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JPRS-SEA-87-041

23 MARCH 1987

# Southeast Asia Report

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23 MARCH 1987

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INDONESIA

MINISTER SAYS FOURTH 5-YEAR PLAN NOT TO BE REVISED

Jakarta SUARA KARYA in Indonesia 22 Jan 87 p 1

[Excerpt] Jakarta, SUARA KARYA--Prof Dr J.B. Sumarlin, minister of state for national development planning and chairman of the National Development Planning Council [BAPPENAS], has emphasized that the Fourth 5-Year Development Plan does not need to be changed and will not be changed. Speaking before those attending a working meeting of governors, regents, and city mayors at the Hotel Indonesia in Jakarta on 21 January, he said: "The 5-year plan is a program which outlines objectives. It was developed in a mature way and can really be defended."

The meeting was chaired by Minister of Home Affairs Soepardjo Rustam, and among those speaking were Minister of Trade Rachmat Saleh, Minister of Finance Radius Prawiro, and Minister of Industry Hartarto. The meeting was very interesting, with most of the governors asking questions and making proposals involving a number of problems which they are facing in their provinces.

Minister Sumarlin declared that many people, including especially those in the universities, have suggested that it is now time to change the Fourth 5-Year Plan. Without making clear in detailed fashion the proposals which he referred to, Sumarlin recalled that implementing the 5-year plan is flexible, through the state budget or through annual plans. Those targets of the 5-year plan which are successfully achieved or not will be included in the report by the mandatory of the People's Consultative Assembly [MPR]. In 1988 the mandatory of the MPR will prepare a report on the implementation of the plan during the last year of the Third 5-Year Plan and the four first years of the Fourth 5-Year Plan.

According to Minister Sumarlin, objectives not reached in the Fourth 5-Year Plan must be achieved in the Fifth 5-Year Plan or at least revised or refined. The minister said: "The 5-year plan is not divided into separate categories but is based on a foundation of continuity in a context of long-range development over a period of 25 to 30 years."

5170/13046

CSO: 4213/52

## INDONESIA

### MOERDANI ON GOLKAR'S VICTORY MARGIN IN GENERAL ELECTIONS

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 21 Jan 87 p 1

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--Gen L.B. Moerdani, commander of the Indonesian Armed Forces and the Security and Order Command, has stated that a defeat for the New Order, however small it may be and wherever it might occur, needs to be prevented. He said that if such a thing should happen, it would clearly damage the political image of the New Order. He continued: "Even so, an extraordinarily large victory for GOLKAR, involving virtually wiping out the mass of voters who supported other participants in the elections would also be something which would not benefit the image of the New Order, which holds high the concept of democracy. An incident of this kind would be even less advantageous if it turned out that the principle of direct, general, free, and secret elections was not respected in the area concerned." This was contained in a statement by the commander of the Indonesian Armed Forces at a working meeting of governors, regents, and city mayors from throughout Indonesia, held in Jakarta on 20 January.

General Moerdani emphasized that it was for this reason that the victory of the New Order in the forthcoming general elections must truly reflect the democratic process and must not be in conflict with the principle of direct, general, free, and secret elections. He pointed out that, as was the case in the last three general elections, a number of weaknesses may still be encountered because the situation in the area concerned is not yet satisfactory. In these past elections there was a lingering fear that the outcome of the elections would be detrimental to the struggle of the New Order. This caused a number of weaknesses in the implementation of the general elections.

However, at present the basic laws and regulations involving the electoral mechanism have been improved. He said: "As a result, the detrimental outcome I spoke of before can be minimized." It is for that reason that the Indonesian Armed Forces, for their part, think that the 1987 general elections can be carried out in less tense an atmosphere. The Indonesian Armed Forces guarantee that any type of physical threat will be avoided. The commander of the armed forces said: "And if such a threat materializes, it can be dealt with rapidly."

However, the commander of the armed forces emphasized, conditions among the people themselves can truly be improved, so that there will be no opportunity

for the enemies of Pancasila to stir up security disturbances. These could have negative consequences for the general elections. It is to deal with such a situation that the Indonesian Armed Forces, on a number of occasions, have stated that there are several old habits in the conduct of the general elections which should not be followed once again in connection with the 1987 general elections. For example, mobilizing large masses of people, which is usually done to exercise moral pressure on other groups participating in the general elections and thus demonstrating the amount of strength they have. This should not be done in the future.

For that reason the commander of the armed forces asked the governors, regents, and city mayors to try to ensure that the elections campaign and the voting itself in their various areas should be conducted properly. There is no need for excessive activities by groups participating in the general elections.

5170/13046

CSO: 4213/52

PPP OFFICIAL ON IMPACT OF NU MEMBERS' VOTE

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 21 Jan 87 pp 1, 8

[Text] Jakarta, PELITA--K.H. Syamsuri Badawi will remain on the Provisional List of Candidates (DCS) of the Development Unity Party (PPP) in East Java in the coming general elections. Whether the "question" of his withdrawal from the list sometime ago helped or hurt the PPP should not be given premature attention in drawing conclusions regarding it, according to Doctor Mardinsyah, secretary general of the Central Executive Council of the PPP.

In an interview with a PELITA representative on 20 January Mardinsyah said: "It is very difficult to draw any conclusion as to whether the votes gained by the PPP will increase or decrease in the coming general elections. This is one of the questions which will be decided in the general elections themselves and not be some group which is trying to speculate about the total vote the PPP will receive in the coming general elections."

When he was asked about the matter of NU members who have been advised by their leaders that they are free to vote as they please and some of whom have even said that they should vote for GOLKAR (this was stated by 23 NU branches in West Java), Mardinsyah only smiled and said: "The general elections do not involve the leaders of the NU either at the regency or provincial level but are a private matter for Indonesian citizens who have the right to vote. In this connection the PPP continues to be optimistic about the coming general elections and expects to receive a large number of votes."

According to the secretary general of the Central Executive Council of the PPP, there will be no shortage of supporters of the council. He said with conviction: "Indeed, our vote may even increase. This will be demonstrated in the coming general elections." His reason was that the general elections will be held on 22 April 1987, while those who say that they will not vote for the PPP again are speaking as of this moment.

He said: "I am convinced that when the time comes many NU members will vote for the PPP. Furthermore, a rather large number of NU members have come forward as PPP candidates. Furthermore, remember the historical background behind the formation of the PPP. At least this background will lead many NU members to vote for the PPP."

Regarding the question of the relationship of the historical background to the formation of the PPP and the present situation, Mardinsyah recalled that those who previously enjoyed a position in the party should contribute to its further growth. He said with a smile: "You have to remember our history."

SOEDARDJI, SUPPORTERS NOT TO VOTE FOR PPP

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 22 Jan 87 pp 1, 12

[Text] Jakarta, PELITA--Although the 1987 general elections are still several months away, Doctor Soedardji, chairman of the Development Unity Faction in Parliament, had said that he has decided not to vote for the PPP. In an interview with a PELITA representative on 21 January in his office in Parliament in Senayan, he said: "This is also the view of some members of the Development Unity Faction who, like me, will not vote for the PPP."

Soedardji considered that a large number of members of the Development Unity Faction who sympathize with him will vote for GOLKAR or perhaps for the PDI. He added in a very serious tone: "Personally, I will vote for GOLKAR in the general elections."

According to Soedardji, he was doing this very deliberately. His reason is that the PPP under its present leadership is no longer functioning as it should as a social and political force.

Later, Soedardji declared that, indeed, his decision not to support the PPP and, like that of NU members, to vote for GOLKAR, is a very proper thing to do. He added: "The decision of NU members not to support the PPP in the coming general elections is correct."

According to Soedardji, there is a very strong basis for NU leaders and members not to vote for the PPP, because many NU leaders, who are ulama [Islamic scholars], have been slighted by the PPP. He said: "Many of them were not included in the PPP leadership, both at the branch, provincial, and central level. They even insulted NU leaders who have a great deal of influence."

Declining

He stated that conditions within the PPP are indeed becoming increasingly serious. He said "Many provincial and regency branches are no longer functioning. And they are forming regency or provincial branches as they please, without consulting with anyone."

According to Soedardji, the number of seats the PPP will win in the general elections will decline dramatically, in view of the fact that many people will not vote for the PPP. He said: "Consider the fact that of the 93 members of the Development Unity faction in Parliament [representatives of the PPP] a large number are NU members."

Soedardji estimated that of the 93 seats won by the PPP some 55 seats consisted of the NU "allocation." He said: "Therefore, if the NU does not give its support to the PPP, I am convinced that the maximum number of seats the PPP will win will only amount to 5 percent." In the 1982 general elections the PPP obtained 22 percent of the seats up for election.

5170/13046

CSO: 4213/52

## INDONESIA

### NO NEW STATE UNIVERSITIES TO BE ESTABLISHED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 22 Jan 87 p 1

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--Although the number of applicants for entry into universities is increasing, the government will not open any new universities or state institutions of higher education, at least during the period of the Fourth 5-Year Plan. The expansion of the capacity of the institutions of higher education to accept new students will be accomplished as quickly as possible through the completion of polytechnical schools, now under construction throughout the country.

This was stated by Minister of Education and Culture Fuad Hassan at the Bina Graha presidential office on 21 January after he had reported to President Soeharto. He said that in terms of the development of state universities or institutions of higher education he will seek to raise their levels of quality. He said: "Too often, at present, we hear complaints about the decline in the quality of higher education."

At present there are 44 state institutions of higher education and one open university, with about 1.1 million students attending them. In 1986 alone there were more than 450,000 graduates of senior high schools who took a university entrance examination. It is estimated that this figure will rise to about 750,000 in 1987 and will reach a level of 660,000 by the end of the Fourth 5-Year Plan.

In view of these totals, it is clear that the existing 44 state institutions of higher education and the one open university cannot accommodate them. Dealing with this problem will require an increase in the number of institutions of higher education, so that the overall capacity to accommodate students will also increase. Minister Fuad Hassan said: "However, it has been decided that this expansion will be accomplished through the establishment of polytechnical schools."

According to information obtained by KOMPAS, during the Fourth 5-Year Plan the government is planning to build about 34 polytechnical schools. Out of this total, seven schools are already functioning, including two at Bandung Technological Institute, one at the University of North Sumatra in Medan, one at the University of Sriwijaya in Palembang, one at the University of Diponegoro in Semarang, one at the University of Indonesia in Jakarta, and one

at the University of Brawijaya in Malang. The construction of 11 additional polytechnical schools has begun, and it is hoped that they will begin to receive students in 1987. Meanwhile, of the remaining polytechnical schools, some are already in the planning stage, but the remaining schools have not yet reached this point.

In addition to polytechnical schools, two polytechnical educational development centers (PEDC) are being developed in Bandung, with loans from the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank

#### Too Much Expansion

He admitted that it is very possible that there has been a decline in the quality of higher education at this time, because there has been too great an expansion in the field of higher education. Classes are increasingly large, the student population is growing, the education sector is expanding, and so forth. For that reason, the minister said, beginning in 1988 all state institutions of higher education must begin to take steps to consolidate themselves, particularly by raising their standards. He added: "We hope that the private universities will also do the same thing."

Minister Fuad Hassan said that in raising standards emphasis will be placed on faculty development, both through programs within Indonesia as well as through programs for sending staff to study abroad. In addition, it will be necessary to establish consortiums of teachers, working through professional associations. For example, this could involve establishment of a consortium between members of faculties of medicine and the IDI (Indonesian Medical Association). In this way there would not be too much imbalance between theory and practice.

According to the minister, educational infrastructure must also be improved, for example through the provision of good libraries and so forth. In the same way the role of professors will be increased. He said that at present teaching assistants, who are relatively more numerous, are engaged in instruction, while professors, on the other hand, are acting as teaching assistants.

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CSO: 4213/52



## BUYUNG NASUTION REPRIMAND UPHELD

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 22 Jan 87 p 3

[Excerpts] Jakarta, KOMPAS--The Central Council of Ethics of the Indonesian Lawyers Association (IKADIN) on 21 January confirmed the decision made on 21 July 1986 by the Council of Ethics of the Jakarta Branch of IKADIN regarding the case of Master of Laws Adnan Buyung Nasution. The Jakarta Branch of IKADIN stated that Buyung had been proved to have violated the code of ethics of IKADIN.

The decision of the Central Council of Ethics of IKADIN was read at a public session held at the central office of PT Asuransi Iman Adi in Jakarta. The committee of the council which examined the case of Adnan Buyung Nasution was chaired by Master of Laws Loekman Wiriadinata.

In essence, the decision of the Branch Council of Ethics, which was later confirmed by the Central Council of Ethics, stated that Adnan Buyung Nasution had been proved to have violated the IKADIN code of ethics, and he was given a strong warning. When the committee of the Central Council of Ethics of IKADIN read its decision on 21 January, Buyung was present, accompanied by Master of Laws Dr Yap Thiam Hien, Master of Laws Luhut M.P. Pangaribuan, and Master of Laws Achmad Santosa. The Board of Directors of the Jakarta branch of IKADIN, as the complainant, was represented by Master of Laws Rusdi Murima, its chairman.

### The Case

This case began when Buyung was the defense attorney in the subversion case involving H.R. Dharsono, which was tried before the State Court of Central Jakarta. When the council of presiding judges, chaired by Master of Laws Soedijono, was reading its decision on the case on 8 January 1986, words were used which hurt Buyung's feelings as a lawyer. Buyung then interrupted the reading of the decision. A small disturbance occurred, and Buyung shoved a court security officer, who had become involved in the incident in an effort to calm the atmosphere.

Buyung's attitude and actions had been called into question by Master of Laws Soedijono, the presiding judge. Finally, Buyung was "sentenced" by the State Court of Central Jakarta, which approved a motion that Buyung should be

disbarred. This "case" was also reviewed by the Jakarta Court of Appeals, and the sentence was confirmed.

Meanwhile, the Central Executive Council of IKADIN, which felt concerned that one of its members "was being tried and sentenced" by a state court, declared that the proper body for considering the Buyung case was the Council of Ethics of IKADIN itself. Buyung himself also thought the same. Therefore, the general chairman of the Central Executive Council of IKADIN turned over the case to the Council of Ethics of the Jakarta Branch of IKADIN. The Council of Ethics of the Jakarta Branch of IKADIN made a decision on the case on 21 July 1986. However, both the Council of Ethics of the Jakarta Branch of IKADIN, as complainant, and Buyung, as the defendant, appealed to the Central Council of Ethics of IKADIN.

#### View of the Central Council of Ethics of IKADIN

The Central Council of Ethics of IKADIN had considered the Buyung case but had not yet made a final decision. On 5 November 1986 the council handed down a kind of preliminary decision, which stated that the procedure for informing Buyung of the decision of the Branch Council of Ethics was improper. Therefore, the Branch Council of Ethics was instructed to repeat the notification in proper fashion.

Both the Branch Executive Council of IKADIN as well as Buyung then presented a memorandum and a counter memorandum in appealing to the Central Council of Ethics of IKADIN. Among other things, Buyung declared that his attitude and actions at the State Court of Central Jakarta, on 8 January 1986, were intended to defend the prestige of lawyers. However, this view was not accepted by the Central Council of Ethics of IKADIN. The committee of the Central Council of Ethics of IKADIN, chaired by Loekman Wiriadinata, stated: "This kind of protest should be presented at the appeals level."

However, the committee also stated that it "could understand that the accused (meaning Buyung--Editor) was in a highly emotional state at the time and could not control himself when he heard language which injured his feelings, and he acted in the manner presently complained of."

#### Comment by Buyung

Master of Laws Martiman Prodjohamidjojo, as spokesman for the committee of the Central Council of Ethics of IKADIN which considered the Buyung case, stated, in answer to questions from the press, that the decision would be sent to the complainant and the accused, as well as to the Central Executive Council and the Branch Executive Council of IKADIN. In addition, it would also be submitted to the top leadership of the law enforcement agencies. He said: "This is in accordance with the procedures set down in the IKADIN Code of Ethics."

When asked for his opinion about the decision, Buyung himself said that he felt frustrated. He said: "However, I must respect and honor the decision, because this is a consequence of carrying out the duties of my profession."

I am frustrated, because it turns out that the Council of Ethics has taken a narrow view of the matter. The Council of Ethics has a duty to join in defending the honor of lawyers, and it should not have found me in the wrong."

He also said that it is possible that his attitude and action cannot yet be approved by the organization. However, he was convinced that what he had done and which later was the basis for this case was right.

Dr Yap Thiam Hien, one of the persons accompanying Buyung, also said he agreed with Buyung. He said: "What else is to be done? This is a final descision. So whether we like it or not, it must be respected."

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CSO: 4213/52

LEGAL AID INSTITUTE ESTABLISHED IN IRIAN JAYA

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 28 Jan 87 p 8

[Text] Jayapura, KOMPAS--Irian Jaya Province now has a branch office in Jayapura of the Legal Assistance Institute [LBH], which comes under the Indonesian Legal Assistance Institute Foundation. This is the 13th LBH office to be established in Indonesia, following the opening of a similar office in East Timor.

Master of Laws Bambang Widjojanto, director of the LBH office in Jayapura, told a KOMPAS representative on 26 January that, although it is located in Jayapura, its legal services area covers the entire province of Irian Jaya.

He said that the establishment of the LBH in Irian Jaya was not only intended to provide legal services. In addition to that, the mission of the LBH is to be a pioneer in spreading an awareness of the law among the people.

In connection with its role as a legal pioneer, Bambang said, the most important thing for the LBH is to make the people aware of their position as citizens before the law. Bambang said: "Yes, how they look on the law as a means of struggling for justice and truth."

According to him, this can be done through the defense of a given case or through providing legal information through the mass media. However, he sees dealing with private persons as the most effective way of performing this task.

Furthermore, another role which is now being played by the LBH through establishing an office in Irian Jaya is training people, with emphasis on locally born persons. This is because, according to Bambang, dealing with lawyers as members of a profession is still rather rare for people born in Irian Jaya. Bambang said: "Our objective is for the LBH office here to be managed by people from the province itself." He said that people born here know more about social and cultural conditions in local society.

Several groups in Jayapura asked for their opinions about the establishment of the LBH in Irian Jaya generally welcomed the action.

5170/13046  
CSO: 4213/52

## BRIEFS

OBSTACLES TO PROVINCIAL INVESTMENT--Ginanjjar Kartasasmita, junior minister for promotion of domestic production and chairman of the Capital Investment Coordination Board [BKPM], has stated that there are five obstacles faced by provincial investors which cause them to complain. Ginanjjar was speaking before a working meeting in the Department of Home Affairs in Jakarta on 21 January. He said that investors complain a great deal about obstacles which they encounter in the provinces. This not only has a negative effect for the province involved but can also hamper investment because it creates a general impression of how difficult it is to do business in Indonesia. According to Ginanjjar, the five obstacles are: (a) licensing service in the provinces, which is considered difficult and time consuming, particularly where obtaining land is concerned; (b) the continued collection of a number of official or unofficial and direct or indirect taxes at various levels within the bureaucracy; (c) a lack of information regarding the potential of the area which is to be developed by means of capital investment; (d) many locations and areas with considerable potential are difficult for potential investors to visit; and (e) the attitude of some provincial officials does less than encourage investor interest. Ginanjjar said that these obstacles must be overcome if we wish to increase large-scale private capital investment, which is needed to support the rate of growth which we want. [Text] [Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 22 Jan 87 p 1] 5170/13046

CSO: 4213/52

SISAVAT KEOBOUNPHAN VISITS CHINESE COMMUNITY

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 15 Dec 86 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Sisavat Keobounphan Talks to Chinese Aliens in Four Districts"]

[Text] On the afternoon of 13 December in the Leoto School Club in Chanthaboury District, Vientiane Capital, Mr Sisavat Keobounphan, a member of the Politburo, secretary of the Party Central Committee and secretary of the Vientiane Capital Party Committee, gave a speech to disseminate the contents of the plenum of the Fourth Party Congress of the LPRP and the new phase of policies of the party and government to over 400 Chinese aliens living in Vientiane Capital.

In his speech the Vientiane Capital party secretary pointed out the significance of the achievements and the great victory of the Fourth Party Congress, which are the correct and just policies of the party and the government in national defense and socialist construction within the country, and the political policies, independence and peace of our party and government toward our allies around the world. He also asked the aliens living in Vientiane Capital to unite strongly with the Lao people for the purpose of transformation and construction of Laos to bring it prosperity and a better standard of living.

9884/12624

CSO: 4206/58

FACTORY PLANS CLOTHING EXPORTS TO SRV, HARD CURRENCY NOTED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 18 Dec 86 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Plan Is Set for Clothing Exports"]

[Text] Comrade Moui Keomani, assistant director of the 2 December Clothing Factory under the Industry, Handicrafts and Forestry Section of Vientiane Capital told VIENTIANE MAI on the evening of 12 December that in the last quarter of 1986 the workers in the clothing service factory were able to make a total of 22,007 garments. This exceeded the plan by 137 percent, and was double the figures for the first 6 months of the same year. Even after subtracting the principal the factory still had a 20 percent profit.

The assistant director added that in the plan for this coming 1987 the factory will work in cooperation with the tailor federation and the sports jersey factory for export to Ho Chi Minh City. There will be installation of new machines in the factory along with garment production, such as sports jerseys, jeans, pants, shirts, etc., for export. A team of experts has been invited from Ho Chi Minh City to inspect the site for the installation of a new system of machines.

The 2 December Clothing Factory was transferred from the Ministry of Industry to Vientiane Capital on November 1984. Since the new organizational improvements made on 4 August 1986 the factory has a total of 150 cadres and workers, 142 sewing machines and 2 tailoring service locations, one of which accepts only foreign currency. They are now working feverishly to tailor garments to serve the public.

9884/12624

CSO: 4206/58

ROUTE 13 CITED AS ENEMY ZONE, DEFENSE IMPROVED

Vientiane KONGTHAP PASASON LAO in Lao 2 Dec 86 p 3

[Article by K. Khounnousai: "Improving and Building Up the Units of Division 'D'"]

[Excerpts] Division "D" was established on 7 September 1982 by an order of the party Central Committee and the Ministry of Defense. Initially it was just an empty organization; it was not complete according to the terms of higher echelons. The living quarters, training fields and equipment were lacking. The spirit of struggle and the creativity of the party committee, party units and command cadres as well as the members of the division under the close leadership of upper echelons and with the cooperation of the province and the administrations of the localities gradually made the leadership and command system of the division operational; the rosters were filled out in keeping with the needs, and then the various units were upgraded both in quality and in quantity. Division "D" received from upper echelons the duty of carrying out operations to defend the peace and build up the grassroots in areas designated by upper echelons. The key area was highway 13 and the various locations where there was evidence of enemy operations.

In fact the area of responsibility of Division "D" was the area the enemy considered to be its primary area of operation. The enemy concentrated its propaganda on slandering the new system and the new administration of the people incessantly. Sometimes the enemy also used armed units to openly ambush convoys on highway 13. They used spies to ambush cadres traveling to and from localities, etc. Because of this situation with the enemy carrying out destructive operations, various levels of the party committee and the leadership committee came up with the policy of carrying out their duties in detail.

In fact since Division "D" was able to carry out this plan which they had appropriately adopted, many units affiliated with the division became model units for activities in various areas such as: military training and practice to improve [understanding of] the operational system of the army, training to improve [understanding of] political theory, setting up cultural education for the units and the people, and encouraging and leading drives to defend the villages of the people. During this period various units throughout Division "D" together with the people, educated those who had erred and resisted the



new system and let them understand the policies of the party and state. This caused them to change their point of view and their bad activities and made them into good citizens. At present there are seven cantons which used to be areas of enemy operations which are now back in order and peaceful as production areas.

8149/7051

CSO: 4206/49

16 MONG TRIBESMEN KILLED TRYING TO FLEE COUNTRY

BK130135 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] At least 16 Mong tribesmen have been killed and more than 70 injured in clashes between Laotian troops and resistance forces opposite Mae Charim District, Nan Province this week, sources said yesterday.

The fighting broke out in Sayaboury Province, opposite Ban Kingya of Tambon Namphun, when Laotian troops tried to prevent the Mongs' escape into Thailand.

The first clash was reported on Sunday, said the sources. "All the dead and the injured are still on the Laotian side," they said.

For humanitarian reasons, they said, the injured would get medical treatment if they crossed into Thailand.

According to the sources, the first group of Mong fled to Ban Kingya on February 5, and by yesterday, the total was 515.

Some 22 guns, including AK47 and M16 assault rifles and M2 carbines, were seized from the resistance fighters as they entered Thailand, in line with Thai policy to disarm foreign forces.

The sources said this group of Mong, numbering about 1,500, used to cross into Thailand before, but were turned back by the authorities.

The group is led by Pa Kao Heu of the Ethnic Liberation Organisation of Laos.

The new arrivals have been given refuge until it is safe for them to return to Laos.

A Border Patrol Police unit was dispatched to Ban Kingya to prevent Laotian troops crossing the border to pursue the Mong.

/6662

CSO: 4200/349

## CHAMPASSAK PARTY, DEFENSE WORK ELIMINATES ENEMY ACTIVITY

Vientiane KONGTHAP PASASON LAO in Lao 2 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by Komkev: "Mounlapamok District and Military Activity in the Localities"]

[Excerpts] In 1986 there were orders from the Department for Localities, the General Staff Department and the Localities Service of Champassak Province concerning the policy to improve and build up the guerrilla forces so that they could effectively carry out their operations to defend the peace of the localities and keep the situation normal there.

While relying on the orders from upper echelons, the military headquarters for the localities of Mounlapamok District undertook a period of urgently improving and building up the guerrilla forces in their district in order to raise the quality of these forces. During the first 5 to 6 months of the year it could clearly be seen regarding the capability of these forces to conduct inspection operations in their areas of responsibility throughout the district that: Mounlapamok District had the peace and security of a production base. The companies, platoons and squads had been improved. The guerrilla cadres and combatants throughout the district were proud and self-confident. They were willing to sacrifice their sweat, strength and personal comfort for the peace and security of their localities.

In order to steadily raise the quality of the guerrilla forces, the General Staff Department of the district together with the party committee and the administrative committee of the district set up party units and cells within the guerrilla forces. In every canton and village these party cells and party members led the armed guerrilla forces.

Each canton had constant political training and military practice for its combatant squads. In fact in 1 year they also studied the large military chapter through once. In each canton they had military practice once every 6 months.

In addition to practice and operations to maintain the peace in their localities, the guerrilla forces throughout the district also became a leading force in bringing the people to change to collective production; labor exchange solidarity teams were changed into agricultural cooperatives by village and

canton as a part of a broad drive. In the first 6 months of 1986 throughout Mounlapamok District of Champassak Province there were five model villages with regard to maintaining the peace. Three strong cantons were created as well as two model cantons. All this showed that Mounlapamok District of Champassak Province now had a complete force of mobile and stationed guerrillas which was able to conduct operations to inspect its territory regularly, bring peace and security to all the district and keep it free from the operations of those who wished to destroy the new system completely.

8149/7051

CSO: 4206/49

MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT CADRES FACE ECONOMIC HARDSHIP

Vientiane KONGTHAP PASASON LAO in Lao 2 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by K. Khounnousai: "New Collective Enterprises"]

[Text] The order of the Council of Ministers concerning having the families of cadres, combatants and workers create [their own] family economies has now appropriately been put into practice by many units, offices and organizations. The Mountain Development Corporation is one of the units which has done this well. It is a newly created unit--it is only 18 months old. It is still green when you consider that its leadership experience in various activities is limited, but nevertheless the leadership cadres of each echelon have been steadfast in their research and consultation in order to follow the plan more and more closely. It was also important that the cadres and [party] members of the corporation considered that the personal problems of the cadres, state employees and workers of the corporation should be settled agreeably beforehand. On this basis the decision of the husband in this matter was given more weight. The leadership committee of the corporation searched for appropriate ways for the families to build family economies in a peaceful and normal manner.

The first step which the corporation took was to allow the families which were going to build their own economies to borrow some money to buy as many animals as they could raise such as: chickens, ducks and pigs. The corporation stipulated the following conditions for borrowing the money: for the money which the corporation lent to buy four pigs, two pigs had to be sold to the corporation at a set price while the other two belonged to the people raising them. The money which the corporation lent had to be repaid within the time period specified. If certain families did not raise animals then the corporation got them together to form a cooperative restaurant enterprise for such things as: noodle soup, rice noodles and soft drinks, etc., which were provided by corporation investment funds. Each day the cooperative restaurant enterprise had to summarize its income for the day and subtract the investment funds. That which was left was divided in two parts: [part] was for the corporation treasury and [part] was divided up among the people who worked there. Each month the corporation sold 20 kg of rice to each person at the price a cadre attached to the state [would pay].

The second step was to mobilize the families of the cadres who were not involved in this and contract with them to plant and care for trees such as: the coffee and cardamom of the corporation. The wage rate for 1 hectare depended on what the corporation agreed to pay; this meant that if a family did a great deal of good work it received a great deal for its labor. The corporation oversaw this. If there was sickness in the family or if there was an accident, the husband would be carrying out his duties far away. After the leadership committee, which was responsible for allotting and looking for appropriate jobs for the families which were to build their own economies, concentrated on this for the last 6 months of 1986, the cooperative enterprises of those who built their own family economies made commendable progress. The husbands overcome their anxiety for their families and pressed on with their own duties in earnest.

As they strove to carry out the plan for the last 6 months of 1986, the building up and improving of this move to family economies was one activity which helped ensure the fulfillment of this plan. This was because if these activities were done well and regularly, the difficult activities adopted by the corporation would progress since the cadres and workers undertaking the difficult activities would [be able to] concentrate their intelligence and strength on completing the collective activities of the corporation as their wives in the rear areas had been set up, and groups of friends helped them make a living--their daily lives did not involve hardship, and the children had a place to learn; if they got sick, there was a doctor to look after them and help them.

Generally speaking now for those who got involved in building a family economy, the organization has found them a suitable way of making a living. Everyone has done his job correctly, and everything has been made convenient by the organization.

8149/7051

CSO: 4206/49

PUBLIC SECURITY POLICE PERSONNEL PROFILED

Vientiane NOUM LAO in Lao 1-7 Sep 86 pp 3, 7

["True Stories and Actual People" Column: "Two Young Public Security Personnel"]

[Excerpts] Comrade Lotkeo Phengvannavong is somewhat thin. She smiled even before I interviewed her, and she spoke enthusiastically with me. I learned later that she was from a farm family in Ban Mai, Phonsoungmeuang Canton, Phon Hong District, Vientiane Province. She had just turned 19.

