to the extent that with regard to certain products some localities have been concerned only with developing the existing products, and never consider investing. Investing in exports is a responsibility of all producing sectors and echelons. Among them, the foreign trade sector, or more specifically, according to the products for which they are assigned responsibility, each export-import general corporations and corporations, must play a leading role. In each specific case they must be the true masters in investing in exports. Therefore, beginning now, while fulfilling the 1986 plan missions, it is necessary to prepare for future years, in which investment is very important. The planning, professional, and marketing elements of each unit must coordinate with one another in determining which goods need investment, on the basis of fully studying the world market and price tendencies, our domestic production capabilities, and export effectiveness. We must expand products, seek new products, increase the volume and improve the quality of all products, expand the market, etc. All of those tasks must be carried out immediately, beginning now, if we are to increase the export index now and in future years.

In addition to the above-mentioned tasks, it is necessary to coordinate with the sectors and localities promoting the implementation of economic

cooperation programs with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal nations in the sphere of producing export goods.

Regarding imports: The needs of economic construction and development and the need to resolve imbalance in production and life have increased steadily. Like it or not, every year importing must bring into the country a large quantity of fertilizer, insecticides, POL, steel, cotton, a number of other materials and raw materials, equipment, spare parts, and completely equipped technical projects, as called for by the state plan. In addition, there are countless other needs which are at times very urgent and sudden.

On the basis of the actual situation in recent years, we have come to realize more and more clearly that in the initial phase of the period of transition, due to the very important role and position of importing with regard to the economy, and because import needs increase steadily but the sources of foreign exchange are limited, it is still necessary rely to an important extent on loans from foreign countries, so in addition to rapidly increasing exports and expanding the sources of foreign exchange income, a matter of foremost importance in importing is to, always adhering closely to the economic-social goal it is necessary to go all-out to economize on each dong of foreign exchange, and make effective use of foreign exchange. Therefore, it is necessary to manage imports very tightly, unify the management of foreign exchange, determine a rational and effective import structure, regard quality and effectiveness as the most important concerns, and tie in imports and exports in the case of the economic sectors, localities, and production bases with export capabilities. There must be all-out economizing of the foreign exchange that has been invested, forbid the importation of luxury goods and consumer goods which we are capable of producing and supplying domestically, and set aside foreign exchange primarily for importing materials and raw materials to serve production.

We must, along those lines, supplement and perfect import regulations. Along with the relevant sectors, especially the customs sector, we must improve the issuing of import permits.

With regard to export-import management and the creation of a new management mechanism. Those are extremely important matters with which our Party and state are very concerned. They are also matters which our sector is concentrating on studying. Under the conditions of an economy that is still characterized by small-scale production, the commodity ratio not yet being high, and there still being serious imbalances, at a time when we are carrying out the policy of simultaneously building up the central economy and developing the local economy and there still exist many economic components in society, many new, varied, and complicated problems have been posed for economic management in general and exporting-importing specifically. Therefore, a major, urgent requirement that is posed for our sector at present is creating a foreign trade management mechanism that is appropriate to the first phase of the period of transition. Only by creating such a mechanism can we set forth management measures and strengthen management. In creating a foreign trade management mechanism we must at the same time improve planning, review the system of economic levers in exporting-importing, and reorganizing the apparatus. That mechanism must be intended to expand the right of the

basic units of the basic units of the foreign trade sector to take the initiative in commerce, and change over to the implementation of economic accounting and socialist commerce in accordance with the principles of the state having a monopoly in foreign trade and the central echelon unifying the management of foreign trade and foreign exchange.

In the immediate future, it is necessary to perform the following tasks:

First, the Ministry of Foreign Trade must do a good job of fulfilling its state management function with regard to export-import activities. To carry out that task, it is necessary to immediately carry out such tasks as improving and supplementing the system of requesting approval of export-import plans and the regulations regarding plan reporting and export-import statistics; codify the import management policy; improve the regulations regarding the issuing of permits and reorganizing those working elements in order to develop the role of import permits; complete the drafting of regulations regarding the management of export-import contracts and the management of export-import prices; and draft, supplement, and perfect a number of regulations in foreign trade activities.

Second, strictly implement the current policies and regulations regarding export-import management. We must bring an end to the situation of violating the policies and regulations, lacking a sense of responsibility, lacking knowledge, and thus harming the management system.

Third, step up continuous and periodical inspections in order to promptly correct distortions and uncover matters that must be amended, and supplement the policies and regulations, as well as the regulations that have been promulgated. The Inspection Department must play the main role and coordinate with the other units in carrying out that work.

With regard to research: any task that is performed must be investigated and researched. Research must be intended to serve the immediate and long-range goals. The contents and scope of research in the sphere of foreign trade are also very great. The principal contents are still carrying out research in order to draft policies regarding exporting, importing, export-import management, and marketing, including who our trading partners will be, the goods we will trade in, and how we will trade to achieve maximum benefit with regard to each product and market, etc.

Research in order to create a system of Vietnamese foreign trade theory and to draft policies and regulations to serve the commercial and managerial requirements is very important. But the Ministry, like the other units, has not yet stressed and paid attention to that task, but has often been drawn into bureaucratic tasks. Research has always been difficult, and in addition, because of the bureaucratic centralism-state subsidy mechanism and the lack of concern by leadership, there has arisen a combined factor which has restricted research and resulted in a lack of incentive and encouragement for cadres who are capable and enthusiastic toward that work. Therefore, the problem that is posed at present is to urgently reorganize the sector's research work, intensify the training of cadres engaged in research work, and correctly

evaluate the quality of the work and merit of each author with regard to those tasks.

Strengthening research is a responsibility of the organs and units, including the Institute of Foreign Trade Economics and the journal NGOAI THUONG which, in accordance with their functions, play an important role. Those organs must be strengthened so that they can do a better job of carrying out research.

With regard to organization and cadres: Whether or not the above-mentioned missions are fulfilled well or not depends to a very important degree on the organization and cadre work. It is necessary to create an export-import organizational apparatus that both ensures the principle of the state having a monopoly in foreign trade and expands and develops the dynamism and creativity of the sectors and localities in export-import activities. On the basis of inspecting and surveying the circulation of export goods, we must study the reorganization of the state purchasing of export goods and eliminate the unnecessary intermediate links. We must clarify the functions and missions of export-import activities in the sphere of the nation and each region, in order to rearrange and reorganize the foreign trade apparatus from the central level down to the localities. At present, there are many different models of the organization of foreign trade at the local level. Therefore, it is necessary to survey, study, and recapitulate them in order to have rational models, and immediately rectify the organizations which do not meet the common managerial requirements. Within each unit it is necessary to carry out studies in order to rebuild their organizations and assign cadres in a manner appropriate to the functions and missions assigned them, in order to create streamlined, effective apparatus.

