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11 April 1984

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MANPOWER MINISTER OPPOSES MASS DISMISSALS OF WORKERS

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 2 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] Minister of Manpower Sudomo has declared that he will never agree to the mass dismissal of employees of state-owned business enterprises (BUMNs) on any grounds whatever.

He made the statement in Jakarta on Wednesday [1 February] in response to questions from newsmen about reports that some BUMNs plan to carry out mass discharges of employees in order to improve efficiency. The minister confirmed that two BUMNs that provide services in the field of marine transportation had contacted him and asked for permission to carry out mass dismissals. "I firmly told the managers of both BUMNs that the minister of manpower does not approve of mass dismissals," he said.

Sudomo said that other alternatives are available to the managers of these companies. First, employees can be discharged in stages and on a selective basis, with priority being given to persons who have reached or will soon reach retirement age. Employees with 2 or 3 years left can be offered early retirement and some compensation by the company. Another alternative would be to offer double severance pay, or more, to employees who volunteer to resign.

Persons who are discharged but want to keep on working should be encouraged to immediately contact the labor exchanges in local offices of the Department of Manpower. "It is quite possible that they are needed by other companies," he said, adding that discharged workers have potential and experience and are sure to find jobs in other companies.

He noted that many of the 4,000 workers who were employed on the construction of the hydrocracker in Cilacap have been hired by companies in East Kalimantan or are working in other countries.

The minister said that the two BUMNs that had contacted him on the subject of mass dismissals, namely, PT Pelni and Jakarta Lloyd, had accepted his recommendation and constrained their intentions in this regard.

Regarding the expected dismissal of the employees of a cooking oil plant in Central Java, the minister stated that no workers have been terminated yet.

He confirmed that the plant was having trouble with its production stock but said that the Department of Industry was taking steps to overcome the problem.

If the plant does plan to discharge its employees, it will first have to ask the Department of Manpower for permission. And if the department decides that the discharges are unavoidable, it will certainly find a way to channel the workers through labor exchanges.

Minister Sudomo said that if the workers must be discharged, then management must observe the regulations that cover this situation, for example, in the granting of severance pay.

5458

CSO: 4213/167

FINANCE MINISTER SAYS DEBT SERVICE RATIO NOT CRITICAL

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 2 Feb 84 pp 1, 11

[Excerpt] Minister of Finance Radius Prawiro rejects the view that the ratio of export earnings to foreign debt and interest payment obligations (debt service ratio) has reached a critical figure.

Speaking to reporters today [1 February] at the Bina Graha building prior to a cabinet meeting on economic, financial and industrial affairs, he said, "I never look at this problem in terms of a certain figure being considered critical."

It is estimated that the debt service ratio will be about 21.5 percent for the 1984/85 year. Economic observers call this a critical figure.

The minister said that the important thing is that "we see where something must be rectified and make the correction as quickly as possible, so that no problems are prolonged or go uncontrolled."

"When there is a problem now, it can quickly be controlled," he added.

He also said that since we now have good managerial abilities we are able to improve our foreign exchange reserves and increase exports.

However, we cannot be careless in the use of foreign exchange or the handling of projects but must ensure that every expenditure of funds is characterized by efficiency, he said.

The government always emphasizes the need to avoid wasteful expenditures, he added.

5458

CSO: 4213/166

FUEL PRICE INCREASES AROUSE CONCERN

MP's Response

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 12 Jan 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] Jakarta--Today members of parliament expressed their disappointment over the government's adjustment of BBM [fuels] prices before discussing the increases with that legislative body even though the new policy involves parliament's budgetary prerogatives regarding state revenue.

Hamzah Haz, chairman of the APBN [National Estimate of Income and Expenditures] Commission and member of the PP [United Development Party] Faction, told newsmen in Jakarta on Thursday afternoon [12 January] that this government measure was regrettable. He indicated that the underlying reason for his statement was the fact that the semi-annual fiscal 1984 APBN report, which appeared in December, showed no need for increase in domestic BBM prices.

Prices have been revised twice since the fiscal 1984 APBN was approved. They were revised for the first time on 30 March 1983 when the rupiah was devalued and for the second time on 12 January 1984.

He admitted that everyone should understand that the reason why the government announced the price increases so quickly was to prevent incipient speculation. If speculation were allowed to run rampant, economic stagnation was certain to follow.

"Since this measure involved the DPR's [Parliament's] budgetary prerogatives, it should have been discussed earlier with that body," he repeated.

It is important that the DPR be informed of the government's intentions although it is the government's prerogative to announce its policies when it chooses to do so. Although it is too late to do anything about these increases, Haz recommended that any future bills or changes in the APBN be submitted to parliament for discussion before the end of the fiscal year since parliament must support these changes in policy.

The government must now explain why it was necessary to raise the prices of solar fuel and kerosene more than those of other oil prices. The government provides subsidies for these two types of fuel, he said, which are needed not only by the common man but also by industries and entrepreneurs who provide services.

This member of parliament urged the government to establish tight controls over other prices so that they would not soar because of the fuel price increases. The government is obligated to control prices especially those for the nine basic commodities, for instance, to prevent an extraordinary increase in the price of cooking oil. The government must do this.

The government should take stringent measures immediately if there is any evidence of price manipulation in the market place. Civil servants and ABRI [Indonesian Armed Forces] personnel would see no gain in their real income, Haz calculated, if commodity prices rose more than 15 percent.

Impact

Johny Simanjuntak, KP [Functional Development Party² Faction member, feels the government must pay more attention to the common man because the fuel price increases have a greater impact on people with low income than they do on those in the upper or middle classes.

This policy is unfair, he said, unless it is accompanied by other economic measures that benefit the common man. If such measures are not forthcoming, an excessive burden will be placed on the general public.

Parulian Silalahi, vice chairman of the APBN Commission and member of the PDI [Indonesian Democratic Party] Faction, felt it was regrettable that injustice lay at the heart of the crippling rise in solar and kerosene prices.

He also regretted that the announced government policy had not been discussed earlier in the DPR although in truth it should have been done at the factional level since it involved DPR budgetary prerogatives. Regarding when the price increases should be effective, Parulian Silalahi leaned toward 1 April so that civil servants, who are to receive a pay increase, will not be burdened too heavily.

FBSI's Reaction

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 12 Jan 84 p 8

[Text] Jakarta--The All-Indonesia Labor Federation Central Executive Committee (FBSI DPP) is fully aware that the BBM price increase decided upon by the government are a bitter pill to swallow.

On the one hand, the committee said, the BBM price increases will bolster the momentum for national development. The 1984-85 RAPBN [draft of the national estimate of income and expenditures] is 24.1 percent higher than that for the previous fiscal year. On the other hand, it will have a multiplier effect on the common man's burden, particularly that of labor.

Therefore, with a heavy heart, the FBSI DPP can appreciate the need for BBM price increases because they are an alternative that can ensure continuing national development.

This reaction to the plan to adopt a civil servant pay raise and increase BBM prices was provided in a press release signed by Andy S. Kusumanegara, deputy secretary general of the FBSI DPP on Wednesday [11 January].

The FBSI DPP appealed to the government to take definite steps immediately to prevent possible speculation. Commodity prices, especially prices of the common man's basic needs, should be controlled so that they do not increase more than BBM prices.

Efficiency and productivity in all fields must be increased in tandem with price increased while corruption and all forms and manifestations of manipulation must truly be rooted out in the context of creating an honest, clean, and prestigious government apparatus in accordance with one of the credes of the Fourth Development Cabinet.

Sincere efforts must be made to eliminate waste and leakage to create a sense of justice and social solidarity for all Indonesian people. The BBM price increases cannot be prevented because, in the opinion of the FBSI DPP, they are a logical consequence of the world economic recession as well as increasing national development which requires an ever-increasing amount of money.

Although the increase in BBM prices definitely will have an effect on commodity and service prices at this time, the FBSI DPP would like businessmen to recalculate their production costs (including labor costs) and make adjustments immediately.

The FBSI DPP appealed to businessmen directly affected by the world economic recession not to layoff (PHK) their workers to the extent possible. Businessmen not affected by the recession were called on to improve their workers' social welfare in line with their respective capabilities.

The FBSI DPP Research and Development Department is making conscientious efforts to determine the effect of the proposed BBM price on labor costs and workers' wages.

In due time the FBSI DPP will provide a rational and objective guideline for increasing labor's wages. This should be used as a standard for adjusting any unpreventable wage increases for labor.

The FBSI DPP appealed to businessmen to keep price increases for commodities and services to a minimum.

The FBSI DPP fully understands that the burden of national development must be borne by all Indonesian people fairly and equitably. The fruits of development must also be enjoyed by all the Indonesian people fairly and equitably.

Pay Increase

The FBSI DPP joins others in gladly accepting the government's decision to increase the pay of civil servants, ABRI personnel, and retirees by 15 percent of current net income.

The FBSI DPP hopes that when the country's financial situation permits, civil servants, ABRI personnel, and retirees will be given another pay increase so that they can live more comfortably or at least be able to meet their basic needs--food, clothing, housing, health, and education.

Editorial Comment

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 12 Jan 84 p 6

[Text] The announcement of the BBM price increases came 2 days after that of the civil servants pay raise. Why weren't they announced at the same time? Perhaps the government did not want to destroy the positive effect created by the pay increase or wanted to wait a while to prepare the public psychologically for the fuel price increase which was less welcome news.

This may have been a rather naive attitude for the government to take toward a serious and unavoidable increase even though the government might have wanted to make it a less bitter pill for the people to swallow.

The matter has now been clarified to some extent. The 15 percent pay raise had not yet been implemented. The BBM increase has been put into effect, moreover, the highest increase of 50 percent has been levied on kerosene which is greatly needed by the people. It is also clear that prices of other daily necessities will rise slowly and unrestrictedly from day to day. In the end the purchasing power of many workers will drop.

We had better face this matter and the resulting most unfavorable developments courageously and squarely rather than hiding our heads in the sand. Clearly no factual data exists to support any optimistic forecast.

It is not impossible that there is some great wisdom behind this serious development, namely, that some spontaneity may be reimbued in our nation and people for determining what our real capabilities are rather than pretending we have certain capabilities. With the possibility that the remainder of the BBM subsidies will be eliminated next year, for instance, we can begin to accustom ourselves to living without subsidies. This will be more normal and healthy and will have a positive effect on the people's and nation's mental resilience. This will be greatly needed to continue our still long struggle and development.

6804

CSO: 4213/148

MYSTERIOUS DRAFT BILL ON POLITICAL EXILE IS CIRCULATED

MP's Comments

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 14 Jan 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Jakarta, KOMPAS--On Friday [13 January] members of the DPR [Parliament] urged the government to clarify officially the circulation of a photocopy of an "RUU" [draft bill] concerning the "banishment or temporary exile of individuals to a particular place in Indonesia."

Achmad Subagyo (F-PDI [Indonesian Democratic Party Faction]) feels the security apparatus must immediately track down the source and the purpose for which this photocopy was circulated. This is why the government should make an immediate official clarification to the public on the matter.

The circulation of this "RUU" photocopy, Subagyo feels, could unsettle the public because the contents are sensitive. To date the source of the photocopy or who circulated it is not widely known. Even the government, he added, has offered no official clarification on the matter. "So, the circulation of this photocopy widely among the people has been unsettling to date."

Achmad Subagyo said the "RUU" definitely was circulated underground for a specific purpose and was biased toward a certain point of view. Yet, if it is a genuine photocopy of a bill supported by the government, the matter must be thoroughly investigated to determine who leaked it because state secrets are involved.

The DPR, he continued, has never heard that the government intended to propose such a bill. "To date there has never been any discussion between the DPR and the government regarding any plan to create a law such as this," he said.

The F-PP

Drs Soedardji, F-PP [Development Unity Party Faction] chairman, affirmed that the underground "RUU" violated human rights. The circulation of the photocopy had affected social stability which had been secured to date. He urged the government to submit an official clarification of the matter. He did not believe that the government planned such a bill "because we have enough means at present to stabilize politics and security."

Soedardji added that the photocopy was circulated widely for a specific purpose, clearly to undermine stability. The circulation of that photocopy, he said, was subversive so the security apparatus should settle the matter conclusively and immediately.

The F-PP feels, Soedardji said, that the contents of the "RUU" diverge widely from the aims of the New Order and human rights even if it were true that the government deliberately planned the "RUU." "If it did," Soedardji said, "it will entrap the New Order."

Justice Minister Comments

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 14 Jan 84 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] Jakarta, 14 January--Responding to a question from SINAR HARAPAN on Saturday morning [14 January], Ali Said, SH [Master of Laws], minister of justice, said he could not comment on the photocopy of the RUU that caused such a sensation recently because he had not read it. "How can I comment on it when I have not seen it," he stressed.

Government Intent

When pressed, Minister Said admitted that the government did intend to revise the PNPS [presidential decree concerning those competent to imprison or exile individuals, consisting of two articles; felt to be inconsistent now with the implementation of Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution] No 3 of 1962. But we have only scratched the surface for revising the decree to date. "It has not even reached the 'draft' stage of the photocopy of legislation that reportedly has been given wide distribution."

To be more convincing, Ali Said said, "Of course, I have been queried a great deal about this matter, but I repeat that I have not read the draft since I have not yet obtained a copy. Therefore, please, give me a copy so that I can study it to determine whether the contents represent what the government has in mind for its policy in this field. I am surprised that a photocopy of a 'draft' RUU has been circulated among the people when the government has merely scratched the surface of the matter," the minister affirmed.

According to the minister, regarding the RUU being prepared by the [Justice] Department, it first must be researched and examined by the minister of justice. Only then can it be turned over to the state secretary for further revision. When this is completed, an introduction and presidential comments are attached, and it is submitted to parliament for discussion as is proper. "So, I am surprised that a photocopy of a 'draft' RUU on this matter has been circulated among the people while I, myself, know nothing about it," he reaffirmed.

The minister added that should the government revise Law No 3 PNPS of 1962 concerning who is competent to imprison or exile individuals, it would be unjust to formulate a law that is harsher than the law it would replace. When

pressed, the minister of justice reassured his listeners, "I think it would be very repugnant for the government to revise a law merely to create a less humane and less fair new law. Be assured that the government has no such policy."

PERADIN Chairman's Comment

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 17 Jan 84 p 12

[Excerpt] All who covet and appreciate democracy and the law definitely are unhappy with the photocopy of an RUU that is being circulated among the people at this time because if it goes into effect, we shall revert to living under a colonial system. We shall no longer be a lawful nation but rather shall become a authoritarian state, Haryono Tjitrosubono, SH, said.

Asked for his opinion on Monday afternoon [16 January] about the photocopy that was being circulated, the PERADIN DPP [Indonesian Lawyers Association Central Executive Committee] general chairman judged that the procedures outlined in the RUU were invalid, the source was unknown, moreover, it revived the "internment camps" of the colonial era during which time the governor general held inordinate rights. The same rights were used in Western Europe during the Hitlerian era. One no longer finds such things as internment camps in democratic nations at the present time.

Inappropriate

If we already feel the subversion law is inappropriate, he said, how would we feel about a draft bill on banishing or exiling someone to a particular place in the republic, as proposed in the draft bill circulated in photocopy form.

Our constitution states that our nation is a nation based on laws and not on domination. If this RUU is genuine, it definitely is inappropriate for a person to be banished or exiled for as long as 10 years without due process and only at the behest of the person in charge.

The KUHP [Criminal Code] clearly states that strong evidence of criminal activity is required before anyone can be arrested. "The RUU now being circulated is too harsh and indeed could have serious consequences," Haryono added. "We are disturbed about the subversion law even with our legal process. How would we feel if the photocopied RUU were genuine? I believe no one could acquiesce to a law such as that," he affirmed.

6304

CSO: 4213/147

SUCCESS OF FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM REPORTED

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 4 Jan 84 p 4

[Article: "53 Percent of Population Practice Family Planning"]

[Text] Dr Haryono Suyono, head of the Central BKKBN [National Family Planning Coordination Agency], stated that, through the end of November 1983, the family planning program in Indonesia had surpassed its objective of 12.7 million participating couples of child bearing age by enrolling 12.9 million.

This means that, for the first time since the program was started in Indonesia, 53 percent of the Indonesian population is participating.

Haryono Suyono made this announcement in Wajo Regency during his 2 day working visit to South Sulawesi with Alamsyah Ratuprawira Negara, minister coordinator for public welfare. Their working visit was part of the second phase of the "Let's All Smile" Family Planning Safari.

He explained that the original objective was to enroll only 9.5 million couples in the family planning program, but with the president's guidance this target was quickly reached. Therefore, the decision was made to increase the goal to 12.7 million.

It was reported that in South Sulawesi more than 50 percent of the couples of child bearing age are enrolled in family planning. This ranks Sulawesi sixth nationally. If Java and Bali were not included, the province of South Sulawesi would rank second.

Family planning is now not only focusing on the use of contraceptive devices but is also directing its efforts toward the formation of families who are imbued with the spirit of Pancasila and devotion to God Almighty.

9127

CSO: 4213/144

SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN SUGAR PRODUCTION TARGETED FOR 1986

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 3 Feb 84 p 6

[Text] Engr Hasyrul Harahap, the junior minister for the increased production of cash crops, has stated that the objective in the government's policy of rehabilitating sugar mills and providing adequate supplies of sugar cane is to achieve self-sufficiency in sugar production in 1986. The junior minister made the statement during a meeting with Parliament's special committee on the Fourth 5-Year Plan. The working meeting was chaired by Drs Sudardji, the deputy chairman of the special committee, and the government's delegation was led by Prof Dr Sumarlin, the minister of state for development planning and chairman of Bappenas [National Development Planning Board].

Hasyrul said that the authority provided by Presidential Instruction No. 9 of 1975 will be utilized in efforts to increase per hectare productivity and that the practice of expanding the area planted in sugar cane will be discontinued. However, he said, the construction of new sugar mills outside Java will be accompanied by an increase in the area planted in sugar cane, and this cane will be planted primarily on unirrigated fields.

In the implementation of Presidential Instruction No 9 of 1975, emphasis will be placed on the coordinating functions performed by the Bimas Control Board, while the sugar mills will be in charge of and responsible for the work in the field. The KUDs [village-unit cooperatives] will continue to function as the focal point of the farm economy and will upgrade the efficiency of their services, and the participation of farmers in cooperative work groups will be made more effective. The functions and efficiency of the Sugar Production Consultative Forums will have to be upgraded and improved. These forums are established in each sugar-mill zone and/or at the subdistrict level and provide the farmers and the sugar mill with a means of consulting together on their common interests.

5458

CSO: 4213/167

RICE OUTPUT INCREASES 250 PERCENT IN 20 YEARS

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 5 Jan 84 p 2

[Article: "Rice Production Has Increased 250 Percent in Last 20 Years"]

[Text] From the introduction of the Mass Demonstration [DEMAS] program in 1963-64 through the end of the third 5-year plan [PELITA III], rice production has increased 250 percent, from 9.5 million tons to 23.5 million tons.

The final report of 1983 indicates that, on the average, rice production has steadily increased annually. The average annual increase during the first 5-year plan was 4.71 percent; during the second 5-year plan, 3.78 percent; and during the third 5-year plan, 6.11 percent.

However, if one examines the rice production figures from one year to the next, it becomes evident that there were years when the increases were very small and when, during the first and second 5-year plans, rice production was even lower than the previous years.

During 1972, for example, there was a significant decrease when rice production was .5 million tons lower than the previous year. In 1975, production also decreased by about 100,000 tons. Small increases were registered in 1977 (0.2 percent), 1979 (1.98 percent), and the final year of the third 5-year plan (1.17 percent).

Drought

The 500,000 ton decrease in 1972 was caused by drought and a very shakey supporting infrastructure. More than 400,000 hectares were unable to be harvested because of the drought. A more extensive drought struck in 1982. More than 500,000 hectares were reported to have been affected, thus accounting for the very small increase in production during that final year of the third 5-year plan.

During the first half of the second 5-year plan rice production did not increase. During that period, vast rice fields were struck by brown wereng [stony insect the size of a rice kernel], as well as by a long dry season.

From studying these past experiences, one can see that drought and plant diseases are the principal obstacles to increased rice production. For this reason, it is necessary to be exceptionally alert and to continuously be on watch for their indicators. A system of surveillance and forecasting is very important.

Furthermore, we need to develop new varieties of disease resistance rice. It was acknowledged that the Department of Agriculture has yet to develop any special varieties of rice which can grow under the conditions found in such marginal areas as tidal zones, podsol [translation unknown] regions, or valleys.

However, efforts to increase production through intensification in low lying regions such as paddy land have been successful. Thanks to some of the special operations carried out, low lying areas which previously yielded only one crop annually now produce two harvests, one of rice and one of vegetables.

Cannot Be Delayed

The use of intensification to increase of rice production can no longer be delayed. All manner of activity is ongoing and all sorts of innovations have been put in effect to effectively increase food production through intensification. In spite of all of this, there has been no change in the philosophical basis of the intensification effort through the Mass Guidance [BIMAS] and Mass Intensification [INMAS] programs.

The objectives of BIMAS and INMAS are to allow the millions of small farmers to participate in agricultural development. This is accomplished through the provision of inexpensive credit, and the best possible management and service, so that in the end the small farmers can gradually stand on their own feet and continue to increase production. In the long run, the farmers themselves will be able to purchase all the necessary production materials.

By studying the BIMAS figures on a macro scale, there have indeed been some indications that this is taking place. It is apparent that a smaller number of farmers are applying for BIMAS credit. There is not much difference in the results attained by the BIMAS and INMAS farmers, though the BIMAS farmers generally produce a bit more per hectare than do the INMAS farmers.

Looking at it on the micro scale, however, this picture still does not indicate that the needs of the farmers have been totally fulfilled.

9127

CSO: 4213/144

PPP CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS UPCOMING CONGRESS

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 5 Dec 84 pp 1, 8

[Article: "United Development Party Congressional Committee To Be Formed in the Next Several Days"]

[Text] Yesterday at the Parliament building H. Ali Tamin SH [Master of Laws], a member of the DPP-PPP [Central Executive Committee of the United Development Party] and deputy secretary of the F-PP [United Development Faction], in the DPR [Parliament], announced to the press that, within the next few days but not later than the middle of January 1984, the DPP-PPP will hold a plenary session to discuss all the details involved in ensuring the success of the party conference, including the formation of an organizing committee.

Ali Tamin stated that the plenary session is being held in accordance with the previous declaration of Dr H. J. Naro SH, general chairman of the DPP-PPP, that the party congress would be held in 1984 to fulfill the requirements of the party's AD/ART [statutes and bylaws] and the wishes of the party membership.

He said that the desired foundations for the forthcoming congress are the party's AD/ART and State Law No 3 of 1975 on PARPOL [political parties] and GOLKAR [functional groups] by which party membership is on an individual basis and integration is complete. Within that framework, each proposal, recommendation or protest offered for discussion should be based on the AD/ART and the state law on political parties and GOLKAR.

According to Ali Tamin SH, there is no connection between the holding of the party congress and the congresses held by the former political parties which function within the PPP whether they be MI [Indonesian Muslims], Perti [Islamic Education Union], SI [Islamic League], or NU [Muslim Scholars Party].

He also stated that General Chairman Dr Naro has already issued direction that the congress be held soon.

"The sooner, the better," declared Ali Tamin, quoting the general chairman's guidance.

The plenary session was to have been held during the first week of January 1984, but because most of the party central executive committee members are also members of the parliament, many of whom have not yet returned to Jakarta, the plenary session will be held in the next few days.

Topics for the Congress

Ali Tamin could not say specifically what topics would be discussed during the congress, except that the congress would make decisions required as a result of the 1983 MPR [People's Consultative Congress] decisions and the state laws regarding parties which encompasses the issue of individual party membership and the restrictions on the roles of the former political parties.

In response to a question on the problem of regeneration within the DPP, Ali Tamin stated that, with or without the congress, regeneration within the party would continue. In answer to a question about the persons who will be brought forth to occupy key party positions, Ali Tamin indicated his strong regional preference that Dr Naro remain as the general chairman.

9127

CSO: 4213/144

PPP MEMBERS PRESENT DIFFERING VIEWS ON UPCOMING PARTY CONGRESS

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 6 Jan 84 p 9

[Article: "United Development Party Congress Must Be Able to Resolve the Fusion Issue"]

[Text] In response to the plan for holding the first PPP [United Development Party] congress in Jakarta during 1984, H. M. Anwar Nurris, a PPP member from the Muslim Scholars Party [NU] faction, stated in the DPR [Parliament] Tuesday that the PPP must hold a party congress whether or not the former political parties [which are now incorporated into the United Development Party] hold separate congresses of their own and that it is essential for the PPP congress to formulate a firm platform and be capable of resolving the problems that have arisen with the integration [fusion] of the former political parties.

Within the PPP membership, there are differences of opinion on holding this congress. Some think that the congress should be held prior to the XXVII National NU Congress. High level PPP figures, who are not NU members, are clearly terrified by the possibility that the XXVII National NU Congress will serve to unify and strengthen the NU.

There are, however, other PPP figures who believe that the party's congress should follow the XXVII NU Congress. Drs Rachmat Muljomiseno and Drs Abduh Paddare, among others, indicate that time is the most important factor and that an organizing committee for the PPP congress has yet to be formed.

Anwar Nurris thinks that holding a PPP congress should not depend at all on the congresses of the former political parties which have been incorporated into the PPP. "Whether or not the former political parties hold their own congresses, the PPP congress must still be held," he emphasized.

Expectations

Anwar Nurris, who also served as deputy secretary of the committee which organized the national congress of the Alim Ulema in Situbondo, East Java stated that there are three issues that he hoped the PPP congress would deal with.

First, the complete integration [fusion] of the former political parties within the PPP organization, so that after the congress there are no longer any visible traces for those elements.

Second, the development of a strong party leadership that has its roots in society, is imbued with the New Order philosophy and orientation and has abandoned the Old Order philosophy.

Third, the essential revitalization of the party. In this regard, he feels that today's problems can only be solved by the present generation, not by previous generations.

On the implications of conducting the party congress prior to the congresses of the former political parties which are now part of the PPP, he pointed out that the GBHN [Broad Guidelines of National Policy] as interpreted by the MPR [People's Consultative Congress] in its Decision II/1983 underscores the necessity of adjustment, including the acceptance of Pancasila as the sole principle.

Furthermore, there is a close relationship between the holding of the congress and changes in the state law on parties and public organizations and in the balance of power in parliament.

Anwar Nurris made two recommendations concerning the composition of the delegations which will attend the forthcoming party congress. First, that the Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI) model be copied; i.e., branch delegations consisting of members of the former political parties. Second, that each branch send two delegations. "It is up to the DPP [Central Executive Committee] to select one of these two models," Anwar Nurris stated.

