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# Southeast Asia Report

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INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

PACIFIC FORUM FISHING OFFICIAL ON TREATY WITH U.S.

HK020532 Wellington Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 2 Nov 85

[From the "Pacific Newsletter" program]

[Text] The United States and Pacific island nations are edging closer to a regional fisheries agreement. Following the latest round of talks in Western Samoa, the prospect of a treaty, originally remote, has now become real. The fisheries arrangement arrived at recently between the Soviet Union and Kiribati is believed to have helped bring about a shift in American attitude to the point where it has offered to host the next meeting on the proposed treaty. This has been timed for mid- to late January 1986, with Hawaii as a possible venue.

South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency Director (Philip Muller) [word indistinct] Solomon Islands, tells what developed at the talks in Samoa.

[Begin recording] [Muller] The understanding between both sides improved enormously. We, now, on the Pacific islands side are much better informed, and we understand the U.S. position a lot better, and vice versa.

[Unidentified interviewer] Does the United States' offer to host a meeting indicate at all that a treaty may be in the offing?

[Muller] I think it's premature to say that, there are substantial issues remaining, I think we are well down the road, but there are still a few key issues requiring elucidating.

[Interviewer] Would it be fair to say there's some hope that American policy might change, or the American attitude change?

[Muller] Yes, I think in the long term I think there's a change in the attitude toward the tuna issue, to the living resource, but on the seabed mining question I doubt they will ever change their views, they have too much at stake.

[Interviewer] So what then are the prospects of a South Pacific fisheries treaty?

[Muller] I'm very optimistic, most of our countries are optimistic, there's a lot more work to be done, and if we can [words indistinct] a treaty should be achieved within, well I would say within a year.

[Interviewer] Possibly the next meeting?

[Muller] Maybe, with a lot of luck, two more meetings. [end recording]

Mr (Muller) expects the seventh and possibly crucial meeting on the proposed will be in mid- to late March next year.

Meanwhile Former Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser has accused the United States of complacency in its relations with South Pacific countries. He says this has enabled the Soviet Union to gain a foothold in the region through its arrangements for access to Kiribati's fishing grounds. Mr Fraser, in an address in Washington to American foreign policy experts and diplomats, said he believes this could lead to the Soviet setting up naval and air bases in the South Pacific.

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CSO: 4200/186

BURMA

STATE OF KARENNI REVOLT EXAMINED

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Oct 85 pp 13, 19

[Article by Stephen Carr]

[Text]

REBEL territory is reached by river, starting from a muddy bank outside the town of Mae Hong Son.

This is frontier country, the crossroads for opium and gemstone smuggling, political skullduggery and gangsterism of every description. The brand of outlaw I am interested in is political; Burmese insurgents whose headquarters are an hour away by boat.

One of their number is standing a few paces away by the elephant grass. He has a neatly pressed khaki uniform and a red peaked cap. He is a customs officer of the Karenni State revolutionary government, on the lookout for any "taxable" goods coming out of the "liberated area."

Some sacks of charcoal are brought over the river in a sampan. He prods them listlessly and waves them on. The only other goods to come his way that morning are bundles of a leafy green vegetable, slung from the ends of a pole carried by an old man and destined for use as pig food, and a water buffalo on a lead. "None of these is liable for duty," says the customs man, "because they are essential commodities for poor people." He is watching for more valuable cargo: timber, gemstones, jade, Buddha images, antiques, oxen, opium.

The Karenni rely for most of their income on such levies, although in recent years it has

shrunk to precious little. This has been the result of increased harassment by two of their enemies, the Rangoon government and the Shan United Army. Government forces have managed to prevent many smugglers from passing through their area. And the SUA is currently casting avaricious eyes on possible new smuggling routes through Karenni State, and has moved troops into the region.

Although Khun Sa's main interest is drugs, he is always looking for other ways in which to expand, and since the fierce armed clash with the Thai Army two years ago which pushed him out of Thai territory, his empire building has to be confined within Burmese borders. The Burmese government finds it expedient to allow him a free hand because he accomplishes work which they themselves cannot do in harassment of the minority nationalist groups.

The Karenni, being one of the weaker rebel armies at the moment, are considered easy pickings for the much larger, well-armed SUA, which moves in big contingents and relies on intimidation when it can avoid a fight.

The wait by the river is a long one while efforts are made to dismantle a piece of mining equipment, a compressor, for loading into one of the boats. Nobody has a manual for the machine which has a label on it saying it was made in Thetford, Norfolk, England, and there is much head-scratching be-

fore it is finally hauled off its wheels and shoulder-poled on to a waiting canoe.

There are two of these, motorised, and they fill with Karenni soldiers, dressed in jeans, berets, some with long hair, Che Guevara style, battledress emblazoned with a blue star within a red rising sun.

The river snakes through dense jungle, passing a riverside police station whose sole occupant, judging by the lovingly tended shrubbery and rock garden outside it, has a lot of time on his hands. He is in shorts and a scoop-neck shirt, and comes down to the water to lift the tarpaulin on one of the boats, peers at the compressor and tells us to be on our way.

A further half-hour down river sees us at rebel headquarters, a sleepy-looking collection of raised bamboo houses in deep jungle. It is reached by a climb from the river bank on a beaten earth path, past a deserted thatch shelter with a notice in Burmese beside it. "This is our main customs post," explains one of the soldiers. It is surrounded by tall weeds that look months undisturbed.

I am invited to meet the Foreign Affairs Minister, a short, middle-aged man with craggy features and a bright smile whose name is Abel Tweed. He is on the raised verandah of his wooden house, dressed in the standard Burmese wrap-around *longyi* and a T-shirt with a picture of two windsurfers on it and the legend: "Pattaya, Thailand."

"Hello, pleased to meet you," says Abel. "Do excuse me but I have some business to attend to. We can talk later. I hope you're staying for dinner." Meanwhile, I am invited to take a seat on the split bamboo floor. The roof is made of broad brown leaves stitched together with bamboo twine, and the walls are papered over with old editions of the *Bangkok Post*.

Figures in motley dress start to drift in from the jungle. Almost all are in *longyis* and bits of military uniforms — caps, olive drab jackets, canvas shoulder bags. They deposit their flip-flops at the foot of Abel's stairs and come up to take their places, cross-legged on rattan mats strewn round a low table.

Apart from the soldiers are two well-dressed Chinese distractedly consulting files, and an Indian who told me on the boat that he was a gemstone dealer. The talk is in Burmese and Thai, with the Indian interpreting.

The Chinese are representatives of a mining company, and terms are being worked out for the company to mine antimony. "Probably for export to France," one of them says, "where it may be used in bullet heads."

The company is almost certain to have SUA connections in order to go ahead with the deal, although no one has the indelicacy to mention it.

The session goes on for several hours with Minister Tweed getting up at intervals and democratically replenishing glasses of coffee. There is laughter at times, tense silence at others and much gesticulation. One of the mining company men, apparently exhausted by the whole process, stretches full length on the floor.

I notice a *Bangkok Post* headline above Abel's head which says "We Put Our Friendships First" and another that advertises "The Best Massage Parlour In Town."

I strike up a conversation with another visitor to headquarters, Robert, on a liaison mission from an allied insurgent state in the north of Burma, Kachin. Robert, trained to be a dentist, he tells me, but threw it in nine years ago to join the revolution. He has a wife and three daughters, "also revolutionaries."

His state is the one place outside China where jade is mined "and it is better quality than Chinese jade," he says.

The army he is part of is a powerful one in rebel terms with about 5,000 troops. They are tough, experienced jungle fighters who manage to keep the much larger government forces harassed and spread over a large front in classic guerrilla fashion.

They would be more than a match for the SUA if it came to a fight, a distinct possibility according to some Burma watchers. If this did happen it would give a boost to Burma's other insurgent armies and make the Rangoon government's sustained campaign against them harder than ever.

Robert is something of a political historian. He knows the names of the British officials who signed the Panglong Agreement of 1947, the document which provided for the amalgamation of the Frontier States with Burma. Its promises in matters of administrative autonomy were never fulfilled, according to the rebels.

"Lord Bottomley was the one who drafted the Agreement," he says. "He is still alive in England today. Why is the British government silent about our struggle?"

"Because they left your area a long time ago and have no power over it now," I reply. The answer does not satisfy Robert who mentions the name of another British official of the end-of-empire era, "Mr Stephenson, who advised the Frontier peoples not to join the Union (of Burma) but to form our own federation."

The mining negotiations are winding down, some of the soldiers are moving off and Abel Tweed and his ministers sign the contract finally agreed upon.

I am introduced to the Vice President and the Minister for Education. I ask them about mineral resources in Burma in general. "Burma is rich in mineral resources," says the Education Minister. "It is the richest country in Southeast Asia in terms of natural resources and yet it has the lowest standard of living. The central government doesn't control all the land, so it cannot exploit all the minerals and such it would wish to."

"The Russians certainly learnt the truth of that in 1977," says Abel Tweed, referring to Burmese-Russian attempt to mine tin and wolfram at Mawchi. The Russian technicians had been told that there were "some bandits" in the area. "Nothing prepared them for the full-scale guerrilla offensive they suddenly found themselves in the midst of." The Soviet government acrimoniously pulled out of the venture, and the Burmese had to pay two million kyats in compensation. This loss of face so infuriated the authorities that government troops put to the torch 13 villages in the neighbourhood of Mawchi.

I am invited to dinner, and there is a moment's silence while the

Karenni say grace to themselves, some crossing themselves. Some are Baptists, some Roman Catholics. Their Christianity is another point of separation from the Burman Buddhist majority. Over dinner of curried chicken and rice with rice whiskey, talk of politics is eschewed.

I am asked the usual questions: "How old are you?" and "Are you married?" I am also treated to some advice by the Foreign Affairs Minister: "Don't marry a beautiful girl, but one that is simple and sincere."

"But your own wife is very attractive," I object.

"No, her eyes are very wide," Abel counters with a high-pitched, delighted laugh.

After dinner the ministers relax with thick green cigars, one of the few commodities imported from the Burmese interior. The rest of their needs are covered by goods coming from the opposite direction.

"We were historically a buffer zone," says the Vice President. "Even during colonial times our separate status was always respected. We were never made part of British India, although we had to acknowledge Queen Victoria as our suzerain. We had our own hereditary rulers for hundreds of years. What gave the Burmese the right to annexe us as soon as they got their own independence?"

The group speaks the language of tacticians. They talk of "the front line," "engaging the enemy," numbers and types of weapons available on the black market: recoilless rifles, mortars, rocket launchers.

One senior soldier named David says: "Our best friends are our people and our terrain. We know both so well that we can disappear without trace in either, which our enemies cannot do. We are much more manoeuvrable, and their heavy equipment does not help them. Tanks, for instance, are quite useless in the country we are in now. Fixed installations too can be a liability, like the mines at Mawchi, whereas we are light on our feet."

The attack on the Russian-assisted mine was the Karennis' last big military operation, although this is not admitted. Since then

they have suffered several splits within their ranks which have reduced their numbers drastically. One of their quarrels has been over whether to ally themselves with the Burma Communist Party, a power to be reckoned with in Burmese rebel politics. Abel Tweed and his circle remain resolutely opposed to any deal with the communists "because their policies are as bad as Ne Win's."

I am bidden good night, and left to sleep on the porch of the Foreign Affairs Ministry. I am also warned of a spider that lives in the compound that has a lethal bite to which there is no known antidote. I'm given a patch with a protective cover of patterned wool whose intricate knitting must have whiled away more than one revolutionary afternoon.

The next morning after breakfast of curry and rice there is a meeting chaired by the President of the Karenni National Revolutionary Council, the group's military leader. It is held in the only building at headquarters which does not double as a dwelling place, a long wooden cabin with a corrugated iron roof, and the Karenni flag flying outside it. To get to it we walk through the village, passing the "washroom," a bend in a stream where the sand has been scooped into a hollow with a couple of large rocks to accommodate clothes and soap. There is also a notice board by the path with almost all its paint flaked off, the only words still discernible being: *Tired Feet and Revolution*.

The President is large and jovial, *longyi*-clad and bare-chested. He chews betel which he periodically spits in a red stream on to the earthen floor of this, the Karennis' main administrative building, nerve centre of the revolution. There is a large teapot on one of three formica-topped card-tables, placed together in the centre of the room. The Revolutionary Cabinet sit round these, and other soldiers sit on benches set round the walls.

The agenda is written in Burmese on sheets attached to clipboard files. There is frequent laughter, comings and goings, with figures in the doorway, variously dressed in bell bottoms,

shorts or *longyi*, saluting before they enter.

When I ask what is being decided a soldier dressed in a T-shirt that says "Sweet Temptation" on it tells me no more than: "Drafting commands and formulating economic and social policy."

I suddenly notice a snake sliding past the doorway outside, and my exclamation leads Abel Tweed to abandon the meeting and spend the next half-hour trying to dislodge it with sticks and stones from the top of a sapling it has slithered up and within whose foliage it remains hidden from view. The military, social and economic policy meanwhile, continues to be formulated without him.

I ask about the Karenni economy and am told that it is based on taxes. There are two types: a household tax of five kyats a year plus two tins of rice, and a levy on businesses which varies according to their size. Traders travelling through Karenni territory also have to pay a levy — 25 per cent of the total value if they are carrying Buddha images, 10 per cent if they are taking out jade or livestock. The levy on electronic goods intended for later sale to dealers in the towns and cities of Burma is five per cent. No mention is made of opium. I ask how much is the annual revenue from the various taxes, and my informant says 150,000 kyats, then pauses and says: "No, add a zero to that."

At this point I decide to make enquiries of my own back in Mae Hong Son. One estimate is that the Karenni make about 400,000 kyats a year taxing opium convoys that pass through their area.

Further that the household tax is no longer willingly paid, now that it is known that it will not go towards the armed struggle, the Karenni having ceased to be an effective fighting force; also that it would be much higher than the five kyats quoted, a further obstacle in the way of its collection.

Walking round the peaceful settlement with its lush vegetation, hibiscus blooming, guitar music softly thrumming in one of the huts, chickens scratching around in the dirt, it's hard to believe there's any threat of danger here.

But the threat is very real, especially with Khun Sa poised to slice into the Karennis' main form of livelihood. They may have seen the writing on the wall. At dinner last night Abel Tweed spoke of "some very pleasant country in the north of our state with cool weather, waterfalls and grass plains. It would be necessary to extend the liberated area to inhabit it though."

Karenni State (or Kayah as the Burmese call it) is about 4,500 square miles and has about 150,000 people. Its towns are Burmese controlled, although the Karenni collect their taxes there too. Large tracts of the countryside are in rebel hands. The only city, Loikaw, has 20,000 inhabitants.

On the boat on the way back to Mae Hong Son I comment that I saw very few arms at headquarters: only two boys, one with an old rifle and the other with a machine-gun. But I am assured that "every one at headquarters has an M16."

We stop at two villages. One is a tiny one where the only signs of life are a woman sewing military

uniforms in a grass thatched hut and a couple pounding the husks off rice.

The other is where the President lives in a cool, dark, spacious wooden house. He acts the genial host and sets his women to fetch coffee and toast for the visitors. His living room is mostly bare but for a minah bird tethered to a perch in one corner, and a carved wooden shrine with plastic flowers set before it and containing a plaster figure of Christ in another. On the floor is a woman breast-feeding a baby, and two soldiers — one in traditional dress and the other in jeans, military cap and jacket and a rosary round his neck. Once again it all looks extraordinarily quiet for an epicentre of the revolution.

We again pass the scenic river-bank police station. It has a rockery of stones painted in different colours and an artificial stream gushing through it. Again the policeman comes down to the water, surveys us expressionlessly, waves us on and returns to his well-tended shrubs.

/8208

CSO: 4200/165

BURMA

CONFUSION CAUSED BY DEMONETIZATION DECISION

BK060035 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Nov 85 p 1

[Report by a "special correspondent"]

[Text] Rangoon--The Rangoon Government's decision on Sunday to demonetise its currency, affecting Thai and Burmese merchants as well as foreign tourists, has created a storm of protest in the National Assembly.

Chairman Ne Win appeared unexpectedly in the 489-member Parliament on Monday to soothe the uproar after a heated debate.

The measure, announced without warning, affects three denominations, one of which, the 100 kyat note, is widely used.

Foreign tourists found their 100 kyat note invalid overnight, causing long queues of confused visitors in tourist offices all over the country.

Passengers on outward bound planes have been trying in vain to change their kyat notes back into foreign currency.

All banks were ordered closed for three days following the announcement, including the Bank of Burma, at the international airport.

Angry scenes of tourists throwing 100 kyat notes into the faces of customs officers, in utter frustration, upset this otherwise peaceful location.

As an immediate result of the unprecedented government decision, the black market rate of the U.S. dollar, previously fixed at 30 kyat per dollar, has rocketed to 50 to 60 kyat per dollar.

According to well-informed sources, the demand for foreign currency will continue to increase in the next few months.

The aspect that most upset the parliamentarians, during their first session since the October 20 elections, was the total absence of any government guarantee that the 100 kyat note would, in any way, be refunded.

The government, it is said, will decide what to do with the deposits at a later date.

The foreign community here, including about 35 United Nations personnel, has also through quiet diplomacy voiced its concern.

The Friday preceding the government decision was a pay day, leaving many expatriates who are paid in local currency stuck with thousands of kyats.

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CSO: 4200/202

INDONESIA

PNG RETURNS 12 BORDER CROSSERS TO IRIAN JAYA

BK310421 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 13 Oct 85 p 1

[Text] Jayapura, KOMPAS--Twelve Indonesian border crossers have been returned to Indonesia from Papua New Guinea, while four others have escaped.

The 12 adults, who were flown from Vanimo, PNG, under tight escort by five PNG policemen, arrived at Jayapura's Sentani Airport on Saturday [12 October]. The 12 men arrived in 2 flights on PNG-owned Twin Otter flown by an Australian named Daniel Bartolini. The first flight carried five persons, while the second brought seven. On arrival at Sentani Airport, they were escorted by security forces to the Jayapura Police Headquarters for further investigations. The 12 border crossers will be questioned in accordance with legal procedures in force. "They will be immediately released and returned to their respective villages if they are innocent," Jayapura Regent Bas Youwe said. The Jayapura regent, together with F.X. Suryanto, secretary of the Indonesian Border Team, and Joseph Leroux, Jayapura regional secretary, welcomed the border crossers at Sentani Airport.

F.X. Suryanto said that 16 border crossers were to have been returned, but 4 disappeared prior to their departure from Vanimo. "We will try to look for the four missing men. If possible, they will be returned to Irian Jaya in the near future," said a PNG official who refused to disclose his name in an interview with KOMPAS before boarding the plane to return to Vanimo Saturday afternoon. He said that the 16 border crossers were transported by truck from the black Wara Camp to Vanimo on Friday evening.

The PNG Government forcibly returned them to Indonesia with heavy security. During the 20-minute flight from Vanimo to Sentani Airport, the 12 border crosses were hostile to PNG policemen escorting them. Some of them brought along kitchen knives. The policemen had to handcuff them for refusing to return to Irian Jaya.

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CSO: 4213/18

INDONESIA

PAPER PREVIEWS VISIT OF USSR'S RYABOV

BK011054 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 28 Oct 85 p 4

[Editorial: "The Soviet Deputy Prime Minister's Visit"]

[Text] At the invitation of Ali Wardhana, coordinating minister in charge of economics, finance, industry, and development supervision, Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Y.P. Ryabov, his wife, and entourage, will arrive today in Indonesia. He is paying a 5-day official visit to our country.

Since he is the highest-ranking Soviet official ever to visit Indonesia during the last 20 years after the coup attempt staged by the Indonesian Communist Party, it is understandable that the visit will draw special interest from various quarters. It can be assumed that the Soviet deputy prime minister's visit and the talks he will hold with his Indonesian hosts will center on bilateral economic relations. At present, economic cooperation occupies more than 60 percent of the bilateral ties. However, that also means that the Soviet leader's visit carries political significance.

During his foreign tours last September, President Suharto did not visit Moscow, but managed to reach socialist-communist countries like Romania and Hungary. Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja and Minister Ali Wardhana visited the Soviet Union.

These moves have been viewed by several people as efforts to balance Indonesia's foreign relations with other countries in the world, especially between its ties with Western and Eastern European countries. Politically speaking, the moves can also be viewed as Indonesia's effort to create a new balance in its nonaligned, active, and independent foreign policy, which has always upheld national interests. Some people even believe that Indonesia has taken the move as a means to assume greater role in the Nonaligned Movement as well as in the North-South dialogue.

President Suharto's visits to socialist countries, high-ranking Indonesian officials' visit to the Soviet Union, and the upcoming visit by the Soviet deputy prime minister are facts that support these observers' scenario. We

also believe that such an analysis is correct to a certain extent, because Indonesia's active and independent foreign policy, which stresses its national interests, has become one of the pillars of the national policy.

The direction of national policy may change due to external and internal developments and considerations. When that happens, however, it will always seek and find its suitable orientation in accordance with its character. Indonesia remains the same--its basic posture toward external and internal events has been developed and deeply rooted by its own culture.

Besides, we are under no illusion that in spite of our firm belief in an active and independent foreign policy, geostrategic facts have placed us in a collision course, if not in a competition of influence, among the super-powers and other big countries.

Our national interests at the current stage of development have made it necessary to cooperate more with the United States, Japan, and Western Europe in the economic field, and inevitably in the political field as well. The Indonesian communists' rebellion, taking place twice within 20 years of Indonesian independence, has changed the country's orientation and domestic power politics, which in turn influenced Indonesia's social distance toward other countries.

The two backgrounds, economic involvement with Western industrial countries and suspicion of communist ideology and countries, will continue to be reinforced.

If there is any change of direction, it will still be within the context of these two backgrounds.

What has activated such a change? Several factors have developed into a force activating the change. First, a period of imbalance has prevailed within Indonesia's foreign policy since 1965 necessitating the need for the growth of a new balance. Second, both economic and political developments, highlighting the Nonaligned Movement and the North-South dialogue, are getting increasingly necessary as a force and forum to help seek a new political and economic structure in the world, which is more relevant, just, and effective. In this case, Indonesia can play its role effectively only if it is respected and trusted by all parties concerned. Third, similar to other countries in the South Indonesia is disappointed over the protectionism adopted by the industrial countries. This shows the urgent need for Indonesia to develop economic cooperation with other groupings in the world, including the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries.

In the military and perhaps also political sense, the Soviet Union has gained a foothold in Vietnam. The political foothold will be stronger if the Soviet Union is able to develop closer ties with Indonesia. Viewed from the short-term perspective, the Soviet deputy prime minister's visit will bring about improved trade relations and financial assistance for several social projects such as hospitals in Medan. In the political field, the visit is expected to reduce the lack of flexibility in bilateral relations.

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CSO: 4213/18

INDONESIA

RADIO VIEWS USSR'S RYABOV VISIT, IMPACT ON TRADE

BK011302 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] A new chapter in Indonesia-Soviet relations has been opened and it is hoped that it will foster a brighter future of friendly relations and cooperation. Our hope is determined by the visit of Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Yakov Ryabov, currently in Jakarta. Firstly, our determination is based on the result of the protocol signed and the agreement by the two countries to set up a joint commission. The protocol was signed by Coordinating Minister for Economy, Finance, and Industry Ali Wardhana and his Soviet guest, Deputy Prime Minister Yakov Ryabov on Tuesday. Secondly, it is based on the on-going trade realization between the two countries.

The signing of the protocol to set up a joint commission, we observe that it would strengthen the basis for carrying out future cooperation between the two countries, especially in the economic field. With the conclusion of the agreement, it will not take long for Jakarta or Moscow to establish a joint commission responsible for seeking greater beneficial cooperation to be based on friendly relations.

Coordinating Minister for Economy, Finance, and Industry Ali Wardhana noted after signing the protocol that the joint commission would play a role to improve future Indonesian-Soviet relations. Indonesia hopes to foster stronger friendly relations with the communist country without mixing ideology with economic cooperation. This means that friendly relations will be based on the beneficial economic interests of the two countries and noninterference in domestic affairs. The Indonesian people know the Soviets well and, similarly, the Soviets know the Indonesian people. Thus, beneficial friendly relations should be stepped up.

Looking at the long-term trade between the two countries, Indonesia has recorded a positive trade balance. The Soviet Embassy's trade division in Jakarta disclosed to RRI [Radio Republic Indonesia] yesterday that from January to August 1985, the volume of trade between the two countries was 63 million rubles or around 70 billion rupiahs. Indonesian exports to the Soviet Union totaled 60 million rubles while Indonesian imports amounted to 3 million rubles. The main export item to the Soviet Union is natural

rubber with 19 million rubles during the 8 months, followed by palm oil at 8 million rubles, and coffee at around 4 million rubles.

Looking at trade over the last 5 years, up till August of this year, it is hoped that these figures will increase, particularly after the positive agreements. Amid the sluggishness of internal trade and Indonesia's exports to international markets, the improvement of economic relations with socialist countries including the Soviet Union is expected to give a new impetus, especially in increasing the volume of Indonesia's trade in non-oil and nongas products. With this background information, we welcome the guest from the Soviet Union.

