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REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE STATE SCIENCE COMMISSION
DURING 1959

- NORTH VIETNAM -

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REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE STATE SCIENCE COMMISSION
DURING 1959

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(This report was delivered by comrade Ta Quang Bun, vice-chairman and general secretary of the State Science Commission, at the 21 February 1959 meeting of 250 scientists and technicians of North Viet Nam.)

The Government Council decided to set ^{up} the State Science Commission around the end of November 1958. Until now, the Commission has had more than one year of activities. To report on the activities of the Commission during 1959 is to review its activities during the past one year. This carries an important significance and impact on the continued shaping of scientific activities in our country. Since the end of December 1959, all the Committees, Institutes, and sectors connected with the Commission have been reviewing their activities during 1959 and seeing a direction for their activities in 1960. This report is aimed at gathering all the achievements scored by all sectors and presenting the Commission's remarks on last year's activities, and determining the main direction for 1960.

I.--THE PREMISES FOR THE REVIEW OF THE COMMISSION'S
ACTIVITIES.

1) As of the end of 1958, the Decisions of the 14th Party Central Committee Congress set forth the task of stepping up science and technology work, considering "Science and Technology as an indispensable condition in the building up of Socialism." Based on the needs of the revolution, on the present state of our science and technology work, the Party has pointed out the path and responsibility of Science in Viet Nam. The report to the Government Council on the setting up of the State Science Commission has mentioned the following main principles for Vietnamese Science :

- Science must be put under the leadership of the Party.
- Theory must be linked to practice.
- Science must follow the people's path.
- Science must have planning.
- We must learn from the Soviet Union, China, and other brotherly countries.

The report has also set forth the following immediate tasks for Vietnamese Science:

- Application of science and technology in the development of production, social reform, improvement of people's material and cultural life, in the service of national defense.
- Popularization of science and technology among the masses.
- Survey of our land in all aspects: natural, social, economic,

and human.

--Training of cadres.

The Government Council has also decided the responsibility, authority, and organization of the State Science Commission.

These are the most precious elements for an organization which assumes such a big and new responsibility like the State Science Commission. During the past year, the Commission has been relying on the above principles and responsibilities to determine the direction of its activities, and at present it will start out from the same premises to review one year of work.

2) 1959 was the year our people scored many great achievements. The socialist reform in all domains: cooperativization of agriculture, cooperativization of handicrafts, reform of capitalist and private-operated industry and trade, has made some basic steps forward. The economic and cultural development has also won great successes. Agricultural and industrial production, basic construction, communication and transport, ... all have made obvious progress. Besides, our people did struggle hard to solve many great difficulties to attain the above achievements. Every day the situation of our country confronts science--including sociology, natural sciences, and technology--with heavy, concrete, and urgent problems which need to be solve in the interest of the revolution.

1959 was also the year of great achievements in Soviet science, particularly in space rocketry and peaceful use of atomic energy. These achievements greatly encouraged our people and scientific

and technical cadres.

In reviewing the 1959 activities of the Commission, we cannot separate the work of the Commission from the tasks which confronted science and technology under specific circumstances; we cannot separate the achievements scored by the Commission from the general ones scored by our people during 1959, nor from the scientific achievements of the socialist camp.

II.--THE MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE STATE SCIENCE COMMISSION DURING 1959.

On the basis of the direction and responsibility adopted by the Party and Government, at the start of 1959 The State Science Commission set forth some main activities which needed immediate action, aimed at the following objectives: shaping up of the organization, concentration of cadres; guidance of ideological, educational, and operational direction; organization of research in urgent matters to serve production; organization of mass movements for science.

We now beg leave to report on the main activities of the Commission during 1959.

1) Organization of Committees, Institutes, Units, aiming at grouping of cadres and shaping up different branches of science; Organization of research in urgent scientific and technological problems to contribute to the realization of the State plan.

In its first meeting on December 16 1958, the Commission

decided the formation of Committees on Technology, Agricultural Science, Medical Science, Social and Basic Science, in order to assist the Commission in the building up and guidance of main branches of Science. Each Committee can, according to the actual situation, organize Institutes in direct relation with the Commission to serve as foundations for research in the branches of Science covered by the Committees, or each Committee can organize special Units aimed at grouping scientific and technical cadres of all branches to plan the research in urgent problems arising from the realization of the State plan, with the help of research services of the Ministries. Committees, Institutes, and Units have been thus organized in this direction. The activities of the Committees, Institutes, and Units have been the most important part of the Commission's work during the past year. Following is our report on the organization and activities of each Committee with some observations on its work.

A. The Committee on Social Science.

First of all we would like to report on the organization and work of the Social Science Branch.

Social Science has been, in fact, always in existence, and the Committee for research in Literature, History, and Geography was set up in the midst of the Resistance. Long ago, attention has been paid to economic research to serve the Resistance and building up of Socialism.

The Committee on Social Science was set up immediately after

the organization of the State Science Commission. A number of Institutes and Units were created afterwards. The History branch has been separated from the Committee for research in Literature, History, and Geography, to be organized into the Institute of Historical Studies. After that, the Institute of Literary Studies and the Institute of Economic Studies were created. The Philosophy Unit was formed in August 1959; the Law Unit was formed recently while the Art, Education, and Library Science Units are taking shape.

As regards organization:

--The Institute of Historical Studies has six sections doing research in contemporary history, ancient history, archeology, history of our capital city, ethnology, and world history.

--The Institute of Literary Studies has Units doing research in: Ancient Literature, Contemporary Literature, Literature of Ethnic Minorities, Foreign Literature, and Units for translating foreign literature.

--The Institute of Economic Studies has one Bureau of North Vietnam National Economy (divided into 4 Units: agriculture, industry, commerce and finance, and mountainous area) plus 5 other research units, namely, Unit on South Vietnam Economy, Unit on Geography and Economy of Vietnam, Unit on History and Economic Thought in Vietnam, Unit on Political Economy, and Unit on World Economy. In addition, there are the editorial staff of the magazine "Economic Research," and the Document and Translation

Unit.

As regards cadres, a general shortage prevails in all research installations, particularly among the majority of research cadres whose professional and Marx-Leninist theoretical knowledge is still weak. Lack of experience in organization and research is due to the fact that our installations are newly established. However, what makes us happy is that our cadres, in general, do have an ardent enthusiasm in research. All Institutes and Units have scored remarkable preliminary successes.

--The Institute of Historical Studies has been concentrating more on Contemporary History, conducting further research on the capitalist class in Vietnam, and studying the national united front, and has come up with a number of suggestions. Regarding Ancient History, it has studied the characteristics of feudalism, the village system, and slavery regime in Vietnam, and the history of our capital city. In the translation field, it is about to finish the publication of the book "Viet-Su Thong-Giam Cuong-Muc" [Highlights and Patterns in Vietnamese History]. It has completed the translation of the book "Dai Nam Thuc Luc Tien Bien Va Chinh Bien" [Draft and Final Editions of Great Vietnam Dynastic Annals] and the publication of the book "Viet Su Luoc" [Outline of Vietnamese History]. Furthermore, many other problems have been studied and published in history research magazines or books such as: The East after the October Revolution, The Vietnamese Working class during the Resistance, etc.