General Chairman or Party President

Djamaluddin Tarigan, another PPP member, thinks that it is essential for the PPP to hold its congress immediately. He presented four reasons to support his opinion. First, it has been 11 years since the former political parties were incorporated into the PPP. Second, two general elections have been held (1977 and 1982) and the PPP has yet to hold a congress. Third, the party by-laws call for a congress to be held during each specified period. Fourth, the PPP AD/ART [statutes and bylaws] need to be modified to bring them into line with MPR decisions, particularly Decision II/1983 regarding the GHBN.

Djamaluddin Tarigan views the party as a bussystem for the implementation of democracy and feels that a congress is needed to breathe new life into the party machinery.

In response to the question of who is the ultimate party authority for organizing and convening the congress, Djamaluddin Tarigan, an NU member, indicated that it is the party president. "The party president, as the senior member of the party, should call an immediate meeting of the DPP to determine when to hold the congress and to form a committee to organize the congress."

Ali Tamin SH, deputy secretary general of the Muslimin Indonesia [MI] DPP disagreed and stated that the general chairman of the PPP-DPP must convene a plenary session and form an organizing committee for the congress at that time.

Djamaluddin pointed out that, according to Section 7 of the party AD/ART, the DPP is the party's highest leadership element elected by the congress to implement its decisions and those of the party council and to lead the party during the period between congresses. He asserted that the party president is the senior member of the PPP-DPP.

NU Shares Responsibility

Drs A. Chalik Ali, treasurer of the NU, pointed out that the NU had, during the 1982 PB NU [Muslim Scholars Party Executive Council] syuriah conference and the December 1983 national congress of NU religious scholars, decided to continue to support the PPP and that the NU membership stands behind the PPP. "Because of its support for the PPP, the NU shares responsibility for PPP participation in the efforts to resolve such national problems as religious, social, political, and educational development," he stated.

Reflecting on these awesome tasks, the former member of parliament from 1967 to 1982 urged all NU leaders not to form cliques but to unite and strengthen the collective leadership of the PPP-DPP. Chalik Ali warned the PPP leaders to avoid establishing a single authoritative leadership, but rather to resurrect the party's democratic mechanisms.

9127

CSO: 4213/144

BANK CREDIT ISSUES REPORTED

Abolished Subsidies

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 17 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--The government will gradually abolish credit subsidies which have been enjoyed by several, high priority types of credit. The abolition of the subsidies will affect in particular the category of indirect credits for economically weak groups. The central bank will no longer provide subsidies in liquid form but will use other forms.

Dr Arifin M Siregar, governor of the Bank Indonesia, made this statement at a reception held prior to a dinner for bankers at the Bank Indonesia on Monday evening [16 January].

Governor Siregar said: "In this way allocations of credit for a number of even high priority business purposes in the future will be financed with funds from the community, mobilized by the lending banks themselves." He added that other kinds of subsidies will be extended in other ways. In announcing the abolition of the subsidies, Dr Arifin Siregar did not provide any further details.

In accordance with the banking policy announced on 1 June 1983, the government-owned banks were allowed to determine their own rates of interest on loans. However, this freedom only extended to sectors which did not have a high priority. Meanwhile, loans in the high priority category continued to have their rates of interest determined by the Bank Indonesia. This meant that loans in this category still benefited from liquidity credits from the Bank Indonesia. Loans for working capital or mini credits, KCK credits [short-term business turnover loans], KMKP credits [permanent working capital credits], credit-worthy loans up to 75 million rupiahs, irrigated field preparation loans, Bimas credits, and loans for the import of fertilizer and insecticide for Bimas programs carried interest at 12 percent. Export credits carried interest at 9 percent.

Loans for investment purposes carried various levels of interest: mini credits (12 percent), KIK [small investment credits] (12 percent), home ownership loans (5 and 9 percent), university student housing loans (5 percent), credit-worthy loans up to 75 million rupiahs (12 percent), irrigated field preparation loans (12 percent), estate agricultural loans for PIR [Smallholder Nuclear Plantation/ Estates] and private young people's agricultural loans (12 percent).

With the plan to abolish liquidity credits, the respective subsidies on these types of priority loans will also be abolished. Future interest rates will be determined by the lending bank.

Retained Subsidies

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 18 Jan 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--Liquidity credits by the central bank will gradually be phased out for both government-owned and private banks. However, government subsidies for certain, high priority loans will continue to be extended. The type of subsidy used will no longer take the form of liquidity credits.

This information was obtained by KOMPAS from executives of the Bank Indonesia on Tuesday [17 January], in order to straighten out previous reporting on the abolition of liquidity credits.

In his recent speech the governor of the Bank Indonesia did not say that credit subsidies would be abolished. What he said was that the extension of subsidies on a number of types of loans would no longer be handled through liquidity credits from the central bank but rather in another form. The credit subsidies will be extended by the government in a more direct way.

Until now liquidity credits at a low rate of interest were provided by the Bank Indonesia to government-owned and private banks which channeled these low-cost funds to a number of high priority areas, such as KIK/KMKP [small investment credits, permanent working capital credits] loans, and several kinds of loans to cooperatives.

The interest rate set by the Bank Indonesia for these types of loans was rather low--12 percent per year for mini credits, KCK loans, and KMKP loans. On the other hand the interest rate was only 9 percent for export credits. Basically, rates of interest were below or, at the most, the same as the interest rate on deposits.

This means that the lending banks providing these low-cost loans would not have been able to operate in this way if the source of the funds loaned out consisted of funds deposited by the community on which a rather high rate of interest had to be paid. In this connection credit targets of this kind required assistance and could not have been handled at ordinary, commercial rates of interest from the banks in general.

It was for this reason that liquidity credits were extended by the Bank Indonesia at an interest rate of only about 3 percent. This is what was called a government credit subsidy.

Principal Support

In practice up to now, it was specifically the liquidity credits from the Bank Indonesia which provided the principal support for government-owned and a number of private banks extending low-interest loans, as a source of low-cost funds for

their own operations. As a consequence, the banks were not required to mobilize funds from the community by increased deposits, and so forth. In the words of one source, the banks have developed into a kind of "post office credit system," distributing low-interest credits from the government.

From the monetary point of view, providing liquidity credits had an inflationary impact, because it resembled merely printing money. This means that these loans accelerated the increase in prices and stimulated the purchase of foreign exchange, placing pressure on the balance of payments.

In past years this inflationary impact could be handled because the Indonesian balance of payments position was rather strong, and foreign exchange reserves were rather large. More recently, the Indonesian balance of payments has not been as strong as in previous years, while foreign exchange reserves have declined. This means that our capacity to hold down the inflationary aspects of liquidity credit has weakened.

Policy of 1 June 1983

To limit the negative influence of liquidity credits, there has been, in fact, a system of credit restraints to limit the extension of credit by the banking system. However, more recently it has also appeared that the existing credit policy has contained some weaknesses, and there has been excess liquidity in the banks, for example, which could not be used in a productive way, as well as a decline in the interest of the banks in mobilizing funds from the community. With the passage of time this situation has created additional distortions.

It was developments of that kind which subsequently influenced the government to apply a monetary and banking policy which is known as the policy of 1 June 1983. This policy can reduce inflationary pressure and encourage improvements in the working practices and in the resources available to the banks themselves.

However, liquidity credits themselves are still rather substantial in volume, as reflected in the size of the KIK/KMKP, Bimas, KPR [homeowners' loans], and so forth.

More Direct

It was after considering developments like the foregoing that the governor of the central bank, in his speech at the dinner for bankers Monday evening [16 January] at the Bank Indonesia, said that the intention of the government was to stop using liquidity credits as an instrument for subsidizing cheap credit. However, this would be done without harming the interests of the economically weak group, which will continue to have a high priority.

This type of subsidy will be provided in a more direct form. This means that low cost credits, like KIK/KMKP and other loans of that kind, will continue to be provided. However, they will no longer be financed with liquidity credits, which means that they will no longer be financed by "printing money." Low interest loans will be financed with funds mobilized from the community and collected by the banks. Bank losses from these operations will be directly subsidized by the central bank.

A source at the central bank said: "The important thing to keep in mind is that those receiving low interest loans will not be affected by the policy that will now be adopted!"

Reaction of Banking Circles

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 20 Jan 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--Indonesian banks, and especially government-owned banks, will try to improve their own position by working as efficiently as possible. If necessary, they will reorganize their own banking structure. Furthermore, in extending loans, they will do so on a far more selective basis. All of this will be so arranged that it will be useful in ensuring the success of the Fourth 5-Year Plan.

Dr Priasmoro Prawiroardjo, a banking economist, made this statement to a KOMPAS representative on Wednesday, in discussing the plans of the Bank Indonesia gradually to halt the extension of liquidity credits, while at the same time it will also provide discount facilities and will issue Indonesian Bank Certificates (SBI).

Dr Priasmoro Prawiroardjo said: "I am convinced that the government will still continue to provide low cost loans, particularly to small businessmen. However, the type of small businesses eligible for these loans will be selected carefully, and loans will be extended to those which are in healthy condition."

Jusuf Wantah, secretary general of PERBANAS (National Private Bank Association), stated that in his opinion the abolition of liquidity credits means that loans will become increasingly expensive. Discount facilities and the issuance of Indonesian Bank Certificates (SBI) are the right ways to lower interest rates in the money market, which are currently rising by leaps and bounds.

Bankers Needed

Priasmoro, who is also executive director of the Indonesian Financing and Investment Company (IFI), said that banking policy has recently appeared to be aimed at improving the health of the banking world. This particularly applies to government-owned banks, which are often regarded as inefficient, extravagant, have overheads that are too high, and so forth. Now they must operate in a different way.

He said: "Now banking executives are needed who are really bankers. This means that they must really be experts in handling banking questions." He added that, in order to improve the position of government-owned banks, if necessary there should be radical changes in their structure and organization. This is to make it possible to reduce the number of employees and the number of bank branches.

One way for the Bank Indonesia to learn about the health of banks would be, among other things, to provide direct subsidies. This is because the Bank Indonesia in the future will end the practice of providing subsidies through liquidity credits and will provide support more directly. In this way high priority loans will be extended with high cost funds obtained from the community. Then the Bank

Indonesia will make up the losses of the lending bank which provided the high priority loan at a low rate of interest.

Priasmoro said: "In the future here is where the Bank Indonesia will move carefully in providing compensation. If it considers that the compensation requested is too high, the Bank Indonesia will certainly ask about the factors causing the losses."

Compensation could be provided in a situation where funds obtained from the community at a 20 percent rate of interest are then loaned out for high priority credits at only 12 percent interest. The Bank Indonesia would be asked to pay compensation in such a case.

However, the Bank Indonesia would not simply pay the compensation. It must know what were the costs which caused the loss. Furthermore, if there is another bank which asks for compensation to cover loan losses of only 6 percent, a request for compensation at 8 percent would certainly be looked into further to determine the causes. Priasmoro added: "In this way the banks will become more efficient, and the compensation asked for will not be too great. In addition the Bank Indonesia will certainly be able to check, on a continuing basis, the efficiency of the banks which are provided with compensation."

In view of the difficulty in obtaining compensation, is it possible that the banks would be unwilling to provide loans for high priority purposes? Priasmoro admitted that there would certainly be some unwillingness on the part of the banks. However, because small businessmen and other sectors should have high priority, the Bank Indonesia will certainly arrange things so that high priority loans will continue to be attractive. Furthermore, the government-owned banks have a duty to extend high priority loans.

Total Declining

Priasmoro believes that high priority loans will decline in the future because there will be no more liquidity credits. Therefore, in extending loans, both for high as well as low priority purposes, the banks will be more selective. Not all kinds of small businesses will obtain priority loans. In the same way not all export sectors will find it easy to obtain loans at low rates of interest.

He said: "The banks will consider more carefully the business sectors which are given loans. They will have to be in really good condition, because low interest funds will be limited. Clearly, the banks themselves will have to work harder, among other things because they will no longer be obtaining low interest funds and because they must be able to loan funds at high rates of interest."

However, this banking expert is convinced that with the abolition of government liquidity credits the banks will look at loan applications on a case by case basis. This is because the government-owned banks in particular are, in many cases, living on Bank Indonesia liquidity credits. If these credits were simply withdrawn, the government-owned banks would have to live on funds mobilized from the community. These funds take time to collect.

Regarding discount facilities, Priasmore thinks that these facilities will help banks which are short of funds. However, since the interest rate will be rather high, that is, based on interest rates on deposits for 1, 3, and 6 months, together with an appropriate margin, the bank will only need discount facilities when it really requires them. Banks can no longer use discount facilities as a source of funds which can be turned over. This means that there is no solution for the banks other than to mobilize as large amounts of money from the community as possible to permit the banks to function.

With discount facilities and SBI certificates, the central bank will operate more properly, as it should. Whereas previously the central bank was regarded as the main source of funds for the banks, now it is only becoming the last resort for funds if they are really needed.

Discount facilities involve funds provided to the lending banks under circumstances where they really need the funds. Discount facilities are of two kinds. First, they are provided to the banks to facilitate the daily management of funds. Secondly, they are provided to help the banks in overcoming difficulties if their plans for mobilizing funds don't mesh with their plans for extending middle and long-term credits.

Increasingly Expensive

Jusuf Wantas, secretary general of PERBANAS, thinks that, without liquidity credits, loans will become increasingly expensive. As a result, high priority loans, which will no longer be subsidized through liquidity credits, will indirectly become more costly than they are at present.

However, Wantah, who is also president and director of the Bank Arta Pusara, also thinks that the best thing to do at this time is to stop extending credit priorities. He means that since the announcement of the 1 June 1983 banking policy there has been healthy competition among the banks. For that reason the business world must also be truly healthy and not always depend on obtaining high priority credits.

He said: "Although the Bank Indonesia will provide direct subsidies, the total amount will certainly be limited and will no longer be as freely available as it was. Therefore, the high priority credit sector will be increasingly limited."

However, he thinks that this is as it should be, in order to create a healthier situation.

Furthermore, with regard to KIK (small investment credits) and KMKP (permanent working capital credits), it is possible that in the future the interest rates will not have to be as low as they are now, or at least there may be more limited access to loans of this kind.

Regarding liquidity credits obtained by private banks, he said that up to the present the total has been about 97 billion rupiahs, or 0.8 percent of all loans extended by the private banks. These liquidity credits have not been used for high priority loans.

Reducing Flareups

Regarding government plans to provide discount facilities and to issue SBI certificates, he said that it is certainly time to stimulate the money market in Indonesia. He said that discount facilities in fact are a kind of call money which is now available between lending banks. Call money is no different from money in the market. If funds are needed, a loan can be arranged from another bank which has surplus funds.

He said: "With the entry of the Bank Indonesia into the call money market, it will be able to reduce flareups in the interest rate in the money market when the rate goes too high." For example, when the 1 June 1983 policy was announced, the interest rate in the money market was only 8 percent. However, by the beginning of 1984, when questions involving a devaluation arose, the interest rate rose to 30 percent! This was because people were taking large amounts of rupiah to exchange them for U. S. dollars.

Jusuf Wantah said that it was in such circumstances that the Bank Indonesia could play a role in providing funds at a lower cost than that available in the money market to the banks which need such funds. As a result, the interest rate in the money market could be brought down.

5170

CSO: 4213/151

MISUSE OF 'MYSTERIOUS KILLINGS' CITED

Surabaya SURABAYA POST in Indonesian 11 Jan 84 p 1

[Article: "Hearing Held by the East Java DPRD Chairman With LBH; 'Shock Therapy' Was Used to Reduce Crime"]

[Text] Surabaya--Blegoh Soemarto, chairman of the East Java DPRD [regional legislature], admitted that certain procedures which the public called "mysterious killings" were misused in a number of cases. The legislature's leadership monitored three cases that occurred in Lumajang, Sidarjo, the Blitar and found evidence of such abuse.

"Originally the government used this as shock therapy to reduce the inordinate number of crimes that had been committed, but other persons or parties started to do the same thing," Blegoh said during a hearing with the LBH [Legal Aid Institute] leadership in Surabaya on Wednesday afternoon [11 January].

The government, in this respect the security apparatus, always acts within the law, as in shooting at a criminal only when he resists arrest or flees. What the armed forces commander, the information minister, and the commander of Military District VIII, Brawijaya, and the East Java DPRD said some time ago is true. The security apparatus can in no way do anything that violates any law, Blegoh said.

He cited as proof the cases of the stolen cow in Lumajang which involved a leader of the government apparatus, the land dispute in Waru Sidoarjo, and, moreover, the DLLAJR [Highway Transport and Traffic Service] leader who was discharged from his position and who admitted that he had been a "mysterious gunman" for personal interests.

"The purpose of the operation was to combat crime and was not intended to be a procedure used for personal gain. Of course, the government is provoked," he declared.

Disappearances

On that occasion Abdullah Thalib, SH [Master of Laws], Surabaya LBH director, said his organization welcomed the statement of Blegoh Soemarto. He hoped

that proper legal procedures would be used to process cases in which there was no clear evidence that the victims of the killings had committed any crime so the victims' families could learn what actually had occurred.

The LBH also asked that the case of the disappearance of a Mojokerto village chief and that of another LBH client from Pasuruan now in the Dr Soetomo Hospital in Surabaya be investigated.

The LBH leadership said it had requested information on these cases from the Military District VIII commander. Blegoh promised he would bring these cases to the attention of the commander again in a meeting he was to hold with the commander in mid-January.

"I hope the commander will hold a dialogue with you on this matter or at least respond to your letter," he added.

The LBH, according to Deputy Director M. Zaitun, SH, would like the government to clear up this matter so that the public will not feel that the government supports the "mysterious gunmen."

"To this end, we wrote a letter to the military district commander requesting clarification on the disappearances of several victims that had been reported to us by their families," Zaitun announced, saying that the LBH had attempted to obtain information from a number of government agencies, but it had received no satisfactory responses.

6804

CSO: 4213/147

MIDDLE CLASS IS VIEWED WITH SUSPICION

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 4 Feb 84 pp 1, 9

[Text] Drs M. Dawam Rahardjo, the director of the Social and Economic Information, Education and Research Institute (Lembaga Penelitian, Pendidikan dan Penerangan Ekonomi dan Sosial), told a KOMPAS reporter on Thursday [2 February] that the Indonesian middle class has begun to show strength recently and that this is due primarily to the growth of capitalism and the expansion of multinational corporations. However, the middle class continues to occupy a weak position, and this is because it is the group that is under the most pressure. This pressure exists because it is perceived as a "threat" by the elite in the power structure.

KOMPAS asked Dawam Rahardjo to comment on the middle class in connection with a statement made recently by Lt Gen Yogie S.M., the commander of Defense Territorial Command II. Lt Gen Yogie said dynamic situations that affect security almost always originate in the lowest strata of the middle class.

Dr Alfian, the director of the National Culture Research Institute (Lembaga Riset Kebudayaan Nasional) of the Indonesian Science Foundation (Lembaga Ilmu Pengetahuan Indonesia), in commenting on the same subject said that the middle class is increasing in size and that the structure of Indonesian society will permit this group to perform a significant role sometime in the future.

Weakening Position

According to Dawam Rahardjo, the stratification of society can be demarcated on the basis of income levels, but other social categories also should be taken into account. For example, the boundaries of the middle class are demarcated not by income alone but also by level of education, access to power and position on the ladder of bureaucracy.

He believes that the members of the middle class, particularly businessmen and intellectuals, feel that their position is weakening. Businessmen have great expectations of receiving facilities from the government, and intellectuals have no work of their own. Consequently, the independence of both groups steadily diminishes, and with it their dynamic qualities.

Even so, the middle class is beginning to take shape or show strength as a result of the growth of multinational corporations and other companies that receive orders for goods from the government. But at the same time the middle class is viewed with suspicion by, and its role is very dependent on, the government.

Dawam Rahardjo feels that the middle class should grow to large dimensions and that the lower class must increase its income. But this is not the process that is occurring now. Instead, a process of unbalanced growth is going on, a process which results in polarization between a strong, elite minority and a weak, lower class majority. "This situation is not favorable, and it can be explosive," he said.

Therefore, he said, development in Indonesia must be more greatly oriented toward the lowest strata of society so that vertical mobility will occur and the lower class will rise and become the middle class. If the present state of affairs is maintained, the industrialization process will run into a demand trap, that is, production will grow at a rapid rate and the market will become saturated or limited.

This will happen because the income of the public is very low and their purchasing power is deteriorating. The purchasing power of the public must be increased, and the upper lower-class should be the focal point for the accumulation of capital. Otherwise, industrial production will continue at a high level and the purchasing power of the public will remain very low.

On the subject of education, Dawam Rahardjo said that adequate progress is being made but the educational process is still oriented toward meeting the demands of foreign companies and the government, and that educated employees are being treated as production factors rather than subjects for development.

He said that employees who are products of the national education system generally have low intellectual powers and consequently their capabilities in the areas of reform and innovation also are weak. It is difficult to expect dynamic qualities to emerge in a middle class with these characteristics, he said.

Economic Improvement

Dr Alfian says that economic improvement has taken place in all strata of society. He bases his opinion in part on surveys conducted in Aceh, Bali, Kalimantan, North Sulawesi and South Sulawesi in 1976 and 1982.

The fact that economic and social improvements have occurred is evident when data from the two surveys are compared. In the 1976 survey 20.4 percent of the respondents were in the low economic group and 18.7 percent were in the high economic group, but in the 1982 survey the number of respondents in the low economic group had dropped to 9.4 percent and the number in the high economic group had increased to 43.2 percent.

The economic status of the households in the survey population was determined by the value of the goods they owned, such as chairs for guests, wall clocks, radios, television sets, sewing machines and motorcycles. The 1982 value of goods was calculated using 1976 prices, so as to avoid the effects of inflation.

Alfian said that social and economic improvements are resulting in an increase in the size of the middle class. The income of the middle class is going up, and the middle class also is experiencing improvements in the areas of education, health, agriculture and communications. This encourages the people to work for the further improvement of social and economic conditions and leads to rising expectations.

Although not all of these expectations are realized, the existence of the desire to improve conditions creates a dynamic situation. And therefore it is correct to say that the middle class is more dynamic than any other class, he said.

5458

CSO: 4213/167

POSSIBLE EGYPTIAN READMISSION TO ISLAMIC CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 20 Jan 84 pp 1, 9

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--The effort to unfreeze Egyptian membership in the Islamic Conference Organization (OKI) is a very positive undertaking. It is now time for Egypt to reenter the OKI to strengthen this organization. For whatever the status of Egypt in the Middle East, this is the country with the greatest potential, both in military, economic, and cultural terms. This was stated by Aminuddin Aziz, former Indonesian ambassador to Saudi Arabia and Jordan, to KOMPAS in Jakarta on Thursday [19 January], regarding the effort to unfreeze Egyptian membership in the OKI. This membership has been frozen since 1979 as a result of the Camp David agreement.

Meanwhile, Dr H A Chalid Mawardi, former chairman of Committee I of Parliament, added that if Egypt can return to the OKI, this will certainly bring a change of outlook regarding the Middle East question. He meant that a more realistic view of the situation would emerge, that is, recognizing facts as they are in the Middle East and living together in a peaceful way.

Object of the Expulsion

Aminuddin Aziz considers that for nearly 5 years Egypt has been excluded from the Arab world, as a result of its action in signing the Camp David agreement, without paying attention to the attitude or views of the Arab League and the PLO [Palestine Liberation Organization]. Leaving aside various Arab opinions, however, Egypt had interests which were benefited by the signature of the treaty. This was proved by the return of the oil-rich Sinai Desert to Egypt and the re-opening of the Suez Canal.

However, according to Aminuddin Aziz, the objective of excluding Egypt as such has in fact already been achieved, because it has provided a warning to Egypt that in this life it cannot stand by itself but must pay attention to Arab solidarity. However, the situation during the past 5 years is far different from the present situation.

Another consideration is that for decades the Arab world has carried on a military struggle against Israel but has never been successful. Furthermore, Arafat, as the leader of the Palestinian people's struggle, has been reconciled with

Egypt. This must be kept in mind, for the formation of the OKI was intended to oppose Israel and support the struggle of the people of free Palestine.

However, the strategy for the struggle which has been followed up to now has not been successful, and the OKI must follow a new strategy, that is, a strategy of the diplomatic offensive. It is in this framework that the efforts of the OKI will be strengthened if Egypt is readmitted to the organization.

Taking Over the Leadership

Regarding the attitude of the hard-line Arab countries, especially Syria and Lybia, which oppose the readmission of Egypt in the OKI, Aminuddin Aziz said that this attitude has been adopted by Syria because it wants to take over the leadership of the Arab world, which was once held by Egypt before it was excluded from the OKI.

Asked whether Syria and Libya will leave the OKI if Egypt again enters the organization, Aminuddin Aziz thinks that it is very possible that they won't leave it, because this would mean excluding themselves from the Arab world and the non-Arab countries which are members of the OKI. He added: "If Syria and Libya leave the organization, it will damage the OKI. However, that damage can be balanced by the readmission of Egypt."

Aminuddin Aziz also declared that if Egypt is readmitted to the OKI, a "new evaluation" must be made of Israel. However, he was not prepared to state what such a "new evaluation" of Israel would mean.

Jordan and Saudi Arabia

Meanwhile, Chalid Mawardi supports the Indonesian position at the Summit Conference of the OKI, which supports the proposal to unfreeze Egyptian membership in the OKI. He said that Egypt was a Middle Eastern country with great potential, along with Saudi Arabia.

According to Chalid Mawardi, what is interesting in this connection is that Jordan and Saudi Arabia also support this proposal. This must be taken into account, recalling that these two countries have a decisive role to play regarding the Palestine question. Jordan is the country which, it is hoped, will enter into a confederation with Palestine, and Saudi Arabia is the largest supplier of funds. Chalid thinks that, although the unfreezing of Egyptian membership in the OKI may not be achieved this year, the situation will continue to develop until, finally, Egypt will be able to re-enter the organization. When this happens, there will be a change of view regarding the settlement of the Middle East question, and the position of the OKI itself will become increasingly strong.

Chalid Mawardi also thinks that Syria and Libya will not leave the OKI if Egypt is readmitted to the organization. For if they do that, they will simply hurt themselves.

5170
CSO: 4213/152

SOGO SHOSHA SAID TO CONTROL INDONESIAN BUSINESSES

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 20 Jan 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--The activities of Japanese multinational business groups in Indonesia have reached such a stage that gradually they are beginning to control the Indonesian business world. The Japanese multinational companies are called Sogo Shosha. They consist of 11 companies which have undertaken joint ventures with 154 companies in Indonesia.

Dr Christianto Wibisono, director of the Indonesian Business Data Center, told reporters in Jakarta on Thursday [19 January]: "On the basis of these facts and in order to deal with them, Indonesia must also have strong business groups. Because, like at the Olympic Games, we cannot just send bush league champions."

Data regarding Japanese multinational groups have been developed by research over the past several years. On the basis of this research a detailed book will be published on the situation regarding the relationship of Japanese business groups with their business associates in Indonesia. In this book their Indonesian business associates will be described. The strength of Japanese business groups in Indonesia will also be described in the book.

Doctor Wibisono declared that the government should be aware of the strength of the Japanese groups and of the need to develop Indonesian groups by encouraging their establishment. Indonesian groups which are now strong enough should not be opposed by the government but must be used to deal with foreign firms. He asked: "Can multinational power be faced by businessmen who are weak?"