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CSO: 4213/18

INDONESIA

PAPERS ON JOINT SOVIET TRADE COMMISSION

BK310938 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0600 GMT 31 Oct 85

[From the Press Review]

[Text] ANGKATAN BERSEJAJAR today editorially links the establishment of an Indonesian-Soviet joint commission with Indonesia's current efforts to promote nonoil and nongas exports. On the objectives of the establishment of the Indonesian-Soviet joint commission, the daily quotes Ali Wardhana, coordinating minister for economics, finance, and industry and supervision of development, as saying that the [word indistinct] will assume very important duties in monitoring and seeking ways of cooperation which will really promote trade relations and economic cooperation. At present, Indonesian-Soviet relations fall under the 1974 trade agreement and the protocol on economic and trade cooperation signed in Moscow in October 1984. ANGKATAN BERSEJAJAR concludes that the basis for bilateral economic and trade cooperation has now been fully established following the signing of the protocol on the establishment of the joint commission by the coordinating minister for economics, finance, and industry and the visiting Soviet deputy prime minister.

POS KOTA says that much can be expected from the Soviet Union. The presence of the Soviet deputy prime minister in Indonesia is indeed significant amid concern over the Jenkins Bill. Moreover, Indonesia-Soviet relations are not new, but were established dozens of years ago. The Soviet Union, as stated by Deputy Prime Minister Ryabov, will obviously expand trade relations in addition to extending technical assistance to and building three hospitals in Indonesia. The Soviets prefer barter trade which will probably pose a minor obstacle as Indonesia is not yet used to such trade. In this respect, POS KOTA hopes that the Soviet Union will regard Indonesia as an important factor--a big country practicing a free and active foreign policy. In addition, POS KOTA hopes that the Soviet Union does not use bilateral relations based on mutual benefits and mutual respect for each other's dignity to inject its political ideology into the Indonesian nation and state.

MERDEKA responds cautiously to the establishment of the Indonesian-Soviet Joint Commission. This daily reminds us to be vigilant toward the competition of international powers in Indonesia in dominating the Indonesian market. The MERDEKA daily hopes that Indonesian-Soviet relations and cooperation will serve as a balancing factor and a constructive alternative for preserving our national interests as well as facing possible attempts to drag us into an undesirable position affecting our free and active policy and our independence.

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CSO: 4213/18

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

PPP OFFICIALS DENIES ISLAMIC CONNECTION--Jakarta--H. Ridwan Saidi, chief of the department in charge of organizational affairs and general elections of the United Development Party [PPP], says that the PPP Central Executive Board has never instructed its branches throughout the country to establish a so-called Islamic General Elections Board because the PPP has never intended to establish one. The PPP Central Executive Board plans to establish a PPP General Elections Board. Ridwan Saidi made the remarks to BERITA BUANA on 24 October in connection with the remarks made by Rusli Desa, vice chairman of the parliamentary commission on political and security affairs, on the establishment of an Islamic General Elections Board in Banjarmasin, considered a violation of the laws on political parties and functional groups. Meanwhile, Mardinsyah, secretary general of the PPP Central Executive Board, disclosed that the PPP had cabled the regional executive board in Banjarmasin to change the name of the Islamic General Elections Board to the PPP General Elections Board. [Excerpts] [Jakarta BERITA BUANA in Indonesian 25 Oct 85 pp 1, 7 BK]

CIVIL SERVANT KILLED BY FRETILIN--An employee of the Indonesian government was killed, along with several Timorese guerrillas, after discussions between the two groups which ended in a confrontation, according to western diplomats. The confrontation, which occurred two months ago, may have brought to an end any plans on the part of Indonesia to carry out peace talks with FRETILIN, said the same sources. They added that the government employee, who was an important member of the Regional Assembly for Los Palos District in the eastern part of East Timor, was in that area unofficially with members of FRETILIN. On his own initiative he intended to discuss the possibilities of initiating discussions aimed at the resolution of the conflict with FRETILIN. The diplomats stated that the regional parliamentary representative, who had been highly praised by Governor Mario Carrascalao, spoke with the FRETILIN guerrillas for several hours. However, the dialogue gave way to a dispute which led to an armed confrontation in which the government representative, at least one of his men, and eight or ten guerrillas were killed. The last known contact between the government and FRETILIN occurred in March 1983, during a six-month ceasefire. [Text] [Lisbon DIARIO DE NOTICIAS in Portuguese 18 Oct 85 p 3] 12857/9871

LAOS

#### ACHIEVEMENTS IN OUDOMSAI PROVINCE REVIEWED

BK290456 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1030 GMT 21 Oct 85

[Feature article: "Oudomsai Is Heroically Advancing Continuously"]

[Text] In the past 30 years of national salvation struggle against the French and the U.S. imperialists, Oudomsai served as a solid rear area-- province for the revolution. But, in 1979 when the Beijing [word indistinct] expansionists and hegemonists betrayed Marxism-Leninism and socialism and acted as a new, dangerous enemy, Oudomsai Province became a forefront of the socialist camp. It has directly confronted the new, vicious, and brutal enemy whose forces are many times greater than ours. Under the clear-sighted leadership of the LPRP Central Committee, the army and people of Oudomsai Province, promoting and expanding their traditions of heroic struggle. Over the past 10 years, our army and people have resolutely carried out the two strategic tasks simultaneously, namely, the defense of the country and the building of socialism.

Generally speaking, new, satisfactory steps of development have been achieved in carrying out tasks in all fields and many new factors have emerged in Oudomsai Province. In the national defense and public security work, attention has been paid to turning to the grassroots to carry out people's war and set up political networks. As a result, the beloved land has been securely defended while political tranquillity and social order have been maintained in the province. The people of various tribes have enjoyed happiness and have grown confident in the line and policies of the party Central Committee. Step by step they have switched to a socialist collective way of earning a living.

Along with the national defense and public security work, the provincial party and administrative committees have determinedly guided the people of various tribes to carry out the socialist transformation and construction work in the province. In carrying out this work, they have followed the direction of the party Central Committee by using agricultural work as the basis for the development of industrial work. They have guided farmers in switching to the collective production system by setting up agricultural cooperatives. As of now, the cooperativization work has been entirely

completed in the province. A total of 118 agricultural cooperatives have been set up, many of which have become outstanding and model cooperatives in carrying out production through an intensive cultivation system as a result of which the rice productivity has been increased from 1.6 metric tons to as many as 2.3 metric tons per hectare, or an average of 370 kg of rice per person. This means that since 1980 Oudomsai Province has been self-sufficient and self-reliant in food. It has also effectively fulfilled its obligations toward the state. Each year--in 1985 for example--the province has sold more than 1,000 metric tons of rice to the state.

Along with the agricultural, industrial, communications, and transport development, progress has been gradually achieved in the distribution and circulation of imported and exported goods. New factors have also emerged in the educational, cultural, and public health fields. The outstanding, historic achievements scored in the province that are illiteracy has been gloriously eradicated throughout the province. Simultaneously, importance has been attached to the task of turning to the grassroots to consolidate the proletarian dictatorship system, training and building cadres, building the party, and building and strengthening the contingent of cadres.

To promote and expand these traditions and achievements and to score new achievements to welcome the forthcoming 10th anniversary of the 2 December national day, the party and administrative committees of Oudomsai Province have striven to carry out various major tasks by launching movements throughout the province. They have particularly turned to the grassroots vigorously to maintain political tranquillity and social order and to boost the production in the main rice crop in order to score outstanding food grain production achievements late this year. Along with this, they have launched sports and acrobatic movements and organized performances by art and literary troupes to create an atmosphere of joy for the people of various tribes to fulfill the tasks at the grassroots. Worthy of note is that preparations have been made to stamp out illiteracy at the primary level in the three cantons by the end of this year. This is also aimed at scoring achievements to welcome the forthcoming third congress of the provincial party committee. To enhance our tradition and to score outstanding achievements, we have also concentrated all energies and intelligence on fulfilling all tasks to score great achievements to welcome the forthcoming fourth congress of the party Central Committee. Our province has striven to score worthy achievements in fulfilling all tasks entrusted by the party and state to deserve to be the center of the four northern provinces. Despite the difficult and complicated situation, with the correct and clear-sighted line of the party Central Committee and with firm solidarity in the internal ranks, we will certainly be able to settle all problems.

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CSO: 4206/15

LAOS

SALI VONGKHAMSAO CHAIRS POPULATION CENSUS MEETING

BK031215 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 26 Oct 85

[Excerpts] On 26 October, the central population census office held a ceremony to review the successful first national population census taking. The ceremony was chaired by Sali VongkhamSao, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, chairman of the State Planning Committee, and head of the Central Population Census Guidance Committee. It was also attended by members of the party Central Committee, ministers and deputy ministers, chairmen and vice chairmen of ministerial-level committees, members of the Supreme People's Council and of the Lao Front for National Construction Central Committee, heads of provincial population census guidance committees from throughout the country, and more than 200 census takers. Soviet and Vietnamese population census experts and UN representatives to Laos were also present. Khamphet Phengmuang, vice chairman of the State Planning Committee, spoke on the weak and strong points of the census taking.

On this occasion, Sali VongkhamSao made a speech in his capacity as head of the population census guidance committee. He said in part as follows:  
[Begin recording]

Dear comrades and participants, after a year of work we all have understood that the population census taking is one of basic but complicated surveying campaigns covering the whole country and involves the entire people and all party and state organizations. Therefore, it is not surprising that the Great Lenin wrote: A population census taking is a task of the entire party and people. It is not a task of one particular state organization.

We must understand that this population census taking took place at a time when the country continued to face many difficulties, such as communication and transport problems, the different economic and cultural levels of the people, and the fact that the enemy did not allow us to work peacefully. At the same time, the party and government were then occupied with many major tasks which were required to be carried out and fulfilled at the same time. In addition, the objectives of the census taking require clarity and efficiency--that is, in the counting of the entire population, not one person can be missed or repeated; and the true situation of the population must be kept in mind while conducting the census. However, we eventually

fulfilled all the objectives we had expected. [End recording] At the same time, he called on the entire party, army, and people throughout the country to join in making important contributions to the next population census taking.

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CSO: 4206/15

LAOS

COMMUNICATIONS, POSTAL PROJECTS REVIEWED

BK021304 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0030 GMT 19 Oct 85

[Feature article: "10 Years of Communications, Transport, and Postal Work"]

[Summary] "The resolution of the Third LPRP Congress provides the following direction and policy for the communications, transport, and postal work: The communications branch is a spearhead branch for boosting economic development, improving living conditions, and serving the political task, national defense, public security, and culture." Therefore, communications, transport, and postal work has become a key task.

The Ministry of Transport and the Post Office have paid close attention to repairing and improving various roads to make it convenient for the people to travel between villages, districts, and provinces. Special attention has been paid to building roads leading to the coast in the east, joining waterways transport networks, building and improving ports, increasing the state transport force, and ensuring that postal and telecommunication work promptly serves political, national defense, economic, and cultural requirements.

Over the past 10 years, the communications branch has repaired roads and improved transport networks. "The length of national highways has increased by 463 km, provincial roads by 763 km, and local roads by 401 km."

"Annually, 571 km of national highways have been repaired, while 181 km of provincial roads and 370 km of local roads have been repaired. The total length of roads serving communications in the past 10 years is 27,527 km. The length of communications lines has increased from 11,356 km in 1975 to 12,983 km in 1985, of which 894 km of roads have been newly asphalted. The strategic route No 1 has been constructed to connect with route No 13, thus connecting communication lines stretching from the north to the south. There are now 4,062 km of all-season roads--an increase of 11 percent as compared with 1975. Roads have been built from the central level to connect with 99 of the 112 districts in the country."

"Some 377 new bridges have been built throughout the country with a total length of 12,297 meters, including 12 concrete bridges with a total length of 1,578 meters. Such bridges are the Nam Ngum and the Nam Kading bridges which could not be built by the former regime."

Regarding waterway transport networks, [word indistinct] has been improved along the Mekong River and the Nam Ou River. A new port has been built at Keng Kabao. The Vientiane port has also been improved.

Regarding transport work, the ministry has paid attention to transporting, circulating, and distributing goods to improve the people's living conditions. "At present, the transport branch has 1,190 trucks--an increase of 5.7 percent as compared with 1976. There are now 1,023 state trucks operating between Vientiane and other localities--10 times the 1976 figure."

"Regarding transit transportation, the direction has been turned to the east. The quantity of goods imported via Vietnam has increased 1.8 times, while the quantity of exported goods via Vietnam has increased by 60 times."

Over the past 10 years, the Ministry of Transport and the Post Office has improved and expanding post offices and telegraph stations connecting central and local levels. Since 1976, 33 new post offices have been built--an increase of 1.6 times. Telegraph and long-distance telephone networks for domestic and international use have been expanded. Telegraph and telephone networks connecting with foreign countries have been established via three systems--microwave, shortwave, and satellite systems.

In addition, the ministry has paid attention to training technical cadres at home and abroad. Central and local road and bridge construction companies have also trained hundreds of workers and technicians at their work sites. For example, it has trained 66 high-level technicians and 1,171 intermediate-level technicians in the country. A total of 96 high-level technicians and 88 intermediate-level workers have been sent to study abroad.

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CSO: 4206/15

MALAYSIA

SOVIET DELEGATION TO SEEK REDUCTION IN TRADE DEFICIT

HK310626 Hong Kong AFP in English 0257 GMT 31 Oct 85

[By Mervin Nambiar]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 31 (AFP)--Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Yakov Petrovich Ryabov was widely expected to press for a reduction in Moscow's more than 100 million Malaysian dollars (42 million U.S.) deficit in bilateral trade with Malaysia when he arrives here tomorrow, official sources said today.

The sources said that Mr Ryabov, the highest ranking Soviet official to come here, will signal the Kremlin's desire to cultivate economic links despite sharp political differences with the staunchly anti-communist government of Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohammad.

But officials and diplomats here said that Mr Ryabov's five-day visit was unlikely to result in any quick turnaround in Soviet-Malaysian trade and other exchanges which have declined since the late 1970s when Moscow stepped up rubber purchases from Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Thailand.

Malaysian natural rubber exports to the Soviet Union have dipped from more than 100,000 tonnes annually in the last decade to some 75,000 tonnes last year and Malaysian Government projections show that sales this year are unlikely to exceed 50,000 tonnes.

Western diplomats said that the composition of Mr Ryabov's delegation clearly indicated that trade would be placed ahead of politics.

Mr Ryabov who is responsible for charting the Kremlin's foreign economic relations will be accompanied by a seven-member delegation that will include Aleksandr Kachanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and the Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade, Ivan Grishin.

But the Soviet deputy premier is unlikely to leave with substantial concessions from capitalist Malaysia which has previously told Moscow that its companies must be willing to compete with other suppliers for a niche in the market place.

Soviet hopes of supplying military hardware to Malaysia were dashed recently when a top-level Malaysian delegation decided against buying heavy-lift helicopters needed by the Malaysian Air Force after visiting Moscow.

"We haven't closed the door on a deal," a senior Malaysian official said adding that the Malaysian Air Force was keen on a version of heavy-lift helicopters unlikely to be in production for at least another year.

Diplomats said that Mr Ryabov's decision to visit Indonesia on the same trip could be a calculated move to pry concessions from Kuala Lumpur which has been facing increasing competition from Jakarta in the commodities market.

Malaysia leads the world in the production of rubber, tin, and palm oil but Indonesia has recently emerged as a highly competitive low-cost rival and, in Moscow's case, an alternative source of supply, they said.

Mr Ryabov's visit comes after several years of what a top Malaysian official recently described as "very cool" relations with Moscow triggered by the arrest in 1977 of two deputy ministers for alleged pro-Soviet sympathies.

The Malaysian Government has also been highly critical of the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan and Moscow's support of the Vietnamese invasion of neighbouring Cambodia in 1978.

But official sources here said that the Soviet director-general for Southeast Asian Affairs in the Foreign Ministry, Anatolly Zaitsev, downplayed the differences during an official visit here in early August, saying they could be worked out given time and goodwill.

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CSO: 4200/176

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH PRC--At least six trade agreements are expected to be signed between Malaysia and China during Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed's official visit to the republic next month. The deputy foreign minister, Encik Kadir Sheikh Fadzir, told the Dewan Rakyat [house of representatives] that several government officers were in Beijing at present to complete the drafts of the agreements. They include the draft of an agreement pertaining to shipping which is in the final stage of completion. The deputy minister also said that despite bilateral issues, economic matters will be emphasized by the prime minister during his talks with the Chinese leaders. He said the prime minister will also try to persuade the Chinese Government to withdraw support for the banned Communist Party of Malaya. This is important to ensure that the country's political stability is maintained. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 28 Oct 85 BK]

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CSO: 4200/159

NEW ZEALAND

FRANCE RELEASES CREW MEMBERS OF GREENPEACE YACHT

HK011444 Hong Kong AFP in English 1414 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] Sydney, Australia, Nov 1 (AFP)--Australian skipper Chris Robinson and Susan Ware, a New Zealand member of the crew of the Greenpeace anti-nuclear protest boat Vega, arrived here today after being expelled from French Polynesia.

Their yacht, part of a flotilla organised by the environmentalist organisation to protest against French nuclear weapons tests at Mururoa Atoll in the South Pacific, was seized by the French navy a week ago after entering French territorial waters around the atoll.

Mr Robinson said that the crew of the Vega had been reasonably well treated while detained aboard a French navy tug.

He said he expected to get his yacht back eventually in good condition.

Two other members of the crew of the protest boat, an American and an Irish-woman, were flown to Los Angeles, California, from Tahiti.

Mr Robinson told a press conference on arrival: "A lot of people in the Pacific are supporting us.

"We decided to escalate (the protest). Perhaps it wasn't the right idea, but we chose to because that is what we felt was needed at the time."

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CSO: 4200/196

NEW ZEALAND

## FRENCH GREENPEACE SUSPECTS' PLEA PROMPTS CONTROVERSY

Agents May Be Deported by Christmas

HK040844 Hong Kong AFP in English 0802 GMT 4 Nov 85

[Article by David Davies]

[Text] Auckland, New Zealand, Nov 4 (AFP)--The trial of two French secret agents for the bombing of the Greenpeace anti-nuclear protest ship Rainbow Warrior was aborted today when the prosecution dropped the murder charge against the defendants.

Army Major Alain Mafart and Captain Dominique Prieur, a woman officer, pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of manslaughter and causing willful damage to the ship.

The plea cut short the preliminary hearing which had been expected to last from one to three weeks.

It also ruled out any lengthy trial in which the prosecution would have based their case on a mass of circumstantial evidence gathered by the New Zealand police during a four-months enquiry since the bombing in Auckland harbour on July 10.

The proceedings were all over in a little more than half an hour.

The two French officers were committed for sentencing by the high court on November 22. They will also appear before the district court on November 25 to answer immigration charges for entering the country on forged Swiss passports.

Solicitor-General Paul Neazor told the court that the charges had been reduced after consultations with the police officer in charge of the enquiry Allan Galbraith, Police Commissioner Ken Thompson and himself.

Mr Neazor said it was accepted that the evidence available and admissible could not establish that the two French officers were personally responsible for placing the explosives on the ship nor that it was their intention that anybody should be killed.

Mr Neazor, in a summary of the facts, reviewed the activities of French secret agents in New Zealand prior to the scuttling of the Rainbow Warrior by two underwater explosions resulting in the death of Greenpeace photographer Fernando Pereira.

The evidence available indicated that Mr Pereira went to his cabin to retrieve his photographic equipment after the first explosion and was there when the second blast occurred.

"There is no evidence that he sustained injuries as a direct result of either explosion. He died from drowning," Mr Neazor said.

The solicitor-general said that Alain Mafart and Dominique Prieur had a support role which included "picking up and removing from the scene one of those responsible for the placement of the explosive devices".

Defence lawyer Gerard Curry answering questions after the hearing said emphatically that the outcome was not the result of any political deal.

"You can be absolutely certain it was not a political trade-off," he said.

Prime Minister David Lange at a press conference in Wellington said there had been no government involvement and that the question of the plea was a matter for the prosecution and "not the politicians".

He added however that it would be "a fair bet" that the French would want the two officers back as part of the deal being worked out by French and New Zealand diplomats in New York.

An informed source here said the pair could well be deported from New Zealand in time for Christmas after being sentenced to six to eight years in prison on the manslaughter charges. Under the murder charge they had faced life imprisonment.

Greenpeace chairman David McTaggart told reporters that his organisation would continue to sue the French Government for compensation.

He said the French had been saved a lot of embarrassment from a great deal of damaging evidence that would have emerged if the trial had gone ahead.

A handful of Greenpeace demonstrators picketed outside the courthouse with a banner reading: "Justice at the highest level, Francois Mitterrand, August 1985".

Referring to the French president's statement Mr McTaggart said: "It was justice to a certain extent at a very low level".

He added that Mr Mitterrand, former Defence Minister Charles Hernu and former Secret Service-chief Admiral Pierre Lacoste should have been [word indistinct] dock.

Strict security precautions prevented photographers and television crews from getting even a glimpse of the two defendants when they were brought to the courthouse in a windowless police van.

The two French officers stood facing the judge during the brief hearing.

Dominique Prieur, whose husband Joel was in court having flown in from France, wore dark glasses and a headset to listen to the simultaneous French translation.

When the hearing opened, the court's first action was to establish the true identities of the defendants as army officers.

They had previously been charged under the aliases of Alain and Sophie Turenge which they had used when they entered the country on the forged Swiss passports.

#### Lange Interview

HK040032 Hong Kong AFP in English 0011 GMT 4 Nov 85

[Text] Auckland, New Zealand, Nov 4 (AFP)--Prime Minister David Lange said today that he was "almost certain" that the two French secret service agents facing trial for the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior had never had anything physically to do with the sinking of the Greenpeace anti-nuclear protest vessel.

But he added in an interview with an Australian Television Network: "You can commit theft by having your fingers in the till or being part of a squad that ended up with one person with their fingers in the till."

The two French army officers Alain Mafart and Dominique Prieur face a murder charge resulting from the death of Greenpeace photographer Fernando Pereira as well as charges of conspiracy and arson.

The pair will appear for a preliminary hearing of the charges against them before the Auckland District Court today.

The New Zealand prime minister interviewed by the Australian Channel Nine Network in Wellington compared France to Japan with all factions of the right or of the left pulling together when the country had the sense of being beleaguered.

"It becomes France incorporated. There is only one other country that I can think of that is quite like that and that is Japan."

Mr Lange said that the Rainbow Warrior affair had consolidated French determination to conduct nuclear tests at Mururoa and to reaffirm France's role as a Pacific power.

"That is from this government. An opposition government, if elected next year, would be even more insistent on that position. So in terms of Pacific strategy we've tended to be further back than we were six months ago."

Denying that the trial of the two French agents would be a "show trial", Mr Lange said: "In fact the intensive publicity which will result from that trial will be detrimental to New Zealand's interests in Europe."

#### Greenpeace Chief 'Disappointed'

HK040520 Hong Kong AFP in English 0456 GMT 4 Nov 85

[Text] Auckland, New Zealand, Nov 4 (AFP)--Greenpeace international chairman David McTaggart said Monday he was personally disappointed that the trial of two French secret agents in connection with the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior had not gone ahead.

Mr. McTaggart said the French Government had been saved from embarrassment by a great deal of damaging evidence that would have emerged if the trial had gone ahead.

"We think it might have shown that the circumstantial evidence was quite strong about the sinking of the boat and the involvement of these people," he said.

Referring to a statement by French President Francois Mitterrand last August, Mr. McTaggart said this was certainly not justice at the highest level.

He added: "It was justice to a certain extent at a very low level.

"I think Mr. Mitterrand should have been here and (former Defense Minister Charles) Hernu and (former Secret Service chief Admiral Pierre) Lacoste. I think they should have been in the dock today."

The Greenpeace chief added: "But we do not want to take away from the reason it all began and that is that what we would like is the French out of the Pacific and their testing programme and to take their bombs back to France."

Mr. McTaggart said that the outcome of the hearing made no difference to his organisation's claim for compensation against the French Government.

He said Greenpeace would continue to sue for its rightful compensation as would the family of the dead Greenpeace photographer Fernando Pereira.

A handful of Greenpeace demonstrators picketed the courthouse during the hearing.

They carried a banner bearing the slogan: "Justice at the Highest Level, Francois Mitterrand, August 1985".

Another banner read: "You Can't Sink a Rainbow."

Mr. Lange said it would be "a fair bet" the French would want Mafart and Prieur back as part of a deal being worked out by French and New Zealand diplomats in New York.

Mr. Lange said those talks only dealt with the reparations questions and not with any "trading of the accused".

Police Commissioner Ken Thompson said that no politicians were involved in the decision to drop the murder charge against the two French officers.

He said there had been consultation between the police and Solicitor General Paul Neazor on the admissability of evidence and the law in general.

Mr. Thompson said that manslaughter carried a maximum penalty of life imprisonment and willful damage of this magnitude up to 14 years in jail.

#### Radio Views Aspects of Trial

HK040646 Wellington Overseas Service in English 0510 GMT 4 Nov 85

[From the "Checkpoint" program]

[Excerpts] Good evening, I'm Kim Hill. Tonight we look at the Rainbow Warrior trial and today's dramatic turn of events. Police Commissioner Ken Thompson has already released a statement preempting any suggestion that the French secret service agents are getting off so lightly. He points out that even willful damage carries a maximum sentence of 14 years. We asked experienced criminal lawyer Peter Williams, self-acknowledged Greenpeace supporter who has closely followed the affairs, how much more lenient the new charges are.