We must continue to create function and cadre standards, carry out the categorization and classification of the production and commercial organizations, and on that basis fulfill the cadre training plan for the 1986-1990 period. We must, in the course of the actual work and the mass revolutionary movement, uncover new talents in order to cultivate them and add them to the ranks of key cadres. The party committee echelons and such mass organizations as the Trade Union Federation and the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union must be concerned with and have major responsibility in creating sources of key cadres for the sector's echelons.

Those tasks cannot be carried out well if we are not concerned with the material and spiritual lives of the cadres, workers, and civil servants, and do not do a good job of carrying out the struggle to oppose negativism and protect internal political security and promote the socialist emulation movement.

If those tasks are carried out well we are confident that in 1986 the foreign trade work will undergo a new transformation and do a better job of fulfilling its glorious destiny toward building and developing the nation's economy, especially in the initial phase of the period of transition. That is a practical act which manifests our sentiment toward an confidence in the glorious Vietnam Communist Party, and will be a precious gift to present to the Sixth Party Congress.

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CSO: 4209/443

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

FULL UNDERSTANDING OF 1986 STATE PLAN URGED

Hanoi TAP CHI KE HOACH HOA in Vietnamese No 1, Jan 86 pp 2-5

[Article: "Grasp the Direction and Missions of the 1986 State Plan and Measures for Implementing It"]

[Text] In 1985, under the guidance of the Party the people all over the nation endeavored to overcome many major difficulties, achieve many results, and make new advances in fulfilling the state plan. Although all plan norms were not attained, nearly all of the principal norms increased in comparison to 1984. Despite the continual occurrence of storms, floods, and drought in many provinces, in 1985 the national grain output was 400,000 tons, and animal husbandry, the growing of industrial crops, forestry, and the raising and catching of aquatic products developed. The value of industrial output increased 7.4 percent and the value of the output of central-level industry increased 8.5 percent. The communications-transportation sector went all-out to provide transportation for the important products. The construction schedules of a number of capital construction projects were maintained and they were brought into use on schedule. Good results were attained in the state purchasing of many agricultural products, new advances were made in controlling industrial goods, and the socialist commercial network was further expanded. The export index increased 7.6 percent over 1984. Total social output increased 5.8 percent and the national income increased 3.7 percent.

The Nam Bo provinces essentially completed agricultural cooperativization and brought 85.5 percent of the land and 87.2 percent of the peasants into production collectives and agricultural cooperatives. The transformation of private industry and commerce and market management were intensified.

All-out efforts and advances were made in the scientific-technical, education, and social tasks and in cultural, artistic, physical education and sports, and information activities.

New advances were made in combining the economy with national defense and national defense with the economy in all areas, especially in the northern border provinces.

Noteworthy was the fact that many installations and districts fully understood resolutions 6, 7, and 8 of the Party Central Committee, the

leadership and management methods were renovated, and guidance of production and commerce was more effective and clearly manifested an upward tendency.

However, because the was tardiness of improving management and guidance of plan implementation by all echelons and sectors, there were still many weaknesses and deficiencies: industrial and agricultural production was unstable, productivity, quality and efficiency were very low, and a number of important products did not increase, but in some instances declined. The export index increased and the quality of export goods failed to meet the commitments made in contracts and did not keep up with the requirements of the world market. The socialist transformation of private industry and commerce was still weak. There were still many difficulties in circulation and distribution.

In general, at the end of the 1981-1985 5-year plan, in addition to the new advances and the new elements which had to be affirmed and developed, our nation's economy was still faced with severe difficulties. The major balances of the national economy were still very tense. Production and construction had not yet been reorganized. Although the new production relations had taken form they were still at a low level and the socialist economy has not yet been solidly consolidated. The existing labor, land, machinery, and equipment had not yet been well utilized. The transformation in the quality of culture and education has was slow. The socialist legal norms had not been strictly enforced.

The above-mentioned difficulties, weaknesses, and deficiencies must be resolutely overcome by all echelons and sectors, in order to solidly advance the economic-social advances in 1986.

The year 1986 is the first year of the 1986-1990 5-year plan, a plan of very important significance in the fulfillment of the economic-social missions and goals in the initial phase of the period of transition set forth by the Fifth Party Congress. The year 1986 must be a year in which the collective mastership right of the working people is brought into play, the mass revolutionary movement is seething throughout the nation, and the leadership of the Party and the management of the state are markedly improved, in order to create a new transformation in attaining the results that were set forth.

As we begin the 1986 plan, the implementation of the sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth resolutions, with the transformation of the new management mechanism, will have a great effect on all activities of the economy. The movement to compete in production and economize to celebrate the Sixth Party Congress will strongly promote a labor spirit throughout the nation. The completion of construction projects begun in past years and in 1985 will create additional new production capacity. The great undertaking of transforming socialist production relations will be further perfected, market and price management will make new advances, and dynamic, effective working methods will be increasingly expanded in the sectors, localities, and bases. Cooperative economic and scientific-technical relations between our country and the member nations of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, especially the Soviet Union, as well as cooperation among the three Indochinese countries, have many new capabilities and will be increasingly

strengthened. Those are new advantages and factors which will exert a great effect on the 1986 economic-social plans.

But on the other hand it is necessary to realize clearly that our country's economy is still beset with severe difficulties and the economic-social situation is not yet stable. The major balances, such as grain, foreign exchange, and strategic materials are still very tense. Compared to 1985, the importation of materials may increase notably, but will still be far below the needs of production and life. During the past several years the production rate has increased slowly, the national income has not kept up with consumption, the population has continued to increase rapidly, the unemployment rate is still high, the new management mechanism is still undergoing transformation and does not yet operate smoothly, etc. Furthermore, the imperialist powers and international reactionaries are continuing to surround us and are plotting to sabotage our country's economy.

In view of that situation and those conditions, on the basis of the common economic-social goals and missions of the next 5-years, the 1986 state plan must concentrate on the key goals and the key products of the economy, while at the same time strongly stimulating the sectors, localities, and bases to show initiative and creativity in seeking ways to exploit the strengths with regard to foreign exchange, materials, raw materials, etc., in order to endeavor to attain the plan norms beginning in the first months of the year.