--The Institute of Literary Studies has completed the translation of the book "Commentaries on Literature" by Abramovitch, the plan for research and editing of the book "30 years of Literary History," the translation of the book "Nguc Trung Ky Su" [Prison Recollections] by President Ho; the Institute has participated in the preparation of the book "Anthology of Vietnamese Literature and Poetry" to be published by the Van Hoa [Culture] Publishing House, completed the outline of the book "Vietnamese Literature from 1858 to 1960" and gathered a number of poems written in Chinese characters by some noted writers during the same period; the Institute has completed half of the draft of the book "Literary theories" and translated the poems written in Chinese characters by Nguyen Trai. In the field of linguistics, the Institute has tackled a number of problems in the Vietnamese language; the Institute has published the magazine "Literary Research".

--Despite its being newly set up, the Institute of Economic Studies has published the books "On the reform of capitalist and privately operated industry and commerce" and "The Cooperativization of Agriculture" sent to Korea a report on Vietnamese Economy, contributed articles in the book on the industrial development of 12 socialist countries released by the Institute of Economic Studies of the Soviet Union, studied the 1957-58 economic crisis of the capitalist world, and reported on the discussion on the theory of value in the Soviet Union; the Institute is making preparations for the publication of a book to commemorate the fifteenth

anniversary of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, and the publication of the magazine "Economic Research."

--The Philosophy Unit has written a number of articles for the newspapers, gathered documents on the study of contradiction, proletarian dictatorship, armed and peaceful struggle, etc. ...

The Unit has organized six talks on Philosophy at the State Science Commission, and sent cadres to give lectures at schools run by the Party and at Universities. The Unit has formed different groups to study Vietnamese philosophy and to make preparations for the publication of the book "The Teaching of Philosophy" to contribute to the study of Philosophy in Vietnam.

--the Law Unit has made up a plan for research and concentrated particularly on the history of the formation of our Nation.

--The Library Science Unit has met for the second time. The science library has begun to collect books and magazines on library science.

The Institutes and Units have participated in the drafting of a two-year research plan which has been modified into the plan for 1960, and are preparing a long range plan. This is the very first time that they tackled such a problem. They are all inexperienced but all enthusiastic. However, in picking research subjects, the Institutes and Units still went too far at times and failed to concentrate on most important and urgent ones. For instance, the Institute of Literary Studies discussed the study of Arabian literature while it is still understaffed; the

Philosophy unit should have studied the penetration of Marxism into Vietnam, but it had omitted this question and picked some other questions of much less importance.

Many deficiencies were found in organizational leadership. The responsibilities of the Committee on ^{Social} Science have not been clearly defined despite the fact that it has been established a long time ago. Most of the members of the Committee have their own main duties. The Committee hardly met three times lately, and yet all the members could never show up because they were too busy. Thus we must precisely determine the responsibilities of the Social Science Committee, increase its personnel, organize units with the special function of ^{examining} / the activities of each branch such as the units to examine the activities of the economy, law, art, literature, and linguistics branches, etc. All Institutes need to strengthen their staff of leading cadres, and increase particularly the number of research cadres; it is necessary to set up in each Institute a Study Council to help the Dean in mapping out research plans as well as in the selection and evaluation of research works. All systems in the Institutes especially the system of research staff and research students, the study and rest regimes, etc. need a lot of attention so as to help the Institutes to grow.

We will now report on the activities of the Natural & Science Branch.

B. The Committee on Technology.

The Technology Committee was one of the first committees set up

to help the State Science Commission to concentrate research personnel to solve a number of technical problems in order to timely serve the State plan in industry, communication and transport, and basic construction.

Last year, the most important and outstanding achievement was that the Committee succeeded in the preliminary concentration of research personnel, promoted their enthusiasm, and united them to tackle many problems in technology. The Committee has organized 5 special units: Construction material, mechanics and mechanization of labor emulation work, metallurgy, technical problems in tropical countries, and processing of agricultural products. All Units have determined their duties, activity program, division of labor, and have been carrying out relatively smooth activities. Many units have scored substantial achievements such as the Metallurgy Unit in its study of shaft furnaces to produce cast iron, crucible furnaces in steel processing and casting of iron and copper; the Construction Material Unit in its study of limestone, soil, fireproof bricks, tiles, etc. Some Units have engaged in systematic research activities such as the Unit on technical problems in tropical countries in its study of moulds and the methods of maintaining optical instruments. But many Units still failed to concentrate its personnel and still have to face difficulties because of irrational distribution of labor--the unit leaders and team leaders ^{were} often overburdened with work.

Apart from the Units, the Committee has contributed to the

intensification of research activities in all Institutes under direct control of the Ministries; these Institutes had scored remarkable achievements in their technological research activities such as the Institute of Industrial Chemistry in its research on fertilizers and manure, insecticides, construction material, processing of various types of cotton yarns, etc. the Institute of Testing of Materials under the Ministry of Post and Communication in its research on adhesive substances, preservation of wood, etc.

At the beginning of 1959, the Committee mapped out a research plan to serve the three-year State plan and to prepare for a long range plan.

The Committee's research plan set forth fifteen tasks comprising eighty eight subject matters approved by the Committee in May 1959; the plan was popularized in an organized manner in a number of Institutes and Schools; it was successfully implemented by some special units and groups. Not much has been done about the subject matters mentioned, and the Committee did not as yet have a good leadership to popularize the plan among our cadres and workers in the units which cover the subjects set forth in the plan.

In compliance with the instructions of the Government Council in November 1959, the Committee revised the plan together with other Branches. The revised list included seventy seven subjects of twelve different branches of technology.

In 1959 and at the beginning of 1960, the Committee had organized three big conferences gathering three or four hundred delegates of central and local production enterprises, Institutes, and Schools. For instance, the All-North Vietnam conference on copper and cast iron foundry in August 1959, had exchanged a number of experiences, and used theories to analyze a number of problems, enabling everybody to understand the need for coordinating technological knowledge with actual production and its concrete usefulness. After the conference, all data which had been presented in the conference were revised and published for wide popularization. All the conference's experiences and decisions which had good effects on production, had helped all installations improve iron and copper foundry technique, raise the quality of final products, decrease the deterioration proportion to 5% (at the Hanoi machine plant, and the Gia Lam railroad industry), increase productivity (at the Gia Lam machine plant, the cement plant, the Mongay foundry sub-plant), popularize the use of anthracite to substitute for coke in processing cast iron. Another instance was the conference on Adhesive Substances in December 1959 which had exchanged a number of production experiences and preliminary results on the study of adhesive substances, especially ordinary cement and insoluble limestone, and discussed to arrive at a number of observations regarding the development of the above adhesive substances and their uses. In January 1960, the Commission organized a conference to exchange views on

the situation and experiences on the handling and maintenance of electrical and radio equipment; more than four hundred cadres, workers, and personnel of the electric and radiographic branches participated in this conference.