After finishing senior high school in 1984, she was assigned to go to the Thong Keng Police Academy for 4 months. She received the rank of Lance Corporal. She was then assigned to the traffic police section in Vientiane Capital in the "damage report" section. This is very confusing work, because if a person does not have a true revolutionary ideology they will not be efficient and this will result in a lack of confidence by the masses. However, her work has been running smoothly because of her conscientiousness and honesty. She also does other things such as inspecting cars, serving at meetings, and teaching "accident cases" in the Thongkheng Police Academy.

She has been a member of the LPR Youth Union since 1982 as well as assistant chief of the youth union [unit], and has been a member of the Lao women's association since 1985.

Comrade Kiphet Aphaiphon, 23, who was born in Nakoung Canton, Ban Don, Hatsaifong District, is also in the traffic police section. He is now in the Kampheng Philieu traffic section. He works hard to become the strength of the revolution, as befits the trust that the party has in him. After he graduated from senior high school, he applied to become a police officer in 1985 and was sent to the Thongkheng Police Academy for 4 months, where he became lance corporal. Since then he has been working on "accident cases," which requires that he go wherever he is needed. He has never complained, and employs firmness and just principles to provide suitable solutions for problems and carries out orders to everyone's satisfaction. Besides his specialized task he is also involved with other tasks, such as teaching how to arrest thieves, working as a model "Red Saturday" among the masses, and strengthening the youth union organization. He is also a chief of the regular youth union [unit] and he has been a member of the LPRP since 1985. He is now advancing to a new rank in the administration studies and summary section, which he has not studied and in which he has not previous experience. However, because of his ability he is learning while on the job. As a result, the task has gradually progressed.

READER WANTS RADIO BROADCASTS IN MINORITY LANGUAGES

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 12 Dec 86 pp 2, 4

[Excerpts] [Question] Why is it that since the liberation in 1975 the National Radio Broadcasting station in Vientiane Capital has never carried broadcasts in the Lao Theung language or the Lao Soung language? What are the reasons for this situation, for the case where there has not been anything previously? As I understand, the LPDR consists of 68 ethnic groups and 3 national minorities, the Lao Loum, the Lao Soung and the Lao Theung. Actually, the radio broadcasting program in each province that has these national minorities should have broadcasting in that language.

There are Lao Lou, Lao Theung and Lao Soung minorities not only in Vientiane Capital but also in Vientiane Province. Why is it that there has never been any Lao Theung language broadcasting by the national radio broadcasting programs from Vientiane? Vientiane, 28 November 1986. Th. Soumvansengmong, Institute for Surveying and Construction Desing, Ministry of Construction (Accounting Office).

[Answer] Dear Soumvan. I would like to briefly discuss your question as follows. The national radio broadcast station has been broadcasting in the Lao Theung language for many years, in the evening after the 1900 news. When I discussed this with the comrades who are responsible for the national radio broadcasting station, they told me that there used to be a plan and a program for one night so it would not get mixed up with the broadcasts in the central language. This is what I have been told. However, it all depends on the actual situation. This problem could include other local radio broadcasting stations. Good luck and thank you.

9884/12624

CSO: 4206/58



COLUMN QUESTIONS MOTIVES FOR JOINING BUDDHIST CLERGY

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 5 Dec 86 pp 2, 4

["Readers' Friends" Column: "What Kind of People Will Make Good Buddhist Clergy?"]

- [Excerpt] [Question] 1. Is the Lao Unified Buddhists Association really strict in admitting people to different temples as monks?  
2. When monks do not follow the Dhamma principles after being reminded many times, don't they deserve to be dismissed from the monkhood?  
3. Can a person who has engaged with arguments with his family become a monk?

I am not asking you these questions because I want to slander Buddhism. I hope you can help me by explaining this. 11 November 1986. (Signed)  
Bounkeut, Social Welfare and Veterans Division in Saithani District.

[Answer] Dear Bounkeut. You asked what kind of person is really fit to become a monk. I have never been ordained myself, and none of my friends have done this, and I have never thought of being one. Also, I cannot think how I could be a monk because I cannot abstain from dinner as the monks do. So I am really inexperienced (referring to people who have never been ordained). As for my own opinion, being ordained or not is the same if one is good. If a monk does bad things people can criticize him all the same. I have seen people ordained for many reasons. For example, they may be too lazy to do farming, and some do it to avoid public work. Some try to use the yellow robe for their own advantage, etc. If you do not believe that what I have said is true, you should think about it again. I would like to discuss your questions as follows.

1. A thorough investigation will be made by clergymen and also by laymen who have engaged in religious work prior to acceptance. Each Buddhist temple has a list of names and also a transfer record. This is to prevent people from using the yellow robe in an undesirable way. 2. We have to determine whether the wrongdoings are serious or not, depending on the laws and regulations for clergymen. 3. Any arguments must be analyzed. If it is a common case there will not be a problem. The "don'ts" come in many forms. For example, those who are convicted and who are not fully qualified according to the regulations of the clergy will not be admitted. If you want the details you should do further study on your own because the clergy also have their own rules. Thank you for now.

9884/12624

CSO: 4206/58

## BRIEFS

VIENTIANE PROVINCE RESETTLEMENT--In 1986 over 1,000 families of multiethnic people in the mountainous areas of Vientiane Province have turned from their previous scattered slash and burn farming occupation to engage in settled production by clearing cultivation areas for planting. Settled farming has higher production. Since 1975 over 5,000 multiethnic highland farmer families in the areas of Feung, Vnag Vieng, Saisonboun and Hom Districts in Vientiane Province have turned from slash and burn farming is good for the people's economic construction and enables them to live happily and in agreement with the policies set by the party and government. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 9 Dec 86 p 1] 9884/12624

SAYABOURY FUEL DEPOT, ROAD WORK--From early January to the end of May the youth union members in various locations under Sayaboury District have scored a great achievement. In particular, the Housing Construction Company youth and the youth of the Material Supply Company have worked together in constructing 8 fuel depots each with a capacity of 2,500 liters, and they have now been 85 percent completed. The Housing Construction Company youth have built a high level teacher training school building which is now 54.88 percent complete, one basic technical school building which is 100 percent complete, and the construction of a new warehouse with direct aid from the Ministry of Central Trade, which will be able to hold over 500 tons of paddy rice, which is 82.33 percent complete. There is also news that during the same period over 2,000 youth and people along with youth union members in various work sections under Sayaboury District have worked together to clear over 30 km of new road from Sayaboury District to Khonpiat, which is now 60 percent complete. The youth union in Sayaboury Province is now continuing to actively take its turn in its work according to the plan. [Text] [Vientiane NOUM LAO in Lao 22-28 Aug 86 p 1] 9884/12624

VIENTIANE YOUTH UNION MEMBERSHIP--Saithani District in Vientiane Capital has implemented Plenum 51 of the Party Central Committee on conversion to the grassroots on a normal basis by focusing on the youth union committee in the work section around the district. The number of youth union members in the LPR Youth Union in Saithani District has increased to 1,363 comrades, of which 672 are women, out of 19,815 youth of the masses. [Excerpts] [Vientiane NOUM LAO in Lao 22-28 Aug 86 p 2] 9884/12624

BORDER PATROL ACTIVITIES--Since 1986 the cadres and combatants in the Border Defense Unit under the Public Security Service, Ministry of Interior, have worked together unyieldingly to score achievements. They opened courses to study political documents and different specialized tasks 8 times for the cadres and combatants with over 560 attendees, and they filed reports on paper for 122,374 people and 15,970 vehicles that crossed the border entering and leaving. They carried out national defense and security 289 times with 854 people. At the same time, they grew assorted vegetables which yielded 48 kg, raised assorted animals for over 1,500 kg [of meat], and earned 16,300 kip from many building contracts. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 18 Dec 86 p 1] 9884/12624

IRANIAN REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS--Vientiane, Feb 11 (KPL)--Phoumi Vongvichit, acting-president of the Lao PDR, and Kaysone Phomvihane, chairman of the Council of Ministers, have cabled messages greeting the commemorative day of the Iranian revolution. In his message to his Iranian counterpart Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the Lao acting-president says: "On the occasion of the commemoration of the Iranian revolutionary victory, on behalf of the Lao people and government and in my own name, I am pleased to convey to you and through you to the Iranian Government and people my warmest greetings and best wishes of happiness, prosperity and success in the struggle for the safeguard of independence and sovereignty of the Islamic Republic of Iran." For his part, K. Phomvihane also sent similar greetings to Mir Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister of Iran. He wished for consolidation of the existing Lao-Iranian friendship relations for the interests of the two countries' peoples as well as for peace and social progress. Also on the same occasion, Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut has cabled greetings to his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 11 Feb 87 BK] /6662

DEFENSE MINISTER'S MESSAGE TO GDR--Vientiane, February 14 (KPL)--Gen Khamtai Siphandon, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister for national defence of the Lao PDR, has sent a message of thanks to Gen Heinz Kessler, minister of national defence of the GDR, for the latter's best wishes conveyed on the 38th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Army. In his message expressing satisfaction and thanks, the Lao minister of defence said that the message of greeting represented a good moral support to the Lao People's Army, and the entire Lao people who are endeavouring in the tasks of national defence and construction. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 1000 GMT 16 Feb 87 BK] /6662

CSO: 4200/349

'U.S.-AQUINO GOVERNMENT' SEEN BEHIND COUP THREATS

Quezon City NATIONAL MIDWEEK in English 11 Feb 86 p 48

[Commentary in "Vantage Point" by Luis V. Teodoro: "Crying Wolf"]

[Text] Barely two weeks before the February 2nd constitutional plebiscite which the US-Aquino government hopes will result in the ratification of its made-to-order draft Constitution, government sources were once again telling us that another coup attempt had been aborted by the same hero of the putative November 22nd coup. Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fidel Ramos, we were being told, had once more taken decisive action against another weekend attempt to destabilize the US-Aquino government, an attempt, which, they said, was meant to force the resignation of Mrs Aquino from the presidency.

Any number of Filipinos of course believed this story, including some who challenged those who didn't to prove that there wasn't any attempted takeover of the government by Marcosists, right-wing politicians, and ultra-rightist sectors of the military. The burden of proof of course, rests on those who told us the story (only an idiot would demand that those who didn't believe it should assume that burden), and what they were saying made for some strange reading indeed.

In the first place, according to military and government sources, the signal for the coup was "a big bang in Mindanao," which, they said, was provided by the offensives launched by the forces of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) during the week ending January 16. In addition, the supposed leak of a confidential document from Malacanang to the National Democratic Front was initiated by the plotters to embarrass the Aquino government and thus provide added justification for the attempt to grab power.

We must confess that we have nothing to disprove these claims--but must note too that those telling the story have nothing but their assertions to commend their statements. Additionally, one might very well point out that much of the story rests on the silly assumption that both Salamat Hashim's MILF and the NDF were in on the supposed coup attempt.

Be that as it may, this latest coup story certainly doesn't harm the cause of the ratification campaign any, and indeed tends to reinforce the

view that we must all support not only the draft Constitution but the entire US-Aquino government as well because it is supposedly under rightist seige.

The notion that the US-Aquino government is under constant danger from external ultra-rightist sources--i.e., fascist groups identified with the old regime as well as ultra-rightist elements--has served it well in the last few months or so, succeeding, among others, in dividing nationalists and progressives on the issue of whether, despite its pro-imperialist and reactionary character, it should be supported.

The government itself, we must note, makes it clear that it doesn't need the support of anyone since it already has US support. Thus its arrogant rejection of even the most reasonable demands of several sectors of our society for certain concessions has already become a matter of course.

It rejected, for example, the demand of the NDF for the release of Rodolfo Salas--a demand Senator Jose W. Diokno opined was only just--and rejected as well the demand of the Moro people to defer ratification of the constitutional provision on autonomy, because the provision would reduce the Moro nationality to a mere ethnic minority.

Earlier, the same government rejected the demand of workers for the retention of former Labor Minister Bobbit Sanchez and rammed down their throats a replacement no self-respecting labor union could accept with honor.

This same government has also rejected demands for a land reform program different from that of the Marcos regime. It has turned a deaf ear to pleas that it adopt an independent economic policy instead of the IMF-dictated, Marcos-inherited economic policy it is dead-set in implementing. It has refused to talk to teachers, students and other sectors in peaceable assembly, choosing instead to listen to anyone with a gun and thus tending to suggest that it understands only the language of violence, which it has also said it will let loose against the revolutionary forces of the Left once it has the "moral authority," i.e., once the ceasefire fails, thus proving that it at least initiated peace efforts to do so.

This government, in short, although it rode to power on the people's hopes for reforms in the political, economic and social structures the past regime had erected to exploit and suppress the people, is showing every day that it isn't as interested in reform as much as it is interested in staying in power and crushing the Left, in order to establish in this country a peace based on the status quo of injustice, misery, exploitation and foreign domination.

This government, in other words, is not asking for our support on the basis of the argument that it is interested in our welfare, but on the basis of the argument that the alternative to it is worse. That is what these repeated and tiresome stories about coups amount to--quite aside from making it appear that the plotters are so inept they're doomed to fail every time.

It need hardly be said that the argument that one must support the lesser of two evils was once advanced by the Marcos regime itself--and that it is hardly a legitimate basis for governance. Over and above this, however, the US-Aquino government should consider the possibility that the Filipino people might eventually see through this ruse and sink into indifference when a real threat does occur against it--a threat which, we suggest, will most probably come from within it rather than outside it. By that time it might find out that it has cried "Wolf" once too often.

/9317

CSO: 4200/354

ANTINUCLEAR GROUPS DEMAND INSPECTION OF U.S. BASES

HK121329 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 12 Feb. 87 p 8

[Text] President Aquino was asked yesterday by five anti-nuclear groups to create an inter-agency task force which will conduct periodic on-site inspections of United States military bases and all military air and naval vessels entering the Philippine territory, and bar vessels carrying nuclear weapons.

This was one of three demands raised by groups involved in a Campaign for a Sovereign Philippines which calls for the immediate implementation of the nuclear-weapons-free provision of the 1986 Constitution.

Their statement was issued on the occasion of the birth anniversary of nationalist Don Claro M. Recto last Feb. 7.

Involved in the campaign are the Anti-Bases Coalition (ARC), bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) [New Nationalist Alliance], Bukluran sa Ikauunlad ng Sosyalistang Isip at Gawa (BISIG) [Union for Advancement of Socialist Ideas and Action], Nationalist Alliance for Justice, Freedom, and Democracy (NAJFD), and Volunteers for Popular Democracy (VPD).

The groups said that any nuclear weapons found in U.S. military bases and facilities must be immediately returned to the U.S.

They also urged the immediate ban on port calls or entry by foreign nuclear-powered and nuclear-capable air and sea craft.

The government was also asked to make public any information provided by the U.S. Government on U.S. forces in the country in compliance with Sec. 28, Article II, of the 1986 Constitution which mandates "full public disclosure of all its transactions involving public interest."

They also noted that the 1983 revisions to the military bases agreement require the U.S. Government to give the Philippine Government notice of the "current levels of the U.S. forces permanently stationed in the Philippines, and their equipment and weapons systems.

To dramatize their appeal for the enforcement of the nuclear weapons-free provision of the 1986 Constitution, the groups will hold a motorcade on Friday from Manila to Angeles City to Olongapo City.

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CSO: 4200/372

AQUINO'S SENATORIAL LINE-UP REJECTS 'OLIGARCHIC RIGIDITY'

HK231311 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 23 Feb 87 pp 1, 6

[Analysis column by Editor in Chief Amando Doronilla]

[Text] There are many ways of assessing the senatorial lineup of President Aquino. The crudest almost superficial way is the conventional norms of apportioning the seats according to whether (1) all the regions, (2) the Muslim minority, and (3) the women are represented in the ticket.

These norms have been dutifully satisfied. But meeting the requirements of political orthodoxy does not tell us very much about the distribution of power, much less whether there has been a change in the sociology of power. To be more specific, under these criteria, there is nothing to indicate whether a "new breed of men and women" is entering the political arena, or whether the old socio-economic oligarchy has given way to a more pluralistic representation.

Let me explain. The fact that all regions are represented in the ticket ignores the reality that some regions are more economically affluent than the others and that many of the candidates purportedly represented the regions are actually Metro Manila-based, thus giving a relatively heavy bias for urban commercial industrial interests, vis-a-vis rural agricultural interests.

It is not also very helpful to present the 24 candidates according to the categories that (1) eight are Cabinet ministers, (2) five are Government officials; (3) five are former senators (some going back to pre-martial law politics) and seven are former Members of Parliament during the Marcos years; (4) Two represent the education sector; three represent the cause-oriented groups; two represent labor; (5) one represents the peasantry -- that is, if we concede that Heherson Alvares has peasant origins or his heart and mind belong to the peasantry; (6) one represents business; and (7) two represent the professions.

In particular, the last category is misleading. There are many lawyers and people in the professions spread out across the other categories, representing interest other than what their professions strictly call for.



At best, therefore, the line-up is an electric mix which reflects the eclecticism of the new Constitution--the organic law of the new centrist Aquino dispensation. This mix has no coherent over-arching political philosophy. The candidates were recruited from members of sectors and interests which, if cobbled together, could even have clashing orientations.

They do not belong to any singular party; in fact, they constitute a coalition of interests with no political vehicle that could aggregate the interests that they really represent and that could define their ideology. They are not governed by party discipline. The fact that President Aquino has not seen it urgently necessary to put them in a party--some come from Unido [United Nationalist Democratic Organization], others from PDP-Laban [Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan] reflects the ideological muddle prevailing in the Aquino camp. The mobilizing agents in this tickets are primarily the President's charisma, which is remotely related to ideology, and the candidates' personal merits.

But out of this eclectic babel, some clues are emerging that post-EDSA revolutionary politics are moving out of oligarchic pattern that gave a conservative rigidity to the former two-party system.

One sign is that there are in this line-up fewer candidates representing the old oligarchy of influential political families. The old family names-- John Osmena, Raul Manglapus, Agapito Aquino, Teofisto Guingona Sotero Laurel, Wigberto Tanada. Victor Siga -- are still redolent in the ticket. But several of the candidates are a new breed of people -- elite families to be sure -- with modernizing outlook and represent either middle class values, and more plural interests, including bureaucratic. These people include Leticia Shahani, Edgardo Angara, Alberto Romulo, Vicente Paterno, Santanina Rasul.

The recruitment indicates that the basis of selection has become broader compared with the narrower base of the old two-party system whose mainstays came from the landed and/or entrepreneurial/industrial classes forming the heart of the political oligarchy.

What has not advanced very much is representation of the underclass. Even if one would assume that Augusto Sanchez has the interests of the working class in his heart, Ernesto Herrera comes from the moderate sector of the trade union movement which is more concerned with rice and fish issues rather than union militancy. As to the peasantry, it might be better to ask this class if Alvarez is their man.

Modernization in a bourgeois social order is the passion of the middle class. Its aim is how to do things more efficiently and competently, and redistribution of wealth has a low priority agenda of the middle class.

Yes, there is change in the sociological map. The wealth of the oligarchy is being diffused, mainly by economic forces. But the map is being redrawn in the image and vision of society, defined by the interests and values of the middle class. These are the seven managerial, bureaucratic and technocratic mandarins.

CHRONICLE URGES AQUINO TO GOVERN 'METHODICALLY'

HK170303 Manila MANILA CHRONICLE in English 16 Feb 87 p 9

[Editorial: "Now Is the Time To Govern Methodically"]

[Text] At a recent Cabinet meeting following the constitutional plebiscite, Finance Minister Jaime Ongpin addressed the Cabinet with words to this effect:

Mrs President. We had in the past missed many opportunities. We cannot afford to miss this one. We may not have another chance.

He then proposed a policy package giving priority to the following initiatives: (1) Land reform -- including Hacienda Luisita; (2) Drastic reforms, meaning a clean-up of corruption; (3) Job creation through a dramatic push in economic growth.

Mr Ongpin could not have been more emphatic about the historic moment facing the Government after winning an overwhelming mandate in the plebiscite -- a moment for seizing the challenge to launch reforms.

In a meeting with media people last week, President Aquino said that in the plebiscite, the people had delivered, and she could not continue to be asking for their support. "It's now my turn," the President said.

If the ratification of the new Constitution did anything for the nation, the most important was that it put us on the crossroads -- whether we continue to fritter away the opportunities or we make a decisive turn towards a program of action.

The signs are that the Government, after the plebiscite, has not engaged any of its instrumentalities into a task force that would design and implement a total program of economic and social mobilization of the nation's resources.

True there are sporadic and separate movements toward launching a land reform program. The emergency employment program is in place. The National Economic Development Authority has a blueprint for economic growth. The Government has given the Armed Forces the go-ahead for an offensive against the Communist guerrillas although the economic and political costs of this offensive could be prohibitive.

We must concede there is movement but what is lacking is centralized direction and coordination of a total mobilization effort. No agency exist to provide the central pulse for a grand effort. There is absolutely nothing to tie the threads of all these programs together and to monitor the performance compared with the targets.

Part of the reason for this vacuum on central direction is that the office of the Executive Secretary -- as the de facto presidential chief of staff -- is operating like a chief filing clerk. It has not provided coordinating function to pull together programs of separate ministries. Creation of ideas is appallingly non-existent.

The key men on the Executive staff have not shown the imagination, creativity and vision of the big push -- something that is badly needed for this Government to translate the momentum of its mandate into concrete programs. They are concerned with preserving their small bureaucratic empires, with the consequence that attention is diverted away from looking ahead and organizing resources for a bold development program.

The people rallied behind President Aquino several times during the crises in which the survival of her government was under grave threat. They never let her down. The plebiscite was the latest demonstration of faith in her.

It was plausible to explain the failure of Government to make initiatives to one, the problems of dismantling the Marcos institutions, and two, to the Enrile destabilization problem. Marcos is in the past for good -- the ratification ended that era. Enrile is out of the Cabinet. She cannot use them as whipping boys anymore. After Feb. 2, she is on her own.

If she allows the historic moment to grab the challenge for change to slip, the people may not be very forgiving. Not even Joker Arroyo and his clique could save her. They can always go back to the barricades. But now is the time to govern -- methodically and well.

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CSO: 4200/372

BERNAS URGES AQUINO USE SUPPORT TO ACHIEVE SOCIAL PROGRAMS

Quezon City VERITAS in English 5-11 Feb 87 p 8

[Commentary by Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J., Constitutional Commission member in "Occasional Reflections": "The Price of Popularity"]

[Text]

**T**HERE is no heavier burden than a great potential." Thus spake Charlie Brown.

The tragedy of Mr. Marcos is not that a plain housewife ousted him from a presidential seat he had held for nigh twenty-one years. The tragedy of Mr. Marcos is that, over a span of nigh twenty-one years, he squandered golden opportunities.

He could have been immortalized not just in monuments of bronze but also in the adoring hearts of a grateful nation; but now there are no monuments of bronze and, within a year of his forced exile, his defaced monuments of gravel and limestone have begun to crumble. And his name is often invoked by millions as a curse.

Cory Aquino finds herself today face to face with golden opportunity. More so than Marcos did when he imposed martial law in 1972.

She enjoys tremendous popularity. In the May 1986 public opinion national survey made by the Ateneo and Social Weather Stations, she was seen still riding on the crest of the euphoria generated by the February Revolution. Political analysts predicted that her popularity would wane with the passing of each ordinary day. They were wrong. Between May and October her enemies refused to make her days ordinary. Neither did her international forays project her as ordinary (Un-ordinary enough to merit Woman of the Year award

from TIME.) And the October 1986 survey for the Second Public Opinion Report of the Ateneo-Social Weather Stations shows her enjoying even substantially higher popularity than she had last May.

The people's message in May and October was not understood by those who sought her ouster. Thus, after being forced to deal forcefully with a failed coup, she had to confront potentially destabilizing slaughter of farmers at Mendiola. She also had to wrestle with the impact of whispered but unguarded telephoned confessions publicly revealed in a manner that defied the laws of privacy. Scarcely had the gore dried in Mendiola, and even as whispers of revelations more scandalous still than the first taped revelations made the rounds of Makati offices, another attempted coup was staged. She showed iron firmness in the handling of the failed coup and more brass than the apparent pusillanimity of her own Chief of Staff and Minister of Defense. This convergence of tests undergone and tests passed combined to push her popularity upwards even more. Thus, in her sorties last Friday to Davao and to Cebu and in her appearance at the Luneta last Saturday, she drew jubilantly chanting crowds comparable to the passionately enthusiastic yellow armies that mobbed her during her campaign days. Now too the latest surveys show that, even as some of her own Ministers have begun to falter and fail and even fall on their faces, her

own personal popularity still rides high. It may not even have peaked yet. And it is difficult to escape the conclusion that the overwhelming ratification of the Constitution is also affirmation of her popularity.

Howsoever one might explain the popularity of the woman, one thing she cannot afford to miss: popularity means power and power means opportunity, which, if squandered, will send her crashing the way of Mr. Marcos.

Power flowing from popularity alone might not be enough to enable her to translate opportunity into reality. But popular support coupled with legal authority make for a potent combination. And extraordinary legal authority she has. It flows from the emergency provisions of the Freedom Constitution. She has that legal power until Congress convenes under the new Constitution. For a leader of a people awaiting full redemption, this combination of peaking popularity and extraordinary legal authority adds up to opportunity of unimaginable potentiality.

Her record so far is outstanding in the task of restoring political liberties. Her achievements in this field will be firmed-up by the ratification of a new Constitution more libertarian than we have ever had.

Her record, however, in the fulfillment of socio-economic campaign promises to labor and to farmers remains uninspiring. This may be understandable. After all, social problems are not solved overnight. Moreover, those were campaign promises not enthusiastically received by chanting admirers in the Intercon and at the Manila Hotel during those heady campaign days. Those selectively chanting admirers, after all, belonged to her social class. Understandable or not, however, it will be lamentable if her record in the promotion of social justice does not dramatically improve. She must not forget that more than seventy percent of the Filipino people cannot afford to enter and cheer her at the Intercon or the Manila Hotel.

She has the support of tremendous popularity. Surveys now indicate that she will have that support even should she choose to make difficult socio-economic decisions. And, until the convening of the new Congress, she has extraordinary legal authority to make those decisions. Hers can be a legacy not just of liberty rewon but also of greater equity finally achieved in a land traditionally accepting of grossly degrading inequality.

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CSO: 4200/354

VERITAS CITES THAI EXAMPLE OF RECONCILIATION

Quezon City VERITAS in English 5-11 Feb 87 p 11

"Commentary by Ed C. de Jesus in the "Analysis" column: "Where Reconciliation Begins"]

[Text]

A BUDDHIST society has apparently achieved the kind of reconciliation to which this Christian country aspires.

In a ceremony held two weeks ago, Thai government troops, among them army commander-in-chief General Chavalit, joined 3000 former communist guerrillas and their families to inter the remains of 523 insurgents discovered by soldiers some months ago. The "Returning to the Faith" ritual performed on this occasion would finally allow the souls of the rebels who had died between 1980 and 1982 to continue the cycle of reincarnation and progressive purification towards their eventual release from the burden of human existence.

During the same gathering, General Chavalit received the weapons and accepted the surrender of an additional 51 communist rebels.

The communist movement in Thailand posed a more serious threat to the government in the early 70's than the one which faced the Philippines at the same time. Launched in 1960, the movement fed upon popular grievances and rapidly grew in strength. At its peak, the Communist Party of Thailand counted a force of 10,000 armed partisans. It also enjoyed access to military supplies and training from the People's Republic of China.

Government sources now estimate the strength of the movement at a maximum of 300 armed rebels forced to disperse into bands of five or six men.

How did the Thai government manage to control and to constrict the rebellion? An essential element was certainly the reform of the military into a better disciplined, more effective counter-insurgency force. The government then banked on greater numbers and superior firepower to attack communist forces in their main sanctuary in the southern provinces.

Confronted by the threat of communist countries along its eastern flank, the Thai government can hardly be accused of being soft on communism or of coddling its local communists. But it did establish diplomatic relations with China in 1975 and, in the process, persuaded Peking to stop military aid to the Communist Party of Thailand. More important, it introduced in 1980 an amnesty program which analysts credit with eroding the mass base of the movement.

A major appeal of the amnesty program was the chance it gave the rebels to start a new life within the law. Those who accepted amnesty received a cash grant of about \$1000. And, in some cases, a four-acre plot of land. The program thus helped address a root cause of the insurgency — the inequitable distribution of land.

Factions within the Philippine military have openly criticized the Aquino administration for its alleged failure to establish clear policy directives for dealing with the communist threat. In fact, the government has repeatedly reaffirmed its position: it would negotiate with the rebels to work out a plan for addressing the fundamental issues of the insurgency while maintaining the military option should negotiations prove futile.

In essence, the Philippine posture parallels the approach successfully taken by Thailand. But while Thailand may have broken the back of the communist rebellion, the Philippine military should keep in mind that the task took the Thais over 25 years. The amnesty program itself has already been running for six years.

If the Philippines is to approximate the success against insurgency achieved by Thailand, the approach it has adopted must receive the sustained support of both the civilian and the military arms of government. The support certainly has to extend beyond the 11 months the administration has been in power.

The failure thus far has not been in articulating the intent, but in pushing the implementation of government policy. Insubordinate officers who conspire at anti-government coups do not contribute to the anti-communist cause they profess to serve. The coups only reinforce the suspicion that, as in other countries, anti-communism serves as a convenient cloak to cover a multitude of crimes.

When can Filipino soldiers and insurgents come together to pray for their comrades who had fallen in battle? For this kind of reconciliation to happen, a prior condition is that the military succeed in reconciling recalcitrant factions to give the legitimate civilian government and its peace process a chance.

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CSO: 4200/354

WE FORUM REPORTS 343 POLITICAL OFFENDERS STILL DETAINED

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 9-15 Feb 87 pp 3, 4

[Article by Noli C. Alparce]

[Text]

**W**hen President Cory Aquino was still making her bid for the presidency last year, among the promises she made was the release of all political prisoners all over the country.

She did fulfill her promise by setting free Jose Ma. Sison, Bernabe Buscayno and other popular anti-Marcos crusaders. But it was a promise half-fulfilled.