In organizing and guiding the fulfillment of the 1986 state plan, the echelons and sectors must firmly grasp the following principal plan directions and missions:

Continuing to regard agriculture as the foremost front, especially rapidly increasing food production, strongly developing the production of consumer goods, export goods, and key heavy industry products to serve agriculture, the consumer goods industry, and communications and transportation. Promoting export-import and foreign economic activities.

Promoting the division and redeployment of labor; rearranging and reorganizing production on a nationwide scale, especially in 400 districts, in the municipalities and large industrial zones, and at the basic level; and making good use of the existing land, labor, and material-technical bases in order to strongly develop production and commerce.

Doing a good job of resolving distribution-circulation problems and ensuring that the state masters the market and gradually stabilizes prices, finance, currency, and the people's living conditions.

Continuing to promote the socialist transformation and consolidation of production relations nationwide, with appropriate forms and paths of advance. Raising the level and quality of agricultural cooperatives in Nam Bo, promoting the transformation of private industry and commerce, transforming and reorganizing small merchants, strengthening the socialist economic sector, and promoting the strong development of production.

Forming a new production mechanism, especially to ensure the right of the basic level to take the initiative in production and commerce, and heighten the authority and responsibility of the districts in economic organization and management.

Rectifying the organization of the state management apparatus, distinguishing between the administrative management function and the production-commercial management function, reduce overhead, rearrange the production-commercial organization system, and redeploy cadres in order to fulfill the requirement of building a new economic structure and renovating the management mechanism.

Consolidating and strengthening national defense and security, and fulfilling the requirements of combat and combat readiness, in order to defeat the enemy's border encroachment activities and multifaceted war of destruction.

Those missions must be fulfilled in order to further stabilize the economic-social situation, promote production, stabilize the people's living conditions, create sources of capital accumulation, and create favorable conditions for even stronger development in future years.

To victoriously fulfill the missions of the 1986 economic-social plan, our entire population and army must strengthen their spirit of self-reliance, overcome difficulties in each basic unit, participate in production labor and practice absolute economy, and oppose waste in consumption, in order to accumulate capital for socialist industrialization. It is necessary to pay all-out attention to improving management and applying scientific-technical accomplishments, in order to increase labor productivity, lower production costs, improve product quality, and increase the effectiveness of investment capital. We must resolutely rearrange production, reorganize and redeploy cadres, amend working methods, strengthen the responsibility system, organization, and discipline, and strengthen the ideological-cultural work. First of all, it is necessary to carry out simultaneously and well the following urgent tasks:

1. Make progress in renovating planning, tied in with the renovation of the economic management mechanism, begin to form a dynamic and effective planning mechanism, eliminate bureaucratic centralism and state subsidizing, correctly implement the principle of democratic centralism, and implement socialist economic and social accounting.

The 1986 plan norms that have been set in fact do not fully encompass the latent and actual capabilities of the sectors, localities, and basic units, and do not clearly manifest the results of the application of technical advances to production. Therefore, the sectors, localities, and basic units must review and supplement their plans, and reflect more fully the new capabilities of the enterprises and districts, in order to attain levels higher than those presently calculated.

The Council of Ministers will redraft the list of key products and key state construction projects in order to concentrate on balancing the plan more fully, completely, and tightly. It will amend and supplement the planning regulations with regard to a number of important spheres in which many

problems are being encountered, such as investment in capital construction, the supplying of materials and goods, exporting and importing, labor, salaries, finance, etc. It will amend the system of legal norms along the lines of expanding the right of the sectors and echelons, especially the basic units and the districts, to take the initiative, on the basis of ensuring that the principal norms, which will have a decisive significance on the national economy.

That spirit must be manifested in preparations to draft the 1987 plans of the sectors and localities. It is essential to ensure that plans are truly drafted at the basic and district levels. The plans of all provinces and municipalities must encompass both elements: the synthesizing of district plans and the synthesizing of sector plans.

2. In 1986 a new management mechanism must be formed in two regards: ensuring the right of the basic units to take the initiative in production and commerce, and determining and strengthening the administrative management-economic functions of the state apparatus at all levels, in order to create favorable conditions for the production and commercial bases to implement economic and commercial accounting. That is one of the most important measures to ensure the victorious fulfillment of the 1986 state plan and the economic-social missions in future years.

3. Strengthen the guidance and management of plan fulfillment. Guidance and management must be according to plan and concentrate on all principal missions and goals of the plans, and end management that is not in accordance with plans. Management must be unified and concentrated in a single entity to avoid conflicts, duplication, or contradicting one another in making decisions.

There must be close guidance of the rearrangement and reorganization of production and consumption, combined with the transformation and consolidation of socialist production relations and a division of labor and decentralization in all economic-technical spheres and in all areas. That is an important policy and measure at present. It is necessary to concentrate on rearranging production and construction, give priority to the important goals, and promptly reorient the unprofitable, inefficient production bases. We must make progress in overcoming the situation of dispersed, fragmented production and construction. The materials and goods supplying system must be rearranged so that it is appropriate to the new commercial mode, and to ensure that the process of circulating materials and goods is rational and follows the shortest path from the producers to the consumers, and furthers the formation of direct relations by means of economic contracts between the producing units and the consumers of materials and goods. The transportation system must be rearranged along the lines of specialized routes, specialized areas, a division of labor, and the organization of rational coordination between central and local transportation and between public and state transportation. On the basis of the economic development plans, and the specific production programs, attention must be paid to more rationally organizing production and commerce in all basic economic units. There must be truly strong transformations in using and redistributing social labor in the sphere of each locality and nationally. The distribution and maximum utilization of labor

must be tied in with the mobilization of land, the full utilization of the existing material-technical bases, and the development of sectors and trades.

We must organize the study and urgent promulgation of the policies, especially the those toward encouraging the use of the existing labor, land, and material-technical bases and developing the new economic zones, the policies regarding exporting, importing, and the management of foreign exchange, the financial and banking policies, and policies to encourage economizing in production and construction.

We must step up inspections of the implementation of the resolutions and directives of the Party and state, and stress party discipline, the socialist legal system, and fair and timely rewards and punishments.

We must perfect the system of economic information in order to reflect the production and commercial activities promptly, fully, and accurately to serve as a basis on which to draft and manage plans.