According to Doctor Wibisono, for this reason Indonesian businessmen must not let themselves be split up, resulting in sharp conflicts, for example, between weak and strong business firms. These two kinds of business firms must join together in dealing with foreign business firms. If they do not do this, the position of Indonesian business firms will become increasingly weak.

He added: "What we call Indonesian businessmen are all of those engaged in business, both of indigenous and non-indigenous origins. Their strengths must be united." Furthermore, with the plans by the government to increase non-petroleum exports, Indonesia will be dealing with multinational trading firms on the international market.

To deal with them, strong business firms are needed in Indonesia, including associations of large business groups. Doctor Wibisono said: "If there is opposition to the formation of strong business groups, when will we have the necessary strength? They are our national wealth which must be used in a positive way."

11 Groups

What he meant by strong Indonesian business groups which need to be helped are the following firms, among others: Astra, Dharma Manunggal Group, Sumual Group, Pakarti Yoga Group, Harapan Group, Yan Darmadi Group, Wiliam Budiman and Respat Jaya, Rodamas, and relatively smaller groups like Polesko, Propelat, S A Sagala S H, M Hasan, Syamsudin, Truba, Inkopad, Nugra Santana, Alfa Kurnia, Pakalong Log, GKBI, Krama Yudha Group, and M Gobel.

In Indonesia these groups must deal with 11 Japanese multinational groups, such as C Itoh, which has 20 joint venture agreements in Indonesia; Marubeni, with 17 joint ventures; Mitsubishi, with 30 joint ventures; Mitsui, with 24 joint ventures; Nichimen, with 11 joint ventures; Nissho Iwai, with 10 joint ventures; Sanwa Group, with eight joint ventures; Sumitomo, with 18 joint ventures; Toyo Menka, with 12 joint ventures; and Kanematsu Goshu, with four joint ventures.

Seen from the point of view of stock ownership alone, the Japanese impact is still dominant in joint ventures in Indonesia. Out of 208 approved foreign investment projects (PMA) with Japan, there are only 58 companies where the Indonesian share is more than 50 percent. The remaining firms are Japanese joint ventures where the Japanese have a majority of the shares.

In the order of size of Japanese investment in Indonesia the largest firm is PT Inalum, which has invested about \$2 million [as published], followed by PT Arun Natural Gas Liquefaction, with \$1 million [as published], and PT Badak, also with \$1 million [as published] invested. These are followed by PT Semen Nusantara, PT Indonesia Toray Synthetics, PT Toyota Astra Motor, PT Tifico, PT Kumafibre, PT Bridgestone, PT Centex, and so forth.

5170

CSO: 4213/152

LOGISTICS AGENCY PLEDGES NOT TO RAISE PRICES

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 12 Jan 84 pp 1, 9

[Article: "Logistics Agency Pledges Not To Raise Prices"]

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--BULOG [Logistics Agency] has pledged it would not raise the prices of basic commodities for which it is responsible, such as rice, sugar, flour, wheat, and corn. Merchants who indulge in speculation by hoarding these commodities will be disappointed. Meanwhile organizations that are official distributors of BULOG commodities, such as APEGTI [Wheat and Sugar Distributors Association], who raise the prices of these commodities, will no longer be permitted to distribute them.

Bustanil Arifin, SH [Master of Laws], minister of cooperatives and BULOG chief, gave this information to newsmen in Jakarta on Wednesday [11 January].

"Although civil servants wages were raised and the BBM [fuels] prices may be increased, BULOG will not raise its prices," Bustanil said. The prices of imports such as wheat and soy beans will be increased if the overseas prices rise. "Fortunately there is little fluctuation if the prices of commodities such as wheat on the overseas market. Wide fluctuations do occur in the sugar price, but fortunately we no longer import sugar," he added.

There is no reason whatsoever for BULOG to increase prices. When the food subsidy is eliminated in fiscal 1985, BULOG will be able to handle prices.

"Some people say I am arrogant. I have been with BULOG for 17 years, and based on my experience, I pledge, God willing, that prices will not rise," he responded.

Will Be Disappointed

According to Bustanil, merchants who speculate by buying as much of the basic commodities as they can and hoarding them definitely will be disappointed, since BULOG will not raise prices. Also if BULOG sees that some commodities are in short supply in the market, it will drop such commodities directly on the market.

"There is a LOPPAS (Market Merchant Cooperative) in every market. BULOG also has APEGTI on the front line so if prices appear to be rising in a region,

someone will inform us," he said. BULOG will fire any "accomplice" on the front line if it is proved that he knew he was participating in price manipulation or in hoarding commodities.

Regarding the possible effect of higher BBM prices, if they are raised, Bustanil said this would have a very small impact on prices of food for which BULOG is responsible. Although transportation rates may rise, for instance, they will have very little effect on food prices considering that BULOG commodities are transported in large loads. Therefore, although transportation companies give lower rates to BULOG for transporting each kilogram of its commodities, it is still more profitable for them to transport these large loads than it is to transport small loads.

Logically the increase in BBM prices should raise production costs, as for sugar. "That's another matter. Many factors influence costs, for instance, government policies, but won't the government take a long time to calculate this? Also the farmers who produce basic requirements such as sugar and rice have been able to demand good prices to date," he said.

Abundant Reserves

BULOG has dared to pledge not to raise prices because food stocks are good. "There is enough rice, we are fully supplied with wheat, sugar is abundant. What else do we need? Moreover, I would be happy if someone wanted to buy them immediately," he said.

According to Bustanil, BULOG has not conducted any market operations for rice since prices have been stable on the market. Meanwhile present BULOG stocks total almost 2 million tons. Harvest will begin in April in several areas. BULOG has forecast a harvest of 2 million tons for 1984. That forecast is not binding for BULOG is prepared for a 4 million-ton harvest.

"I will take a lower price for the old rice should anyone care to buy it. It's true, I will reduce the price to move the old rice immediately from the storage facilities."

Our sugar reserve will permit an average monthly compensation of about 145,000 to 150,000 tons for 5 or 6 months. So, by the end of March BULOG will have a carry over of about 500,000 tons. Sugar mills will also begin to process sugar again in April. Production for 1984 is estimated at about 1.8 million tons. "Basically, that is enough, far better than enough. Moreover, it is estimated that BULOG will have a carry over of 350,000 tons by the end of March 1985."

"Nevertheless, I am ready to import sugar, for instance, if the sugar harvest is poor. Even if we have to import sugar, the overseas price fortunately is only half the domestic rice," Bustanil added. He reminded his listeners that the current domestic sugar price is rather high. Therefore, if this high price is raised further, there is a very great possibility that sugar will be smuggled in from overseas. "I am convinced that even now much sugar is smuggled into the country from islands bordering another country. For my part, it does not matter whether the government raises the price further or not."

Wheat Subsidy

One of the commodities for which BULOG is responsible and which has elicited many questions from the public because of too frequent price increases, is wheat. Bustanil admitted that BULOG had increased the price of wheat several times during 1983.

Prices were increased to cover the wheat subsidy provided when the rupiah was devalued in relation to the U.S. dollar. An 83 billion rupiah subsidy was granted for wheat imports because of the devaluation. The sales price for wheat was raised in stages depending on whether the monthly inflation rate rose or fell. If the inflation rate was high for the month, BULOG did not raise the wheat price. If the inflation rate was low, the price was raised.

"With the 5 rupiah per kg increase in January, the subsidy has almost been covered. It needs only 7 billion rupiahs more," he said. Despite the need to cover the subsidy, BULOG pledges not to raise the wheat price in February. "It would not be wise for BULOG to raise the prices of commodities for which it is responsible if prices of other commodities are rising." The price of wheat might be raised only after April in stages so that the subsidy can be fully covered.

When asked about corn, Bustanil said there was no problem here. BULOG, through one of its partners, has exported 70,000 tons of corn. There are sufficient stocks also of glutinous rice and soy beans.

6804

CSO: 4213/147

SOME PELITA IV PROJECTS CANNOT ABSORB MANY WORKERS

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 3 Feb 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] Dr J.B. Sumarlin, the minister of state for development planning and chairman of Bappenas [National Development Planning Board], says that some sectors cannot possibly absorb large numbers of workers during Pelita IV [Fourth 5-Year Plan]. Responding to questions during a working meeting with the Pelita IV special committee of Parliament, he also said that within the framework of the efforts that are being made to utilize the labor force, a number of projects in the public and private sectors will be directed to take on as many workers as possible during Pelita IV.

The minister mentioned LNG [liquefied natural gas] and oil exploration and production projects as examples of projects that cannot use many workers.

"It is clearly impossible for these projects to use large numbers of workers, and if they are forced to do so they may not produce liquefied natural gas or get the oil out," he said.

Nevertheless, he said, the efforts to make full use of manpower will be continued and will be accompanied by efforts to continue the development of LNG and oil exploration and production projects. He added that the earnings from these projects are diverted to a number of programs and projects, and that their earnings enable us to support national economic growth. He also noted that these programs and projects create jobs and thereby support efforts to utilize the labor force.

The minister said that the government will be able to accumulate funds totaling about 145 trillion rupiah for development requirements during Pelita IV.

Seventy-seven trillion rupiah, consisting of 48 trillion rupiah from government savings and 29 trillion rupiah from the inflow of foreign capital, is earmarked for the development requirements of the government, while the private sector is expected to provide funding for investments totaling about 68 trillion rupiah. "So this gives a general total of 145 trillion rupiah," Sumarlin said.

5458

CSO: 4213/167

PELITA IV TRANSMIGRATION TARGET SET AT 750,000 FAMILIES

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 1 Feb 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] Minister of Transmigration Martono says that in a qualitative sense the transmigration program was less than satisfactory during Pelita III [Third 5-Year Plan]. By way of example, he said that 67 of the 806 sites of transmigrant housing areas outside Java will have to be rehabilitated because they do not meet specifications.

Minister Martono spoke with reporters in Purwokerto on Monday [30 January] after opening the Education Working Meeting of the HKTI (Indonesian Farmers Fraternal Association).

In response to a question the minister said that 2,002 families have left the transmigration sites, with 1,000 of these families moving to other sites and 1,002 families returning to their home villages in Java.

He said there are three reasons for transmigrants leaving the sites. First, the soil may contain quartz sand and be infertile and unsuitable for farming. Second, some of the housing areas have an inadequate water supply throughout the year. And third, there are also housing areas that are always flooded during the rainy season.

The minister said that the ability of transmigrants to adapt to living in the housing areas is the criterion for their success. If they are able to adapt then they will be able to do their work well and production in the transmigration area can be maintained at a good level.

Target of 750,000 Families

The minister also said that a target figure of 750,000 has been set for the number of families that will be transferred to transmigration projects during Pelita IV. This means that 150,000 families will be moved each year, and that 50 percent more families will be moved in Pelita IV than in Pelita III.

He said that this large increase in the target figure is the government's response to the people who are interested in joining the program, whose numbers increase each year.

He said that while this trend is very encouraging, it also causes some concern because the sites are not ready. This situation exists because the number of families transferred during Pelita III exceeded the targeted figure. The target for Pelita III was 500,000 families, but 520,000 families were moved.

The minister also said that the transmigration budget reached 1.8 trillion rupiah during Pelita III, of which 1.1 trillion rupiah has been used. This gives an index cost of 2.4 million rupiah per family.

Inaccurate Planning

Minister Martono said that the fact that a large number of sites require rehabilitation is due to several factors, the main one being that much of the land is not suitable for habitation. Poor and inaccurate research and planning are to blame for this, he said. He also noted that root systems often are not removed and this makes the land difficult to plant.

Unfavorable climate is another serious factor. Poor weather conditions make a location unsuitable for development as a transmigration site.

A large number of roads in the transmigration areas are in poor condition, but no government agency has the responsibility for making repairs. This problem has not yet been settled.

The minister also said that contractors often make errors in selecting sites for transmigration projects. For example, a contractor may select a site on which coffee is being grown and the government is then forced to pay compensation to the owner of the crop.

5458

CSO: 4213/166

PRIVATE SECTOR SAID TO FACE TOUGH CHALLENGE IN REPELITA IV

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 17 Jan 84 pp 1, 5

[Excerpts] Jakarta, KOMPAS--The private business world will face a tough challenge in almost tripling its investment by the end of Repelita IV [Fourth 5-Year Plan], as hoped for by the government. Even during the first year of the Fourth 5-Year Plan the challenge will begin to appear with the increase in fuel prices.

Prof Dr Mohammad Sadli, secretary general of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry [KADIN], made this statement in Jakarta on Monday [16 January] when he accompanied Sukamdani Sahid Gitosardjono, general chairman of KADIN, to a meeting with the directors of BAPINDO (Indonesian Development Bank). The meeting was presided over by Kuntoadji, the principal director of BAPINDO.

Doctor Sadli said that during fiscal year 1984-85, the first year of Repelita IV, it is hoped that total national investment will amount to 19 trillion rupiahs. To reach this total, the government will invest 10.4 trillion rupiahs, and the private sector, 8.6 trillion rupiahs.

It is hoped that the role of the private sector will continue to expand, so that, during the last year of the plan, out of total investment of 40 trillion rupiahs, the private sector will contribute 19.5 trillion rupiahs, while the government invests 20.5 trillion rupiahs. Doctor Sadli said: "The role of the private sector, which, it is hoped, will continue to increase its investments, will apparently be difficult. Furthermore, this will involve almost tripling its investments. This is a tough challenge which must be faced by the private business world."

Doctor Sadli said that the increased investment hoped for from the private sector may properly be described as a tough challenge. This is because in increasing its investments the private sector does not have a very strong foundation. Doctor Sadli stated: "If the government doubles its investment, that's fine. They still have resources from petroleum production."

Price of Fuels

The former minister of mining and energy said that there are several tough challenges which will be faced by businessmen from the domestic private sector. Among those will clearly be the increase in the price of fuels.

Doctor Sadli thinks that the increase in the price of fuels has indeed caused concern to the national private business world. The impact of the increase in fuel prices is very broad. For this rather large increase specifically affects fuels needed by industry, that is, solar and diesel oil. He said: "Just think of solar oil at 220 rupiahs per liter. Previously, it only cost 145 rupiahs per liter. The same is true of diesel oil, which has gone up from 125 to 200 rupiahs per liter."

According to Doctor Sadli, it is feared that the high prices of fuel, particularly those fuels used by domestic industry, will reduce its competitiveness with foreign industrial products on the international market. This means that exports of Indonesian products will be subject to unfavorable competition from goods of the same type produced in foreign countries.

The competitive power of Indonesian export industries is determined by our relatively low level of wages, fuel costs, and the availability of natural resources. However, at present the factor of fuels can no longer be relied on. This is also true of the factor of natural resources because, for example, newly-cut wood can be exported in finished form as plywood. Sadli said: "If the wood must be previously processed in Indonesia, this means that fuels will be required."

5170
CSO: 4213/151

ARMED FORCES TO BUY NO NEW ARMS, EQUIPMENT IN 1984-85

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 17 Jan 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--In the course of fiscal year 1984-85 the Indonesian Armed Forces will not buy new equipment or weapons. In view of the fact that state finances are still going through a "belt-tightening period," it is preferable to earmark available funds for economic development.

This was stated by Gen L B Moerdani, commander of ABRI [Indonesian Armed Forces], in answer to questions from the press at the Bina Graha offices on Monday [16 January], after accompanying President Soeharto in receiving a courtesy visit from Maj Gen Winston Choo Wee Leong, chief of the General Staff of the Singapore Armed Forces.

General Moerdani said that in the case of future purchases of new equipment and weapons priority will be given to procuring the most up to date weapons. In the interests of efficiency not too many soldiers will be required.

The commander of the Indonesian Armed Forces admitted that the future development of ABRI will be in the direction of highly mobile forces. However, at this time there is no plan to purchase new "Hercules" [C-130] transport aircraft. General Moerdani said: "The number of these aircraft we have at present is sufficient."

To support troop mobility, large transport aircraft such as the "Hercules" have an important role to play. At present Indonesia has two squadrons of "Hercules" aircraft.

Increasing Cooperation

Maj Gen Winston Choo and his wife arrived in Jakarta Monday morning [16 January] for a visit that will last until 22 January, at the invitation of General Moerdani. Before a courtesy call was made on President Soeharto, separate conversations were held with General Moerdani and with Minister of Defense and Security Poniman at the Department of Defense and Security and Headquarters of the Indonesian Armed Forces.

The Department of Defense and Security Information Center, in its announcement to the press on 16 January, said: "The meetings, which took place in an intimate and friendly atmosphere, reviewed a number of problems in the effort to increase

cooperation between the two countries, and specifically cooperation between ABRI and the Singapore Armed Forces."

In addition to visiting the National Defense Institute in Jakarta, Maj Gen Winston Choo also will go to Bandung to see the Nurtanio Aircraft Factory and the Armed Forces Staff and Command School. He will visit AKABRI [Indonesian Armed Forces Academy] and the Headquarters of Defense Area II in Yogyakarta. From there he will go to Bali to visit the Headquarters of Military Region XIV/Udayana.

Although the total strength of the Singapore Armed Forces led by Maj Gen Winston Choo is small, it has a considerable number of reserve troops because of the compulsory military training system. In addition, its equipment is quite modern and in good condition. Among other equipment the Singapore Armed Forces have 300 AMX-13 tanks, 500 M-113 armored personnel carriers, and 250 V150/200 armored cars. It has about 100 combat aircraft, consisting of A-4 Skyhawks, F-5E Tigers, Hunter fighters, and Bloodhound and Rapier guided missiles. The Singapore Army has 35,000 personnel; the Navy has 3,000 personnel; and the Air Force has 4,000 personnel.

Visit by the Joint Staff and Command School

Meanwhile, to increase military cooperation between the two countries, a group of 65 students from Class 10 of the Indonesian Joint Staff and Command School made a study tour in Singapore from 12 to 14 January. They consist of middle-ranking officers from the three armed services and the Indonesian police, and they were led by Maj Gen Dr Sumargono Karto Prayitno.

The students visited defense and security activities in Singapore. In addition to receiving briefings on the projects the students from the Joint Staff and Command School also exchanged views with Singapore military officers on defense and security questions involving the two countries and the region. They made a visit to the Singapore Police Academy and paid particular attention to the question of guarding against communist subversion.

Before going to Singapore the study group had visited the Philippines.

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CSO: 4213/151

150 FAMILIES LEAVE TRANSMIGRATION AREA DUE TO POOR SOIL

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 19 Jan 84 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Over Past 3 Months 150 Transmigrant Families Have Left Mamosalato Resettlement Area in Central Sulawesi"]

[Text] Jakarta, 19 January--At least 150 transmigrant families, consisting of more than 600 persons in all, have left their resettlement housing area in Mamosalato, Poso Regency, Central Sulawesi, over the past 3 months.

A SINAR HARAPAN correspondent who looked into this development reported on Thursday [12 January] that this incident is almost the same as what happened at the beginning of 1983 at the Marisa II resettlement area in Gorontalo Regency, North Sulawesi, where the transmigrants gradually abandoned their new homes.

The transmigrants from the Mamosalato resettlement area left as a group for an unknown destination. Up to the middle of January 1984 no reports had been received on what had happened to the transmigrants who left on this journey.

The Mamosalato transmigration resettlement area, with a capacity for 1,000 families, began to be occupied in February 1983 by transmigrants from Bali, East Java, Central Java, and West Java. Their reason for leaving the resettlement area was generally that the land provided to them was difficult to farm because it consisted of stones, gravel, and sand.

Nothing Will Grow

The period during which government assistance in the form of food and other necessities was to be given the transmigrants was to end in January 1984. Meanwhile, they could not rely on their land to provide them with food. It was this situation which forced them to look for another place to live in order to support themselves.

Suparno (30 years old), who was born in Ciamis, West Java, one of the transmigrants who lived in Housing Unit A in Mamosalato, confirmed the fact that hundreds of families had left the resettlement area. In his opinion, in Housing Units A and B alone there were about 130 families which had left. This does not take into account his friends living in Housing Units C and D.

Answering a question from a SINAR HARAPAN representative, he said that his friends had fled from the resettlement area in secret because there was no guidance from project officials and also because of the condition of the land, which was difficult to use for planting food crops. Meanwhile, the 1-year period for the distribution of government food aid was to end in January 1984.

Furthermore, Suparno said, the IR rice seed provided to them turned out to be unsuitable for growing rice in non-irrigated fields. The use by the residents of their front yards, which measured one-quarter of a hectare in size, for agricultural purposes was also unsuccessful. Efforts to plant soybeans were also unsuccessful, as the plants did not grow.

Delayed

Other complaints mentioned by Suparno included delays in providing assistance allocations to the transmigrants. He pointed to the quota of kerosine, which was delayed for 2 months and has not yet been received.

Suparno, who said he had dropped out of an SPMA [senior agricultural high school] in the area where he was born, said that under such conditions, "I have also considered leaving the resettlement area." He added: "If the land cannot be farmed in a proper way, clearly, I can't possibly stay on here."

Answering questions from a SINAR HARAPAN representative recently, officials at the Mamosalato transmigration project confirmed that some of the residents had left their homes. However, according to them, only about 50 families have left.

David, a transmigration official at the Mamosalato project, said: "It seems that these transmigrants couldn't stand up to the challenge and just wanted things to be easy." Meanwhile, Permadi, the chief of the Mamosalato transmigration unit, said he regretted what they had done. "They have to be determined and industrious. It is a fact that the facilities at the Mamosalato project are still being improved. For example, the irrigation system at present is still being marked out," Permadi said.

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CSO: 4213/152

TRANSMIGRATION PROGRAM TO PLACE 81,000 FAMILIES IN JAMBI

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 4 Feb 84 p 11

[Text] Sukanto, the head of the Jambi provincial office of the Department of Transmigration, says that Jambi plans to bring in 81,000 transmigrant families during Pelita IV [Fourth 5-Year Plan]. He said that 31,000 families will be brought in under the general transmigration program and 50,000 families under a manpower transmigration program.

He said that this is a new development and is connected with the plans of the Jambi provincial government to develop nucleus estate and smallholders [NES] projects for the cultivation of oil palms. The provincial government is readying some 256,000 hectares of agricultural land for this purpose.

He also said that the government is working to improve the standard of living and welfare of transmigrants and as part of this effort has been carrying out a special NES spontaneous transmigration program at Durian Luncuk in Batang Hari district since November 1983.

The special NES program is a new program and was first implemented in 1981/82. It provides transmigrants with instruction and guidance on the development of rubber estates.

He said that local investors are directly involved in the special NES program and that transmigrants become participants in the project.

New approaches are being used in the areas of motivation, funding and management in the implementation of special NES programs. The special NES program being carried out at Durian Luncuk constitutes an effort to utilize the potential of the rubber estates in Jambi province.

5458

CSO: 4213/167

ACCEPTANCE OF PANCASILA DOES NOT AFFECT PPP IDENTITY

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 1 Feb 84 pp 1, 7

[Excerpt] Dr H.J. Naro, SH, the general chairman of the United Development Party (PPP), says that the Pancasila is the only ideology in the world that promotes religious life and guarantees the faithful the right to observe Islamic law.

Dr Naro's comments were contained in a written message read by Drs Darussamin at a meeting commemorating the 11th anniversary of the founding of the PPP. The meeting was held at the Immim Islamic Center in Ujungpandang on Saturday night [28 January].

Dr Naro said that the PPP's acceptance of the Pancasila as its sole foundation does not mean that the party's special characteristics, the qualities that distinguish it from the other two sociopolitical forces, will be lost. This difference continues to exist and is reflected in the party's struggle program, which emphasizes spiritual and material development.

The integrated existence of the political parties and Golkar must be guarded because the three groups constitute the basic capital of the nation and an effective national potential. And in the realization of this integrity the three groups must be managed in a way that will ensure that every citizen of Indonesia is free to breathe the fresh air that exists in the world of Pancasila democracy, he said.

Dr Naro said that with the party's acceptance of the Pancasila as its sole foundation it is essential that discordant and biased attitudes, in short, all behavior that is inconsistent with the Pancasila, be eliminated.

5458
CSO: 4213/166

WEST JAVA COAST VULNERABLE TO INFILTRATION

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 1 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] The north coast of West Java, particularly in the Karawang, Indramayu and Cirebon areas, is highly vulnerable to infiltration by enemies of the Republic of Indonesia who want to assist the remaining members of the PKI and 30 September Movement. The south coast of West Java also is a critical area for infiltration, since the advances that have been made in technology can give the enemy the ability to get through difficult terrain.

These statements were made by H. Adnan Kohar S. in reporting the findings made by parliamentary commission I during a tour of West Java. The tour was made during the last recess of Parliament. Adnan Kohar submitted the report yesterday in Jakarta at a session of Parliament chaired by Deputy Speaker M. Kharis Suhud.

The border area between West Java and Central Java provides communication routes that can be used by infiltrators to launch and carry out cooperative activities and maintain coordination between regions. "One of the characteristics of the border area is that surveillance is weak there, and so it easily can be used as a route for subversive traffic," Adnan Kohar said.

"Even so, our security forces are capable of controlling the situation in all of these areas. Proof of this is found in the fact that areas that are considered to be highly vulnerable continue to be stable, orderly and safe," he declared.

5458

CSO: 4213/166

PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF AGRICULTURAL CENSUS REPORTED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 19 Jan 84 pp 1, 12

[Article: "57.2 Percent of Indonesian Households Active in Agricultural Sector"]

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS--About 57.2 percent of Indonesian households are active in the agricultural sector. This figure has gone down over the past 3 years. According to the 1980 population census, the households engaged in farming agricultural land amount to 57.8 percent of the total.

Soetjipto Wirosardjono, deputy chief of the Central Statistical Office, made this statement to reporters in Jakarta on Wednesday [18 January]. These figures, which were made public, were derived from the first stage of processing the results of the registration of farm households. The registration was a part of the 1983 Agricultural Census and was undertaken in October 1983.

According to Soetjipto, about 21.2 million households in Indonesia, based on the Agricultural Census of 1983, are employed in the agricultural sector. This total consists of 19.5 million households working on their own land. The balance, or 1.7 million households, is made up of farm laborers or is in charge of agricultural enterprises.

From the results of this preliminary processing of the data, a number of conclusions can be drawn. Average household growth per year during the period 1980-83 is estimated to have declined, compared to the period 1971-80.

The percentage of households engaged in working agricultural land in 1983 has gone down, compared to 1980, although the absolute level has increased. That is, whereas in 1980 there were 17.6 million households engaged in agriculture, in 1983 there were 18.4 million households engaged in agriculture.

Soetjipto added: "The total number of farm laborers in the agricultural sector are members of about 5 million households. This figure does not include small farmers who work less than 0.5 hectares and who are not included as farm workers in the agricultural sector. The total number of farmers working less than 0.5 hectares of land cannot be stated from the results of the preliminary processing of the data."