Today, almost a year after "People Power" swept her into power, she has yet to contend with some 343 lesser known political prisoners who are still languishing in jail all over the Philippines. The irony of it all is that 188 of these people were detained under the Aquino administration.

Task Force Detainees of the Philippines (TFDP) records show that a total of 188 people have been arrested from February 27 (two days after Aquino was sworn in as Philippine president) to September 30 last year.

Most of these individuals were arrested for rebellion, insurrection and illegal possession of firearms. Majority of them are currently detained at the New Bilibid Prison Annex Bldg. in Fort Bonifacio.

The people behind TFDP expect the official number of political prisoners to rise. There may even be more than 343 detainees all over the country since the TFDP is still in the process of going over data collated from November, 1986 to January this year.

Dean Armando Malay, chairman of Kapisanan para sa Pagpapalaya ng mga Detenidong Pulitikal sa Pilipinas or KAPATID, could not suppress his disappointment over President Aquino's neglect of the plight of political prisoners.

Says Dean Malay: "Personally, I am disappointed with Cory Aquino. Why? Because during the time that she was still a presidential candidate, she told me personally in at least three different occasions—and I can mention the places, including one where there was a fasting in front of the Manila Cathedral — that 'I (Cory Aquino) will work for their (political prisoners) release' considering that it was one of her (campaign) platforms."

If the KAPATID chairman is ventilating such sentiments openly about the President and is willing to be quoted, the hurt is even more deeply felt by the family members and relatives of those still in jail.

Relatives of those still in prison claim that they have written several times to the President and to the Ministry of Justice pleading for the freedom of their loved ones. In one letter-manifesto sent to Mrs.



Aquino, the political prisoners' kin and loved ones said, "The wounds, sufferings, the troubles, inflicted to us — our detained relatives — brother and sons — for the past two decades by the past regime have not eased out. It is our deepest regret and worry to see our relatives suffering in prison."

Dean Malay remembers that when Mrs. Aquino became president, he reminded her about the plight of the political prisoners, saying, "there are still political prisoners, Madam President." According to him, the President replied, "I will take care of them. I will direct that they be released."

In an apparent answer to the constant nagging of the KAPATID chairman, she formed a Presidential Committee on Political Detainees Prisoners headed by Justice Minister Neptali Gonzales and participated in by human rights organization representatives. The function and purpose of the presidential committee was to define who are political prisoners, review their individual cases and possibly recommend to the President appropriate action on their case.

The human rights groups, long seeking and hoping for the speedy investigation and resolution of the detainees' cases, with the Task Force Detainees leading promptly submitted a dossier of the many remaining prisoners to the committee. But since the committee's formation last June 29, 1986, not one single political prisoner has been released although it has recommended the pardon of 48 detainees. The slow progress of the committee's work in obtaining the release of some, if not all the detainees have started to creep into the patience of the people committed to their eventual liberty. Even Dean Malay himself wonders whether the committee is "dragging its feet or for one reason or another, its work has not borne fruit."

Indeed, people in the human rights field have every reason to be impatient.

The continued detention of the 300 plus people, some of them simple farmers and workers and most of them heads of families who have children to feed and take care of have varying effects and degrees of intensity in a man's normal life. The detainees, some of them in jail for eight years, others subjected to tortures and living in sub-human conditions, are forever affected psychologically. As a result, most of them — upon gaining their liberty — find it extremely difficult to cope with pressures from society.

It is not only the prisoners who suffer. Also gravely affected are their loved ones. Last March 14, a detainee's wife — driven by extreme hopelessness and acute economic difficulties — took her own life in Davao del Sur.

The case of Eduarda Lawian, wife of New Bilibid Prison detainee Romeo Lawian, is a clear picture of how serious — and neglected the continued detention of some people is. On learning about the death of Eduarda in Barrio Buenavista, Bansalan, Davao del Sur where she was found to have hanged herself, Romeo said, "Hindi sana mangyayari ito kung ako'y napalaya na noon pa at hindi ko tiyak kung paano mabubuhay ang aking limang anak." (This would not have happened if I were released already and now I do not know how my children are going to live.)

The welfare of the detainees' children should also be considered. In one study conducted among children of detainees, it was revealed that the children suffer most because of their parents' incarceration. The sudden, long and indefinite separation from parents, the loss or diminution of care and parental protection, the sudden decline of their family's economic condition, among many others, contribute to the children's abnormal growth.

Again, to talk about the detainees still inside the prison cells at this time under the administration of Cory Aquino is injustice beyond comprehension. Their detention, suffering and pain and the thought that some of their "colleagues-in-detention" have already been granted freedom compound their agony and that of their respective family's.

It has been reported, however, that the papers of some of the detainees are already in the Office of the President and all that the President has to do is issue another order either pardoning, paroling or granting clemency to the detainees.

Prospects of the early release of the prisoners seem to be dim since the human rights lawyers who were at the side of the political detainees during their trials under the Marcos regime are now working in the Aquino government. Among the most popular of these human rights lawyers who are now in government service are Executive Secretary Joker Arroyo, Presidential Counsel Rene Saguisag, Deputy Executive Secretary Jun Factoran, Makati OIC Mayor Jojo Binay and Customs Commissioner Bobby Tanada, to mention just a few.

While these lawyers have found new concerns, the many political prisoners they have left behind are still locked up in jail.

Although it is true that democratic changes have occurred and the overwhelming votes in favor of the new constitution have been counted, the situation for the detainees remain bleak and seemingly hopeless still. As days pass into months, the recognition and commitment to human rights specially with regard to the political prisoners have quite sadly been relegated to the back seat. As the government prepares for another national elections, it is the hope of the detainees, as it is the hope of countless Dean Malays, that again, Congressional candidates should not make as platform the release of the political prisoners — if they will not be true to their promise.

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CSO: 4200/354

PLEBISCITE MANDATE FAVORS MILITARY DEPOLITICIZATION

HK220830 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 22 Feb 87 pp 1, 5

[Analysis by Editor-in-Chief Armando Doronila: "Ramos Should Heed Calls for Reforms"]

[Text] Perhaps, the fairest way to assess the intelligence report criticizing Gen. Fidel Ramos' leadership of the armed Forces as "weak and vacillating" is to put it in the perspective of the changing relationship between the civilian government and the military following the ratification of the new Constitution.

The massive mandate received by the Aquino Government in the plebiscite has shifted the center of gravity in favor of civil authority. This shift has raised problems of adjustment for the politicized military to come to terms with this new reality. In this process of adjustment, which is being resisted by groups within the Armed Forces, new roles are called for from the military leadership.

Prior to the ratification, the main task of General Ramos was to try to save the Government from several coup plots and attempts engineered by military factions which did not accept the legitimacy of the Government, and at the same time hold the Armed Forces together.

In that process, General Ramos played the crucial role of the "man in the middle," walking the tightrope to calm the clamorous factions within the military and to rebuild the institutional basis that would enable civil authority to assert supremacy over the military.

In the role, some in the military had criticized him for being too much of a politician, rather than a disciplinarian general. This role -- a thankless job, indeed -- also came under the civilian ministers in the Cabinet who believed he was being too lenient with mutinous soldiers and officers. The impatient civilian officials perceived him as having equivocated in bringing to heel the rebel soldiers dug in at TV Channel 7, at the expense of the integrity of the retribution policy of the government.

The bloodless resolution of the Channel 7 siege perhaps is a vindication of Ramos' approach. But it also disclosed the power of pressure groups within the military -- especially the Philippine Military Academy graduates -- to intervene and band policy according to their preferred approach, which is that soldiers should not fire at soldiers.

The intelligence assessment about vacillation derives from his behavior in previous coup plots in which Ramos was hemming and hawing over whether he would take the side of the Government or the plotters. Ramos acted like the proverbial sphinx, keeping his decision close to his chest at the 11th hour, and keeping everybody guessing whether he himself was conspiring to take power from a shaky civil government. From both the side of the Government and the conspiratorial officers, Ramos was suspected of opportunism.

The reality is that Ramos cast his side for the government on the basis of his quite credible belief that constitutional authority was paramount and after making headcounts which ensured he had the numbers behind him. In military power play as in politics, the number game is important.

It seemed inevitable that in the role of power broker, Ramos had to play politics -- vis-a-vis the military factions and the civilian government. In a politicized military, a legacy of the Marcos regime's dependence on the military for regime maintenance, one wonders if the leadership could have avoided playing politics. The role played by the Armed Forces in overthrowing the Marcos regime emphasized their political interventionist role, as well.

But following the quashing of the coup plots and attempts, and the ratification of the new Constitution, the danger from mutinies has receded. These have thrust in the military leadership the new task of depoliticizing the Armed Forces so they could be more pliable to civilian authority. This new context, emphatically brought by a democratic Constitution explicitly ordaining civilian supremacy, has raised the issue of whether Ramos has been superseded and whether a new forceful leadership is required to bring about the realignment of the military according to the constitutional mandate.

This context is responsible for the revisionism in the military and in the intelligence community assessing Ramos' leadership. In this sense, Ramos and the political broker role he effectively played during the crises are now victims of change.

Revisionism itself is a consequence of change. Change accelerates reassessment. Look at Fabius the Cunctator (the delayer). The Roman Senate savaged his policy of delaying battle with Hannibal while his armies ravaged Italy. But after exhausting Hannibal, Fabius sent Scipio Africanus' armies to the plains of Zama at the gates of Carthage and defeated the Carthaginians decisively, ending the Punic Wars.

Apparently successful military leaders do not remain heroes forever. Soon after the Cold War set in after World War II, the hero of Alamein, Marshal Viscount Montgomery, came under heavy fire of what was perceived by American generals as his slowness and extreme caution in seizing the initiatives in the offensive in Western Europe following the invasion. The revisionist argument is that the faltering offensive permitted the Red Army under Marshal Shukov to take Berlin ahead of the Allies, thus laying the ground for the political division of Europe. Revisionism, however, did not deny Montgomery's role in defeating Marshal Rommel in North Africa.

If these precedents are heeded, Ramos need not worry too much that revisionism has set in quite early about his perceived behavior during the coup crises and the clamor in some quarters in the military for a new type of leadership required by the demands of depoliticization.

The renewed confidence given him by President Aquino is a function of one reality -- that despite the criticism from the intelligence assessment, there seems to be a consensus even among his critics that at the moment, only Ramos can hold the military together and align it behind the reinforced constitutional authority.

It is better for him perhaps to pay attention to what the intelligence report brought out -- it was specific in identifying the problems of discipline. But the new task flows from the call for depoliticization of the Armed Forces. This is backed by the mandate of the people.

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CSO: 4200/372

JAZMINES ANALYZES CHARTER PLEBISCITE MEANING

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 9-15 Feb 87 p 6

[Commentary by Alan Jazmines in the "Paninindigan"---"To Stand Up for a Cause" column: "What the 'Yes' and 'No' in the Plebiscite Means"]

[Text]

**A**ppropriate and realistic post-plebiscite policy required first of all a balanced and accurate reading of the plebiscite result. Too simplistic or too self-serving a reading would result in disaster.

The 80% or so "Yes" votes may be wrongly seen as solidly for the new Constitution or solidly behind Aquino. An anatomy of the overwhelming "Yes" votes shows that this may not necessarily be so and the Aquino government as well as the various political forces may well be advised to incisively analyze the meanings of the Filipinos' different kinds of "Yesses" and "Noes" last February 2.

Shortly before the plebiscite, it was widely estimated that only about 10% of the electorate had read the constitution. Most likely, a lesser number had closely studied and really understood the document. This lesser number then split into the "Yes", "Critical Yes" and "Principled No" Positions. (Although

the "Yes" and Critical Yes" voters both wrote "Yes" in the ballot, it is important to point out that a significant portion of the "Yes" votes nevertheless maintain serious criticisms of the Constitution. Actually there is only a thin dividing line between the "Critical Yes" and the "Principled No" position.) Thus it can be said that a small percentage actually voted in favor of the draft fully conscious of its contents and implications, whether rightly or wrongly.

Considering that the administration practically placed its mandate at stake on its campaign for the ratification of the draft Constitution, so that the administrative campaign for the ratification of the Constitution was unequivocally and unabashedly "Yes for Cory," it can be said that a significant part of the "Yes" votes was definitely for Cory but not necessarily for the contents of the draft Constitution.

At any rate, whether they fully believe in the merits of the draft constitution

or voted "Yes" principally because of Cory, it is nevertheless true that they have expectations for their basic interest that hinge on the Constitution and the Aquino government.

Before the January 22 massacre of peasants and rallyists at Mendiola and the January 27-28 GMA 7 coup drama, however, the general reading of the voting preferences was that the "Yes" and "No" were practically 50-50 with some 55% of the electorate still undecided but with a rising "No" trend.

The Mendiola massacre made the incline of the "No" trend drastically steeper. Those who put the responsibility of the massacre mainly on the Aquino government for its being unresponsive to the peasants' demand for land and other explosive social issues and/or at the maximum for its inability to control the military shifted from indecision on "Yes" to "No." There were nevertheless many, who shifted from indecision or "No" to "Yes"

because they attributed the Mendiola massacre principally to the Marcos-Enrile forces.

It was the GMA 7 coup drama, however, that reversed the trend and swept practically the whole undecided block and even a majority of the "no" towards the "Yes" vote.

Thus, the larger part of the "Yes" vote was principally an antifascist vote rather than a conscious vote for the Constitution or a vote for Cory, although it can be said also that it was also in a way a vote of preference for Cory since the only other immediately perceived alternative is Marcos or Enrile and the only perceived consequences of a "No" majority, are instability, more instability and the threat of fascist resurgence.

The Left however and others who objected to the draft on the basis of its failure to respond to the people's basic issues, have held fast to their fundamental objections to the Constitution, coup or no coup. Most of the Left's strongholds including famous Samal, Bataan, voted overwhelmingly for the ratification of the Constitution, but it cannot be said that they have abandoned their fundamental criticisms, much less their

assertion of the people's basic interests.

It can thus be said not only that the greater part of the "Yes" vote was an antifascist vote but also that a fairly significant part of this was actually "Critical Yes" for fundamental reasons.

A significant part of the "No" votes certainly came from the Left, specifically those who stressed their fundamental objections to the draft in spite of the imminent fascist threat and in spite of the GMA 7, this portion of the "No" vote joins the "Critical Yes" not only in regard the basic issues but also in regard the issue of fascism.

Totalling "Principled No" and the "Critical Yes" votes plus the "Antifascist Yes", therefore, we are in a position to say that the message of the electorate is as follows: We don't want the resurgence of fascism but we also want a resolution of the people's basic issues.

The plebiscite by and large settled the Marcos-Enrile question. It showed how measly their political size has been reduced to.

Henceforth, therefore, the Marcos-Enrile factor will not suffice as an excuse for failings and crises. Even if it crops up as certainly it will

crop up since there are remnants of this factor — still quite financially, militarily and tactically in a position to make trouble, the government is now expected to be able to deal with it decisively.

The Marcos-Enrile factor by and large shunted to the sidelines, the peoples' basic issues now come to the forefront. The Aquino government is now more clearly than ever faced with the principal responsibility of responding to the peasants' and urban poor's demand for land, the workers' demand for higher wages and respect of their rights to organize and strike, the Bangsa Moro and Cordillera peoples' demand for autonomy, the students' and teachers' demand for educational reforms, demands for freedom of the media, freedom from political prisoners and hamletted peasants, etc.

The Aquino government will have its hands full of these social issues, which if it fails to resolve, shall explode to its face.

Relatedly, the Aquino Government shall make a fatal mistake if it on the other hand mistakes the overwhelming "Yes" as a mandate for war against the Left and all those pressing for fundamental reforms.

/9317

CSO: 4200/354

SISON-LINKED WEEKLY ANALYZES CHARTER PLEBESCITE

Quezon City NATIONAL MIDWEEK in English 11 Feb 87 p 11

[Editorial: "Back To Basics"]

[Text]

**A**s the campaign for the Cory Constitution neared the homestretch, the 17th anniversary of the start of the First Quarter Storm was being commemorated. There may be a lesson in this somewhere.

Humankind, it has been said, "always sets itself only such tasks as it can solve" at a given historical moment. The First Quarter Storm focused national attention on what cause-oriented activists of the time called the "three basic problems" of Philippine society: imperialism, feudalism, bureaucrat capitalism. However, with the imposition of martial law, national attention shifted to a more immediate problem: Marcos-type fascism.

The February revolt sent the Marcoses packing, but it did not, in the eyes of legalists, close the book on the Marcos era. This was where the Cory Constitution came in.

We may bewail the conduct of the Aquino government's campaign for ratification, which in the main was not concerned with the merits or demerits of the document in question. Yet, the government approach may have been dictated by historical necessity.

It was also attuned to the public pulse. Most people had probably not read the entire Constitution. For them, the Constitution itself was not the primary issue. The issue was still Marcosism, or a fascist restoration.

Thus, in effect, many who said yes to the flawed Charter were saying that an elite democracy caught in a neocolonial trap — for all its faults and shortcomings, for all its bunglings and compromises — was still preferable to a brutal, repressive and unbelievably corrupt fascist dictatorship. By saying yes, they were hoping to close the curtains on a sordid drama, to hammer in the last nail on a tyrant's coffin.



They were not rejecting a vision, dear to cause-oriented forces, of all-encompassing social transformation and genuine national emancipation. That was not the problem they had set out to solve at that historical moment.

Viewed in this light, the campaign for the Cory Constitution was a continuation of, as well as the last major chapter in, the struggle against Marcos-type fascism. What next?

To a certain extent, though under vastly changed circumstances, the post-ratification situation would mark a formal return to the status quo ante, to the social setup and political alignments existing before martial law. That being the case, it would be necessary to resume the struggle interrupted by martial rule.

The issues addressed by the First Quarter Storm--imperialism, feudalism, bureaucrat capitalism--need to be put back at the top of the people's agenda.

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CSO: 4200/354

RADICAL WEEKLY VIEWS OPPOSITION SIGNALS ON MAY POLLS

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 9-15 Feb 87 p 10

[Article by E.T. Villa: "They Campaigned for 'No'; Will They Still Run in May?"]

[Text]

In a country where image is the main premium of Filipinos, an interesting political development is bound to happen in the near future — a glittering array of "reject the charter" advocates who will throw in their hats into the fight for seats in a bicameral legislature provided for by the new constitution.

Already, several so-called opposition leaders have given signals that they plan to fight it out with pro-Aquino candidates in the May 11 elections for senators and congressmen despite their having actively worked for the rejection of the very law that provides for it.

Acting Kilusang Bagong Lipunan president Nicanor Yniguez made a barefaced boast shortly after the avalanche of "yes" votes was being registered in official counts that the KBL is ready to put up a senatorial and congressional slate to be pitted against administration candidates.

Is this irony remarkable? Not really, for Filipino politicians are — well, politicians — who thrive on present tactical considerations while at times invoking patriotic causes.

For one thing, the current crop of oppositionists can always draw parallels between their situation and those of the opposition leaders in Mr. Marcos' time,

who ran for the defunct Batasang Pambansa despite the fact some of them had said they did not recognize the 1973 constitution which provided for it. The opposition leaders then saw the necessity of fiscalizing government, of representing the aspirations of the dispossessed and the underprivileged in parliament. Nothing can stop this new crop from doing the same.

The main drawback of the opposition leaders today, however, is the inevitability of their political past being raked up to show their sincerity (Or lack of it). For instance, the likes of former Sen. Arturo Tolentino — a brilliant constitutionalist though he may be, or ousted Defense Minister Johnny "Rambo" Enrile will almost certainly run up against a string of charges about how they abetted repression and corruption in the previous administration. Very few among them can claim nationalist pretension either because the record clearly shows not one stood up against the former dictator's unreserved servility to the economic formula imposed by international lending institutions.

In a sense, very few can claim moral ascendancy as they raise issues against the new government. This does not mean, however, that no issues can be raised against this new administration that often has the deplorable tendency to sound self-

righteous. If anything, the new regime has in several ways copied the ways of the old one, well-meaning though it may be in some spheres.

All of these factors will therefore come into play when the green light is on for the May 11 race. It will most certainly be a lively, colorful campaign made more interesting by the usual share of political has-beens and butterflies. The Cayetano, Enriles, Tolentino, will, despite the antipathy they sometimes generate, be vital ingredients to this political exercise.

The enlightened voter can only hope his fellow Filipinos will have longer memories, and that they will remember who truly served them when they had a chance to.

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CSO: 4200/354

PNB CHARGES COUP ATTEMPT WAS 'STAGED'

Quezon City VERITAS in English 5-11 Feb 87 p 21

[Article by Lorenzo B. Ziga: "Some Strong Accusations"]

[Text]

THE New Armed Forces of the Philippines—not the Marcos Loyalists or Enrile supporters—masterminded the take-over of GMA-Channel 7 and assaults on several military installations last January 27. It was intended to unify the Armed Forces, divided into so many factions, behind General Fidel V. Ramos, AFP Chief of Staff.

This was the gist of a statement by Partido ng Bayan (PnB) Secretary General Alan Jazmines, who charged that the rebellion was staged to pressure the civilian government into adopting a harder anti-communist line. "It is a plot by the military against itself," he said.

Jazmines cited reports culled by PnB sources that the highest officials in the military knew in advance about the planned coup. Top generals, for instance, had warned their children who were studying in UP not to attend classes on January 27 and 28. On January 26, one day before the coup, Ramos was in an extra-long conference with the major service commanders and some other generals. Jazmines said this was to work out details of the plan.

He said that the troops involved in this latest military attempt to topple the Aquino government were forces loyal to Gen. Ramos and Col. Gringo Honasan.

According to Jazmines, Honasan, a former aide of the former Defense Chief, had switched his loyalties to Gen. Ramos since Ramos "now carries the Enrile line." Honasan had organized Guardian Foundation which is loyal to him and to Ramos as a faction inside the Guardians Brotherhood which is loyal to Ramos.

"There has even been an insistence on the part of the military that there is at least one Loyalist soldier among those who had taken over GMA." The military had singled out a Capt. Rodulfo, a Ver godson.

Jazmines asserts that Col. Oscar Canlas, the purported leader of the GMA assault troops, is not a loyalist. "Our findings show that he has close connections with the Cojuangcos and Aquinos in Central Luzon. During the last elections, he was issuing mission orders to Laban ni Ninoy organizers."

The targets of the coup plotters were the helicopter base in Villamor Air Base, Sangley Naval Base, the GMA 7 building and Channel

4. GMA was singled out because its location and size make it "a suitable site for the drama."

Jazmines claimed the soldiers inside the GMA compound were told they would secure the building from the NPA. "Those who were assigned to protect GTV-4 were also told that they would protect the station from the NPA."

He cited a number of inconsistencies in the military's version of the events. He said that soldiers from the Guardian Foundation took hold of GMA-7 without any commander physically present. They were said to be taking directions via radio. "Why was it that the radio frequencies of the soldiers inside the TV station was the same as that of those outside. Were the troops in reality reacting to the same and single command?"

"Why was it that when they needed a field rank officer to dialog with Ramos, Col. Oscar Canlas who had been going in and out of GMA-7 without being noticed by the soldiers had to be

brought inside the building and this was hours after it was supposed to have been occupied by the rebels?"

"Why were the soldiers inside the building given the rainbow-colored scarf of the government troops as soon as they get out of the building without any attempt to process them?"

He decried the media blackout on the soldiers that were supposed to have been captured in Villamor. He also quoted military sources who reported that they were being given different orders despite the fact that they came from the same unit and only one person was issuing the orders.

Jazmines also said that the "dialog" between Ramos and Canlas was too structured and scripted and agreed too easily on anti-communism.

Jazmines asked that government conduct a full-blown probe into the incident and that President Aquino assert civilian supremacy over the military.

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CSO: 4200/354

PLANS FOR MARCOS RETURN, COUP ATTEMPT REVEALED

HK231129 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 23 Feb 87 p 20

[Text] The Armed Forces has intensified its security operations nationwide, following a report that deposed President Marcos was preparing anew to return to the country and seize power through some "disgruntled elements" in the Armed Forces and civilian supporters, military sources said yesterday.

Camp Aguinaldo sources said Armed Forces chief of staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramo has also placed all military units on red alert.

Ramos's move was in response to another military report that terrorist squads of the communist rebels were planning to take advantage of any disturbances on or around Feb. 25 and to sabotage vital military installations and government facilities.

One of the alleged targets of the so-called "scorpion units," or terrorist forces of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army is the Metropolitan waterworks and Sewerage System's Balara filter plant in Diliman, Quezon City, the sources said, quoting an intelligence report disseminated yesterday to the various AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] major service commanders.

The same report said:

-- Certain groups would create violent disturbances through assassinations of key military personalities and bombings of vital installations.

-- Another group would instigate a workers' strike at the National Power Corp. (NPC) to trigger widespread power failures. The strike would coincide with the ongoing celebration of the first anniversary of the February revolution.

The military report also provided these updates on the recently uncovered modified coup plot by certain right-wing extremists, including misguided elements in the military and political and business cronies of the deposed President:

-- Despite the government's call for unity and reconciliation, pro-Marcos elements would still seize power.

-- The Marcos loyalists have not abandoned their plan to spoil the February revolution celebration this week, leading to the eventual toppling of the government despite expose of their plot in several newspapers.

-- A "reliable information" disclosed that Marcos would attempt again to return to the country. The plan allegedly would involve Marcos's flight from Hawaii to Florida then to an airstrip either in Vigan, Ilocos Sur or on the Fuga island.

-- Marcos had ordered his henchmen in Manila to deploy two combat battalions of about 2,000 men, armed with highpowered firearms in Basey, Western Samar.

-- Renegade PC [Philippine Constabulary] Lt. Col. Reynaldo Cabuatan has been reportedly developing barangays Panipuan and (?Juan Boc) in San Fernando, Pampanga as "fallback" bases for his anti-government troops.

Military authorities said they are also checking a report that pro-Marcos military personnel in Camp Servillano Aquino in Tarlac and other military camps in Central Luzon are now preparing for what they described as the "final coup."

Camp Aguinaldo sources said a certain major, who heads a PC unit in Balanga, Bataan, was "convincing Ilocanos assigned to his unit to join the coup."

Last Feb. 11, the source added, a group of disgruntled military personnel, mostly Marines reputed to be Marcos loyalists have started "organizational movements" in Dagatdagatan, Tondo, Manila in preparation for the scheduled coup.

Other assembly points of the armed coup participants in Metro Manila include Kalantiaw, Project 4, Quezon City and still an unidentified area near Fort Bonifacio, military sources said.

In Mindanao, on the other hand, followers of a Marcos loyalist political warlord are bent on taking advantage of the Muslim secessionists' threat to resume armed hostilities as cover for the loyalists' plan to conduct destabilization activities in the South.

Yesterday, Ramos ordered the National Capital Region defense command under AFP vice-chief of staff Lt. Gen. Salvador Mison and all the major service commands to take appropriate measures to preempt all plans concerning this latest coup threat, the sources disclosed.

Meanwhile, another military source revealed yesterday that Commodore Alfredo "Bejo" Romualdez, brother-in-law of the former President, may now be in the country helping coordinate the operations for the projected coup.

The source raised this possibility citing as his basis a military intelligence dossier on the former Navy officer, who is the younger brother of former First Lady Imelda Marcos.

He said the dossier showed that after the February revolution last year, Romualdez hid somewhere in the Visayas several crates of high-powered assault weapons and cash.

After smuggling these crates from Manila, Romualdez reportedly flew to Palau island in the Pacific and reportedly fled to Hawaii to join the former first couple.

The same source however, said Romualdez may have slipped back into the country, but this information has yet to be confirmed by military.

"It is possible that he (Romualdez) did not leave the country at all," the source said.

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CSO: 4200/372



MAGAZINE HITS CONTINUATION OF MARCOS ECONOMIC POLICIES

Quezon City NATIONAL MIDWEEK in English 11 Feb 87 pp 18, 19

[News Analysis by Juan V. Sarmiento: "Aquinomix and the Marcos Legacy"]

[Text]

**T**he Aquino administration dropped some of Mr. Marcos' economic policies and adopted its own but also continued a number of the key policies of the previous government.

The accommodation is apparent in the composition of the new administration's economic team which is a combination of old and new faces. Although the ministers of Planning, Trade and Industry, Finance, and Food and Agriculture are all new to their posts, the Central Bank Governor, Jose Fernandez, is a Marcos holdover and continues to play a leading role in the monetary policies of the Aquino government.

On a more substantive level, however, the continuation of the Marcos regime's economic policies are apparent in several areas.

A significant change was the Aquino government's dismantling of the monopolies of Mr. Marcos and his associates in the sugar, coconut, flour and meat industries. The creation of the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG) further signaled the Aquino government's

commitment to break the hold of Marcos and his associates on almost every aspect of the Philippine economy. The PCGG, by end-December 1986, had recovered ill-gotten assets worth P30 billion from the hundreds of sequestered corporations and properties owned by the Marcoses and their associates.

A related step taken by the Aquino government was the privatization scheme for at least 108 state-owned and -controlled corporations with combined assets of more than P153 billion. Most of these companies were taken over by the Marcos government and a number were owned by him and his cronies.

The dismantling of monopolies and privatization are two Aquino policies opposed to the policies of the previous regime. While the Marcos regime encouraged the rise of monopolies and engineered the proliferation of state-owned and -controlled firms, the Aquino government is determined to do just the opposite.

Although privatization is a break from the economic policies of Mr. Marcos, it is consistent,

however, with what the United States government, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have long wanted to promote in the Philippines: free enterprise. President Corazon Aquino has called the dismantling of private monopolies and "privatization" as indispensable to her new government's commitment to economic recovery.

Less government in business is indeed the guiding principle of the Aquino government's economic program as reflected in its medium-term development plan (1987-1992) which was revealed to the public during the fourth quarter of 1986. But like the development plans of the Marcos regime, the Aquino government's high target of a yearly average of 6.5 percent gross national product growth is premised on huge inflows of foreign financing (loans and investments).

Thus, the Philippine economy's dependence on huge amounts of foreign capital did not end with the flight of Marcos. It has continued, as Mrs. Aquino and her economic managers frantically sought foreign loans, bilateral aid and investments in 1986.

Because of her popularity, President Aquino obtained bilateral aid from the United States and Japan during her state visits there last September and November, respectively. Shortly after her trip to North America, the US Senate approved \$200 million as additional aid to the Philippines. Japan, on the other hand, approved some \$250 million in loans during Mrs. Aquino's trip to that country.