The organization of enlarged conferences on technological problems at hand, in which research cadres as well as technicians participated, had a practical research character as well as a popular nature in exchanging experiences on technological improvements; it had a good effect on the solving of difficult problems in the present production and ^{was} also a good experience of the Commission.

Besides big conferences there were small meetings to exchange experiences and practice on-the-spot studies on crucible furnaces, shaft furnaces, mortar, clay, and tiles, etc. to contribute to our installations a number of ideas concerning the construction policy and technological details.

Through all the big and small conferences of many cadres and workers and science, technology cadres, the Committee has taken the lead in study. However, it was not enough, and the effect was still limited. The Committee should gradually try to understand and grasp the technological situation in all branches and their shortcomings, to set forth mottos and policies in time, and to contribute ideas to different Ministries whenever these want to organize research centers. In addition, the Committee should concentrate on building up gradually study installations

under its direct control to go further in the solution of a few basic problems on technology.

In short, last year, the Technology Committee had done a number of activities, diminished the scattered nature of research, gathered and unified technological forces and linked technological research with planning, showing thus its clear intentions of serving the people.

C. The Committee on Agricultural Science

The Committee on Agricultural Science began to operate from February 1959. The Committee comprised leaders of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Water Conservancy, the Meteorological Service, the Army Agricultural Bureau, and the Deputy Director as well as the Chief of the Cultivation Service, Livestock Breeding, Veterinary, and Forestry, of the Agriculture and Forestry Institute, and the Dean of the Faculty of Zoology of the Unified University.

The Committee had set up^a a unit specializing in Fertilizers, and gathered a number of research cadres of the Agriculture and Forestry Institute, the Industrial Chemistry Institute, the Local Industry Office, the Cadastral Service, the Cultivation Service, the Army Agricultural Service, the State-Operated Collective Farm Office, the Faculty of Chemistry of the Unified University, the Bacteriology and Parasitology Section of the Faculties of Medicine and Pharmacy, and the Chemical Analysis Section of the Polytechnic University.

The Committee is making preparations for the organization of special Units on Farm Implements and Agricultural Machines, the concentration of Agriculture, Forestry, Water Conservancy, Industry, Higher Education branches, and Machine plants to deal with research in Farm Implements.

The Committee has gathered many branches to draft a plan to study Agricultural Science in order to serve the three-year State plan. This included eight tasks, thirty problems, and 124 items of study on Cultivation, Livestock Breeding, Veterinary, Forestry, Sea Products, Water Conservancy, Meteorology, Farm Implements and Agricultural Machines, and Basic Surveys. This plan is being revised in 1960 to become a more compact program of study; but in 1959 it had the effect of leading all research branches to definite problems, with well defined target, measures of labor distribution and coordination and ^{conc}/retization of common principles of the State Science Commission on the policy of study of Agricultural Science. After the setting up of the plan, the Committee constantly supervised the study of all branches and exchanged opinions on such important problems as the intensification of organized experiments in local agricultural field, (fertilizers), the expansion of the meteorological network, and the setting up of local weather forecast installations, the coordination of irrigation experiments, the supervision of basic surveys of all branches related to Agriculture, the prevision of future organizations and the selection of students to study heredity, seed selection,

vegetal physiology, animal physiology, water and soil conservation.

In addition to monthly meetings, the Committee organized talks about technological problems having basic effects on Agricultural Science and relating to such other branches as agrology, map making, problems of zoology related to the Michurin theory, experiences in agricultural weather forecast, and the direction in building up agricultural weather forecast in Vietnam. These talks helped research cadres of all branches develop their knowledge, unify their thoughts, and clarify their activity system.

After a year's activity, the fertilizer unit has coordinated many branches in its research work, developed the sources of fertilizers, transformed and handled phosphorous, and bacterial fertilizers. In November 1959, the State Science Commission collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to organize a conference on Fertilizers which primarily supervised survey activities, experimented the processing and use of manure throughout North Vietnam, and set forth main tasks to achieve in 1960.

In addition to the above achievements and good points, the Committee also failed to meet the deadline on many counts, and has not fulfilled well many things. The Farm Implement Unit is an essential one that ought to have been set up at the beginning of 1959, but was only established recently. As regards provincial technology committees, the Committee's coordination

was not tight, and leadership was almost non-existent. The distribution of responsibility among Ministries, and the personnel of the Committee, was not clear. Though the work was not much advanced, there was fear that one organization might encroach on other and this might hinder the active nature of the operation.

D. The Committee on Basic Science.

The Committee on Basic Science was set up in March 1959, with the task of helping the State Science Commission build up and lead all branches of Science, chiefly Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Zoology, and Geography.

The Committee on Basic Science consists of branches serving as bases for Applied Science and Technology, and therefore it must be avant-gardist in nature. But as a result of obscurantism of the French Imperialists, it is very weak and cannot play this vanguard role. Therefore, though our Basic Science force is still weak, the Commission had set up this Committee right at the beginning.

The Basic Science Committee is divided into sub-committees on Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Zoology, and Geography. The sub-committees are essentially composed of University Lecturers on these subjects. The Committee on Basic Science has determined the task of all branches of Basic Science, which consists in training very quickly and well many Basic Science cadres to build up and develop installations and forces of all branches and at the same time begin the study of Science,

to build up Basic Science itself, and coordinate all activities to serve production and people's livelihood.

The task of training cadres and building up forces is the main one. The activities which have been set forth such as the compilation of a book on science terminology, the preparation and translation of basic science books, the scientific study and participation in the popularization of Science, etc, should collectively serve to improve this main task.

During the year under review, the activities organized, directed, and realized by the Basic Science Committee had collected the following results:

--Concerning the compilation of a book on scientific terminology, this was the main activity of the sub-committees in 1959-1960

on the approval of terminology used in Zoology, Mathematics, Chemistry, and Physics; the Committee began to operate since the end of November, and each sub-committee had approved from 5 to 2% of the terms compiled whereas the sub-committee on the approval of geological terminology began to operate in January 1960. The approval of these terms must be carefully done to guarantee excellent quality. Productivity has been increasing, but is still low as compared to the branches' anticipations.

--Concerning translation and text books on Basic Science, the plan aimed at finishing 43 books, but by the end of the year 18 books were finished while another 18 are still in progress. The selection and translation of books were relatively careful.