Rice and Secondary Crops

The deputy chief of the Central Statistical Office said that the total number of households engaged in planting rice and secondary crops was the highest, involving about 16.4 million households. Households engaged in planting garden produce totaled about 8.3 million.

There were about 500,000 households engaged in the fishing industry. About 59,700 households were engaged in fish pond farming. These farmer-fishermen do not include farmers who raise bandeng [milkfish] in irrigated fields, in fields where various crops are raised, or in flooded ricefields, as in a few regencies in East Java.

The total number of households included in the category of livestock raising is about 4.5 million. Households engaged in livestock raising are limited to households which raise a certain number of livestock or poultry and which fall within the limits set for livestock raising in the Agricultural Census of 1983.

The deputy chief of the Central Statistical Office said that, compared with the 1980 Population Census, the total number of households engaged as fishermen or ocean fishermen has increased rather substantially--about 126 percent. This may result from the fact that many fishermen who originally (in 1980) were employed as fishermen are now in business for themselves as fishermen.

Farm Laborers

The total number of households made up of farm laborers is about 5 million, not including those engaged in taking care of the land of others, who are not classified as farm laborers. Out of this total about 3.3 million households are also self-employed in the agricultural sector. The remaining 1.7 million households are also employed as workers in the agricultural sector but don't have their own agricultural business.

Soetjipto says that these 3.3 million households do not include small farmers who work less than 0.5 hectares of agricultural land and are not included as farm laborers in the agricultural sector. The total number of all small farmers in the 1980 Population Census, according to available estimates, is about 11 million households. Added to the 1.7 million households which only work as laborers in the agricultural sector, the total number of households in this category is estimated at more than 12.7 million households. This means that about 39.6 percent of farm households are employed as small farmers or farm laborers in the agricultural sector.

He said that the total number of households taking care of the land of others is about 379,000. This means that there are at least 379,000 parcels of agricultural land owned by people who are not farmers but which are being tilled by farm laborers.

From the results of the 1983 Agricultural Census it has been learned that land which has been handed over to people other than the owners for farming is generally found in the area being developed around large cities. Although the land

turned over to others is still used for agricultural purposes, this is not included in national agricultural production.

Soetjipto concluded: "However, recalling the fact that most of this land is located in the city and industrial development areas, its impact on agriculture will be negative. For it is planned that this land will be used for housing and industrial purposes and will not be worked as agricultural land, properly speaking."

5170
CSO: 4213/152

ARMY REFORESTATION PROGRAM IN OUTER ISLANDS DETAILED

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 19 Jan 84 p 6

[Article: "Reforestation Through Operation Manunggal Reboisasi: 2,500 Hectares in Lampung Province Reforested and 500 hectares in Central Sulawesi"]

[Text] Manado [North Sulawesi], HARIAN UMUM AB--It is the turn for 500 critical hectares in Onda Village, Posso Regency (Central Sulawesi) to be reforested, beginning in the middle of January 1984, under "Operasi Manunggal Reboisasi" (OMR) [Operation Concentrated Reforestation], which is being carried out by Military Region XIII/Merdeka.

About 340 personnel from the military region, composed of one company-sized unit (SSK) from Infantry Battalion 711/Reksatama, one company-sized unit from Infantry Battalion 713/Satyatama, one platoon-sized unit (SSP) from the Combat Engineers Detachment, and personnel organic to Military District Command 1307/Posso, will be assigned to the operation, together with 30 residents of Onda Village each day.

Lt Col (Infantry) Piet E Kakiay, bachelor of arts, chief of the Information Service of Military Region XIII/Merdeka in Manado, said that under the OMR operation 1 million eucalyptus seeds (a type of jungle white wood) would be planted. The activity would begin with clearing a road 3 meters wide to the replanting location, preparing the ground in the planting area, and planting the seeds. This work is to be completed by the middle of May 1984. The OMR operation will be continued with other personnel over the next 3 years, on a phased basis.

Implementation of the OMR operation is in accordance with the orders of the Army chief of staff as responsible officer for the operation, to help reforestation in certain military regions. The OMR operation in East Kalimantan, South Kalimantan, and Sulawesi was officially begun by Lieutenant General Soepardjo, commander of Defense Area III, at the beginning of January 1984 at Riam Dam in South Kalimantan. The OMR operation in Posso Regency was scheduled to be opened by the deputy commander of Defense Area III in the middle of January 1984.

In Lampung Province at the Beginning of February

Meanwhile, it is estimated that the Indonesian Armed Forces Concentrated Reforestation Operation (AMR) in Lampung Province will be completed by the first week of February 1984.

Colonel (Infantry) Iskandar, commander of Regiment 403/Garuda Hitam, said that this AMR operation is in its final phase. The completion of the operation in Lampung Selatan Regency has been delayed because it began late, the commander of the regiment said, after meeting with reporters from throughout Lampung Province at the conference hall of the regiment in Bandar Lampung recently.

The AMR operation in Lampung Province involves 2,500 hectares and will cost more than 173 million rupiahs. This operation has been carried on by about 250 members of the Indonesian Armed Forces and about 1,000 local residents employed each day, since October 1983.

The 2,500 hectare area includes 100 hectares at Gunung Balak, Lampung Tengah Regency; 640 hectares at Sumber Jaya, Lampung Utara Regency; and 860 hectares in Lampung Selatan Regency. The work in the Gunung Balak area is 100 percent complete, the regiment commander said, mentioning that the difficulties encountered in Gunung Balak were greater than those in the two other areas.

The regiment commander did not say what the difficulties were. However, it was learned that these involved moving the people who have been living until now in the jungle area involved.

Most of the people have moved to the transmigration project in Lampung Utara, but there are still some people--about 350 families--living in the Gunung Balak area. The regency authorities of Lampung Tengah are engaged in moving them to the transmigration project in Lampung Utara on a phased basis.

During fiscal year 1983-84 reforestation in Lampung Province has covered more than 27,000 hectares. About 16,500 hectares have been reforested by PT Inhutani; 8,000 hectares, by the Forestry Service of Lampung Province; and 2,500 hectares, by the AMR operation.

In addition to the Lampung Province reforestation project, the AMR operation has also helped to supervise the reforestation activity carried out by the Forestry Service.

5170
CSO: 4213/152

JAPANESE ANTHROPOLOGIST DESCRIBES DEVELOPMENT OF MUHAMMADIYAH

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 5 Jan 84 pp 1, 8

[Article: "Muhammadiyah Did Not Develop Because of the Bureaucracy"]

[Text] Society's basic motivation for accepting Muhammadiyah and thus promoting its development was not guided and influenced by the role played by the bureaucracy, but was attributable to a development factor within society itself. This thesis was advanced as the conclusion to a study of contemporary history and ethnology in Kotagede and an examination of the Muhammadiyah movement in many areas.

Last evening prior to his departure for Malaysia, Singapore, and his beloved homeland Japan, Dr Mitsuo Nakamura, an anthropologist from Chiba University, presented this thesis in response to questions from PELITA during discussion as the home of H. Lukman Harun, spokesman of the Muhammadiyah PP [Executive Committee].

Among those present during these discussions were H. Rusydi Hamka, publisher of the magazine "Panjimas," H. Abdurrahman Wahid, and H. Akhmad Zacky Siradj, the former general chairman of the PB [Executive Council] HMI [Muslim College Students Association], as well as a number of capital reporters.

Mitsuo Nakamura reaffirmed his opinion that the acceptance and internal development of the Muhammadiyah movement was based on the Muhammadiyah's ability to explain Islam and to introduce its values to society in ways that could be easily understood. He stated that this acceptance and development had not been the result of any external factors.

He explained that his study shows that, toward the end of 1920, there was extensive development, including development in Kotagede [Yogyakarta, Central Java]. Clearly, the Muhammadiyah had attracted a strong public awareness and the support of various social groups and government personalities. Furthermore, during that period, traditional Islamic religious philosophy was giving way to more modern ideas.

The Bureaucratic Element

Mitsuo refuted the PELITA assertion that the Muhammadiyah movement was inseparable from the bureaucracy which was dominated by numerous Muhammadiyah

administrators who held village and subdistrict posts. Mitsuo stated that there was not enough scientific data to support this assertion.

During that period, there were a number of independent religious organizations which later joined the Muhammadiyah. While introducing the new book based on his literary and field research, Mitsuo said that there are some who are tempted to view the Muhammadiyah's development in Kotagede as a sort of social and intellectual explosion.

Contest the Thesis

Mitsuo's research supports his thesis on the paradox of the Muhammadiyah in Kotagede which until now has been known in Western historical circles from the history of modern Islamic movements, in general, and of the Muhammadiyah, in particular.

Of the four paradoxes of the Muhammadiyah, Mitsuo said that one involves merchants and the diligent and obedient, but not strict Muslims in Kotagede. He stated that this was seen by Clifford Geertz, a Western historian, as the historical and functional relationship between Islam and commerce.

He said that Geertz declared the relationship to be historical in character because Islam came to Indonesia with the expansion of commerce (until the 15th century). During the following two centuries, the Dutch dominated commerce in the coastal regions.

Furthermore, Geertz viewed the relationship as functional since there was a loose relation between small scale, interregional trade and the various pockets of religion which could be freely approached and which, without monetary resources, had spread throughout the interior regions. Because of all this, the mosque and the market were natural partners during that time.

On this point, Mitsuo challenged Geertz's thesis as being too heavily dependent on historical experiences in the coastal regions of northern Central and East Java. The relationship between Islam and commerce in southern Central Java presented an entirely different pattern.

He further stated that, in regard to pre-Muhammadiyah Islam in Kotagede, Geertz's thesis on the historical and functional relationships between Islam and commerce is inaccurate since it does not give enough weight to the importance of Islamic elements (though of a syncretic form) in the traditional Kraton Government.

9127

CSO: 4213/144

BRIEFS

MYSTERIOUS SHOOTINGS IN YOGYAKARTA--Col (Engineers) Roni Sikap Sinuraya, commander of Sub-District 072 and the Yogyakarta Garrison, declared that in the course of Operation Cleaning Up Crime [Operasi Pemberantasan Kejahatan--OPK] in Yogyakarta in the Sub-District 072 area there had been no cases of what have been called "mysterious shootings." He added that there is some question as to who created this term. He made this statement in answering questions from journalists after attending the defense of doctoral dissertations at the Senate Hall at the Bulaksumur Campus of the University of Gadjah Mada on Monday [16 January]. Colonel Sinuraya said that at this time there are no OPK personnel who shoot people in performing their duties in order to have a "shock" effect, followed by a phase of indoctrinating former members of armed gangs (gabungan anak-anak liar--Gali). He said that he did not know anything specific about the discovery of human remains in Bantul and Kulonprogo Regencies last week. As a member of the security forces, he is trying to find out the causes of these developments. However, he admitted that he did not have complete information regarding them. [Text] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 17 Jan 84 pp 1, 12] 5170

AROMATIC PLANT IN PALEMBANG--Jakarta, 11 January--Construction of the Plaju aromatic plant in Palembang will begin in February. Steel for its construction, worth 1.3 million pounds sterling, will be furnished by the London-based S. W. Farmer Company. The plant will produce pure terephthalic acid, a substance derived from petroleum to produce benzene. Pure terephthalic acid is an important ingredient used for the production of synthetic fibers, washing powders, solvents, medicines, and dyes. The Farmer Company will furnish the processing plant, pipe racks, and building materials and will assist with the steel construction. These will be paid for with a loan from the British Export Credit Guarantee Department. The contract was closed in the name of PERTAMINA, the Indonesian state oil company, and a joint venture between Thyssen Rheinthal Technic GMBH [company with limited liability] of Dusseldorf, West Germany, and M. W. Kellogg of Houston, Texas. [Text] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 12 Jan 84 p 11] 6804

CSO: 4213/148

THAI AMBASSADOR NOTES SOVIET CULTURAL INFLUENCE IN VIENTIANE

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 11 Feb 84 p 10

[Visit to Vientiane column by Sumittra Channgao: "Markets Where You Can Select From Lenin's Works"]

[Text] Actually, Marxism-Leninism is an inseparable part of the change in the administrative system in Laos just as in the shift to socialism in other countries. Because it is both a guide and a tool for checking socialist methods, an important task of the state is to ensure that the people in the system study Marxist-Leninist theory thoroughly and acquire a deep understanding of it.

For this reason, Laos, like Hanoi and Phnom Penh, has unavoidably become a market for the works of Lenin and other important socialist thinkers.

The state's bookstore has a Moscow atmosphere, starting right at the door, on which large poster-pictures of Lenin and his revolutionary sayings have been posted. And inside, things are arranged in a simple way to show the "socialist" way.

The wooden bookshelves are filled with works by Lenin on a variety of subjects. You can choose whatever you want. These books are printed in compact volumes, and they are cheap, particularly when calculated in baht.

The covers are red, and pictures of Lenin in various poses are featured prominently. These books are translated from Russian into colloquial Lao. Thais can read them easily since our letters, word spelling and words used are so similar.

SIANG PASASON, a daily state newspaper, is sold side by side with various Soviet newspapers, which are sent from Moscow to Vientiane by way of Hanoi.

Also, the weekly journal WANNASIN, a state journal that emphasizes literature, poems and arts and cultural affairs, is sold side by side with Russian journals in both the English and Russian languages. Some have been translated into Lao.

There are children's books that have been translated from the Russian and that are filled with eye-catching pictures and illustrations, with the style of printing clearly indicating that the books were "made in Moscow."

"All the books here come from Moscow, with the exception of the state's daily and weekly newspapers," said a Lao official. And he was not lying; the quality of the books provides the evidence.

The Lao bookseller was occupied with the books spread out in front of him. But when a Russian customer came into the store, he talked to him in fluent Russian.

"You can find all sorts of books on the Soviet Union here," said a fellow reporter for MATUPHUM while looking through books titled "Mobilizing Heros" and "Mother," which were written in Thai but which had the titles written in Lao.

During the 30 minutes that I was there to soak up the atmosphere in the shop, no Lao people came into the store. Only Russinas came and went quietly.

Just a short distance from the bookshop is the Soviet Cultural Center, which stands out prominently with a Moscow atmosphere.

A statute of Lenin is the focal point of the large hall. Boards detailing the progress made in the Soviet Union fill the room. The glass case in front of the building lists the month's cultural programs that people can attend.

This place serves as both a gathering place for diplomats who come to watch movies and as a school where forceful lectures are given by experts from Moscow. In addition, it also serves as a meeting place for young Lao people when there is some activity going on that they can attend.

"If you stayed here a long time, you would discover that Soviet influence here is really overwhelming. There are Russians everywhere. Soviet cultural activities are planned very carefully. Every day, they are gaining a firmer foothold here. Our embassy is surrounded by them," said Somphong Faichampa, the Thai ambassador stationed in Vientiane who gave me his personal views one day.

Later on in the day, I saw for myself that the ambassador had not been exaggerating.

"Speak some Russian for our guest," said a Vietnamese vender to her 4-year old daughter to get her to show her abilities.

The girl then said her name fluently in a strange-sounding language and then counted in the same language.

"Almost everyone in our family can speak Russian. My son can speak very well and can teach it. He won a trip to Moscow and will leave in 1 or 2 months. If you want to learn Russian, he can teach you. I guarantee that you will soon be able to speak Russian." She talked about the abilities of other children for a long time. She seemed to be a good-natured person who is sincere toward strangers. Such people are difficult to find in restaurants in Bangkok.

The 4-year-old girl smiled innocently. Her ability in a foreign language at her age was very interesting, particularly since that language was Russian, which is one of the most difficult languages to learn.

I was struck by the feeling that in not too many years, Russian will become a commonly used language here just as French was before.

And in the future, Marxism-Leninism will probably become the political philosophy that even primary-school children will be able to discuss.

More bookstores will probably open and spread to the wats. Already, some wats now have works by Lenin and other revolutionary literature that visitors can purchase as a souvenir instead of sacred items.

11943

CSO: 4207/94

PROBLEMS OF THIEVERY, THAI EXPATRIATES IN VIENTIANE

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 10 Feb 84 p 10

[Visit to Vientiane column by Sumittra Channkao: "Poor People's Bicycles"]

[Excerpts] The road that winds along the Mekong River in front of the Lan Chang Hotel is very quiet in the morning. It is a quiet that is filled with the freshness of a clean atmosphere that people in large cities such as Bangkok cannot find even in the heart of the city.

During the visit to Laos by General Kriangsak and his group of MPs at the end of last year, the possibility of opening the border to allow people on both sides to trade with each other and visit each other as usual was discussed. But nothing ever came of this since each side wanted guarantees concerning the security of the border.

"Some Thai MPs said that it will be a long time indeed before relations between the Thai and Lao people improve. I replied that relations between people do not depend on nature. We can get along with each other without having to wait such a long time. When they saw that I was serious, they changed and said that they had just been joking. But that was not very funny," said a young man from the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

After the quiet and early morning breezes, people began to stir and the main streets of the city, of which there are not too many, became more congested.

The workers' most important means of transportation is the bicycle. In the pale light of morning, long lines of bicycles pass the morning market intersection on their way to the old Heros' Monument, or the Victory Gate, which is a French copy from the colonial period.

And in the morning, lines of bicycles stream in from outside the city on their way into the heart of the capital. Some pass this Victory Gate.

"A bicycle is a necessity. It's difficult to get anywhere without one. A bicycle costs about 3,000 baht. Most are purchased from the Thai side," said one Lao merchant who had many brands of cigarettes for sale. She had set up her stall at a main intersection and noon was the time when

she did most of her business. She talked about how difficult it was to earn enough money to buy a bicycle.

"There is a lot of bicycle thievery here. You can't get negligent." Small gangs of thieves are everywhere.

Samlors, which are used to get to the morning market, pass by slowly along the old asphalt street that is full of potholes. The drivers, who are mostly middle-aged and who wear tattered clothes and scarves, strain their muscles to get out of the way of the on-coming Russian-built Volga sedans. This reminded me that people here drive on the right-hand side. But the samlor I was riding in was driving on the left-hand side.

When they want to turn onto another road, they have to get off and turn it.

"But don't they have brakes?"

"Yes."

"Then why do they have to get off?"

"It's easier," he said. He also said that the samlors that are for hire are all privately owned. They probably are privately owned since they are old and falling apart. They have probably been in use since before liberation.

"Those who operate samlors are from Thailand. They came here before the change in administration. They have families here. When the administration was changed, they couldn't go back." This was some information that I picked up from a news source along the road.

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CSO: 4207/94

BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION CHIEF NOTES CONDITIONS, NUMBER OF CLERGY

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 9 Feb 84 p 10

[Visit to Laos column by Sumittra Channgao: "On the Path to the Age of the Next Bodhisattva"]

[Text]"After the system was changed in Laos, wherever I went, people asked me whether there were still monks in this communist country," said Phra Thonkhoun Anatasounthon, the president of the Lao Unified Buddhists Association, jovially to the writer during a conversation late in the afternnon.

"Actually, concerning Buddhism, nothing much has changed in the socialist countries. When a country becomes a communist country, it doesn't mean that the state will do away with religion. Here, we have formed the Lao Unified Buddhist Association. This is a mass organization since we are a socialist country. Our religious organization has relations with organizations both outside and within the country, particularly with domestic Buddhist [organizations].

"As for freedom of religion, every person still enjoys full rights. Five percent of the population is Christian, and 0.5 percent is Muslim. The rest are Buddhists," explained Phra Thongkhoun, whose position is equivalent to that of the Supreme Patriarch in Thailand, concerning Buddhism in Laos at length.

At the very least, [he explained this] in order to correct the mistaken notion frequently held by outsiders, who tend to believe that in the communist world, nothing is respected except the party's orders, which has happened in some periods of the socialist revolution and which has been a very painful lesson when looking from the present situation back into the past.

It is probably a basic feature of human psychology that people's firm beliefs in something, which have been handed down for centuries, cannot be easily changed or prohibited. Thus, concerning Buddhism in Laos, the state has cleverly made gentle changes to make use of Buddhism.

The secular administration has changed and so the religious administrative structure in Laos has changed, too. That is, there is a Religious Central Committee, or ecclesiastical government, which administers ecclesiastical affairs. This central committee is composed of 16 members, and there are three advisors to the chairman. Besides this, there are ecclesiastical committees in each province, with each committee having seven members. Committees at the district level have five members while those at the canton level have three members.

At present, there are 6,182 monks in Laos (all are members of the Lao Unified Buddhist Association). There are also 9,450 novices. Phra Thongkhoun said that these figures are similar to those before the change of administration.

"Our present religious education is not very different from what it was before. We study the Buddha's teachings along with secular subjects. We stress bringing about peace throughout the world. It is a principle of our ecclesiastical organization that education is the most important thing. Our goal is to make everyone 7-45 years old literate. We have improved education so that it is in line with this. Religious schools have been opened to teach monks in accord with the secular curriculum so that they can go and teach the people after they leave [school]. We provide instruction to the bachelor's level. When they graduate, they are immediately given educational qualifications. As for whether or not a person leaves the order, that is up to each individual person," said Phra Thongkhoun.

Besides revising the curriculum in order to produce teachers for the state indirectly, the Lao clergy has also made improvements concerning "herbal medicine," or "native-style" medical treatment. Committees to work in cooperation with laymen have been formed in every province. And this herbal medicine program is being widely promoted and disseminated since there is presently a shortage of "Western" medicine.

When asked whether the religious teachings were in harmony with Marxism-Leninism, Phra Thongkhoun said seriously that the two sets of principles can get along well with each other.

"Those in our secular units have all been in the order. They can apply the religious teachings in conjunction with Marxist-Leninist principles in an appropriate way. Take the five precepts, for example. These are our humanitarian principles, or the principle of "doing good begets good, doing evil begets evil."

"Looking at things closely, the socialist line is really in accord with the Buddhist line. The goal of Buddhism is to eliminate ignorance and replace what is bad with what is good. It wants to build a unified world, ending with the coming of the next bodhisattva. At present, many countries are following this line. But it has not been possible to do everything."

The writer had almost no chance to say anything since this Lao religious leader spoke without stop in a very optimistic way.

"Our Buddhist Association is a member of the Asian Buddhists' Organization for Peace in Mongolia. At present, our most lofty goal is to oppose nuclear weapons in cooperation with the world movement."

There are still many other things that were said during our 2-hour conversation that day. For example, we discussed the matter of teaching political ideology to monks and various programs in which there is cooperation between the clergy and laymen.

But after that, many people whom I met along the road told me about their dream of winning the lottery and about the fortune-telling activities of some monks, which is still engaged in widespreadly.

Hearing this, I couldn't help wondering how much longer it would take to reach the age of the next bodhisattva.

Captions:

1. The deterioration and solitude in another corner of the city, which has its own unique atmosphere.
2. The classroom atmosphere at a secondary school for monks.
3. Wat Phra That Luang Vientiane, which has been restored.
4. A secondary school for monks in Vientiane.
5. At present, there are about 4,000 wats in Laos. Because of the war, 332 wats do not have any resident monks. There are 909 wats in ruins. Even though few have been restored to their original condition, their artistic beauty is still evident.

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CSO: 4207/94

LAOS

AVAILABILITY OF MEDICINE, FOREIGN CURRENCY, AID NOTED

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 12 Feb 84 p 14

[Visit to Vientiane column by Sumittra Channkao: "Everyone Is Fine"]

[Text] During my final evening in my small room at the Lan Chan Hotel, presently the best hotel in Vientiane, the hotel was filled with the sounds of firecrackers being set off by Chinese and Vietnamese in happy celebration of the Chinese-Vietnamese New Year.

The small coffee shop, decorated prettily in the French style of that area, was especially crowded. The smell of cigarettes and Lao coffee filled the air. The music was not loud enough to drown out the talk of the people there.

The owner of the shop, who served both as the manager and as the waiter, spoke French fluently with his French customers and fairly good Russian with his Russian customers. This coffee shop has a Western atmosphere and is expensive. Young Lao men and women don't have a chance to experience its pleasures.

Thus, sweethearts don't go to such smoke-filled and dark coffee shops for entertainment. Instead, they walk along the banks of the Mekong River, where no one will bother them except for the sound of gently breezes and nearby crickets. Or they can be found in the dim light in the parks around the Volunteers' Monument or Victory Gate.

The coffee shop is for foreigners and strangers who have sufficient cash. It's a place where you can meet new acquaintances and discuss a wide range of problems, even politics. They even serve Lao coffee with excellent brandy.

Laos does not have a population problem. There is no birth control here and no use of condoms. Some people are surprised when they learn that some parents have 15 children. But it seems that these large families don't worry much about having enough food to eat. Rather, they worry about the problem of obtaining medical treatment when someone becomes ill.

"Life here is all right. The only thing is that you cannot afford to get sick," said the Thai ambassador to Laos referring to a tragedy that befell a Western diplomat.

This diplomat was hit by a motorcycle (in Lao, they call this a "rot chak") and his leg was broken. Hospitals in Laos cannot provide adequate emergency treatment. It's difficult to get 3 kilometers outside the limits of Vientiane City and so before this patient could reach a Thai doctor, he had lost his leg, and he later died.

As for the free medical treatment that the state provides for the people, "It's not really free since people have to purchase their own medicine. And medicine is expensive and scarce. It must be purchased on the Thai side," explained one mother with 13 children.

A Japanese pharmaceutical company will soon provide help with construction and production and so this is another great hope among the leaders of Laos.

"We don't care who helps us. If they will give us help, we will certainly accept it," said Chanta Bouppha, an official with the Information Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. And he gladly accepted the money I offered him to help me meet with senior officials and visit various places.

The fact that Laos does everything possible to squeeze money from those who visit Laos shows that Laos greatly needs foreign currency.

Local Lao street hawkers who sell handicraft items will gladly lower the price if they know that the customer from Thailand will pay in dollars.

As for people who like local handicrafts such as various woven articles and even silk items and embroidery work done by the hill tribes, they will be attracted by the hill tribe goods that are sold at a fair price. And what is important is that even if you are a customer from abroad, you won't be cheated on the price.

On the road to the Vientiane airport during my last hour in Laos, two Soviet Mig-21 aircraft flew over at a low altitude. But in front was a "graveyard" for old U.S. aircraft that are in such a state of disrepair that they can no longer be used. But they serve as a strong reminder of the period of aggression of the imperialists.

We just hope that the replacement of the B-52s by the Mig-21s will not result in this land suffering the same, or a similar, fate again.

Good-bye and farewell, Vientiane.

11943

CSO: 4207/94

ERRATUM: This article republished
from JPRS-SEA-84-047 of 29 March 1984
where it was inadvertently placed
under the category of VIETNAM

LAO RIVER FORCES' FEATS OF ARMS PRAISED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 18 Jan 84 p 3

[Article by Van Huong: "35th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Lao People's Army (20 January) -- Strong and Confident on Rivers "]

[Text] Battalion leader Somsanith led us to the river port, where the combatants of Company 2 were fulfilling their regular combat task. Sitting in a small boat equipped with 2 12.7-mm guns, he told us the following:

"At the time the battalion was established, it had only more than 200 cadres and combatants and was equipped with only 3 old vessels that had been taken over from the French and 3 wooden junks. Although it was a river battalion, it operated less in water than on land. When a battle broke out on Donetam Island, only the three junks were usable; they carried eight people each. Boun Heung was the commander of the company. As the enemy was fiercely fighting back, with T-28 aircraft dropping bombs from the sky and boats and ground troops on the island fighting against the attackers, the battle lasted from 1000 hours all the way till 1300 hours, when the battalion hit and sank the No Po Kho vessel and made the enemy flee toward the Thai territory."