4. Strengthen the ideological and mass proselytizing tasks and launch an extensive revolutionary movement of the working people and of the management echelons, in order to develop a spirit of collective mastership and a self-reliant will, participation in production labor, and economizing in production and life. Specifically, the production enterprises must economize in the use of materials by 5 to 10 percent, especially in the use of steel, POL, and other imported materials. Those norms must be included in plans to supply materials and be reflected in plans to reduce production costs and increase budgetary income in 1986. In efforts must be made to reduce construction expenses by 10 percent. In the administrative and professional organs there must be an immediate reduction of 15 to 20 percent in overhead and administrative expenses. We must positively reorganize and rationally use labor forces, especially in the state sector. With regard to the production sector, it is necessary to review the setting of labor norms, and on that basis provide work for redundant workers by means of positive measures to create on-the-spot sources of raw materials, by using waste materials or by forming alliances with the localities.

We must promptly uncover, recapitulate, and utilize the good experiences of the basic units and districts in organizing and managing production and commerce, and mobilize the combined strength of the state and the people under the leadership of the Party, in order to exploit as well as possible the actual capabilities regarding labor, land, and trades, take the initiative in locating materials, raw materials, capital, etc., in order to increase production and contribute to resolving the imbalances of the economy.

The role and responsibility of the mass organizations must be brought to play in drafting and implementing plans, and the activities of the state organs and the mass organizations must be closely coordinated in order to promote, from the beginning of the year, the emulation movement to victoriously implement the 1986 state plan.

5. Perfect organization, rationally deploy cadres, and amend working methods. In 1986 it is necessary to implement the party resolutions on perfecting the

organizational apparatus, rationally deploying cadres, and amending working methods.

On the basis of correctly determining functions and missions and rationally reorganizing the managerial apparatus, we must immediately streamline the administrative and professional organs from the central level down to the local level, reduce the intermediate personnel of the production and commercial organs, carry out a division of labor that is appropriate to the requirement of renovating the management apparatus, and immediately eliminate the intermediate echelons and irrational organization, in order to ensure that the managerial apparatus are strengthened and are effective.

We must correctly evaluate the abilities and innovations of the cadres of all sectors and echelons in order to deploy them in accordance with the requirements of the new management mechanism, and have policy to encourage scientific-technical cadres and management cadres to go to supplement the districts and basic units, especially in places which are experiencing difficulties, the mountain region, the Central Highlands, and the new economic zones.

We must improve the working methods of the echelons and sectors, ensure the principle of democratic centralism, remain close to the basic level, and resolutely overcome bureaucratic working methods, commandism, and localistic, partialistic, and narrow thinking. We must pay attention to trial runs, preliminary recapitulations, and final recapitulations, and heighten responsibility and discipline in fulfilling plan norms.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

CONTINUING PRICE INCREASES TERMED SERIOUS PROBLEM

Hanoi LAO DONG in Vietnamese 20 Feb 86 p 7

[Article by Thieu Mai: "Prices--a Concern of Workers and Civil Servants"]

[Text] Prices are now a hot topic. Everywhere people get together that matter is discussed, and in the thought of workers and civil servants they are a concern and a threat to the real salaries of workers.

At present, market prices, having risen continually and at a rapid rate, are causing a serious imbalance between prices and salaries. According to an investigation by the Hanoi Trade Union Federation, beginning in October, after the application of the new salaries in Hanoi, the prices of essential goods on the organized market have not been in accord with the stable prices calculated in the salary structure, but have clearly increased. In October the cost of living index in comparison to the minimum wage was no longer 25 percent, but increased to between 41 and 55 percent. In December it increased to 70 percent and is now about 80 percent. Thus the real wages of workers and civil servants have also declined at a corresponding rate. In addition, goods not calculated in the salary structure have also increased without limit. Spontaneous changes in prices have occurred daily and an unusual situation is appearing: workers cannot buy the most essential goods necessary for ordinary living and working, and that is not to mention the other needs of life, which are also very important. Furthermore, they have created discontent on the part of everyone. When one has money one must quickly purchase goods, and even if goods are not needed they must be purchased and stockpiled, otherwise money will lose value and family budget will be upset. Thus there are artificial scarcities of social goods.

Unstable prices not only make the lives of workers and civil servants more difficult but also adversely affect production. during a meeting at the Thong Nhat Electrical Machinery Factory to discuss economic accounting there were many opinions that "The present price situation is a major impediment. As long as the price problem is not correctly resolved we cannot speak of truly changing over to economic accounting, for prices are the basis of economic accounting.

Another source of concern is that the situation of imbalances between prices and salaries causes the standard of living to decline and prevent the

reproduction of social labor or the increasing of labor productivity. A number of workers have abandoned their jobs to become merchants or have additional jobs on the outside. Usually, "the outside leg is longer than the inside leg."

It may be said that the recent changes in prices have benefitted the "merchants" more than the workers, especially the state workers and civil servants, and have caused the market to undergo bad changes. The "thieves" are merchants, speculators, and blackmarketers inside and outside the state apparatus. They "fish in troubled waters" to become rich without limit. At the beginning of January 1986 the Hanoi Trade Union Federation held discussions with representatives of the workers and civil servants of all sectors on the matter of salaries. Many people were of the opinion that in order to deal with the present price situation production is still the decisive factor. Only by promoting production with high productivity, quality, and effectiveness can there be many goods in order to reduce the tenseness in prices caused by an imbalance between supply and demand. If that is to be accomplished, it is necessary first of all to reorganize and rearrange production and implement the new management structure, based on socialist economic and commercial accounting. In addition, stiffer measures must be applied in market management, ties between merchants on the outside with those within the state economy must be cut, and market prices must be guided into the orbit of state regulation and control. With the condition of setting prices on a definite basis, all merchants on the free market must be forced to observe prices set by the state. The representatives also spoke of the role of the trade union organizations in educating and motivating the workers and civil servants to bring into play the vanguard nature of the working class and, along with the state, do a good job of coping with the present situation to rapidly stabilize market prices. During the talks, nearly all workers and civil servants recommended that in accordance with the decree of the Council of Ministers regarding the improvement of the salary system vis-a-vis workers, civil servants, and members of the armed forces, Article 5 (Chapter 2) states that supplementary allowances to compensate for disparities in the cost of living in the various areas are based on the disparity between the price levels calculated to determine salaries (with the minimum wage serving as the standard) and the actual prices in each locality. The supplementary allowance ratios are recalculated every 3 months and are stipulated by the Council of Ministers. In Hanoi, the disparity between the prices used to calculate wages and the actual prices is no longer 25 percent, but has risen to about 80 percent (according to Trade Union calculations). Therefore, the supplementary allowance ratio must also be recalculated in order to ensure the real wages and ordinary living conditions of workers and civil servants.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

HO CHI MINH CITY REASSURES PRIVATE, FAMILY PRODUCERS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 12 Mar 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by Dinh Chi: "Centering On Decision 34/QD-UB: Hopes and Concerns Requiring Prompt Answers"]

[Text] The city's small industry and handicraft production, with strengths in labor, technology, capital, equipment, machinery and market sensitivity, has strongly developed during the past 10 years, accounting for more than 50 percent of the total output value of the entire industrial-small industry and handicraft sector within the city.