**H**owever, the Aquino government was not as lucky when it sought additional loans from the Philippines' creditor commercial banks. Despite IMF's approval of some \$300

million additional financing to the Philippines during the third quarter of 1986, talks with the commercial banks for loan restructuring and fresh financing got stalled last October.

Citibank turned down the request of the Philippine negotiating team for a package similar to that given Mexico by commercial banks. Mexico was given a 20-year payment term with a seven-year grace and a 13/16 percent over the London interbank offered rate (Libor) for its towering foreign debts.

Despite such setbacks in its search for new sources of financing, the Aquino government raised a little over \$1 billion dollars, hiking the country's total foreign debt to \$27.9 billion, in 1986.

To lessen the burden of the huge foreign debt, the Aquino government approved the debt-to-equity swap program last August. Under this program, foreign investors could take the loans of the Philippine government from creditor banks at discounted rates but they should convert such loans into investments in the hundreds of companies which the Philippine government plans to privatize. As of December, 48 applications covering \$218 million had been received, and of these, 17 were approved, covering \$37 million.

Another economic policy of the Marcos regime which the Aquino government opted to continue is import liberalization. From March to September 1986, the Aquino government delisted some 965 imported items. This brings to 1,027 the total number of items liberalized from 1981 to March, 1986.

The current import liberalization scheme started in 1980 when the Marcos government obtained the first structural adjustment loan from the World

Bank. The Aquino government committed to the WB and the IMF the liberalization of imported items when it submitted its letter-of-intent to the IMF for additional financing.

Still another Marcosian practice which the present government has adopted is the allocation of huge chunks of the national budget to the servicing of foreign debts and the maintenance of the country's huge military machine.

Under the 1987 national budget approved by President Aquino, P35.3 billion representing 27.4 percent of the total budget is allocated for the servicing of interests and amortization of foreign debts while P11.9 billion or 10.3 percent of the budget goes to the military.

At the end of 1986, the economy was estimated to have grown by 0.13 percent, a marginal rate which nevertheless arrested the economic slide of

the past three years. The GNP growth was attributed by the government to the changes in the economic policies which it instituted during its 10-month stay in 1986. But some economists have attributed the small growth not to the economic policies of the Aquino government but to the political stability brought about by the change in government last year.

In sum, 1986 saw the removal of the obstacles which had hindered the development of free enterprise in the Philippines. Essentially, the Aquino government's economic policies are not different from those of the Marcos regime. The Aquino government's policies are actually even more aligned with a policy the WB and the IMF have long wanted the Philippine economy to follow: the opening of the economy to foreign loans and investments and to imported goods.

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CSO: 4200/354

GROUP CONTINUES TO CONFISCATE 'ILL-GOTTEN LAND'

OW080516 Tokyo KYODO in English 0458 GMT 8 Feb 87

[Text] Manila, 8 Feb (KYODO--A militant peasant federation said that its members will continue to confiscate "ill-gotten land" owned by cronies of ousted leader Ferdinand Marcos even while holding talks with the Philippine Government on land reform.

"It does not mean that when we entered into negotiations with the government, we have set aside our militant mass actions intended to implement genuine land reform," Joel Rodriguez, director of the Peasant Movement of the Philippines (KMP), told reporters Saturday.

"(Our) chapters continue to confiscate illegally gotten lands owned by cronies of Marcos... our actions are continuing in this direction," he said. The KMP claims 750,000 members nationwide.

KMP Chairman Jaine Tadeo also reiterated their demand for "free land distribution" which they had presented, among other demands, to the government during a meeting Friday at the presidential palace.

He said that both sides had agreed, "in principle," on the "initial scope of land reform" but stressed that the government's position on "critical areas" will show whether "this government stands with the peasants...or with the landlords."

Agrarian Reform Minister Heherson Alvarez had said that a land reform program similar to that of the KMP is being implemented but is hindered by lack of funds.

The meeting between the government panel and the KMP was the second since 18 peasants were killed when troops fired at protesters marching to the presidential palace on January 22.

The KMP also asked for the ouster of minister Alvarez, the transfer of the investigation of the "Mendiola massacre" to the human rights committee, and urged the government to deal with the KMP "separately and mainly" on the agrarian problem.

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CSO: 4200/372

## REVISED LAND REFORM PROGRAM NEEDS P36 BILLION

### Ongpin Describes Plan

HK060729 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 5 Feb 87 p 2

[By reporter Daniel C. Yu]

[Text] The government will need about P36 billion to finance a revised and accelerated land reform program, Finance Minister Jaime V. Ongpin said yesterday.

About P20 billion will be needed for land acquisition alone and a further P16 million will be needed to finance other components of the program, such as providing working capital for raw material inputs of the new landowners, he said.

Ongpin said the government was anxious to implement the revised program as soon as possible and had urged donor-countries that attended the World Bank-sponsored Consultative Group meeting late last month to help the government to implement the program.

The urgency of the problem was manifested by the recent killing of about 16 farmers at Mendiola in a march to demand a genuine land reform program.

Ongpin asked the Consultative Group of official and multilateral creditors last week to consider providing soft money to finance initially half of the land acquisition cost under the program, or about P10 billion (\$500 million).

He said member-governments of the Consultative Group expressed strong interest to explore prospects in providing financial aid to the program. The World Bank has scheduled a meeting in April to take up specifically the Philippine land reform program. The meeting will be held in Tokyo to coincide with the annual conference of the Asian Development Bank.

The revised program being worked out by the government aims to pay landholders in cash instead of 25-year bonds, Ongpin said.

He said the current practice is to pay landowners with 25-year bonds with a "bullet maturity" at the end of the 25 years and a 6 percent interest.

He said these bonds are being sold in the discount market at \$0.30 to a dollar, which causes landowners to resist the program.

The worst victims are small landholders who have put their saving into farmlands which happen to be just above the minimum limit for land reform, Ongpin said.

He also said the previous government took 14 years to dispose of less than one-third of tenanted rice and corn lands in the original program through the Land Bank of the Philippines.

Ongpin said if the new government could pay cash, the program could accomplish a significant acceleration and eliminate the resistance to the program.

He said the government could pay the cash outright and would require that the cash be invested in a Board of Investments-registered company of the landowner's choice, in export-oriented enterprise, in privatized assets, or in government securities.

The government is considering a minimum 10-year holding period during which the landowner can get 10 percent of the cash every year, Ongpin said.

He said the least profitable investment choice of the landowner would be government securities which would have the market yield of Treasury bills and Treasury notes.

Ongpin said he was hoping to get concessional loans payable in 30 years with a 10-year grace at an interest of 3 percent, similar to the soft loans the country gets from foreign sources at present.

He said that with that kind of money the government will not only be able to pay the landowner in cash, but also extend payment terms for the beneficiaries of the program.

Under the old program, former tenants who have become landowners must pay back the loan over 15 years at 6 percent interest. He said the government is hoping to lengthen the payment term to 30 years and maybe cut the interest by half.

This in turn will significantly cut the amortization by the new landowners significantly and assure them of the opportunity to channel funds to developing their acquired lands.

#### Fund to be Set Up

HK060459 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English  
0330 GMT 6 Feb 87

[Text] A P20-billion fund for land reform will be put up by the government to pay for land recovered by the comprehensive land reform scheme drafted by the administration. Five hundred million dollars, or P10 billion, financing for the fund will come from official and multilateral donors, and the balance of P10 billion will be provided by the national government as its counterpart.

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CSO: 4200/372

KMP LAND REFORM CRITICISM, PEASANT 'STEPS' REPORTED

Quezon City NATIONAL MIDWEEK in English 11 Feb 87 p 36

[Text] "We are not bothered by an issue regarding a document which after all, is anchored on the peasant's capacity to pay," declared Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) Secretary-General Rafael Mariano as peasants held a camp-out protest in front of the Ministry of Agrarian Reform head office in Quezon City.

Referring to the 6,000 emancipation patents to land distributed by President Aquino in Ilagan, Isabela, last January 8 in her campaigning for the ratification of the draft constitution, the peasant camp-out instead, focused on its main target: realizing genuine land reform.

The lack of genuine land reform became apparent when Ministry of Agrarian Reform (MAR) chief Heherson Alvarez admitted for want of an alternative program, that the Marcos land reform scheme is still being pursued by the MAR. Under this scheme, a peasant will pay regular amortizations for 15 consecutive years before being issued an emancipation patent which is equivalent to a land title except that it can be confiscated if the peasant fails to pay the amortization.

The monthly amortization, computed at 2.5 times the average normal harvest for three crop years with a six percent subsidized interest per annum for 15 years, means peasants will have to pay P15,000 for each hectare of land which Mariano hit as "prohibitive." Add this to the land program's "stringent requirements...all hopes for the peasant to own the land are removed."

As KMP and even MAR studies have shown, this is the reason why after 14 years of the Marcos land reform program, only 22,000 of the 1 million peasants targetted to benefit have actually been issued emancipation patents.

Aside from the lack of genuine land reform, the KMP also hit the continuing and growing problem of land monopoly, citing a survey that 70 percent of the total croplands of the Visayas are not owned by actual tillers while 70 percent of Central Luzon rice farmers and 50 percent of sugarworkers are landless.

In view of this, KMP Chairman Jaime Tadeo called on the peasants to take "the initiative in their own hands."

"If the Cory government does not have the political will to implement genuine agrarian reform in accordance with the Higher Law, then the will rests on the peasants to correct social inequities in the countryside," said Tadeo, who was a member of the Constitutional Commission which had drafted the proposed charter.

Thus, in Southern Tagalog alone, KMP-led peasants "confiscated" idle lands such as the 1,000-hectare plantation of Southern Luzon Coconut Mills said to have been owned by Marcos crony Eduardo Cojuangco.

Indeed, part of the reason of the KMP picket in front of the MAR is to press government to recognize peasant rights over the lands as private security guards, goons, and national security forces have harassed peasants in contested places.

In defending KMP's rejection of the draft charter, Tadeo said that the peasants "cannot wait for a new legislative body which (the peasants) expect to be dominated by the rich to draft a new land reform program for us (the peasants)," adding that the peasants "have taken steps and it is up to the government to recognize and protect them." Under the draft charter, a land reform law would have to be passed by a new Philippine Congress.

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CSO: 4200/354



PHILIPPINES

OFFICIALS REPORT CPP-NPA INFILTRATION OF MANILA

HK120855 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0742 GMT 12 Feb 87

[Text] High officials of the New Armed Forces of the Philippines revealed to Manila Acting Mayor Mel Lopez, Jr that the greater Manila area has already been infiltrated by the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] and the NPA. This was the report in the unity for peace dialogue meeting between Lopez and to military officials at the Manila City Hall this morning. The following points were discussed in this dialogue: The communist insurgency problem, the citizens' unity, and the national threat faced by the military and civilian authorities. The dialogue is part of the talks that high military officials are undertaking with civilian authorities since the termination of the cease-fire negotiations 2 days ago.

The military officials attending the meeting were Major General Salvador Mison, New Armed Forces vice chief of staff; Brigadier General Alexander Aguirre, Capitol Command commander; Brigadier General Alfredo Lim, Western Police District superintendent; Brigadier General Rudolfo Biazon, Philippine Military Academy superintendent; Colonel Emiliano Templo, National Capital Region Defense Command deputy commander; and Colonel Rogelio (Rogelio).

According to military analysts' figures, 6.7 million people in the nation are affected by the CPP-NPA and 4,496 of the total 41,818 barangays in the country are affected.

It was also revealed in the figures that the CPP-NPA's national urban commission comprising 1,750 members is concentrated in Manila. The communists are believed to have infiltrated Metro Manila among the 159 labor unions, 107 schools and universities, and 98 squatter areas. The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan [New People's Alliance] is believed to be used by the communists in their propaganda and infiltration operations. In relation to this [words indistinct] promised that his (?PC) administration [words indistinct] which the military is undertaking in order to solve the insurgency problem and to carry out the government's desire for a progressive, peaceful, and democratic nation.

/9604

CSO: 4211/26

PHILIPPINES

ILETO BLAMES COMMUNISTS FOR CIVILIAN DEATHS

HK131301 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1000 GMT 13 Feb 87

[Text] Defense Minister Ileta blames the National Democratic Front (NDF) for the deaths of civilians in the clashes between the military and the rebels after the failure of the peace talks. According to Ileta the NDF's failure to go back to the negotiating table makes them culpable for the present atrocities. Here are the details from Vilma Faustino:

[Begin recording in English] We now have these [word indistinct] on their conscience since they were the ones who turned away from the bargaining table, Ileta said. It is most regrettable but also inevitable that this will happen with the expected increase in armed confrontation. It has always been the tactic of the insurgents to hide behind the civilian population and to use innocent people as shields for their subversive activities, Minister Ileta stated. Ileta stressed that the most important thing in our minds is to protect the lives of our people and our normal democratic way of life. We have laid down appropriate measures to ensure that the usual economic activities of the nation will continue. Our commanders in the fields have the instructions to safeguard the industrial and business concerns which are vital to our economic recovery. We are organized to prevent any damage to the arteries of trade and commerce which the citizenry needs for its daily economic pursuits, the minister said. They usually try to hamper the daily routine of ordinary citizen as he goes about making a living to render him submissive to leftist propaganda, Ileta explained. Military field commanders are also under instructions, Ileta said, to provide food, shelter, and protection to civilians who have been injured. [end recording]

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CSO: 4211/26

PAPER CLAIMS GOVERNMENT, NDF BENEFITED FROM CEASE-FIRE

HK091531 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 9 Feb 87 p 6

["New Analysis" by Jun Lopez: "Both Government, NDF Gained from 60-day Cease-fire"]

[Text] The historic 60-day cease-fire period between Government and leftist rebels ended yesterday. While Government said it wanted to extend the preliminary truce so the disrupted negotiations could continue, the rebel movement said it could not continue with the talks unless certain premises were changed.

Now, the 18-year fratricidal war that has cost thousands of lives and millions of pesos will soon resume, especially in areas where the military considers the rebel movement as "recidivists." And in the middle are millions of Filipinos who will have to bear the brunt of renewed hostilities between the 250,000-strong New Armed Forces of the Philippines [NAFP] and the New People's Army [NPA].

For some Filipinos, however, the guns were never really stilled, despite the fact that both parties had declared several times the truce "was holding" nationwide until it lapsed at noon yesterday.

Bishop Antonio Y. Fortich, chairman of the National Cease-fire Committee [NCC] that monitored the conduct of the truce, admitted that skirmishes were reported but assessed the entire period as "successful."

"There were fewer killings," Fortich said in an interview after their last meeting Thursday.

However, military dispatches were filled with reports of possible cease-fire violations, ranging from "illegal taxation" to ambushes, attacks on military posts, "salvagings," and the bombing of bridges. All of these were blamed on the rebel forces who, in turn, denied committing such acts.

The National Democratic Front reported "serious violations" of the cease-fire accord by the military Armed Forces Chief Gen. Fidel V. Ramos was blamed for issuing prematurely to the soldiers cease-fire guidelines which the NDF said was "grossly distorted."

Ramos had also ordered government troopers in the field to go after NPA rebels for alleged illegal possession of firearms and alleged illegal taxation.

Such an order, the NDF said, was based on the Ramos guidelines which considered possession of firearms and "progressive taxation" hostile acts.

An effective cessation of so-called hostile acts and armed operations did not take effect in several regions of the country considered "hotbeds of insurgency."

Three days before the truce ended, the Northern Luzon [NI] command of the NDF said that civilians in more than 320 barrios had to flee home and farm due to harassment, extortion, searches, arrests and other alleged abuses by the military. It listed 37 warlord armies as having been allowed to roam freely, terrorizing residents. More than 90 members of the NDF-NL were victimized in these military operations, the command said.

On Jan 21, the NDF-NL reported, four NPA members were killed, four were wounded and arms were seized in a military attack launched by Government troopers in Kalinga-Apayao.

The military blamed the NPA for the ambush of soldiers in Bataan.

In Cebu, the NDF accused the military of taking advantage of the cease-fire period to step up surveillance operations, which led to the ambush by the military of NDF forces in Talisay. Two NDF escorts were killed and another soldier was slain in that incident.

Meanwhile, military reports of possible cease-fire violations by the NDF -- which the NCC said should be directly submitted to it and not the media -- were proven, most of the time, to be false alarms.

Denials issued by the rebel movement against numerous military reports of killings, ambushes, and attacks were not given equal prominence in the media, the NDF said.

Such military moves, the NDF said, raise doubts about the sincerity of the negotiating parties in efforts to attain a political settlement to end the 18-year-old insurgency.

These moves also cast doubts on the ability of President Aquino, being the AFP commander-in-chief, to discipline her forces and assert her political will the rebels said.

These questions forced the NDF to pull out of the talks "temporarily," and to reject an immediate extension of the cease-fire.

Satur Ocampo, Antonio Zumel, and Carolina Malay who signed a statement on behalf of detained rebel chief Rodolfo Salas, said they could not return to the negotiating table "under a situation where the Commander-in-chief herself tolerates and coddles a military with a deeply-ingrained fascist orientation, which has brazenly flouted the peace process and whose intensifying factionalism is becoming more difficult to control."

Both panels tried to establish mutual trust and confidence when they signed the preliminary cease-fire agreement on Nov. 27, 1986 at the Club Filipino.

But these were not really established during the period.

"The initial peace negotiations have failed and responsibility for the failure rests on the government side," the NDF said.

Who gained therefore, from the initial negotiations?

Both the revolutionary movement and the Government took advantage of the cease-fire period.

The military took the chance to identify rebel leaders who came out in the open despite the risks involved. Military informers, agents, and so-called deep-penetration agents freely mingled with the crowd during mass meetings, press conferences and other gatherings where rebel leaders held talks with the people.

Before, the military dossiers had only sketches of some ranking rebel leaders in several regions. They did not even have the picture of salas before his arrest.

The military also took advantage of the period to conduct surveillance operations against escorts of the NDF, its staff and other members of the team.

The NDF, on the other hand, was able to prove to the people and the government that it is not a mere shadow group, but an organization with concrete programs of government, existing in several consolidated barrios in the country.

It was able to ventilate before Government its own solutions to the existing programs.

These socio-economic and political programs, already, in place in many guerilla fronts, have been shown to improve people's lives, the NDF said.

In contrast, the Government programs -- as described by members of the Government peace panel secretariat who resigned from their posts -- were mere "statements of intent."

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CSO: 4200/372

CACHO-OLIVARES QUERIES NDF ANTICHARTER CHARGES

HK091424 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 9 Feb 87 pp 4-5

["My Cup of Tea" column by Ninex Cacho-Olivares: "Standoff?"]

[Text] The National Democratic Front [NDF] in an "open letter to the Filipino people," tried to publicly explain the reason for its decision not to return to the negotiating table or extend the cease-fire agreement after the 60-day period.

Ocampo, Zumel, and Salas said that they had agreed to peace talks on the understanding that the Aquino government was serious in resolving the 18-year-old armed and political conflict. "by addressing the unjust socio-economic and political structures causing widespread poverty and oppression of our people," adding that based on that assumption, the NDF set forth an agenda covering the basic causes of the armed conflict and acceded to a preliminary cease-fire agreement containing many concessions, to establish good faith and willingness to trust the Government. The NDF negotiators claimed as well that the Aquino government failed to respond with equal good faith and simply went through the motions of negotiating but showed no interest in reciprocating the NDF concessions. What Government put forth instead, as stated by the NDF, was a set of proposals for "amnesty and rehabilitation" and Government insistence on limiting the talks to the framework of the 1986 Constitution, described by the NDF as "a document that essentially preserves the interests of U.S. imperialism and the traditional elite against the rising struggle of the Filipino people to win full democracy and genuine independence." This, according to the NDF letter, "amounts to a demand for the NDF to surrender to the political will of the Government and for the underground to abandon its revolutionary principles and the people's just struggle."

The NDF blasted away at the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] saying that it reneged on its commitment under the agreement to discipline abusive CHDFS and disarm, arrest and prosecute private armies, goons, fanatical sects, and lost commands. The NDF stated quite forcefully that it cannot return to the negotiating table on the basis of a ratified Constitution, or under the condition where Government lures the NPA to exchange their arms for a piece of land, a possible job and other "come-ons," or under a situation where the President and commander-in-chief "tolerates and coddles the military with a deeply ingrained fascist orientation,

which has brazenly flouted the peace process." But the NDF will return to the negotiating table if the Aquino government shall have demonstrated its capacity and determination to: 1. 2. 3. 4.

- a) Pursue programs that would attack society's problems at the roots;
- b) Assert civilian supremacy over the AFP, reforming and reorienting it;
- c) Give due recognition to the NDF as a political entity with legitimate cause; and
- d) Work for a genuine settlement of the armed conflict.

From media reports, the Government negotiators have asked the NDF panel to return to the negotiating table and true to form, the military lashed back and vowed to "hit them (the rebels) hard," as though by hitting them hard the insurgency problem would go away. The Government negotiators, on the other hand, try to project the image that they have been bending over backwards to convince the rebels to return to table discussions.

Quite frankly, even if the Government and rebel negotiators go through another cease-fire agreement, I feel that nothing much will be resolved, not if the same positions are taken by both sides. The problem of insurgency cannot be solved by offering amnesty to the rebels. Nor can it be solved by giving the nation the impression that the new Constitution is the end-all and be all, that the charter is the key to stability, that the charter will address the problem of peasant unrest. The impression I get from the government negotiators is that they are more concerned about positively projecting themselves and their image than discussing and resolving gut issues that affect Filipinos and society. On the other hand, I get the impression that the NDF is being much too unrealistic and stubborn in its condition to return to the negotiating table. The NDF claims it wants Government to recognize it as political entity with a legitimate cause and a program supported by a "considerable section of the population," but it refuses to "compromise (its) principled position by submitting to the framework of the new Constitution." What then does the underground want? To have the best of both worlds? The NDF says it has a program supported by a "considerable section of the population" and that its "principled position" will be compromised if it submits to the framework of the new Constitution. But a considerable section of the population, the registered electorate, including those in NPA strongholds, supported the ratification of the new Constitution, and not the program of the underground. What principled position will then be compromised?

The NDF says its armed struggle is being waged for the people and that the people are dissatisfied with the Constitution. But what is its basis for this conclusion? What evidence can it offer to prove its claims that the people are dissatisfied with the Constitution? Haven't the people, through their electorate, proved, in a clean, honest, and fairly orderly plebiscite that they are for the new Constitution? Personally, I dislike a great many provisions in the new Constitution. I think it is a Constitution

that protects the status quo, that preserves the interests of the traditional elite and, yes, even protects and preserves the interests of non-Filipinos. I would have wanted the government to have remained impartial in the issue of ratification or rejection and I would have wanted to have seen the government information network work effectively to disseminate non-partisan information on the provisions of the constitution.

But if we believe in a democracy, if we respect the will of the people, then we must all bow to that will and accept the fact that once again, the Filipinos opted for such a fundamental law to guide them and their destiny. But what we can do perhaps, in a damage control situation is to work for the abrogation of constitutional provisions that are anti-poor and anti-Filipino.

Armed struggle and a civil war will not serve true "democratic interests." And the underground knows this.

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CSO: 4200/372



# AQUINO HOME REGION FOUND TO BE SEAT OF REBEL AFP

Quezon City VERITAS in English 5-11 Feb 87 p 23

[Article by Riza A. Moises: "Inside a Rebel Lair"]

[Text]

CENTRAL Luzon, the home region of President Corazon Aquino, ironically seems to be the seat of rebel soldiers, too.

In the last two attempts by "misguided elements" in the military to destabilize the government - the July 6 Manila Hotel incident and the recent attack on media facilities and several key military installations - a number of the participating soldiers were from the region.

In fact, the rebels' leaders were not only assigned at one time in Camp Olivas, base of the 3rd regional command in San Fernando, Pampanga, but actually have their roots in Central Luzon.

Air Force Col. Oscar S. Canlas is from Sto. Tomas, Pampanga, Lt. Col. Reynaldo Cabauatan is from Malolos, Bulacan, Maj. Manuel Divina is from Cuyapo, Nueva Ecija and Maj. Antonio Baquiran is from Tarlac, Tarlac.

Some 300 soldiers from the region joined in the Manila Hotel incident while about 80 participated in the latest "unauthorized military exercise." There were also some 100 soldiers from Fort Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija, who were believed to be on their way to Manila to reinforce the rebel group when intercepted along the North Expressway.

Aside from these two major incidents, there had been instances where some soldiers assigned in the area had been heard or seen openly declaring their "non-support for the Aquino government."

In the first public appearance of President Aquino in Nueva Ecija, for example, soldiers who provided security for the President at the Wesleyan University Gymnasium in Cabanatuan City were spotted waving the victory sign associated with former President Marcos, just minutes after Mrs. Aquino left.

There are also reports that a *Samahang Ilocano* exists in the region and is strongest in Basa Air Base and Camp Olivas, both in Pampanga and in Camp Aquino in Tarlac.

This group, according to a ranking local official in Pampanga, is believed to be behind the mysterious disappearance and tearing down of the streamers and posters exhorting ratification of the Constitution.

The ranking official said the presence of a majority of Ilocano soldiers assigned in the area could be one of the reasons why soldiers in Region 3 are usually involved in such "destabilizing activities."

The deposed President, Ferdinand E. Marcos, is a native of Ilocos Norte.

A military officer who requested not to be identified estimates that about 80 per cent of the military officers and men in the region are Ilocanos.

It will be recalled that one of the very first things the deposed President did after declaring Martial Law was to ensure that he had the military on his side. After abolishing the Commission on Appointments, Marcos appointed and promoted mostly Ilocano soldiers to the military establishment.

**M**ILITARY officers recall that during those days even the non-Ilocanos learned the language. The Pangangos were the most ostracized, primarily because of the deposed president's political rival, the late Senator Benigno S. Aquino, who was a Pangango from Tarlac.

It is also believed that since Central Luzon was considered as the late senator's bailiwick, Commanders assigned in the region were always those "known to be closest to Malacanang," the military officer said.

Jose Diaz, Romeo Gatan, Vicente Eduardo, and Bienvenido Felix, all brigadier generals now retired, are all known to be "Malacanang Boys," he said.

The only exception to this rule was the appointment of Brig. Gen. Jose P. Magno, now Presidential Adviser for military affairs, as Regional Unified Command 3 chief in 1984.

Considered as a professional soldier, Magno's appointment was lauded by all sectors in the region.

He was, however, relieved in December 1985 and was assigned to Mindanao, barely a month before the "snap" presidential elections.

He was replaced by now retired Brig. Gen. Isidoro de Guzman, a Pangasinense, and a close aide of the region's then political warlord, Ambassador-at-large, Eduardo Cojuangco, Jr. Gen. de Guzman served, on concurrent capacity, as chief of the RUC and RECOM 3.

Many of the soldiers still assigned in the region, the officer said, worked at one time under the supervision of these generals and may have acquired a "debt of gratitude" to these officials." Thus, their loyalty despite the officers' retirement.

Brig. Gen. Eugenio Ocampo, chief of the Regional Command 3, however, does not agree that Central Luzon is the seat of rebel soldiers, citing that out of his 8,000 men only 39 participated in the latest coup.

The rest of the soldiers were from the RUC, but also in Central Luzon.

He attributes the involvement of soldiers from the region in the two military coup attempts to several factors.

The Command's proximity to Manila, he said, could be one of the reasons. Recruitment is easy, and the soldiers can easily pretend "that they are just performing their duties when, in fact, they are ready to go and join the rebel activities."

NDF'S CORDILLERA GROUP LEADER DISCUSSES ISSUES

Quezon City NATIONAL MIDWEEK in English 11 Feb 87 pp 3-5, 45-47

[Interview by Bobby Tuazon with William "Bill" Bileg, Cordillera People's Democratic Front chairman, held during the 17-18 Jan 87 OPDF Congress in Sagada, Mountain Province: "The CPDF Speaks"]

[Text]

**A**FTER 15 years with the revolutionary movement, William "Bill" Bileg is today the chairman of the Cordillera People's Democratic Front (CPDF), a member-organization of the National Democratic Front or NDF. Bileg, 40, and a member of the Bontoc tribe, is perhaps the most-wanted revolutionary cadre in the Cordilleras.

Bileg joined the New People's Army in 1971 after finishing college at the University of the Philippines in Los Baños. He recalls joining the revolutionary movement by accident. Bileg met Amado Guerrero, then chairman of the underground Communist Party of the Philippines, through a cousin who was Guerrero's driver. Guerrero asked him whether he wanted to continue studying, which he thought meant a college course. It turned out to be a discussion of Guerrero's book, Philippine Society and Revolution. There was no turning back for Bileg after that meeting.

The CPDF held its first political congress on January 17-18 in Sagada, Mt. Province, some 350 kms. north of Manila. The congress was attended by 3,000 delegates from CPDF chapters in the five provinces of the Cordillera. Five thousand people including observers from Baguio, Manila and foreign countries as well as local and foreign media-men, were also there.

It was during the congress, where Bileg made a brief appearance, that he agreed to be interviewed by three Manila journalists, including Philippine News and Features' Bobby Tuazon.

**Is the CPDF in favor of extending the 60-day ceasefire between government and the National Democratic Front?**

The CPDF has still no definite position on the possible extension of the ceasefire. But it is open to continuing the dialogue with the Aquino government to firm up any political settlement.

**Does the CPDF have preconditions for the possibility of continuing dialogue with government?**

The preconditions are already embodied in the CPDF program itself. As much as possible, if the government is agreeable to the CPDF program, that would be the best. But any adjustments (with regard to the preconditions) should not be detrimental to the revolutionary movement or advantageous only to the government.

**In the current regional ceasefire talks, how is the CPDF represented?**

The NDF national negotiating panel speaks for all the Front's member-organizations, including the CPDF. But under such an arrangement, the CPDF seems to be on the losing end because government has been conducting its own talks with different groups in the Cordillera even if these have only a few members.

We are considering the possibility of asking the NDF panel to give the CPDF relative autonomy in a dialogue with government. For one thing, government cannot deal with the Cordillera issues in its current talks with the NDF.

**Does that mean the CPDF will solely present the demands of the Cordillera people in case of talks with government?**

The CPDF will still coordinate with the NDF national negotiating panel. The CPDF will only stress particularly local issues as it is in a better position to do so, based as it is in the Cordillera.

We can, for instance, expound further on the demand for genuine regional autonomy. We

don't want current top-level talks to overlook the Cordillera problem or to treat it as ordinary.