[Begin recording] [Williams] Murder of course has a fixed penalty. There is only one penalty for murder, and that is life imprisonment. So far as manslaughter is concerned, there is an enormous range of penalties available to the trial judge, ranging from a pretty minimal penalty, up to of course life imprisonment. It can be anywhere between those two very wide [word indistinct]. As far as arson and willful damage are concerned, of course arson is a far more serious charge than willful damage, and again there is a great difference so far as severity is concerned.

[Unidentified reporter] Is it usual for this sort of thing to happen, for the judge to completely change [words indistinct]?

[Williams] No, I would not say it's usual, but on the other hand it's not rare. Plea bargaining has been going on in this country for as long as I can remember. I don't know whether or not this was a case of plea bargaining, because I had nothing to do with it. But I think [words indistinct] infers that there may have been a degree of that, and I in no way criticize that. I think plea bargaining if done properly, as this would have been

done, is a very respectable and a very judicial way of solving a judicial problem. I have no knowledge of this whatsoever, but I would say that an agreement was reached which was suitable to all concerned. [End recording]

The charges were reduced, according to the solicitor general, because there was not sufficient evidence to make murder and arson stick. But Peter Williams suggests that there may have been other reasons why the prosecution would prefer a guilty plea along with a lesser charge.

[Begin Williams recording] Many things can go wrong with a trial. I'm not talking about the Greenpeace trial, I'm talking about any trial. Jurors can become ill. You may have people who don't have commonsense. The verdict just may not be the one that you would wish to obtain. Sometimes, you know, a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush. [End recording]

Whatever bargaining did go on, it certainly did not involve the New Zealand Government, according to the prime minister. Mr Lange says not once has he been involved in horse trading.

[Begin Lange recording] It was a decision taken entirely by those people who advised the crown with respect to proceeding. It is the simple, absolute truth, that the system of justice in this country is not a matter of convenience of a government, it is why politicians do not involve themselves in it. That is why I did not involve myself in it. But I tell you this, that I said a week or two ago that there are all sorts of ways to resolve a criminal issue in trial, and one is to plead guilty, and that has been done. And if anyone thinks that that is an unusual course of events, they know nothing of court procedure in this country. [End recording]

But was the prime minister at least aware that the charges were being amended?

[Begin Lange recording] No, I was given a note in cabinet, probably about 20 to 11, I can't remember the exact time, and I told cabinet of that outcome. I understand from a news report that I've just heard that so intimate was that knowledge that not even the Queen's Counsel retained to be the adviser to the French Government on a watching brief at that hour knew that that was going to happen. [End recording]

Mr Lange also denied there had been any horse trading over where the two French agents might serve their sentence. Negotiations are still underway over compensation from the French Government, but the prime minister says he has not even considered a bargain whereby the government might send the two French people home in exchange for some financial consideration. That, he says, would be premature. Any government deal would only come after sentencing by the court, and the judge cannot himself suggest part of the sentence might be served outside New Zealand.

The sentencing takes place on 22 November, then on the 23d Prieur and Mafart face further charges involving false Swiss passports, an offense for which deportation is a possible sentence. But deportation cannot take place before sentencing on major charges.

The sudden ending of the deposition's hearing is of course convenient for the French, who were presumably not relishing the thought of a lengthy trial, and at the moment it's not clear whether the (?complete) version of events will ever be fully heard.

It's not all over yet. There are three people still wanted on murder charges, and the prime minister has repeated that many more people were involved in the plot to sink the Rainbow Warrior. He suggests that some prominent French people might feel reluctant to leave France. If there is sufficient evidence against any of them rash enough to come to New Zealand or even to a country which has an extradition treaty with New Zealand, they could still be brought to trial. Police Commissioner Ken Thompson says investigations are continuing, but he says the chance of further charges being made are remote.

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CSO: 4200/196

NEW ZEALAND

RADIO DISCUSSES NATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION

HK010615 Wellington Overseas Service in English 0510 GMT 1 Nov 85

[From the "Checkpoint" Program]

[Excerpts] While Rogernomics [after Roger Douglas, finance minister--FBIS] has been given the euromoney seal of approval, the Douglas doctrine is becoming increasingly unpopular among many in New Zealand. In particular, sector groups such as farmers and manufacturers are screaming over policies which have sent interest rates and the kiwi dollar soaring. Mike Wilson has been looking at where Rogernomics has taken us and what some key sector groups think of it so far.

[Begin recording] [Wilson] If the New Zealand economy was subjected to a medical checkup, most doctors would probably diagnose hypertension, with a hint of depression on the way. And the symptoms of the malaise? Well, interest rates are over 20 percent, inflation is 16.2, 16.3 percent, the balance of payments \$2.7 billion in deficit, and real standards of living have been falling for some time.

On the positive side, unemployment has dropped sharply, the budget deficit is coming down, and economic growth, although slowing, is at least still positive. So, is Rogernomics working?

When the government came to power, there was much enthusiasm for its fresh, bold approach. The government promised action, and it delivered, although it warned there would be some pain. And while for some, especially the farmers and manufacturers, the pain is seemingly more than they bargained for, the architect of Rogernomics says there's no turning back.

[Douglas] If we were to change course, we would have the same increase in unemployment [as heard], but it would be more permanent and it would last a lot longer, and we would have even higher inflation, but it would not [word indistinct] than we will under the present situation, the monetary policy will hold down inflation, so inflation would be much higher, and not only would it be much higher, it would be permanently and ongoing, and that would result in us losing competitiveness, and that would mean that would lose even more jobs, and we would be back to the same cycle of the last ten years. Now while I'm Minister of Finance, and while this government's in power, that's simply not going to happen.

[Wilson] Mr Earl Richardson, president of the Manufacturers Federation, says relief from the pain is overdue. And yet just a year ago the manufacturers were enthusiastic about the government's economic program, so what went wrong? Earl Richardson believes that the government's economic advisers are partly to blame for the poor advice they gave, especially on the movement of the dollar.

[Richardson] They were forecasting and were repeating the economic forecast that they expected the New Zealand dollar to reach about 42 cents against the American dollar, instead of 45, and they also felt that interest rates would begin to stabilize and drop in this last quarter, and there was even a suggestion that in the medium term, which I have defined as early next year to middle of next year, that interest rates could be down to around the 12 percent level. Now neither of those forecasts given by their economic advisers at the treasury and reserve bank have taken place. And that's exactly what has disillusioned us.

[Wilson] What would you like the government to do?

[Richardson] They have to do something about interest rates, for a start. To me, that's the only thing they can do, and the way to do that in my view is for the government to reduce its expenditure and or stop borrowing in the local market for a while. The danger of that is inflation. I think the economy is too competitive currently for inflation to [word indistinct], I don't believe that we can have an economy without a driver.

[Wilson] The farmers also want some action. Federated farmers President Peter Elworthy says the farmers are bearing the brunt of the structural changes, and for many of them things are getting desperate. What would Peter Elworthy like to see happen?

[Elworthy] Get tariffs back, 10 percent across the board, which is credible and sustainable, and will not affect unemployment as much as it will affect agriculture. Get government spending back 10 to 20 percent across the board. Free up the labor market, we know that they are committed to compulsory unionism, but they are not committed to the tight award system which spells inflexibility. And if they did those three things, it would make a very big difference [words indistinct] would immediately reduce the exchange rate.

[Wilson] But not all groups are angry with what the government is doing. In fact, the group which was loudest in its condemnation of Muldoonery, the finance houses, is delighted with the government's free market approach.

So what's the overall verdict on Rogernomics? Well, despite their opposition to some aspects of the Douglas doctrine, the farmers and even the manufacturers are opposed to a return to regulations.

PHILIPPINES

PAPER URGES SAFEGUARDS AGAINST GOVERNMENT 'ELECTIONEERING'

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 15 Oct 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Clean Elections"]

[Text]

Is the Comelec really interested in clean, honest and orderly elections where the fight will be as even-handed as possible and all candidates, majority or minority, will more or less stand on equal footing?

If it is — as it should be — as Comelec Chairman Victorino Savellano has been saying all along, there is only one simple solution to the problem:

Let the Batasan, which is now considering the Omnibus Election Code, adopt safeguards which will strictly prohibit the use of government money, government resources and government personnel from being used for electioneering purposes for the party in power.

If such a prohibition could be provided for in the election code and — what's more important — such a ban could be successfully implemented, then 95 per cent of the shenanigans during elections will be done away with. We will see the death of such nefarious partisan practices as vote-buying with government money, use of public projects for electioneering, use of government facilities by ruling party candidates, use of the military and the police to intimidate and coerce voters as well as opposition candidates and their leaders and followers and all other dirty tricks employed by the majority party and its candidates will be a thing of the past.

There is no question that in 95 per cent of election irregularities these times, it is the party in power which uses government, money, resources and personnel to favor its candidates.

The best antidote to such immoral and unconscionable practices is, of course, to ban the president from playing politics the moment he enters Malacanang. But in the case of Ferdinand E. Marcos — than whom no other Chief of State has been so badly bitten by the political bug in the country's history — everything going on in our country has yielded to the demands of the Marcos brand of politics.

In the May 14, 1984 Batasan elections, billions of pesos of government money was shamelessly utilized. Envelopes containing money were openly and outrageously distributed among baranggay officials right in Malacanang. Hundreds of thousands of bags of cement were doled out to baranggays at 100 bags per baranggay.

Contests were conducted among the baranggays in provinces, cities and towns to induce the baranggay officials and members to work for KBL candidates, with handsome money rewards to those which can register the biggest percentage of victory for the Marcos candidates.

Military troopers were employed in ballot-box snatching in opposition strongholds; helicopters were used in such operations. Hundreds of thousands of voters were listed in employment projects without doing any work but who collected their payrolls after the election.

There are many tricks, ruses and subterfuges which a ruthless and immoral party in power can employ to make its candidates win. All these illegal and shameless practices will again be employed in the coming local and presidential elections unless the Comelec can persuade the Batasan to adopt safeguards which will at least minimize them to more tolerable levels.

Realistic that we are, we have, of course, our doubts that the present brand of Marcos politics can be deodorized now, considering Marcos' well-known penchant for winning at all costs because to him, "there's no substitute for victory."

But after Marcos is gone, and a new Constitution is drafted, there should be provided a ban against elected president and close relatives playing politics. Then, elections will be a real exercise in democracy, with the rule of the majority prevailing.

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PHILIPPINES

SALONGA LIBERAL PARTY CLARIFIES BOYCOTT REPORTS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 14 Oct 85 pp 1, 6

[Text] The Salonga faction of the Liberal Party will boycott any election where there are no guarantees for a free and fair contest.

Former Congressman Raul Daza hinted that the LP might not participate in the coming elections if the Omnibus Election Code is approved by the Batasan.

Daza said boycott will be considered as an option "if there are no reasonable guarantees for free and fair elections in the light of the proposed election code, particularly in the case of the accreditation of parties for the purpose of appointing party inspectors."

Daza said, however, that a boycott will be resorted to only after consultations with the LP leadership on the national and local levels.

The proposed omnibus poll code is currently being discussed at the Batasan. Opposition MPs have vowed to block its approval, saying it does not guarantee clean and honest elections and it strongly favors the ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL).

Among the objectionable provisions of the proposed election law are proposals seeking to allow Baranggay chairmen to act as election inspectors and the establishment of election precincts in private plantations.

In a speech before the Kiwanis Club of Cagayan de Oro the other day, Salonga said the LP will boycott the elections if fair and impartial rules are not instituted.

He warned that the people may have to consider other forms of struggles if the sanctity of the ballot is trampled upon.

In an earlier interview, Salonga told MALAYA the LP will go into non-violent forms of protests, including civil disobedience, if the coming polls will be rigged or tainted with fraud.

"The LP does not put all its eggs on one basket... we are looking beyond the elections," Salonga said.

President Marcos, he said, should adopt meaningful electoral reforms in order to establish the credibility of the electoral process.

He said as a first step, the President should appoint men of integrity to the Commission on Elections (Comelec). There are still vacancies for the Commissioners seats at the Comelec and it will not do the President any good to appoint another set of proteges, he added.

Salonga also proposed the retention of public school teachers as poll watchers, the banning of military men in voting areas, and the deputization of Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) cadres for poll duties.

Salonga was at the helm of the boycott movement in the May, 1984 Batasan elections.

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CSO: 4200/169

PHILIPPINES

RIVALRY REPORTED BETWEEN UNIDO, NUC ON ACCREDITATION

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 14 Oct 85 pp 1, 6

[News analysis by Ben Evardone: "Over Accreditation in Coming Polls"]

[Text] A bitter clash between two of the country's broadest political groups appears to be imminent in the face of their renewed jockeying for accreditation as the dominant opposition party in the coming polls.

The United Nationalist Democratic Organization, a four-year-old alliance launched in 1981 by former Sen. Salvador H. Laurel, claims it is entitled to the accreditation over the National Unification Committee.

The NUC was organized March 10 this year, amid speculations that an ailing President Marcos would call a snap presidential election this year in the face of mounting crisis that threatens his 20-year government.

Unido has maintained that NUC is only a committee born out of a contingency to unify the splintered political opposition that would enable them to put up a single candidate to oppose Mr. Marcos in a snap poll.

But Quezon City Member of Parliament Cecilia Munoz-Palma has claimed the NUC is the broadest alliance of major political parties and would seek accreditation by the Commission on Elections as the dominant opposition party.

The feud over the accreditation issue could explode today on the Batasan floor as parliament opens its period of amendments on the proposed Omnibus Election Code which is envisioned to govern all elections in the future.

Amendments are being proposed on several provisions of the proposed code, among them the continuing registration of voters, the accreditation of the citizens arm of the Comelec for poll monitoring and the synchronization of presidential and local elections.

Despite MP Palma's claims, Unido insists that it is the biggest alliance of opposition groups, having about a dozen under its wings, and that it has the most number of opposition solons in the Batasan.

Unido was accredited by the Comelec during the 1984 Batasan elections as the dominant opposition party in most parts of the country.

Assistant Minority Floor Leader Neptali Gonzalez of Mandaluyong-San Juan has admitted there is a scramble among opposition parties for accreditation. But he refused further comment, saying "any statement (on the issue) will only add fuel to the fire."

A special opposition committee in the Batasan has been set up to avert what could be a divisive war between the two bodies and is seeking to draft a compromise formula on accreditation.

Named to the committee are Assistant Minority Floor Leader Marcelo B. Fernan, Jr. of Cebu City and former Comelec chairman and MP Jaime N. Ferrer representing the NUC, and MP Luis R. Villafuerte and Gonzalez for the Unido.

Accreditation as an opposition party would entitle either NUC or Unido to field poll watchers in all precincts and name its members to the Board of Canvassers, the Citizens Election Committee and the Board of Inspectors to prevent fraud.

A provision in the proposed Omnibus Election Code empowers the Comelec to accredit the dominant opposition party on a regional basis.

MP Palma has assailed this system of accreditation as "very divisive" and declared that all oppositionists are unanimous in having only one opposition group nationwide.

Oppositionists said the issue of accreditation is "very vital in our efforts to topple the Marcos regime."

The Kilusang Bagong Lipunan is automatically accredited by the Comelec after President Marcos had garnered more than 10 per cent of the votes cast in the 1981 presidential elections.

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PHILIPPINES

RIGHTS GROUP ALLEGES LOGGING FIRM'S ROLE IN LUZON FIGHTING

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 14 Oct 85 pp 1, 6

[Article by Jimmy Montejo: "'Killing Fields' in Cagayan"]

[Text] The territory of a big logging concessionaire in Cagayan has become the "killing field" by both the New People's Army and the military, a human rights group from Northern Luzon said.

A manifesto circulated by the Northern Luzon Human Rights Organization claimed that the logging area of Taggat Industries has virtually turned into a battle field which has greatly imperiled the lives of residents around it.

The group also alleged that the logging firm--the biggest logging concern in the mountain areas of Cagayan and Kalinga-Apayao--has also taken part in military offensives against rebel-infested barangays.

The utter breakdown of tranquility, the rights group added, started when the NPA stepped up their attacks against military units and security forces of Taggat Industries.

The most notable of such attacks, they said, was the raid on Taggat's logpond in Pudtol, Kalinga-Apayao in November last year, and the ambush of a platoon of the 115th PC Company in Pamplona last March.

The increasing NPA activities in the area had reportedly slowed down the operation of the logging firm, prompting its owner, allegedly a close associate of President Marcos, to ask for military assistance.

"After the owner's visit to Malacanang, additional troops and hardware began pouring into the area," the human rights group noted.

Following the arrival of military support, an offensive dubbed "Operation Timberland" was soon launched. The move was viewed as a militarization of the 300,000-hectare logging territory and an effort to cut off the logistical pipeline of the NPA.

The military reinforcements reportedly included six PC companies who were deployed at Curva, Pamplona and Luna in Kalinga-Apayao.

Others consisted of one Scout Ranger company in Pudtol, an Army company for Tanglagan, Calanasan and Cadcadir in Claveria, Cagayan.

The human rights group alleged that with the deployment of fresh troops, four towns in Cagayan and two in Kalinga-Apayao became the targets of intense bombings and strafings for six months now by warplanes and helicopter gunships of the military.

The group said there had been 17 incidents of bombing, and more than 30 cases of machinegun strafing from March 11 to Aug. 31 in the towns of Pamplona, Sanchez Mira, Claveria and Sta. Prexedes in Cagayan and in Luna and Calanasan in Kalinga-Apayao.

"There is still no sign of letting up on the aerial attacks," the group added.

They claimed the incidents had dislocated farmers and other peasant groups from their main line of livelihood. Many families have also fled their homes for the urban centers while some went deeper into the forests.

The group failed, however, to account for any civilian possibly killed in the crossfire.

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CSO: 4200/169

PHILIPPINES

DAILY REPORTS SETTLEMENT OF 4 STRIKES, 38 NOTICES

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 14 Oct 85 p 3

[Text] The Ministry of Labor and Employment reported yesterday that it settled four strikes last week involving 1,400 workers, and 38 other labor disputes that had prompted workers to issue strike threats.

The Bureau of Labor Relations reported to Labor Minister Blas F. Ople that the strikes settled were at Philippine Carpet Manufacturing, De Los Santos Medical Center, Solar Plastic, and MTC Lens Processor, Inc.

The settlement of 38 strike notices were effected by the MOLE National Capital Region office under director Severo Pucan.

Among the disputes settled by the NCR office were those at Royal Insurance which was handled by assistant director Romeo Young, Philippine International Food Corp., by Pucan, Ruggers Garments by conciliator Juanito Burgos, and Novelty Philippines, by conciliator Jesus Sebastian.

The report filed by BLR director Cresenciano Trajano said that the larger firms where disputes were settled were the Eastwind Garments, General Milling Corp., National Steel Corp., Lambda Manufacturing, and Parkwood Products, Inc.

In his report, Trajano also said that there were still 33 ongoing strikes at the end of the week.

There were 181 strike notices, including 25 which were carried over from 1984. (PNA)

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CSO: 4200/169

PHILIPPINES

GROWING 'MILITANCE,' MILITARIZATION REPORTED IN NEGROS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 14 Oct 85 p 9

[Article by Edgar Cadagat in the "Straight From Negros" column: "The 'Six Mad Dogs'"]

[Text] More and more Negrenses have come to realize the hypocrisy of the Marcos administration. The Escalante carnage, the massacre of the Aningal Family, the Langoni 9 and the numerous cases of human rights abuses have served as proof of the government's sham policy of reconciliation. No wonder that the gap between the great majority of the local populace and those who govern them continues to grow irreparably wide.

\* \* \* \* \*

The clear response to these human rights violations is one of militance. And it shows on the surface; with even the illegal National Democratic Front-Negros joining in the fray. It has been very active in disseminating propaganda intermittently in the wake of the Escalante Massacre.

\* \* \* \* \*

In Murcia town, 12.8 kilometers away from Bacolod, a policeman, Pat. Romulo Berondo, was hit by shotgun blasts on both sides of the arms and the abdomen when he and another policeman chanced upon about 15 people pasting red-printed posters on walls and painting slogans in the poblacion.

The posters sported the slogan, "De Guzman-Gustilo Utok Sa Escalante Massacre (De Guzman-Gustilo Mastermind behind the Escalante Massacre)". Some posters were pasted amid a background of dripping blood while slogans were spread over walls in the town.

A short firefight then took place which also resulted in the shattering of the windshield of the policemen's Land cruiser jeep.

\* \* \* \* \*

Statements distributed by nimble-footed persons and signed by the National Democratic Front-Negros, said in an analysis that the "blood of the Escalante

has led to the expansion of the revolutionary movement by a hundredfold and has given a new impetus to the rapid advance of our revolutionary struggle."

More ominous was its declaration of "Death to all the fascists and the criminals responsible for the massacre in Escalante."

\* \* \* \* \*

The political fallout from the Escalante Massacre, it appears, will be long-lasting with the hurts, the pains and the wounds affecting not only families of the dead but the whole population of the island itself.

Barely two weeks after the incident, the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan-Negros Oriental Chapter held its first congress at the Cunningham Hall of the Silliman University's Medical Center.

Negrenses, mostly members of Bayan-Negros, are responding to the Escalante Massacre with a quiet and heightened intensity.

Symposia on the incident, street plays, street corner rallies and other forms of mass actions are being held or will be staged this month. The first of these mass actions was the Oct. 7-8 fast and the Oct. 9 rally spearheaded by the Negros Ecumenical Movement for Justice and Peace (NEMJP).

More will follow including another indignation rally in Bacolod City scheduled yesterday. On this date, protesters will burn effigies of the "US-Marcos dictatorship", former congressman Armando Gustilo, the CHDFs and the "Six Mad Dogs", local mediamen whom organizers say have been covering up who was responsible for the massacre. The "Six Mad Dogs," organizers say, have maligned officials of Bayan-Negros, Msgr. Antonio Y. Fortich and the religious sector and trade union officials including independent mediamen who refused to toe their line of "anarchy and communism as against democracy," in a veiled justification of the worse-ever incident in the history of the province.

\* \* \* \* \*

The angry response of Negrenses has triggered an equal response on the part of government. PEOPLE'S REVIEW, a weekly newspaper based in Bacolod City, which is gaining more readership, disclosed in its latest issue that every townhall and police station in the province has become a virtual arsenal with sentry posts and machinegun emplacements on the ready.

Out in the PC headquarters, staccato bursts of machinegun fire seem proof that soldiers might be in training on how to handle machine guns. There is a target range in the PC headquarters.

\* \* \* \* \*

Negrenses who expected quick reprisal operations from the New People's Army are quite surprised that the NPAs have not responded so far.

Political observers, however, point out that the NPAs strike at the most unexpected time. They speculate that with the close to 1,000 high-powered firearms taken in raids and arms confiscation operation, including tons of explosives taken from a recent raid in Southern Negros, it would soon fulfill the expectations of many that a military operation linked to the Escalante Massacre would be launched in the not too distant future.

Even Northern Negros CHDFs expect such punitive actions from the NPAs as many of them have reportedly bought new cedula's with fake names in an attempt to hide their identities. Cars entering Cadiz City are carefully checked, with trigger-itchy CHDF's and police on the alert.

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CSO: 4200/169

## EDITORIAL VIEWS IMPACT OF MANILA POPULATION GROWTH

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 14 Oct 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Doomsday Scene"]

[Text] Apocalyptic is the word to describe a somewhat doomsday scenario for Metro Manila by the year 2000. In a little more than 14 years from now, a private research agency projects a population of 9.8-million people for an area of 636 square kilometers represented by the present four cities and 13 municipalities comprising the area. This means, according to the Population Center Foundation which undertook the research, that there will be 15,558 people crowding each square kilometer which is nearly double the population count of more than five million in 1980.

The density is expected to trigger high crime rates, massive unemployment, malnutrition, housing shortages, insufficient water and energy supplies, uncollected garbage and heavy traffic. Against the present-day background of a similar malaise haunting the City of Man with a less than six million population obtaining, an addition of four million persons by the century's turn indeed would conjure up the kind of scenario cited above. Worse, the center projects that most of the land areas will be residential, leaving precious little space for new factories and commercial centers which usually generate more jobs. And, most certainly, the opportunities for gainful employment must be provided in anticipation of a labor force reaching to as much as five million by that time, which will necessitate the creation of about 450,000 jobs a year beginning from the present to stave off massive and serious unemployment.

Considering the nation's pitiful condition at this time, it is highly doubtful that it can do anything to alleviate the future shock in store for Metro Manila residents. If the powers-that-be are still in the saddle by the year 2000 (since they do not intend to die) what sleight-of-hand trick or magic formula could they invoke to ward off the impending disaster? If they cannot do anything for the present number of population, what could they do with more, when problems are expected to worsen?

It has been said that a great leader should be capable of invoking "an alchemy of great vision" to prepare the country he leads to a future of prosperity

and security, peace and hope. Is the present conjugal leadership capable of this vision? The answer is a qualified yes--because they are capable only for themselves.

At any rate, if by that time we still have the Metro Manila Commission, it can teach all the jobless how to make money from garbage, an enterprise in which some of its top officials specialize. It is a sure-fire way of solving unemployment.

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CSO: 4200/169

PHILIPPINES

TARLAC MILITARY OFFICER DENOUNCES MARCOS REGIME

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 14 Oct 85 p 9

[Article by Erlie Duduaco: "Major Raps FM Administration"]

[Text] TARLAC, Tarlac--President Marcos' 20-year-old regime received a tongue-lashing from a ranking member of the military in Central Luzon last week during the convention of the Regional Emergency Assistance Communication Team (REACT III) in one of the downtown restaurants in this capital town.

Maj. Manuel Jimenez made the criticism during his inspirational talk before REACT members from the six provinces of Region III.