--Concerning popularization of Basic Science, cadres had written 14 books on the subject, and many others on Applied Science; they have also attended many Basic Science Popularization talks organized by the Central and Provincial Committees on Popularization of Basic Science. In particular, the Committee organized many talks on the question of theory and pedagogy in Basic Science for University and College students.

--Concerning scientific research, in June 1959 the Committee had gathered plans of all branches and finally formulated a Basic Science Research Plan for the years 1959-1960, including 30 items. This plan represented a ^{definite} concept of serving production, and people's livelihood; however it ^{was} still scattered, unsystematic, and lacked proper concentration on essential problems of every branch which had definite influence on the building up of the branch.

Though the volume of lectures and lessons had increased as compared to last year, a number of units of the Unified University and the Faculty of Pedagogy had begun to realize the research program and get some results. In zoology, we had done research on the culicidae mosquitoes, the distribution and mode of life of fish at Ngoi Thia (Yen Bay) and begun to study underwater life at the Ho Tay Lake; we had also completed the research phase on the life of birds and animals at China (Hoa Binh) in 1959, made the first attempt in the study of the physiology of anabas fish, cyprines, and carps. In chemistry, we had synthesized

a number of intermediary organic compound substances for use in the making of hormone, oxime, antitoxin, and antibiotics.

The setting up of the Basic Science Committee and its operation in 1959 had a good effect on gathering cadres of basic branches as the first step toward building up these branches. The Committee had concentrated forces to carry out such realistic and necessary activities as the compilation of Basic Science terminology. But the further study to find out a direction and to build up each branch of Basic Science could not yet be achieved. Sub-committees of the Basic Science Committee should have operated more in this direction.

E. The Committee on Medicine.

In 1959 the Committee on Medicine of the State Science Committee had not been officially set up. However, alongside the development of the medical branch in all aspects, medical research was carried out satisfactorily and had the effect of stepping up preventive medicine, medical treatment, production of drugs, and training of cadres in the branch.

In June 1959, after the setting up of the State Science Committee, the Council on Technology of the Ministry of Health was also organized to substitute for the technical advisory council of the Ministry. Installations like research institutes, hospitals, and laboratories had been also created to answer the ever growing needs of cadres and the people.

In 1959, the Public Sanitation Institute was set up and the

Health branch was positively getting ready to build up a new research staff. More and more cadres were being trained; many newly graduated cadres were being sent to localities, rural areas, and mountainous regions, and the rank and file of technical cadres was strongly reinforced. Scientific cadres also began to switch to the study of the lives and diseases of the broad masses of people and linked it with labor production, popularizing Science in all strata of people.

Thanks to the progress of the Health branch in ideology, mottoes, organization policy, and cadres, the scientific research content of the Health branch was more prosperous last year.

branch

The Public Sanitation/began to set up scientific installations for rudimentary measures in human refuse, garbage, water, and was working toward the care of workers' lives, their food, lodging, jobs, pastime, taking our country's conditions into consideration. Through systematic survey, we had concrete data to determine the origin and bad effects of social diseases to serve as a base for study of accurate and effective means to fight these diseases. Many contagious diseases were discovered and analyzed, and thanks to results gathered by the research on epidemics, microbes, and viruses, and thanks to the production of vaccines, we began to have a plan to cure epidemics. We also collected scientific results on influenza, poliomyelitis, and other diseases.

The Treatment Specialization branch had engaged in further study and gathered a number of concrete results, especially in surgery.

The study and production of drugs also had remarkable achievements, especially those based on the exploitation of our immense national resources; accomplishments were also made in the betterment of drug quality. The Pharmacy branch began to supply a number of new and necessary drugs to cure diseases.

In short, in 1959, in all activities, the medical branch had made much effort in research. But the coordination between the medical branch and the State Science Commission was not tight, and the fact that the Committee on Medicine has just been officially set up, meant that there were delay and bad effects on this coordination

2) Building up a scientific research plan.

Immediately after its establishment, the State Science Commission proposed the building up of a scientific research plan for 1959-1960, aiming at gathering in a unified plan all items on realistic, scientific, and technical research destined to serve the realization of the three-year State plan. The building up of the scientific research plan was an extremely new activity which we had never done before, and for which the experiences we got from China were only at the theoretical and

principle level. However, since we realized that this was a very important matter, which helped us see clearly the whole technical and scientific activities in all branches, and determine the work to be done to step up the organization and building up of scientific research, and strongly push forward all scientific activities, the Commission boldly gathered technology cadres of all branches to work together with various Ministries, sectors, production installations, to try to find out matters which deserved to be studied and devise means to realize the research work. Various Ministries had built up gradually scientific research plans. Committees had also gathered research plans of all Ministries, Institutes, and related Schools to compile Committees' plans. And finally, the Commission had collected all the Committees' scientific research plans, and condensed them into a common plan comprising 38 tasks and 275 research items. In June 1959, the standing committee of the Commission met with the Committees' chairmen several times to discuss meticulously about the plan's tasks and mottos, the means to realize it, and in the first meeting at the beginning of August 1959, the Commission also discussed and approved this plan. In Mid-November 1959, the Government Council held a session to listen to the State Science Commission's report on the scientific research plan. The Council praised the Commission's activities, congratulated it on its effort in gathering technology cadres and making a common

scientific research plan for all the State Scientific Organizations. However, the Government Council also found that the plan comprised so many vast research items, which could not be realized within one or two years, together with many items which were somewhat irrelevant to production and the needs of people's livelihood. Therefore, the Government Council directed the State Science Commission to correct these items and make a scientific research plan which could be carried out in 1960.

The Commission's Committees made their own 1960 research plans and in February 1960, the Commission collected them and made an overall plan.

Though we encountered many difficulties and experienced many shortcomings in the making of the scientific research plan, our aim which consisted in realizing a short term scientific plan to serve real and obvious needs and to study at the same time, was a fundamentally correct one. The making of the recent plan had been positively useful in activating our scientific policy, gathering cadres, trying to understand the situation in all technological branches, uncovering, and stepping up the study of, urgent problems. The Commission should base the plan on research experiences and implement the Government Council's directives on the early fulfilment of the plan making to positively contribute to the realization of the 1960 State plan.

At present, Committees are debating on the problems of

purpose, needs, and content of the long term scientific plan, 7
aiming at outlining main directions for scientific activity and
devising essential means to insure the implementation of this;
the Commission gathers them together into one single body to
timely assimilate the suggestions of the Soviet Academy of Science -
Delegation which will shortly come here to help us build up
scientific activities.

3) On Basic Survey.