**Is your desire to hold separate talks with government in a way related to your strong criticisms that government is dealing with another group (the Balweg-led Cordillera People's Liberation Army) which you say has no basis for claiming it represents the Cordillera people?**

It is related. Actually one purpose of the first political congress of the CPDF is to show to the people and especially the Aquino government that there is a significant revolutionary force in the Cordillera which can speak for the region's indigenous peoples better than that group (CPLA). We want to expose the government's bad faith in dealing with that group which, despite its flimsy force, the government wants to build up as representing the Cordillera people saying that it is a big, significant revolutionary organization. They want to project the kind of ceasefire which should serve as a model.

But the kind of ceasefire achieved has turned out to be a virtual political surrender (of the Balweg group). Reports show that the CPLA has its own "political officer" in the person of Agapito "Butz" Aquino (brother-in-law of President Corazon Aquino). In recent talks between the government and the CPLA, it was Butz himself who expounded on the demands of the CPLA.

These demands include transforming the CPLA into a "peace-keeping force" or a Cordillera constabulary. Actually Conrado Balweg had earlier said that a force of 500 is sufficient to police the entire Cordillera. Sec-

ondly, what Balweg has been stressing is that the sole demand of the Cordillera peoples is their recognition as a national minority. But they cannot even expound on this. Their only clear demand is that they be named as the "peace-keeping force" for the Cordillera.

Balweg's group seems to be confused on what it wants. First it wanted a Cordillera republic. Later this was changed to an autonomous government, then a federal state, which was later changed to an administrative government.

**Are you giving the government a time frame within which to dialogue with the CPDF?**

Not necessarily. This is not even a condition for extending the ceasefire. But a dialogue can take place even if the war continues.

**Is the CPDF open to continuing regional talks if the national peace negotiations fail, as stated by the government panel?**

That option is under study. Although I can personally say that that option is disadvantageous to the entire revolutionary movement. From the military point of view, that's a losing proposition. For instance, if regional peace talks succeed in let's say three or more regions, the Philippine military can concentrate its full force in regions where peace talks have failed.

Thus it is correct to say that peace talks should be at the national level.

**Are you directly seeking a dialogue with the Aquino government?**

Since the ascendancy of President Aquino, we've been trying that. The fact is, broad people's organizations which have sought dialogues with government in different forms are not being listened to anyway. Why should the CPDF, which under the government is illegal, seek the same?

**What is the basis for the formation of a CPDF guerrilla force?**

In principle, there is only one revolutionary army in the country. The CPDF is setting up its own armed force as a guerrilla people's militia.

While the New People's Army remains our national regular army, the CPDF guerrilla force serves as a self-defense corps to answer military needs internal to the communities in the Cordillera. Both the NPA and CPDF are coordinating their activities in the Cordillera.

The CPDF self-defense corps is geared to area defense, while the NPA can operate even beyond areas where the militiamen are operating, especially in places where we're still weak militarily.

**Are non-Cordillera indigenous individuals excluded from the CPDF guerrilla force?**

No. In fact, in the CPDF flag, the eighth spear represents non-minority peoples residing in the Cordillera. Any resident of the Cordillera who wants to become part of the minority can be granted that status.

Here in Sagada alone, there are many people of Ilocano parentage who prefer to call themselves minorities.

Is the CPDF guerrilla force composed mainly of indigenous peoples?

There are some non-indigenous members of the guerrilla force.

If the CPDF was first conceived in 1979, why is it only now being launched?

The first draft of the CPDF program was first issued in 1981. It served as a case study to particularize the general (national democratic) political line in the Cordillera. CPDF chapters were actually first set up in 1984. But as early as 1981 we had begun to organize people's militias in the villages.

The reason it took so long for us to launch the CPDF is we're more confident that now there is a broad indigenous revolutionary organization capable of leading the struggle for genuine regional autonomy and other aspirations of the Cordillera peoples.

Did Conrado Balweg participate in the conceptualization of the CPDF?

Balweg was part of it all the time. He took part in consultations to improve and revise the CPDF program.

There were reasons distinct from his involvement with the CPDF program which drove Balweg to bolt the revolutionary movement here.

Why did you launch the CPDF in Sagada?

One reason is the high level of political consciousness of the masses here for the revolution, although there were appeals from such places as central Bontoc (capital of Mt Province) to hold the Congress there. Maybe in the future we can hold the Congress in one of those areas.

What is the extent of the organization of the CPDF in the Cordillera?

The CPDF covers the provinces of Benguet, Ifugao, Mt Province, Kalinga-Apayao and Abra. The exact boundaries are still being settled, especially in relation to our declaration for regional autonomy. The issue, however, will be resolved on the basis of what is acceptable to the people, not only among the indigenous peoples but also our brother Filipinos in the Cordillera.

What's happening now is that many people in at least 14 towns of the Ilocos provinces are seeking autonomy, or that they, being minorities, be made part of the Cordillera region. Three municipal districts in interior Ilocos Norte are clearly occupied by national minorities. On the other hand, three out of seven municipalities of Apayao are inhabited mostly by non-minorities.

Did the split by the CPLA from the Cordillera revolutionary movement weaken the CPDF?

Initially, yes. For example, immediately after the split (in April 1986), military offensives by the NPA and CPDF guerrilla forces declined. This was because the leadership of the Communist Party of the Philippines and the NPA had to engage Balweg's group in a running debate on what was the correct political line for the Cordillera. This affected our other activities.

The internal struggle, however, did not lead to the dissolution or weakening of genuine revolutionary forces but instead resulted in making the comrades more determined in the revolutionary struggle.

In today's congress, the biggest delegation (of about 300) came from an area in Kalinga where Balweg claims the CPLA has its strongest mass base.

Is the rift between the CPDF and the CPLA irreconcilable?

Not necessarily. It's difficult to say now. What is happening, though, is that government, especially the military, is propping up the CPLA. The military has been in charge of CPLA needs such as transportation and logistics. There are checkpoints manned jointly by military and CPLA forces.

We've confirmed reports of recent fighting in Tubo, Abra between the NPA and military where CPLA forces reinforced the latter. The NPA avoided clashing with the CPLAs.

Last December 7 in Lacub, Abra, a battle resulted in the killing of 19 soldiers and wounding of 30 others. A few days before, some CPLA leaders went to talk with our district committee leaders. The CPLAs were asked by the people in the area to leave. After the meeting, the area was encircled by government troops. Our comrades had to fight their way out. Against the heavy casualties suffered by the military, we had one guerrilla killed and three wounded. That guerrilla who was killed, unfortunately, happened to be a CPLA "returnee."

These reports show a level of "cooperation" between the CPLA and government to the detriment of the CPDF. And you seem to be tolerating all this, why?

There are political considerations. What will happen if the NPA or CPDF guerrilla forces initiate offensives against the CPLA? This would complicate the rift. Such fighting might trigger a tribal war where a tribal community to which members of the CPLA belong may seek revenge against another community where members of either the NPA or CPDF reside. It is to the advantage of neither the NPA nor CPDF to enter into this kind of warfare.

Our policy with regard to the CPLA is political isolation. We explain to the people the real face and objectives of the CPLA. Secondly, we make

the CPLA aware that they shouldn't enter territories under our control or influence. If they insist, we have the right to resort to a military solution. In the first place, the CPLAs were able to organize a small "army" because of the weapons and logistics they seized from our Red fighters.

But our policy of political isolation has its other side. We hope to convince the CPLA rank-and-file to return to us. So far, 19 of the original 107 CPLA members (regular and guerrilla forces) have returned to the CPDF or NPA, including two who are here now at the congress.

What is the strength of the CPDF and NPA in the Cordillera?

In at least two provinces, the NPA can organize company-size formations with platoon formations in others. The CPDF militia forces can organize similar formations.

We have in fact increased our forces despite the split with CPLA. This has been attributed to carrying our correct political line expressed in the CPDF program. The CPDF program may not be perfect but it clearly answers the Cordillera people's problems and aspirations.

Is the CPDF aligned with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF)?

We do not have formal ties with MILF, although we're open to consultations.

Why is it that only the Cordillera peoples are represented in the NDF despite the existence of other indigenous peoples such as the Moros in Mindanao?

We've extended the invitation to the Moro revolutionary groups in Mindanao. There are also many Moro groups which adhere to our national democratic line. Some of these we organized ourselves.

What do you think now of the current ceasefire?

The ceasefire has reached a stand-off. It's possible that if both government and NDF, especially the latter, cannot handle it well, we would stand to lose. All the media resources are under control of government. There is even press censorship now. There has been an apparent move to restrict media coverage on the NDF.

/9317

CSO: 4200/354



LANAO DEL NORTE VILLAGE VOTES AGAINST MILITARY

Quezon City NATIONAL MIDWEEK in English 11 Feb 87 pp 36, 37

[Text] "No."

With 72 votes against nothing, residents of the sub-village of Miladoc, Maliwanag, Lanao del Norte, expressed their desire for the pull-out of the Philippine Army's 4th Infantry Battalion detachment from their community, in a referendum held at the public elementary school here and sanctioned by the Provincial Ceasefire Committee (PCC) headed by Bishop Fernando Capalla, according to Philippine News and Features (PNF).

As Philippine Constabulary (PC) Capt Benjamin Lascona and National Democratic Front (NDF) delegate Jugan Montes represented their respective sides in monitoring the early morning poll, Miladoc residents unanimously cast their ballots against "indiscriminate firing and drunkenness" by the Army soldiers as well as for their common hope that crop and animal losses and the burning of their homes would cease.

Miladoc had been the scene of a New People's Army (NPA) ambush of army troops who had penetrated the NPA encampment last October 30. The military, claiming "accidental" entry into the NPA camp in pursuit of an armed Maranao band, retaliated with three days of bombing from October 31 to November 2, and since then, had been maintaining its detachment at Miladoc. Governor-designate Francisco Abalos said that at the peak of the military operation, the biggest to date in the province, some 600 provincial residents had evacuated.

The referendum results will be endorsed to President Corazon Aquino and to the National Ceasefire Committee (NCC) for final decision, PNF reported.

/9317

CSO: 4200/354

PHILIPPINES

TRADE SECRETARY SAYS OIL PRICES MAY GO UP

HK171249 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1000 GMT 17 Feb 87

[Text] Trade and Industry Secretary Jose Concepcion Jr explained that owing to the continued increase in oil prices as well as those of other commodities, it was possible that the government would be forced to raise the prices of oil commodities. However, he assured that the government was making a study of the issue under Energy Secretary Ting Paterno. According to Concepcion, the government was studying ways to avoid increasing oil prices and other alternative measures that may be undertaken.

[Begin Concepcion recording in English] There is nothing definite, but if you look at the prices going up, it is definite that there are price increases that we have to absorb. How we are going to absorb is another thing that is being studied. We cannot ascertain when we will have price increases and so forth. We need to await the studies being undertaken. The study will be submitted to the committee concerned. [end recording]

At the same time, Concepcion added that prospects for the economy were bright. According to him, local and foreign businessmen admitted that industry in the Philippines has good prospects following the widespread support for the constitution.

[Begin Concepcion recording] We can see, in the economic activities going on, increases in exports. The garments quota alone could bring in \$200 million, and all this would utilize textile materials. No, we can already see the economic promise. In fact, the number of companies registering with the Board of Investment increased by 32 percent over 1985. [end recording]

/9604

CSO: 4211/26

FOREIGN INVESTORS THREATEN TO PULL OUT OF BEPZ

HK070803 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 7 Feb 87 p 7

[By Staffmember Arleen Chipongian]

[Text] Foreign investors are threatening to pull out of the Bataan Export Processing Zone [BEPZ] as a result of the continued labor problems within the zone, according to Export Processing Zone Authority (EPZA) Administrator Jaime Guerrero.

Guerrero said one of the wholly-owned foreign enterprises which he expressed an intention to close down is the Bataan International Garments Inc., one of the bigger firms within the zone, owned by German businessmen.

He added that the Export Processing Zone Chamber of Manufacturers, Inc. (EPZCM) has reported that a "significant" number of zone enterprises in Bataan, both wholly-owned by foreigners or joint ventures between local and foreign investors, are planning to transfer their operations to export processing zones in Taiwan and other neighboring Asian countries.

Operations of the BEPZ firms were disrupted last week when labor groups, together with other cause-oriented groups; staged a five-day barricade.

Of the 18,000 employed by the 32 BEPZ firms, only 6,300 or 30 percent reported for work during the five day barricade.

This resulted in the loss of some \$10 million in potential export earnings of zone firms, according to EPZA Acting Deputy Administrator Eugenio Vigo.

The barricade, held last January 27 to 31, started out as an indignation rally following the Mendiola massacre. Later, it became a protest rally against the unfair labor practices allegedly committed by zone employers.

Guerrero said the violence which marred the barricade and resulted in the death of two persons aggravated the plan of foreign investors to shut down their BEPZ operations.

The Government appealed to the labor unions to stop further disruption of operations as jobs of some 18,000 workers were at stake.

Guerrero claimed labor problems in the zone are mostly due to inter-union disputes. He added that demands of labor unions, particularly the National Federation of Labor Unions and the Trade Union of the Philippines and Allied Services, both affiliates of the Kilusang Mayo Uno, were mostly not related to labor management problems.

For example, the EPZA head said that these labor groups' demands involved what they alleged were unfulfilled promises made by President Aquino during her Labor Day speech last year.

Guerrero, however, said that these demands have already been met with the issuance of Executive Order No. 111 which, among others, relaxed existing strike rules.

BEPZ last year already posted an eight percent decline in employment to 16,540 from 18,068 employed in 1985.

Among the three zones located in Bataan, Mactan and Baguio, BEPZ is the sole zone which registered a decline in its export receipts by three percent to \$57.6 million from \$59.306 million in 1985.

Baguio's export earnings stood at \$143.156 or a 57 percent increase over the 1985 level of \$91.02 million. The Mactan zone generated sales of \$76.922 million, indicating a 40 percent increase from the \$54.864 million made in 1985.

The over-all export sales from the zones amounted to \$277.678 million last year, up by 35 percent or \$72.488 million over the 1985 total of \$205.29 million.

/12624

CSO: 4200/372

BUSINESSMEN OPTIMISTIC ON ECONOMIC PROSPECTS

HK051317 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1000 GMT 5 Feb 87

[text] Local businessmen believe that the local economy will fare well this year. A group of local businessmen made this announcement in a meeting with President Aquino at Malacanang. Again, Ben Hermida with the report:

[Begin recording, in English] President Aquino was informed by industry leaders headed by Raul Concepcion and Jaime Zobel de Ayala that the prospects for recovery this year would be very strong, and that sales will be increased from 15 to 30 percent over the 1986 level. The surge in sales experienced last December which brought a strong finish to 1986 has continued up to January, far exceeding expectations of businessmen. This was learned from buy Filipino movement chairman Concepcion. He said it was indicative of the consumers' views that the worst is over for the economy. Their view was made during the businessmen group's meeting with the president in Malacanang on the launching of the buy Filipino movement.

The movement has been organized by a nucleus of industrialists led by Concepcion and Jaime Zobel de Ayala to generate nationwide support and patronage for locally manufactured products.

In her conversation with the group, the president stressed that she would like to meet them every 2 or 3 months to get a briefing of the progress of the movement as well as their views on the economy.

/12624

CSO: 4211/27

CENTRAL BANK LOANS UP 31 PERCENT

HK091441 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 9 Feb 87 p 9

["Economic Indicator" column: "CB Lendings Up 31 Percent as of Nov"]

[Text] The central Bank's [CB] loans to the government, banks and non-banks with quasi-banking functions from January to November last year totaled P130,524.4 million, up 30.91 percent from P99,705 million in the corresponding 1985 period, according to CB date.

Commercial banks, thrift banks, rural banks and specialized government banks accounted for P94,472.8 million in the previous year's period.

In October, when the loans extended to banks peaked at P12,276.6 million, seven commercial banks, 12 thrift banks and eight non-bank financial institutions received emergency assistance from CB totaling P3,862.2 million. Four commercial banks, five thrift banks and two non-banks recorded outstanding overdrafts totaling P9,908.3 million.

Borrowings of the national government and the local and semi-government entities from the CB increased 14.94 percent to P35,650.8 million for the January-November period from P31,015.4 million in the corresponding months in 1985.

Loans Made by The Central Bank, By Institution  
January to November 1985 & 1986  
(In million pesos)

<u>1986</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>	<u>Gov't</u>	<u>Banks</u>	<u>Non-bank w/ Quasi-banking Functions</u>
January	8,682.7	3,045.1	5,696.1	1.5
February	25,698.2	6,015.2	19,622.4	60.6
March	20,733.2	12,880.5	7,892.3	60.4
April	6,524.4	2,413.0	4,062.3	49.2
May	12,364.9	858.6	11,500.6	45.7
June	10,135.8	4,305.7	5,829.8	0.3
July	11,312.4	331.7	10,849.4	131.3
August	8,603.7	991.6	7,612.1	138.5
September	5,554.7	1,312.7	4,228.3	13.7
October	14,014.8	1,728.8	12,276.6	19.4
November	6,859.6	1,767.9	4,962.9	128.8
December				
<u>1985</u>				
January	7,498.7	1,038.1	6,423.9	36.7
February	7,356.7	948.0	6,351.1	21.6
March	7,052.4	207.0	6,830.8	14.6
April	14,492.8	11,541.6	2,917.9	33.3
May	8,399.9	1,218.2	7,173.9	7.8
June	6,729.7	3,620.0	3,108.2	1.5
July	4,922.0	589.4	4,328.4	4.2
August	16,035.0	2,531.6	13,496.0	7.4
September	9,660.6	4,119.0	5,540.2	1.4
October	8,292.4	3,109.9	5,177.6	4.9
November	9,264.8	2,056.6	7,204.8	3.4
December	12,569.6	4,690.9	7,874.4	4.3

Source: Central Bank

/12624  
CSO: 4200/372

BUSINESS DAY REPORTS COPRA PRICES SOARING

HK061329 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 5 Feb 87 p 2

[By reporter Michael D. Marasigan]

[Text] Coconut farmers, estimated at 15 million, are having a heyday as prices of copra continue to increase to as much as P6 per kilo in major buying centers in various parts of the country.

Latest reports compiled by the United Coconut Association of the Philippines (UCAP) indicate that as of last week copra in Manila was extremely active and firm with prices ranging from P510 to P600 per 100 kilos. This was about P25 to P95 higher than the previous week's prices of P485 to P505 per 100 kilos.

Provincial millers also reported higher prices at P460 to P590 per 100 kilos at millsites and P470 to P480 per 100 kilos at buying stations.

Detailed reports show that millers paid from P530 to P590 per 100 kilos in Southern Tagalog and P500 to P530 per 100 kilos in Bicol, the Visayas and Mindanao. International Coconut Oil Mills (Interco), one of the country's largest buyers of copra, quoted prices between P470 to P500 per 100 kilos.

BUSINESS DAY sources in the industry said the continued rise in prices could be attributed to the 11 percent decrease in coconut output forecast by the UCAP for this year and the attractiveness of the export market following the lifting of the copra export ban last year.

The UCAP has projected that total coconut production this year will decrease to 2.363 million metric tons (in copra terms) from last year's 2.656 million metric tons, noting a five-year coconut production cycle which indicates that production tend to drop after two successive years of good harvest as experienced in 1985 and 1986.

The projects decline in production is expected to pull down the export volume by 15.3 percent to 1.992 million metric tons from 2.353 million metric tons last year. Last year's export volume surpassed the previous record of 2.338 million metric tons exported in 1986.

The PHILIPPINES NEWS AGENCY yesterday reported that a top PCA [expansion not given] official described the UCAP's projection as baseless. The official, who declined to be identified, was quoted as saying "there seems to be no scientific basis for the forecast coconut production shortfall this year."



He said this year's coconut production may equal if not exceed slightly the 1986 level because there was good rainfall last year and other weather conditions have been favorable.

"Unless strong typhoons or pests and diseases hit the country's major coconut areas this year, we don't expect any drop in the coconut production," the official said.

Records of the UCAP indicate that deliveries to Manila millers over the last two weeks have been much lower than in the corresponding period last year.

Daily deliveries to Manila millers two weeks ago averaged 415 metric tons, down 47.9 percent from a year-ago average of 795 metric tons. Last week daily deliveries to Manila increased, averaging 609 metric tons but still 19.8 percent lower than the 760 metric tons daily average during the corresponding period last year.

Export figures monitored by the UCAP also reflected increasing volumes, with total applications as of Jan 29 the reaching 7,820 MT metric tons valued at \$1.73 million. [sentence as published] The previous week, UCAP recorded export applications for 5,800 metric tons worth \$1.19 million.

/12624

CSO: 4200/372

UNION LAUNCHES DRIVE AGAINST COLA PRODUCERS

HK111255 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 10 Feb 87 p 12

[Text] Bacolod City--A labor union in the sugar industry Friday started a campaign against two international soft drinks manufacturers which it blames for "helping bring about the worldwide sugar crisis by shifting to alternative sweeteners."

The National Federation of Sugar Workers [NFSW] Food and General trade said the campaign is intended to remind the makers of Coca-Cola and Pepsi-Cola of their "social responsibility towards thousands of workers in the sugar industry affected by their shift to non-sugar sweeteners since 1984."

Serge Chernigun, NFSW secretary general, said the campaign may be escalated into a boycott of the two cola drinks in March "if there is no positive response" from the management of these two multinationals.

The labor union claimed that the two companies are the leading users of sweeteners in the United States. By stopping the use of cane sugar and shifting to high fructose corn syrup, it said the makers of Coca-Cola and Pepsi-Cola caused "an abrupt decline in the demand" from sugar-producing countries including the Philippines.

In a statement Friday, Gerundio Dago-ob, deputy NFSW secretary general, called attention to the fact that U.S. sugar imports were reduced to 2.2 million metric tons (MT) from 4.6 million MT in 1984. This, he claimed, displaced thousands of sugar workers not only in the Philippines but also in other sugar-producing countries. One of the worst hit is Negros, an area highly dependent on sugar, he added.

The NFSW statement said it has no objection to the use of alternative sweeteners "so long as the two companies make social considerations to help the people affected and recognize the need for them to be involved in the rehabilitation of sugar workers."

Meanwhile, the plant managers of both Pepsi-Cola and Coca-Cola in this city, however, denied that they are using sweeteners other than sugar. Valentin Bermejo of Pepsi-Cola and Aquiles Ballesteros of Coca-Cola said their plants still use cane sugar.

## PHILIPPINES

### BRIEFS

FORMER REBELS AID COUNTERINSURGENCY--More than 50 former rebels of Nueva Ecija are presently helping the government in its campaign against the insurgency. The group is headed by former commander Willy Lucero Jr alias (?Sultan). When they were still rebels, their group was operating in Nueva Ecija, Eastern Pangasinan, and Aurora. According to Nueva Ecija officials, the group is now holding meetings on the counterinsurgency program. [Name indistinct] said the purpose of his group is to form a counterinsurgency core group that can prevent NPA infiltrations in remote areas. [Text] [Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0900 GMT 17 Feb 87] /9604

RAMOS CLAIMS MILITARY 'MORE UNITED'--Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fidel Ramos said that the military today is more united than ever before. He also said that the media was able to give coverage to expressions by some military elements for reforms in the institution. At the Talakayan sa Makati "makati forum" Ramos said that a handful of military men are not capable of staging a coup. [Text] [Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0700 GMT 20 Feb 87] /9604

KBL CRITICIZES COMELEC APPROVAL OF PNB--The KBL has criticized the Comelec's [Commission on Elections] decision to give authorization to Partido ng Bayan [PNB--People's Party]. Former Batasan speaker Nicanor Yniguez, acting KBL president, said the Comelec's approval of the PNB as a political party is a violation of the Anti-Subversion Act or Republic Act 1700. He stressed that the PNB is a communist front because its principal organizers are communists. In connection with this, Yniguez warned that the NPA will make use of the PNB to scare the voters and other candidates during the elections. [Text] [Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0900 GMT 13 Feb 87] /9604

REGIONAL NDF CONSIDERS PEACE TALKS--In Lucena City Spokesman for the National Democratic Front (NDF) Gregorio Rosal, alias Ka [comrade] Roger, in southern Tagalog expressed the possibility of renewed peace negotiations between the NDF and the government in the said region. In an interview with radio station DZLC, Ka Roger said the NDF of southern Tagalog is not yet prepared to resume talks with the government due to present military operations. He said, however, that the communication lines of the NDF are open for the possibility of talks if its requests are considered by the government. Some of their requests are: A new land reform program and control of military forces. [Text] [Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0900 GMT 13 Feb 87] /9604

SABAH REVIEWED FOR ASEAN SUMMIT--The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has taken steps to find a workable solution to the nagging Sabah issue before the summit meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in December. The Philippines, in line with the understanding that the summit hosting be in alphabetical order among the six Asean countries, will host the December summit. The ASEAN members are Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Brunei. The Sabah problem has been a strain in Philippine-Malaysian relations. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 11 Nov 87 HK] /12624

UUSR, PRC CONGRATULATIONS--Manila, 10 Feb (AFP)--China and the Soviet Union have sent congratulatory messages to the Philippine Foreign Ministry on the conduct of last week's constitutional plebiscite, the official PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY (PNA) said Tuesday. The two communist giants said the charter's ratification was an expression of the people's approval of the policies of President Corazon Aquino and her popularity, PNA quoted Vice President and Foreign Minister Salvador Laurel as saying. Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev conveyed his country's congratulatory message to Alejandro Melchor, Manila's ambassador to Moscow, telling him the victory was "due to her (Mrs. Aquino's) policies and her popularity," PNA said. Philippine Ambassador to China Alfonso Yuchengco quoted the Chinese Foreign Ministry as saying "the adoption of the new constitution led by President Aquino has won the trust and then support of the people." [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 1351 GMT 10 Feb 87 HK] /12624

DOMESTIC SUGAR ALLOCATION INCREASED--Bacolod City--The Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) has raised the allocation for domestic sugar from the 1986-87 crop to 54 percent of production from the previous 50 percent and reduced the allotment for the world market from 19 percent to 15 percent. The changes are provided for in Sugar Order No. 1-B, which took effect yesterday, following a clamor of sugar producers who protested against the previous classification scheme under Sugar Order No. 1 issued in July and amended in October. The allocations for the U.S. market and for reserves remain at 11 percent and 20 percent, respectively. Late last year a group of sugar farmers asked for a reclassification of sugar, particularly the 1986-87 crop, to provide for only the domestic and U.S. markets on the ground that the expected output of 1.3 million tons would not even suffice for these markets. An upsurge in sugar prices has been noted among producers all over the country, with sugar intended for the U.S. fetching P470 to P500 per picul and domestic sugar selling at P320, sources in the SRA said Friday. [Text] [Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 9 Feb 87 p 3 HK] /12624

CPP, NPA 'BADLY FRAGMENTED'--Inside the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] and the New People's Army, a highly placed government (?informer) disclosed yesterday that the CPP and its military arm, the NPA, are now badly fragmented and disorganized. The informer said the disunity plaguing the communists spread following the cease-fire. He said that the cease-fire afforded NPA regulars the chance to rejoin their families, and now they

refuse to return to their mountain hideouts. Reports also mention an apparent division among Communist rebels and the NPA leadership. This became evident in their divided stand on the plebiscite and their reaction to the all-out war declared by the National Democratic Front [NDF] against the Aquino government after the cease-fire (?ending) the peace talks collapsed. [Words indistinct] disclosed that the NDF issued an order for simultaneous attacks on Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. Many regional NPA commanders defied the order. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 22 Feb 87 NK] /12624

NPA COLLECTS 'TAXES' IN CEBU--Cebu City--The New People's Army (NPA) has collected some P4 million in forced "taxes" from frightened businessmen in Metropolitan Cebu during the cease-fire period, Central Visayas regional commander Brig. Gen. Edgardo Abenina said yesterday. In a symposium on the ills of Communism, Abenina said documents captured from rebels showed they collected P100,000 from businessmen in Talisay in February alone. Talisay, known as Cebu's "killing fields," has been the scene of bloody encounters between the military and the NPA the past year. According to Abenina, the money raised from forced "taxation" is used to fund the activities of the communist insurgents such as the purchase of firearms. He said the military is still verifying reports on the landing in Cebu of several high-powered firearms distributed to the NPA in Negros, Bohol, Leyte and Sarmar. Abenina also said captured documents from the rebels indicated a stepped-up operation to create a revolutionary situation in the urban centers through its link in the sectoral organizations to complement the armed struggle in the countryside. He assured the Cebuanos the military is ready for any offensive to be launched by the communists. He urged the insurgents to surrender before the military wages an all-out operation against them. [Text] [Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 27 Feb 87 p 13]

SULU OIL DRILLING--Drilling of the country's first oil well since 1984 is being done by Dan Baron, a Danish firm, northwest of Tawi Tawi. The drilling marks the second time that a massive search for oil is being undertaken. The first wave started in the late 1970's and led to the discovery of the country's three producing wells -- Cadlao, Nido and Matinloc, whose combined output is 6,000 barrels of oil daily. The consortium undertaking the project will spend about \$4 million to drill the first oil well, located .3 kilometers southeast of the Sentry Bank No 1, which will take 35 days to complete. [Text] [Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0800 GMT 12 Feb 87 HK] /12624

COMMAND MOVED FROM PAMPANGA TO TARLAC--The Third Regional Unified Command [RUC] has been moved from San Fernando, Pampanga to Camp [word indistinct] Aguino in Tarlac for undisclosed reasons. It was however speculated that the move may have been caused by the abortive coup d'etat staged by misguided elements in the military last 26-29 January. Philippine Constabulary [PC] commander Reynaldo Garoya was also replaced by his deputy Nestor Henares. According to reports from Camp Olivas, thirty-four soldiers and four trucks from the said RUC headed by General Benjamin Cruz were involved in the coup attempt. Meanwhile, Recom [regional command]

3 commander General Eugenio Ocampo said that his command was intact and that the 34 soldiers allegedly led by Major Manuel Devina, Ananias David and Antonio Baquiran of the command military operations were presently detained in Camp Crame. [Text] [Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 Feb 87 HK] /12624

CEBU PC CHIEF'S OUSTER URGED--The Cebu Provincial Board is requesting the dismissal of Central Visayas PC-INP [Philippine constabulary - integrated national police] Chief Edgardo Abenina. It said in the petition that Abenina is an instrument of the Marcos loyalists. He apparently has a critica stand on the policies of the city officials especially that which concerns communism. This is the second petition sent to President Aquino and Armed Forces chief General Fidel Ramos. [Text] [Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0700 GMT 10 Feb 87 NK] /12624

OIC LINKS WITH MPA--The Ministry of Local Governments announced that it would complete as soon as possible investigations of 100 officers in charge [OIC's], including 5 governors, about their alleged close links with the rebels. Earlier, Local Government Minister Jaime Ferrer declared that one OIC has been dismissed from his post because of his collusion with members of the NPA. He added that he would talk with each of the OIC's in order to find out the true story and, if possible, to give the latter another chance. Ferrer also said that he had sopken with 10 OIC's and questioned their role during the recently concluded plebiscite. [Text] [Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0600 GMT 11 Feb 87 HK] /12624

MNLF MILITARY TRAINING--The Moro National Liberation Front continues to train new people to reinforce its Bansa Moro Army which is expected to form the regional security force once autonomy is realized. Charlie Apostol, chairman of the MNLF panel to the present Government-MNLF talks, said that the military training was also a precaution in case the talks collapse. He added that the MNLF force could be used against communist insurgents in Mindanao. [Text] [Quezon City Radio ny Bayan in Tagalog 0330 GMT 12 Feb 87 HK] /12624

CSO: 4211/27

THAILAND

EX-DICTATOR THANOM ASKS PROPERTY BACK, COMMENTS ON PREM

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 15 Jan 87 pp 1, 16

[Unattributed report: "Thanom Asks Government To Return Property"]

[Text] During a birthday party, Thanom asked that his property be returned. He complained that he had had more property seized than Praphat. He said that he bought his Thakonsuk house on his salary. That was when the land cost 34 baht per square wa [1 wa equals 2 meters].