Jimenez, head of the Civil Relations Service in the region, jolted the audience by his sharp remarks against the administration. Present during the tirade was Tarlac Gov. Federico D. Peralta who was the guest of honor and speaker.

During the same occasion, the military officer challenged those present to relay what he said to the chief executive whom he only addressed as "Marcos" adding that he is "not afraid."

Silence filled the convention hall during the delivery of Jimenez's inspirational talk which some participants called as "ironic from a soldier in uniform."

As this developed, REACT chapters are reportedly adopting a resolution denouncing the contents of Jimenez's speech.

The resolution is expected to be signed by the base members from Tarlac (Tambuli), Nueva Ecija (Palayan), Bulacan (Katipunan), Pampanga, Bataan and Zambales.

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CSO: 4200/169

PHILIPPINES

CONFERENCE CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT VIEW OF TRIPOLI AGREEMENT

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 14 Oct 85 p 9

[Article by Jam Maridul: "Concerned Muslims Ask Government: 'Review Tripoli Agreement'"]

[Text] Contrary to claims of government officials, the Tripoli Agreement signed between the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front in Libya in 1976 providing for a "limited self-rule" to the Muslims in Mindanao was never "totally and sincerely" implemented by the Administration. The present: "autonomous" government in Regions 9 and 12 is but a "fake and sham" political autonomy.

This was the general view of the participants of a two-day conference held last month at the University of the Philippines, Quezon City to discuss the implementation and implications of the Tripoli Agreement.

Ranking government officials mostly from the Office of the Ministry of Muslim Affairs and Cultural Communities and the Region 12 autonomous government defended the position of the government and claimed that President Marcos has faithfully complied with the intent of the Tripoli Agreement.

They said that the creation of the two autonomous regions in Southern Philippines has brought the government closer to the people and encouraged the Muslims to participate actively in nation-building.

They also assailed MNLF chairman Nur Misuari for his intransigence and blamed him for the bogging down of negotiations on the implementing details of the accord.

Meanwhile, speakers identified with the political Opposition denounced the Marcos administration and said that the Philippine government is bent on pursuing a "colonial policy of divide and rule".

Lawyer Firdausi Abbas of the Muslim Assembly of the Philippines declared that the agreement was never implemented in accordance with the understanding reached between the Philippine government and the MNLF during negotiations held under the auspices of the Islamic Conference Organization.

He said President Marcos had, from the very beginning, no intention of implementing "honestly and sincerely" the stipulations of the agreement.

Claiming that the Tripoli Agreement was the most important "political victory" ever achieved by the Bangsa Moro people, Abbas declared that "it is the duty of every Muslim to demand and fight for the implementation of the agreement."

"The Tripoli Agreement has conferred on the MNLF a status of belligerency," he said, declaring that the signing of the agreement was a recognition that the Bangsa Moro is a "distinct and separate community" from that of the larger Filipino community.

Former Sen. Mamintal Tamano, a ranking official of the United Nationalist Democratic Organization, has accused the Marcos government of pursuing what he called a policy of "malignant neglect" towards the people of Mindanao.

He said the much touted government development programs in the South are nothing but "cosmetic reforms" which do not redound to the upliftment of the general well-being of the people.

Claiming that the government policy of attraction which grants privileges and favors to MNLF forces who will join the administration as a "shortsighted policy", Tamano asked: "Is it a policy of the Marcos government that in order to qualify for concessions, you must have blood in your hands?"

Manaros Boransing, vice president of the MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology in Iligan City, called on the participants to stop looking for who to blame for the breakdown of negotiations between the government and the MNLF. Instead, he urged them to use the Tripoli Agreement as a broad framework for the socio-economic development of Mindanao.

Stressing that because of colonialist manipulation Christian Filipinos and the Bangsa Moro people have lived virtually in separate worlds, Boransing said, "The Tripoli Agreement is the first true covenant entered into by and between the Christian Filipinos and the Moro people."

He proposed the creation of the Tripoli Agreement Study Commission (TASC) to act as a neutral "brain trust to be composed of scholars from various fields to spell out the details of the organic structure and limits of authority of the autonomous government and its relationships with the central government."

Lawyer Saidamen Pangarungan, a former assemblyman in the Region 12 legislative assembly, called on both the Philippine government and the MNLF to resume the negotiations. He also reiterated the need for Muslim representation in all vital organs of the national government as provided for in the Tripoli accord.

Aside from Abbas, Tamano and Pangarungan, other Muslim figures belonging to the moderate Opposition snubbed the conference.

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CSO: 4200/169

PHILIPPINES

MALAYA REPORTS FOREIGNER'S ROLE IN MILITARY OPERATION

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 14 Oct 85 p 9

[Text] A foreign national has been sighted actively participating in a military operation which resulted in the arrest of four persons in Dananao, Kalinga-Apayao last Sept. 25, the Cordillera News Agency based in Baguio City said.

The foreigner, identified as one Brunel Leblan of 9 Rue Michel Leconte, Paris 3, France, was reported seen by witnesses in full battle gear when he visited Dananao the day before the military launched its operation.

Witnesses described the foreigner as a "male Caucasian" observed to be reconnoitering the area with a civilian intelligence agent from Tulgao the day before the raid.

He was seen signalling towards the army camp located at the northern ridge of the barrio before leaving the area.

Witnesses added that early the next day, elements of the 41st Infantry Battalion, 5th Division, Philippine Army swooped down on the village.

One Lt. Raymundo headed the raiding team and conducted a four-hour meeting with the residents. The Army lieutenant produced a list of 36 suspected "subversives" in the area. He reportedly read through the names listed and asked the villagers to reply if the names called out were present.

In the process, Denis Onalan, Oscar Dalutag, Francisco Angdason and Gabriel Alilis were arrested and brought to the military camp in Tinglayan where they were interrogated.

The four were released the same day after being required to sign a certification of temporary release.

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CSO: 4200/169

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST PREDICTS MORE VIOLENT RALLIES

HK280459 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 26 Oct 85 p 4

[Column by Benedicto David: "Confrontation"]

[Text] It would seem that we are in for more violence and violent peace-keeping in the near future.

Close on the heels of the warning of President Marcos that he would crack down on "illegal" demonstrations, the League of Filipino Students announced they would stage a "suicide" demo at a prohibited area: Mendiola bridge.

In Iloilo, there is a "Welga ng Bayan" [National Strike] which has already provoked violence and various warnings from official circles.

It would seem, in short, that the opposition and the people are not willing to listen to the warnings of Mr Marcos as head of the Philippine government. It would even seem that many of the demonstrators, farmers and students, etc. are not afraid of arrest, of violent reactions from the government or even of being shot or disappearing.

All these factors indicate that the more extreme opposition is escalating its activities and is now willing to go for broke in Metro Manila and other urban areas.

And this, in turn, would indicate that they are now willing to use more violent means in opposing the government of Mr Marcos.

We do hope that we are wrong...that we are not taking the patience of the Filipino that seriously...that we are underestimating the grievances felt by the farmers as well as the more leftist elements of the opposition.

We cannot help but note that Davao has had more than 1,000 people shot to death within city limits over the past 10 months: that the "Agaw Armas" [Arms-grabbing] program began there and that Davao has been the testing ground for the various violent tactics that we are only now beginning to feel in Metro Manila.

That so many policemen have been shot to death recently (and their guns taken by the killers) should indicate that there are some "sparrow units" now operating in Metro Manila.

The bottom line really is support of the people.

Without support for the government on the part of the ordinary Metro Manilan, we are afraid that the cops and the soldiers will have a rough time trying to cope with the situation. The fact that cops are being shot to death at "checkpoints" indicate that the violent opposition looks on these checkpoints more as target areas rather than activities. So far, three cops have been shot at checkpoints.

Intelligence gathering in such a situation must be a nightmare for the authorities...for informers may not be willing to cooperate if they themselves fear liquidation for helping the authorities.

May we suggest that the government go on a campaign to convince the common Metro Manilan that cops and soldiers are there to protect them?

May we further suggest that the campaign be more of action rather than plain propaganda?

If the cops and the soldiers stop all abuses and milking operations and quit using their guns to settle personal problems, the people might yet be convinced to help the government.

The cops and soldiers should not be difficult to convince at this time... their lives may depend on it.

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CSO: 4200/161

PHILIPPINES

EDITORIAL ON 'TIMELY' PUBLIC ASSEMBLY LAW

HK250931 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 24 Oct 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Public Assembly Law Just a Beginning"]

[Text] That President Marcos should sign the Public Assembly Act of 1985 one day after a student died and several other people were injured in a demonstration almost in the heart of the city could only be a coincidence. But still the signing couldn't have been more timely.

The bill draws the line between what is allowed and what is forbidden in demonstrations. However, what should stand out in the law is its provision that compels mayors to act favorably on requests for rally permits unless they have evidence that a mass action would pose a danger to public order, safety, convenience and morals. Other than these any excuse for refusing a permit is irrelevant.

Because mayors cannot possibly possess the machinery that could help them decide on the immediacy of risks and dangers, they rely to a great extent on the police and the military. And the two have been outstanding in this score for seeing infiltration by unwanted elements in any form of mass action. Hence their tendency to advise against approval, forgetting the fact that as peace officers it is as much the police's duty to keep those infiltrators out, as it is the work of the demonstrators' marshals.

The new law is specific on the procedures the anti-riot police have to follow in dispersing unlawful demonstrations. It gives both the police and the demonstrators enough time to consider their positions. The police should wade in only after all peaceful efforts have been exhausted.

This obviously was not the case in Monday's tragedy when a motorcycle policeman should have given the marching demonstrators as wide a berth as possible, as the police have done in many previous demonstrations that ended up peacefully. Even last Monday's demonstration, after the bloody melee on Ayala, ended peacefully in Liwasang Bonifacio.

To discourage gatherings in places where they may obstruct the free flow of traffic and inconvenience the public, the new law also envisions the establishment of so-called "freedom parks" in the cities and towns where people

may air their grievances governed only by the laws of slander and good taste. Since our cities are tightly populated, finding room for such "freedom parks" will be quite a problem and authorities may eventually have to allow gatherings in places where, strictly speaking, they are banned. This is when mettle of the police, the demonstrators and the law itself will be tested.

We will never really know how effective this law is until it is tested, ironically enough, in a free market of ideas, and there can be no freer one than a demonstration. Should it work out well, we must thank the Batasang Pambansa for enacting the bill and the president for signing it into law. Then we can consider Monday's tragedy as just another aberration we have to resolve not to allow to happen again.

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CSO: 4200/161

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST VIEWS VIOLENCE IN SOCIETY

HK250841 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 23 Oct 85 p 4

["Past Due" column by S.J. Severino--words in slantlines published in italics]

[Text] With the exception of human life, the price of everything these days is going up. If the tabloids are to be believed--and one's experiences tend to confirm the otherwise shrieking accounts of murder and mayhem--we are fast approaching a dark age, where the law of the club, or more precisely the armalite, reigns supreme.

Massacres and "salvagings" have become such a common occurrence that the sight of bodies arranged in rows that frequently fill the pages of newspapers now fail to appall. Quite apart from the body count, the taking of human life, moreover, is increasingly becoming more senseless and gruesome.

A group of soldiers pursue a man, suspected to be a member of the NPA's "sparrow unit," to a hut in Antipolo. Instead of flushing him out, the soldiers decided on the more expedient course of mowing down the hut with gunfire. An entire family is massacred in the process, including a pregnant woman and two children. It is blithely hinted at that the family was giving aid and comfort to the enemy, but even assuming that the family members were not merely sympathizers but were in fact, NPA members, does this justify the bloodlust of trigger-happy soldiers?

A priest and two others suspected of being communists and active NPA members are caught and are beheaded by their captors to frighten their followers. As in the Favali murder, where the murderers went on to feast on the priest's strewn brain, the executioners of Valerio et al somehow imagined that this descent to depravity made for an effective counter-insurgency technique. But could one seriously expect that all this would cow a determined enemy into submission? And even if it would, is the creation of a depraved world a price worth paying for winning the fight against communists?

Much of the carnage that transpires in our midst, indeed, arises from--and finds justification in--the counter-insurgency campaign. The solution, of course, is not to dismantle that campaign, any more than the solution to traffic accidents is to ban public utility vehicles, which frequently cause

those accidents. But if selective banning can apply to public safety on the road, one cannot see why it should not equally apply to the anti-insurgency campaign--and the paramilitary force specifically, has not earned its notoriety for nothing. Drivers of buses, moreover, should be given psychological tests periodically to determine their fitness to drive. Why shouldn't the same thing apply, to an even greater extent, to soldiers? After all, the armalite is far more lethal than the wheel of a bus.

This diatribe, to be sure, is nothing new, other observers having expressed their outrage over our deteriorating conditions of existence in more sanguine terms. To all these, however, the military establishment has responded by crying foul: The media are treating the military unfairly. One the situation is not as bad as all that. The criminal activities are not countenanced by the military as a whole. Three, media do not report the equally heinous acts of violence of the NPA.

The situation /is/ as bad as the newspapers report--indeed, probably even worse, since media do not get to report classified information. While the military might not countenance criminal activity, the fact is that it is the soldiers, or ex-soldiers, or para-military units, or surrenderers, who, armed as they are with the consent or toleration of the military, commit the majority of crimes against life. Abuse of authority, by the sheer frequency with which it occurs, is no longer the exception. It is the rule.

And even if the newspapers report the criminal activities of the enemy--which they do, by the way--does this make military abuse less abhorrent? Two wrongs, as the adage goes, do not make a right. But far beyond this, the military establishment, as typified by the soldier, is supposed to /protect/ the citizenry, to /uphold/ human life, and to /defend/ the values that make us a free and civilized society. Why must it be judged then by the same standards that apply to the rebel?

The final excuse is that, bad as things are, we are still better off than some of the countries in Africa and Latin America. Quite apart from the cold comfort that this brings, we are likely to find, as things get worse, that there are fewer and fewer countries we will have left to compare ourselves favorably with.

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PHILIPPINES

MORE DETAILS ON RAMOS' INSURGENCY PRESS CONFERENCE

HK281125 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 26 Oct 85 pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] Lt Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, acting AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, said yesterday the government is gaining in the war against insurgency.

While admitting that the communist New People's Army has grown in size from the former estimate of 8,000 to 10,000 regulars to about 12,500, Ramos said there is "little possibility that the communists can succeed in their bid to seize state power."

In a press conference called after a two-day command conference in Camp Aguinaldo, Ramos said:

--There is an increasing aversion among the people against the heightened terrorism and violence by the local communist movement and its front organizations.

--The formulation and implementation of integrated security plans in 75 percent of the country's towns and cities have proven to be highly effective in addressing local security problems.

--The reinvigorated government policy of attraction has resulted in the surrender of 413 NPA regulars, 1,079 mass activists, and 15,439 mass supporters. On the Muslim rebels, 11 leaders and 865 followers with 164 firearms surrendered.

Ramos said the government continues to be in firm control of the insurgency problem and the peace and order situation in the country.

However, Ramos said, counter insurgency in all fronts should be sustained through closer integration and greater unity in the political, economic and social aspects of national life.

Since late 1984 and throughout 1985, Ramos said, the AFP has been laying new foundations, implementing internal reforms, promoting unity and moving towards greater professionalism for increased effectiveness as part of the team to achieve economic recovery and stabilize internal security.

"Only through such a rebuilding process can the AFP successfully overcome the challenges confronting it; thus the AFP has given the highest priority to strengthening and maintaining the people's faith in the armed forces, improving its operational capabilities and upgrading the morale and discipline of its personnel," Ramos said.

AFP special action committees created in 1984, Ramos said, have so far investigated some 480 cases involving military men resulting in the punishment of 120 officers and men for violation of human rights and abuses.

For military men who can still be reformed, Ramos said, retraining centers have been established and some 820 soldiers have or are still going through the four-month course.

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CSO: 4200/161

PHILIPPINES

MARCOS' RECORD DEFENDED BY GOVERNMENT MEDIA AGENCY

HK240929 Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 8 Oct 85 p 8

[By Florentino Dauz, OMA--Office of Media Affairs]

[Text] The decline of the national economy is known to all and even the president and the prime minister have accepted this premise. To accuse the president of having single-handedly manipulated this decline is to accept falsehood. No president of a nation deliberately pursues a policy to inflict pain to his own people.

Before the OPEC-inspired economic crisis, the country was spending less than 300 million dollars for oil imports. When the cartel began its combinations, the Philippines found itself with an oil bill of no less than two billion dollars. Since our foreign exchange earnings was less than three billion dollars, it has to borrow the rest for our needs. Almost one half of those foreign credits went to the private sector.

Jack Kemp, the congressman from New York, was right in saying that austerity is not a solution, it is the problem. In the same manner that when a patient is suffering from lack of blood, the solution is not to deprive him of transfusions to make him live but to bolster his blood reserve.

Thus, the high interest rates was prescribed only as a temporary measure to avoid galloping inflation and to avoid spending monies that we have not yet earned. England did the same in 1923 as a temporary measure and which was the cause of the resignation of Lord Keynes from the Treasury when the policy lingered on to suffocate the British economy. High interest rates cannot be employed as a permanent policy.

Slowly, credit is beginning to be available in the free market. Factories are beginning to hum with activities. Exports are flowing out and imports are coming in. Home builders are in the field ready to assume the responsibilities which tight credit prevented them from assuming during the last twelve months of high interest rates and uncertainty. The stock market is moving cautiously and prices of staple goods are beginning to stabilize.

Even the so-called alternative press has benefited from these new developments. Not only that they have mounted a more determined method of assailing

the government but that they have an easier access to newsprint. The bitter persistence of these attacks are perhaps enough evidence to convince the foreign press that they do not have the monopoly for free speech. No one enjoys being attacked even Reagan or Adlai Stevenson. Certainly, the commentaries of Ms Cacho, Mr Beltran and Mr Soliven on the presidency are less sophisticated than say the commentaries of James Reston apropos Washington.

Whenever there's a free government there shall always be a free press. The two of them sometimes bitter, seldom cordial, but always alert, serve as the parameter of checks and balance. A government is accountable to the governed but a free and insolent press is accountable only to tradition and the virtues inherent in itself.

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CSO: 4200/161

PHILIPPINES

BUSINESSMEN BLAME 'TECHNOCRATS' FOR ECONOMIC CRISIS

HK280430 Hong Kong AFP in English 0421 GMT 28 Oct 85

[Text] Manila, Oct 28 (AFP)--Filipino businessmen blame "technocrats" led by Premier Cesar Virata for the country's economic crisis and accuse them of following the dictates of foreign creditors, a newspaper said here today.

The pro-government METRO MANILA TIMES said "businessmen from various industry sectors are one in agreement that the country's economic ruin stems from our technocrats' pedantry and lack of actual business experience."

Top economic policymakers and managers with little or no business experience and with academic backgrounds are known here as technocrats. Premier Virata, who is also finance minister, is a former university professor.

Citing a forum among businessmen here last week, the daily said technocrats were accused of "trying to please" foreign creditors led by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

The Philippines entered its worst economic crisis since World War II in late 1983, when Manila declared a technical default on part of its foreign debt, currently estimated at 25.2 billion dollars.

Mr. Virata has been shuttling to and from world financial centers to secure a financial rescue program for the country while carrying out a number of domestic reforms believed to be demanded by the foreign creditors.

Among the controversial conditions reportedly sought by the lenders are a devaluation of the peso, government budget limits, an end to government-backed industry monopolies, and import liberalization.

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CSO: 4200/161

PHILIPPINES

HUNGER STRIKES BECOMING INCREASINGLY POPULAR

HK300534 Hong Kong AFP in English 0334 GMT 30 Oct 85

[By Joel Paredes]

[Text] Manila, Oct 30 (AFP)--Hunger strikes are becoming an increasingly popular means of expressing discontent in this country known more for its violent protests and armed communist insurgency.

Refusals to eat have not only been used in the political arena, but have been brandished recently as weapons in a labour dispute, a campus protest and even a quarrel between a businessman and a non-paying customer.

An editor-publisher involved in the latest hunger strike to protest military abuses said the strength of the practice was the fact that it was relatively new in the Philippines.

"The military is not prepared against hunger strikes and we're trying it," Waldy Carbonnel, who puts out the weekly tabloid MANILA HOTLINE, said as he lay in a makeshift tent near the U.S. Embassy.

"Here we are utilising a weapon that they do not know how to use and that is the people's conscience, people's sentiments and people's sense of being," he said.

Mr. Carbonnel and two radio commentators who launched an indefinite hunger strike with him on October 13 have transformed the park fronting the embassy into a campsite with fluttering banners and colorful tents.

The commentators are demanding the prosecution of security troops who fired at protesters during an anti-government rally in the central town of Escalante last month in which 21 protesters were killed.

But Mr. Carbonnel has decided to strike at the top and demand the ouster of Acting Armed Forces Chief Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos.

The protesters, who have grown pale and weak, are joined daily by sympathisers who often maintain the vigil past midnight. A Manila-based British Anglican priest regularly visits the park to lead ecumenical masses after sunset.

Mr. Carbonnel has lost 18 pounds (8.1 kilograms) from his six-foot (1.8 metre) build, but says "I have never felt better in my life."

Observers here say that the latest trend in protest here was set by U.S.-based academic Patricio Mamot, who gave up food for 40 days at a Roman Catholic church until he was hospitalised for heart trouble.

Mr. Mamot, who vowed to resume his action this week, demanded the prosecution of presidential marine guards who he said shot to death two youths resisting a government demolition crew at an estate owned by President Ferdinand Marcos' son-in-law.

"In these times of crisis, whatever you can offer would be of some value," said the 51-year-old Indiana University professor. "We may not get what we want but at least we can dramatise whatever we want to articulate."

Mr. Mamot and Mr. Carbonnel, who said they did not know each other until they went on hunger strike, claim no messianic intentions.

But Mr. Carbonnel said that right now hunger strikes could be more effective than 20 armed men facing a government that had "mastered ways and means" of containing most protests.

"Without violence we can show the world that in this little country, gigantic repressions have been conducted against us," Mr. Carbonnel said.

Indeed, hunger strikes have [word indistinct] to be successful in recent weeks in a variety of cases.

Ten dismissed union leaders in a commercial bank here were reinstated two weeks after they vowed to starve themselves to death if their termination was upheld by the Supreme Court.

Hundreds of protesting students in a downtown university here were granted "genuine" school elections and other demands two days after they resorted to hunger strike when a three-week boycott of classes failed.

A businessman who became embroiled in a dispute with a state university over the late delivery of some dental chairs went on a hunger strike and was paid the 160,000 pesos (8,600 dollars) owed him.

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CSO: 4200/161

PHILIPPINES

UNIDO ASSEMBLY BLOC SEEKS DOMINANT OPPOSITION ACCREDITATION

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 15 Oct 85 pp 1, 2

[Article by Ben Evardone: "UNIDO Seeks Election Accreditation as DOP"]

[Text]

The 44-man Unido bloc, in the Batasang Pambansa formally sought yesterday its accreditation as the dominant opposition party drawing strong objections of MPs belonging to the Liberal Party, PDP-Laban and the National Unification Committee.

But the four-man special committee created to draft a compromise formula on accreditation of parties has still failed to come up with common guidelines.

The United Nationalist Democratic Organization, led by Minority Floor Leader Jose B. Laurel Jr. (Batangas) and Assistant Minority Floor Leader Edmundo Cea (Camarines Sur) filed a bill asking the Batasan to accredit political parties with the biggest and the second highest number of members in the assembly for the 1986 local and 1987 presidential elections.

The ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan has 112 MPs while

the Unido has 36, making it the party with the biggest number of MPs, next to the KBL.

Other Batasan developments:

• The Batasan approved on third reading last night the P92.8-billion national budget for 1986.

The 56 Opposition solons rejected the money measure.

Citing a Constitution provision that no law shall be passed authorizing the transfer of appropriations, the Opposition charged that the budget is "unconstitutional" because of PD 1177, authorizing President Marcos to "juggle" funds.

• MP Celso J. Palma, (KBL, Tawi-tawi) filed resolution 746 requesting the President to initiate a negotiation for a border-crossing agreement between the Philippines and Malaysia.

Palma filed this bill in the light of the controversy involving the alleged attack by Malaysian troops on Mindanao island in Tawi-tawi.

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CSO: 4200/170

PHILIPPINES

BATASAN DEBATE OVER CAUSE OF ESCALANTE 'MASSACRE'

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 15 Oct 85 pp 1, 2

[Article: "Pacificador vs Gamboa"; "CHDFs in Massacre Assailed, Defended"]

[Text]

The KBL and the Batasan Opposition continued to trade barbs over the Escalante massacre with ruling party solons accusing the communists of initiating the bloodshed and the Opposition maintaining that "political warlords" are involved.

Antique MP Arturo Pacificador insisted during the Kapihan sa Maynila forum yesterday that the New People's Army triggered the bloodbath. He pointed to the immediate burial of six victims as evidence, saying their communist comrades did not want the bodies viewed because they could be identified as NPA members.

Negros Occidental opposition solon Wilson Gamboa said, however, Civilian Home Defense Forces, numbering some 70,000, have become no more than private armies under the control of political warlords.

Gamboa said private armies disbanded on imposition of martial law in 1972 are back and have been "legitimized" as CHDFs.

Reports earlier made by human rights groups based on their own fact-finding missions undertaken in Negros, including those of the church-based Ecumenical Movement for Justice and Peace, human rights lawyers from the Bonifacio, the Cebu mission, including journalists and the human rights groups' Citizens Disaster Rehabilitation Center said that most of those involved were civilian militias.