At the outset, the State Scientific Commission considered the
basic survey of all natural, social, and economic aspects of the
human being as an urgent and important task. The Commission
entrusted Mr. Ta Quang Bui with the task of studying the setting
up of a Nature Survey Committee, and the building up of a staff
agency for this purpose. In 1959, the Commission had studied the
situation in Basic Survey in all branches, namely Geology, Agrolgy,
Forestry, Botany, Zoology, Metereology, and the Red River Survey,
etc. The Commission started to survey directly a number of items;
it had for instance signed with the Chinese Technology Commission
an agreement concerning the cooperation on the overall survey of
the Gulf of Tonkin; in order to carry out this cooperation, it
set up the coastal region Unit and entrusted it with the mission
of cooperating in this overall survey; the Commission also helped
develop the topographical and map making branch, and contributed

ideas to the setting up of the Topographical and Map Making Services under the direct authority of the Prime Minister's office. Besides, the Commission entrusted a number of cadres in charge of the Nature Survey branches, with the task of listening to reports on geological and agronomical surveys.

The year 1959 saw the growth in the Basic Survey of all branches. The coordination problems among the branches, especially the problem of survey in order to understand the general situation of natural resources, are still difficult and complex. The Commission organized debates among comrades in charge of Nature Survey organizations to study the setting up of a Basic Survey Committee and build up an activity program. Though the Basic Survey Committee has not yet been set up, it is a very important and new problem and requires great examination on the part of the Party and Government. The comrades in charge of Basic Survey branches also started to coordinate their activities. A concrete example is the fact that all natural survey organizations had pooled their efforts to draw the 1960 activity program and build up a long term survey plan. However, in view of the urgency of the prospecting activity to grasp the natural resources situation, the tardiness in the establishing of the Basic Survey Committee is a matter of concern. The Commission must step up the establishing of this Committee and strengthen its staff. Recently, upon the request of the State Science Commission, the Soviet Academy

of Science appointed comrade Ushenkov to help us on natural survey activities and the Commission organized for all branches to report activity situation to him . With the comrade's help we will gather all information about the general situation and put forward future directions on the substance of activities as well as the building up of organizations enabling the Nature Surveys to serve as bases for economic zoning to make synthetical use of natural resources in Vietnam.

4) The Problem of Training Scientific Cadres.

In the report of the Government Council about the setting up of the State Science Commission, the task of training cadres was considered as an immediate as well as long term target. The more we advance in economic recovery and technological development, the more we can see that our greatest difficulty at present is the lack of technology cadres both in number and quality, and that the creation of a rank and file of technology cadres of the working class is a most urgent task. In 1959, under the Party Central Committee's leadership, we had many important changes in the conception of this task, and many new efforts in the training of technological cadres. The number of university students amounted to 8,465 whereas highschool students numbered 18,300. In 1960 and 1961, we will send thousands of students abroad to study in brotherly countries. The Party Central Committee and Government have organized many conferences to examine the cadre situation and

necessary means to strengthen the training of technology cadres. 7

In May 1959, the Commission met to hear reports on the problem of past and present training of our technology cadres, and on our scientific cadre situation; it also heard reports about our scientific cadre training program in the coming years and discussed about essential methods to step up the formation of cadres. The Commission's standing committee also had reported on sending college students abroad and proposed that the Government quickly increase the number of these students and send them to the Soviet Union and other brotherly countries during this and the next year. The survey and statistics of the situation of technology cadres in Vietnam have also taken a further step. In the preparation for cooperation with the Delegation of the Soviet Academy of Science which will come to help us, our Commission has worked together with all branches to strive to get hold of the situation of technological potentialities in all fields to report to the Delegation and win the Soviet help in this important matter.

As for other problems such as the direction of the training of technology cadres, the planning, training methods, the nurturing of existing forces, studying the system of work and study, and treatment of technology cadres, they are still great and unsolved problems. In 1960, the State Science Commission should intensify their participation in the solving of important scientific problems.

5) The Organization and Leadership of the People's Technological Improvement Movement.

In 1959, together with the great changes in the socialist revolution movement, the technological improvement, initiatives and invention movement of the people steadily developed. Ever since its establishment, the State Science Commission has concentrated on the great meaning of this movement. In its meeting of 16 January 1959, the Commission clearly resolved that the stepping up of the technological improvement was a realistic means to assure the fulfilment of the three year plan, and the best method to build up national Science according to the people's path and rational mottoes in relation to realities. The Commission quickly raised the problem of organization and leadership of the movement before the Party Central Committee and Government. Order number 105 of the Prime Minister concerning "the timely organization and leadership of the movement for technological improvement, initiatives and inventions of the people" was a basic document showing the meaning and use of the movement, the duties and concrete tasks to be applied to step up the movement. This order has been popularized in all branches, and levels, and has a definite use in intensifying the movement. The Ministries' Technological Councils have started to assume the mission of leading the movement for technological improvement, and the Ministry of Industry's Council has published the "Invention and Initiative" magazine. Based on the

proposal of the State Science Commission, the Prime Minister's Office resolved the setting up of province technological committees serving as organizations to help provinces start and lead a movement for technological improvement. Up to now, in 19 cities and towns, technological committees have been set up, and they have collected a number of achievements and definite experiences in realizing the above tasks. In a few provinces, technological committees have really become the necessary helping hand of the Party delegation of the corresponding level in leading local technological and scientific activities.

But we are at present bewildered in the task of leading the people's movement for technological improvements. The communication of the content of Order number 105-TTG to all levels and the masses of the people has not yet been fully achieved to enable everybody to organize and lead the movement and strongly activate the people's thinking. Concrete activities such as the receiving, popularizing, recognizing, and rewarding of initiatives and inventions are still new ones which should be carefully studied and carried out. In a few industries, there have been cases of improvement, but they were not careful enough, and aimed at solving only immediate difficulties, and this might have long and disastrous effects on valuable machines and equipment. Branches at all levels are not yet able to understand the basic principles of the leadership of the movement. The State Science

Commission has not made up its mind to gather all forces to build up an adequate organization to examine and lead the movement, although it had the advantage of having timely conceived its duty vis-à-vis the movement. The State Science Commission has not cooperated closely with related organizations such as the Central Emulation Committee, Labor Ministry, and the General Confederation of Labor, etc. to study aims, policies, make necessary regulations, and concrete division of work in the realization of the leadership of the movement. Again the Commission has not concentrated on the setting up, and building, of province technological committees; at present, they are having trouble in determining their duties, organization, and operational methods. The Commission has not gone deep enough into the leadership of the formation of these committees and their activities. In 1960, the Commission should try to overcome these shortcomings and consider a leadership of the movement of technological improvement and the people's initiatives and inventions as one of its most important duties.

6) Organization of the Popularization of Science and Technology.