On the afternoon of 14 January, at a birthday party for Lady Chongkon Kittikhachon at their home on Ranong 2 Lane, Field Marshal Thanom Kittikhachon, the former prime minister, told SIAM RAT that he wants to ask the government to return all the property that was seized following the events of 14 October 1973. He bought these items using money that he had earned legally. Items that Lady Chongkon's father had given to her were seized, too.

Field Marshal Thanom said that he asked Lt Gen Saming Trailangkha, the former judge advocate general, Ministry of Defense, and chairman of the Committee to Examine the Property of Field Marshal Thanom Kittikhachon and Field Marshal Praphat Charusathian, about this matter at the birthday party and was told that the matter is under consideration and will be submitted to the government.

"I don't know how many items I can get back. Most of all, I hope to get this house back, because I have many grandchildren and need the house. Even my Buddha images were confiscated," said Field Marshal Thanom Kittikhachon. He said that he purchased the 2.5 rai on which his Thakonsuk house is located with his monthly salary. He paid 34 baht per square rai. At that time, that is, in 1950, this area was still a rice field. He then built the house and added on to it over the years.

"The government took more property from me that it did from Field Marshal Praphat. That was because most of the property was registered in the name of Lady Chongkon. But Field Marshal Praphat's property was registered in his children's names," said Field Marshal Thanom.

Field Marshal Thanom criticized government administration under the leadership of Gen Prem Tinsulanon, the prime minister. He said that he has learned many political lessons. He has been stepped on. His property, which he obtained legally, was confiscated.

He said that Gen Prem Tinsulanon was a student of his at the Army Technical School. Prem is an honest person. But he doesn't know what has happened recently. They have met at major social functions only. For example, they met on 13 January at the party commemorating the establishment of the 1st Army Region.

However, the former prime minister said with pride that the World Bank had praised the country's economic situation during the period that he was prime minister. There is evidence of this. But today, the economy is very bad. Goods are expensive, and many people are unemployed. It's probably because of the world economic recession.

Many senior military officers and ladies attended the party on the occasion of the 71st birthday of Lady Chongkon Kittikhachon. Among those at the party were Lt Gen San Siphon, a member of CRMA [Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy] Class 5; Maj Gen Praman and Lady Charoen Adireksan; Field Marshal Praphat and Sawai Charusathian; Mr Uthen Techaphaibun; Lt Gen Fuangchaloei Anirutthathewa, the director of the Veterans Welfare Organization; Mom Kopkao and Momchao Duang Thiphot Aphakon; and Lady ML [Royal title-FBIS] Nuanphong Sanaonarong.

11943

CSO: 4207/137



MUKDAHAN GOVERNOR SETS NEW YEAR FETE WITH LAO

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 15 Jan 87 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Thai-Lao Songkran [Thai New Year] Festival To Be Held in the Hope That This Will Help Cement Friendly Relations"]

[Text] The governor of Mukdahan Province is trying to improve friendly relations with Laos. A Thai-Lao Songkran festival will be held on an island in the Mekong River. Both sides will have cultural arts exhibits. Laos has many nice things.

A Thai delegation headed by Mr Arun Phanuphong, an advisor to the prime minister, and senior Thai officials paid a good-will visit to the LPDR during the period 27-29 November 1986. The atmosphere during the visit was very friendly. Since then, there have been numerous cultural exchanges. Laos has sent several cultural entertainment troupes to Thailand.

On 12 January, Mr Thanom Channuwong, the governor of Mukdahan Province, informed SIAM RAT that he is considering asking the Lao provincial governor and provincial administrative committee to participate in holding a Thai-Lao Songkran festival on an island in the Mekong River near Mukdahan Province.

Mr Thanom said that this island can hold 1,000 people. There will be cultural arts exhibits to help cement relations between the northeast and Laos. He said that Laos has many cultural arts objects in Savannakhet Province that the Thai people have never seen. He expects Laos to cooperate on this. This should be a happy occasion for both sides.

"I will invite senior people and others from nearby provinces to participate, too. Actually, I would like to invite senior people in Bangkok to participate, too. But I am concerned about maintaining security," said Mr Thanom.

Besides this, the governor of Mukdahan Province would like to invite the people to participate in the "Gathering of the Thai of Mukdahan, the place of sweet tamarinds along the Mekong River," which will last until 15 January. There are many valuable historical exhibits, including exhibits showing the way of life of various hill tribes. There are small-scale reproductions of hill tribe villages. In particular, students should take this opportunity to attend, because this is a fair of historical value and such fairs are rare.

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CSO: 4207/137

THAILAND

INDONESIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH PREM

BK200821 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 20 Feb 87 pp 1, 32

[Text] Thailand and Indonesia this morning expressed a similar opinion that Japan should invest more in ASEAN countries instead of spending more on its defence strategies as suggested by the United States.

Visiting Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja and Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon as well as Foreign Minister ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi Sawetsila reached the consensus during their discussion at Government House this morning.

Dr Mokhtar, who arrived in Bangkok this morning for a two-day visit, was here to discuss the preparation for the ASEAN summit scheduled to be held in Manila at the end of this year.

Government Spokesman Michai Wirawaithaya said Gen Prem and Dr Mokhtar discussed two significant points--the establishment of ASEAN Economic Community similar to the European Community, and the up-coming ASEAN Summit.

On the first, both sides agreed that the setting up of the ASEAN Economic Community is ideal but the time is not yet ripe for such a community.

At this stage, they agreed that ASEAN countries should cooperate more closely in industrial and agricultural aspects with concentration on increased participation by the private sectors.

As to the ASEAN Summit scheduled for December, both Dr Mokhtar and Gen Prem were of the opinion that, since ASEAN is nearing its 20th anniversary, ASEAN should show to the world that it is one of the strongest and united groupings in the world and would continue to cooperate in this regard, the spokesman said.

Both sides also discussed a suggestion by the United States to Japan to increase its defence spending and agreed that since Japan is a superpower in economy, Japan should spend more to boost investments in ASEAN countries as well as cooperate more closely with ASEAN toward this end, he added.

Earlier, National Economic and Social Development Board secretary-general Sano Unakun said that he would meet Dr Mokhtar this afternoon to discuss proposals which will be tabled at the summit.

EDITORIAL CRITICIZES AUSTRALIAN AID TO INDOCHINA

BK160116 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Feb 87 p 4

[Editorial: "What Australia Did But Shouldn't Have"]

[Text] The Kampuchean conflict is now in its ninth year and there has never been a shortage of initiatives for its resolution. The initiatives seem to be growing with the passage of time while Vietnam continues to tighten its grip on that war-torn country. So far none of the initiatives has succeeded in getting the Vietnamese to see the light of day. Thailand and the other ASEAN countries have done their best in this regard. They have received help along the way from many countries, which enable them to contain the conflict if not solve it. One of those countries is Australia.

That Australia is interested in the Kampuchean problem is quite understandable. It is worried by the fact that Southeast Asian waters are infested with Soviet warships and submarines as the war in Kampuchea drags on. Already the Soviet Union has established a foothold in the region through its acquisition of the military facilities at Cam Rahn Bay and Danang. Australia seems to believe that the sooner the Kampuchean problem is resolved, the better it will be for the region and this would be the only natural way to extract Vietnam from the Soviet embrace.

Four years ago when the Labour Party took control of the Government, Canberra made certain that the world knew where it stood on Kampuchea. Foreign Minister Bill Hayden has been quite active in the search for peace in this region. Mr Hayden is the only Western foreign minister with the most contacts with the Vietnamese leadership. Under him, Australia also became one of the first Western countries to withdraw from the co-sponsorship of the UN resolution on "the situation in Kampuchea." Canberra even thought of providing direct economic aid to Vietnam in the hope that this might lessen Vietnam's dependence on the Soviet Union. Faced with strong opposition from ASEAN countries and others, Canberra officially abandoned the idea. Mr Hayden has reassured that his government would do nothing of the sort, but obviously he also said that he was not in a position to speak for the non-government agencies which might wish to help Vietnam and Kampuchea.

And now it is out in the open. The annual report of the Committee for Development Cooperation (1985-86) reveals that federal government subsidies for Vietnam and Kampuchea through non-government agencies amounted to \$300,000 and \$1,000,000 respectively. The Government maintains that it does not give direct aid, but it is aid just the same, although it is distributed through non-government agencies such as World Vision, Community Aid Abroad, Australian Catholic Relief, Freedom From Hunger Campaign and others. Some of these "agencies" were involved in establishing an aid office in Phnom Penh last October. It is also reported that in the establishment of this office, the Australian Government contributed some \$43,125. What is more disturbing is the fact that there have been contributions to the so-called "Vietnam projects" carried out by these "agencies" which amounted to almost twice as much as that contributed by the agencies themselves.

Just why Canberra did this was of course its internal affair and it must have given it deep, careful thought. Of course, Australia has the right to differ from ASEAN in its efforts to contribute towards a resolution of the Kampuchean problem. Canberra's intention may be noble in nature, but then it should have been more honest with its ASEAN friends. And of course, every one would like to see peace in Kampuchea, but it cannot be peace "at any price."

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CSO: 4200/349

'AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES' CITED ON LAO TRADE

BK170357 Bangkok THE NATION in English 17 Feb 87 pp 1, 2

["By the Political Desk"]

[Text] The Thai Government has decided to raise the daily limit for cross-border trade from 20,000 to 50,000 baht for each merchant in a move to promote border trade with Laos, authoritative sources told THE NATION yesterday.

But representatives of various government agencies concerned in the Thai-Lao ties recently decided against opening new border passes along the Thai-Lao frontier. Permission, however, can be given for the transportation of goods through some border points on a case-by-case basis, according to the ruling.

An announcement on the new maximum payment which can be made with authorization from a provincial governor without having to go through the central bank is expected to come from the Finance Ministry this week.

The Commerce Ministry has agreed to promptly follow up on the announcement on the new financial ruling by authorizing the governors of provinces bordering Laos to permit the border trade with the new maximum value of goods for each deal.

The financial ruling is a general regulation which is applicable to the provinces bordering all neighbours.

However, it has been agreed that the Commerce Ministry will authorize only the administrative provinces along the Thai-Lao frontier to refer to the new ceiling.

"There has been no request from the provinces along the other frontiers on this matter," one well-informed source said.

The source said that Thai authorities had decided to suspend consideration on a proposal to lift the requirement for Thai entrepreneurs to place a deposit of 100,000 baht with the Commerce Ministry as security risk guarantee in trading with Laos.

The initiative to consider the matter came from Thai officials who feel that the requirement is unnecessary given the entrepreneurs' conduct since the rule was applied in accordance with a Thai-Lao agreement.

"We decided not to consider it because no Thai businessmen have asked for the abrogation of the rule which was imposed because Vientiane was afraid that Thai traders could breach their business deals with Laos," the source said.

Thai authorities also decided against opening new border passes on a permanent basis on security grounds. These include the apprehension that the opening of border passes, particularly the land routes, could facilitate the influx of Lao natives across the border to seek refuge here.

Two of the existing border checkpoints are in Nong Khai while the other one is in Mukdahan.

Provincial governors and Thai businessmen have been urging the Thai Government to open up new border passes to facilitate trade with Laos. They have cited the poor infrastructure in the landlocked country as a major argument.

As regards proposal to close down the Lao refugee camp at Ban Winai in Loei, the Interior Ministry recently turned down the idea on grounds that it is now the only recognized camp for Lao refugees. The others are temporary sites for Lao escapees to take refuge in.

Deputy Police Director General Pol Lt Gen Phao Sarasin recently received the proposal from local authorities during a tour of the Northeast. Local authorities argued that the move was necessary before the opening up of new border checkpoints and the forthcoming promotion of border trade and contacts.

They contended that Lao villagers, particularly the hilltribes people, have sneaked across the border because of the better living conditions in the camp and it has become increasingly difficult to stop them. Criminal gangs are also making money for helping the Lao escapees sneak into the camp. As a result, the population at the camp has not diminished. While only 42,000-45,000 Lao refugees have been registered at the camp, the actual number is believed to be about 60,000.

The source said that about 40 per cent of the Lao escapees have been "screened out" as non-refugees who crossed the border mainly to seek a better life.

As regards the complaints by Loei immigration officials against a policy to avoid taking legal action against Lao illegal immigrants, the sources said that the Thai Government reserved the right to prosecute them on charges of violating the Immigration Law.

But for humanitarian and practical reasons, the government has not resorted to the enforcement of the law.

"There are too many of them. If we charge them with illegal immigration, fine or jail them and send them back, we will face many problems. Firstly, most of them are not expected to have enough money to pay the fine and so, they will have to serve their jail terms instead. But this is not practical because our prisons are already overcrowded. Secondly, if they are sent back, their lives could be jeopardized," he said.

The source casts doubts on an official report that Thai entrepreneurs sidestepped the restrictions on direct border trade by falsely labelling their exports to Laos as transit goods from third countries to evade taxes and official controls on the transfer of foreign currencies from Laos.

He said that the transit goods had to be unloaded at Khlong Toei port and checked by customs officials. In addition, the transit goods have to be transported by the Express Transport Organization (ETO) in accordance with a Cabinet ruling.

"As I see it, it is very difficult to circumvent the controls of immigration and ETO officials. If the businessmen have managed to do so, it must be a well-organized racket involving many officials' connivance," the source commented.

He added that if the fraudulent practice existed on a large scale, it must be mainly aimed at tax evasion, and not sidestepping the ban on the exports of strategic goods. After all, the strategic goods cannot be exported either through direct or transit trade, according to the source.

He said that the decisions on the new ceiling value of border trade and other measures, including the reduction of the strategic goods to some 61, would help promote the trade between the two countries.

Vientiane's recent decision to decentralize business management to border provinces is expected to help facilitate the border trade, the source said.

The trade volume, however, is not expected to rise too dramatically due to a number of constraints, including the foreign currencies shortage on the part of Laos, and its suspicions toward Bangkok.

Laos has entered into joint ventures with Japan in launching heavy-investment projects which require the import of capital goods. However, when PM's [Prime Minister's] Advisor Arun Phanuphong offered Thai investment during his visit to Laos late last year, the Lao counterpart said that the government has yet to issue a law on foreign investment.

The sources said that apart from helping Thai businessmen, the Thai Government has favourably responded to Lao overtures to show that it does not give a smaller neighbour ill treatment.

In other words, the political aim of the Thai move is to improve its reputation in the international arena.

The Thai Government is working toward removing obstacles to improve bilateral ties as a Lao delegation led by Deputy Foreign Minister Souban Salitthilat is due to visit here during Feb '28-March 3 as a follow-up to Arun's trip to Laos last year. If the forthcoming negotiations are fruitful, Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut and Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawatsila are expected to visit the socialist neighbour soon.

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CSO: 4200/349



PROVINCE OFFICIALS WANT LAO REFUGEE CAMP CLOSED

BK130109 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Feb 87 p 5

[Excerpt] Loei authorities have proposed that the major Lao refugee camp in Ban Vinai in this northeastern border province be closed down to stop Lao villagers from sneaking across the border, a senior police official told THE NATION.

Deputy Police Director General Pol Lt Gen Pow Sarasin said that the possible opening of more border passes to step up trade between Thailand and Laos has caused concerns over larger influx of illegal immigrants.

"I will bring the proposal to the attention of Police Director General Pol Gen Narong Mahanonda and the Interior Ministry which is running the refugee camp at Baan Vinai in Park Chom District," said Pol Lt Gen Pow, who was touring the northeastern provinces of Sakhon Nakhon, Nong Khai and Loei.

He said that the proposal calls for the closure of the camp before the opening of new border passes, expected to be announced late this month.

"Illegal immigration is posing a national security problem," he said. Local authorities, he said, complained that they could not stem the tide of Lao illegal immigrants who seek a better life in the camp which receives assistance from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).

He said that rackets had emerged to help Lao villagers sneak into the camp from the Lao side of the common frontier.

A policeman was recently shot dead by three Hmong hilltribesmen suspected to be members of such a racket, he said.

The policeman was approaching a suspect to search his bag loaded with silverware received from an illegal immigrant during the shooting which took place on Jan 29, local authorities said.

Pol Lt Gen Pow said that immigration officials complained that they could not take legal actions against illegal immigrants who sneaked into the six border districts of the province.

The deputy police director general attributed the constraint to a ministerial regulation which he said has been in force for about 10 years.

The regulation is outdated and should be amended, he said, adding that as a result of the regulation, immigration officials could only push the Lao illegal immigrants back to the other side of the border or hand them over to UNHCR officials.

He said that the Lao villagers who were pushed back would later try to enter Thailand again.

About 60,000 Lao people are taking refuge in the Ban Vinai camp but only 46,208 of them have been registered by camp authorities, according to Pol Lt Gen Pow.

Local sources said that Lao villagers have been trying to enter the camp because the living condition inside is better than in their native land and in the Thai villages around it. Another motive is the chance to be resettled in third countries, the sources said.

Initially, most of the refugees are rightwing Hmong combatants who helped the Americans during the Indochina War.

After a decade, the population of the camp has not dwindled because of the low rate of resettlement, according to the local sources who added that only 2,000 refugees had been permitted to leave the camp for resettlement.

The authorities' efforts to introduce birth control methods to the refugees have failed to work, the sources said.

Loei Governor Cheevin Suthisuwan told THE NATION that the provincial administration wanted to close down the camp but it had been unable to do so because the camp is under the care of the UNHCR, to which Thailand is a member.

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CSO: 4200/349

THAILAND

EDITORIAL: SRV SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR CAMBODIA IMBROGLIO

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 19 Jan 87 p 8

[Editorial: "Beware of Afganistan and Cambodia"]

[Excerpt] Eight years ago, while the Soviet Union was sending troops into Afganistan, Vietnam, a Soviet ally, was sending troops into Cambodia in order to drive the Khmer Rouge government out of Phnom Penh and seize control of the country by installing a puppet government in the capital. What has happened in Cambodia is similar to what has happened in Afganistan. The anti-Vietnamese Khmer coalition government continues to fight in an effort to expel the Vietnamese from Cambodia. But it will take a long time to drive them out using force, because there are 150,000 Vietnamese troops in Cambodia.

Recent events clearly show that the plans for Afganistan and Cambodia stem from the same source. The Soviet Union is trying to relieve international pressure by showing good intentions. It is trying to put pressure on Vietnam to follow its lead. In particular, the factors here are quite similar to those facing the Soviet Union and are even more compelling. For example, Vietnam's economy is in dire straits. Vietnam has to admit that its economic problems stem in part from its aggressive military actions abroad. Its economic situation will grow even worse if it continues to occupy Cambodia.

Peace in Cambodia depends solely on whether Vietnam decides to accept the truth. It must decide whether or not it wants peace. The situation has changed over time. Unless something is done, the situation will just grow worse. Vietnam should review the lessons and start playing a new role as soon as possible.

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CSO: 4207/137

EDITORIAL SCORES KHMER ROUGE OVER FOOD AID ISSUE

BK100105 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Feb 87 p 4

[Editorial: "Khmer Rouge Still Showing Lack of Humanitarianism"]

[Text] About 29,000 Kampucheans are facing the dire prospect of the United Nations cutting off all supplies to them and the reason for that is placed squarely at the door of the Khmer Rouge. It is only natural that when humanitarian agencies supply food to the displaced persons they want to be sure that it reaches the right people which, in turn, means that officials of the relief agencies will have to periodically supervise the distribution of food.

Tatsuro Kunugi, the outgoing special representative of the UN secretary general for coordination of humanitarian assistance, said that a decision to cut off relief supplies even in December last year was made but it was postponed because the Khmer Rouge leaders opened talks about the issue of supervision with the UN Border Relief Operation (UNBRO) which showed leniency in not cutting off the supplies two months ago.

The four camps in which these displaced persons live are associated with the Khmer Rouge and the relief agencies want to make sure that supplies reach these people and are not funnelled to the resistance fighters in their conduct of the guerrilla war against the Vietnamese troops. Pointing out that there will be a lot of suffering among the Khmer civilians, including a number of women and children, if the relief supplies are cut off, Kunugi said that he hoped that the talks between the Khmer Rouge leaders and UNBRO will ultimately be fruitful--but he did not seem to express much confidence in that.

The Khmer Rouge, and its leader Pol Pot reported to be terminally ill, do not have a good image internationally. ASEAN, although it has recognized Khmer Rouge participation in the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) and strongly backs it, has not excused them for the atrocious genocide they practised while in power in Phnom Penh. The Khmer Rouge will have to carry this mark of opprobrium which will never be forgiven by anybody.

But instead of trying to extricate themselves from this image they seem to be blackening it further. Kunugi says that UNBRO's officials have been allowed

near the entrance to these four camps only once or twice a month. If the UN cuts off relief supplies, because of its legitimate suspicion that the supplies are being siphoned off by the Khmer Rouge, this resistance group will again incur international wrath by its indifference to the lives of civilians.

The Khmer Rouge must forthwith allow the supervision of the distribution of food by officials of the international relief agencies as otherwise their contempt for civilian life will rub off on the CGDK and severely hurt sympathy for the cause for which the CGDK resistance is fighting. All countries which back the objectives of the CGDK, and we want to especially mention China, should use all the influence they have with the Khmer Rouge to see that the necessary compromise is effected to prevent the UN cutting off relief supplies to the people in the camps.

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CSO: 4200/349

## THAILAND

### ARMY CHIEF ON GOVERNMENT SYSTEM, BORDER SITUATION

BK100125 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Feb 87 pp 1, 3

[Text] Constitutional monarchy is the best and most suitable system for Thailand, Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut said yesterday.

The army chief also ruled out any change of government from the constitutional monarchy system.

Asked whether the country should resort to the system of national government in which the military would be allowed to play a more active role in politics, if the existing parliamentary system, failed, he said:

"Our problems are caused by the implementators (of democracy), who fail to make the system yield a satisfactory result."

He said these problems could be solved if political parties would try to uphold democracy by refraining from making personal gains and using unlawful means to get elected.

Turning to the welfare of army personnel, he said all personnel assigned to the front would receive life insurance beginning in April.

He said the army would arrange the life insurance for about 40,000 personnel, who operate in the field at any give time, with the Thai Life Insurance Co, an affiliate of the Thai Military Bank.

He said 100,000 baht insurance policy will be bought for a commissioned officer, 80,000 baht and 50,000 baht for a non-commissioned officer and a conscript respectively.

Commenting on the ongoing operation at Chong Bok, located at an adjoining area of Thailand, Laos and Kampuchea, Gen Chawalit said Thai troops were driving out small bands of intruders from the area.

He said that Thai forces would be stationed at Chong Bok, in Ubon Ratchathani, once the foreign force has been pushed out and the area would be developed for villagers to move in to settle.

"It is our policy to push out any foreign forces, whichever faction they belong to....," he said.

He said His Majesty the King has initiated a plan to build a dam to provide water for about 50,000 rai of farmland in the area.

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CSO: 4200/349

THAILAND

GENERAL PHICHIT ON MILITARY, ECONOMIC, POLITICAL ISSUES

Bangkok KHAO PHISSET in Thai 14-20 Jan 87 pp 12-18

[Interview with Gen Phichit Kunlawanit, the assistant RTA CINC; date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] [Question] The RTA CINC is now thinking about reducing the number of military personnel. What is your view on this?

[Answer] The economic growth of the country is related to the military budget. The country has much to do, and we are still a developing country. Thus, it is impossible to give all our resources just to the military. Based on national policy, the military's task is to defend the country, not to launch an offensive against anyone. We have to have a military to defend the country. So that the military can perform this task, we must streamline the military in order to have efficient forces equipped with modern weapons who are capable of defending the country in any situation.

[Question] Have steps now been taken to reduce the number of personnel or control the army's growth?

[Answer] Let me explain. I will give you an example. Let's compare an army of say 1 million men with a smaller but highly efficient force. Take Switzerland, for example. They have a larger army than Thailand. Israel's army is actually quite small, but it is very efficient. It can act quickly and defend the country. The total population of Israel is less than 4 million, but they have scored victories against the enemies that surround them. Thus, the objective of the RTA CINC is to streamline our army and keep it from becoming unwieldy. We want an efficient force that is capable of rapid deployment. We want to improve the quality of our personnel and weapons. These are the objectives of the RTA CINC.

[Question] In this case, will it be necessary to use more paramilitary forces?

[Answer] Probably. Thailand is not the only country that is thinking along these lines. Mainland China has a huge army. At the time that they defeated the Koumintang forces, they had an army of over 1 million men. But now they are cutting back. They are using discharged soldiers to participate in national development work.



[Question] You have said that Thailand's economic situation is not encouraging. That is, we may have to fight at a time when there are shortages. Gen Athit Kamlangek once said the same thing. Do you think that the present situation will affect the military in the future?

[Answer] Fighting at a time when there are shortages means that.... The military is like other ministries. We would like to have everything. But that is impossible. We have to set priorities. We have to determine what we need now and what can wait. We have to be frugal. If something isn't necessary, we shouldn't use it. We have to use only what is necessary. Suppose, for example, that a training field is located 3-4 km from a company or battalion base. The men can walk there. It isn't necessary to waste gasoline. This is one example of how to save. Many army units are doing this. For example, in Mae Hong Son, units in the 3d Army Region walked to their bases during the period that Gen Athit was the RTA CINC. On long marches, they camped overnight. And when the military academy moved to its new location, some of the men walked.

[Question] Overall, do you think that the present economic situation will affect the army's ability to maintain external and internal security?

[Answer] No. No, it won't. Combat morale is the most important thing, right? Just because we lack certain things and have certain limitations doesn't mean that we can't fight. If you look at our enemy--I am referring to those whom we once fought against--you can see that they had very little. But they continued to fight. Our ancestors had very little. But they fought Burma. You can still fight even if you don't have very much. All you need is combat morale. That is the most important thing. To fight the enemy, we don't have to travel in trucks and aircraft. If we don't have these means, we can walk. Combat morale is the important thing.

[Question] What do you think poses the greatest danger to national security in the present situation? About what do we need to be careful?

[Answer] Today, there are enemies outside our borders. There is no doubt about that. There are also internal dangers. If problems developed both externally and internally at the same time, that would pose a great problem. As far as the external threat is concerned, our three branches of service are ready to defend the country. There is nothing to be afraid of. The important thing is not to allow any internal threat to arise. In particular, we must prevent any internal turmoil from arising. We must try to compromise and reach an understanding. If we do, nothing will happen. But if people refuse to work together or if there are pressures, this will pose problems for the military, which must maintain solidarity.

[Question] You are referring to splits or lack of solidarity among the people in the country, right?

[Answer] Yes. About people instigating trouble.

[Question] In your view, are there still many threats to national security?

[Answer] Yes. There are factors that could lead to riots. This is dangerous. The economic situation is now beginning to improve. But if the mass media portrays the situation as being hopeless.... But to see whether the situation really is hopeless or not, to look at things fairly, we have to go abroad and compare the situation here with that in other countries. We have to look at things fairly. The situation here is better than in many other countries. We have to look at things fairly. We are like a frog in a coconut shell. We think that things are terrible here because we don't compare things correctly. Just because money is tight, we think that things are terrible. But looking at things from the outside, if we compared things here to the situation in other countries, we would realize that things are better here.

Stated simply, our standard of living is good. We have plenty to eat. Wherever you go, even if you go to a small town, there is plenty to eat. This shows that things are fine here. You may say that a large number of people are unemployed. But looking at this clearly, although there may be few jobs at the moment, we can create jobs for people. I am a senator. Sometimes I become upset when I hear MPs say that the government is not doing anything to help the farmers. They complain that the government hasn't given water pumps to the farmers and that it hasn't done this or that. But none of them dares say that the farmers must work to improve themselves and that the farmers must be more diligent and work harder. No one dares say that. Why not?

I'll give you an example. I have often pointed out that our farmers work only 6 months out of the year. That is, they work only during the agricultural season. They work only 6 months but consume things the entire year. And so there must be a deficit. Our farmers are used to this. What do they do during the time that they are not working? They sit around enjoying themselves. That is, they spend money instead of making an effort to earn additional money. In the central region, which is a very fertile area, they should be doing something different. There is water. The king and queen have worked hard to help the farmers. The king has had small reservoirs built in farming areas throughout the country. But people have used gasoline in production. Agricultural yields have increased very little. Little effort has been made. It's true that the central region produces two rice crops. Those areas that can't do this can grow other crops. I have talked to the minister of agriculture about this, because I am interested in this. You have probably heard the minister talk about the export of mangos. Thai mangos sell for about 500 baht apiece in certain countries. Mangos are exported to England. When I attended the National Defense College, Thianchai helped with the packing. In my thesis, I discussed this. Last year, we exported 40 tons. Of the 100 supermarkets in London, 6-7 have asked Thailand to send them 40 tons of mangos a year. I have talked with the minister of agriculture and asked him why we don't build field dikes and plant mango trees in Ang Thong and Ayuthaya. The trees would start producing in 3 years. After the rice season, we could harvest the mangos. This would help the farmers. After the rice season, they could harvest the mangos and earn some extra money. We need to educate the farmers.