And now the battalion had dozens of vessels, large and small, and a body of commanders having a lot of experience in operating vessels. According to battalion leader Somsanith, Bounthavee was a captain who was typical of the boat-operating group as he would remember any river route he had taken even once, whether it was a long or short route and whether he had taken it in daytime or at night. But when I met Bounthavee myself, he modestly answered me: "That was a professional habit not only on my part but on the part of any other captain in the river battalion, who does have the same ability." He then recalled a story that occurred in the 1979-1980 period and recounted it to me: Once his boat was caught by an underwater rock formation and the steering cable was broken; he tried for a long time to put the broken parts together but to no avail. He had to use the nylon rope that was usually used to tie buffaloes and cattle to replace the steering cable. He mobilized all of his skill,

stretched his neck to reach above the hold to see more clearly and used his right leg to steer and to get the boat safely out of the rocks. Whenever he was doing patrolling work, he always ran his boat upstream and then turned off its engine and let the boat move downstream while he was observing enemy sabotage acts. Thanks to this experience, once he chased and caught a group of 35 reactionaries who were about to cross the river in their junk to get into Thailand to work for the enemy.

In the rainy seasons, as the enemy strengthened his activities, the task of the battalion became greater. To supply the units with grain and foods became more difficult with a shortage of nylon covers. Battalion leader Somsanith went to every company, saw all of its members and personally asked them to overcome the situation. The battalion worked both independently and in coordination with the local force of Hat Sai-fong District to urge the people to provide information about enemy activities. As it was doing good basic-level work, one of its components thwarted an enemy plot to carry out sabotage activities and killed many enemies. The battalion also coordinated its activities with an infantry company led by Sana in an ambush that killed five enemies.

The feats of arms scored by the battalion were a driving force behind the emulating efforts in the entire unit, with its members all trying to score outstanding achievements. Captain Boua Keo told me that he had been an infantry soldier in Champassak Province, had taken part in seven battles and had received a letter of commendation from the government praising him for his exploits against the enemy. In the 14 months he had been with the river battalion, he had taken part in 20 patrolling and transporting missions. During patrols he always took advantage of the opportunities to learn about, understand and use all of the weapons aboard, which ranged from AK and B-40 guns to the 12.8- and 14.5-mm guns. In a battle following the enemy capture of Moung Khong, he used a short cut to encounter the enemy, inflicted some casualties and captured many weapons. By now Boua Keo has become not only an outstanding gunner but also a very capable captain, who along with Bounthavee, Sai Som and others commanded their vessels strongly and confidently on rivers and waterways.

5598

CSO: 4209/182

SARAWAK COMMUNISTS TAX TIMBER OPERATORS

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 11 Feb 84 p 4

[Text] LUNDU--Sarawak's communist remnants are forcing timber operators in the jungle to pay protection money, and it is believed that more than \$200,000 has been handed over in the last two years.

This extortion is one of the tactics the Reds have turned to in a desperate effort to keep their effort going.

Another ploy is an unsuccessful attempt to recruit young people to the cause, through communist sympathisers talking to groups of school-children.

But despite their various attempts, and a declaration by the Reds that they want to make this a year of resurgence, their numbers continue to decline.

The total of active terrorists is now under the 100 mark--96, according to a statistic given last week by the outgoing officer commanding the East Malaysia military region, Major-General Datuk Haji Hassan Salleh.

He considers the handful of remaining Reds more of a nuisance than a security threat.

The officer regards the threat as eliminated, particularly in the First Division, where, he contends, they are "now unable to create trouble."

The Reds' presence is mainly in the Rajang Security Command (RASCOM), areas of the Third, Sixth and Seventh Divisions.

Maj-Gen Datuk Haji Hassan was speaking to newsmen when handing over his command to Major-General Haji Ahmad Abdul Kadir, at the Sampadi firing range, near Lundu.

The departing officer is now on leave prior to retirement after 31 years of army service.

He said support from the people for the communist struggle is decreasing in the face of the government's information campaign and various development projects carried out by the government and its agencies to help the people.

Intelligence reports show that because of a lack of material support from local people, the insurgents have retreated to deep interior areas.

There they are using the land to grow crops, while they also fish the streams and kill wildlife for their meat.

In their actual war of attrition against the security forces, intelligence sources show the extortion measures used by the Reds to get money to buy arms and ammunition.

Timber loggers who have been some of their targets include operators in the Sungai Paku, Sungai Iran, Sungai Menangah, Sungai Machan and Sungai Iban areas.

The timbermen have admitted they've been forced to pay protection money in order to keep their businesses going and their workers' safety guaranteed.

Meanwhile, Sarawak Police Commissioner Datuk Seri Yueng Yuet Leng has been talking about the abortive attempts by the Reds to recruit new cadres among the young.

Police have a report that some communist sympathisers have organised small scale talks in some schools, notably in the Sibu area, in the hope that the young will join the struggle.

But investigations by the Special Branch indicate that no students have been persuaded to join.

A political directive issued by the North Kalimantan Communist Party in Sarawak and intercepted by Malaysian and Indonesian troops during a joint military exercise called Operasi Kemudi, mentioned "1984 as the year of communist resurgence and resumption of hit-and-run tactics."

The directive also ordered remaining cadres to "carry out aggressive recruitment of new members to build up their strength and to renew communist guerilla warfare in the state."

CSO: 4200/645

CRUDE PALM OIL PRODUCTION DROP REPORTED

Kuching THE BORNEO POST in English 2 Mar 84 p 14

[Text] KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs.--Malaysia's crude palm oil production in 1983 dropped by 14 per cent to 3.02 million tonnes compared to 3.51 million tonnes in 1982.

According to latest figures from the Statistics Department, Peninsular Malaysia produced 2.78 million tonnes, down 14 per cent, Sabah 202,660 tonnes, a drop of 10 per cent and Sarawak 32,719 down seven per cent.

In the case of palm kernels, Peninsular Malaysia registered a nine per cent decline in production last year to 776,511 tonnes.

Sabah's palm kernel output last year was 51,822 tonnes, down by just two per cent from the previous year, while Sarawak saw a decline of one per cent to 8,341 tonnes.

The total production of palm kernel oil in Peninsular Malaysia last year was 372,079 tonnes, up 10 per cent over 1982's output.

The exports were mainly to India, accounting for 604,860 tonnes (up 50 per cent over 1982's intake), Singapore 404,292 tonnes (down 23 per cent), Pakistan 344,552 tonnes (up 31 per cent) and the Soviet Union 256,438 tonnes (up six per cent).

Exports

However, exports of processed palm oil in Dec. declined by 21 per cent to 202,861 tonnes compared to the previous month.

The department said that for Dec alone, Peninsular Malaysia's CPO production was 176,866 tonnes, down sharply by 26 per cent compared to Nov. and 10.9 per cent lower against 1982.

Sabah produced 16,434 tonnes of CPO during the month compared with 20,544 tonnes in Nov. 1983 and 18,272 tonnes in Dec. 1982.

For Sarawak, the Dec. output was 2,758 tonnes against 3,312 tonnes the previous month and 3,416 tonnes in Dec. 1982.

Peninsular Malaysia's palm kernel production in Dec. amounted to 50,795 tonnes against 65,946 tonnes in Nov. and 57,122 tonnes in Dec. 1982.

Palm kernel cake production in Dec. came to 33,726 tonnes, up seven per cent from the previous month while palm kernel oil output dropped 18 per cent to 26,329 tonnes.

Stocks

Stocks of crude palm oil at the end of Dec. last year fell 32 per cent to 68,290 tonnes compared to the previous month.

The stocks position of processed palm oil were 116,841 tonnes (up 3 per cent), palm kernels 21,782 tonnes (down 22 per cent), palm kernel oil 15,467 tonnes (down 9 per cent) and palm kernel cake 20,393 tonnes (down 31 per cent).

The domestic traded prices of CPO in Dec. last year was 1,412 per tonne, nine per cent higher than the previous month while the average price for 1983 was 991 per tonne, an increase of about 162 per tonne compared to 1982.

CSO: 4200/645

INDEPENDENCE FRONT DEMANDS REPATRIATION OF FRENCH

Paris LE MONDE in French 16 Feb 84 p 30

Text After the pressure brought to bear in the field within the framework of land claims, (LE MONDE, 15 Feb), the Independence Front (FI) has once again hardened its position. During the course of a press conference held on 15 February in Noumea, Mr Eloi Machoro, secretary-general of the Caledonia Union, the main component of the FI, stated that he had sent, in the coalition's name, a telegram to the president of the republic to request "the repatriation of those French nationals opposed to Canaque and socialist independence." Mr Machoro indicated that the Canaques did not depend only on France, but that the FI would not participate from now on in any election if a reform of the means of balloting did not occur between now and the upcoming territorial elections which are theoretically set for July.

For Mr Machoro, "the dialogue which followed the Nainville-les-Roches meeting last July (between the government and the main local parties) is now broken off, and the only possibility of renewing it is the departure of those who are hostile to the independence partisans' claims." The secretary-general of the UC added: "In spite of everything, we do not wish for the departure of the Europeans, but for us, independence is like one's cabin: only those who helped build it will be allowed inside." For Mr Machoro, land claims go beyond the framework of the land reform now in progress since "all of New Caledonia should be recovered before the end of this year."

In regard to the telegram sent to Mr Francois Mitterrand, Mr Machoro stated that the Europeans concerned are "all those who came from France and elsewhere, unlike the Canaques, who have no other country than this one."

This telegram was sent to the head of state just at the moment when the vice president of the local executive council of government, Mr Jean-Marie Tjibaou, a member of the UC, was in Paris where he was to meet this Wednesday with the secretary of state at the DOM-TOM, Mr Georges Lemoine, before being received at the Elysee by Mr Mitterrand.

This is the first time in New Caledonia that the Melanesian separatists have explicitly called for the "departure of the French."

WARSAW DAILY ON MARCOS' 'MANEUVERS'

Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish No 41, 17 Feb 84 p 5

[Article by Tadeusz Barzdo]

[Text] Some say it was sheer coincidence, others say it was a big mistake on the part of the Philippine authorities. "A mistake, but a beautiful one," emphatically stressed Aurora Aquino, the mother of the senator who was assassinated in August of last year and whose name from that moment on has been a unifying force in the Philippines for all the opponents of the current government of President Ferdinand Marcos. The fact remains that the "Peace March," which was planned on a small scale and organized to honor the memory of the president's principal political rival, turned into this year's largest antigovernment demonstration in the archipelago. The mistake of the authorities lies in that they stopped the march at the gates of the capital, as a result of which the issue become widely publicized. According to various estimates, between 300,000 and 500,000 residents of Manila ultimately took part in the march through the capital.

For the past half-year, the Philippines have been the scene of various demonstrations, peace marches, public rallies and gatherings. Their common denominator is opposition to the government of President Ferdinand Marcos, who has been in power for more than 18 years. As much as half of this long period has seen the state of emergency rule (1972-1981), which according to Marcos' opponents was introduced only to prolong his investiture.

In any case, these days no one in the Philippines wants to remember that nearly 10 years ago a large number of the residents of the archipelago supported Marcos' tough policies. The elimination of the private armies of powerful latifundists, of flagrant abuses among officials, of corruption, political bribery, of the country's financial bankruptcy and, finally, of common banditry--all of this would have been impossible to eradicate without special powers and without at least the temporary restriction of civil liberties.

A Time of Reform

In addition, Marcos gave a highly noble name to his system of order in the Philippines, "the building of a new society." During the 1970's some of

Marcos' reform maneuvers were looked upon with a certain amount of interest. Steps taken, such as the later discarded agricultural reform, the reconstruction of local administrative structures and the animation of the economy, particularly of the small enterprise sector, were aimed at changing the distribution of the national income and at shifting the emphasis from plantation farming to farm-type agriculture. All in all, the consistent implementation of the, in any case, modest measures was capable of leveling off quite significantly the difference between the poles of wealth and poverty in the Philippines. More than 80 percent of the archipelago residents make a living from farming.

This "experiment" conducted by Marcos had a string of negative features. The one-man rule by the president led to the disappearance of public life. Old opponents found themselves in jail or left political activity and busied themselves with setting up their own businesses. The relative economic acceleration of the Philippines during the 1970's--a growth of approximately 6 percent on an annual scale--raised the role and position of the middle classes in the life of the country. Small businessmen, insurance agents, stockbrokers and bank employees strengthened the hitherto existing elite class, which considered itself authorized to rule the country. However, in practice these classes had no influence on politics.

Casus Aquino

It is not surprising, therefore, that part of the middle-class representatives who were aware of their responsibility toward the nation sought to be active in the most radical movements. Some found their way directly into the ranks of the leftist underground since they saw no other hope for improvement of the fate of the largest social spheres.

Even before his fatal mission to Manila, Benigno Aquino made no secret of his main motives for returning to the country. This old rival of Marcos felt that he had to unite under his leadership the representatives of the middle classes who were becoming increasingly critical of the current authorities in Manila.

The puzzling murder of Senator Benigno Aquino at the airport in Manila at the end of August of last year transformed the dissatisfaction with Marcos' government, which had been mounting for years, into overt public opposition to the governing authority. The opposition, which until then had been broken up and divided, stood at the head of numerous antigovernment demonstrations which since the fall have periodically been disorganizing life in the country's capital. Demands were made not only for an explanation of the circumstances surrounding the death of the opposition politician who was popular in the entire country. Marcos' opponents suspect that the attempt on Aquino's life was organized with the knowledge of the authorities. At rallies and during demonstration marches, changes in the style of governing the country were also demanded as were demands that Marcos and his entire administration step down.

Political Maneuvers

While social emotions in the Philippines are focused on the work of a third, consecutive commission appointed to examine the reasons for Aquino's death, President Marcos is concentrating all of his energy on solving the political and economic crisis which has plagued the country since August of last year. The method used by the president in dealing with the opposition is quite easy to discern. While maintaining the attitude of an unyielding man who continues to be in full control of the situation, Ferdinand Marcos is agreeing to gradual political concessions. His aim is to retain maximum authority at any cost and to force the opposition to participate in the general parliamentary elections planned for May of this year.

Within the framework of these political maneuvers, the president has agreed to the preparation of completely new election lists for the purpose of eliminating from them fictitious names, as claimed by the opposition, and those of long-deceased Marcos supporters. Next, two seats were granted to the opposition on the nine-member electoral commission. And finally, elections are to be held currently on the basis of provincial districts and not, as has been the case until now, in regions. This supposedly increases the chances of opposition representatives who do not have such rich and resilient organizational backup facilities as does the party machinery of the government's New Society Movement [KBL].

In recent days, President Marcos has agreed to further concessions with the opposition. Namely, he has announced that until 1 June of this year, he is suspending his personal right, which has been highly criticized by his opponents, to issue arrest orders for those suspected of subversive and antistate activity. This move is important from the point of view of Marcos' tactics in that it can introduce a great deal of confusion into the opposition ranks. The opposition remains constantly divided into many groups and coalitions; it does not have a credible leader who could take the place of the tragically deceased Senator Aquino. It has, however, presented the president with a number of demands on which it has conditionally based its participation in the May parliamentary elections. One of the demands concerns the president's powers in the matter of arresting those suspected of subversive activity.

It may be expected that the coming weeks in the Philippines will pass in an atmosphere of further bargaining whose ultimate goal is to influence the opposition representatives to participate in the parliamentary elections. The paradox of the current situation in the Philippine archipelago is that thus far the advocate of authoritarian rule, which is carried out with the help of decrees, would like to see the greatest possible number of opposition representatives in parliament. This is the only thing that can restore appearances of democracy in the Philippines and enable Marcos to continue to rule. The president himself does not intend to step down voluntarily, although he is aware that his time is coming to an end.

9853

CSO: 2600/723

PAPER SAYS COMELEC PADS ELECTION EXPENSES

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 29 Feb 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] A Metro Manila Times columnist yesterday charged that the Commission on Election has long been padding its figures.

Arturo Borjal in his column "The Jaywalker" said there is now a widespread public impression of the Comelec's propensity to pad its figures and this was heightened during the last plebiscite when Comelec chairman Vicente Santiago, Jr. prematurely claimed that the voter turnout was 80 per cent. As it turned out, only 35 to 40 per cent of the voters trooped to the precincts, Borjal said.

Borjal reported that the Comelec again padded its figures in its estimate of expenses for the Batasan polls this May. He said the estimate is scandalous and anomalous. The total amount requested by the Comelec is a jolting P142.9 million. Borjal revealed that he has in his possession a still-confidential document where the itemized election supplies were overpriced are: Comelec's price tag for a ream of short bond paper is P68; yet the actual market price is P30 (Keng Hua). For long onion skin per ream is P46 (Comelec); but current market price is P22.75 (Keng Hua); For short onion skin--P42 (Comelec); market price is P19.20 (Keng Hua). For long mimeo paper--P72 ream (Comelec); market price is P44.35 (Keng Hua). For short mimeo paper--P68 (Comelec); market price is P37.50 (Keng Hua).

Comelec's estimates of prices for equipment are also bloated. Borjal said the Comelec's price for a filing cabinet is P2,200; yet, the actual market price for this item is only P980 (gauge 22), as per quotation of AB Metal Craft. As for Comelec's tag of P1,000 for strapping machine, the real price label is P450 (Taiwan type) and P480 (China type).

Borjal asked why the Comelec keeps buying items similar to those bought in previous elections and plebiscites. He asked what happened to the typewriters and filing cabinets purchased recently. "If these are no longer in use, Comelec's maintenance personnel must be terribly lousy and should be fired," he said.

CSO: 4200/641

INTERNATIONAL WRITERS PETITION OVER FILIPINO BAN

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 6 Mar 84 p 25

[Text] ADELAIDE--A petition protesting against a travel ban on Filipino poet Cirilo Bautista is being sent to the Philippine Government by overseas and Australian writers attending Writers' Week at the Adelaide Festival of Arts.

Mr Bautista, who is one of the major Filipino poets, was forbidden to visit Australia by the Philippine authorities only a short time before he was to board his plane in Manila.

His visit to Australia for Writers' Week was being sponsored by Australia's Foreign Affairs Department.

The 33 writers attending as official participants have signed the petition which will be sent to the Philippines in the next few days.

The petition was drawn up by a committee headed by the South African novelist Andre Brink and the Indian novelist Salman Rushdie, who won the Booker prize in 1981 for his novel "Midnight's Children."

Mr Bautista was till recently treasurer of the Philippine Literary Arts Council under the patronage of Mrs Imelda Marcos, the wife of the President and has won the Palanca award nine times.

The award is the major literary prize in the Philippines.

It is thought that the Philippine Government was offended by a poem Mr Bautista published in January in an arts magazine expressing support for the murdered Opposition Leader, Benigno Aquino.

When traced in Manila on the telephone Mr Bautista simply said: "My government has stopped me coming."

CSO: 4200/641

DAVAO FESTIVAL PATROLLED BY HEAVILY ARMED MARINES

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 17 Mar 84 pp 2, 10

[Commentary by Bert Tesorero in the "Point at Issue" Column: "Balance of Terror?"]

[Text] Davao City celebrated her 47th year foundation anniversary in a weeklong activity that culminated with a big fanfare yesterday. Congratulations to Mayor Elias B. Lopez. Cheers to the Davaowenos!

Anyway, the downtown area of Davao City looked more like a "battle zone" than a peaceful community of people celebrating the festivity of the Araw Ng Davao '84. Squads uniformed Marines bristling with deadly Armalite skirt the busy street corners of the commercial district in the downtown area, snooping around for criminal offenders who had come for the occasion perhaps to seek out their victims in the thick of the mardigras.

The presence of Marines patrolling the city streets may have something to do with their participation in the celebraion of the Araw ng Dabaw as earlier published in the local newspapers and aired over the radio. They were polite and unobstrusive, just minding their business as they strode along the sidewalk in combat formation (at least two yards apart from each other) to maintain peace in the locality.

But to those who did not understand the presence of AFP regualrs patrolling the city streets, the existence of Marine combatants in the downtown area was not a welcomed sight, particularly to visiting foreign tourists who came around to witness Davao City's annual revelry. One very resourceful foreign visitor, for instance, took more snapshots of Marines patrolling the streets than the pomp of the pageantry during the parade. It did seem to them, perhaps, that the peace situation in Davao City is so deteriorated, it requires the Marines to put things in proper order.

There is actually nothing wrong with the Marines patrolling the city in aid of the police in maintaining peace and order. They are very much welcome to the residents if such is their purpose, but for the arms they carry along with them in the course of their mission.

The Marines arm themselves with hi-powered automatic Armalite rifles as they go on patrol in the downtown area. Psychologically, this is a show of force otherwise philosophically called as "Balance of Terror." The outlaws terrorize the residents with assassination and the Marines terrorize the law offenders away by their mere presence without firing a single shot. Okay, well and good!

But what if a crazy outlaw pulls a fast one on a civilian in a crowded street, firing away at his quarry? Will any of the Marine patrol fire back at the assassin? Certainly! And with the deadly burst of Armalite, spitting 600 rounds per minute, what would happen to the people in a thickly-inhabited commercial district where the shooting may occur?

Of course, there would be panic. Or even deaths, perhaps. That is why policemen in relatively peaceful communities are issued only single-shot revolvers for the main reason that they are not supposed to engage in combat but simply to prevent commission of crimes by their presence in most likely places of offenses to avert unnecessary deaths in the pursuit of criminal offenders.

The city residents are thankful to the Marines just the same for their cooperation in the maintenance of peace and order in Davao City during the Araw Ng Davao celebration and their gratitude goes particularly to Brig. Gen. Jimmy Echeverria, RUC commander, for his thoughtfulness. But if Jimmy still feels the necessity of fielding his men in most critical areas in downtown Davao, I suggest that they be required only to sport their sidearms and a nightstick to go with their authority perhaps just to show the law offenders that they are out on field for business. And they know what I mean!

CSO: 4200/641

PC-INP, OTHER 'TACTICS' REPORTED IN BACOLOD UNION ELECTION

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 6 Mar 84 p 10

[Article by Bruce Dover in Manila]

[Text] INDUSTRIAL relations present little problem for the management of the Central Azucarera de la Carlota sugar mill in Bacolod in the Philippines--at least not while it has 150 Armalite rifles on its side.

Some of the tactics employed by the management during union elections last week would make even veterans of Australia's Federated Ship Painters and Dockers' union blush.

The sugar mill is owned by Fred Elizalde, a plantation owner and close ally of Philippines sugar king Roberto Benedicto. The mill, the third biggest of the 18 operating on the sugar island of Negros, employs about 1500 workers.

Last week an election was held at the mill to decide whether a newly-created management-controlled union or more traditional labour movement, the National Federation of Sugar Workers, would represent the workers in the coming negotiations for a collective bargaining agreement.

Unionism is not exactly new to Negros but the idea of free trade unionism has been a little slow in winning the approval of some employer groups.

At the sugar mill, wages and conditions in the 22 years leading up to 1981 were negotiated, not unsurprisingly with little success, by a company or yellow union. In 1981 the sugar workers federation won the overwhelming support of the mill workers to represent them in award negotiations.

In 1982, the federation called the workers out on strike over a wages claim. The strike cost the mill management much in output and was eventually ended in bloody and violent confrontation when 700 soldiers were called in to force out picketers.

With the collective bargaining agreement expiring early last month, and union elections due, the mill management decided that it should do its best to prevent another federation victory.

The company created its own union and in the weeks preceding the recent elections went about "encouraging" workers to resign their federation membership and join the new union.

This encouragement on behalf of the management went as far as locking in workers from the afternoon and night shifts on the day before the election.

The workers were treated to food and drink by the company and then required to attend "seminars" conducted by the three Manila psychologists.

The workers said the psychologists pointed out the benefits of voting for the management union (jobs) and the non-benefits of voting for the federation (no jobs).

The federation's vice-president, Serge Cherniguin, described the seminars as "attempted brainwashing."

He said that management failed to abide by the rules and post a list of workers eligible to vote five days before the date of the election.

Instead, he said the list went up just 16 hours before polling began, giving the federation no time to challenge the "company scabs" on the list.

Mr Cherniguin later claimed that 300 of the 1200 names on the list were scabs.

The federation believes the management set aside \$180,000 to ensure its success in the election.

On the day of the election, the first of the cane trucks rolled in only to find that the entire sugar mill had been cordoned off by at least 150 members of the Philippines constabulary and the integrated national police force, all armed with Armalite or carbine rifles.

There was also a fire truck equipped with a water gun, armed company security men and an untold number of constabulary officers in plain clothes mingling with the workers inside the mill.

Senior federation officials, including Mr Cherniguin, were banned from setting foot on the sugar mill grounds while workers, not already locked in, were let in to vote 10 at a time and only after their names had been checked against the company list and they had passed the security gates.

Members of the foreign media were also banned from the mill and despite a three-hour wait not one member of the management was able to free himself from his work to give the company view of events.

Mr Cherniguin said that the federation's idea of a secret ballot and the company's idea did not quite coincide.

Voters had complained of men with telescopes positioned above each polling booth. Seven men who voted for the federation were called up by the management soon after casting their vote and asked to explain why.

The election result after final counting--management 854 votes, the National Federation of Sugar Workers seven.

U.S. NAVAL RECRUITMENT LIMITS CRITICIZED

Davao City THE MINDANAO MIRROR BULLETIN in English 5-11 Mar 84 pp 1, 7

[Text] A US Navy policy to cut down its recruitment program for Filipino applicants has raised eyebrows in various quarters involved in strengthening US-Philippine Military alliance.

Filipino applicants to the US Navy--some 25,000 a year with only 300 candidates passing--deplored the enlistment as a farce and insult to the intelligence of Filipinos.

It will be recalled that the US government represented by the US ambassador to the Philippines and the Philippine government represented by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, then President Carlos P. Garcia in a concurrent capacity, signed an agreement to the effect that the Philippines will supply 2,000 Filipinos for enlistment in the US Navy and 400 Filipinos to enlist in the US Coast Guard yearly.

Right now, no more than 300 Filipinos are being accepted into the US Navy in one year. Critics of the US Navy's recruitment policy pointed out that the advent of the Reagan administration has seen the increase of the military defense budget to \$225-B for the year 1982 to 1983, marking a fantastic increase from the defense budget under ex-President Jimmy Carter of \$187-B.

Many Philippine applicants who voiced bitterness over the U.S. Navy's recruitment program said that some of them have to come from as far as Mindanao in answer to a call card sent by the US Navy recruiters should have been fair enough not to send out too many call slips if they intended to get too few. It was pointed out that there are six examination days for one month and about 1,200 are invited to take the qualifying examinations. Of these, only 300 are taken.