In 1959, the popularization of Technology and Science had made giant steps. Right from the outset, the Commission had intensively helped establish the activation committee of the Central Association of Science and Technology Popularization, which had the duty of unifying technology and science cadres who

volunteered to participate in the popularization of scientific knowledge to the people, aiming at serving production, the people's livelihood, and national defense. The popularization of Science and Technology Associations/ 10 provinces had been organized. Many other provinces are getting ready to set up their own associations. At the central and local levels, thousands of technology and science cadres had been participating in the associations' organization and activities. Thanks to them, the popularization of Technology and Science had been expanded both in depth and proportion. Many phases of popularisation had been launched especially on the occasion of the Soviet scientific achievements.

-- The phase of exhibition of Atoms for Peace had 260,000 visitors, and 31,000 people listening to the talks given there.

--The phase of talks on Soviet space rockets had been held at various provinces with an audience of tens of thousands of people; the second space rocket talk was held in Hanoi 47 times, and attended by 42,000 people; the third space rocket talk was held 40 times in Hanoi and other cities, attended by 30,000 people.

--Talks on Science had been held not only in Hanoi and other large cities, but also at many villages; not only at meetings and big clubs, but also at all production installations,

plants and factories, and offices. Apart from great subjects
in Soviet Science, the talks also dealt with realistic problems
in production, public sanitation, preventive medicine, industry,
and agriculture. Scientific popularization forms have also
multiplied. Besides talks, exhibitions, there have also been
scale model displays, magic lanterns, books, and magazines;
the small provinces have also organized scientific exhibitions
such as those on space rockets in Hanam, and on rice planting in
Iadong, etc. The "Popular Science" magazine of the Science
Popularization Association was published in October 1959 and won
the enthusiastic welcome and support from the broad masses of
our people, cadres, workers, and civil servants. At present
the magazine has a circulation of 40,000 to 60,000 for
each issue; it has thus the second largest circulation among
all newspapers and magazines of our country. These preliminary
good results scored by the popularization of science proved
that the enthusiastic need for science and technology study
is ever growing intense among our people. On the other
hand our science and technology cadres of all branches and
levels have been showing an unprecedented enthusiasm and ardor
in the science popularization work. They spent great efforts
participating in the work without thinking of salaries, and
without minding the hardships involved. Party delegations of
all levels have also begun to concentrate on leadership in

science popularization work.

However, at present, the activities of the Science Popularization Association are facing difficulties. First of all are the difficulties in the program, planning, and substance of popularization work; the substance of popularization work should be aimed at realistically / ^{raising} the scientific and technological knowledge level of the masses, serving production and life, while remaining close to the level of each objective. Popularization work at present does much for cadres only but almost nothing for the masses. Furthermore, shortage of means and cadres in charge prevails while the lack of experiences in the organization of associations exists at the central as well as local levels, particularly at district and enterprise installations. In order to overcome these difficulties, the Commission needs to help the Association improve its leadership, map out an activity program, and concentrate its strength to realize this program.

7) Organization of International Relations in Science.

Since the establishment of the State Science Commission, international relations in Science began to develop. The State Science Commission has set up relations with the Academies of Science of all socialist countries. Last year, the Commission sent 8 delegations abroad to participate in international conferences, to study or to attend commemorative celebrations; the Commission has welcomed and signed agreements on the

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cooperation with China to carry out synthesized surveys of the Gulf of Tonkin; the Commission has signed an agreement on long term cooperation and on the 1960 cooperation program with the Hungarian Academy of Science. The Commission has organized many welcoming parties and conversations with delegations of countries which came to Vietnam for sightseeing purposes.

In 1959, because the Commission was newly set up, its international relations did not follow a definite pattern, and were rather unstable; the Commission had to cope with unexpected business and public relations, but gradually a definite pattern developed. In the foreseeable future, the Commission should build up and realize a plan for international relations according to one of the basic principles of our scientific policy, and that is, we should be determined to learn from the Soviet Union, China, and brotherly countries to step up the building of Science and Technology in Vietnam, and at the same time cooperate with, and gather good experiences from, other countries, especially tropical countries of South East Asia.

Following this direction, by the end of 1959, we had achieved a very great and important task; our Party and Government had asked the Soviet Union to give us long range and overall help in building Science and Technology. The Soviet Government had agreed to this, and by the beginning of March 1960, the Soviet Academy of Science will send a delegation

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to Vietnam to study the existing state of our Science and Technology, and make a long range aid plan. In November 1959 the Soviet Academy of Science had sent comrade Ushenkov to help us survey national resources and at the same time get ready for the arrival of the delegation. The Commission should strive to activate the spirit of learning from the Soviet Union among cadres of various branches of Science and Technology and make good preparations for the welcoming of, and the cooperation with, the delegation of the Soviet Academy of Science, because this is a task which has a great meaning in the building up of Science and Technology in Vietnam.

8) Ideological Leadership, Socialist Science Policy Teaching, and Propaganda for the Activities of the Commission.

In its first meetings, the State Science Commission had realized that the ideological leadership, the teaching of socialist ideology and scientific policy, was the most important activity in the task of building up our Science.

In 1959, the most important fact regarding this aspect was the study of socialist reform in training organized by the Party for all cadres, workers, and civil servants. This phase had a very good effect on the intellectuals, and Science and Technology cadres, for it had increased their understanding, and their revolutionary ardor, and developed their enthusiasm in building up Science. At the same time, in assimilating the lesson on

culture and technology, they began to make a distinction between socialist and capitalist policies in Science.

After its establishment, the Commission had tried its best to popularize our Science policy in the meetings of Science and Technology cadres of all branches, and in the newspapers and magazines. The Agriculture and Forestry branch for instance used the report of the Government Council on the setting up of the State Science Commission as a document for the training of Science and Technology cadres. However, as the conference held by the Commission in March 1959 had remarked, the popularization and propaganda for the scientific policy in general was slow and unsystematic, and the struggle against influences of bourgeois scientific policy among Science and Technology cadres was not very strong.

Since that day on, the greatest effort of the Commission on the popularization of scientific activities and policies in Vietnam was the publishing of the "Scientific Activity News" magazine. This magazine was essentially informative in character. Apart from publishing news on the activities of the State Science Commission, and Science and Technology organizations of our country, it had also the task of introducing the main points of our policies, mottos, and tasks; introducing our Science, and important problems of international and domestic Science, experiences in organization and Leadership of Science

of brotherly countries. Up to now, the "Scientific Activity News" had published 7 issues. In general it had the positive cooperation of many correspondents and the enthusiastic support of many Science and Technology cadres. At the beginning it was intended to have a circulation of 1,500 copies of each issue, but now the average circulation is 5,000 per issue, and some times 6,500.

The "Scientific Activity News" of the Commission has also been popularized abroad, and has had very good effects on the Vietnamese intellectuals there. They longed to know about the building up of Science in Vietnam, and they circulated the magazine among them, and sometimes reprinted it for distribution. The magazine is really an organization for propaganda and activation of many Science and Technology cadres to positively participate in the building of our Science according to socialist policies, so, the State Science Commission should strive to strengthen its leadership in order to realize this.