Pacificador, however, insisted that the military was only defending itself and should not be condemned for fighting back. He said the 195 Escalante Welgang Bayan participants reported still missing are actually NPAs who have gone back to the hills.

The Antique solon who branded the Escalante bloodbath as an "NPA assault against the military" defended the activation of civilian militias an important component of "self-preservation" by the government.

Neptali Gonzales, the opposition MP from Mandaluyong-San Juan who was at the same forum, however, differed with Pacificador, saying "paramilitary units have no place in a democratic society."

"If there is a need to increase the armed forces, then by all means let us increase its number with trained and disciplined men, not with ill-trained paramilitary troopers," Gonzales added.

Pacificador held that CHDF are under strict government control and are made to undergo thorough military training before enlistment.

Meanwhile, the Brotherhood of Nationalistic, Involved and Free Attorneys to Combat Injustice and Oppression is set to file a motion before the Supreme Court today seeking annulment of the arrest warrants issued by the Escalante town mayor for 20 alleged leaders of the Sept. 20 Welgang Bayan which ended with the massacre.

Bonifacio chairman Frank Chavez said they are also seeking the annulment of the validating order of Escalante Judge Emilio Ignalaga for the mayor's warrants.

The Bonifacio motion is to say that the mayor, Braulio Lumayno, is not authorized by law to issue such warrants and that since the warrants are from the beginning null and void, they can not be validated by the judge.

In the meantime, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile formally invited the Integrated Bar of the Philippine and several human rights groups to lend their "assistance in the entire range of evidence-gathering activities as well as in seeing to the protection of the rights of witnesses" in the Escalante massacre.

Among those invited by Enrile are the Mabini, Free Legal Assistance and Bonifacio lawyers groups, the Unido, Gabriela, Bayan and the Nationalist Alliance for Justice, Freedom and Democracy.

The Kilusang Mayo Uno also said the defense minister is to discuss with labor on Thursday the findings of the Ministry's investigators.

KMU chairman Rolando Olalia will head the labor panel which will also include officers of the Negros-based National Federation of Sugar Workers, some of whose members were killed in Escalante.

The KMU is expected to ask the military to account for 137 missing rally participants, reiterate its demand for the resignation of acting AFP chief Lt. Gen. Fidel Ramos, pullout of troops from Negros and the dismantling of the CHDF.

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CSO: 4200/170

PHILIPPINES

LOGGING FIRM CONFIRMS CAGAYAN AFP-NPA FIREFIGHTS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 15 Oct 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

Taggat Industries yesterday confirmed increasing incidents of armed clashes between the New People's Army and the military in their logging areas at the mountain boundaries of Cagayan and Kalinga-Apayao.

In a letter to *Malaya*, Taggat denied, however, that they were responsible for the deployment of more troops to the affected towns of Cagayan and Kalinga-Apayao.

"If there is any semblance of militarization within the logging areas, it is because more often than not the encounter or clashes between the military and the NPA happen in the company's logging areas," the letter stated.

It added that there had been about 50 civilians who were killed by the NPA within their logging territory.

To protect its over 2,000 employees, the firm had to increase the strength of its security force, lawyer Gregorio Tumanguil, Taggat's legal counsel, said.

He said the move plus the arrival of fresh troops were apparently misconstrued by the Northern Luzon Human Rights Organization a militarization that had caused the collapse of peace and order in the areas affected.

He also denied that his company had been taking part in the military offensives against the insurgents.

The lawyer said that for the past several months, the military had to contend with an upsurge of NPA activities such as raids, arsons, and ambushes of soldiers and innocent civilians.

The human rights group had blamed Taggat for the increasing

presence of government troopers in at least six towns in Cagayan and Kalinga-Apayao.

These are Pamplona, Sanchez Mira, Claveria and Sta. Praxedes in Cagayan and Luna and Calanasan in Kalinga-Apayao.

The group claimed that the owner of Taggat, whom they said was a close associate of the President, instigated the deployment of more troops and materiel to the six towns.

This was allegedly followed by a major military offensive against rebel-infested areas within the 300,000-hectare logging area on Cordillera.

The offensive, the group said, involved aerial bombings and strafings that endangered the lives of civilians.

The human rights group listed 17 incidents of bombings and machine gun strafings within March 11 and Aug. 31 this year in the six towns.

Tumanguil admitted that there had been a rise in military-insurgents skirmishes, particularly in Barangay Kitag, Sanchez, Cagayan where fighting occur almost everyday.

He believed that the insurgents were followers of renegade priest Fr. Conrado Balweg who had reportedly established a mountain redoubt in the Cordillera.

He also confirmed the NPA attack on their major logging camp in Pudtol last November. The incident allegedly cost the company some P5-million in equipment and supplies either taken or destroyed by the raiders. Four soldiers and 18 security guards of the firm were also slain, he said.

He said the NPA attacks on the firm's properties at the logging sites apparently stemmed from the management's refusal to give in to the forced taxation being imposed by the insurgents.

PHILIPPINES

JAPANESE MISSION REVIEWS AID

HK300757 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 29 Oct 85 p 20

[Text] A six-man Japanese mission is in town to assess the progress of grants-in-aid programs provided by Japan the past eight years to determine directions of future assistance. Yasuro Nakajo, first secretary for agriculture of the Japanese Embassy, told the PNA [PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY] that the team, led by Takenori Yamazaki, deputy director of the grant-in-aid division of Japan's Foreign Ministry, is now meeting with various local officials on the flow of agriculture assistance that had so far been provided the country. Nakajo said Kenya and the Philippines were selected to be the models for the study, adding that he expected "good remarks" from the study of the Philippine experience, which has so far been provided eight consecutive years of grants in aid for agriculture. He said last year, the Japanese Government granted 2.5 billion yen (about P197.25 million) to the Philippines for the increased food production (IFP) component of the grant-in-aid program in the form of fertilizers, pesticides and handy machineries, such as threshers.

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CSO: 4200/181

PHILIPPINES

CANCELLATION OF DEVELOPMENT AID LOANS SOUGHT

HK301020 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 29 Oct 85 p 9

[By Raul Marcelo]

[Text] The government will ask the country's sources of official development assistance (ODA) loans to cancel some \$250 million in untapped ODA commitments.

This follows a recommendation by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) to "deobligate" or cancel these commitments because of a lack in peso counterpart funding.

The NEDA recommendation, government sources said, has been forwarded to Prime Minister Cesar Virata, who is the country's official borrower being the concurrent finance minister.

The sources said that these loan commitments, which were mostly from multilateral sources, like the World Bank (WB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), were contracted some three or four years back.

However, the government failed to draw on them because of its inability to raise the required counterpart funding called for by these commitments.

The government thus ended up paying commitment fees for these ODA pledges without benefitting from the loan proceeds, the sources explained.

The ODA loan commitments, which usually carry an interest rate of as low as two percent a year and payable for as long as 30 years, also carry commitment fees as high as three-fourths of one percent as in the case of WB credits.

Although the sources did not disclose the breakdown of these ODA commitments, they said that the loans were negotiated to finance public infrastructure and social development projects.

The Philippines relies heavily on ODA loans of finance development projects and during the period 1978 to 1984, the country had received a total of \$6.3 billion of such loans.

Aside from this, another \$859 million were provided by multilateral and bilateral sources to the country in the form of grants.

For 1983 and 1984 alone, the total ODA commitments to the Philippines had amounted to \$1.609 billion, nearly \$1 billion of which were made in 1983.

The bulk of the country's ODA loan availments went to infrastructure projects, which cornered about \$2.6 billion or 40.9 percent of \$4.45 billion concessional loans granted from 1978 to 1984.

By source, the WB accounted for \$3.07 billion or 68.9 percent of the total ODA commitments, while the ADB contributed some \$1.3 billion or 29.53 percent during the period.

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CSO: 4200/181

PHILIPPINES

NUCLEAR PLANT'S DEBT SERVICE OVERPOWERS ADVANTAGES

HK301018 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 29 Oct 85 p 8

[By Cesar Barrioquinto]

[Text] The debt service requirements of the Bataan nuclear power plant has virtually wiped out its cost advantage against oil-fired plants, which are the most costly to operate, industry sources stated. Latest figures indicate that the debt service requirement of the nuclear plant has ballooned to 91 centavos per kilowatt hour (KWH) last month, up from 72 centavos in January.

The high debt service requirement of the nuclear plant has also increased its cash outlay to P1.10 per KWH compared to P1.23 per KWH requirement of the Malaya I and II oil-fired plants, the sources said.

The sources said the continued delay in the operation of the plant continues to increase its costs. They explained that assuming that the plant operates during the first quarter of next year, its cost advantage would have been erased by the continuing fall in oil prices.

The nuclear power plant originally cost only \$500 million but this increased to \$1.1 billion. The continuing delay in its operation and increasing interest payments has jacked up costs to \$1.95 billion.

The plant could not operate pending a license from the Atomic Energy Commission. Anti-nuclear groups questioning the plant's safety has elevated the case against the plant to the Supreme Court which is being asked to decide on the issue.

Sources said that even if the plant was given a license to operate, it would take three months for the plant to go into actual operation because of tests.

Due to the delay in the plant's operation, the National Power Corporation (NPC) has been incurring losses of \$355,000 per day representing interest payments on the plant's loans since January.

Before the NPC began to incur such losses, the nuclear plant had been billed as among the cheapest to operate and comparable to geothermal and hydroelectric plants.

Current figures show, however, that using cash requirements as basis, the nuclear plant is second only to oil-fired plants in cost.

The nuclear plant today requires P1.10 per KWH to operate compared with oil-fired plants at P1.23 per KWH. Coal fired geothermal and hydroelectric plants are comparatively cheaper to operate at P0.93, P.49 and P0.05 per KWH, respectively.

Recently, NPC President Gabriel Y Itchon said the delay in the operation of the nuclear plant has done the most serious damage to its liquidity position.

He explained that this was because "amortization and interest payments have to be met without the corresponding increase in revenue or savings in cost from the output of the nuclear plant."

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CSO: 4200/181

PHILIPPINES

COCONUT EXPORTS PICK UP SHARPLY

HK280757 Hong Kong AFP in English 0741 GMT 28 Oct 85

[Text] Manila, Oct 28 (AFP)--Philippine coconut exports picked up sharply in September, when they reached the highest monthly total for 1985, but low world prices were limiting earnings, an industry association said here today.

The United Coconut Association of the Philippines (UCAP) said September exports totalled 141,687 tonnes, based on the copra or dried coconut meat equivalents of the various products.

This was a hefty 57 percent improvement over the September 1984 total of 90,273 tonnes, and 50.7 percent over the previous month's figure of 94,018 tonnes, a UCAP report said.

Despite the impressive upturn in volume, foreign-exchange earnings dropped by 18 percent to 51.985 million dollars, from the year-ago figure of 63.405 million dollars, due to continued depressed world prices.

UCAP said the total exports for the first three quarters of 1985 was 810,661 tonnes, only 6.3 percent lower than the total for the comparable period last year, but earnings dropped by 34.7 percent from 620,854 million to 405,271 million dollars.

Coconut oil continued to be the main category, and the United States accounted for 51 percent of all exports of the major Philippine commodity in the first nine months of 1985, UCAP said.

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PHILIPPINES

BAKERS, MILLERS TO SPLIT WHEAT IMPORTS

HK251421 Hong Kong AFP in English 1345 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Manila, Oct 25 (AFP)--A fight for control of the Philippine flour industry has ended with the main protagonists, the bakers and the millers' groups, agreeing to split wheat imports, a newspaper said here today.

The bankers' federation signed a memorandum of agreement Saturday with the millers' association providing for an equal division of wheat grain imports "in any given period," the newspaper BUSINESS DAY said.

The bankers' representative, Dakila Castro, and millers' federation head Felix Maramba, who reportedly signed the agreement, could not be reached for comment today.

The controversy began August 23 when President Ferdinand Marcos issued an order granting the sole right to import wheat products to the country's more than 5,000 bakers.

Annual wheat imports of 850,000 long tons had been the preserve of the eight milling companies in the country until December 1983, when the government's National Food Authority (NFA) took over importation and distribution.

The government monopoly was dismantled earlier this year, and, with the financial backing of Mr Marcos' friend and business tycoon Eduardo Cojuangco, the bakers set up a marketing arm, Philbake, to take over wheat imports.

The two groups aired the dispute in the press for a month until Mr Marcos withdrew his order following criticism that it was an attempt to create a new government monopoly.

The country's official creditors have been pressing the government here to dismantle monopolies in key sectors.

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CSO: 4200/181

PHILIPPINES

COJUANGCO DENIES TRYING TO CORNER RICE MARKET

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 15 Oct 85 pp 1, 2

[Article by Ben Evardone]

[Text]

A spokesman for Ambassador Eduardo M. Cojuangco, Jr. yesterday belied reports that Cojuangco was making a move to seize control of the rice industry.

Control by a single individual of the industry is impossible and nobody could replace the National Food Authority for rice sale and distribution, said businessman Narciso M. Pineda.

In disputing the accusations, Pineda said of the 80 rice millers in Tarlac, only 11 of them have been accepted by Cojuangco to take part in his "socially-oriented business undertaking."

"This is based on his business philosophy that there must be synergistic relationship between big business which he represents and small-and medium-sized business which is what the rice milling is all about," Pineda said.

The 11 rice mills, Pineda said, can head off attempts by "unscru-

pulous people in the industry" to depress prices when buying from farmers and selling them to the public at a high profit.

Pineda described as unfortunate the accusation of former Agriculture Secretary and Rice and Corn Administration chairman Jose Feliciano.

Pineda said Feliciano must have been misinformed by political agitators. Being the country's former-rice czar, he should be the first one to know the true status, facts and realities about the rice industry, Pineda said.

"He must have been misquoted or misunderstood," Pineda added.

Pineda named the 11 mills which will participate in Cojuangco's efforts in protecting interests of the buying public and the rice farmers: Gloria Capas Rice Mills; Benjamin Go Trading and Rice Mill; Filipina Rice Mill, Inc., AKG Grains Products, Joe's Rice Mill and Bonded Warehouse; J.R.L. Rice Mill, Inc.; Pobre and Sons Rice Mill; R. C. Rice Mill; Toledo Rice Mill; Jesus Lao Oh Kim, Jr. Rice Mill; and Northern Star Rice Mill, Inc.

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CSO: 4200/170

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

2 SAMAR NPA COMMANDERS SLAIN--Catarman, Northern Samar--Two New People's Army commanders in this province were killed as a result of military operations in barangay Flormina, Mondragon town, the military has reported here. The fatalities were identified as Ed Solomon alias Kumander Paul and Juanito Vervivo alias Kumander Biloy. Nine other NPA guerillas were reported to be injured but only two, Belinda Orsal alias Janet, and Romeo Benca alias Ka Willie, were identified. The army operatives led by 1Lt. Ernesto Manego of the 5th Ranger Company, also seized several guns from the rebels. [By Peregrino Arillo] [Text] [Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 14 Oct 85 p 1]

TREATY ABROGATION OPPOSED--Former Foreign Affairs Secretary Felixberto Serrano and former Ambassador to the United States Eduardo Romualdez are against the outright abrogation of the R.P.-U.S. [Republic of The Philippines-United States] military bases agreement. They gave their views at the opening of a public hearing on two resolutions filed in the Batasan regarding the existence in the Philippines of the military bases. Conducting the joint public hearing were the Committee on National Security and Defense and the Committee on Foreign Affairs. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 24 Oct 85 HK]

PALAY FARMERS TO BE GRANTED FINANCING--The National Food Authority [NFA] is drawing funds from the Agricultural Loan Fund to expand quedan [expansion unknown--FBIS] financing operations. NFA Administrator Jesus Tanchanco said the agency would soon set up the extension of quedan financing for palay [unhusked rice--FBIS] farmers, thus to allow farmers to get immediate cash and at the same time keep palay in stock to speculate for better prices. [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1000 GMT 30 Oct 85 HK]

NEGROS FOOD AID--The special assistance program of the United States' World Food Program for displaced sugar workers will be launched in Negros Occidental next month. The special assistance program is a joint undertaking of the World Food Program and the Philippine Government to provide short-term employment and self-employment opportunities for sugar workers affected by the industry's crisis. It will be funded by contributions amounting to 1.5 million pesos from both the World Food Program and the Philippine Government. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 30 Oct 85 HK]

SINGAPORE

PAPER VIEWS U.S.-USSR POSITIONING FOR GENEVA TALKS

BK291319 Singapore STRAITS TIMES in English 28 Oct 85 p 16

[Editorial: "Worthwhile Shift of Focus"]

[Text] In the run-up to next month's summit between Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev in Geneva, both the U.S. and the Soviet Union have initiated manoeuvres to seize the upper ground. While the two leaders have agreed to meet for the first time, they seem to have different ideas on what they should talk about. The Soviets, obviously worried by Mr Reagan's Star Wars programme, want the summit to focus on arms reduction. And as befits the leader of a nation noted for its superb chess players, Mr Gorbachev made a bold opening move when he proposed what appeared to be a radical cut in the nuclear arsenals of the two superpowers. It was a daring, although somewhat empty gesture--if the nuclear numbers are examined carefully--which put Mr Reagan on the spot. By pushing for strategic arms control to be the main theme of the talks, Mr Gorbachev hopes to divert attention from Moscow's spotty record on human rights and its military adventures in other parts of the world. And if the U.S. rejects the offer without making a counter-proposal, it could easily be blamed if the Geneva summit should come to nought.

Mr Reagan, who cannot afford to appear less-conciliatory than Mr Gorbachev, lest he be condemned by world opinion for his belligerence, had to look for a way out. He found it in the Soviets' soft spot by calling for discussions to range over issues of regional peace and the resolution of conflicts in which the Soviet Union are involved. This astute manoeuvre should give Mr Reagan some breathing space and Mr Gorbachov much to ponder over. But it is more than just a clever retort, for there is a strong case for talks between the superpowers to include spillover effects from their contest for global influence. Unlike the subject of strategic arms control which is addressed in a number of forums that go on almost interminably, issues concerning regional conflicts command far less prominence, even though the consequences for the parties involved are no less important. It is difficult to see how global tension can be reduced without the two superpowers coming to some form of understanding. This does not mean that all would be well if they agreed to parcel out spheres of influence. The causes of such conflicts are far more complex. But it can be safely assumed that if the U.S. and the Soviet Union have a better appreciation of each other's

concerns and intentions, it will be a plus for the rest of the world. Therefore, the opportunity given by the Geneva summit should be exploited.

With the two superpowers seemingly at cross purposes over what the Geneva summit should be concerned with, what hope is there that substantial results will be achieved? It is too early to make a pessimistic prognosis. The fact that Mr Reagan and Mr Gorbachev have agreed to meet is a major step toward the resumption of a dialogue. Their public posturing should not obscure the fact that it is in the interest of the U.S. and the Soviet Union to call a halt to the potentially ruinous contest of wills. There is still hope that the arms race can be halted. Equally, there is hope that even if tension between the two giants abates a bit, the world would be a much safer place to live in.

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CSO: 4200/160

THAILAND

COMMENTARY ON 'INJUSTICE' OF SRV FORCES IN CAMBODIA

BK301250 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Vietnamese 1330 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] In early November, the UN General Assembly will study the Cambodian issue in New York; and it is certain that a resolution on the Cambodia situation will be supported by a majority vote as in previous years. This resolution usually calls on Vietnam to withdraw its forces from Cambodia so that the Cambodia people can decide their own fate. It is certain that the vassal states of the Soviet Union, which support Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia, will vote against this resolution, and that Vietnam itself will ignore this appeal by the majority of UN members and continue to act as a regional thug in occupying Cambodia and killing its people.

Thus, is it not true that the UN resolution or even the United Nations itself means nothing? On the contrary, our editorial staff thinks the UN resolution is very meaningful, and even more so because it clearly shows in the political field that the world community has recognized right and wrong, what is worthy and what is unworthy. It also confirms who holds real power in Cambodia--not the aggressors and their puppets, but those who are forced to flee by foreign forces and who have set up a government to fight for national salvation, namely the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea with Prince Norodom Sihanouk as president. Our editorial staff believes that had the world community refused to recognize the legitimacy of the national salvation group headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Vietnam would have immediately jumped at the UN resolution and used it to their advantage. Had this happened, the Cambodian national salvation group, which is already an underdog militarily, would gradually fade away along with their fatherland and Cambodian culture.

From a military viewpoint, the superiority in terms of troop strength and weapons is very clear: Vietnam has a force some 180,000 strong in Cambodia. There is something very strange about this force. Vietnam says it has already withdrawn part of this force from Cambodia 3 or 4 times, but its troops strength always remains the same. This force is fully equipped with weapons supplied by the Soviet Union.

Vietnam itself realized the injustice of its occupation of Cambodia; and that explains why, after having taken over Cambodia, it installed Heng Samrin, a former Khmer Rouge member as head of the puppet regime and forced the Cambodian people to participate in that regime to make it appear to the world that Vietnam did not interfere in Cambodia's internal affairs and that Heng Samrin is the ruler of the country.

Meanwhile, the group led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, which opposes Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia, has rallied patriotic Cambodians, the group led by Mr Son Sann, and the group led by Mr Khieu Samphan and built up a combat force some 50,000-80,000 strong to rescue their fatherland through both political and military means. These patriotic Cambodians once set up their bases near the Thai border, but they came under frequent Vietnamese attack, particularly during the recent dry season. Vietnam has declared that it totally destroyed the Cambodian national salvation group. Perhaps Vietnam really succeeded in destroying the group's important bases, but it is not able to destroy the national salvation fighters because the latter have conducted their activities deeper inside Cambodia and are constantly inflicting losses on Vietnamese forces. By carefully analyzing reports by Vietnam on its efforts to suppress that resistance group, we can see clearly that this group has been operating very effectively.

About the activities of this group, our editorial staff in the middle of last month monitored in Surin Province a medium-wave broadcast transmitted by a radio station belonging to Prince Norodom Sihanouk's group to the refugees in the Thai border area, which reported the results of this group's actions in August. Later, our editorial staff received a news bulletin issued by the same group saying that a 251-strong force of the group had successfully carried out many operations, including the blowing up of a small arms depot of the Vietnamese Army, resulting in 3 Vietnamese soldiers killed and some 30 others wounded. And on 10 August this year, Mr (Pheak Chean), a peasant working for the national salvation group, sneaked a time bomb into a club for Vietnamese officers in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province. The bomb exploded when Vietnamese officers were holding a conference, killing 30 and wounding 12 others. Three bodies of those killed were flown to Hanoi on 12 August. We surmised that there were the remains of high-ranking officers, as it was reported recently that some Vietnamese generals had been killed in Cambodia. Our conclusion was confirmed by secret military sources, and this has convinced us of the effectiveness of the resistance group as well as the truthfulness of its reports.

However, the news bulletin also reported that Mr (Pheak Chean), the patriotic peasant who planted the bomb, had been captured and shot by Vietnamese troops on 11 August. We hope that Mr (Pheak Chean) did not die in vain and want to make his praiseworthy deed known. We wonder whether the hero (Pheak Chean) will be remembered once Cambodia is successfully regained.

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CSO: 4209/86

THAILAND

EDITORIAL ON WORSENING MARCOS FORTUNES

Bangkok THE NATION in English 118 Oct 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Stern U.S. Warning To Marcos May Not Help"]

[Text]

IT IS EXTREMELY strange that US President Ronald Reagan chose Sen Paul Laxalt to go to Manila for two days and deliver a stern warning to Filipino President Ferdinand Marcos and not a high official of the State Department. The choice itself shows that Reagan means business since Laxalt cannot be dismissed as a functionary. After all economic and military aid to the Philippines is controlled by the Senate and the House of Representatives who hold the purse strings of the nation.

Reagan's concern about what is going on in the Philippines is quite understandable. Apart from the Filipino-US 'special relationship' arising out of the fact that the Philippines was once an American colony, there are in that country two of the biggest American military bases — the multi-billion dollar Subic Bay Naval Base and Clark Air Force Base with 14,500 American personnel working there. And this is the time when the Soviet Union is steadily expanding her naval and air facilities just across the sea in Cam Ranh Bay.

Simply put, the warning

which Laxalt conveyed to Marcos is that, in the fast-rising communist threat of the New People's Army, economic reforms should be instituted forthwith and corruption brought under control. These sound good on paper but how Marcos, whose power is eroding day by day, can institute them is difficult to understand.

Everybody knows that Marcos has outlived his effectiveness as the President and that he cannot remould the detritus of his leadership. But the unfortunate part of Philippines' politics is that there is no effective opposition. Ever since the assassination of Benigno Aquino two years ago, there have been numerous demonstrations and rallies and, although all of them have been anti-Marcos, nothing positive has emerged. What we mean is that there is no effective opposition party with a well-known leader who can be looked upon to assume the leadership of the nation.

Another suggestion, though wild, has been mooted off and on and that is the staging of a military coup which will of course bring military dictatorship to the Philippines —

most unpalatable solution, to say the least, but it is well-known that almost all the military officers are pro-Marcos men and so will not lend themselves to unseating the President however unpopular he has become.

The American concern is fully justified since the New People's Army (NPA) is steadily making advances, not only in the numerous islands of that archipelago but also in the countryside of the main island. The NPA is said to field between 10,000 to 12,000 men and, according to all intelligence sources, is steadily gaining ground. Nobody believes Marcos when he says that the NPA is ineffective and is only a bunch of hooligans. American concern is also centred on the NPA, its growing strength and the steady advances it is making in the country.