These critics have warned that due to this inconsistent US Navy policy, the Far East might witness another Cam Rahn in the future. The CAM Rahn naval base in Vietnam used to be America's home base in Vietnam used to be America's home base in the Pacific. Now it is occupied by the Russians. Cam Rahn is not too far from Subic, the critics said.

CSO: 4200/641

THAILAND

ACADEMICS DISCUSS FOREIGN POLICY, CRITICIZE LACK OF NEUTRALITY

Bangkok PATINYA in Thai 27 Feb 84 pp 17-22

[Article: "Thailand's Foreign Policy: A Success or a Failure?"]

[Text] On 24 January 1984, an academic seminar was held to discuss the topic "Thailand's Foreign Policy, a Success or a Failure?" This was organized by the Faculty of Political Science at Ramkhamhaeng University. Those participating in the seminar included scholars from several institutions, representatives from the sectors concerned and people interested in Thailand's foreign policy. At this seminar, several interesting papers were presented: 1. Thailand's Foreign Policy: a Study of the Decision-Making Process; 2. The National Security Council and Thailand's Foreign Policy; 3. Thailand's Foreign Policy: a General Analysis; 4. Thailand's Foreign Policy Toward the Great Powers; and 5. Thailand's Foreign Policy Toward ASEAN.

Thailand's Foreign Policy: a Study of the Decision-Making Process

Dr Surachai Sirikrai, a member of the Faculty of Political Science at Thammasat University, presented a paper [entitled] "A Study of Thailand's Foreign Policy Toward the Kampuchean Problem: An Analysis of the 'Danger Prophesying' View. In short, [he said that] Thailand's foreign policy toward the Kampuchean problem has been one in which Thailand's leaders in every period have prophesied danger to the country from some direction. And the danger that they foresaw had both the capability and the intention of destroying the country. But this danger turned out to be more a figment of their imagination than anything real. This was a constant image. It was based on the biases of observers (leaders) who interpreted events in accord with their own biases, which had arisen from their ideals, values, education, bad experiences in the past, specific plans and their personal feelings. This led to the idea of the "possibility of this" in the future.

Concerning Thailand's foreign policy toward the Kampuchean problem, Dr Surachai feels that the Non Mak Mun affair was a good example of the danger prophesied by Thai leaders, particularly the first four Prem governments. Prime Minister Prem, [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi Sawetsila, the minister of foreign affairs, Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, the

secretary-general of the National Security Council [NSC], and Mr Sarasin Wiraphon, the first secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, are the people who played an important role in stipulating Thailand's policy toward the Kampuchean problem. Concerning Vietnam's invasion of Kampuchea, they felt that this posed a great danger and that action had to be taken to get Vietnam to withdraw its forces from Kampuchea as quickly as possible. Political, diplomatic and economic influence was used to put pressure on Vietnam. ASEAN, China and the United States cooperated in supporting the Pol Pot government, and finally a coalition government was formed to resist Vietnam. It can be seen that those who stipulated Thailand's foreign policy toward the Kampuchean policy were actually just a few of Thailand's leaders. Leaders from other groups, such as the Young Turk group, MPs and General Kriangsak's group, were not involved. Thus, it's not true that every group feels tht Vietnam poses a threat. It is only the leaders with power and influence who hold this view. Thus, Thailand's foreign policy toward the Kampuchean problem is a policy of confrontation. And matters will probably become more serious.

Dr Wiwat Mungkandi, a member of the Faculty of Political Science at Chulalongkorn University, commented on the paper presented by Dr Surachai. He said that actually, the Prem government was not the first one to prophesy danger. People have been saying this for a long time. It depends on the international political atmosphere of the time. It is the political atmosphere that determines what the policy will be, that is, whether the policy will be one of using a soft stick or a hard stick. During the time of the Kriangsak administration, the international political atmosphere did not support using a hard stick. Thus, the Kriangsak government used a policy of compromising. Because at that time, Thailand was not sure about the intentions of the great powers toward Thailand. Thus, Thailand used a soft stick for the time being.

The National Security Council and Thailand's Foreign Policy

This paper was presented by Assistant Professor Chaloechai Phiuruongnon, a member of the Faculty of Political Science at Ramkhamhaeng University. In summary, he said that the NSC has played a role in shaping Thailand's foreign policy, particularly the national security policy, through the Advisory Council to the government.

Concerning the work system of the [Advisory] Council, Professor Chaloechai said that political officials and regular officials work together. Concerning the members of the council, most are high-ranking political officials. That is, the prime minister and deputy prime minister serve as the president and vice president and five cabinet ministers are members. Regular government officials who are members include the supreme commander. The secretary-general of the NSC, who is in over-all control of the NSC, is a member, too. There are also two other organizations: the National Security Council Board and the Office of the National Security Council. These two organizations serve as advisory organizations and provide support. Most of the officials are regular government officials.

Professor Chaloechai observed that because of the fact that both political and regular government officials are involved with the NSC, this has greatly increased the political role played by the regular officials. For example, the secretary-general of the NSC, Squadron-Leader Prasong Sunsiri, who is a regular government official, sometimes plays a greater role than the minister of foreign affairs, such as in the matter of Vietnamese refugees and in the Kampuchean problem.

Associate Professor Somphong Chumak, who commented on the paper presented by Professor Chaloechai, said that in the past, the NSC was involved in very few things. It started to play a much greater role only during the Khukrit administration. Khukrit wanted the NSC to serve as his advisor. And Chukhri changed our foreign policy from one of "following the butt" to "making allies," particularly China. But he was opposed at that time.

As for the prominent role played by regular government officials, Dr Somphong said that it is impossible to keep regular officials from wanting to play politics. From the standpoint of the law, that is something else. But in fact, high-ranking regular officials are close to politics and so they have to play politics.

Thailand's Foreign Policy: a General Analysis

M.R.W. Sukhumphan Boriphath, a member of the Faculty of Political Science at Chulalongkorn University, presented a paper entitled "From the Past to the Present and Continuity In Thailand's Foreign Policy." He took a fundamental recommendation in the art of diplomacy, "study and understand the enemy," and suggested that this be changed to "study and understand oneself." His reason for this was that in the past period, Thailand has never looked itself in the mirror to see what it was doing. Others observe and look at how much has been achieved. But we often deceive ourselves in thinking that we have scored results.

Concerning the implementation of Thailand's foreign policy, Dr Sukhumphan said that several things are misunderstood. First, it is often thought that Thailand's foreign policy can be separated from internal affairs or domestic changes. Second, it is often thought that [we] have constantly scored achievements. Third, after the United States withdrew from Thailand in 1975, it has been thought that Thailand's foreign policy is based on real ideals and that Thailand is trying to separate itself from the great powers, which would lead to our switching from playing a "balance of power" type politics to playing a "balance of interests" type politics and giving more support to the idea of being neutral and not siding with any side. Concerning this, no one has delved into this deeply to see how much has been achieved or to determine whether we have succeeded in separating our foreign policy from internal affairs.

As for continuity, concerning objectives and methods in Thailand's policy, Dr Sukhumphan said that in formulating and implementing foreign policy, in general, Thailand's leaders have focused their attention on internal

affairs. That is, they have been most interested in increasing the power of the country and changing the balance of power with respect to the division of power among groups within the country. At the same time, they have also been interested in conditions outside.

Concerning the outside conditions that Thailand is concerned with, first, resources from outside must be brought in to help develop domestic strength and help bolster the division of power. Second, Thailand must be made safe from land threats from the west (Burma) and from the east (Vietnam).

As for the methods used to bring about the desired conditions, Dr Sukhumphan said that Thailand has frequently tied itself to the great power that has held sway in the region, thinking that the great power will not pose a land threat. For example, Thailand has relied on China, England, Japan and the United States during the periods when these great powers had influence. But whenever one has lost its influence, Thailand has switched and relied on one of the other great powers that was gaining influence. But actually, Thailand still leans toward the United States. For example, General Athit has asked the United States to sell F-16 A fighter aircraft to Thailand. If we get the F-16 A aircraft, this will cause the internal division of power to shift in the direction desired by today's leaders since the F-16 A aircraft will be turned over to the air force. And it isn't necessary to describe what relations are like between the RTAF CINC and the supreme commander.

As for whether there has been success or failure, Dr Sukhumphan said that Thailand has sometimes made mistakes in formulating and implementing a foreign policy. An example is the decision to side with Japan during the Second World War. Thais frequently think that they have scored results, and it is difficult for scholars to criticize the "successes" of the country's leaders. However, in the past, Thailand's foreign policy has tended to create problems. If the government uses these problems as the criteria for evaluating policy results, it can be said that these "successes" are really "failures."

First is the problem of relying on patrons. There is often the tendency to tie ourselves to a patron for short-term benefits without considering the fact that the interests of each side may be different or without considering how far apart each side's interests may be in both the long term and the short term. But the main problem is that those responsible for formulating and implementing Thailand's foreign policy can't distinguish between "ends and means." Having close relations with the patrons frequently becomes the goal. But actually, these relations are just a means.

Second is the problem of "boxing" ourselves in in implementing our foreign policy, that is, playing the game in a political and military way. This amounts to implementing foreign policy in a very narrow way. It is thought that this has constantly scored achievements. But the world has changed now. The economic, social and other games, which are not political or military games, are becoming more important. Real and continuous attention

must be given to these matters. But the problem is that the people responsible for formulating and implementing Thailand's foreign policy are bureaucrats in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the other ministries and departments concerned with national security. This includes the military and the NSC, which have a very narrow and inflexible world view. Thus, changing policy goals is a very slow and inefficient process.

Third, there are the domestic problems that stem from, or perhaps stem from, Thailand's past and present foreign policies. That is, concerning the desired outside conditions, Thailand has not shown any interest in how great the conflicts are. And so the problem is that the outside conflicts often create factors that lead to a greater acceptance of "national security" measures, or a "national security state." For example, the military's budget has been increased, the military's role in various activities has been increased and the paramilitary forces have been expanded with people now wanting to combine the Volunteer Defense Corps and the Village Scouts to form just one unit. In such a situation, a coup may become a possibility, and this would lead to the formation of a dictatorship once again. If this occurs, Thailand's foreign policy will again become the tool of the dictators. And it will not be a tool for solving the international problems in order to bring about stability or peace. If it is admitted that a dictatorship is undesirable, those factors that help bring about and maintain such a system are the things that will, in the end, adversely affect the country's real interests.

Mr Wirasak Suttrakun, an official with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the person who commented on this paper, made an important objection. He said that in implementing Thailand's foreign policy, things have not been done only in accord with the political and military games. Much emphasis has been placed on economics, particularly at present. For example, at the last ASEAN conference, three-fourths of [the time] was spent discussing economic matters. As for domestic political problems, particularly the role of the military, since the Kampuchean problem arose, most soldiers have tended to act more like professional soldiers in order to defend the country. And in implementing our foreign policy, more attention has been given to building relations with the socialist countries and with other countries. This is because we want it to serve as international political "armor" for Thailand. However, Mr Wirasak said that how good Thailand's policy is depends more on the possibilities.

Thailand's Foreign Policy Toward the Great Powers

Assistant Professor Chulachip Chinawano, a member of the Faculty of Political Science at Thammasat University, presented this paper. He said that Thailand is a small country of strategic importance for which there is much competition between the great powers. Thus, there is frequently interference by the great powers. In implementing our foreign policy, we have leaned strongly toward the United States concerning weapons and economic and political matters. Thus, we have lacked flexibility, and we have been viewed as an underling of the United States.

Dr Chulachip said that ever since 1970, Thailand's policies, both domestic and foreign, have been changing, particularly concerning security matters. This has affected the great powers. Also, changes on the world level have affected Thailand's policies, too. Such changes include the worsening relations between China and the Soviet Union, the improvement in relations between China and the United States and the changes in Southeast Asia. And in addition, the changes that have occurred inside Thailand, including the reduction in the military's power, particularly after 14 October [1973], the rise in the role played by the political parties and by citizens and the role of public opinion on stipulating Thailand's foreign policy, have all helped to change Thailand's foreign policy toward the great powers.

The striking feature of Thailand's foreign policy toward the great powers is the improvement in diplomatic relations with China and the movement away from the United States.

In conclusion, Dr Chulachip recommended that Thailand improve its foreign policy toward the great powers by keeping an equal distance between each of the great powers, including China, the United States and the Soviet Union, which is beginning to play a role in this region.

Dr Kusuma Sanitwong, a member of the Faculty of Political Science at Chulalongkorn University, commented on this paper. She made the important observation that Dr Chulachip's recommendation failed to analyze the implementation of Thailand's foreign policy toward the great powers at present and in the future. And he did not mention the role of Japan at all. Because at present, Japan's economic, political and military role in this region is growing larger and larger.

Thailand's Foreign Policy Toward ASEAN

This paper was presented by Dr Kritsana Waisamruat, a member of the Faculty of Political Science at Ramkhamhaeng University. He said that Thailand exerted pressure to form the ASEAN group in this region in 1967. However, its policy at that time was not clear. Its policy became clear only after 1973, that is, the policy of "reserve choices." This can be seen from ASEAN's activities. These activities have expanded greatly, particularly concerning Thailand's cooperating with the ASEAN countries and building trust. Prime Minister Khukrit visited Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and the Philippines. And ASEAN has been drawn into the Kampuchean matter. This will lead to support for bargaining purposes. This shows that ASEAN provides a path for implementing Thailand foreign policy since it can serve to guarantee our security in place of the United States. This is another reserve choice.

Dr Thawon Sukkanya, a member of the Faculty of Political Science at Ramkhamhaeng University, was the person who commented on this paper. He said that Thailand's leadership structure should be considered, too, since it affects the implementation of our foreign policy. And Thailand

should study the views of the other members of ASEAN to see how they view Thailand. Thailand should also study the views of the great powers toward ASEAN. Also, in implementing a foreign policy, Thailand should consider the economic aspects as well.

Conclusions

Even though the papers and comments presented at this scholarly conference called for time to improve and correct things, concerning the formulation and implementation of Thailand's foreign policy, several things are clear:

1. Thailand's foreign policy still relies on the great powers, such as the United States, China and Japan.
2. Thailand's foreign policy lacks real neutrality. [Thailand] frequently leans to one side.
3. Thailand's foreign policy is more absorbed in solving the Kampuchean problem than in solving other problems, such as the economic and social problems.
4. Thailand's foreign policy is characterized by "loving many in order to be able to choose." There is a lack of sincerity with our allies.

However, these conclusions do not provide a clear answer to the question "Thailand's Foreign Policy, a Success or a Failure?" which was the topic stipulated above. But they do provide a basis for looking at Thailand's foreign policy problems, particularly the domestic political problems. There is still no real democracy or political security. This will undoubtedly affect the formulation and implementation of Thailand's foreign policy. That is, attention will be focused on giving Thai leaders what they want rather than on solving the international problems or the country's problems. In the end, this will harm the country's real interests. Thus, if we really want the country to benefit, it is essential to build a real and secure democracy in Thailand. Only if this is done will it be possible to formulate and implement a foreign policy that will serve as a real tool of the country.

11943
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CARTOON NOTES SINGAPORE STANCE ON THAILAND, SRV

Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 17 Mar 84 p 4

[Text]



CSO: 4207/122

CARTOON LAMPOONS THAI SUPPORT OF MINORITY GROUPS AGAINST BURMA

Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 15 Mar 84 p 4

[Text]



CSO: 4207/122

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

BORDER MILITIA SAID TO BE INADEQUATELY TRAINED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 17 Feb 84 p 3

[Exchange of Opinions column by Nguyen Minh Thien: "Guiding the Training of Border Militia and Self-Defense Forces"]

[Text] In 1983, the northern border provinces made many efforts and took many measures to overcome their difficulties and, as a result, recorded certain achievements in the training of militia and self-defense forces, especially the advanced training of cadres, thereby meeting some of the requirements involved in maintaining combat readiness, fighting the wide-ranging war of sabotage of the enemy and maintaining political security and social order and safety.

Generally speaking, however, the guidance of militia and self-defense training in the northern border areas has not been given appropriate attention, the pace of training has been slow and lacking in uniformity and the quality of training is still limited in many respects.

The slowness and limited quality mentioned above are due to many causes, such as the intensification of enemy activities, especially acts of armed provocation along the border, the many difficulties being encountered by the ethnic minorities in their economic life and the fact that the corps of basic level cadres is smaller and less qualified than it should be. However, the most important reason is that the various localities have not provided appropriate guidance and have not adopted training plans that are consistent with their actual situation and capabilities, especially with regard to the classification of the forces to be trained. As a result, guidance is not concerted and is still marked by "over ambition." In the training process, the training plan is not promptly revised or amended. This is also a shortcoming in the guidance provided by the military agencies on the various levels.

In order to provide militia and self-defense forces with training of high quality, it is first of all necessary for the localities to promptly guide preliminary reviews to gain experience in training and evaluate the actual results that have been achieved compared to the plan. At the same time, it is necessary to point out the weaknesses and shortcomings that exist so that

corrective guidelines can be adopted and promptly re-examine, revise and amend training plans, making them consistent with the actual situation of the locality.

In militia and self-defense training, efforts must be focused on the following categories of forces: basic level cadres, the cadres of the centralized combat militia and self-defense units and the forces of the centralized, mobile and branch combat militia and self-defense forces of installations.

As regard training subjects, attention must be given to several important technical and tactical subjects that are directly related to the immediate task; at the same time, importance must be attached to providing training in the combat plan of each unit and installation in order to meet the requirements of combat readiness and combat of the militia and self-defense forces along the border. Providing training through maneuvers based on the combat plan is a very important form of training. It directly improves the organizational and command skills of cadres and improves the ability of units, especially combat alert units and mobile, centralized combat units at installations, to maintain combat readiness and deal with the various situations in a war of aggression launched by the enemy while also effectively dealing with the enemy's wide-ranging war of sabotage and maintaining political security and social order and safety within the locality.

The provinces and districts must assemble organizational cadres in mobile training units that go to help installations conduct training in accordance with the established program. The localities must study ways to closely coordinate training with production at installations, ways which insure that the training program is completed before the onset of the rainy season and typhoons.

As regards advanced cadre training, localities must provide very good advanced training to cadres based on the program and plan established at the start of the year. As regards new basic level cadres who have yet to receive basic training or attend advanced training classes, advanced or basic training classes can be held at the provincial military schools to insure the quality of training and insure that these persons are capable of completing their task when they return to their installation. Short-term advanced training classes must be held within the district for basic level cadres and unit cadres.

One very important factor of decisive significance in militia and self-defense training along the border is the leadership role played by the various party committee echelons and the organizational role of the local government. The various party committee echelons and levels of government within the locality must concern themselves more with guiding the concerned sectors and insuring that they meet the requirements necessary for militia and self-defense training at installations, especially with regard to supplying grain and food, in accordance with the plan or on an emergency basis outside the plan. At the same time, the mass organizations and people of the locality must be encouraged to provide assistance in order to create favorable conditions for militia and self-defense cadres and soldiers to train well.

Military training and combat readiness are two areas of emulation in the major campaign now being conducted within the armed forces. The military agencies on the various levels must focus their efforts on providing guidance and take stronger measures to inspect, supervise and assist basic units in completing their militia and self-defense training plans for 1984 in a manner that reflects the highest possible quality.

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CSO: 4209/209

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

MILITARY OFFICER SLAIN BY FULRO EULOGIZED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 17 Feb 84 p 3

[Article by Hong Cam: "The Members of His Unit Talk About Him"]

[Text] The news that Lieutenant Le Quan, the military intelligence assistant of the Gia Lai-Kontum Military Agency, had bravely died in a battle against the FULRO bandits sent a shock wave through the armed forces and people of the province. Solemn funeral ceremonies were conducted for him in Pleiku City. It was attended by the secretary of the provincial party committee and many leaders of the province. The provincial military agency has launched a movement to "act and fight bravely as Le Quan did." The Gia Lai-Kontum Provincial Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union has launched a movement among youths on the occasion of the entire Youth Union "marching in the footsteps of heroes" to set examples of "fighting bravely as communist Youth Union member Le Quan did." The entire province is intensely involved in a revolutionary action movement of "youths studying and working in the tradition of following in the footsteps of heroes in order to build and defend the fatherland," which is being conducted during this month of the 39th anniversary of the founding of the Vietnam People's Army.

We met with the cadres of the provincial military agency and reconnaissance troops who told us the following about Le Quan:

Le Quan was born in Mo Duc District in Nghia Binh Province. During the U.S.-puppet period, in order to avoid oppression by the local puppet authorities, his family sent him to reside in Thuan Hai. In early 1977, Quan was accepted into the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union. Late that year he joined the army and went into combat defending the southwestern border. In 1980, he was sent for training at a military intelligence class and returned from there to become the military intelligence assistant of Gia Lai-Kontum Province. He always knew his task. He thought: "Many different ethnic minorities live within the province. The FULRO bandits are using the ethnic minorities to oppose and undermine the revolution. They provide guidance to one another by means of documents written in tribal languages. To know what the enemy is doing, one must first become fluent in the spoken and written languages of the ethnic minorities. Quan adopted for himself a plan to learn the Jarai and Sedang languages. After 1 year of exhaustive effort, he was able to read and

translate these tribal languages. This helped him very much in exploiting the documents captured from the enemy and in his relations with local compatriots. He often visited the remote mountain villages in the various districts of the province to assess the enemy situation and promptly report to his commander. The information collected by him was accurate and reliable.

One day, the province received information from an installation in Chu Pa District that a group of the enemy was active in Village B15. After receiving this information, the commander ordered intelligence forces to reconnoiter the enemy. Quan was put in charge of a reconnaissance teams and sent to perform that mission. Although it was a holiday, a day off for him and his wife, Nhan, a nurse at the provincial hospital, wanted him to accompany her on a visit to her family, Quan, because of the requirements of his mission, encouraged his wife to take their child and go by herself. He and the other members of his unit quickly departed. When they arrived in the village, Quan was informed that the enemy had moved, but no one knew their present location. Quan sent a team to follow the tracks of the enemy and reported to the commander to send a force to surround them. At 0800 hours on the following morning, after tracking the enemy all night, Quan discovered their hideout. Our forces surrounded them and called to them to surrender. They obstinately remained in hiding. The commander's order permitted them to seize any opportunity that might arise to capture the enemy alive. Knowing that they faced danger, some of his soldiers hesitated, fearing an enemy ambush, but Quan never wavered. Taking advantage of the concealment afforded by vegetation to move forward, he approached the enemy. As soon as he reached the target, he was hit by a grenade thrown by the enemy. Although seriously wounded, Quan never cried out; instead, he urged the other members of his unit to charge forth and kill the enemy. The other members of his unit avenged his loss. Three enemy were killed on the spot and the entire group was wiped out.

The brave fighting spirit displayed by Le Quan has imbued the young soldiers, Youth Union members and youths of Gia Lai-Kontum Province with a new strength: always being vigilant and in a high state of combat readiness, taking the initiative in dealing with each malicious scheme and action of the enemy and firmly defending the socialist fatherland.

Le Quan has been posthumously accepted into the Vietnam Communist Party by the party committee and military command of Gia Lai-Kontum Province and promoted to the rank of senior lieutenant.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

H'MONG VILLAGE PRAISED FOR VIGILANCE ALONG NORTHERN BORDER

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 17 Feb 84 p 3

[Article by Vu Manh Tuong: "The Na U Village Guard Tower"]

[Text] In a discussion with comrades at the Dien Bien District Military Command and Border Defense Post 319 concerning the emulation movement supporting the major campaign of the armed forces, we learned that the highland village of Na U is a model unit. The militia there has been recognized as an advanced, "determined to win" unit for many years. The political awareness and vigilance of the ethnic compatriots living there have constantly been raised. Last year, the village's militia, together with the soldiers of Border Defense Post 319 in Lai Chau Province, apprehended dozens of groups of undesirable elements attempting to cross the border illegally, thereby maintaining political security and social order within the border defense zone. NA U is truly a "guard tower" on this frontline.

I accompanied the border defense soldiers to Na U Village. It is a village that stretches for more than 30 kilometers along the border between Vietnam and Laos, a village inhabited almost entirely by H'mong who live in small hamlets perched on the steep mountainsides. The first citizen we met was Va A Tua, a border defense soldier who was recently demobilized from the army and was elected by his neighbors to serve as village military commander. He happily took us into his confidence:

Ours is a highland village, the mountainous terrain here is treacherous and the residents of the village have long standing neighborly relations with persons of the same ethnic minority on the other side of the border. They have been freely crossing the border to visit one another for generations. Taking advantage of this relationship, local reactionaries and undesirable elements routinely distort the lines and policies of the party, thus causing a lack of unity between the ethnic minorities and the ethnic majority, between people and army troops, while looking for every weakness of ours in order to oppose and undermine the revolution.

In the face of this complex situation, monthly resolutions of the party committee and government have attached special importance to teaching the spirit of revolutionary vigilance and a high will to fight to the people,

especially the militia, in keeping with the first requirement of the major campaign of the armed forces. The village has also had young, able-bodied and experienced cadres coordinate with the basic level work unit of the border defense post for the purpose of remaining in border areas and giving the people a clear understanding of the nationalities policy of the party, the national question, national boundaries and the relationship among clans, ethnic minorities and the territorial integrity of the fatherland. Through study, the people have gradually become aware and the phenomena of freely crossing the border to visit one another and living and farming on both sides of the border have markedly declined.

The village military commander also told us: in order to maintain sovereignty and security along that stretch of the fatherland's border that passes through the village, the village has also organized a strong militia platoon consisting of demobilized soldiers and able-bodied youths who regularly coordinate with the border defense post in patrols to protect kilometer and border markers and in manning strategically important positions from which they can capture reactionaries and undesirable elements crossing the border. In the recent past alone, this platoon, together with the border defense post, conducted 12 patrols extending over a total of 3,000 kilometers of border, apprehended and prosecuted dozens of cases involving undesirable elements carrying silver and contraband across the border and reclaimed for the state goods worth tens of thousands of dong.

To achieve this result in a windswept, sparsely populated border area of mountain passes truly represents an extraordinary effort on the part of the local party committee and government. The village military commander stated it very correctly:

"The basic factor is to give them a clear understanding of the policy of the party and show them the good work being performed by cadres. Only when this has been accomplished do they willingly participate in military training. The militia must be proficient in military techniques and tactics so that they can coordinate with troops in patrols to maintain sovereignty and security along the border."

In fact, the village military commander routinely takes the initiative in coordinating with the border defense post. Once each quarter, training is conducted for militia forces in tactics and techniques and the same duty watch, combat alert watch, command duty watch and combat plans have been established for the militia and border defense post. As a result of receiving thorough, detailed training, the fighting skills and combat mobility of the militia have been constantly improved. The unit has earned the title "well trained unit" for many years in a row. Many persons within this strong militia platoon are outstanding marksmen. In particular, in firing at night, Le A Va has managed to hit the target with all three bullets.