In addition to the "Scientific Activity News" magazine, the Commission has begun to concentrate on the publication of scientific books, but did not accomplish much. The Science Publishing House is about to be set up.

The State Science Commission should make more efforts in teaching the policy of Socialist Science to Science and Technology cadres. The majority of our cadres are willing to approve of the policy of Socialist Science, but their understanding

of the policy and concept of Socialist Science was still limited and the struggle against the influences of capitalistic concepts in scientific activities was not strong. The Commission should work more in the propaganda and popularization of scientific policy among the masses of the people, and transform the base for the movement of "building up Science and Technology by the entire nation," and "attacking the scientific fortress by the entire nation," into a most indispensable campaign for the building up of Socialism.

Another important task of the Commission is to participate in the struggle for reunification of our country. In gathering experiences from brotherly countries, the Commission has realized that the struggle to establish scientific relations between North and South Vietnam is a very good basis for the winning over of our South Vietnam compatriots especially the South Vietnamese intellectuals. In 1959, comrades in the Commission as well as Science and Technology cadres had talked to our South Vietnam compatriots many times about all aspects of Science and Technology activities of the North and those of the State Science Commission.

But in participating in the struggle for reunification, the Commission has encountered many shortcomings: It has not

fully understood the situation of Science and Technology activities of the South; it has not made any concrete plan in

the struggle for reunification, and studied the division of labor among scientific branches and organizations, and assigned to each one a concrete task. In the near future, the Commission should make great efforts in this problem, and should have specialized organizations.

9) Building Up of Organizations helping the Commission, and Supply of Necessary Means to help Scientific Research.

To carry out the above tasks, the Commission had concentrated on organizing offices to help it. Although it met with many difficulties because of the lack of cadres and deficiency in experiences on setting up scientific organizations, the Commission began to work for its own organization, at the outset.

The Commission's Secretariat comprised the offices of different committees, the bureau of planning, basic survey, translation, equipment, cadre organization, international relations, technological improvement, administration, and finance. The Party Central Committee had supplied the Commission with good and qualified cadres, but up to now the machinery helping the Commission is still weak: staff members and the Science library still need many cadres having a good scientific level and research potentialities. The subdivisions of the Commission mostly have a few cadres to temporarily begin a number of urgent businesses. The Commission's machinery should be reinforced, together with leading, research, and administrative

personnel cadres, in order to gradually gain the adequate capacity to fulfill the daily growing task and speedy expansion of the Commission. As regard organization and work procedure inside the machinery, the Commission needs to do further research and improvement.

The State Science Commission has begun to tackle the problem of insuring necessary means for scientific research work; it has made preliminary steps in understanding of research machines and equipment of all research installations inside the country, and the present situation of the supply mechanism. The Commission has particularly been pursuing the realization of a Central Science Library built up on the old foundations of the "École Française de l'Extrême Orient" [French Far/Eastern Research Institute] aiming at supply^{ing} books, magazines, and documents for research activities of all scientific branches. The concentration of our potentialities to build up a Science Library which is relatively well supplied with science books and magazines of all countries, is a very important factor in the building of Science in Vietnam. Therefore, despite numberless difficulties, the Commission will exert effort to do this.

III. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE STATE SCIENCE COMMISSION DURING 1959

We have just reported on the main activities of the State

Science Commission during the past year, from the day it was established to the present, and presented our remarks on each field of activities. Following are some general observations on the Commission's activities during the same period under review.

In general we can see that last year the Commission accomplished many things and scored a number of preliminary achievements in the building up of scientific work. Our achievements were as follows:

1) We have successfully built up a policy, set forth a motto and direction for the scientific work, and set forth some great tasks to be realized. The determination of a policy for the work is rather a very important achievement.

2) We have successfully set up the State Science Commission, made first steps in building up its machinery, committees, and units, plus a number of research installations, subdivisional organs, and an Association for the propagation of Science, etc. Apart from the Commission's activities in the above organizations, we have grouped thousands of Science and Technology cadres of all branches, giving thus an organizational structure and direction to our scientific and technological potentialities.

3) We have endeavored to map out a scientific research plan; we have succeeded to draw up a research plan for 1959-1960, and

┌ a research program for 1960. Despite deficiencies in these plans, ┐
they have enabled to make first steps in the discovery of important
research tasks which require the concentration of our power to
solve.

4) A number of activities related to the search for and
collection of documents, and the study of the application of
condensed experiences led by the Commission, have had preliminary
good results exerting a good effect on the improvement of production
technique and development of production.

5) The propagation of Science to serve production and
people's livelihood has also scored some preliminary achievements.

Despite their preliminary nature, all the above-mentioned
achievements constitute a new victory to us. The establishment of
the State Science Commission itself is also an effort and victory,
a timely and correct policy of the Party and Government.

We need to realize clearly the origin of the above achievements.

1) The direction and motto which we assign to our scientific
work is basically correct. This is a great advantage to the
activities of the Commission, and thanks to this the Commission did
good work, though it was an entirely new one.

2) Another advantage was the enthusiastic support and positive
participation of many science and technology cadres in the Commission's
activities. Almost all cadres of all branches were gathered around
┌ the State Science Commission's activity branches. Though their ┐

scientific knowledge and their number were limited, most Science and Technology cadres were very enthusiastic about the building up of Science. In spite of the fact that many problems such as the organizational principles, means of operation, cooperation, and treatment system, etc. could not be solved, our people went on participating positively in the Commission's work and did not shrink before difficulties, time shortage, and lack of facilities. I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to propose to the Commission to praise the warm support and positive contribution of Science and Technology cadres of all branches to the Commission's activities in 1959.

3) The people's ardent support of, and the needs they required from, the State Science Commission, constituted also a great advantage. Since its establishment, the Commission has received thousands of letters from compatriots of all walks of life, expressing their belief in, and praising, the Commission, putting forward their proposals, suggestions, requests, and also very realistic criticisms and opinions. Many compatriots asked the Commission to consider the certification of their own inventions. The talks on the popularization of Science, the scientific exhibitions and publications have also met with widespread support.

4) Finally, we should talk about the positive help of brotherly countries, especially the Soviet Union and China. Our brotherly countries have all a well developed Science, and the

Soviet Union is the world top leader in Science. We had benefited from their experiences, especially from their scientific policy. Our brotherly countries have also positively sent us books, newspapers, magazines, scientific documents and technicians to help us. We should realize that this is a great advantage for our Science and Technology development.

Alongside the above achievements, the Commission has also met with many difficulties and deficiencies in its activities; it has also committed many shortcomings.

The biggest deficiencies in the Commission's activities are as follows:

1) Our Science at present is still backward and lacks a great deal of cadres. Under these circumstances, the Commission has encountered many difficulties in the building up, and betterment, of its machinery as well as the setting up scientific installations, and the realization of research tasks. This is a long term deficiency which the Commission should strive to overcome.