[Question] Then the land is still very fertile here, is that right?

[Answer] I know an agricultural expert. An Israeli went to Khao Kho 2 years ago to observe the situation there. After returning, he wrote a report. He said that he was very jealous of us. He said that his country is mostly desert. It was very hard for them to grow anything. To grow crops, they had to obtain earth from the lakes. They had to use tractors to plow rocky mountains. The rocks were used to build dikes. The dirt was dumped into the plots. And they had to place a layer of plastic on the bottom to keep the dirt in. Initially, they had to plant vine plants such as watermelons. The watermelon plants were then used as fertilizer. Now, they have orange and mango orchards. But he said that we can grow anything. He asked why we planted cheap crops instead of planting expensive items. He said that last year, "you exported 35 tons of rice, and next year you will export 40-45 tons. There is no future in that." He said that there was no future in rice, cassava, or corn. He asked why we didn't grow other types of crops.

That was why I thought about planting asparagus, bamboo shoots, and passion fruit on Khao Kho. These items fetch a better price. I wanted to reduce the area planted in corn and cassava in order to increase the incomes of the farmers. It has been shown that asparagus and passion fruit can earn them more money per rai. This is what we must do. This will help the farmers. They have planted rice for hundreds of years. They don't know anything else. We have to educate them. This is how we can help them. We can't have Aranut beg others to buy rice. If we beg people to buy our rice this year, what about next year? Are we going to humble ourselves like this again. We can't keep doing this. We have to understand this if we are to help each other.

Today, we are doing this. I know. Several officials in the Ministry of Agriculture and Director-General Yukati are helping and cooperating with me. Passion fruit is now being grown at his village and good results have been achieved. We are growing mangos, other fruits, and vegetables. If we use science and technology in the harvesting and packing, we will be able to export these crops.

[Question] Then you think that we have a chance to create many more jobs and increase revenues.

[Answer] We can create many more jobs. The sky is the limit. We have to use our brains. But we have not yet made a great effort. We have enough food to eat. No dog has ever starved here. But why do we keep growing crops that fetch low prices?

[Question] When you said that there were still threats to national security, you were referring to such things as this, isn't that right?

[Answer] It's like this. We talk about how many people are unemployed. We need organizations to help. Just because you have a degree doesn't mean that you can't be a farmer. Thailand still has much uncultivated land that can be cultivated and used to earn revenues. We have to find a way to make use of the property left us by our forefathers. But we refuse to think. We just say that this and that are no good.

[Question] In summary, you think that the lack of solidarity among the people of the country poses a great danger.

[Answer] That's right. As for those people who view the situation here as hopeless and see nothing of value here, I don't consider them to be Thai. We must look at things fairly. As I said earlier, if we look at ourselves from outside the country, we will see that things here are much better than in other countries.

[Question] Turning to the communist threat, even though the war has now stopped, do you still feel that they....

[Answer] They still pose a threat. They haven't given up. They still cling to the communist idea of turning the world into a communist world. There are two things that we must do to defeat them. We have to have something to which we can cling. Second, ever since the communist revolution in 1917, the communists have claimed that they were fighting for justice and for social and economic equality. Thus, if we can raise the standard of living, there will be no reason for them to wage a struggle. I am sure of that, if we can raise the standard of living. And it won't be necessary to destroy our society and culture. The United States, Australia, and Japan all have a high standard of living. The countries that will fall victim are those where the majority of the people are poor.

[Question] Do you think that there is any chance of our country becoming a victim?

[Answer] We are narrowing the gap between people. But it is impossible to achieve absolute equality. That is unnatural.

[Question] Given Thailand's situation, do you think that we have escaped that danger?

[Answer] It's up to us. I don't think that will happen. We will increase the number of people in the middle class. We are trying to improve the standard of living of those at the bottom.

[Question] As for the recent threat to the throne, as an officer who serves the throne, do you think that there is any movement underway that could trouble the monarchy?

[Answer] I think that all Thai respect the monarchy. This institution has been a part of us for a long time. But there may be some people who feel that this institution is holding back the development of the country. But that is not true. All Thai kings have shown an interest in the well-being of the people and tried to raise the people's level of education and standard of living. In particular, the present king has always worked very hard on behalf of the people. He has provided an excellent example. Those who have a chance to help should do what they can to help the country. We must all try to help each other and not be concerned only about ourselves.

[Question] As a senator, would you say a little more about the case involving Mr Wira Musikaphong?

[Answer] This is not the time for me to say anything. I don't want to say anything, because the matter is now in the courts.

[Question] You are a witness for the prosecution, isn't that right?

[Answer] I don't know. I haven't heard anything about that.

[Question] It is said that your name is among the 39 names.

[Answer] I don't know. No one has told me anything.

[Question] As for those who oppose the monarchy, have they taken any concrete action either overtly or covertly?

[Answer] As for covert action, I don't know. But nothing has been done openly. But as I said just a moment ago, the Thai people are loyal to the monarchy. People have to think about what they are doing. Spreading rumors or doing other things that have a negative impact on this institution is not right. For example, people should stop and think before using his name for some reason of their own. For example, it is wrong to invite the king to visit certain places.

[Question] I would like to ask an old question. That is, I would like to ask about the military and politics. The RTA CINC has stated that he will keep the military out of politics. People have interpreted this differently. What is your view on this?

[Answer] What the RTA CINC said is correct. But this does not mean that soldiers will no longer take an interest in politics. We will continue to take an interest in this. Many soldiers are serving as senators. We have to follow what is happening in the country, because our constitutional duty is to defend the country from both internal and external enemies. And if I remember correctly, according to Article 58 of the constitution, the military is responsible for maintaining the social, economic, and political security of the country. The constitution clearly states that the military must help develop the country. Thus, we have to monitor things. We have to act as a watch dog. If something happens to endanger the country's security, we can't just ignore it. But that does not mean that we will take action on our own. That would be wrong. Because it is the government that is responsible. The military is just one of the government's forces. If the government and state are not secure, the military can't just ignore this. But the military won't take action on its own. But we have to monitor and study things.

[Question] Many people feel that it was the military that played the main role in the formation of the present administration.

[Answer] How could the military form a government? I have already explained what the military's duties are. That is, we are a tool of the government. We

are one of its forces. The military is not responsible for forming a government. I haven't heard that. The constitution does not say anything about the military forming a government. It is the MPs who formed the government. It was the MPs who chose the prime minister. The prime minister then formed a government. This is the first that I have heard about the military forming the government.

[Question] Then you do not believe that the military played a major role in the formation of the Prem 5 government, is that right?

[Answer] That's right. I don't think the military was involved. As far as I know, no one came to the RTA CINC for advice about who should be appointed prime minister.

[Question] The leader of the Democrat Party has said that a major general and general were involved. Do you know anything about this?

[Answer] He said that. We are not politicians who can talk like that.

[Question] You mentioned the security of the state. In the present situation, how secure is the state, particularly the government?

[Answer] I think that the situation is fine. I don't see any problems.

[Question] There is no political crisis?

[Answer] The mass media should not try to stir up trouble. People should not try to instigate a riot. Sometimes, things are fine, but people try to stir up trouble for their own purposes. Yesterday, there was a parade. We are promoting tourism. We are trying to get more tourists to visit Thailand. Tourism is one of our industries. But agriculture can be good, too. If the farmers begin producing the things that I described above, they will make more money. The farmers can't sell rice to the tourists. Am I right? This is similar to my ideas for Khao Kho. The farmers at Khao Kho can build guest houses. They can sell nature to earn additional money. They can grow passion fruit to increase their income. But if we try to sell rice and corn, no one will buy it. Do you understand what I am saying?

[Question] Do you think that the elected politicians and ministers have sufficient qualifications?

[Answer] My duties are different from theirs. I don't want to comment on that. You are trying to trick me into clapping. (laughs) It's difficult to trick me. (laughs)

[Question] That was not my intention. You can answer from the standpoint of principles.

[Answer] It is not my duty to comment on that.

[Question] But as a senator, you must have some thoughts on this.

[Answer] You know what the king has said. Since 1985, the 200th anniversary of the Chakri dynasty, the king has constantly said that there must be national solidarity. We must help each other and talk to each other. We have to help each other instead of thinking that we are alone.

[Question] I asked this because of my concern for the security of the state. The political parties are engaged in disputes and can't seem to settle things themselves. It seems likely that this will affect the government's stability.

[Answer] I am not in a position to comment on such political matters.

[Question] But you are probably concerned about this, right?

[Answer] As the RTA CINC said, the military will stay out of politics. We will not interfere. We will monitor things, but we won't comment. That is not our duty. We are not columnists who can comment on political matters.

[Question] But it would benefit the country if you contributed constructive ideas.

[Answer] Look! You are trying to draw the military into politics. You have done the same thing in the past. After you get a statement from one person, you go ask someone else what they think about politicians. You carry on like this for several weeks. Right? Am I right? (laughs)

[Question] But actually, I do not have any ulterior motive. I think that you are in a position to comment on this.

[Answer] If I did comment, you could sell your newspapers for several more weeks. (laughs)

[Question] An interview with you, regardless of what you say, will sell.

[Answer] No. That's not true. I know about this. I have a friend who is a reporter. I asked him why reporters have to do this. He said that this gains attention for the newspaper.

[Question] What do you think the country's economy will be like in 1987 and in future years?

[Answer] I think that many organizations and sections will cooperate to solve the problems. That is what I think. Today, we have the Joint Public-Private Committee for Solving the Economic Problems. Things have improved greatly. We have the five factors necessary for development: man, management, money, material, and technology. We have all of these. It depends on which ones we want to stress. We have to combine these. The factor that we have to improve is man. We have to use management to increase output. I did research on this. Our 50 million people can move forward. We have huge resources. We have more resources than Hong Kong. Hong Kong is just a tiny island. What does Singapore have? It does not have any ore at all. But they are excellent when it comes to "man." Their people are very diligent. As I have said, in the developed countries, the people work 40 hours a week. But our people don't put in that

many hours. Some people work more than that. But the average is less. And so how can we compete? The average should be 40 or more hours per week if we want to keep up with them. But we don't work that many hours. As I said, the farmers work 5 months and take off 7 months. Government officials start work at 0830 hours and get off at 1630 hours. Seven times 5 is 35. Because they take an hour off for lunch every day, they really work only 35 hours a week. That is less than people in these other countries. This is based on the amount of time that they are supposed to be at the office. That is 5 hours less. But are officials really at their desks the entire 7 hours? Definitely not. They are busy picking up their children. (laughs) Or they are delayed in traffic. Thus, my guess is that they actually work an average of 25-30 hours a week. That is 15 hours less than others. How have the Japanese managed to go so far? They work at night. Hard work is one of their values. But our habit is "little work, much pleasure." Am I right? People party for 3 days at New Year. This is a habit that needs to be changed. We must become more diligent. At working, that is. Not at seeking pleasure.

Ever since I was the 1st Army Region commander, I have been saying that we must take a good look at ourselves. If we work 40 hours a week, that will be a contribution. If all 50 million Thai do this, I think that we can keep up with others. But I don't think that we are working diligently. The problem is how to get 80 percent of the Thai people to work 40 hours a week.

Did you know that I was interested in development. When I was the commander of the 1st Division, I did a study and found that we have more people with master's and Ph.D degrees than countries that are more developed than Thailand. It's true. We have more than Taiwan or Korea. But at the same time, more of their farmers have bachelor's degrees. Our farmers have only a Grade 4 education. This is where we are weak. No one talks about this. We have large numbers of people with master's and Ph.D degrees who have studied abroad. I built an agricultural center on Khao Kho in order to improve the quality of our farmers. Now I have started a program to use those who have graduated from an agricultural college. As I said, the quality of our farmers is not good. In Taiwan, people with a bachelor's degree engage in farming. But our farmers have only a Grade 4 education. Here, fewer than 25 percent of those who have graduated from an agricultural college engage in farming. What do the others do? They become government officials and go to work for the C.P. Company. The agricultural colleges were established to raise the standards of the farmers. But that is not happening. These people have to enter farming.

[Question] Ever since the events of 9 September [1985], in which you played the role of a peace envoy, you have kept relatively quiet. With respect to those events, some people have criticized you sharply. Would you tell us about this?

[Answer] This matter is now in court. Charges have been filed. I can't say anything.

[Question] Recently, you seem to have kept to yourself more than in the past.

[Answer] I lead a simple life.



[Question] The Thai Nation Party is preparing to submit an act that would grant amnesty to the suspects in the 9 September case. Do you support this?

[Answer] That is something for the political parties to discuss.

[Question] Do you think that this will contribute to fostering the national solidarity that you discussed earlier?

[Answer] This should help.

[Question] Then you probably support this.

[Answer] You asked me my opinion, and I said that it would probably help. But I did not say whether I supported this or not. I am answering like a politician, right. I am not saying yes or no. (laughs)

[Question] Do you think that there will be another coup attempt?

[Answer] Who knows. I am not a clairvoyant or fortuneteller.

[Question] Do you think that the chances of another coup are great or small?

[Answer] I can't say. I don't know. How can I know what is going to happen in the future? The military is staying out of politics. But we are watch dogs. We won't allow the country to collapse.

[Question] Are the factors that people have cited as an excuse to stage a coup still present? I am referring to such factors as economic recession and splits.

[Answer] I don't see any such factors. As I said in the beginning, to look at the situation fairly, we have to compare the situation here with that in neighboring countries. You should ask people who have been to nearby countries such as China and Hong Kong. If they are honest, they will say that the situation here is not as bad as has been portrayed. Just look at the situation in the ASEAN countries. Would you dare travel to the Philippines?

[Question] Several years ago, you were portrayed as supporting a power pole that was at odds with Gen Chawalit, the present RTA CINC. Was that really the case?

[Answer] Now you want me to talk about this. I constantly remind myself that nothing belongs to us. I have done the best job I can. I have traveled around the world. I have seen subordinates suffer and die. I have seen people killed in combat. I have carried many people who were wounded and dying. I promised myself that I would work hard as long as I had the strength.

[Question] Then you are sure that the top echelon in the army is now unified, is that right.

[Answer] All of us are Buddhists. We are like brothers. We all came from the same crucible. We are doing our duty. When the time comes, we will step down. We are carrying out our duties as well as we can.

[Question] You haven't used the word "exercise" for a long time now.

[Answer] Oh! Why? Does this tiger look so fierce? This is the kind of thing that people write. Foreign acquaintances and diplomats say, "Hey, you are different from what we heard." Why? Because a tiger eats people. They laugh. Is that the terrible image that people have of me? At that time, a reporter came and asked me whether I would exercise. I didn't think anything of it, because I exercise every day. I go jogging every morning. (laughs) I don't see anything wrong with that. I am not threatening anyone. But that was used to stir up trouble and alarm people. After that, people saw me exercising for my health. I exercise regularly. Why do people try to "read" something into that?

[Question] Do you visit the prime minister very often?

[Answer] I saw him yesterday in connection with opening the Year of Tourism. We were together about 20 minutes.

[Question] Do you see him on a personal basis?

[Answer] Occasionally. We go walking and chat together when there is time.

[Question] Some people worry that this may be his last year in office. What is your view?

[Answer] I don't know. That is up to him.

[Question] After Gen Prem leaves office, are you worried about who will lead the country?

[Answer] That is in the future.

[Question] Some people are afraid that there will be a crisis when Gen Prem finishes his term. Are you concerned about this?

[Answer] Out of a population of 50 million people, there must be good people. Administration is a matter involving the prime minister and parliament. Don't forget that no one has a monopoly on the country. I would like to remind you of something that Buddhism teaches us. We do not come into this world with anything, and we can't take anything with us when we die. But while we are alive, we can do good deeds. Many people take the wrong path and say that this is mine. It belongs to me. But there is nothing that belongs to us.

[Question] Talking about power, there is no such thing as real power, right?

[Answer] If we are pushed to do something, we have to do it. We have our duties that we must carry out. When we don't have any duties, that's it. But

as Thai, we have to work to benefit Thai society and Thailand. Nothing belongs to us. Some people forget this. They think that this is my house, my money. But actually, nothing belongs to us.

[Question] In summary, what concerns you the most about our country?

[Answer] Actually, I don't think there is anything to worry about. We can defend the country from outside enemies. There are internal enemies. But I think that we can unite to solve the problems. The king has said that we must compromise and cooperate with each other. If we can do this, there won't be anything to worry about. The situation won't become all "rosy" in just a year or two. Some people may become impatient. The important thing is not to expect a sudden improvement. We must make progress gradually. We must help each other and stop being stubborn. We must be diligent and work hard.

[Question] Last year was the Year of the Tiger. It is said that tigers are fierce. This is the Year of the Rabbit. I don't know whether the rabbit will be fierce, too. What I mean is that, last year, the economy was not very good and did not grow very much.

[Answer] We must make a greater effort. It's up to us. We can't let what has happened in the Philippines happen here. It's up to us.

[Question] Will the military give this government its full support?

[Answer] The RTA CINC has already answered that.

[Question] The RTA CINC said that the military will support the legal government. This is rather ambiguous. Can you clarify this?

[Answer] It's already quite clear. I think that you know what he meant. We can't support anything that is illegal.

[Question] Thus, if the government is not legal, the military won't support it.

[Answer] As of now, there is nothing that we can't support.

[Question] Then can it be said that the military supports the government fully?

[Answer] It's like the RTA CINC said. Suppose that they act without reason and do something to damage the country. We can't support that, because it's against the law. People can't place themselves above the law. This is my understanding of the statement made by the RTA CINC. Anyone who violates the law must be punished according to the law. We have to point out what is wrong.

[Question] The military is acting within the framework of the law now. In the past, it acted rather brazenly in voicing its opinion. But the present RTA CINC takes a more gentle approach and is more polite. He passes his ideas along to the prime minister.

[Answer] That's right. He discusses things directly with the prime minister.

[Question] Is there any New Year's wish you would like to make?

[Answer] No. My only hope is that people will cooperate with each other and work for the good of the country. I hope that they will work hard to increase yields and improve the economy. I hope that people will think about their fellow countrymen.

11943

CSO: 4207/125

## THAILAND

### PAPER REJECTS LEGITIMACY OF CHAWALIT COUP THREAT

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 29 Jan 87 p 8

[Editorial: "The People and a Coup"]

[Text] Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, the RTA CINC, spoke about the possibility of another coup in Thailand. He said that "if I stage a coup, I will ask permission from the people first." This short statement is very clear and has several implications.

First, based on our understanding, this statement implies that there will be more coups in Thailand. Someday, there will be another coup. This is our understanding. We would like to inform the people so that they are aware of the implication of the RTA CINC's statement.

Second, if there actually is another coup, which will be Thailand's 10th coup, we all know who the head of the revolutionary committee will be. Even though the RTA CINC did not mention any names, his statement clearly reveals who it would be.

The third and final implication, which is a good sign for our country as far as coups are concerned, is that the people of the country will be informed in advance as to when the coup will take place and who will stage the coup. And the people will be asked to support or approve the coup in advance.

We feel that future coups can be staged in the open. They don't have to be carried out in secret as in the past. We don't understand why the RTA CINC has brought up this issue at a time when the Thai people have begun to forget about coups. By making this statement, he has revived the coup issue. Perhaps he raised this issue again because of all the difficulties the country is encountering today on the administrative and legislative fronts. The House of Representatives, in particular, is experiencing many problems. The present government has not been able to solve the problems and so the RTA CINC may feel that the only way to solve the problems is to stage a coup with the support or approval of the people.

We want to state that we resolutely oppose this and do not agree at all. We are against anyone taking power by means of a coup and putting himself in charge of solving the country's problems. We feel sure that the people of the

country are against this, too. The only people who would support this are those who would profit as a result of the coup.

Thailand has tried to solve its problems through a coup at least nine times in the past. These coups have clearly shown that we can't solve the political problems by staging a coup. All a coup does is give power and wealth to certain people and certain groups. But most people find themselves in an even worse position than before.

Thus, a coup does not produce good results for the majority of people. The Thai people do not want another coup. This is our answer and the answer of the people, who would like to hurry and give their answer even before they are asked by the RTA CINC.

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CSO: 4207/137

## THAILAND

### COMMERCE MINISTER APPOINTS POLICY ADVISORS

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 19 Jan 87 pp 1, 16

[Excerpt] A news report from the Ministry of Commerce has informed SIAM RAT that on 14 January, Mr Montri Phongphanit, the minister of commerce, signed an order establishing four separate advisory committees with a total of 55 advisors. The four committees are:

1. The advisory committee for economic and social affairs is composed of nine advisors. These include Mr Wira Pitchat, the governor of the Provincial Electricity Generating Authority, Mr Chattri Sophonphanit, the managing director of Bangkok Bank, Mr Chatchua Kansut, the director of Color Television Channel 7, and Mr Santi Phiromphakdi.

2. The advisory committee for political development is composed of 32 advisors. Most of the advisors are MPs and former MPs such as Mr Phinya Chuaiphot, Mr Chanchai Chairungruang, Mr Surachat Chamnansin, Mr Thawi Kriakhup, and Dr Krongkan Wisommai.

3. The advisory committee for internal security is composed of seven advisors. These include Police Lt Gen Sawat Amonwiwat, the head of Police Department operations, Police Maj Gen Chatchai Upaphong, the deputy inspector general, and Police Maj Gen Charoen Chotidamrong, the assistant commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

4. The advisory committee for technical affairs is composed of seven advisors. These include Mr Phaibun Watraphan, Mr Anan Atilaksana, Mr Chao Maniwong, Mr Sombun Suksamran, and Mr Chaiyawat Chaisiwong.

The news report stated that this is the largest number of advisors ever appointed by the minister of commerce. No previous minister of commerce has ever formed four advisory committees.

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CSO: 4207/137

DISSIDENT DEMOCRATS FORM 'GROUP OF JANUARY 10'

BK190037 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Feb 87 pp 1, 2

[Article by Udomlak Onkatphon]

[Text] A total of 38 dissident Democrats elected their group leaders last night and will hit the "campaign trail" in the South early next month to introduce themselves to southern constituents, group members told THE NATION.

The sources said that the dissenters are afraid that the party would not field them in the next general election. They had received a report that a senior party member sent a letter to former Democrat MP Wan Sipaolaya to prepare himself for the election in Constituency Two in Nakhon Si Thammarat. If Wan is nominated as the party's candidate, Nakhon Si Thammarat MP Thawin Phraison, a key member in the dissident grouping, may be left out, according to the sources.

The group's plan to launch a campaign in the South is also a response to a recent southern trip taken by party leader Phichai Rattakun. The deputy prime minister has visited Hat Yai in Songkhla and Krabi and is expected to tour other southern provinces.

The sources said that at least 30 dissident members are expected to join the unusual campaign which will take them to Hat Yai on March 6 and Thung Song in Nakhon Si Thammarat on March 7. Key members of the group who will lead the campaign include Chaloemphan Siwikon (Bankok), Wira Musikaphong (Phatthalung), Phiraphan Phalusuk (Yasothon), Thawin and Decho Sawananon (Bangkok).

The 38 dissident Democrats yesterday signed a manifesto which is a commitment to the group ideology, and they agreed to hold group meetings separate from party meetings every month.

Chaloemphan told a news conference that 11 other Democrats sent notes to the meeting claiming that they could not make it there due to other business. He said the group has officially adopted the name of "Group of January 10."



Wira said that the meeting at Chaloemphan's residence agreed that it will not make trouble for the government and will follow party resolutions and policy.

But he said that the group is interested in the Iran rice deal and the agreement that the Finance Ministry had concluded with producer of Mekhong and Hong Thong whiskies.

Reacting to Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut's broadside against politicians, Wira said the group feels that his comments were straightforward. "It's better for the military to speak out," he said.

Group members said the meeting discussed that the army chief's comment may reflect a plan for the government to replace the Social Action Party (SAP) with Ruam Thai and Community Action parties. But government sources dismissed this interpretation.

The dissenters elected to the group leadership are Chaloemphan, Surachai Sirinuphong (Songkhla), Chawalit Techaphaitun, Kraison Tantiphong (Chiang Mai), Charinya Phungsaeng (Chiang Mai), Samphan Paenphat (Nakkon si Thammarat), Thongchat Rattanawicha (Nakhon Si Thammarat), Samphan Loetnuwat, Phiraphan, Decho and Naruchat Bunsuwan (Songkhla).

/6662

CSO: 4200/349

JANUARY FIGURES SHOW IMPROVED TRADE BALANCE

BK190129 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Feb 87 p 13

[Text] Thailand's exports last month soared by 11.6 percent from January 1986 to about 20,500 million baht, resulting in a significant improvement in the country's trade balance, according to Bank of Thailand spokesman Dr Siri Kancharoendi.

Dr Siri added that imports rose by 6.1 percent to 22,000 million baht and the monthly trade deficit was 1,500 million baht, 900 million baht less than January 1986.

He also said the country's income from tourism industry in the first month of the Visit Thailand Year increased by 8.4 percent to 3,400 million baht, which helped the current account make a surplus of 100 million baht.

The net capital inflow was 2,400 million baht, comprising 2,500 million baht in an inflow acquired by the private sector and 100 million baht in an outflow through the Government.

The balance of payments had a surplus of 4,622 million baht last month.

However, Dr Siri noted that imports of raw and semi-raw materials rocketed by 42.8 percent to 7,680 million baht last month from 5,377 million baht in January 1986, while those of capital goods rose by 13.3 percent and consumer products by 26.3 percent.

But imports of oil products continued to fall by 34.5 percent, to 2,900 million baht from 4,400 million baht, he added.

Dr Siri also said the volume of the country's major exports including rice and rubber last month was 9 percent higher than in January 1986.

Regarding the general economic situation, he said industries continued to expand, particularly the production of automobiles and motorcycles which increased 4.4 percent and 91.4 percent respectively. The growth of the construction and related industries is still favourable, he said, adding that the situation is not very good for the soft-drink and tin-mining industries.

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CSO: 4200/349

## BRIEFS

U.S. BLAMED FOR PHILIPPINE WOES--A book worth mentioning is "The Exiled Despot." This book provides a wealth of data on the Philippines. It was written by Thanin Ngamwithayaphong. The book reminded me of another country whose situation is similar to that described in the book. Before the people's revolution overthrew the Marcos regime, the situation in the Philippines was as follows: The Philippine political system was dominated by a few elite families that had managed to gain power. Even though there was one period in which elections were held in a parliamentary system, the people did not have a chance to participate. The United States had a great influence over the Philippines. President Marcos acted like the retainer of the U.S. government. He once said that "my country is a member of the Free World, in which American business has taken the lead." And that is not all. The elite all supported this statement by the president and were fooled into believing that they lived in a free democracy. The result was that the Philippines was dominated both politically and economically by two international financial institutions over which the United States had direct influence, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. [Excerpt] [Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 21 Jan 87 p 3] 11943

CHAWALIT NAMED DEPUTY ISOC DIRECTOR--Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon, in his capacity as director of Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC), ordered the appointment of Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut as his deputy director. The same order also transferred Army Deputy Commander-in-Chief Gen Phisit Hemabut from his ISOC deputy director post to that of the assistant director. At the same time, Assistant Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Phichit Kunlawanit and Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong were relieved from their ISOC assistant director posts. The order, dated February 13, 1987, authorised the ISOC deputy director to sign for and fully act on behalf of the director. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 20 Feb 87 p 3 BK] /6662

LAO ATTENDANCE AT THAI TRADE FAIR--About 100 Laotian officials and businessmen attended opening of a trade fair today in Nong Khai border province of Thailand. Thai Deputy Commerce Minister Prachuap Chaiyasan said Nong Khai Governor Santi Manikan had invited Laos to the fair, which will last until Sunday. A trade fair has also been held in the provinces of Khon Kaen, Udon Thani, Sakon Nakhon, Kalasin, and Maha Sarakham as part of the government's effort to stimulate trade in the northeast. [Text] [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 13 Feb 87 BK] /6662

SOLDIERS WOUNDED IN BORDER CLASHES--Five Thai troops were wounded, mostly by shrapnel of mines, in a series of clashes with Vietnamese intruders in border areas of Ubon Ratchathani from Jan 20 to Feb 3. Ubon Ratchathani Governor Danai Ketsiri told THE NATION most of the clashes were brief but sometimes artillery shells landed on the Thai side and damaged border villages. The governor described the situation as "not serious." "Even the Thai border villages are now quite used to the danger," he said. Almost every house has an underground shelter, and villagers have taken special precaution in preventing their children and cattle from roaming too close to the border where many mines have been laid by the enemies, he reported. [Text] [Bangkok THE NATION in English 8 Feb 87 p 3 BK] /6662

KAMPUCHEAN REFUGEE CAMP BEING EXPANDED--Surin--Work is under way for the expansion of Site B in order to give more rooms to some 42,000 Kampuchean refugees sheltered there, officials said this morning. A United Nations Border Relief Operation (UNBRO) official said plans called for the perimeter of the camp--located in Sangkhla District--to be expanded by about one square kilometre and for a network of roads to be laid down. So far, Kampucheans had started clearing some of the land by hand with road works due to start later this month, the official added. Earlier, Army Information Officer Maj-Gen Wichit Bunyawat said construction work was under way for some Kampucheans from Site B to be moved to a village closer to the Kampuchean border called Taleng Wek (formerly known as Tatum). The village is located within walking distance from Site B at just over a kilometre further southeast. Maj-Gen Wichit at the same time said Kampucheans at Jgai I-dang, officially closed at the end of last year, for family reunification reasons would be allowed to choose the site at which they wished to be relocated. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 11 Feb 87 p 32 BK] /6662

'MUSLIM GUERRILLA' ACTIVITY--Yala--A man and his two-year-old brother were killed and a policeman was seriously wounded in an ambush by a group of about eight heavily armed Muslim guerrillas in this southern province yesterday. Police regarded the attack as a "revenge" for police protection provided to villagers who had been harassed by the outlawed Barrsan National Rakyat (BRN) movement--a secessionist group which is active in the four Muslim-dominated southernmost provinces. The incident occurred at around 8.30 am on a road in Tambon Sa-ae. The victims, riding on a motorcycle, were attacked by about eight men dressed in green fatigues who fired HK33 assault rifles at them. Two of the victims, identified as Hama Disa-ae, 21, and his two-year-old brother Samarn, died on the spot. The policeman, Pol Pvt Ussaman Dohloh, 29, who was seriously wounded, was rushed to a hospital. Pol Col Bunchua Kukunrat, Yala police chief, said the attack might be aimed at avenging a police campaign against the extortion operations of the outlawed movement. The BRN guerrillas have reportedly demanded "protection fees" from people living in areas under their influence. He said police had provided protection to people who feared harassment by the guerrillas on receipts of the extortion complaints. [Text] [Bangkok THE NATION in English 17 Feb 87 p e BK] /6662

CSO: 4200/349

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

MEETING MARKS GORBACHEV 15 JAN STATEMENT ANNIVERSARY

BK111325 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1127 11 Feb 87

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK February 11--A mass meeting was held in Phnom Penh Tuesday afternoon to mark the first anniversary of the Jan. 15, 1986 statement of the Soviet party general secretary Mikhail Gorbachev on eliminating nuclear arms and other mass destruction weapons by the year 2000.