Ly Va Di, the village public security commander, also told us: most deserving of enthusiasm is the fact that the political awareness of the ethnic minorities has increased with each passing day. When they encounter something suspicious, the people, regardless of where they are going or what they are doing, be it daytime or nighttime, find a way to report to the local

government or the border defense post so that the matter can be investigated. Each citizen here is truly a soldier who works closely with border defense troops and has a rifle in his hand, ready to defend the border of the fatherland.

Ly Gia Lau left to cultivate his upland field at dawn; as he approached the Phinh Stream, he discovered the remnants of a campfire. Lau picked up a handful of ashes and felt that they were still warm, thus proving that the persons who used the fire had only recently left. He asked himself: "Who would be in this restricted area of the forest so early in the day?" It would take even the strongest walker at least one-half day to travel from the stream to the village, so, didn't this mean that someone spent the night hiding there? His suspicions aroused, Lau ran directly to the border defense post to report to the soldiers there. Without hesitating, Senior Lieutenants Pham Ngoc Son and Tran Duc Canh led a patrol behind Lau to the site of the campfire and ambushed and captured nine reactionaries who were on their way across the border.

While tending his upland field, Va A Chia from Hua Thanh Hamlet discovered footprints beside a clump of trees that had been blown down and also discovered foreign cigarette butts discarded along the trail. Suspicious, Chia quickly ran to inform the border defense post and local militia. Four militiamen, Ly Kho Dua, Va A Di, Vo A Chia and Sung A Ho, and four border defense soldiers promptly went to the site of the suspicious findings to set up an ambush. After patiently waiting for an entire day and night, they apprehended a group of armed persons who were taking silver and contraband across the border, reclaiming for the state goods worth 49,000 dong.

Na U Village, which the village chairman describes as the "guard tower" on the frontline of the fatherland, is alert night and day, thus keeping the border peaceful and secure. This is due to one very basic reason, namely the fact that the local party committee, the local government and, in particular, the village military command have constantly concerned themselves with giving the militia a thorough understanding of the first objective of the major campaign of the armed forces, as a result of which the will to fight and the spirit of vigilance of the people have been constantly raised.

7809
CSO: 4209/209

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

HANOI AREA SUBWARD REEDUCATES YOUTHS

Hanoi DOC LAP in Vietnamese 8 Feb 84 p 2

[Article by Van Thanh: "Phuc Tan Subward Educates Backward Youths"]

[Text] Phuc Tan is situated on the right bank of the Red River to the east of Hanoi. Most of the subward's 6,500 people ply individual trades, such as operating cyclos and ox-pulled carts or cutting grass. Cadres, workers, and civil servants account for only 20 percent. Ten percent are merchants. There are two river ports: a coal port serves the Hanoi power plant and another port handles raw materials, materials, and goods, such as bricks, tiles, cement, iron, steel, salt, oil, etc. On busy days the coal port receives 40,000 tons of coal, and regularly receives 20,000 tons. Several years ago, because socialist property was not well protected, there was no close education, and some cadres and public security policemen were not exemplary, the theft of state property and citizens' property at Phuc Tan was quite serious. A frequently observed scene at the coal port was the scooping up and stealing of coal. Sometimes youths and children would jump on trucks full of coal to scoop up coal for their own use or to sell. The theft of hundreds of liters -- or even 1,000 liters -- of oil and hundreds of tons of cement at the port were common occurrences. By the end of last year theft at the port had practically been eliminated. According to statistics of the Phuc An public security organ, most of the thieves, gamblers, drunks, etc., were youths. Of 2,300 youths in the subward, 22 percent had prior arrests and convictions. The education of backward youths there was truly one of Phuc Tan's central missions and a burden on the shoulders of the party members and cadres there.

The secretary of the Subward Party Committee told us about Phuc Tan's policy and methods to bring backward youths into a good operating environment. With regard to educating such youths, the Party Committee, the People's Committee, the Youth Union, the public security police, the Women's Federation, and the Fatherland Front were unanimous with regard to the policy and methods.

Unemployed youths, army deserters, and people who had been released from prison were organized into "youth chapters," an experimental form adopted by the subward to educate backward youths. At first, six youth chapters operated a few months and then nearly all of them fell apart. Only the chapter at Song Huong tire manufacturing handicraft cooperative remained. The cooperative management board sponsored the youth chapter. The youths engaged in such extracurricular activities as watching movies and taking political training,

but it counted that time as work time. The economic factor was a solid guarantee that the youth chapter would exist and develop. Some of the youths were admitted into the Youth Union at the Song Huong cooperative. The experience of Song Huong helped the subward leadership committee reach the conclusion that if, under the present conditions, the neighborhood youths were to be organized and the backward youths were to be tied in with their organization, the economic factor would have to be taken into consideration. On the basis of the Song Huong experience, 50 chapters were organized for youths who peddled cyclos or worked in metal, glass, bicycle hub, lock, and other handicraft cooperatives. A number of youths who had been thieves or vagabonds were helped by the youth chapters and became cooperative members who achieved high merit and had good virtue, such as Thanh at the Tan Tien cooperative. He attained the highest income in the cooperative (900 dong a month). Most of the 30 youths in the chapter had been released from prison. In the past they had earned their livings individually, and such phenomena as encroaching on the port's land, competing for customers, transporting contraband goods, and "ripping off" customers often occurred. After those youths were brought into youth chapters they earned their livings in a more orderly manner. Some of the youths, such as Tuan, volunteered to enlist in the army. Recently he sent back a letter reporting on his accomplishments with the party committee and with the youth union. His letter included the passage, "In the past my friends told me that life in the army is hard and there's no benefit to it. But now that I'm in military ranks I understand that being able to serve in the army is an honor, and a right and responsibility of youths. I feel ashamed of my past mistakes. I promise you that I will always outstandingly fulfill the missions assigned by the party, and would like to inform you of some happy news: on 25 October 1982 I was admitted into the Youth Union and have been selected to attend noncommissioned officers' school."

The maturation of many other youths is a source of happiness for the cadres and people of Phuc Tan. They were educated to become good people because the party, government, and Youth Union there because had a correct viewpoint regarding backward youths. They were not regarded as hopeless people, but were persistently educated in accordance with the slogan "cure the disease and save the person." The public security police of Phuc Tan are always close to the people. They are also in unanimous agreement with the subward party committee and do not apply administrative measures toward people who are still capable of making progress. Such public security policemen as Tuan, Ngai, and Tao are always close to them and help them become progressive people. One of those youths, Le Quoc Viet, once broke the law and was a carousing loafer but made progress after undergoing education and study. He and a number of his friends volunteered to go to develop the Lam Dong new economic zone. Viet made constant efforts, overcame difficulties and hardships in labor, and achieved many accomplishments. He always attained a large number of workdays. He was selected to attend a friendship meeting of Vietnamese-Soviet Youths. At present he is the deputy head of a production unit and is a candidate for admittance into the Vietnam Communist Party.

By means of labor, love, and a strict attitude, the cadres and people of Phuc Tan Subward have educated many youths who caused trouble, gambled, stole, fought, etc., so that they could become progressive people who benefit society. Encouraging initial results have been attained in a task that is very difficult

and not simple. In Phuc Tan the matter of educating youths is still one of the subward's central concerns. Among youths there is still some negativism and loss of solidarity. But with the victories that have been won there are many conditions for doing a better job of educating youths there.

5616

CSO: 4209/203

ARMY JOURNAL URGES COMMANDERS TO SET GOOD IDEOLOGICAL EXAMPLE

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 20 Feb 84 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Revolutionary Actions Are the Measurement of the Results of Political and Ideological Education"]

[Text] The political and ideological education of troops is carried out in many areas and by many different methods, from organizing the study of Marxism-Leninism, the lines and policies of the party, the situation and tasks to holding meetings, bestowing praise and awards, practicing self-criticism and criticism, reading books and newspapers, engaging in cultural and art activities, etc. However, regardless of the method employed, regardless of the circumstances, the objective of teaching politics and ideology is to raise the level of political and ideological awareness of troops so that they think and act correctly. The results of political and ideological education must ultimately be manifested in the revolutionary action movement.

Loyalty to the party, the revolution, the fatherland and the people, the vanguard-exemplary role of party members and cadres, the shock role of Youth Union members and so forth, all of these political and ideological matters are only of significance when they are embodied in practical actions and become the thinking guiding the daily actions taken by cadres and soldiers to successfully carry out the tasks assigned to them.

As regards party members and cadres, the results of political education must be reflected in a firm stand, the ability to differentiate between right and wrong, the ability to distinguish between enemies and friends, a steadfast will to fight and the revolutionary-offensive spirit, all of which are manifested in building units that are strong and solid in every respect and leading, commanding and managing troops in such a way that each task is successfully completed.

As regards soldiers, the results of political and ideological education are manifested in each person possessing a voluntary spirit, fulfilling his duty, maintaining strict discipline, maintaining the bearing and style of revolutionary military personnel, displaying enthusiasm in one's studies and work, in combat and so forth.

Political and ideological education is not only provided within conference halls and meeting rooms, but must also be provided in every activity on training fields, in combat and the maintenance of combat readiness, in productive labor and every other activity. After each phase of political study, command cadres must adopt methods for guiding the actions of their unit, must set targets for each unit member. And, through each phase of practical activities, they must learn the ideological strengths and weaknesses of cadres, party members and soldiers, determine their strongpoints in order to develop upon them and determine their shortcomings in order to correct them so that the awareness and thinking of each person are constantly improved and the revolutionary action movement and emulation movement are advanced to new stages of development.

In order for political and ideological education to achieve good results, the leader, the commander, must "do what he tells others to do" and establish close coordination between ideology and organization, between ideology and action. In the present situation, the most practical way to teach ideology to troops is to closely link the subject matter being taught to the fulfillment of the objectives of the army's major campaign and directing the efforts of troops toward achieving high results in building strong and solid basic units, maintaining a high level of combat readiness, fighting well and completing all other tasks and jobs successfully.

7809

CSO: 4209/209

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

SOLDIER INTERRUPTS HOME LEAVE TO CAPTURE AGENT

Hanoi TIEN PHONG in Vietnamese 14-20 Feb 84 p 3

[Article by Hoang Duc Quan: "On Home Leave"]

[Text] Holding his ticket, Chu Quoc Hung felt increasingly anxious and strange. He had received permission to return home to visit his mother, who was seriously ill. It had taken Hung nearly a day to travel from border defense post B.L. to the town of Mong Cai, and then to Hon Gai City.

The Hon Gai-Hanoi passenger bus was about to depart. "Only a few more hours and I'll be by my mother's side. She's very ill." The more he thought, the more anxious he became.

Suddenly an old man stepped up to him and said, "You're soldier Hung, aren't you? "Ah! Old man Pau. What are you doing here?" "I'm going to visit my youngest son. He's in the navy and is stationed here. There's something I'd like to talk with you about. It's very important!"

Having lived with old man Pau and the people of B.L. hamlet for a long time, Hung knew that Pau meant that it was urgent." Gia Pau whispered, "I've just seen Cam Chi Van buying a ticket to Mong Cai." Soldier Hung didn't know him. He was of Chinese descent and had returned to China 6 years ago."

Chu Quoc Hung remembered the list of people of Chinese descent in the area for which he was responsible. Although he had not yet met Cam Chi Van, Hung knew all about his background. When he was living in Mong Cai, Chi Van had twice committed the crimes of sabotaging cooperatives, secretly organizing reactionaries, and inciting and dividing the ethnic groups. He had been warned by the authorities. Six years ago, taking advantage of the oversight of some local cadres, Chi Van fled to China, along with his wife and children.

Seeing the anxious expression on Hung's face, old man Pau was resolute, "I'm certain that was him.! It was Chi Van. You must keep an eye on him and arrest him!"

In only 10 more minutes the Hon Gai-Hanoi bus would depart. Hung bit his lip and hesitated. "What shall I do? I'm in a big hurry. I only need tell old man Pau to inform the public security police. That's all. Who could blame me? But"

Hung thought very intently. But then he decided to buy a ticket and return to Mong Cai. He didn't want to have Chi Van arrested right away but intended to observe him in order to discover his liaison route. He quickly outlined a plan to catch Chi Van and told Pau about it.

When bus 14A-0020 arrived at town C its motor stopped. After everyone got off the bus and waited on the sides of the road Chi Van, carrying a briefcase, sneaked into the darkness. Caught by surprise, Hung had to act. He chased after Chi Van, shouting, "He stole my briefcase!"

The people rushed up, captured Chi Van, and invited both to the public security post. Chi Van's luggage and papers were inspected but nothing suspicious was found. Chi Van not only did not protest Hung's "slander," but courteously greeted everyone and turned around, intending to leave. At that moment, Pau entered. "Do you know this old man?" asked Hung. "I don't know him," answered Chi Van. Old man Pau became angry and shouted, "You are Cam Chi Van, son of old man Toong, who sells Chinese medicine at M.C. You've committed many crimes, but the people have not yet punished you. Before you fled to China you spread many leaflets urging the Chinese to rise up against the Vietnamese government. Now you have sneaked back here to continue to sabotage Vietnam, haven't you?"

Suddenly exposed, Cam Chi Van could no longer put up an argument.

Chu Quoc Hung sent a telegram from public security post C to border defense post B.L. to inform it of the situation. He requested permission to put off his home leave to visit his mother so that he could help the public security forces track down Chi Van's reactionaries who were still hiding out in the area.

5616
CSO: 4209/203

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SYMPOSIUM IN PARIS ON NORTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

Paris LE MONDE 21 Feb 84 p 4

[Text] French-Vietnamese cooperation should be "exemplary" in relations between the countries of the North and the South, but it remains inadequate, both because of Hanoi's economic difficulties and for political motives. This was one of the themes debated during the symposium on French-Vietnamese cooperation convened on 17 and 18 February in Paris, on the premises of the former Polytechnic School, by the French-Vietnamese Friendship Association with the help of the French-Asiatic Chamber of Commerce.

Opening the meeting, Mr Combal, director for Asia in the ministry of external relations, affirmed that a new impetus had been given to cooperation between France and Vietnam. He cited as an example the opening of the French section of the Language School in Hanoi, the exchange of researchers, the recent meeting in Hanoi of the fourth joint committee on cultural, scientific and technical cooperation, which has decided to increase its activities by 20 percent... He also spoke of gaps in the economic and financial fields--the responsibility for which, he says, falls on the Vietnamese Government--as well as differences over certain problems, including Cambodia.

On the Vietnamese side, Hoang Trong Day, vice minister for foreign trade, and Nguyen Ngoc Tran, vice president of the state committee for science, were present. Mr Tran drew up a balance sheet of his country's economic situation, and considered that economic cooperation was inadequate and did not correspond to the level of relations between the two countries.

9434
CSO: 4219/31

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

VIETNAMESE ABROAD SEND AID -- On 14 January a delegation of the Association of Vietnamese in Japan went to our embassy in Tokyo to ask it to send contributions of 1.2 million yen to help the people in localities affected by storms and floods. The Association of Vietnamese Workers in France recently agreed to sponsor a vocational school and donate 100,000 francs a year to equip and build that school. [Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 17 Jan 84 p 4] 5616

CSO: 4209/203

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

HA TUYEN IMPLEMENTS PARTY CONGRESS RESOLUTION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Feb 84 p 1

[VNA News Release: "Implement the Resolution of the Fifth Party Congress: Ha Tuyen Strives To Meet Its Food Needs and Solidly Defend Border Security"]

[Text] Recently the executive committee of the Ha Tuyen Province party organization held a conference to explain the Fifth Party Congress resolution, review the 1983 work, and determine the province's economic-social directions and missions for 1984.

In 1984 Ha Tuyen will concentrate all efforts on creating a new transformation, continuing to promote production, strengthening and consolidating national security, exploiting labor and land capabilities as well as possible, striving to solidly resolve its food problem, promote animal husbandry, strongly develop industrial crops stabilize the supplying of raw materials for the production of consumer and export goods, implementing the intensive cultivation and additional growing seasons measures, expanding the cultivated area, improving the soil, opposing erosion, promoting the intensive cultivation of corn, and endeavoring to attain 260,000 tons of grain in paddy equivalent.

Ha Tuyen is continuing to develop sugarcane, peanuts, beans, tea, citronella, oranges, cinnamon, lacquer, and castor beans; to produce kohlrabi and cabbage seeds to to a better job of serving consumption and export, and restore and expand the area planted in such valuable crops as eucommia ulmoides, ligusticum wallichii, figwort, lotus seeds, amomum villosum, and morinda officinalis.

With regard to forestry, it will carry out a campaign for the ethnic minority groups to practice fixed cultivation and habitation, combined with the assignment of forest areas and forest land management to the families and the rational exploitation of forest resources in order to ensure the supplying of raw materials for the production of paper, fiber, and charcoal.

It will use all measures to control most of the agricultural commodities, forestry products, and manufactured goods, mobilize 45,000 tons of grain, and ensure the prompt supplying of the full amounts of the nine rationed necessities to workers, civil servants, and members of the armed forces.

It will continue to do a good job of carrying out the campaign against the enemy's many-sided war of destruction and of strengthening and consolidating

the border defense line. It will organize combat villages that can fight, produce, and maintain combat readiness, further promote the mass movement to protect national security, and contribute to victoriously fulfilling the two strategic missions: building socialism and strongly defending the socialist homeland.

5616

CS0: 4209/208

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AWARDS TITLES TO ARTISTS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 27 Jan 84 p 1

[Council of Ministers decision: "189 Artists Awarded 'People's Artist' and 'Outstanding Artist' Titles"]

[Text] On 25 January 1984 the Chairman of the Council of Ministers issued Decision No 44-CT:

Chairman of the Council of Ministers

On the basis of the 4 July 1981 law organizing the Council of Ministers, and on the basis of Decree No 252-CP, dated 12 June 1981, of the Government Council, which stipulated the titles of artists, pursuant to the recommendation of the Council of Artists, it has been decided to:

Article 1: Award the title People's Artist to 40 (forty) artists (a list of whom is attached) and the title Outstanding Artist to 149 (one hundred forty-nine) artists (a list of whom is attached).

Article 2: The General Secretary of the Council of Ministers, the Minister of Culture, the Minister of Finance, the vice ministers of the relevant ministries, the chairmen of the people's committees of the provinces, the municipalities, and the special zones directly under the central echelon, and the chairman of the Council of Artists, are responsible for implementing this Decision.

Chairman of the Council of Ministers

Signed: Pham Van Dong

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CSO 4209/203

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BAC THAI PROVINCE REPORTS SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROGRESS AND GOALS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Feb 84 pp 3, 4

[Article by Vu Ngoc Linh, secretary of the Bac Thai Provincial Party Committee: "Bac Thai Province Develops upon Its Initial Victories and Moves Forward To Meet Its Socio-Economic Goals for 1984 and Subsequent Years"]

[Text] In keeping with the resolution of the 5th National Congress of the Party and the resolutions of the Party Central Committee, the party organization and the people of the ethnic minorities in Bac Thai have been focusing their efforts and intelligence and making full use of their material bases for nearly 2 years with a view toward resolving the problems of providing food and clothing to the working people and rapidly increasing the supply of consumer and export goods. We have gradually linked industry to agriculture and forestry, linked the central economy to the local economy within a unified structure and closely linked economic construction to the national defense system; at the same time, we have expanded our economic cooperation, in both breadth and depth, both within the province and with other provinces in order to establish the conditions needed to accelerate socialist industrialization. By using rice product contracts with groups of laborers and individual laborers, strengthening our cooperation and economic ties with Agricultural College Number 3 and the central industrial installations within the locality and making concerted investments in agriculture, Bac Thai raised its grain output 23 percent between 1981 and 1982. During the 1982-1983 winter-spring season, grain output increased by another 39 percent; the amount of area under the cultivation of 10th month rice in 1983 increased by 1.2 percent. Following the example set by the model of intensive cultivation, the Dong Quan mountain cooperative in Yen Lang Village, Dai Tu District, many cooperatives moved forward to record yields of 6 to 7 tons of paddy per hectare. The number of districts and villages recording yields of 5 tons of paddy or more has been constantly increasing. In 1983, the Dong Quan Cooperative (Dai Tu) and the Luong Phu Cooperative (Phu Binh) produced average yields in excess of 8 tons of paddy per hectare. The cultivation of such industrial crops as tea, peanuts, soybeans, tobacco and sugarcane has increased anywhere from 8 to 38 percent. In livestock production, we have made a start toward strengthening some collective livestock installations and expanded the use of contracts; at the same time, we have broadened the ties between the Livestock Feed and Breeding Stock

Corporation and Agricultural College Number 3 and the districts of Cho Don, Dai Tu and Dong Hy as well as Thai Nguyen City. Following a period of time spent conducting a pilot project, Cho Don District significantly increased the size of its cross bred hog herd. Thai Nguyen City has increased the size of its total hog herd rather quickly; the movement to raise sows and high yield hogs has become widespread. The province's buffalo herd increased by 0.6 percent and its cattle herd by 9 percent in 1982; in 1983, the buffalo herd grew by 6 percent, the cattle herd by 1 percent and the hog herd by 2 percent.

With the development of agricultural production, the standard of living of the farmers of the various ethnic minorities has been stabilized and partially improved. In 1983, Bac Thai mobilized the quantity of grain required under its 1985 plan quota.

With more than 80 percent of its land lying in forests and forest land, Bac Thai has attached importance to both centralized and decentralized afforestation. Under the guidelines "using the forests to support forest development" and "using the forests to support crop production," the Bac Thai party organization has given its attention to guiding those state farms and cooperatives that have forests and forest land in coordinating agricultural and forestry production. We have gradually assigned land and forests to units and immediately begun achieving economic returns wherever land has been assigned. On the basis of the pilot projects conducted in Kim Phuong (Dinh Hoa) and Nguyen Phuc (Bach Thong), Bac Thai has assigned more than 6,000 hectares of forests under contracts to farm families for the development of "forest orchards." Including the land that has been assigned to collectives and state-operated installations for their management, the province has now assigned some 39,000 hectares of forests. The forest orchards in Nguyen Phuc (Bach Thong), Kim Phuong (Dinh Hoa), Yen Trach and Tuc Trach (Phu Luong) have begun to be established and yield returns. After spending some time focusing its efforts on providing a rather stable supply of grain, Cho Dong District, where more than 90 percent of the land lies in forests and forest land, has begun to redistribute labor between agriculture and forestry, thus creating a new position from which forestry can develop. Together with promoting afforestation, we harvested more than 7,000 tons of raw material for supply to the Bai Bang Paper Mill in Vinh Phu Province in 1983, which was the first time that such materials were harvested.

Industrial, small industry and handicraft production, including the central industry located within the province, has improved. The Thai Nguyen Iron and Steel Federated Enterprise, Geological Projects Union Number 1, the Bac Thai Coal Mine, the Go Dam Machine Center, the Mining Machine Works and other installations have gradually overcome their difficulties and moved forward to complete their plans; at the same time, they have begun to establish economic ties with local industry, agriculture and forestry within their areas, thus stimulating the development of agro-forestry production, small industry and the handicraft trades within the locality and developing local sources of raw materials, fuel, grain and food products. The value of the total output of industry, small industry and the handicraft trades has constantly increased. The supply of products supporting agricultural production, such as lime, roasted phosphate fertilizer, hand tools and so forth has increased significantly. Good changes have occurred in communications and

transportation, especially the transportation of supplies and raw materials for production and everyday life. In distribution and circulation, although many difficulties still exist, changes have also occurred, especially in the mobilization of grain, as a result of which the province has been able to control more and more goods.

As a result of the progress made in production, procurement, distribution and circulation, the budget deficit has been decreasing. The revenues of state-operated enterprises exceeded the plan by 43 percent in 1982 and industrial and commercial tax revenues exceeded the plan by 19 percent. In 1983, budget revenues continued to increase.

In conjunction with guiding economic development, the Bac Thai party organization has attached importance to guiding military work, the maintenance of political security, the maintenance of social order and safety, cultural and educational development and the development of health care services for the people. During the past 2 years, the social situation in Bac Thai has developed in a good direction; backward customs and superstitions are gradually being eradicated. Negative phenomena within economic and social life are declining. Political security and social order and safety are being firmly maintained. The unity and consensus within the party and among the people of the various ethnic minorities have been strengthened.

We are also experiencing a number of shortcomings and weaknesses: we have yet to gain a truly thorough understanding of the major viewpoints and lines of the party and their application under the conditions and circumstances of the province which is still marked by confusion. There is still a lack of creativity in organizing the implementation of policies. As a result, the results achieved in developing the strengths of the province, especially the strengths that lie in its arable land, labor, natural conditions, industrial installations and the schools of the central level located within the province, are still limited. Although we have recorded initial victories in meeting socio-economic goals, our progress has not been steady. In agriculture, yields and output are unstable and our material-technical bases have not been sufficiently developed to insure the stable development of production. Within forestry, forest management is still marked by numerous shortcomings, the destruction of forests has not been stopped and the guideline of coordinating agriculture and forestry has not been widely implemented. Industrial and handicraft production have not undergone strong changes due to the failure to properly utilize existing capabilities of the locality. Another serious shortcoming is seen in the weak control that the state has over money and goods. In distribution and circulation, in our support of production and everyday life, we have not moved forward to promptly meet needs. The shift from the management system characterized by administrative procedures and one level taking over the work of another to cost accounting management has been occurring slowly. The various positions and policies, especially economic policies, have not been applied in a full and creative manner within the province, as a result of which we have been slow to use the "levers" that the policies of the party and state provide.

The victories won over the past 2 years, especially in 1983, show that we have the ability to develop a full-scale agriculture and forestry on our own and

gradually carry out socialist industrialization. Many places within the province have, on the basis of establishing a balance of grain crops, industrial crops and forestry, created sources of agricultural and forestry products for exportation. The mountain district of Cho Don, once it resolved its grain problem, moved forward to develop its forestry and has, from its forestry, reinvested in agriculture in order to achieve more stable development.

In the years ahead, especially in 1984 and 1985, in order to properly implement the resolution of the 5th Party Plenum, we will continue to vigorously uphold the right of collective ownership of the working people, display a high spirit of self-reliance, develop every potential that lies in our labor and arable land, make full use of existing capacity, establish good economic ties, apply the various economic incentive policies well and focus our efforts on developing a full-scale agriculture and forestry. To begin with, we will advance agriculture one step closer to large-scale socialist production, bring about uniform change in all areas of production and virtually stabilize the socio-economic situation within the province's territory, thereby creating the momentum for steady progress in the years ahead. In the immediate future, we will rearrange the structure of the economy in order to develop the capabilities of each area as best possible and redistribute labor and some of the population in order to develop the economy better in the mountain districts and foothills of the province.