The crux of the Philippines problem is that there seem to be neither a simple nor a difficult solution in the absence of a strong political opposition with a powerful leader and in the unwavering military allegiance to Marcos. The bottomline of the scenario is too devastating to think about.

THAILAND

#### DEPUTY MINISTERS OF INDUSTRY PROFILED

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 25 Sep 85 p 4

[People Today column]

[Text] Anan Chaisaeng, the New Deputy Ministry of Industry

He is 58 years old. He is the oldest of the newly appointed industrial ministers. He was born on 20 January 1927. He is from Muang District in Chachoengsao Province. Before entering politics, he was a businessman.

He began his political career at the local level. He was elected to the Chachoengsao Municipal Council in 1957, on which he served until 1967. After that, he began to play a role in national politics. In 1969, he was elected to parliament. In 1975 he was elected MP as a member of the Santichon Party. He was appointed deputy minister of communications during the administration of M.R.W. Khukrit Pramot.

When parliament was dissolved and an election was held in 1976, he was elected to parliament again and was appointed deputy minister of public health. He ran in the election of 1983 as a member of the Progressive Party of Mr Uthai Phimchaichon, the speaker of the House. He was one of the three MPs from this party. He also served as the deputy party leader. He has played both an opposition and a supporting role.

When it became necessary for the ministry of industry to appoint new ministers, the government decided that by general custom, the speaker of the House should be pro-government and so it appointed Mr Anan and Mr Michai Wirawaithaya to serve as deputy minister of industry. It could not appoint people from the remaining three coalition parties because of quota problems and it would have been a breach of etiquette to appoint people from the opposition parties.

Mr Michai Wirawaithaya, the New Deputy Ministry of Industry

He is the son of Dr Samak and Dr Ella Wirawaithaya. He was born on 17 January 1941. He is only 44 years old. Before he left to study in Australia, he attended Wachirawut Withayalai School. After graduating from the Chilong Grammar School, he earned a bachelor's degree in economics and commerce from the University of Melbourne in 1964.

He began his career with the National Economic Development Council. He advanced continually and became the head of the Evaluation and Development Division, Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board. He also taught courses at Thammasat University. Later on, he served as a senior economist with the Thai Military Bank and with the Asian and Pacific Center for the Coordination of Economic Affairs.

He resigned his positions to enter politics and ran in the by-election for MP from Bangkok Metropolitan. But at that time, he was not too well known and so he lost the election. Following his defeat, he became involved in family planning work. He worked for the International Family Planning Federation and was responsible for activities in Thailand. This organization underwent various changes and in 1977 became the Population and Community Development Office.

He became very well known because of his achievements in the family planning field. After he was appointed governor of the Provincial Water Authority in 1982, he proved that that state enterprise could make a profit.

Now, he has been appointed deputy minister of industry along with Mr Anan Chasaeng. He is married to M.R.W. Butri Kritdakon. They have one daughter.

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CSO: 4207/32

THAILAND

POLICY MAKERS PRESCRIBE ECONOMIC SOLUTIONS

Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 28 Sep 85 pp 1, 14

[Excerpt] During the seminar on the economic crisis and the effect of this on labor, which was held on the morning of 27 September at the Imperial Hotel, Mr Chirayu Isarangkun Na Ayuthaya, the minister of industry, who spoke about the present economic crisis, called on all sectors to accept the fact that Thailand is in the midst of a severe economic recession and that everyone must bear the effects of this. He said that it is the government that must take the initiative in solving the problems.

The minister of industry said that the present current accounts deficit is really a credit problem. We must maintain our credit. Because if other countries lose confidence in us, it will be like falling into a chasm. If things reach that point, it will be very difficult for us to recover. Steps must be taken to solve the problems, and all sectors must cooperate in solving the problems.

For example, because of the credit problem, real revenues have declined 50 percent. Things must be considered very carefully before investing more money. Otherwise, the consequences could be very bad.

As for how to solve the problems, Mr Chirayu said that an effort must be made to reduce borrowing from abroad. At the same time, exports must be promoted as much as possible in order to bring in foreign currency. As for slowing investments, this does not mean that everything must be stopped. Necessary investment projects must be continued. If these are stopped now, it may not be possible to carry them out in the future and we may not be able to keep up with other countries. To solve the problems, we will probably have to take the middle path.

The minister of industry said that during this period, we must not fight among ourselves. Everyone must concentrate on solving the problems. Arguing among ourselves during this period could be very dangerous. If people try to shift the burden to others, that is more worrisome than the communist problem. Those in greatest need of help at the present time are the small farmers. The government must take action to help them.

Mr Siri Kancharoendi, the deputy head of the Technical Section, Bank of Thailand, talked about the present economic crisis, too. He said that there are three urgent economic problems facing the country:

First, the price of agricultural products on world markets is very depressed. Even though the government foresaw this and implemented measures to solve the problem, such as reducing credits and devaluing the baht, it has not been able to withstand the tide on world markets. The entire world is experiencing a severe decline in the price of consumer goods.

Second, the purchasing power of the people has dropped because of the world economic recession. However, this year, people's purchasing power should be greater than in 1982, the year that there was a severe economic crisis. As compared with the purchasing power of people in other ASEAN countries, the situation in Thailand is average. Singapore is in the best situation; the Philippines is in the worst.

Finally, the deputy head of the Technical Section, Bank of Thailand, said that there is the problem of the foreign debt. The important point about the foreign debt is the current accounts deficit. Ever since 1977, Thailand has had a current accounts deficit, which now stands at approximately \$16.7 billion, or approximately 450 billion baht. The main reason for this deficit is our borrowing. At present, our outstanding loans total \$12.7 billion, or approximately 350 billion baht. In 1977, our foreign debt equaled 88 percent of export revenues. But today, the debt equals 200 percent of export revenues.

In conclusion, Mr Siri said that because of the above problems, we will have to give careful consideration as to whether we should invest in large-scale projects if the return on the investments is only 11 percent, or if the capital recovery period is 10 years. Personally, he feels that this money should be invested in small-scale industrial projects, exports or agricultural production, which give quicker and better yields.

Mr Nimit Nonthaphanthawat, the director of the Research Office, Bangkok Bank, said that even though our economic situation is better than that of other ASEAN countries, particularly the Philippines, he is worried about our ability to solve the economic problems. Based on analyses, Thailand is very inferior. Because as far as economic security is concerned, Thailand's base is very weak. This includes the trade deficit and current accounts deficit.

As for the budget, for the most part the budget is fixed and so it will be very difficult to cut the budget. The government has failed to make the people understand the existing economic situation. The people do not see the need to cooperate in the present economic situation. Also, the government's policies conflict with each other. Take the tax structure, for example. The policy is to mobilize savings. But the government has raised the tax on interest earned from savings deposits.

11943

CSO: 4207/32

THAILAND

PRC INVESTMENT PROJECTS IN THAILAND REPORTED

Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 30 Sep 85 pp 7, 10

[Article: "China Continues to Invest In Thailand Unafraid of a Coup d'Etat, Builds Business Empire"]

[Text] China is building a business empire in Thailand. At least seven companies have already invested in Thailand, and another seven are negotiating to invest here. Things have reached the stage of establishing a brokerage company in Thailand to obtain loan money from China for Thai businessmen. Projects suitable for Chinese investment are being sought.

Today, at least seven Chinese companies have invested or invested jointly in Thailand. And negotiations for investments or joint investments in another seven projects are underway. This was revealed during a seminar on the topic "Trade Paths and Thai-Chinese Investments, Particularly the Shoen Choen Special Economic Zone."

China has invested or jointly invested in the following: 1. The China Construction Company. This is a joint investment project between the Construction Engineering Company of China and a Thai construction company. This company contracts to build medium and large-scale projects. The company was established in 1981. It submitted bids on two projects to improve Don Muang Airport. The BIA 1 project involved building a terminal for domestic passengers, a storehouse, a substitute transport building and two fire stations. The BIA 2 project called for the construction of an aircraft parking area, a fuel pipeline system, a system of lights for the aircraft parking area and a pipeline and power poll system. However, neither project was a success.

2. The Hong Kong United Public Works Company. This is a joint investment project between the Construction Engineering Company of China and the (Thai) Vibro Company. The company is engaged mainly in construction projects that are part of Thailand's eastern seaboard development project.

3. The China-Thai Company. This is a joint investment project between the Construction Engineering Company of China and the Phromsarit Company. It engages in construction activities.

4. The United Thai-Chinese Inter-Construction company. This is a joint investment project between the Construction Engineering Company of China and the PYT Company of Thailand. It engages in construction activities.

5. The CTS Tourist Company (Thailand). This is a joint investment project between the Chinese Tourist Company and the Erawan Air Company and the United Thai Tour and Trade Company. It was founded in 1981.

6. The CTT Company was established in 1983 in order to carry on import-export activities.

7. The Thai Fa Shipping Company. This is a joint investment project between the Chinese Shipping Company and Bangkok Bank, with the two holding 49 and 51 percent of the shares respectively. The company was established in 1983 in order to ship cargo by sea and to serve as an agent for Chinese freighters.

The seven investment projects now being negotiated include: 1. the "Ramil" thread production project, 2. the Mae Tib Mining Company, 3. the agricultural machinery production project, 4. the VEC (Thailand) Company to distribute railroad and construction equipment, and 5. the project to produce gunnysacks from jute.

These are only initial data. They are not complete. This is because no unit has made a detailed survey of Chinese investments in Thailand. There are probably more investments than this.

NAEO NA Business World has learned that another Chinese company that has invested here is the Metallurgical Construction Corporation, or MCC. On the face of it, this company serves as an advisor to those involved in construction and mining activities, providing advice on purchasing machinery and equipment from China. But behind the scenes, it procures loans from China for businessmen in Thailand. It also invests jointly with Thai businessmen.

As for Thai investments in China, from the data collected, there are now 14 projects in China. The CP Corporation has invested the most in China. It has invested in five animal feed projects, a rug weaving project, a motorcycle assembly project and a project to build yachts.

11943

CSO: 4207/32

THAILAND

REASONS FOR TRADE SURPLUS WITH PRC NOTED

Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 30 Sep 85 pp 1, 14

[Article: "Thailand Has a 1,144 Million Baht Trade Surplus With China"]

[Text] The Commercial Advisory Office in Beijing, China, reported that during the first 6 months of the year (January-June), Thailand had a \$44 million, or approximately 1,144 million baht, trade surplus with China.

The main reason for Thailand's trade surplus was that during the first 6 months of the year, China greatly increased its imports from Thailand, particularly raw sugar. During this same period, Thailand imported only 20,000 tons of diesel fuel from China. If Thailand had imported the full 200,000 tons as targeted, the value of imports and exports between the two countries would have been about the same.

During this 6-month period, the value of bilateral trade increased \$20.78 million, or 16 percent, as compared with the same period the previous year. Thai exports to China increased 39 percent while imports from China declined 28 percent. This is a very good trend since the value increased mainly because of Thai exports to China. However, the trend will become clearer during the second half of the year.

What is clear, however, is that Thailand exports only a few types of goods to China, and almost all of these are agricultural goods. On the other hand, China exports a wide variety of goods to Thailand, including agricultural and industrial goods. Certain items are high-value items, such as oil, petroleum products and chemicals.

The report noted that this year, Thailand has imported large quantities of raw cotton, a non-protocol item, from China. The reason is that the quality of Chinese cotton is very good this year, and it is cheaper than cotton from other countries. It is expected that Thailand will purchase even more cotton from China in the coming years. At the same time, it is expected that China will purchase more thread and certain types of textiles from Thailand.

The Commercial Advisory Office also reported that the value of Thai-Chinese trade during the first 6 months of the year was only \$134.36 million. This is not very much. Both sides have set a target of \$350-400 million for the entire

year. Thus, the value of trade during the first 6 months should have reached \$175-200 million if that target is to be hit. Besides this, considering China's total volume of trade, Thai-Chinese bilateral trade had a rate of only 0.5 percent, and imports from Thailand accounted for only 0.6 percent of China's total imports. This shows that even though trade relations between the two countries have developed greatly during the past 10 years, the volume of trade is still low. Thailand is still far from becoming an important trading partner of China.

The report also stated that this will probably be the last year that China imports corn from Thailand. Thailand must find other products to replace it in order to maintain the level of exports to China. It will be difficult to keep relying on agricultural products. More attention should be given to industrial products that Thailand can sell competitively on world markets. This is desired by China, too. If Thailand can get China to include this in the protocol agreement and get it to state a definite amount or value, this will provide a guarantee that China will purchase such goods from Thailand. Conversely, if this is not stated in the protocol or if things are stated in general terms, Chinese importers may not pay much attention to this. Thus, it is extremely important that specific goods be stipulated in the protocol issued at the annual meeting of the Joint Thai-Chinese Trade Committee. Thailand should make use of this trade meeting in order to benefit Thailand as much as possible.

11943  
CSO: 4207/32

THAILAND

SEMINAR ON JOINT VENTURES, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

Bangkok THE NATION in English 1 Oct 85 p 26

[Text]

IT NOW appears as though the government is taking a serious look at agreements on technology transfer under joint ventures between local and foreign investors.

There is an indication that the Board of Investment will set up a centre which will require joint venture companies to reveal the content of their technology agreements. The BoI will provide consulting service to Thai firms on this matter but there would be no specific regulations for the firms to follow.

As a leading economist, Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee, senior vice president of Industrial Finance Corporation of Thailand, explained on a seminar organized late last week by the Institute of Management Development at the Oriental Hotel, that a survey on joint venture firms on technology agreements shows terms ranging from being unreasonable to ludicrous.

The survey covers both joint ventures between Western and Japanese companies with local investors in 80 BoI-promoted companies. The highlights of some of the agreement include:

- An agreement requiring local firms to buy raw materials directly or indirectly from specific suppliers abroad. This can mean minor items such as light bulbs for which sockets were designed specifically to fit only certain brands and those bulbs are not available locally.

- Binding agreements for local firms to purchase machinery and equipment as well as hiring foreign contractors. Japanese firms are well known for this condition. Thai investors are always obsessed with brand names and therefore have to pay high prices for these products.

- Joint venture firms are required to keep

production technology in secret even after the agreements have expired.

- Joint venture firms are not permitted to copy or adjust product designs. No research and development is allowed. It will also be difficult for many joint venture companies to meet the requirements of the Industry Ministry for companies of certain sizes to set up R&D units.

- Joint venture firms are not required to buy technology from anybody else to produce goods which will compete with their affiliated firms overseas. Some are not permitted to export or they are sometimes have to keep their exports out of certain areas. Such difficulties have already occurred with Sanyo in Thailand.

Narongchai said the government is very concerned about this matter but there is very little it can do. However, there are companies here including the Siam Cement Group or Saha Union or firms under well-known businessmen such as Mr Van Chansue, who are well versed in their approach to foreign firms in obtaining technology through various corporate or personal tactics.

Narongchai advised local investors to study very closely the background of potential foreign partners, the products to be made, why they have chosen them, the legal aspects of the deal, marketing, sources of finance of foreign partners and the production technology.

Dr Chatchai Bunnag of Asoke International, another speaker, emphasized the need to identify the various factors involved in local joint venture. The management must be strong and have the right attitude.

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CSO: 4200/173

THAILAND

ISRAEL TO PROVIDE SOLAR ENERGY AID

Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 1 Sep 85 p 16

[Article: "Israel To Help Thailand Build Solar Energy Installations"]

[Text] In the Ministry of Industry on 30 August Mr Itsak Nawon, Israeli ambassador to Thailand, paid a visit to Mr Op Wasut, minister of industry. On this occasion they discussed relations between Israel and Thailand. The Israeli ambassador to Thailand mentioned that Israel had put new technology to use in industry. For example, energy from sunlight is used to heat water for 24-hour use in 10 storey buildings by heating it fully and frequently. Machines have been devised that use solar energy to heat water in order to create an electric current of 40 megawatts. In Thailand, where there are many bodies of water, if these methods were used it could save fuels used in producing electricity, such as oil and lignite.

Mr Op expressed his view to Mr Itsak Nawon that because Thailand has many agricultural products that can be used in industry, such as extracting oil from corn to make "corn flake," producing alcohol from sugarcane, and taking advantage of leftover pressed sugarcane, he would like to request Israel's help in research in that area as well. The Israeli ambassador to Thailand responded that he would arrange to find documentation and data in that area soon, and he invited experts from the Ministry of Industry to be guests of the Israeli government for 7 days to observe work in industries and submitted the details for further consideration.

9937/12899  
CSO: 4207/31

THAILAND

NEWSPAPER READERSHIP, PREFERENCES BY REGION REPORTED

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 29 Sep 85 pp 1, 14

[Excerpt] Mr Niyom Prakham, national secretary for statistics, revealed the results of a survey on newspaper readership for the year 1985, pointing out the details. In Bangkok over half, or 52 percent of Thais over 7 years old, who are believed to be able to read newspapers, do so. In the northeast only 15 percent read newspapers and 85 percent do not. In the north 22.1 percent read newspapers and 77.9 percent do not. In the south 18.4 percent read newspapers, and in the central provinces excluding Bangkok, only 24.7 percent do.

From the survey in mid-1985 in which 18,000 households were interviewed and data was compiled by computer, in the category of "households," it was found that only 44.4 percent of households throughout the country, or only 2 out of 5, read newspapers, while 55.6 percent, or nearly 3 out of 5, do not.

The national secretary for statistics said that 3 out of 4 or 74.1 percent of households in Bangkok that read newspapers bought them themselves and 1 out of 4 or 25.9 percent read them outside the home; for example, at work, in stores, or in other places. In other provinces 3 out of 5 households who read newspapers or 57.2 percent bought them themselves, and 42.8 percent did not buy them themselves. Over half of this number read them in stores. Others read them in government offices, while the smallest number read them in homes of relatives or friends.

As for the number of newspapers read, the survey found that half or 52.6 percent of the households that read newspapers in the whole country read only one. Relatively many or 38.2 percent said they read two. Only 9.2 percent of the total number of households who read newspapers read more than two.

Mr Niyom said that the newspaper that households read most for all regions including Bangkok was THAI RAT. Second was the DAILY NEWS. The third was different for each region. For Bangkok and the other provinces in the central region it was BAN MUANG, but in the north it was SIAM RAT. In the northeast it was SIAM RAT, but in the south it was MATICHON.

The fourth in Bangkok and the south was SIAM RAT. In other provinces in the central region it was the DAILY MIRROR. In the north and northeast it was MATICHON.

Fifth in Bangkok was MATICHON. In other provinces in the central region it was SIAM RAT. In the north, northeast, and south it was BAN MUANG.

The national secretary for statistics said that the survey also delved deeply into the subjects and columns that people liked to read most. It was found that in the category of news, people all over the country liked to read the news on page 1 and the scandals and crime stories the most, followed by news of political activities and economic news. Next was news about foreign countries and sports.

In the category of knowledge and opinions, people liked to read about politics and government the most, followed by the work of the government, economics, earning a living, and knowledge on health and sanitation.

9937/12899

CSO: 4207/31

THAILAND

BRIEFS

RICE PREMIUMS, U.S. PRICING IDEA--Just after the cabinet voted to stop collecting a 2.5 percent export tax on rice in order to allow the price of Thai rice to compete on the world market, there was also a vote calling for an end to the premium price set for rice exports. Mr Narong Wongwan, minister of agriculture, said in an interview on the matter that in his view, the important problem in the export of rice is the fixing of prices by the merchants themselves. Even if the premium on rice is ended, if price levels are not set low, the sale of rice on the foreign market will not be advantageous at all. The United States has made a suggestion, calling on Thailand to sell rice on the world market at a price a little higher than that at present but not to bargain for more than 80 dollars. Now the Thai price is still under 300 to 400 dollars. Mr Narong said that the committee on rice policy is considering the matter. What must be ascertained are the advantages and disadvantages in this. In his view the advantage will be that our farmers will get more money for their rice, but at the same time we must consider whether there will be a market for our rice. [Text] [Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 28 Sep 85 pp 1, 12] 9937/12899

PRC AMBASSADOR CALLS ON ATHIT-- Gen Ahit Kamlangek, the supreme commander and RTA CINC, welcomed Mr Chang Towoei, the Chinese ambassador, at the reception room of the Bangkok Peacekeeping Command on the morning of 27 September. Mr Chang spoke about the good relations between China and Thailand. He said that even though Gen Athit has already visited China twice before, China hopes that he will be able to make another visit. He also conveyed the good wishes of Mr Wang Shushu, the Chinese chief of staff. Mr Chang said that during the month that he has been in Thailand, the Thai people have been very friendly to him. The Chinese Ministry of Defense asked him to take steps to ensure that the militaries of the two countries have greater contact with each other. He said that he will do his best to promote stronger relations between the peoples of the two countries. Gen Athit replied that Thailand and China have had relations for a long time and can be compared to brothers. He said that if he can be of any help in coordinating things, particularly on the military front, or help facilitate matters, he would be glad to do so. He said that he hopes that our two countries will continue to be friends. [Excerpt] [Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 28 Sep 85 pp 3, 2] 11943

POLL ON KING TITLE--After a meeting of the Advisory Committee on the 5 December Festival, Mr Phisan Mulasatsathon talked about the results of a public opinion poll conducted in 47 provinces on conferring a title on the king. More than 88 percent thought that the title "Phumiphon the Great" was the most suitable title. [Excerpt] [Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 1 Oct 85 pp 1, 2] 11943

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

CLANDESTINE RADIOS REPORT BATTLEFIELD ACTIVITIES

Battle Reports 25-31 Oct

BK010752 [Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian broadcasts the following battle reports during the reporting period 25-31 October:

At 2315 GMT on 25 October VONADK reports that DK forces on the north Sisophon, Samlot, Pailin, Kampot, Koh Kong Leu, Leach, and south Sisophon battlefields, between 11 and 23 October, killed and wounded 231 enemy soldiers; destroyed 44 weapons, 5 office buildings, 1 ammunition depot, 2 rice stocks, 1 C-25 radio set, 31 barracks, and a lot of war materiel; seized 47 weapons, ammunition, and some war materiel; and liberated 10 villages on the Samlot battlefield.

On 26 October at 2315 GMT VONADK reports that between 6 and 22 October, DK forces on the east Battambang, north Battambang, north Sisophon, Kompong Thom, Siem Reap, and south Sisophon battlefields killed and wounded 96 Vietnamese enemy soldiers; destroyed 14 guns, 1 commune office, 23 barracks, 2 trucks, 5 boats, and a quantity of ammunition and military materiel; seized 18 guns, 15 boats, and some materiel; and liberated 3 villages on the north Battambang battlefield.

At 2315 GMT on 27 October VONADK reports that between 13 and 26 October, DK forces on the Moung, Kompong Speu, Kompong Chhnang, north Sisophon, Leach, Koh Kong, Pailin, south Sisophon, west Battambang, Kompong Thom, Chhep, and Siem Ta battlefields killed and wounded 119 enemy soldiers; destroyed 14 weapons, 215 meters of railroad track, 3 commune offices, 2 trucks, and some materiel; and seized some ammunition and weapons.

On 28 October at 2315 GMT VONADK reports that between 10 and 26 October, DK forces on the Moung-Pursat, Battambang, Kompong Speu, west Battambang, and Koh Kong Leu battlefields killed and wounded 71 enemy soldiers; destroyed 25 weapons, 380 meters of railroad track, 1 commune office, 8 guard posts, and some materiel; and liberated 7 villages on the Moung-Pursat battlefield.

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 29 October reports that between 18 and 26 October, DK forces on the battlefield northwest of Phnom Penh and the Siem Reap, Kompong Thom, Samlot, and Takeo battlefields killed and wounded 87 enemy

soldiers; destroyed 7 weapons, 2 commune offices, 7 barracks, 3 vessels, 1 truck, and some war materiel; and seized 11 weapons and some ammunition and war materiel.

At 2315 GMT on 30 October VONADK reports that between 18 and 27 October, DK forces on the Kompong Cham, Pailin, north Sisophon, Leach, south Sisophon, and Koh Kong Leu battlefields killed and wounded 81 enemy soldiers; destroyed 10 weapons, 2 commune offices, and some materiel; seized 4 weapons and some ammunition and materiel; and liberated 7 villages on the Kompong Cham battlefield.

#### 30 Cambodian Soldiers Desert

BK310242 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Excerpts] On 20 October, 30 Cambodian soldiers in the 302th Division [Kang Pol], stationed on Oddar Meanchey battlefield, deserted the Vietnamese and returned home. These compatriots did so because they were angry with the Vietnamese plunder and barbarous massacre of our people.

#### 9 Villages 'Liberated'

BK030438 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Battle report from various battlefields]

[Excerpt] We attacked Phsar Kor township and destroyed the Vietnamese enemy's administrative network in Kor Commune, Prey Chhor District, Kompong Cham Province, on 30 October. After 15 minutes of fighting, we killed a Vietnamese enemy soldier and wounded two others. We destroyed eight commune office buildings and a quantity of military materiel. We seized 2 AK's, 1 carbine, 4 AR-15's, 200 rounds of AK ammunition, 60 rounds of AR-15 ammunition, and some military materiel. We liberated nine villages: Don Ley, Ta Meas, Chreach, Ta Kev, Romduol, Rohay, Dai, Ta Mout, and Prich. We also liberated five Cambodian soldiers who returned home.