Therefore, immediately after the Municipal People's Committee promulgated Decision 34/QD-UB on organization, management and encouragement of small industry and handicraft, individual, family, and household subsidiary industry production, the laborers with skills and capital, especially workers, civil servants and cooperative members, unanimously desired to fully utilize unoccupied labor to increase their legitimate income. Elder craftsman Nguyen Van Manh, 79 years old this year and producing ornamental lamps in a Vietnam Art and Handicraft facility (in the 4th Precinct) stated movingly, "I welcome it warmly. It is an extremely good policy." Producer Nguyen Ba Nghe, well known in the industrial circles of old Saigon and presently a member of the Municipal Industrial and Commercial Liaison Committee, asserted, "Decision 34 answers the hopes of the producer wishing to contribute capital and skills to produce many products for society." Vuong Nhieu, previously the chief of a facility producing bicycle spokes, looked toward the future, "My family is requesting permission to reopen the facility in accordance with Decision 34 in order to make products under state arrangement."

Nguyen Thai Bai, member of the Municipal Party Committee, Acting Director of the Industrial Service, and concurrently President of the Municipal Federation of Small Industry and Handicraft Cooperatives, stated, "Individual and family production are a part of the five economic components still existing during the period of transition and must have state support to develop production and to serve society. In many other socialist nations, this component is still considered as an element making an important contribution to commodity production for the national economy." Nevertheless, this is not the end of the problems causing concern.

Long-Term Investment and Production Development with Peace of Mind

The problem of foremost concern to the individual and family small industry and handicraft producers at the present time is that of legality. A great many craftsmen wishing to invest in production development in the 11th Precinct still anxiously think, "For a long time, activity in the individual and family production areas have been very difficult. We still have the complex of an individual who is outside the socialist orbit and sooner or later will be eliminated. Many difficulties also exist because wherever we go, our means of making a living is suspect. State support is little, almost nonexistent. Thus, a portion of the individual and family producers constantly have a deeply concerned state of mind and operate in a style of attack swiftly and retreat rapidly or neatly round things up here or there. It is impossible under these conditions to avoid the production of poor quality, artificial and counterfeit goods. We do not worry about transformation and collectivization of the trades for which the state has project unification. Only one fact is suggested; the facilities, trades and production natures distinctly and clearly defined by the state as permitted to exist in the form of an economic component will continue to exist during the transitional period. Decision 34 states clearly: the state provides unlimited protection of investment capital in the encouraged trades and this has given us peace of mind. In order for production to have a clear and stable foundation following the plans and projects of the state and to have the conditions for the best investment of capital, labor, equipment, machinery and new technology, the state must quickly formulate a specific set of regulations on the extent of the legality and existence of this area."

Many also have such concerns because the individual and family producers must calculate production effectiveness, principal repayment and even conditions for the future. Some also present specific cases: "For those with relatives in foreign countries sending (free or as a loan) foreign exchange capital, supplies, raw materials and modern machinery and equipment, what is the policy on capital and interest repayment? If that equipment is able to produce goods of high and exportable quality but within the purview of the 17 trades delineated by the state, how will this be resolved? Or, if thanks to that machinery, high efficiency and good quality are attained and naturally much profit is earned, will the production facility consider that within the individual area or not, or will the business income be limited for a third-class license and up?"

Some of the apprehensions above were answered by Tran Thien Tu, Vice President of the Municipal Federation of Small Industry and Handicraft Cooperatives, at a meeting with about 200 producers at the Industrial and Commercial Liaison Committee: "Production delineation and reorganization of 17 trades in the city were aimed at ensuring the greatest labor, equipment, machinery, supply and raw material effectiveness of the state-operated and collective areas and even the satellite facilities (which presently have surplus equipment capacity). Consequently, the development of new facilities to produce products within these delineated 17 trades is unnecessary and wasteful. However, if the individual and family producers have modern equipment, high productivity and good (exportable) product quality, they have state encouragement.

In cases where the goods produced duplicate those delineated by the state, the Municipal Federation of Cooperatives will examine specific solutions (for example, serving as a satellite for state-operation).

Moreover, for merchants wishing to shift to production but without technical labor, the city will examine and possibly hire out a technical laborer.

Production-Business Rights with Fifth Economic Component Status

The thoughts of the individual and family producers have long been that their existence was extremely temporary, they would sooner or later be eliminated, and daily they must confront the apathy, coolness, contempt and interrogation of the banking, financial, tax, commodity price, material supply, electric power, market management, etc. agencies. And as a result, production in this area is extremely unsettled and unstable. Foreman Phan Thanh Nhut, an expert shuttle repairman in the Bay Hien Intersection area who annually saves much foreign exchange for the enterprises and mills, stated, "This is a new trade and we must aggressively find ways to succeed because of our love for the work and our desire to contribute to society. Conversely however, the sectors have no sympathy for the craftsman and create difficulties that easily prevent us from daring to develop production. Moreover, nearly every quarter, the taxes increase in an unreasonable manner and we don't know where to complain." Elder craftsman Nguyen Van Manh confided, "Research on a new product takes a great deal of effort. I work because I treasure the traditional trade and because of my craftsman honor. However, when I request a cost approval, I am thoroughly interrogated; the commodity price agency does not understand a great deal about the trade or traditional products and constantly asks 'why something keeps me so busy.' Finally recognizing the complexity, an old model is permitted just to get it over with." There are also a great many reflections from the people on other agencies.