We will rapidly increase the number of models that have been established in each district and area in the production of each crop and species of livestock and in each trade sector in order to create a position from which uniform progress can be made. The province's task of foremost importance is achieving full-scale agricultural-forestry production, the center of which is grain and food production. This is the number one target that must be met in order to resolve the food problem and lay the basis for the redistribution of labor and the development of the sectors and trades. In 1984 and 1985, by means of making investments in depth and carrying out the balanced, comprehensive development of agricultural production, the province's districts will meet their own needs for grain, establish grain reserves and contribute grain to the state. The province is even trying to produce 230,000 tons of grain in 1984. In addition to clearing land and increasing the coefficient of cropland use, we will promote intensive cultivation by providing additional supplies and scientific-technical support for rice and subsidiary food crop production and expand the amount of area under the cultivation of high yield rice to 8,000 hectares. Together with rice, we will zone centralized, intensive cultivation production areas for such industrial crops as tea, peanuts, soybeans, sugarcane, tobacco and so forth with a view toward rapidly increasing the output of export and consumer goods. During the 1983-1984 winter-spring season, our province will increase peanut production to 4,500-5,000 hectares, twice as much as in 1983, in order to export from 1,500 to 2,000 tons of shelled peanuts.

On the basis of our experience in coordinating breeding stock, feed and veterinary services and the economic ties among Agricultural College Number 3, the province's Livestock Feed and Breeding Stock Corporation and the various districts and cities, we will, in 1984, raise livestock production to a new

level of development in the state-operated, collective and household sectors and gradually establish balance between crop production and livestock production. By means of product contracts, we will encourage the development of buffalo and cattle production in the mountain districts so that these districts eventually have many buffalo and cattle that can be supplied to the lowlands.

From the pilot project models in assigning land and forests in Kim Phuong (Dinh Hoa) and Nguyen Phuc (Bach Thong), we developed many new factors in 1983 in the assignment of forest contracts and the use of barren ground and hills, such as Yen Trach and Tuc Tranh (Phu Luong). In 1984, we will continue to promote the assignment of forest and barren land and hill contracts in the various districts; at the same time, we will establish ties with agencies, schools and army units in the assignment of land and forests and in the work of covering the barren hills within the province with vegetation. By 1985, the entire province will have virtually completed the assignment of land and forests. In conjunction with afforestation and the harvesting of forests, we will intensify the construction of forestry product processing plants. On the basis of the successful construction of the paper production enterprise in Bach Thong, we will study the construction of other processing plants suited to the conditions that exist in each area and at each place, thus insuring the gradual, stable coordination of forestry and industry.

During the past 2 years, our efforts to establish economic ties among the various sectors and levels, between the central level and the locality, between industry and agriculture-forestry, between the mountain districts and the lowland districts and between Bac Thai and other provinces have yielded significant returns. These ties have not only helped us to develop agriculture and forestry more rapidly, but have also laid the groundwork for industry, small industry and the handicraft trades to steadily develop at a faster rate. Therefore, in 1984 and the years ahead, we will establish stronger comprehensive, well coordinated economic ties within the province and achieve a combined strength for the purpose of developing industry, small industry and the handicraft trades more quickly and creating an increasingly large supply of goods for the locality. In the immediate future, our efforts will focus on our ties with Agricultural College Number 3 and the Thai Nguyen Iron and Steel Federated Enterprise with a view toward accelerating the application of scientific and technological advances in agriculture and supplying additional fertilizer for fields; our ties with Geological Projects Union Number 1 in order to conduct investigations and explore for and develop mineral deposits; our ties with the national defense enterprises and factories in order to produce consumer and export goods and so forth. In return, the agricultural and forestry installations within the province will provide good rear service support and supply local raw materials for the production and everyday life of enterprises, factories and schools.

One important task in 1984 and subsequent years is for us to expand the building of the district level in all 11 districts and cities within the province and assign management responsibilities to the district level on the basis of the lessons learned and the experiences gained in the building of the district level in Dai Tu in order to insure that the district becomes a planning level and develops in exact accordance with the economic structure

established for each district, thus creating the conditions needed for the districts to move forward, achieve balance and carry out comprehensive socio-economic development as early as 1984 and 1985. The building of districts will be closely linked to increasing the fighting strength of basic organizations.

The victories won during the past 2 years have opened the way and provided our party organization with lessons and experience in leading, guiding and organizing implementation so that we can win greater victories in the years ahead. Our party organization is determined to successfully implement the resolution of the 5th National Congress of the Party and eventually make Bac Thai a province that is economically prosperous and militarily strong, a province worthy of being the northern "shield" of the capital Hanoi.

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CSO: 4209/215

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

ECONOMIC NEWS OF HOANG LIEN SON, HO CHI MINH CITY REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Feb 84 pp 1, 4

[VNA News Release: "Hoang Lien Son Provides Sufficient Seedlings To Transplant Entire Fifth Month-Spring Rice Area; Ho Chi Minh City's Small Industry-Handicrafts Sector Has Stabilized Production Since Beginning of Year"]

[Text] To date Hoang Lien Son has sown more than 2,100 tons of seed rice, enough to produce sufficient seedlings to transplant the entire fifth month-spring rice area.

Due to complicated weather changes in Hoang Lien Son -- in many places in the high-altitude mountain areas there was prolonged ice and snow, and in the low-altitude areas on many days the temperature dropped to below 10 degrees Centigrade -- many of the fifth month-spring rice seedlings in Than uyen, Van Bau, Van Chan, and Mu Cang Chai districts died. The Provincial People's Committee and the Agricultural Service sent 500 technical cadres to the districts to help the basic level inspect the seedlins and guide the cooperative members in economizing in the use of seedligns. With regard to seedlins that have already been sown, the peasants spread additional ashes and sent water into the seed beds at night, which was drained during the day to prevent the cold from affecting the seedlings. Places in which seedlings dried prepared seeds and land in order to sow replacement seedlings. The Agricultural Service supplied 20 tons of seed rice to the places with seedling shortages.

The districts also guided the coopratives in transplanting in the correct density (four seedlings per cluster) and oppose thin transplanting, which would affect rice yields. The Provincial People's Committee guided the bases in doing a good job of protecting the seedlings during the Tet period and going all-out to surpass the fifth month-spring transplanting norm during the best part of the season.

Having gained experience from past years, the small industry-handicrafts sector of Ho Chi Minh City is promoting production, beginning with the first quarter of 1984, and is striving to attain a total production value of 630 million dong, especially during the first month of the year, in order to make up for the Tet holidays. Furthermore, in order to prepare to stabilize production the precinct and district cooperative federations guided and inspected the key production bases, while also organaizing customrers' conferences and creating a

new production spirit. In January it will endeavor to attain sufficient electricity, raw materials, and materials to supply according to contracts, the production bases added a shift and worked on Sunday in order to complete the major projects, such as the 100 to 200 ton barges being built at the 2-9 cooperative and the fuel tanks, with capacities of between 25,000 and 100,000 liters, at the Thong Nhat cooperative.

The production bases of the economic-technical sectors, such as the textiles, leather, tailoring, plastics, rubber, food processing, cultural products, artistic handicrafts, and metal consumer goods sectors, increased their production rates, delivered large quantities of goods to the state, and served market stabilization before and after Tet. In addition to creating favorable conditions for the production bases, the precinct and district cooperative federations coordinated with the market management units in stepping up inspections, stopping the production of ersatz and poor-quality goods, and managing the sources of goods for the state and cooperative commercial networks.

By the end of January 1984 the city's small industry-handicrafts sector attained 35 percent of the first quarter plan norm regarding total production value, an increase of nearly 10 percent over January 1983. Precincts 1, 3, 5, 6, 11, Binh Thanh, Tan Binh, and Phu Nhuan, and the districts of Hoc Mon and Nha Be attained 33 to 38 percent of their quarterly plans.

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CSO: 4209/208

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BAC THAI ECONOMIC TARGETS FOR 1985 LISTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Feb 84 p 3

[Article: "Bac Thai Province's Main Socio-Economic Norms for 1985"]

[Text] Agriculture:

--Grain: 230,000 tons (22 percent consisting of subsidiary food crops in paddy equivalent). Livestock production: live, market weight hogs: 10,000 tons. An average increase of 4 percent in the buffalo and cattle herds (1983-1985). Two thousand tons of fish. Industrial crops: 1,500 tons of dried tea buds; 2,000 tons of whole peanuts; 1,000 tons of soybeans; 3,000 tons of hand made sugar; and 150 tons of tobacco.

Forestry:

--Planting 1,100 hectares of centralized forests and 5 million trees in various places.

--Harvesting 25,000 cubic meters of timber.

Industry, Small Industry-Handicrafts:

--Value of local industrial total output: 50 million dong.

Capital Construction:

--Investing 39.6 million dong and giving priority primarily to agriculture, forestry, water conservancy and communications, with appropriate investments in cultural work, education and public health.

Exports: 120 million dong.

Distribution-Circulation: mobilizing 30,000 tons of grain, 3,000 tons of pork, live weight, and 5,000 tons of vegetables,

--Putting the majority of money and goods under state control.

--Providing an average of 4 meters of cloth per capita.

Education, Culture and Public Health:

--232,000 general school students; 15,000 kindergarten students.

--27,550 children attending child care centers.

--2,615 hospital beds.

--Virtually abolishing superstitious practices and establishing the wholesome lifestyle of the new culture from the cities to the countryside.

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CSO: 4209/215

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

THUAN HAI CONTROLS SOURCES OF GOODS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 27 Jan 84 p 2

[Article by Dam Thanh of the Office of the Thuan Hai Province VCP Committee:
"Thuan Hai Controls Goods"]

[Text] Although production had not developed strongly, Thuan Hai Province had never purchased as many goods as it did in 1983. The purchasing of the important, essential goods surpassed the plan norms and increased many-fold in comparison to the past. Grain mobilized during the year amounted to 53,580 tons, 7 percent more than called for by the plan and an increase of 12,000 tons in comparison to 1982, and accounted for 22 percent of the total annual output. Noteworthy was the fact that grain mobilized on an obligatory basis accounted for 80 percent of the total and the amount purchased at incentive prices amounted to only half that of the previous year. Rice accounted for 87 percent of the total amount mobilized. Some 32,700 tons of maritime products, large-volume products, were purchased, which amounted to 42 percent of the total amount caught and surpassed the plan by nearly 10,000 tons. The amount purchased at guidance prices was more than 70 percent of the total, and on the average a liter of oil could buy nearly 10 kilograms of fish, the highest level ever. Although tobacco was rather strongly drawn off by the free market inside and outside the province, last year the state was able to buy most of the output. For each hectare of yellow-leaved tobacco 20 quintals were purchased and for each hectare of brown-leaved tobacco 30 quintals were purchased. The total during the year amounted to 2,500 tons, a 2.5-fold increase over the previous year, twice the original plan, and 500 tons more than the adjusted norm. The delivery of all products met the norms assigned by the central echelon. Previously, only 300 to 500 tons of melon seeds -- which were exported and consumed domestically -- were purchased, but last year 2,000 tons were purchased. Purchases of pork and beef increased by from 50 to 300 percent. The purchases of some other agricultural products, foodstuffs, and manufactured goods increased greatly over the previous year.

Those accomplishments were attained because the province applied many specific measures, and provided bold, flexible guidance in organizing implementation and in the economic incentive policies.

Last year the weather in Thuan Hai underwent many changes. Heat and drought lasted for nearly 10 months and then typhoon No 9 caused great loss of life and property. Because of the unfavorable weather, the areas planted in the various

crops fell short of the plan norms. The heat killed more than 400 hectares of tobacco, which in many places had to be replanted many times. But the province provided prompt guidance in "increasing intensive cultivation to make up for the lost area. The material requirements for the intensive cultivation of crops, and for fuel and materials for the maritime sector, increased. But the central echelon fulfilled less than half of those requirements. The province guided the exploitation and full utilization of four sources of supply. By practicing economy, the province set aside more local products for export than called for by the norm assigned by the central echelon. Thus in 1983 Thuan Hai was able to import additional fertilizer, insecticides, marine engines and parts, nylon nets, cement, and a number of consumer goods. Furthermore, the province formed economic ties with Ho Chi Minh City and Tay Ninh, Gia lai-Kon Tum, and other provinces, to exchange local goods for materials. The local materials, added to those distributed by the central echelon, fulfilled the requirements rather well and contributed to increasing crop yields and the ocean fish catch.

The reason why few goods were purchased in previous years was that the organization of state purchasing was chaotic and overlapping, state purchasing prices were not rational, and market management, especially with regard to private merchants, was relaxed. At the beginning of 1983 the province took corrective measures. There was a more specific division of labor to control the sources of goods. The province set up tobacco, oil-bearing crops, cotton, forestry-special products, and maritime products corporations to develop Phu Quy Island. Those corporations are responsible for both guiding production and managing state purchasing. The role of those specialized corporations has been clearly brought into play. If the tobacco corporation had not been formed it would have been impossible to buy 2.5 times more tobacco than the previous year.

In addition to consolidating the second-echelon corporations of the home trade sector, Thuan Hai boldly decentralized the district export goods purchasing stations, commercial corporations, and grain corporations. The corporations at the provincial level were directly responsible for organizing state purchasing in places with concentrated commodity production. In places with scattered production, the purchasing corporations assigned responsibility to the marketing cooperatives. The purchase prices were flexibly adjusted and the commodity exchange modes were closely and specifically stipulated, which gave producers incentive for not chasing after the free market.

Progress was made in signing two-way contracts with producers, especially with regard to grain, maritime products, tobacco, pork, etc. In the two-way contracts, the province boldly applied the mode of supplying capital, materials, fuel, and grain to the producers in advance, thus creating conditions for them to produce contentedly and binding them to their obligation to sell products to the state. Furthermore, two-way contracts include both purchases at guidance prices and incentive purchases in consumer goods or cash, at prices determined by the province. The purchasing sectors and the sectors serving purchasing did a good job of serving that task. The province assigned to the districts responsibility for purchasing goods in the localities in accordance with plan norms. The province and the provincial sectors have the system of awarding the districts, villages, and cooperatives a certain

percentage of the value of goods purchased. That working method encouraged the localities and bases to do a good job of purchasing commodities. Because of the increased state purchasing of grain due to the expansion of state commerce in the cities and towns, and to the supplying of materials in advance to producers the "area of operations" of long-time private rice merchants was reduced and there was less of a disparity between grain prices on the local market and the state purchasing prices.

The present weaknesses are that the state purchasing organization at the provincial and district levels is still thin and transportation facilities, packaging, warehouses, goods, etc., are not in balance. Although the results attained in state purchasing were great, they do not yet correspond to the province's annual commodity production capabilities.

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AGRICULTURE

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL URGES OVERFULFILLMENT OF RICE PLANTING NORMS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Feb 84 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Surpass the Winter-Spring Rice Area Planting Norms"]

[Text] During this year's winter-spring season the entire nation has planted at a more rapid rate than last year. The rice planting rate is 112.4 percent of that last year. Some 400,000 hectares of vegetables, subsidiary food crops, and industrial crops have been planted. The area of such subsidiary food crops as corn, sweet potatoes, and manioc increased by 36,000 hectares and industrial crops increased by 11,000 hectares. In general, the crops are developing well. Those were only initial results. The production missions ahead are great and considerable difficulties are being encountered.

With regard to rice, the southern provinces have attained 84 percent of the plan norm, but the northern provinces have attained only 49.1 percent of the planting norm. At present, the greatest difficulty in the northern provinces is the growing of rice seedlings. Because of prolonged cold and low temperatures, nearly 10,000 hectares of seedlings were ruined, an increase of 1.6 percent over the previous season. In the provinces of Thanh Hoa, Ha Nam Ninh, Nghe Tinh, Ha Son Binh, and Ho Chi Minh City 500 to 2,000 hectares of rice seedlings were killed by the cold weather.

During this year's winter-spring season the cold weather arrived early, but that was advantageous for the initial plowing. Progress was made in coordination between the ministries of Water Conservancy, Electric Power, and Agriculture, and between the tractor and agricultural materials stations and the cooperatives. The pumping stations had sufficient water to bring water into the fields to prepare the soil for plowing. Mechanized soil preparation was carried out urgently. Those advantages have not yet been fully exploited because the rice seedlings are not yet old enough to plant and there is a lack of seedlings. An urgent mission at present is that the districts and cooperatives must inspect, categorize, and reevaluate the quantity and quality of each rice seedling planting. On that basis, steps must be taken to tend the remaining rice seedling area and sow additional seedlings, including reserve seedlings, in order to ensure sufficient seedlings to transplant the entire area. Additional seedlings of quickly maturing rice varieties that have been regionalized may be sown and introduced to main-season production. Late spring seedlings of such rice varieties as CR203, NN75-10, IR1561-1-1, and NNA3 should be sown, by the use of hydroponic and thick-sown methods. The thick sowing of

seedlings serves to limit the number of rice seedlings dying from cold, while also controlling resistance to cold, humidity, and insects and diseases by rice seedlings, and also facilitates tending by limiting weeds when the seedlings are transplanted in fields. The Song Phuong cooperative in Hanoi applied the techniques of sowing thick seedlings, accompanied by intensive cultivation measures and still attained 8 to 10 tons of paddy per hectare. In places where conditions permit late spring rice can be sown directly. In the Bac Bo lowlands and midlands and in Thanh Hoa the sowing period is between 5 February and 15 February. In the warm mountain region the sowing period is between 10 February and the end of February. In the cold mountain area the sowing period is between 10 February and 20 February.

At present, although the weather is still cold there is a gradual warming trend. The localities must positively end the existing rice seedlings, closely coordinate the use of water buffaloes and tractors in preparing soil, and carry out a division of labor so that when the weather warms up forces can be concentrated to transplant the spring rice when the seasonal schedule permits, while at the same time planting vegetables, subsidiary food crops, and industrial crops and tending the rice that has already been transplanted. The southern provinces must step up their harvesting of 10th month rice, complete the transplanting of spring subsidiary food crops, and pay attention to fighting insects and diseases affecting rice.

In order to attain and surpass the grain output plan norm it is necessary to do a good job of ensuring both factors: area and crop yields. Over a period of many years agriculture has made progress with regard to intensive cultivation. Therefore, crop yields have been rapidly increased but the area planted according to plan has not been assured. If, during the previous winter-spring season the entire nation had fulfilled the plan norms regarding the area planted in rice and subsidiary food crops, the grain output would have been even greater. In the northern provinces, the principal reason for the failure to plant the entire area was the shortage of rice seedlings. In previous winter-spring seasons, because of an imbalance between rice seedlings and area it was necessary to abandon tens of thousands of hectares.

Fully understanding that the most important objective is promoting grain production, each locality must manifest a spirit of collective mastery and use combined strength to do a good job of implementing measures to increase uniformity over the entire cultivated area and increase the intensive cultivation level in all areas, while at the same time fulfilling the plan norm. Attaining and surpassing the winter-spring rice area plan norm under any weather conditions is an extremely important mission and a fierce struggle by all echelons, sectors, cooperatives, and production collectives.

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CSO: 4209/208

AGRICULTURE

1983 RICE PRODUCTION STATISTICS REPORTED FOR HOANG LIEN SON

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Feb 84 p 2

[Article by P. V.(reporter): "Hoang Lien Son Crosses the '5 Ton' Threshold for the First Year"]

[Text] In 1983, despite unfavorable weather and constant harassment along the northern border by the reactionaries within Beijing ruling circles, agricultural production in Hoang Lien Son Province still managed to record a significant victory: the total grain output target was met 1 year early through the production of 246,000 tons, 7 percent above the average output required under the 3 year plan and a 4,490 ton increase compared to the previous year, thus making it the highest annual grain output ever produced.

As regards the amount of area under cultivation, the province cultivated 18,840 hectares of 5th month-spring rice, an 11 percent increase compared to the previous 5th month-spring season. During the 10th month season, the province put 29,988 hectares under cultivation, a 1.2 percent increase compared to the 1982 10th month season.

The province recorded a 5th month-spring rice yield of 24.42 quintals per hectare, a 5.36 quintal per hectare increase compared to the previous 5th month-spring season and 1.92 quintals more than required under the plan. The 10th month rice yield was 26.58 quintals per hectare, a 16 kilogram per hectare increase compared to the previous 10th month season. Thus, rice yield for the entire year equalled 51 quintals per hectare. Hoang Lien Son crossed the 5 ton "threshold" for the first time. The province's rice yields have gradually risen from 40.96 quintals in 1981 to 45.48 quintals in 1982 and 51 quintals in 1983.

Deserving of attention is the fact that the amount of area under the cultivation of rice that yielded more than 50 quintals per hectare increased compared to 1981 to a total of 2,913 hectares; in this category are three districts and one city in the highland border area, Bat Xat, Bao Thang and Muong Khuong District and Lao Cai City which, while maintaining production and engaging in combat, still managed to record the highest yields ever. Lao Cai City average 72.99 quintals; Bat Xat: 58.20 quintals; Bao Thang: 55.97 quintals; and Muong Khuong: 50 quintals per hectare for the entire year. The

districts of Van Chan and Van Yen recorded yields ranging from 53.17 to 58.59 quintals per hectare for the entire year.

The province has established places where intensive cultivation is practiced and implemented intensive cultivation techniques in each area and at each cooperative. The various technical factors have truly played a good role at each installation as a result of the use of final product contracts with individual laborers.

During the 5th month-spring season, as much as 92.1 percent of the land under cultivation was sown or transplanted on schedule and 95.6 percent of 10th month rice was sown or transplanted at the start of fall. Some 80 percent of fields were put under the cultivation of spring rice varieties, 60 percent under the cultivation of early spring rice and main spring rice during the 5th month season. Early varieties that withstand cold weather and acidic soil, are only slightly susceptible to rice blast and produce high, stable yields were raised on 25.3 percent of the land under cultivation.

The province has established two main 10th month rice varieties for the lowlying area: NN27 and dwarf Bao Thai; variety NN27 was raised on 38 percent of the land under cultivation in the low mountains. To each hectare used to raise 2 rice crops an average of 13 tons of organic fertilizer and 170 kilograms of lime were applied. Effective irrigation was provided for 91.3 percent of spring rice and 73.8 percent of 10th month rice.

The expansion and further improvement of rice product contracts and product contracts for other crops, species of livestock and trades raised the sense of collective ownership of laborers and helped to encourage intensive cultivation and higher crop yields. In 1983, 420 cooperatives, 59 percent of the total number within the province, implemented rice product contracts with individual laborers.

Each district has adopted a plan and taken specific steps to guide the development of a high yield rice growing area measuring 10,000 hectares. More than 100 technical cadres have been sent to assist the districts in guiding the intensive cultivation of rice.

Having brought about a new change in grain production in 1983, Hoang Lien Son is guiding installations in fulfilling their 30,000 ton grain obligation to the state while focusing efforts on putting 19,650 hectares under the cultivation of 1983-1984 5th month-spring rice with an average yield of 25 quintals. The 10,000 hectare high yield rice growing area is seeking a yield of 30 quintals per hectare, 5 quintals more than main crop rice yields.

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AGRICULTURE

BAC THAI PROVINCE EXPANDS CROP PRODUCTION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Feb 84 p 3

[Article by Nguyen Non Nuoc: "The 1983-1984 Winter-Spring Season: Bac Thai Expands the High Yield Rice Growing Area to 8,000 Hectares; Peanut Cultivation Increased 2.26 times"]

[Text] During the 1983-1984 winter-spring season, Bac Thai has increased the total amount of area under cultivation to nearly 45,000 hectares, a more than 10,000 hectare increase compared to the previous winter-spring season. This breaks down as follows: rice: 23,500 hectares; subsidiary food crops: 10,400 hectares; industrial crops: 6,500 hectares; and food product crops: 4,580 hectares.

To insure a grain output of 77,400 tons, a 27.3 percent increase in output and a 39.05 percent increase in paddy output compared to last year's winter-spring season, Bac Thai has attached importance to intensive cultivation and to increasing the amount of area under the cultivation of high yield rice to 8,000 hectares in an effort to record an average yield of 35 quintals per hectare. Increased investments of science and technology have been made in the high yield rice growing area; the amount of nitrogen fertilizer applied per hectare of main crop rice has been increased by 20 kilograms; the movement to make green manure, collect livestock manure, pond mud and so forth has been intensified to insure that an average of 15 to 20 tons of organic fertilizer are applied per hectare.

The cultivation of subsidiary crops, especially grain crops such as corn and sweet potatoes, has been expanded by 28.9 percent compared to the previous winter-spring season. Corn production has increased by 1,200 hectares, with a yield of nearly 5 quintals per hectare.

To rapidly increase the output of exported agricultural products, Bac Thai has expanded spring peanut cultivation during this season to 4,000 hectares, a 2.26 fold increase compared to the previous season. A centralized peanut production area has been planned for the districts of Phu Binh, Pho Yen and Dong Hy and the city of Thai Nguyen. These localities have rearranged their rotation cultivation formulas to provide land for the cultivation of peanuts and land for other crops. The province has adopted policies for investing capital and supplies and providing appropriate rewards to areas that grow peanuts and sell peanuts to the state. Product contracts with laborers have been implemented for peanut production. Technical measures, from the preparation of fields, seed, the seasonal schedule, fertilizer and water conservancy to the prevention and control of pests, are receiving close, timely guidance.

AGRICULTURE

BAC THAI PLANS EXPANSION OF TEA PRODUCTION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Feb 84 p 3

[Article by Hoang Loan: "Bac Thai Tea"]

[Text] The Tea Plant is a strength of Bac Thai Province. Bac Thai tea is liked by domestic customers and has the trust of the market in a number of countries.

The province now has 5,000 hectares under tea cultivation. Annual output is roughly 2,000 tons of dried tea. Bac Thai has two enterprises producing black tea for exportation: Quan Chu and Song Cau. It has three enterprises that produce two types of green tea: lotus scented tea and green tea. In 1984, the province will make in depth investments in intensive cultivation and endeavor to raise fresh tea yields to an average of 35 quintals per hectare.

By 1990, according to the province's planning, Bac Thai will expand tea cultivation to 10,500 hectares in four districts: Dai Tu, Phu Luong, Dinh Hoa and Dong Hy, with approximately 8,500 hectares of commercial tea yielding 50 quintals of fresh tea buds per hectare in order to produce an output of 42,500 tons annually. By that year, in addition to the two black tea enterprises and three green tea enterprises, Bac Thai will have constructed five additional enterprises specializing in the production of lotus scented tea and green tea for exportation and domestic consumption.

The 57 cooperatives that specialize in tea farming have implemented product contracts with individual laborers; at the same time, the province has adopted a reasonable policy toward the areas that specialize in tea production in order to provide incentive for laborers and enable them to work with peace of mind. The province procures products from more than 20 cooperatives that raise tea as companion crops and procures tea from cooperative member families under two way contracts, thus reducing to the lowest possible level the "flow" of tea to the unorganized market.

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HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

BRIEFS

DIESEL ENGINE PLANT--The cadres and workers of Construction and Assembly Corporation Number 2 (the Ministry of Engineering and Metals) are accelerating the construction and assembly of the Song Cong Diesel Works (Bac Thai), which the Soviet Union is helping us to design and construct and which will have a capacity of 2,100 55 horsepower engines and 255 tons of parts per year. As of February, 1984, the worksite had completed 80 percent of the construction work involved in the project and put the electro-mechanical plant, the forging plant, the cooling plant, the carpentry shop and the assembly plant into operation. [Text] [Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 19 Feb 84 p 1] 7809

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