#### 8 Villages 'Liberated'

BK040419 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 3 Nov 85

["Battle report from various battlefields"]

[Excerpt] On 29 October, our DK forces launched a sweeping operation against Vietnamese enemy soldiers along the Sangke River, East Battambang battlefield. We killed and wounded a number of Vietnamese enemy soldiers. We liberated eight villages: Svay Chrum, Prek Narin, Kor, Rohal Suor, Duang Ma, Sdei, Tnaot, and Damrei Slap.

SRV Planes Bomb, Strafe People

BK310238 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea  
in Cambodian 2315 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] On 23 October, the Vietnamese enemy used aircraft to bomb and strafe our people between Kompong Phluk and Phnum Kraom in Sot Nikom District [Siem Reap Province] killing two people and wounding two others. The next morning, 24 October, three planes were sent to strafe the area between Kompong Phluk and Kompong Khleang, killing and wounding a number of people.

7 Villages 'Liberated'

BK310228 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea  
in Cambodian 2315 GMT 30 Oct 85

["Report from various battlefields"]

[Excerpt] Kompong Cham Battlefield: On the night of 26 October, we attacked and destroyed Vietnamese commune administrative network in Boeng Nay Commune and at Neak Ta Snoeng market place in Prey Chhor District. After a 15-minute battle, we completely liberated these places. We killed and wounded a number of Vietnamese enemy soldiers and destroyed commune offices, some documents, and some war materiel. We liberated seven villages: Tuol Khpos, O Chrok, Thmei, Tuol Khvav, Neak Ta Snoeng, Thmar Koul, and Ta Ok.

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CSO: 4212/19

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

COMMENTARY ON MORE VIETNAMESE NATIONALS SENT TO BATTAMBANG

BK020710 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT  
1 Nov 85

["News Commentary": "The Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors Have Sent More Vietnamese Nationals To Settle in Moung District, Battambang Province"]

[Text] In mid-October, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors sent many more Vietnamese nationals to settle in Moung District, Battambang Province. These Vietnamese nationals have fishing and agricultural implements to catch our fish and harvest our paddy. The fishing and harvest seasons are close. Therefore, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have sent many more Vietnamese nationals to settle permanently in Cambodia, especially in the regions rich in fish and paddy, such as the shores of the Tonle Sap Lake and the Mekong and Bassac rivers to catch our fish and to seal our people's paddy in the forthcoming harvest.

The Vietnamese enemy aggressors' final strategic goal is to do everything to send many more Vietnamese nationals to Cambodia to combine with their aggressor forces already stationed there to steal, rob, kill, and massacre the Cambodian people and commit genocide against the Cambodian race so that they can swallow up our Cambodian territory and make it a part of their country.

However, our entire Cambodian people as well as our National Army and guerrillas have realized the true nature and the genocidal crimes of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors. Our people, Army, and guerrillas are determined not to let the Vietnamese enemy aggressors exterminate our race and swallow up our territory through any of their means. They pledge to unite and struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors until they are driven out of Cambodia and our Cambodian nation, territory, and race can survive forever.

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CSO: 4212/19

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

SOVIET SHIPS AT KOMPONG SOM PORT--On 24 October, two Soviet ships transporting tanks and artillery pieces docked at Kompong Som port. The equipment and materiel are being stored temporarily in warehouses. [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 30 Oct 85 BK]

SRV HELICOPTERS BOMB TONLE SAP--On 30 October, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors used three helicopters and an L-19 aircraft to bomb and fire at our people fishing on the shore of Tonle Sap lake from Stoeng Stoung to Stoeng Sen. More than 50 people were killed or wounded. Ten boats were also destroyed. This is a new barbarous crime committed by the Vietnamese enemy aggressors against our innocent Cambodian people who were earning their living in their own fatherland. This systematic massacre of our Cambodian people has shown to the entire world that the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors have a plan to massacre the Cambodian people and exterminate the Cambodian race so that they will be able to swallow up Cambodia and make it a part of Vietnam. [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 Nov 85 BK]

SRV FORCED LABOR IN KAMPOT--["News commentary": "In Prey Nop District, the Vietnamese Enemy Intensified Its Activities To Draft and Force our People To Clear Forests and Many of Them Die Everyday"]--On 24 October, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors intensified their activities to draft and force our people in Sre Cham village, Prey Nop District, Kampot Province, to clear forests for them on the Koh Kong Leu battlefield from Pou Cham Yeam to Phnum to Ngel. [Excerpt] [(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 2 Nov 85 BK]

SRV FORCED LABOR IN KOMPONG THOM--["News commentary": "In Stoung District, the Vietnamese Enemy Intensified Its Activities To Draft and Force Our People To Clear Forest and Work in a Most Barbarous and Savage Manner"] Since early October in Stoung District, Kompong Thom Province, the Vietnamese enemy has drafted and forced our people to clear forests along transport routes and build barracks for the Vietnamese. Furthermore, the Vietnamese enemy has ordered our people to work for 3 or 4 months and support themselves with their own food supplies. Anyone who dares protesting this order would be imprisoned or summarily executed. [Excerpt] [(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 30 Oct 85 BK]

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CSO: 4212/19

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

CHEA SOTH ON RICE PURCHASE--The meeting held at the office of the Internal and External Trade Ministry to sum up the outcome of the 1984-85 rice purchase concluded successfully on the afternoon of 30 October after working for 3 days. During the past 3 days, all participants discussed and fully agreed on the report summing up the outcome of the 1984-85 rice purchase and the targets for rice purchase and collection of national patriotic contribution and loan repayment during the 1985-86 period. Speaking at the closing ceremony, Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of planning, exhorted all participants to make further efforts to successfully fulfill the 1st 5-year economic and social plan set forth by the fifth party congress, particularly with regard to rice purchase. He said: At the same time, it is imperative to link the purchase of rice and other crops to the sale of commodity goods to the peasants and pay attention to the maintenance of the purchased rice. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 1 Nov 85 BK]

/6662  
CSO: 4212/18

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

MORE ON VIETNAMESE-SOVIET EMULATION SEMINAR

OW030616 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] A report by a Voice of Vietnam reporter says that within the framework of the activities in Vietnam marking the 68th anniversary of the socialist October Revolution and the seventh anniversary of the signing of the Vietnam-USSR treaty of friendship and cooperation, a seminar on international socialist Vietnamese-Soviet emulation jointly held by the Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions and the Federation of Trade Unions under the Soviet Embassy in Vietnam ended splendidly on the afternoon of 2 November, after 2 days of intensive work.

Some 30 speeches were presented by production units from both the Vietnamese and Soviet sides belonging to major state projects built with Soviet assistance. The seminar's participants unanimously and highly valued the great impact of the international socialist emulation movement in Vietnam. Although the movement has been truly launched only in the past few years, it is becoming a large-scale mass movement, with the participation of large numbers of Vietnamese cadres, workers, and civil servants and Soviet specialists. The movement is having an increasingly greater impact in political, economic, and social fields, and is making realistic contributions to strengthening and consolidating the solidarity and friendship as well as promoting the all-round relations between the working people of Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

Through the speeches by the seminar's participants--quoting concrete experiences gained in the emulation movement between Vietnam cadres, workers, and civil servants and Soviet specialists at worksites between a Vietnamese production unit and its sister Soviet production unit; or in a joint Vietnamese-Soviet economic venture--it was stressed the necessity to further develop, both in scope and scale, the Vietnamese-Soviet friendship emulation movement, in which the international socialist emulation objectives have been clearly defined:

1. Promote the overfulfillment of bilateral and multilateral contracts, mutual support in successfully implementing state plans by each grassroots unit and each participating country, and contributions to strengthening the might of the socialist community as a whole.

2. Develop solidarity, friendship, and the spirit of proletarian internationalism, and consolidate the solidarity with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

3. Step up the movement to learn from Soviet specialists, enhance professional skills, train in large-scale industrial work methods, and strive to master modern science and technology for the Vietnamese workers.

Closing the seminar, representatives of the Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions and the USSR All Union Central Council of Trade Unions presented commendation certificates and souvenir awards on the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the October Revolution.

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CSO: 4209/87

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

ANNIVERSARY MEETING COMMEMORATES INDIRA GANDHI

OW312024 Hanoi VNA in English 1617 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA 31 Oct--The Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherhood Front (VFF), the Committee for Solidarity and Friendship with Other Peoples (CSFOP) and the Vietnam-India Friendship Association (VIFA), jointly arranged at the international club here this afternoon a function in memory of the late Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi who was assassinated exactly one year ago.

Present on the occasion were Do Muoi, political bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguyen Van Tien, member of the presidium and general secretary of the VFF; Dang Hoi Xuan, minister of public health and president of the VIFA; Hoang Bich Son, deputy foreign minister; Trinh Ngoc Thai, member of the presidium and general secretary of the CSFOP and others.

Ambassador Pushkar Johari, other staff members of the Indian embassy and several Indian experts, attended the commemorative ceremony.

Speaking on this occasion, Dr. Dang Hoi Xuan said that Mrs. Indira Gandhi was a dauntless fighter for the national liberation movement, peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

"All along her political life", he said, "Mrs. Indira Gandhi always gave her warmest sentiments to the Vietnamese people and showed her deep respect for President Ho Chi Minh. She followed with great concern and strongly supported the Vietnamese people's fight for liberation and their endeavors in national construction and defense".

Dang Hoi Xuan continued: "The Vietnamese people deeply respect the Indian people's heroism and rejoice at the successes of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The successes recorded by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the Indian people over the past year have enhanced the Vietnamese people's admiration and love for India".

Dang Hoi Xuan expressed the Vietnamese people's joy over the continued strengthening and development of the Vietnam-India friendship that found a vivid expression in the official visit to India by general secretary Le Duan in September 1984.

Taking the floor, Ambassador Pushkar Johari thanked Vietnam for the solemn ceremony arranged in memory of the late Indian prime minister.

After recalling the fine sentiments of Mrs. Indira Gandhi to Vietnam, the Indian ambassador affirmed that the Indian government and people will always stand beside Vietnam and will continue strengthening their friendship, cooperation with and assistance to Vietnam.

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CSO: 4200/171

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

PHAM VAN DONG ARTICLE ON GANDHI ANNIVERSARY

OW310823 Hanoi VNA in English 0700 GMT 31 Oct 85

["Indira Gandhi, India's Living Image"]

[Text] Hanoi VNA 31 Oct--Following is an article written by chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong for the Indira Gandhi Museum in commemoration of the first anniversary of the death of the late prime minister of India.

Death may spell immortality, leaving on certain lives the undying hallmark of nobility, crystallizing the grandeur of a cause and setting off the stature of a nation. Indira Gandhi is no more. Her death engulfed the people of India in an ocean of grief and wrath that welled into a most powerful upsurge. Her death also sent deep tremors of anger and regret throughout the world, stirring millions of human beings into awareness.

The instigators of Indira Gandhi's assassination had hoped to vistic chaos upon India and to defelct the latter's home and foreign policies to their advantage. The outcome however wholly wrecked their expectations and utterly belied their calculations in this as in other instances.

In continuation of the cause of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi had, over the past few decades, led India forth into time and history. She had striven to reapidly build India into a developed, prosperous and powerful nation, to unite all national communities, to foster the creative talents of the people, and to ensure the optimal utilization of the country's natural resources, for the advancement of the economy, culture, science and technology and the uplift of the people's living standards. Externally, she had perseveringly upheld a policy of friendship with all countries far and near, pursued ever better relations with the Soviet Union and the community of socialist countries, and struggled for fundamental national and human rights.

As the leader of one of the countries founders of the non-aligned movement and as chairperson of the movement, Indira Gandhi had committed herself to the creation of a new international economic order and the development of south-south relations with a view to gradually eliminating the underlying neo-colonialist streak in north-south relations, uplifting the developing countries, and ensuring the continued growth of the non-aligned movement and its significant impact in the international arena.

Ever in close touch with the masses, Indira Gandhi had walked the far corners of the vast Indian land and met people from all walks of life, particularly the destitute. Thus did she become for the Indian people a source of compassion, faith, and pride, worthy of being "mother of India", as named by Rajiv Gandhi in his ultimate farewell to his mother. Indira Gandhi had indefatigably worked in the interest of her homeland, bold and undaunted in the face of all trials and hardships and all enemy schemes in persevering fulfillment of her mission.

Indira Gandhi was born of a family endowed with a tradition of valiant struggle for independence and freedom and grew up in the midst of a great country and people's reconquest of independence and freedom. India is the cradle of one of mankind's earliest (and most brilliant) civilizations that has given birth to lofty moral values and marvelous art works nourishing the mind and soul of present and future Indian generations and which will be preserved for ever in the cultural heritage of mankind. India, this vast and majestic country, homeland of 700 million industrious and gifted Indians, famed for her profound philosophical tradition, for her love of the right, the good, and the beautiful in life, and for her achievements of world significance in various fields of science and technology, art and literature, now boasts an industry currently ranking tenth in the world and an agriculture on the way of modernization. The Indian people are giving themselves to the task of nation-building in their own original way, swiftly taking their country to the forefront of our times while treasuring, safeguarding and enhancing the prideworthy moral values nurtured and enriched through millennia of history. India is a large, fast developing country that commands an important position and a deep and wide influence. However, India always maintains serene relations with other countries, free from any ambitions contrary to the ethical norms of the international community.

Indira Gandhi's death may read as a message to the world let us work for the sake of peace, friendship and cooperation among nations, whether large or small and regardless of different socio-political systems.

Indira Gandhi's assassins had speculated that India would fall prey to a severe crisis and that her successor would be entangled in insurmountable difficulties. But the trials endured have crystallized and intensified manifold the inherent awareness and strength of the

national and religious communities coexisting on the land of great India. Realizing the danger threatening their cause the whole Indian people have quickly closed their ranks, bound by an unprecedented oneness of mind and cohesion, thus wrecking the dark designs of the enemy, near and afar. The upsurge of the Indian people was brilliantly evidenced in the general election in which Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi carried the day with a vast majority, a rare occurrence in India and the world. Today, all of us may state that Rajiv Gandhi has carried out what he had promised when he accepted his important mission. The successes recorded by Rajiv Gandhi, this worthy successor of Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, in the very first year of his tenure, are those of the Indian people, successes that are beneficial to the non-aligned movement and a source of joy for progressive mankind.

By prevailing, the Indian people have demonstrated that in the world-wide struggle between the forces of justice and those of imperialism and reaction, in the crux and crucible of harshest confrontation, the forces of justice welling from the depths of history and carried by the tide of the times, will prove their overwhelming strength.

The Vietnamese people were deeply grieved at Indira Gandhi's death. They rejoiced over and were heartened by the indomitability of the Indian people and warmly welcomed Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's success. The major events of last year in India have further deepened their respect, admiration and affection for the fraternal Indian people.

The close bonds between the Vietnamese and the Indian peoples, cultivated by President Ho Chi Minh and Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, radiate the limpidity, loyalty and mutual comprehension and respect typical of relations between two peoples associated by many similarities in their national histories and temperaments. At present, both peoples are striving shoulder to shoulder for the independence and prosperity of their respective nations, for peace and friendship with other peoples. Never will the Vietnamese people forget that throughout their resistance to aggression, Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and the Indian people have constantly stood by their side, in hardship as well as in glory. Today the relations of friendship and multifaceted cooperation between the two countries constitute a source of precious encouragement and assistance to the Vietnamese people in the construction and defence of their homeland.

I have had the fortune of paying several visits to India. The land and the people of India have left in me deep impressions and precious memories. I have met Indira Gandhi on many occasions in Vietnam, India, and elsewhere. These encounters now further enhance my respect for and my reminiscences of her. I should like to recall here President Ho Chi Minh's finest sentiments for Indira Gandhi during Jawaharlal Nehru's visit to Hanoi and during his own visit in New Delhi.

Once, in Madras, I told my Indian friends my dream of treading India as a pilgrim from east to west, from north to south, to meet and chat with ordinary Indian citizens in an interflow of mutual understanding and noble sentiments uniting our two peoples.

We Vietnamese are wont to say: "Uncle Ho is present in each of our victories and will live on for ever in our people's cause. Likewise, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi are present in each victory of India and will live on for ever in the Indian people's cause".

The peoples of the world, death has made Indira Gandhi the knight of our time in the quest for peace, friendship and cooperation among nations on our planet.

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CSO: 4200/171

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

HUNGARIAN, PRK MESSAGES EXPRESS SYMPATHY

OW292221 Hanoi VNA in English 1546 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 29--The chairmen of the Councils of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Hungarian People's Republic have extended their deep sympathy to Chairman Pham Van Dong over the heavy losses caused by recent big storms to central Vietnam coastal region, especially Binh Tri Thien Province.

Kampuchean Chairman Hun Sen says in his message:

"On behalf of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the entire Kampuchean people, and in my own name, I wish to express our deep grief and boundless sympathy to the Vietnamese people over such big natural calamities. I would like to ask you to convey my sympathy to the bereaved families.

"I am firmly convinced that the fraternal Vietnamese people, under the clear-sighted and talented leadership of the Communist Party and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, will overcome all difficulties and quickly normalize their life."

The message from Hungarian Chairman Gyorgy Lazar expressed profound sympathy to the Vietnamese people over the serious human and material losses caused by two successive big storms in central Vietnam.

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CSO: 4200/164

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

BRIEFS

SWEDEN TO RESTORE PLANT--Hanoi VNA 30 Oct--The Swedish Government will help Vietnam in its second phase of restoring the Thu Duc Therman Power Plant on Ho Chi Minh City's outskirts. Under an agreement signed here recently by Vu Ngoc Hai, alternate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, vice-minister of power and on behalf of the Vietnamese Government, the Ambassador Ragnar Dromberg, representative of the Swedish Government, the Swedish side will supply Vietnam with materials and equipment and help it in personnel training. A sum of 45 million kroner is expected to cover all these things. The signing ceremony was witnessed by representatives of the Swedish International Development Authorities (SIDA) in Vietnam. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1456 GMT 30 Oct 85]

BULGARIANS SEND SYMPATHY MESSAGE--Hanoi VNA 31 Oct--Chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers Grisha Filipov has sent a message to Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong expressing his heartfelt sympathies over the great losses caused to the people in central Vietnam by recent storms. The Bulgarian leader asked Chairman Pham Van Dong to convey his condolences to the families of the victims. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1603 GMT 31 Oct 85]

LEADERS GREET ALGERIA--Hanoi VNA 31 Oct--Vietnamese leaders today extended their warm greetings to the Algerian leaders on the 31st anniversary of the Algerian revolution (1 November). The message of greetings was addressed by General Secretary Le Duan, President Truong Chinh, Chairman Pham Van Dong, and Chairman of the National Assembly Nguyen Huu Tho to Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria and secretary general of the National Liberation Front (NLF); Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi; and Rabah Bitat, president of the National Assembly. It said: "We rejoice at and highly appreciate the fine development of the friendly and cooperative relations and militant solidarity between our two nations. We would like to reaffirm the Vietnamese people's desire to further strengthen and develop these fine traditional relations". Also on this occasion, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has sent his greetings to his Algerian counterpart, Abdelhamid Brahimi. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1554 GMT 31 Oct 85]

ALGERIA ON REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY--Hanoi VNA 31 Oct--A meeting was held this morning at the newly dedicated Vietnam-Algeria friendship school in Hanoi to mark the 31st anniversary of the revolution of the Algerian people. The meeting was sponsored by the Central and Hanoi Committees for Solidarity and Friendship with Other Peoples (VCSFOP) and the Hanoi People's Committee. Prof. Pham Khac Quang, member of the presidium of the VCSFOP and Trinh Ngoc Thai, its central secretary attended the meeting. Algerian Ambassador Saferdjeli Aissa and staff members of the embassy, were also present. Speaking on the occasion, Vu Anh Tuan, president of the Hanoi chapter of the VCSFOP, and the Algerian ambassador both stressed the significance of the establishment of the Vietnam-Algerian friendship school, saying that it is a symbol of the traditional friendship binding the two peoples who are united in the common struggle against colonialism and imperialism, and for national independence and social progress. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1624 GMT 31 Oct 85]

UN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY HAILED--The UN Economic Financial Second Committee held a debate on international economic cooperation and development over the past week. In his speech, Comrade Le Huu Huy, Vietnam's delegate to the committee, said his delegation agreed to the conclusions of the UN special committee to review the UN strategy on international economic development and to the conclusion reaffirming the value of the international development strategy. He held that successful implementation of the strategy will contribute to establishing a new world economic order. He noted the failure to achieve the objectives of the strategy and pointed to some examples such as the economic crisis in Africa and the debts incurred by developing countries. He supported the committee's viewpoint on the need to reform laws on trade, currency, and finance and the right of various countries to implement socioeconomic development policies in accordance with their own plans. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 30 Oct 85 OW]

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CSO: 4209/87

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

LE QUANG DAO ATTENDS HO CHI MINH YOUTH MEETING

BK310413 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 2 Oct 85

[Text] The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union [HCMCYU] Central Committee held a conference in Hanoi 29 September-1 October to review its traditional task of launching an operation to learn from and follow the examples of various heroes, evaluate its achievements, and draw on experience in organizing and supervising tasks to disseminate more effectively the revolutionary tradition among members of the HCMCYU in the days ahead.

Many delegates of the union from provinces and cities throughout the country attended the conference.

Comrade Le Quang Dao, CPV Central Committee secretary, attended and addressed the conference.

On behalf of the supervisory committee for the operation, Comrade Tran Phuong Thac, secretary of the HCMCYU pointed out: During the 2 years of the operation to learn from and follow the examples of various heroes, the union has scored fine achievements. Realities have shown that this operation is an effective educational method for disseminating the revolutionary tradition among the younger generation, which thereby realistically becomes a comprehensive movement for youths and teenagers throughout the country. The operation has significantly contributed to enhancing the HCMCYU members' knowledge of the party's and nation's glorious revolutionary tradition; fostering in them revolutionary ideal, their love for the nation, the spirit of proletarian internationalism, and their gratitude to the combatants and compatriots who have sacrificed for the fatherland's independence and freedom; and stirring up their pride, sense of responsibility, and willpower to continue the party's and nation's glorious revolutionary cause.

Millions of HCMCYU members have visited museums and exhibition halls showing historical relics of the revolution, achievements of productive labor, and successes of the party's and people's struggle. These achievements of the revolution have encouraged the youths and teenagers profoundly. They are, in fact, lively historical lessons for the youths to stir up their pure sentiment for the revolution.

Millions of youths have listened to talks on the renewed military exploits of our Army and people in the two wars of resistance against the French colonialists and U.S. imperialists. Various examples of the fallen heroes in their brave and persistent fighting have attracted and greatly encouraged the Vietnamese youths and teenagers.

A large number of youths have participated in the contest to study and discover the revolutionary tradition. Many youths and teenagers have attended courses to study historical relics; write histories of localities, sectors, and units; and discover tasks of personages and heroes. Moreover, visits for youths have been organized to various cemeteries of fallen heroes, to families with meritorious deeds for the revolution, and to people of various strata. These visits have created profound sentiments among the youths.

The operation has contributed significantly to accelerating the revolutionary action movement among the youths in carrying out socioeconomic, security, and national defense tasks at each locality and grassroots unit, thereby contributing to the interests of society and the union.

The operation has also resulted in achievements in the tasks of uniting and consolidating youths and developing the HCMCYU's and the Vietnam Youth Union's membership. It has also helped the HCMCYU to introduce outstanding members to the CPV while strengthening its own organization.

Addressing the conference, Comrade Le Quang Dao welcomed the objectives of the HCMCYU Central Committee in launching the operation to learn from and follow the examples of various heroes. He said: This task is in line with the spirit of the CPV Central Committee Secretariat's Directive No 14 on strengthening education on the revolutionary tradition for the younger generation and the Fifth CPV Congress' resolution on disseminating the revolutionary tradition genuine patriotism, and proletarian internationalism among the youths. This heroic cause of our party and nation has become a valuable tradition of the Vietnamese people. This tradition is an invaluable property and a great source of willpower that the Vietnamese youths must maintain and develop in the cause of building socialism and defending the fatherland.

Comrade Le Quang Dao commended a number of local units, sectors, and grassroots units for satisfactorily carrying out the operation. He also urged various HCMCYU echelons to pay more attention to the movement of motivating the youths and teenagers to study the revolutionary tradition and politics to develop this movement comprehensively. The teaching and studying of politics must be developed both in form and content to encourage them to love and make them eager to study this subject.

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CSO: 4209/87

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HOLDS LAND USE CONFERENCE

OW311259 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] The Council of Ministers recently held a conference in Long An Province with a number of concerned ministries, the vice chairmen of provincial people's committees, the directors of agricultural services, and the heads of the land management boards of nine Mekong Delta provinces and Ho Chi Minh City, to exchange experiences and discuss measures to better carry out the task of managing and using land in the Mekong Delta. Comrade Vu Dinh Lieu, member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, chaired the conference.

Over the past 10 years, the Mekong Delta provinces have reclaimed as many as 110,000 hectares of land and put them under food crops in particular. The movement to change and multiply crops has been expanded in many provinces, raising the land utilization rate from 1 in 1976 to 1.27 times in 1984.

In agricultural production, localities have attached importance to intensive cultivation, multicropping, and acreage expansion and have promptly applied technical advances in farm work in coordination with the peasants' production experiences. As a result, the grain output in the Mekong Delta has increased rapidly over the past years, from 4.6 million tons in 1976 to 5.3 million tons in 1980, 6.1 million tons in 1982, and 6.8 million tons in 1984. The average volume of grain production increased by 6.5 percent annually and has increased by 1.7 times over the past 10 years.