2) At present, the lack of experience in the organization and leadership of Science is also an important deficiency. The task assigned to the Commission by the Party and Government is very heavy and new. The Commission has just begun to study the situation of our Science and gather experiences from our brotherly countries, determine the work to do, and organizations to build up in order to begin the realization of this task. Now, in the Commission's

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activities and organizations, there are still great problems which have not been studied such as the organization of new scientific research installations, technology leadership, and management, etc. The pattern of work of the Commission and the relationships between other government organizations and the Commission itself have not been concretely determined. Thus, in all activities, especially in organizational matters, the Commission has met with trouble, and this situation should be studied positively in order to find a solution.

3) Another important deficiency is the situation of the Commission's organization and affiliated services. In the State Science Commission there are at present representatives of almost all Ministries and branches. This is an advantage for harmonious cooperation. But most of these representatives do not work at the Commission headquarters, and the number of representatives in charge is too small. The Commission's pattern of work, distribution of labor, and responsibility are still deficient and therefore the contributing potentialities of representatives cannot be fully used.

Here below are the main shortcomings in 1959.

1) In 1959 the Commission had done a great deal of work but generally speaking, the quality and quantity were not satisfactory. The Commission expanded its forces in so many fields and did not concentrate on solving the most important realistic problems,

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and therefore no work had been thoroughly solved. In the making of the 1959-1960 scientific research plan, the Commission did not aim at raising very urgent and easily solvable problems in order to concentrate on solving them, but on the contrary, it raised many questions which were beyond its competence and which moreover, were irrelevant to short term needs. This shortcoming has been criticized by the Government Council.

2) As far as the leadership of the movement for technological improvement of the people was concerned, the Commission has not fully grasped the realistic nature of the movement concerning the development of production as well as the building up of Science and Technology. Therefore, the Commission has not entirely done its duty and it has not decided on concentrating its forces to step up the movement.

3) As regards organizational aspects, the building up of the content and pattern of work was still unsystematic. The strengthening of administrative organization could not cope with the Commission's ever increasing needs.

4) Finally, the question of shortcomings in the Commission's leadership should be raised. Though at the outset, the Commission had determined its policy, mottos, and activity direction, recently, it has not gone deep enough into the study of great problems of leadership, aiming at realizing this policy, namely the study of the problem of ideological and technical leadership, etc.

In consequence, the Commission's grasp of great principles in the policy of Socialist Science is still inadequate.

In the future, the Commission should strive to overcome the above deficiencies and shortcomings. It should study, and solve, big problems which were raised after a year's activity as well as the problems of consolidating and improving the organization of the Commission, those of technological management, research installations, study leadership, building up of relationships with other government organizations, and that of policy and pattern of work for Science and Technology cadres, etc. The Commission should also try to grasp, and realize the principles of Socialist Science policies, namely the determination to put scientific activities under the leadership of the party to enable Science to serve realistically and to link theory to practice; the firm will to study and follow the people's path; and heighten the positive ardor, and creative labor of, the people as well as many Science and Technology cadres; the resolution to build up a scientific activity plan, and to learn from the Soviet Union and brotherly countries. In doing so, the Commission will best insure the task of building up Modern Science for our country.

IV. ACTIVITY ORIENTATION OF THE STATE

SCIENCE COMMISSION IN 1960.

In 1960, our people will realize very important tasks such as

the fulfilment of the three year plan, and the preparations for the first five year plan; the basic fulfilment of socialist reforms in all aspects, the development of our economy and culture, and the rapid and great progress in the building up of Socialism, and the struggle for reunification of our country.

In his recent report to the 11th meeting of the National Assembly, Premier Pham Van Dong spoke about the tasks of the State Science Commission in 1960 as follows:

"To build up Socialism, we are determined to develop our Science and Technology. The more we realize that our present level is still low, the more we will aspire to improve ourselves. We should build up research installations and at the same time, carry out research work, aiming at solving urgent problems in industrial and agricultural production of Vietnam at present, as well as train research cadres and technicians. In the training of cadres and the development of Science and Technology, we will lean on the great help of brotherly socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union. "

In 1960, following the policies and tasks assigned to Scientific activities by the Party and Government, the State Science Commission should continue to step up great activities that it put forward and began to carry out in 1959 ... It should especially consider the following:

1) Now that the 1960 Science and Technology Research Plan has

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taken shape, the State Science Commission should follow the Government Council's orientation and try its best to activate Science and Technology cadres to make an allout effort to realize this plan so as to overfulfil the items enumerated in it. As regards the realization of the 1960 scientific research plan which is the most important task, the Commission and Science and Technology organizations of all branches should fulfil this task in order to concretely contribute to the task of stepping up production in all fields and developing Culture and Science ... In the immediate future, the Commission should communicate thoroughly the spirit of the Government Council and the content of the 1960 Science and Technology Research Plan and mobilize ardor and determination in realizing this plan among Science and Technology cadres of all branches.

2) At the same time, the Commission should begin to made a long term scientific plan aiming at laying down long term directions for the development of Science and Technology; at making the five year scientific plan and serving the forthcoming State five-year plan.

3) The general basic survey is a most urgent task. The Commission should step up the work of prospecting and survey to grasp thoroughly the situation of our national resources, and serve the building up of a long term economic development plan.

4) To serve realistically immediate production problems, the]

Commission should concentrate more on the intensification of the people's movement for technological improvement, cooperate with organizations which are responsible for the setting up of the pattern of leadership for the movement, and try its best to lead the organizations and activities of local technological committees. At the same time, the Commission should more strongly intensify the Science and Technology popularization campaign among the people.

5) The Commission should praise and step up the campaign of study from the Soviet Union and brotherly countries, mobilize the study enthusiasm and build up a fervent and serious attitude for study among Science and Technology cadres. In the immediate future, the Commission should make good preparations for the collaboration with the Delegation of the Soviet Academy of Science that will come to Vietnam to help us build up Science and Technology.

6) To well achieve the 1960 tasks, the Commission should strengthen its leadership in all aspects: policy, ideology, study, and organization. It should strive to raise the quality and quantity of activities and concentrate its power to solve the most important problems. In particular, it should strengthen its own organization, study in order to timely solve organizational problems which arise as the activities progress; it should increase the number of cadres in charge, building the substance of the work,

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the relationship between its activities and other State organizations, build up an activity pattern for Science and Technology, and so forth.

1960 will be a year of great success for the Vietnamese people.

The Commission will strive to step up scientific research activities to an important phase in 1960, and serving as a stepping stone for better progress later on; it will firmly participate in the great victory of 1960, and offer its achievements as a gift to celebrate the 30th birthday of the Vietnam Lao Dong Party, and the forthcoming Party Congress, to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

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