Producers within the purview of Decision 34 have presented unified opinions and suggestions to the city to enlighten responsible agencies in order for these locations to more strongly support the individual, family and household subsidiary small industry and handicraft area. In the precincts and wards with major small industry and handicraft production such as the 11th, 6th and 5th Precincts and Tan Binh Ward, individual and family producers have proposed that the city promulgate specific stipulations on electric power supply (by norms and prices), material supply or self-concern for materials and production consumption, and prices (how to legalize buying and selling). Do those engaged in household subsidiary industry (not required to register their business) rely on the subward, village or responsible agency to guarantee the legal status of contract signing, purchasing supplies, borrowing from the bank, and the transportation and distribution of products?

And, shouldn't the business registration procedures be simplified (the essential procedures should be complete but the time required to issue a permit must be reduced, not like now where 3 months are lost)?

After the Municipal People's Committee promulgated Decision 34, the Municipal Federation of Small Industry and Handicraft Cooperatives drafted a specific

development plan and supplemented the ideas contributed by the producers for presentation to upper echelons to approve during the last 10 days of March. The responsive enthusiasm and idea contribution of production laborers is an important contribution toward the successful achievement of Decision 34 in stimulating developed production with high quality in support of domestic and export consumption and production.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

PRINCIPAL NORMS OF 1986 PLAN LISTED

Hanoi TAP CHI KE HOACH HOA in Vietnamese No 1, Jan 86 p 32

[Economic-Planning Data column: "Principal Norms of the 1986 Economic-Social Plan"]

[Text] The seventh term of the 10th National Assembly has approved the economic-social plan for 1986, the first year of the 1986-1990 5-year plan. It includes the following principal norms:

Total social output will increase 7.9 percent over 1985.

The total value of industrial production will increase 8.8 percent over 1985.

The total value of agricultural production will increase 8.9 percent over 1985.

Total capital invested by the state in concentrated capital construction will amount to a maximum of 20 billion dong.

The total volume of cargo transported within our country will increase 6 percent with regard to tonnage and 5.4 percent with regard to tons/kilometers.

The value of goods exported will increase 14 percent in comparison to 1985.

Grain output (in paddy equivalent) with amount to 20 million tons.

Grain mobilized by the state will increase 9 percent over 1985.

The area devoted to industrial crops will increase 12 percent over 1985.

The number of hogs will increase 11.7 percent over 1985.

The number of water buffaloes and cattle will increase 7.2 percent over 1985.

The area of cleared wasteland will amount to 200,000 hectares.

The concentrated afforestation area will amount to 120,000 hectares.

The number of people going to new economic zones will total 650,000.

The amount of electricity generated will increase by 12 percent over 1985.

The output of washed coal will increase by 11 percent over 1985.

The phosphate fertilizer output will increase by 6 percent over 1985.

Cement production will increase 25 percent over 1985.

The output of cloth and textile goods will amount to 375 million meters (equivalent).

Paper production will increase 9 percent over 1985.

Sugar production will increase 5.5 percent over 1985.

The numbers of new students recruited for training:

College and higher school enrollment will increase 6 percent over 1985.

Technical worker students will increase 19 percent over 1985.

The number of general school students in attendance at the beginning of the school year will be 12.3 million.

The number of books published will increase 5 percent over 1985.

The rate of population increase will be 1.9 percent.

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CSO: 4209/429

AGRICULTURE

VIETNAM

GREATER ATTENTION TO CROP PROTECTION TASK URGED

Hanoi NONG NGHIEP in Vietnamese 25 Feb 86 pp 1, 7

[Article by Bui Van Ich, M.A., head of the Crop Protection Department: "Matter Requiring Attention in the Crop Protection Work at Present"]

[Text] During the recent period the crop protection organizations and cadres from the central level down to the basic level have made many all-out efforts in preventing and fighting insects and diseases which harm crops, and have contributed to increasing agricultural yields and output.

The policies of the party and state, and the directives of the Ministry of Agriculture, regarding crop protection have been clearly manifested in the specialized professional work and in developing the sector.

First of all, with regard to the specialized professional work, the crop protection system from the central level down to the basic level has grasped relatively firmly the composition of crop-damaging insects and diseases, the developments of the primary objectives, and the basic characteristics of a number of dangerous insects and diseases, in order to recommend effective measures to prevent and eliminate them. Therefore, during the past several seasons there have occurred no major epidemics which have inflicted serious rice damage. Every year and every season supplementary experience has been gained and specific stipulations have been made for each task, from grasping the insects-and-diseases situation to specific prevention and elimination measures. With regard to equipment and materials, during the war of destruction waged by the US Air Force practically all equipment was ruined. The sector was reequipped with working quarters and the necessary equipment to do its specialized work. Although there are still many shortages, especially at the district and basic levels, in general the entire sector has clearly made all-out efforts in this regard. Chemicals and pumps are still seriously lacking in comparison to the requirements of production, and at times and in places distribution has been irrational. But during the past several years there have been added tens of thousands of hand pumps and tens of thousands of tons of chemicals of all kinds. Since the end of 1985 the state has assigned all imports, contracted out the production of, and distributed chemicals and pumps to the crop protection system. The central echelon, and many provinces and districts, have done a good job of carrying out that decision and have

thus closely combined techniques with materials, distributed materials more rationally, and used them more effectively.

In developing the sector and operating in accordance with the new mode, the sector has provided training in and study of crop protection to tens of thousands of peasants, so understanding of that work has clearly been enhanced. Nearly all districts and many cooperatives and production collectives have crop protection technicians. During the past 2 years the sector, implementing Resolution 6 and the directives of the Party, the sector has reoriented its activity mode from administration to tying together income, subsidies, expenditures, and economic accounting in order to make crop protection cadres responsible for final output and gradually eliminate state subsidies. Many provinces have set up branches and many districts have set up crop protection corporations. Those organizations are responsible for both state management and service activities, so they have not only done their professional work well but have reduced the state's annual expenditures.

During the past several years cooperation with other countries and international organizations has clearly been intensified. Participation in the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance organization of the socialist countries, bilateral cooperation with such fraternal nations as Laos, Cambodia, and the German Democratic Republic, and assistance by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Sweden, France, Belgium, etc., have provided us with much valuable experience in preventing and eliminating insects and diseases, trained a number of cadres for us, and supplied our crop protection sector with a quantity of good equipment.