The meeting, sponsored by the Kampuchean-USSR Friendship Association, was attended by, among others: Sim Ka, vice president of the Kampuchea Peace Committee; Prach Sun, vice president of the Commission for External Relations of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee; Min Khin, deputy secretary-general of the Kampuchean Committee for Solidarity and Friendship with Other Peoples.

Achot Melik Chanazarov, counsellor of the Soviet Embassy and other members of diplomatic corps to Kampuchea were also present.

In his speech, Sim Ka highlighted the foreign policy of the Soviet Union as well as its efforts to put an end to the arms race, to normalize international relations and to thwart the nuclear danger.

After condemning the Reagan administration policy aimed at checking the movement of national liberation, of gaining military superiority and achieving its neoglobal policy, Sim Ka said that the Reagan administration's adventurously militarist and bellicose policy would push the mankind on the brink of a nuclear danger.

Expressing the aspirations of the Kampuchean people to live in peace, to have justice and good neighbourliness, Sim Ka reaffirmed the Kampuchean people's full support for the Jan. 15, 1986 statement of the Soviet party leader and their stance to close ranks with the fraternal people of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in the tireless struggle for preserving and consolidating the world peace.

Next, the participants adopted a resolution which on behalf of the Kampuchean Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With Other Peoples, the Kampuchean

Peace Committee, the Kampuchea-USSR Friendship Association and its chapters and other mass organizations in Kampuchea, made an appeal to the world public opinion, and the peace- and justice-loving forces in the West to exert pressure on the Reagan administration to immediately put an end to arms race, its nuclear testings and follow the Soviet Union's examples.

/6662

CSO: 4200/349

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

ALBANIAN GREETINGS--Comrade Pali Mishka, chairman of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, recently sent a greetings message to Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the PRK National Assembly. The message noted: On behalf of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania and in my own name, I would like to extend warmest greetings and best wishes to you on the occasion of the PRK's national day. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 31 Jan 87] /8309

CZECHOSLOVAK MESSAGE--Comrade Gustav Husak, general secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia Central Committee and president of the CSSR, recently sent a message of thanks to Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the PRK Council of State. The message noted: I am convinced that the friendly relations and cooperation between our two parties, states, and peoples will further develop successfully in the interests of our common struggle for peace, socialism, and the world's social progress. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 2 Feb 87] /8309

DEFENSE MINISTER GREETES INDIAN COUNTERPART--Comrade Koy Buntha, PRK minister of national defense, has sent a congratulatory message to His Excellency Viswanath Pratap Singh on his appointment as minister of defense of the Republic of India. The message noted: On behalf of cadres and combatants of the KPRAF and in my own name, I am very happy to extend warmest congratulations to you on your appointment as minister of defense of the Republic of India. I am convinced that the relations of friendship and solidarity and mutual understanding between our two peoples and armies of Cambodia and India will further strengthen and develop ceaselessly. May you enjoy good health and success in your noble mission. Please accept my highest regards. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 12 Feb 87 BK] /9274

KONG KORM GREETES MPR MINISTER--Comrade Kong Korm, minister of foreign affairs of the PRK, recently sent a greetings message to Comrade Mangalyn Dugersuren, minister of foreign affairs of the MPR, on his 65th birthday. The message stressed: Implementing the resolution of the 19th Congress of the MPRP, you have been very active with a high sense of proletarian internationalism in contributing to raising the prestige of the MPR on the international stage and to strengthening and developing the military solidarity between the Cambodian and Mongolian states and peoples for the defense of peace in the Asia-Pacific region and in the world. I salute and appreciate this quality in you and hope that the bonds of friendship between our two peoples and the cooperation between our two foreign ministries will grow closer and develop further. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 17 Feb 87 BK] /9274

CHEA SIM'S GREETINGS TO NICARAGUA--Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the PRK National Assembly, recently sent a message to Comrade Carlos Nunez Tellez, chairman of the National Assembly of the Republic of Nicaragua, on the inauguration of the historic first Constitution of the Nicaraguan people. The message said: I highly appreciate this new Constitution which has opened a new chapter of history by granting the fraternal Nicaraguan people independence, freedom, democracy, and the right to be the true masters of their own destiny in order to build their beloved country. I would like to express great satisfaction at the constant and steady development of the relations, friendship, solidarity, and cooperation between our two countries and peoples for peace, security, and social progress of mankind. I wish you and, through you, the fraternal members of the Nicaraguan National Assembly and the fraternal Nicaraguan people the best of health and more and greater successes in implementing all revolutionary tasks. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 17 Feb 87 BK] /9274 .

HUNGARIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES--At the invitation of the PRK Ministry for Economic and Cultural Cooperation with Foreign Countries, a delegation of the Hungarian People's Republic led by Comrade Gyorgy Doro, deputy chairman of the National Planning Office of the Hungarian People's Republic and vice chairman of the Hungarian side's cambodian-Hungarian intergovernmental committee, arrived in the PRK on the morning of 12 February for an official friendship visit. Welcoming the delegation at Pochentong Airport were Comrade Tang Saroem, minister for Economic and Cultural Cooperation with Foreign Countries; Comrade Keo Samut, deputy minister of planning; and many cadres from various ministries; as well as Comrade Lajos Karsai, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Hungarian People's Republic to Cambodia. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Feb 87 BK] /9274

FISH CATCH IN KOMPONG CHAM--In 4 months at the beginning of the 1986-87 fishing season, the solidarity fishing groups in Kompong Cham Province caught more than 2,850 metric tons of fish. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Feb 87 BK] /9274

KONG KORM GREETs PHOUN SIPASEUT--On the occasion of the 67th birthday of Comrade Phoun Sipaseut, minister of foreign affairs of the LPDR, Comrade Kong Korm, minister of foreign affairs of the PRK, sent him the following greetings message; I would like to express cordial salutations to you and high appreciation of the invaluable contributions you have made in order to strengthen and develop the traditional militant solidarity between fraternal Cambodia and Laos and for peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world. May the relations of fraternal friendship, special militant solidarity, and all-round cooperation between the Cambodian and Lao parties, governments, and peoples as well as between our two Foreign Ministries further develop. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 16 Feb 87 BK] /9274

FISH CATCH IN JANUARY--Phnom Penh, 13 Feb (SPK)--Fishermen in the country caught more than 11,700 metric tons of fish in January. Kandal Province along caught 5,170 metric tons, followed by Kompong Chhnang, Kompong Cham, Siem Reap, and Prey Veng with 2,630, 605, 380, 490 metric tons respectively. Besides this, the State Fishing Units caught 1,810 metric tons of fish. In



addition to fishing, fish breeding was also successful. During the past month, it exceeded plan with a haul of 360 metric tons of young fish, including 70 metric tons each by Phnom Penh and the border province of Battambang. This year, the Cambodian fish breeders plan to supply 5,000 metric tons of fry. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0405 GMT 13 Feb 87 BK] /9738

INDOCHINA EDITORS MEET--Phnom Penh, 13 Feb (SPK)--The second conference of the army journal editors of Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos was held in Phnom Penh recently. Attending the conference were Ros Sovan, editor of the Cambodian Revolutionary Army journal KANGTOAP PADEVOAT; Tran Cong Man, editor of the Vietnam People's Army journal QUAN DOI NHAN DAN; and [Lt Colonel] Kham Visai, editor of the Lao People's Army journal KONG THAP POT POI PASASON. The conference reviewed results of the cooperation among the three journals during 1986 and set tasks in this field for 1987 and the coming years. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0402 GMT 13 Feb 87 BK] /9738

JANUARY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION--Phnom Penh SPK February 14--In January this year, trade services in the provinces of Kompong Cham, Kompong Thom, Kandal and Kampot, turned over 365 tonnes of agricultural products to the Ministry of Home and Foreign Trade. The products included 140 tonnes of soybean, over 110 tonnes of green bean, nearly 100 tonnes of sesame, over 10 tonnes of pepper and more than four tonnes of peanut. Leading, among others, was the trade service of Kompong Cham which handed in some 240 tonnes of those products to the state. This month, the services expect to buy dried fish, pigs on hoof, pine resin and tobacco for the state. In 1986, the peasants sold the state some 23,000 tonnes of agricultural and aquatic products, including over 12,600 tonnes of soybean, over 200 tonnes of sesame, 11,500 tonnes of tobacco, about 1,800 tonnes of green bean, over 3,500 tonnes of pigs on hoof, and hundreds of tonnes of pine resin, palm sugar, dried fish, pepper and others. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1110 GMT 14 Feb 87 BK] /6662

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN PROVINCES--Phnom Penh SPK February 15--In the first week of February this year, peasants in Chamka Leu District, Kompong Cham Province, 100 km northeast of Phnom Penh, sold tonnes [as received] of rice to the state, representing a two-fold increase over the corresponding period last year. Leading were the communes of Speu and Lvea respectively with 100 tonnes each. Besides, in the previous month Chamka Leu sold the state 200 tonnes of beans. In return, the district trade service supplied the peasants with cloth, sarongs, soap, kerosene, kitchen salt and a large quantity of household utensils. By early January this year, peasants in Prey Veng Province, 90 km east of Phnom Penh, had planted more than 43 percent of dry-season rice out of the planned 32,500 ha, including 2,700 ha of IR-36 rice variety. Leading were the Districts of Sithor Kandal, Peam Ro, Peareang and Prey Veng respectively with 2,450; 2,500; 3,180 and 1,500 ha. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1125 GMT 15 Feb 87 BK] /6662

CASTRO GREETED ON REELECTION--Phnom Penh SPK February 14--Kampuchean President Heng Samrin and Premier Hun Sen have jointly sent warmest congratulations to Fidel Castro Ruz on his re-election as president of the State Council and premier of the Republic of Cuba. In a joint message, the Kampuchean leaders say: "We are convinced that under your clear-sighted leadership, the Cuban people will obtain still greater success in fulfilling the resolutions of the Communist Party of Cuba's Third Congress which is aimed at defending the

country, developing economics and improving socialist society in Cuba." They wished their Cuban counterpart the best of health and new success in his highly responsible task, and the friendship, relation between the two countries further consolidation. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1113 GMT 14 Feb 87 BK] /6662

NICARAGUAN CONSTITUTION DAY GREETINGS--Phnom Penh SPK February 16--Kampuchean National Assembly Chairman Chea Sim has extended warmest greetings to his Nicaraguan counterpart, Carlos Nunez Tellez, on the occasion of the first Constitution Day of Nicaragua. In his message, Chairman Chea Sim said: "We would like to express our great satisfaction at the constant development of the relations, friendship, solidarity and cooperation between our two countries and peoples for peace, security and social progress of mankind." The Kampuchean leader wished the National Assembly and the fraternal people of Nicaragua the best of health and new, greater success in implementing their revolutionary tasks. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1114 GMT 16 Feb 87 BK] /6662

BEAN GROWING--Phnom Penh SPK February 7--According to the figure provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, by mid-January, the peasants across the country had covered 5,400 ha with all kinds of beans. Of the planted hectareage, 1,630 ha including 1,230 ha of green bean had been done in Kandal Province, 1,386 ha in Kompong Cham and 750 others in Kratie and Prey Veng. Last year Kandal planted 5,110 ha of beans, Kompong Cham 2,655 ha and Kratie and Prey Veng 2,280 ha. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1111 GMT 7 Feb 87 BK] /6662

CSO: 4200/349

COUNTRY CONGRATULATES NICARAGUA ON NEW CONSTITUTION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 16 Jan 87 p 1

[Leaders' congratulatory message to Nicaraguan leaders]

[Text] On 9 January 1987, Nicaragua held a ceremony to promulgate its first revolutionary constitution.

On this occasion, Truong Chinh, Chairman of the Council of State; Pham Van Dong, Chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Nguyen Huu Tho, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam sent comrades Daniel Ortega Saavedra, President of the Republic of Nicaragua; and Carlos Nunez, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Republic of Nicaragua the following congratulatory message:

"We wish to send you, the Government, National Assembly and Nicaraguan people, warmest congratulations on the occasion of the new constitution promulgated by the Republic of Nicaragua.

As dear and close combat friends of the heroic Nicaraguan people, the people of Vietnam consider this important and historic victory of the Nicaraguan people as their very own; and simultaneously are firmly confident that, under the correct leadership of the Sandinista Liberation Front and with their will to win and strong national solidarity, the fraternal Nicaraguan people will continue to make even greater achievements in every aspect in protecting and building the new and prosperous country of Nicaragua.

We wish to affirm once again the combat solidarity and total support of the Government, National Assembly and people of Vietnam for the glorious revolutionary undertaking of the fraternal Nicaraguan people.

Best wishes to you in combat and victory."

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CSO: 4209/293

## PARTY LAUNCHES ANTICORRUPTION DRIVE

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 16 Jan 87 pp 3, 4

[Article by Binh Phuong: "Resist Corruption"]

[Text] The Sixth Party Congress resolved that after the congress, a plan is necessary for implementing a campaign to purify the party, overcome wayward manifestations within the party apparatus and repel negative occurrences in society. Within the theme of this campaign, an extremely important issue is resistance to corruption. A directive of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee on commemorating the 57th anniversary of the founding of the party also stated that the primary requirement is educating and raising the quality and revolutionary ethics of cadres and party members, and swiftly dealing with degenerate and deviant cadres and major violations of socialist property.

Why Is There Corruption?

Socialist transformation is presently being conducted and although socialist relations have been established, they are still weak. Socialist economy consists of national economy and collective economy holds a primary portion but it has not yet been consolidated. Non-socialist economy with many elements still occupies a significant portion. Spontaneous capitalist influences and corrupt elements have actually aligned with each other to sabotage socialist economy. Nearly all the cases of corruption have involved pilferage of goods from within state agencies and enterprises to the outside society; and then pilferage from the outside to the inside of agencies and enterprises of the state.

Meanwhile, production has failed to develop and many difficulties have occurred in the economy and life, especially in the lives of the legitimate laborers.

The centralized management, bureaucratic and state subsidized mechanism has persisted for many years. The new mechanism of socialist accounting and business practices is in the process of construction, augmentation and perfection. A number of major policies on the economy have loopholes, and lack firm regulations to halt the use of these policies to engage in illegal activities. Laws, regulations and usages are also incomplete, leading to many cases in which it is difficult to determine whether something being done by a management cadre or agency is right or wrong, and whether it is dynamic and creative or an intentional infraction of policy. The material and technical base to protect socialist property has not yet been ensured. Corrupt elements take advantage of the crevices above to "fish in troubled waters," and some have become rich in an extremely rapid manner.

Especially in the selection of cadres, workers and civil servants for party and state agencies, especially economic agencies, many cases have occurred of loopholes, not ensuring principles and standards, not truly relying on the honest and straightforward people, and not using work results as a measurement but replacing them with administrative and bureaucratic procedures. Corrupt elements win over and bribe a number of cadres with selection authority to introduce to the state rolls individuals with insufficient standards, opportunists, members of the exploitation class, and dishonest merchants unwilling to undergo transformation and slip them into the basic economic units of the state, including a number of leadership agencies. The consequences of lax organization and cadre work in a number of locations are heavy.

A number of individuals who are inherently good but have not been strong and in control of themselves have also fallen into corruption. Meanwhile, good cadres and civil servants are still the primary force but they have not sufficiently rebuffed the corrupt elements because the leadership echelons of the party and state have not motivated, organized or granted them authority, have not protected them, and have not joined them in eradicating corruption.

Education and management of cadres, party members, workers and civil servants have not been promptly renovated in accordance with requirements and are somewhat lax. The self-cultivation and training of each individual have not been regular or strict.

#### The Anti-Corruption Situation

Our party and state have outlined the anti-corruption mission and have initiated many methods; and echelons and sectors have achieved a number of results. Recently, through achievement of self-criticism and criticism in the party in coordination with a mass struggle movement, a number of incidents and matters have been discovered and dealt with. The eradication of corruption presently has a new momentum. There are many examples of units, individuals and a number of newspaper correspondents who have courageously struggled against corruption and are extremely deserving of praise, proving that the Resolution of the Party is correct and is presently active among the masses.

Nevertheless, the results have not yet answered the requirements. Because illegal actions are not being promptly, severely and openly punished, they have not been halted and are spreading further. This is due to the following weaknesses and shortcomings:

1. A number of cadres and party members have not fully realized the nature and stratagems of corrupt elements and the danger being created by them; and are confused in their class viewpoint. Many simply see the enemy as imperialists, expansionists and hegemonists, and have not yet recognized that corrupt elements in the objective sense are the thing that the socialist revolution must severely punish. Some party committee echelons neglect supervision in the work mentioned above, and do not clearly recognize the relationship between economic construction and protection and the eradication of corrupt elements, the relationship between the economic and political aspects, and the relationship between the struggle against corrupt elements in the state apparatus, between the two roads of socialism and capitalism and the struggle between the enemy and us.

2. Many cadres still lack a spirit of struggle, abandon principle in the internal struggle to protect discipline in the party and the laws of the state, often avoid or shirk confrontation, and cover up incidents and matters that occur. There is erroneous thinking that strict prosecution will concern many people, especially the leadership cadres, and will result in a "loss in leadership prestige" and a "loss in cadres." In the assessment and prosecution of a cadre violating discipline in the party and the laws of the state, the usual concern is that the former achievements and merits or "ability" of that individual will be "patronized" and abandoned. A number of responsible individuals in committee echelons and leadership sectors see errors but, due to personal considerations or fear that speaking the truth will result in a reprimand from their leader, remain silent or have a vague or endorsing attitude.

3. The role of key leaders has a decisive effect on purifying the apparatus and resisting corruption. For prompt, strict and open prosecution, it is necessary first of all to be extremely resolute and just, to truly trust in and rely on the masses, and to firmly ascertain the incident and the individuals involved. In many places however, when degenerate or deviant cadres or civil servants are discovered, a number of leadership cadres lack objectivity and do not wish to listen to the opinions of the masses or the agencies responsible for investigation. A number of incidents have had different evaluations and conclusions but have lacked resolute supervision of the agencies specializing in fulfilling their function of investigating, studying and clarifying right and wrong. A number of cadres, for their own interests or those of their relatives, or due to bribery or domination, have actually served as an umbrella to obstruct the truth and anti-corruption.

4. Internal affairs agencies have not properly fulfilled their professional and staff functions for the committee echelon; and have not assisted the committee echelon to formulate and systematize party resolutions on the anti-corruption effort; their professional standards are still weak; their responsibility is not high; they lack socialist cooperation and strictness regarding the leadership of the committee echelon; and a number of cadres and civil servants have been bribed to cover for the offenders or to erroneously reflect the incident.

The shortcomings and weaknesses above have led to a universal tendency of rightism and laxity, created a protracted delay in the anti-corruption effort and reduced the confidence of the masses in the leadership of the party.

#### Promptly, Strictly and Openly Resist Corruption

First of all, it is necessary to clearly recognize the nature and stratagems of corrupt elements. Those involved in illegitimate activities both inside and outside the state area, consisting also of a number of individuals with power and position, have taken advantage of the loopholes of the old mechanism and the slack situation during the change to the new mechanism to seek favors, steal, conspire, engage in corruption and bribery, violate socialist property, create losses for the state, and further disrupt the socio-economic situation. More serious has been their abuse of power to suppress and reprimand their accusers.

At the present time, the internal corrupt elements are extremely dangerous. They take advantage of their official position to closely conspire with the speculators and smugglers outside society that are presently busily active and becoming increasingly more blatant. The forms and stratagems of their corruption are fairly ingenious:

--To create difficulties and engage in blackmail to demand bribes, common under many forms.

--To slip state goods to private operators for sale at a high price in order to divide the profits. To steal or skim off materials reserved for industry, agriculture or the troops. To buy up and hoard necessities and then raise prices to monopolize the market. To take advantage of joint enterprise and association, dual prices, goods procurement and exchange, and price increases.

--To take advantage of loopholes in construction to steal materials, or to transfer capital from one project to another, taking advantage of the confused books to steal.

--To produce counterfeit goods for introduction into state stores in exchange for legitimate goods.

--To create false achievements for the sake of corruption under the guise of cash awards, gifts, presents, etc.

--To take advantage of public funds to make interest earning loans or for trade; and to establish slush funds for illegal disbursements. To use the money of the state to buy gifts of great value for exchange between one another, and to convert public property into private property.

--To compete for the purchase of export goods, sell them contrary to principle and then use the foreign exchange to buy extravagant consumer items for sale to make a profit, create a slush fund or place the money in private pockets, thus disturbing the market.

--To take advantage of trade and transportation with foreign countries, conspire with international smugglers, etc.

They operate in an open and extremely crafty manner: from solicitations for small and average jobs to illegal actions by bribery coordinated with control and encirclement; and from establishment of a network of cronies to palm greasing, searching for individuals in authority to serve as an umbrella and cover, and creating protective networks. They are extremely stubborn and only confess their crimes when we have sufficient proof or they are caught in the act.

They have caused increasingly more serious harm to socio-economic, ideological and political aspects. They create a favorable basis for spies and reactionaries to operate against us.

The anti-corruption drive is actually a struggle between the two roads and a class struggle. If corruption is not promptly halted, inevitably from the

economic gradually to the political aspects, corrupt elements will increasingly invade and accomplices of the enemy will intervene, using every legal and illegal stratagem to gradually degrade our cadres.

The resolute eradication of corruption in the state apparatus at all levels, especially in the agencies controlling materials, property, money and goods, the discovery and appropriate and prompt punishment of deviants, degenerates, thieves, and those engaged in bribery, collusion and taking advantage of their official positions to misappropriate the property of the state and the people, and simultaneous resistance to speculation and smuggling are urgent tasks.

We resist corruption by many methods: education and propaganda, through various means of mass communications, and through disciplinary actions in the party and representative prosecutions of the people's court at all levels, etc. in order to raise the realization and vigilance of the party members and masses concerning these new foes.

It is necessary to reexamine, select and streamline the key cadre ranks of all echelons and sectors. Party and state cadres must be thrifty, honest, just, impartial and straightforward, resolutely uphold a worker class viewpoint, renew methods of thinking and working, and return effective results to leadership and work.

It is necessary to truly rely on the masses to eradicate corruption. Launch a revolutionary movement of the masses and rely upon the masses to investigate and determine thieves, corrupt elements, speculators and smugglers who are raising prices and disrupting the market. When they have been correctly investigated and discovered, resolutely punish the offenders at no matter what level; bring them out for open prosecution; and recover all the property they have stolen.

The responsibility of leaders in all echelons and sectors is to wholeheartedly and justly listen to the ideas and opinions of the masses; and to simultaneously use responsible agencies to investigate, determine and swiftly reach a conclusion in order to reply to the masses while accepting correct opinions and explaining erroneous opinions, including open replies in the press. Opinions that take advantage of false accusations and create disorder to harm active individuals must also be dealt with in accordance with the law. The accusations or critical opinions of the masses in the newspapers and on the radio must not be ignored.

A prosecution policy must be firmly ascertained and the struggle made a procedure; first of all prosecuting the backlogged cases. We must resolutely punish corrupt element ringleaders and adopt a policy of leniency toward those who atone for their sins.

No matter to whom a case relates, even if an upper echelon, the responsibility must be clarified. Resolutely forbid and punish every form of harboring and covering up. If a clear conclusion is reached on the violation, the upper echelon must resolutely request that the lower echelon correct it; and the lower echelon must strictly do so; resisting rightism, leniency, liberalism and arbitrariness.



Supervision must be resolute with a center of importance and priority. Each echelon and sector must clearly determine the number of backlogged cases; select a number of representative cases; and promote urgent, strict and open investigation and prosecution to serve as an example.

It is necessary to implement effective methods to prevent and halt corruption.

--Create conditions for strengthening the protection of socialist property such as improving the full-time and part-time protection organizations; augmenting protection and inspection regulations and systems to ensure firm compliance; and consolidating warehouses and means to protect socialist property. Places failing to comply with the regulations of the law on protecting socialist property must track down the clear administrative responsibility of each organization and individual without omitting any type of cadre.

--Each sector and echelon must reexamine all individuals directly involved in economic and financial management, and maintaining goods, materials and money. Any violators must be dealt with in accordance with the law. At the same time, along with the laboring masses in each basic unit, select and train cadres, party members and individuals outside the party who are upright, have a high sense of responsibility and know how to manage socialist property for appointment and replacement, and have a policy of fitting compensation for those individuals.

Regularly reexamine, revise, supplement and formulate laws, regulations and usages aimed at promptly systematizing the positions and policies of the party on renewing the economic management mechanism, and on anti-corruption.

Consolidate, improve and raise the combat strength of internal affairs agencies.

Firmly grasp the principle of direct, total and thorough party leadership in the anti-corruption mission.

Anti-corruption consists of synchronized ideological, organizational and legal methods of both a high combat and scientific nature. This demands that the committee echelon itself, and directly the standing committee and the secretary, regularly give concern to supervision and setting an achievement example. There is no guidance committee or leader, no matter how skilled, that can serve as a replacement. As for the internal affairs sectors, the committee echelons must provide firm leadership in accordance with regulations, use other sectors, supervise and assist sectors to select their responsibilities, and unify sectors to create a composite strength.

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CSO: 4209/293

## EDITORIAL CALLS FOR EFFECTIVE, QUALITY EDUCATION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 16 Jan 87 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Raising the Effectiveness and Quality of Education"]

[Text] Giving concern for answering the requirements of education and culture is an important theme of social policy that is closely connected with economic policy and aimed at strongly developing the decisive role of the human factor in building and protecting the socialist fatherland. The Resolution of the Sixth Party Congress emphasized the mission, "Raise the quality of education with the purpose of forming and totally developing the socialist character of the young generation and training ranks of cadres with culture, technology and discipline, and enriched with creativeness, synchronized in profession and consistent with the labor assignment requirements of society."

Raising the quality of education demands effort in many aspects and is a resolute, continuous and gradual process appropriately answering the practical requirements and consistent with the economic capabilities of each revolutionary period. Summarizing experience in the achievement of educational reform, and readjusting and raising the quality of this reform on the basis of renewing educational thought, and renewing ways of thinking and working are the basic course and method of raising the effectiveness and quality of education. An urgent task is the formulation of a plan to develop an education system balance (also including occupational training) consistent with the economic and social development plan in each local area and on a nationwide scope, and closely connecting the training plan with use and mobilization of many investment sources of the proper level for the educational undertaking.

The mission of socialist education is to care for and train the young generation from infancy with the purpose of creating an extremely important initial basis for gradually forming and developing the socialist character. The course of struggle to raise the quality of education begins with an emphasis on building the sector educating the young, raising the quality of child rearing and developing kindergarten classes. Eliminate the illiteracy that still exists in a number of local areas, basically complete level I general education for the children and level II in those locations with the necessary conditions, and gradually expand middle school education by many forms; and emphasize various types of schools and work-study classes. In conjunction with improving the quality of cultural subjects and general and basic knowledge teaching, it is necessary to specially emphasize political education and ethics for the student, and to raise the effectiveness of composite technical education, closely

connecting the general education trade and professional course with the labor assignment requirements of all society. Specification of a total education objective for each study level and formulation of a specific training plan to achieve those objectives is a basic condition for making teaching and study a procedure, creating a stable foundation and gradually raising the quality of education.

After completing study in the general schools, only a small number of students are enrolled in colleges and vocational schools and the remaining majority must continue occupational training to become direct laborers. The system of occupational training schools has an important position in continuing the general education process aimed at training large ranks of laborers with technology, discipline and creative enrichment to properly satisfy social labor assignment. An urgent requirement at the present time is to expand and strengthen the occupational schools and classes to provide elementary and advanced training for skilled workers--the hard-core force of the worker class, while simultaneously developing widespread occupational training centers for youths and workers, first of all aimed at supporting the three economic programs on grain and food, consumer goods and export goods.

College and vocational middle school education is tasked with training ranks of management, scientific and professional cadres with a synchronized and balanced structure in trade sectors, standards and forms consistent with the projections and plans of economic and cultural development of the nation, and actively assisting to renew cadre work as well as economic and social management work. The central and immediate mission of the college and vocational middle school education sector is to emphasize the elementary and advanced training of cadres in the social science sector, especially economic management cadres and many other kinds of cadres for economic fields and locations presently short of many cadres in local areas, agricultural cooperatives and small industry and handicrafts, particularly in the Mekong River Delta, the central highlands and the northern mountainous regions.

Aimed at answering the multifaceted requirements in professional standards and cadre formation, the structural arrangement of the college and vocational middle school education system must express the unified nature of the educational process consisting of many forms of elementary and advanced training, conventional and unconventional, centralized and on-the-job, etc., creating favorable conditions for the student and returning effective results. Continue to expand elementary training in accordance with contracts between schools and locations with requirements, aimed at closely connecting training with use and further increasing the income source of the school. Along with enrollment improvement, clearly define graduate student addresses and distribution, renew the methods of training evaluation, and improve the system for examinations and granting diplomas, certificates and degrees along a course that is both practical and ensures the quality and effectiveness of training.

General education as well as college and vocational middle school education and occupational training are integral parts of the national education system structure that are closely related to each other. Rational assignment of the training mission as well as rearrangement of the network of schools to develop

a mutual aid effect is the theme of renewing educational system organization and management, creating conditions for coordinating teaching and study with production labor and scientific and technical experimentation and research, closely connecting educational activity with economic and social activity, gradually raising the quality and effectiveness of training and effectively contributing toward achievement of the missions of building and protecting the socialist fatherland.

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CSO: 4209/293

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