A special success in land utilization in the Mekong Delta is that the winter-spring rice crop has become the main crop with a stable and high output. Compared with 1976 and 1980, the present winter-spring rice acreage, yield, and output have increased by 23, 59, and 80 percent respectively.

In order to rapidly boost grain production in 1986-1990, the Mekong Delta should quickly expand the acreage of cultivated land by 80 percent as compared with the natural land acreage, while priority should be given to the acreage of rice land. In the immediate future, localities should apply the past experiences continue to closely examine and grasp the land fund, and correctly evaluate the land resources of each district and city, and, on this basis, organize the rational use of land and apply proper measures to renovate and use the land with higher economic benefits.

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CSO: 4209/87

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

ARMY PAPER URGES ENHANCED PARTY DEVELOPMENT

BK310637 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 30 Oct 85

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN editorial; "Constantly Enhance the Quality of Party Development Task"--date not given]

[Text] The party development task in the Army has recently made some progress generally conforming to guidelines, principles, procedures, and qualitative requirements. Many party organizations in front-line and rear units have regularly performed their party development task, ensuring both quantitative and qualitative standards. Party leadership over units has intensified, the role of party leadership in units has developed, and the combat strength of units has increased.

However, some party organizations, despite favorable conditions, are still slow in developing the party. For years, they have recruited only a few members. The reason for such a situation is the failure of the party committee echelons and chapters to concern themselves truly with the task and to link the party development task to the implementation of units' political mission. Moreover, they have lost the initiative in building the source of party development, still believing in opportunism and waiting for outstanding people to appear for recruitment.

The issue to be raised now is the party organizations' and each cadre's and party member's continuing to understand thoroughly the purpose, requirement, and importance of the party development task and to realize profoundly that the question is of decisive significance to the combat strength of each unit.

Enhancing the quality of the party development task and party leadership over units is now an essential requirement of each unit, especially front-line units along the northern border and on islands. In the party development task, the main and decisive point to ensure the fulfillment of quantitative and qualitative norms is for all party committee echelons and party chapters to build attentively and foster the source of party membership.

They should primarily focus on those cadres and soldiers who have been forged and tested in real life. The combat achievements and work performance of cadres and soldiers should be taken into account in selecting,

fostering, and recruiting new party members. Front-line and stand-by combat units are the best conditioned for selecting and fostering new party members. Rear units should also concern themselves with satisfactorily implementing the party development task in the spirit of positively developing and making themselves ready to meet all the requirements of our Army.

In the party development task, we should always pay proper attention to both quantitative and qualitative norms, though primarily to the qualitative. On the basis of ensuring quality, we should struggle to give each party organization the number of members required for leadership. Once the source of party membership is available, we should regularly foster, educate, and forge the objectives on communism, class stand, and combat will as well as on the specific contents of party members' roles and responsibilities.

Particularly, we should attentively provide proper motivation for the masses to struggle for party membership. We should resolutely refuse to accept improperly motivated members into the party, especially those who manifest some opportunistic thinking. The party committee echelons' primary duty is to formulate plans and provide guidance and specific action on each task and steps to help each party and youth union chapter carry out their duties well as soon as an outstanding would-be member appears. Exemplary soldiers and outstanding youth union members must be selected to build up the source of party membership.

Party committees at levels higher than the grass roots should control and supervise the primary units to help the party committee echelons and chapter secretaries of these units overcome the shortcomings in each of their duties so that the party development task can be enhanced.

A strong unit calls for a strong core force--that is, a strong party organization. A strong party organization must have a full membership composed of high quality members. In this connection, we must satisfactorily carry out the party development task.

All party committee echelons above the grassroots level and party members should correctly understand and concern themselves with the task and should work positively so that the party development task in all our Army units can yield ever higher quality.

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CSO: 4209/87

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

PUBLIC SECURITY FORCES' ALCOHOLISM COMBATED

OW030544 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] The Ministry of Interior recently issued the following notice on the past 4 months' results of the implementation of its 25 June 1985 decision banning alcoholism among the people's public security forces:

Under the leadership and guidance of party committee echelons and the administration at all levels, with the help of various services and mass organizations, and with the enthusiastic response and wholehearted support from our compatriots of all nationalities countrywide, the people's public security forces have scrupulously conducted an anti-alcoholism campaign yielding very encouraging initial results.

In fact, many alcohol addicts among public security cadres and combatants have willingly quit drinking. The number of cadres and combatants intoxicated by alcohol or beer while on duty has visibly decreased. Scenes of beer drinkers lingering in the bars during duty-hours have almost disappeared. Alcohol and beer are no longer served at all festive parties and receptions in honor of foreign guests. As a result, tens of millions of dong have been saved. A number of party committee echelons and administrative committees of various provinces, cities, and districts as well as a number of services have issued resolutions banning alcoholism among party members and cadres and employees.

However, there remain some outstanding problems to be settled resolutely in order to achieve the prescribed objectives. A small number of cadres and combatants of the people's public security force are continuing to drink on the sly. Some of them still drink beer or alcohol while on duty. Because of alcoholic intoxication, they have spoiled their work and impaired the moral qualities, behavior, and department of public security members. As a result, they have been disciplined or prosecuted. Some compatriots have invited or forced public security cadres and combatants to drink alcohol or beer at weddings or dath anniversary parties and festivals. Some stores are continuing to sell alcohol to the public security organs or to organize private beer and alcohol sales to attract public security cadres.

Propaganda and indoctrination work on the significance of the anti-alcoholism campaign as well as commendation or criticism of units and individuals has not been carried out widely and vigorously on a permanent basis.

The Ministry of Interior's notice concludes:

This campaign must be stepped up vigorously through resolute and persistent measures to achieve the objective of ending alcoholism among the people's republic security forces, the drunkenness that affects their combat strength and spoils their work, and all violations of international disciplinary regulations and state laws.

For this reason, the Ministry of Interior urges all party committee echelons and the administration at all levels to continue to guide, supervise, and encourage the people's republic security forces at all levels resolutely to develop the [word indistinct] results and overcome all above-mentioned failures.

The Ministry of Interior earnestly urges all services, mass organizations, and compatriots of all strata to keep on supporting, helping, and supervising the people's public security forces to implement this decision scrupulously.

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CSO: 4209/87

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VO VAN KIET INSPECTS BINH TRI THIEN TYPHOON RELIEF

BK030858 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] In late October, Comrade Vo Van Kiet, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, went on a tour to inspect the typhoon and flood situation and direct relief work designed to restore production and stabilize the people's life in Binh Tri Thien Province. Accompanying him were Nguyen Thanh Binh, secretary of the party Central Committee; Nguyen Ngoc Triu, member of the party Central Committee and minister of agriculture; Phan Ngoc Tuong, alternate member of the party Central Committee and minister of building; and leading comrades from the ministries of supply, finance, food, communications and transportation, forestry, electricity, and water conservancy, and the Posts and Telegraph General Department.

Immediately after Thpyoon No 8 had blown itself out, Comrade Vo Van Kiet and his entourage arrived in Binh Tri Thien. Comrades Vo Van Kiet and Nguyen Thanh Binh presided over two conferences of the various departments and sectors at the central level and of the central provinces organized by the Council of Ministers in Hue City. They also attended a meeting held by the Binh Tri Thien Province Party Committee to discuss measures for overcoming the typhoon's aftermath, restoring production, and helping the provincial people stabilize their life in the wake of the typhoon and its resultant floods.

Comrade Vo Van Kiet praised the party organizations and peoples of Trieu Hai and Le Ninh districts for having adopted creative and timely measures for helping each other rapidly overcome the typhoon's aftermath and stabilize the people's life. He made many suggestions to the Binh Tri Thien Province Party Committee on the pressing tasks that must be carried out immediately--namely to promptly provide people in the typhoon- and flood-stricken areas with living quarters, especially the 20,000 fishermen who live most of the time on boats or in houses in the coastal and swampy areas; to join the various ministries and sectors at the central level in setting up four subcommittees charged with carrying out emergency relief work and restoring the flood- and typhoon-damaged material-technical bases of economic, cultural, public health, and education services; to organize the reception of relief given by the central government and other provinces

for prompt delivery to basic units; and to revise the province's plan for socioeconomic development in 1986 in conformity with the situation following the typhoon and floods. It is necessary, he advised, to reestablish the economic structure and readjust the patterns of crop cultivation and livestock breeding, crop schedules, and living conditions to suit the characteristics of an area frequently hit by natural calamities and harsh weather.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

PENAL CODE IMPLEMENTATION--A report by a Voice of Vietnam correspondent says that the VFF Central Committee Secretariat held a meeting today, in Hanoi to discuss the Front's task in organizing the implementation of our country's first penal code. Attending the meeting were Chairman Huynh Tan Phat and members of the VFF Central Committee Secretariat. At the meeting, the participants heard a report on the basic features of the penal code as well as a report on the status of its implementation in the localities and grass-roots units. The meeting's participants contributed interesting and rational views on the Front's task in organizing the implementation of the penal code. Many noted that if we want to apply the code in the people's life, the first thing we must do is to carry out extensive propaganda about the code, and that as a social organizations, the VFF, together with the various sectors, echelons, and mass organizations, should fulfill its task of propagandizing to motivate the people from all walks of life to scrupulously implement the penal code and to make everyone clearly understand its significance. Many others offered numerous concrete suggestions to the responsible party and state organs in organizing the implementation of the code, such as the state should make it a duty for cadres and state employees to study it. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 29 Oct 85 OW]

CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRINKING, SMOKING--The 10th conference of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Central Committee recently decided to launch a campaign to motivate union members countrywide not to drink wine or smoke cigarettes. Union members of all ranks will immediately conduct propaganda to explain to youths the immediate and long-term harmful effects of drinking and smoking which affect youth and social life, making life unhealthy. The campaign has been positively supported by the youth unions in Nghe Tinh, Thanh Hoa, Ha Bac, and Quang Nam-Danang provinces, and Ho Chi Minh City. To set a good example for youths to follow, many youth union units and cadres have abstained from smoking during work hours, receptions, and meetings, and have refused to drink liquor at any time. The campaign to motivate youths not to drink or smoke calls for youth union members to persevere in motivating and persuading youths through several measures, in order to help create positive changes in youth's new life. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 2 Nov 85 BK]

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CSO: 4209/87

AGRICULTURE

REVIEW OF RECENT AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

OW311333 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Dear Friends: Agricultural production during the last week of October presented the following noteworthy characteristics:

According to the Statistics General Department, to date, the southern provinces and cities have planted more than 1.5 million hectares of 10th-month rice or more than 80 percent of the planned acreage. The best period for the 10th-month rice cultivation has now ended. However, more than 200,000 hectares of rice have not yet been planted. Those provinces with a large area of uncultivated riceland are now making intensive efforts to complete cultivating the planned acreage.

In the northern provinces, the 10th-month riceplants are now in the earing stage while the early 10th-month rice crop has ripened uniformly and the main 10th-month rice crop has begun to ripen. Localities are continuing to quickly harvest the ripened 10th-month rice so that land can be available for the winter rice crop planting.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture, all the harvested rice areas have given a fairly high yield, but the yield may decrease with the rice in the ear during the period of typhoons, cold winds, and northeastern monsoons. The late rice plantings are continuing to mature. But, harmful insects and rice pests have remained as our current concern.

According to the Statistics General Department, to date, more than 200,000 hectares of 10th-month rice have been damaged by harmful insects that must be eradicated. The damaged area in the northern provinces has amounted to more than 140,000 hectares. Currently, the harmful insects include stem borers and arm worms as the main ones. Localities are continuing to mobilize all available forces, means, and equipment and use insecticides to eradicate them, especially arms worms, in order to minimize the damages.

Regarding the winter-spring rice crop, to date, the northern provinces have planted more than 21,000 hectares of corn, more than 56,000 hectares of sweet potatoes, more than 3,000 hectares of potatoes, and more than 20,000 hectares of vegetables and beans. The planted acreage of a number of main

subsidiary crops such as corn, sweet potatoes, and potatoes, has increased slightly over the same period last year. However, this acreage is slightly more than one-third of this year's planned acreage.

Many localities have successfully overcome difficulties regarding the wet soil and agricultural season to accelerate the winter crop planting, which is still on schedule. Ha Bac Province has increased the acreage of sweet potatoes, corn, and vegetables to more than twice that of the same period last year. Hung Yen City in Hai Hung Province has exceeded this year's planned acreage of winter crops, while Kim Mon District in the same province has planted slightly more than 70 percent of the planned acreage. Meanwhile, many other localities have planted winter crops on only 20 percent of the planned acreage. These localities should strive to accelerate the planting of winter crops that are still in the cultivation period and shift to planting winter-spring crops, especially subsidiary food crops, to obtain an additional volume of food for the coming pre-harvest time.

Along with planting winter vegetables and subsidiary crops, localities are continuing to plant the winter-spring rice crop. They have plowed more than 200,000 hectares of riceland, including more than 45,000 hectares in the northern provinces. The current soil preparation is slower than last year. The southern provinces have sown more than 80,000 hectares of winter-spring rice. In particular, Long An Province has sown more than 40,000 hectares while other provinces are striving by all means to complete the sowing of the entire acreage of 1985-1986 winter-spring rice.

Dear friends: According to the Meteorological and Hydrological General Department, next week, the northern provinces and cities will be affected by cold spells, there will be moderate rainfall in many areas, and the Trung Bo provinces will enjoy much more rain than in the past week. For this reason, localities should carry out the following main tasks:

The northern provinces and cities should concentrate on quickly and neatly harvesting the ripened 10th-month rice, secure sufficient seeds for the next crop, properly protect the main and late 10th-month rice plantings from being ravaged by harmful insects, promptly plant the entire acreage of winter-spring subsidiary crops, ready sufficient seeds for the winter-spring crop season, work out plans for guiding the planting of fifth-month rice seedlings on schedule, and organize the vaccination of domestic animals and poultry against epizootic diseases to prevent them from being killed en masse during the period prior to and after the lunar new year's festival.

The southern provinces should promptly complete the 10th-month rice sowing and transplanting, concentrate on quickly transplanting the winter-spring rice, and take proper measures to protect the rice and subsidiary crops from being damaged by crop pests and natural calamities during the days ahead.

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CSO: 4209/87

## AGRICULTURE

### MORE JOINT AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION COLLECTIVES SET UP

BK311111 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Continuing to improve the operation of their agricultural production collectives, the Nam Bo provinces have set up 560 joint agricultural production collectives over the past 2 years. An Giang and Dong Thap provinces alone have set up 270 joint production collectives. These joint production collectives have cooperated with one another in production and business and have obtained good economic results. They have done away with the practice of single crop cultivation and have amassed wealth for their subordinate production collectives and their members.

Thanks to their cooperation in building farmland irrigation networks, improving ricefields, introducing new rice varieties, and correctly observing technical cultivation programs, a sharp increase in rice output has been noted. Many joint production collectives have helped one another in building drying yards and storehouses, buying more mechanical equipment, and creating harmonious development among various collectives. A number of joint production collectives have also expanded their joint business ventures with various industrial-trade and scientific-technical economic units in an effort to obtain more capital to make the economies of their joint production collectives more diversified.

Ten rice husking machines have been jointly bought by 38 production collectives of the 6 joint production collectives in Xuan Loc District, Dong Nai Province. These machines have helped ensure rice husking not only for these collectives alone but for the whole district. The Hoa Binh-1 joint production collective and those joint production collectives in Vinh Chanh of An Giang and in Tan My, Binh Thanh, Tan Quoi, and Phu Thuan of Dong Thap have linked agricultural transformation with industrial transformation and production with processing.

In areas where conditions permit, joint production collectives have integrated themselves with marketing and credit cooperatives into an agricultural-industrial-credit economic entity. Thanks to the results of their joint business ventures, many joint production collectives have been able to build day-care centers, schools, and rural roads and set up public health networks.

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## AGRICULTURE

### BRIEFS

AN GIANG GRAIN PRODUCTION--An Giang Province has concluded its grain production for 1985 with the total cultivated area of 298,000 hectares. The planted acreage will produce almost 1 million metric tons of grain or 30 percent more than the previous year. To date, An Giang has established more than 2,600 production collectives. These collectives have applied product contract system with labor groups and laborers, thus bringing about optimal benefit for various cooperative members. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 2 Nov 85 BK]

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CSO: 4209/87

## HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

### GROUPS DONATE AID TO TYPHOON, FLOOD VICTIMS

BK291335 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 29 Oct 85

[Text] Various branches and localities throughout the country have sent their relief, including food, building materials, consumer goods, cultural articles, to Binh Tri Thien Province which was heavily hit by recent typhoons and floods.

The Ministry of Culture has supplied Binh Tri Thien with equipment and cultural items worth 300,000 dong, Vietnamese currency. The southern province of Dong Nai has decided to give Binh Tri Thien relief worth 1.5 million dong. Dong Thap, also in the south, has sent 100 [metric] tons of rice and 10,000 meters of fabrics to the stricken province.

People of various ethnic groups in the northern border province of Ha Tuyen have sent 3 [metric] tons of writing paper and 200 meters of fabrics to the victims. The special zone of Vung Tau-Con Dao has helped Binh Tri Thien with clothes, medicaments, writing paper, and pens worth 150,000 dong.

The Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union has launched a campaign of relief for Binh Tri Thien. Young factory workers and public employees will donate 1 day's salary. Each youth in the countryside will donate 1 kg of rice, and each student a copybook to Binh Tri Thien.

The Ministry of Public Health has sent generics and essential drugs to the population in the stricken areas together with 5,000 kg of chemicals against mosquitos to prevent a possible spread of dengue fever.

The Qui Nhon Antimalaria Subinstitute in Nghia Binh Province and the Pasteur Institute in Nha Trang, Phu Khanh Province, have supplied Binh Tri Thien with a quantity of antiepidemic and antimalaria drugs.

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CSO: 4200/164

HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

AID POURING IN FOR STORM-STRICKEN PROVINCE

OW300947 Hanoi VNA in English 0714 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA 30 Oct--Over the past few days, various ministries and branches and local authorities throughout the country have met to discuss urgent measures to help the storm-stricken province of Binh Tri Thien overcome difficulties and quickly normalize life.

The Ministry of Agriculture has decided to send to Binh Tri Thien more than 8,000 tons of rice seeds, 5,000 kg of vegetable seeds, more than 7,000 tons of fertilizer.

The ministry has sent a team of technical workers to help repair agricultural machines damaged by the recent storms. The veterinary service has sent 124,000 doses of vaccine against cattle disease.

The Ministry of Water Conservancy has decided to send a team to survey the damaged projects in order to complete the repair before the flood season next year.

All the personnel of the foreign ministry has decided to donate each at least one day's pay to the storm victims.

The People's Committee of the Coal-mining Province of Quang Ninh northeast of Hanoi has sent a quantity of commodities valued at 500,000 dong (Vietnamese currency) to Binh Tri Tien.

The southern coastal province of Phu Khanh is sending 2,500 tons of rice seeds for the timely sowing in the coming winter-spring crop. Ben Tre and An Giang Provinces in the Mekong Delta have sent 200 tons of rice and a quantity of cloth and other necessities to Binh Tri thien.

Other provinces in the Mekong Delta and the Vung Tau-Con Dao special sector have also sent rice and commodities to Binh Tri Tien.

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CSO: 4200/171

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

BINH TRI THIEN OVERCOMES AFTERMATH OF TYPHOON NO 7

BK021247 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Oct 85 pp 1, 4

[Report by Anh Trang]

[Text] Typhoon No 7 hit the northern area of Binh Tri Thien Province from Quang Trach to Ben Hai districts with winds of force 9-10 and gusts reaching force 11. The storm lasted for 12 hours. It hit a vast area and was the longest storm Binh Tri Thien had ever had. The typhoon caused heavy downpours and within 36 hours (from 1900 on 1 October to 0700 on 3 October) rainfall in Le Niny, Dong Hoi, and Bo Trach districts was recorded at 900mm. Water levels increased very quickly and were beyond predicted levels at various water conservancy and communications projects, thus causing major flash floods in six northern districts of the province. In Ba Don, Bo Trach, and Dong Hoi there were record water levels. High ground in the towns of Hoang Lao and Con--which had never been flooded--were inundated. Hills collapsed and many big trees were uprooted. The water carried tree trunks and debris to the Quan Hau bridge and other bridges and canals alongside the provincial railway, destroying several projects.

Upon receiving the Central Committee for Flood and Typhoon Control's message on typhoon No 7, the Binh Tri Thien party and people's committees promptly supervised various sectors, districts, cities, towns to map out plans to cope with flood and typhoon at subwards and villages. However, due to the prolonged storm, heavy downpour, and major floods, heavy losses was caused to the people's lives, houses, and property, especially water conservancy and communications projects. Initial reports from parts of five northern districts of the province said a number of people were killed and missing, 44,770 houses were submerged and 1,191 swept away, 13,640 hectares of 8th-month and 10th-month rice and 4,285 hectares of subsidiary food crops were submerged, more than 200 cattle and 2,384 hogs were killed; almost 1,500 metric tons of rice seeds, fertilizer, cement, and salt were damaged or swept away, and 21 high- and low-voltage electricity pylons collapsed. Many sections of Route 1 from Ha Thanh to Dong Hoi were inundated, some under 1.5 meters of water. Nineteen sections of the provincial railroad were damaged, scouring sections 4 meters deep and 65 meters long. At one section 1.5 km of railroad was swept away. Various water conservancy projects were heavily damaged. Many dikes and irrigation canals of Bo Trach, Le Ninh, and Quang Trach districts and Dong Hoi town were damaged. The

Da Mai, Dong Gang, Cua Nghe, Bo Trach dams were damaged. The water also swept away the Dong Son (Dong Hoi) hydroelectric power station.

During the storm and downpour, various comrades in the standing bodies of the provincial party and people's committees worked closely with cadres of districts and grassroot units in supervising the people to control typhoon and flood damage. They moved people from low lying areas to higher ground, ensured communications, saved domestic animals, and built house support structures. As the typhoon died down, the standing body of the provincial party committee mapped out plans to lead the people to urgently overcome the aftermath of the typhoon and flooding. They mobilized all members of the provincial party committee, people, and the Army to uphold the spirit of self-reliance, enhance the revolutionary offensive spirit, accelerate production, practise thrift, strive to overcome the aftermath of the typhoon and flood, and develop the tradition of maintaining solidarity and providing assistance to each other between hamlets, production teams, cooperatives, villages, and districts. Various districts provided help for one another, while urgently stabilizing the people's daily life and planting the winter subsidiary food crop and striving to increase the winter-spring grain output. Despite numerous difficulties, they are trying hard to fulfill the provincial economic plan norms. The province's southern districts have provided help to northern districts which were severely damaged by the typhoon. The cities of Hue and Dong Ha helped Dong Oi and Huong Dien cities, while Huong Phu, Bo Trach, Trieu Hai, Le Ninh, Phu Loc, and Quang Trach districts provided help for one another.

The province has provided the people in flood-stricken areas with food, medicine, clothes, household effects, mats, and blankets, while the people are making makeshift shelters, repairing schools for children, and cleaning streets to prevent epidemics. People in Bo Trach and Quang Trach districts and Dong Hoi and Le Ninh cities, while urgently harvesting the 8th-month rice and caring for the 10th-month rice, have promptly repaired various water conservancy projects and dikes to prevent salt water from damaging ricefields. The province is stirring up the movement to motivate everyone and every family to grow subsidiary food crops to make up for grain shortages during the pre-harvest period. From the seashore to the delta and mountain areas, the people are growing sweet potatoes, pumpkins, cabbages, and other vegetables. The Binh Tri Thien party organization and people have promptly overcome the early typhoon and flood aftermath; now they are ready to cope with the coming typhoons.

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CSO: 4209/87

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MORE AID, ASSISTANCE RUSHED TO BINH TRI THIEN

BK310941 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 30 Oct 85

[Text] The Ministry of Engineering and Metals has sought to study the needs of Binh Tri Thien so that practical assistance can be given to this province. All cadres, workers, and personnel of the ministry have volunteered to donate 1 day's salary each.

The railway sector has quickly transported aid goods from various sectors and localities to Binh Tri Thien shortly after it was hit by typhoon No 8. The railway general department has sent cadres to this province to join local units in ensuring communications on the spot along with discussing and advancing plans for the repair of bridges, railroads, stations, depots, and communication lines.

Units repairing railway transport corporations Nos 3 and 4 have worked continuously day and night in an effort to quickly reestablish communications and ensure transportation to help Binh Tri Thien overcome the aftermath of typhoons and floods.

After all the damaged railroad sections were restored, the railway sector organized many trains to transport essential commodities from Ho Chi Minh City and the north to Binh Tri Thien. From 23 to 29 October, the railway department transported 4,735 metric tons of goods of various kinds to Binh Tri Thien, using a total of 175 freight cars. Meanwhile, cadres, workers, and civil servants at various organs of the general department have volunteered to give 1 day's salary to help their compatriots in this province.

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HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

BRIEFS

**BINH TRI THIEN RELIEF**--The An Giang provincial authorities recently decided to send 100 metric tons of rice, 5,000 meters of cloth, and 50,000 dong worth of medicine to Binh Tri Thien Province to help the people there stabilize their livelihood quickly and restore production. The An Giang authorities further launched a campaign to motivate cadres and people to give more money and grain to the compatriots in Binh Tri Thien Province. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 31 Oct 85 BK]

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END