In view of the great missions that have been posed for the agricultural sector during the fourth 5-year plan (1986-1990), the crop protection sector must continue to make all-out efforts to do a better job of fulfilling the requirements of production, contribute to rapidly increasing the yields and output of food crops and agricultural products for export, and serve the national economy and the lives of the people. In the immediate future it is necessary to do a good job of carrying out the following tasks:

In grasping the insects-and-diseases situation and in forecasting it is necessary to improve the investigation work by such measures as carrying out continuous inspections in correct accordance with regulations. It is essential that there be supplementary inspections during the key periods. The stipulated methods must be strictly implemented. In addition, it is necessary to do a good job of recapitulating developments vis-a-vis insects and diseases in past years, grasp the changes in cultivation, from varieties and the seasonal schedule to tending, and grasp the weather situation. There must be continuous supplementation and experimentation in order to improve estimating and forecasting methods. On that basis, there can be accurate forecasting of the insects-and-diseases situation so that the basic units can have plans and measures to prevent and eliminate them at the right time.

It is necessary to continue to gain experience and experiment with a number of new measures to prevent and eliminate insects and diseases. The full utilization of manual methods and the use of varieties which are resistant to insects and diseases and the cultivation measures (the seasonal schedule,

fertilizer, and irrigation and drainage) must be the primary prevention and elimination measures. If insects and diseases appear they must be extinguished while the pockets of infestation are still small. Combined prevention and elimination measures must be perfected and well implemented in such a way as to conform to the slogan of being effective, wasting less time, and reducing expenses. In researching, testing, and introducing technical advances to production, attention must be paid first of all to the current production problems, and to promptly recapitulating the topics that have been tested and introducing those results to production. There must be a continuous exchanging of experiences within the sector by means of seminars, sector newsletters, etc.

In developing the sector and operating in accordance with the new mode, the crop protection sector must continue to train additional cadres and set up organizations to do crop protection work at the basic production unit levels. The crop protection organizations at the district or higher levels operate in accordance with two functions: state management and services. Service activities are carried out in accordance with contracts between the crop protection sector and the production bases in order to tie the responsibility of the crop protection organizations and cadres in with final output.

With regard to crop protection materials, in addition to continuing to provide the necessary equipment for the sector and doing a good job of maintaining the existing equipment, at present chemicals and pumps are still the greatest problems. We will gradually improve our organization and working methods, but because of a shortage of funds the chemicals and pumps imported and produced will be very limited, so the principal concern is to use them very economically, and correctly, to maintain them well, and to distribute them rationally. Only by resisting the tendency to rely on chemicals and pumps and neglect the other measures can we ensure harmony between supply and demands.

5616

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27 May 1986

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

VIETNAM

HA BAC FERTILIZER PLANT REPLACES HEAT EXCHANGE EQUIPMENT

Hanoi CONG NGHIEP HOA CHAT in Vietnamese Dec 85 p 35

[Article by P.V.: "Ha Bac Nitrogen Fertilizer Plant Successful in Using Equipment of the An Hoa Nitrogen Fertilizer Plant in Place of 'Three Combines' Equipment"]

[Text] On 5 July 1985 the "Three Combines" heat exchange equipment in the ammonia synthesizing system of the Ha Bac nitrogen fertilizer plant was seriously cracked and the entire ammonia synthesizing system had to shut down. Due to the strict technical requirements of high-pressure equipment, the equipment could not be repaired by welding because there was no automatic welding machine, there was no equipment to inspect the weld seam, and there was no experience in the heat treatment of high-pressure equipment, so the safety of the equipment after it was repaired could not be assured.

Buying miscellaneous equipment from foreign countries or hiring foreign technicians and bringing them in to repair the equipment would cost a rather large amount of foreign exchange and require a long waiting period.

Because of the urgent production requirements, in order to fulfill the 1985 plan the leadership committee of the Ha Bac nitrogen fertilizer plant quickly guided the plant's technical workers in concentrating on studying the resolution of technical problems in order to use some equipment of the An Hoa nitrogen fertilizer plant to replace the "Three Combines" equipment group.

Because of the plant's close guidance and the assistance of the departments and institutes of the General Department, within only 2 weeks (after the damage occurred), the General Department approved the plan to use equipment of the An Hoa nitrogen fertilizer plant.

With the all-out assistance of the transportation materials corporation of the Chemical General Corporation and the railroad sector of the Ministry of Communications and Transportation, on 13 August the equipment group was brought in from the An Hoa nitrogenous fertilizer plant and a large number of complicated technical problems were posed which the plant had to urgently resolve.

Under the guidance of the director, the repair command committee dismantled the equipment, which cools by using ammonia, in order to inspect, repair, and improve it, corrected damage done to the machinery by leaving it outdoors for a long time, which caused it to rust, prepared the foundation, and installed the equipment.

All cadres, workers, and personnel of the machine shop lifted the heavy equipment, weighing tens of tons, into place by using unique methods. After 44 days and nights the installation of the equipment system to replace the "Three Combines" heat exchange tower was completed. On 1 October 1985 the ammonia synthesizing system officially began to produce ammonia, with an average capacity of 72 to 76 tons of ammonia a day.

Those results prove that the technical solutions that were selected were appropriate. It was a major success of the plant's scientific-technical cadres and skilled workers, and proved the capabilities of the cadres of our country's nitrogen fertilizer production sector, while at the same time making rational use of the An Hoa nitrogen fertilizer plant equipment.

5616

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HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

VIETNAM

ACHIEVEMENTS OF GEOLOGY TEAM DURING PAST 10 YEARS NOTED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 4 Dec 85 p 2

[Article by Truong Van Tien: "Ten Years of Searching for Mineral Resources"]

[Text] Ten years ago, on 2 December 1975, the Geology General Department issued a decision establishing Geology Union 6 and entrusted it with the task of searching for mineral products in the area to the south of the 13th parallel, which includes former Nam Bo and Dac Lac, Lam dong and Thuan Hai provinces.

After more than 3,500 days of conducting difficult and arduous searches for resources for the country, looking back to when the unit was first formed, the cadres and workers in Geology Union 6 cannot help remembering Geology Group B2, the unit's forerunner. Established at the end of 1973, Group B2 consisted of 50 cadres and geologists. The unit was sent from Hanoi to Loc Ninh with 20 tons of equipment, machinery and tools to search for mineral products and underground water in the B2 liberated zone. Doan Ngoc Chuc had overall charge of the group. Truong Van Tam was responsible for technical matters.

When Saigon was liberated on 30 April 1975, Geology Group B2 promptly left its base at Loc Ninh and, following the footsteps of the military liberators, advanced on Saigon to take control of the puppet regime's Petroleum and Minerals General Department, which was then located at 2 Nguyen Binh Khiem Street. Group B2 inherited very little as far as materials and equipment and technical documents were concerned.

A short time later, the central echelon provided Group B2 with additional men and equipment and a few cadres on the spot to form Geology Union 6, which was headed by Mai Xuan Thao.

During the past 10 years, overcoming many difficulties and hardships, the workers of Geology Union 6 have carried on activities in many places in the area assigned them. They have gone to many places, from the imposing mountains of the Central Highlands to the lowlands along the central coast and from islands scattered throughout the Gulf of Thailand to the Spratly Islands in the vast South China Sea. Neither malaria nor attacks by reactionary bandits

during the initial period slowed down these men. Nong Van Nguong, to take one example, bravely sacrificed his life in 1977 in Lam Dong while conducting a geological survey.

To date, Geology Union 6 has completed 35 geology tasks and maintained reserves to conduct surveys for limestone, additives for making cement, kaoline and crystal. It has estimated and confirmed the prospects of the inmenite, rare earth element, bentonite, lignite and peat mines and discovered many signs of rare and valuable types of metals and common metals. In particular, in recent years, with the active cooperation of specialists from the Soviet Union and other countries in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, Geology Union 6 has conducted surveys and estimated thatbauxite reserves total 7 billion tons. It has selected important mineral product objectives and conducted surveys in Dac Lac and Lam Dong. During the past period, bauxite has been one of the raw materials used by the Tan Binh Chemical Plant to produce aluminum sulfate, which is used to filter water for the city. The Ha Tien and My Tuong cement plants in Thuan Hai, the brick and tile enterprises in Dong Nai and Song Be and the lime plant in Tay Ninh have been supplied with adequate raw materials as a result of the surveys conducted by Geology Union 6.

As for Ho Chi Minh City, the union has finished making seven geological charts on a scale of 1:50,000 (the large scale can provide specific support) and is now conducting a survey for building materials, such as clay for making bricks and tiles, stone, sand, pebbles, gravel, laterite and kaoline in Long binh and Cu Chi. These geological charts have been of great value to the Municipal Economic Zoning Board in formulating plans to expand the local economy.

Guided by the spirit of the resolution of the 8th Plenum, Geology Union 6 is studying ways to improve organization and management, strengthen economic cooperation and implement the contracts signed with the central and local units and countries that are members of the SEV. In the 1986-1990 five-year plan, the union will focus on conducting surveys for bauxite in Dac Nong and Bao Loc. It will also survey, extract and process bentonite in Di Linh in order to support oil and gas drilling operations on the continental shelf; conduct surveys for clay, rock, sand, pebble, gravel, lignite and peat; and select targets to conduct surveys for molybdenum, tin, gold and common metals.

Established during the first year of liberation, after more than 10 years of working in many areas south of the 13th parallel, Geology Union 6 has made notable contributions to finding mineral resources to enrich the fatherland. It would be a mistake not to mention the following people: Nguyen Xuan Bao, the union leader and a labor hero; Mai Xuan Thai, the party organization secretary; and geology specialists Nguyen Tuong Tri, Dang Quynh Dao, Bui Phu My, Bui Van Kien, Nguyen Dinh Te, Truong Quang Thu, Truong Van Tam and Ta Anh Nguyet, all of whom have a wealth of experience.

On the 10th anniversary of the founding of Geology Union 6, I urge geologists to score many more achievements.

11943

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TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

VIETNAM

SUBSIDIZED, PRIVATE CAR USE CRITICIZED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 12 Mar 86 p 4

[Article by Binh Nguyen: "Subsidized Car Use, Waste Needing Restraint"]

[Text] Each morning on the main thoroughfares of the city, streams of bicycles flow toward the agencies and enterprises. Tens of thousands of cadres, workers and employees, including many cadres who are specialists, intellectuals, skilled craftsmen, artists, writers, etc., attentively pedal along to reach their places of work on time.

However, there are also a fairly large number of cadres, the directors and deputy directors of many agencies and enterprises of the city and central government located here, who each leisurely operate their own passenger vehicle to swiftly or slowly glide toward their places of work.

Cars and gasoline must both be imported with foreign exchange. Everyone knows that countless export goods must be traded for foreign exchange to import a fine passenger vehicle and the gasoline and oil. There are also many cars taken over from the old regime. However, the gasoline and oil naturally are imported foreign materials.

There are also methods of meeting and delivering cadres to their places of work which is more efficient and economical than the one person, one car style.

The state stipulates that only a number of high ranking cadres may use a car to be chauffeured from home to the agency and return.

In our city however, there is waste in the use of chauffeur-driven cars with four trips a day back and forth between home and the agency, and anyone can see and everybody knows that this method of chauffeuring wastes driver efforts and the cars, gasoline and oil of the state.

Several years have passed and the situation of considering state vehicles as personal property by a number of cadres continues to regularly occur without abatement. This obviously creates an unwholesome way of life concerning both the economy and deportment, and easily leads to a situation of separation from reality and failing to understand the difficulties in life of the classes and masses that the cadre is serving.

At one conference, there were passenger vehicles parked next to each other in a circle around the meeting area, from the edge of the street to up on the sidewalk. Passing there on my way to work, I thought that a group of high level international visitors of the state were making a formal call!

However, there are also individuals in our city who are supplied private cars by the state for their work but who regularly travel by bicycle.

Several years ago, I went to a provincial party committee agency in the Mekong River Delta where I saw a large number of parked cars crowding the yard. However, I recently saw a change. That provincial party committee agency is still operating but outside in the yard can be seen only a large number of bicycles and motorbikes. Several individuals working with me were surprised. Surprised over the good and pleasant aspects. Naturally, when necessary in work, the use of a helicopter or jet aircraft is better and perfectly alright.

There are many other illustrations of cars used for personal matters: visiting one's home village, going drinking, transporting "pals," visiting relatives, traveling to submit marriage proposals for one's son, etc.

The party constantly appeals to the party members and cadres to live in a conservative and upright manner. In implementing Resolution 8 to eliminate bureaucratic centralism and state subsidization and shift to economic accounting and socialist business practices, expenses for cars, gasoline and oil are all figured in product costs.

How can directors and deputy directors (often with wage levels much lower than that stipulated by the state for car use) force their agencies and enterprises to shoulder this waste in product costs that society must pay?

How can administrative and vocational agencies force society to bear this continually wasteful subsidized method of car use?

7300

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