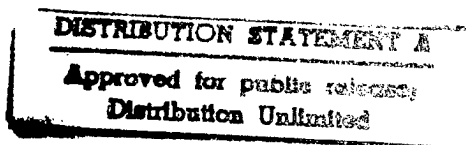


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19 September 1985

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LAOS

RUMORS OF IMMINENT DK VICTORY IN CAMBODIA SQUELCHED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 17, 18, 19 Jul 85

["Conversation with the Editor" Column: "Deceitful Rumors"]

[17 Jul 85 p 2]

[Text] [Question] Dear VIENTIANE MAI editor. You have heard that the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries have been propagandizing that the routed Cambodians are encircling Phnom Penh in Cambodia. They also say that the Cambodian reactionaries have seized several provinces. What is worse is that they have accused the People's Republic of Kampuchea (PRK) of having no rights to rule the country. They do whatever they want. We think they have closed their eyes and spoken without the truth. What do you think about this? Please discuss this and point out their true intentions. Thank you. Phat.

[Answer] Dear Phat. We will discuss informally what you mentioned without distortion. Everyone knows that the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries are the obedient henchmen of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists. Thus, all the deceitful propaganda and the work done by the Thai ultrarightist busybody reactionaries toward the three Indochinese nations are part of the dark and insane schemes of the Beijing power-holding clique that hopes to take over Indochina and all of Southeast Asia as well.

The Thai ultrarightist reactionaries already well know that the routed Cambodians and the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary cliques are murderers. Despite their knowing this, they still support and openly assist them, providing them with land to set up military bases, etc. This assistance is completely against the wishes of the Thai people. However, they have to do it because they are unavoidably tools to serve Beijing.

First of all, you have to understand the position of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries, otherwise you will not be able to understand the problem. Their position is to be the obedient henchmen of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists who are in collusion with the American imperialists. The Thai ultrarightist reactionaries are the servants of Beijing's dark and insane schemes, and Beijing is the leader in carrying out expansionism and hegemonism. Thus, Beijing's aim is to expand its territory.

[18 July 85 p 2]

[Text] The advanced revolutionists who studied the will of Mao Zedong found that it indicated that all of Southeast Asia was Chinese territory. The map they made up at that time by themselves covered Indochina, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia. Once the expansionists succeed in each of these countries, they will become a state of China the same way that China swallowed Tibet. Therefore, this expansionism is extremely dangerous. However, the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries do not even look at themselves in the mirror.

We will discuss this briefly to help you understand. The same goes for the question that you sent in. Once you understand the true nature of expansionism as such, it is not surprising that the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries and Beijing have propagandized and slandered Indochina, particularly Cambodia. (You should review the expansionism carried out in Cambodia in the genocide where over 3 million Cambodian people were murdered). It was said that the Cambodian people all had to be killed and then it would be easy for the Chinese people to be brought in to live in Cambodia. However, because of the patriotism of the Cambodian people themselves and because they could not tolerate the cruel murders by the genocidal clique we (Laos and Vietnam) therefore saved the Cambodian people from the danger of genocide. The Cambodian people then declared that they would organize their own revolutionary administration from the patriotic groups who wanted to see their nation grow, and who had tremendous hatred for the genocide. It has now been 7 years since the Cambodian revolutionary administration has saved and constructed its nation, and has gradually led its people toward prosperity. No enemies will be able to reverse Cambodia.

When the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries, Beijing, and the routed [Cambodians] boasted that they had seized this or that province and encircled this or that place, this was all deceitful propaganda. These people who belong to the cliques of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary, Son San, Khieu Samphan, and Sihanouk all have no place to live. They have to hide themselves in areas that the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries have arranged for them, and in Beijing and other places that Beijing has provided for them.

[19 Jul 85 p 2]

[Text] Recently we went to Cambodia and visited the provinces on the border with Thailand and other provinces. We saw the Cambodian people gradually promoting and raising their standard of living. They were not worried. The revolutionary administration led them in building their new land and a bright and progressive life. From comparing the goods in the market with those in Vientiane Capital we can see that there are more consumer items and the prices are lower. This is the progress of the Cambodian people and their new administration. Things were not at all as depicted by the propaganda and slander of the Beijing and Thai reactionaries.

We know well that the purpose of the propaganda is to deceive world opinion, to change white to black, and to blame Vietnam in order to dishonor and

disgrace Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam. But the truth is the truth. No enemies can reverse the revolution in our three nations. The revolutionary administration has been resolutely stepped up and the enemies must be finally defeated. The same goes for Cambodia which is resolute and victorious. The enemies of the Cambodian people are writhing on the ground and they will gradually and finally die. There is an old Lao saying, "If an elephant is dying we must look for a vine, and if a tiger is dying we must look for a stick." The same goes for the Cambodian reactionaries and the other reactionary groups nowadays. They are carrying each other to burial and they can only struggle to find a way to stay alive. That is all. And one day they must finally stop breathing. Good-bye. The editor.

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CSO: 4206/168

LAOS

COOPERATIVIZATION PACE TOO SLOW, CADRES LACKING

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 5 Jun 85 pp 1, 3

[Editorial: "The Effort To Improve and Expand Agricultural Cooperatives Proceeds With Rice Cultivation"]

[Excerpt] In order to proceed according to the spirit of the Third Party Congress in changing the rice farmers to cooperative production, making a new socialist production relationship and creating the conditions to expand vigorously agriculture, the multi-ethnic farmers throughout the country have voluntarily established solidarity production teams and labor exchange teams and have gone on to establish agricultural cooperatives. At present, throughout the country there are a total of more than 2,500 agricultural cooperatives which include more than 140,000 families, equaling 27.3 percent of farm families; 41 percent of these are in areas primarily of wet field rice. In areas which do not yet have agricultural cooperatives, an effort has been made to improve and establish solidarity production teams and labor exchange teams in order to create gradually conditions allowing farmers to expand production and become familiar with cooperative production so that they can proceed toward establishing agricultural cooperatives.

In order to follow the policy of the party in carrying out the spirit of the seventh resolution of the third session concerning striving for food production according to the plan figure of 1.6 million tons in each area, this season [they] will have to strive to improve and expand agricultural cooperatives as well as raise rice and other crops. Those places which have established agricultural cooperatives must strive to improve their organization, administration and inspection; they must know the production plan and use the contract plan figures for each production group. As for places which do not yet have agricultural cooperatives, these must strive vigorously to improve and expand the solidarity production teams and labor exchange teams and create conditions to make possible the establishment of agricultural cooperatives at a later stage so that the standard of living of the farmers steadily improves, a new life style is created for the farmers and the goals of the party and state are achieved.

In looking at things in general, the movement for agricultural cooperatives has expanded, but it has been slow and has not kept up with the requirements of revolutionary activity in the new era. There are still some uncertain results; many areas are not vigorously improving and expanding their solidarity

production teams and labor exchange teams in order to create the conditions for new cooperatives. Some localities are not striving to improve and expand their agricultural cooperatives which means that the proportion of families who are members of cooperatives is low: 10 to 15 percent.

The seventh resolution of the third session of the Party Central Committee established the policies for 1985: [we] must strive to mobilize the farmers to become involved in modern production policies and voluntarily turn to production completely in the form of agricultural cooperatives and other cooperative production. Each locality must strive to educate and create understanding among cadres at all levels. Each sector must understand the meaning of the resolution of the Party Central Committee concerning improving and increasing the capabilities of the present cooperatives in order to improve the production conditions of the cooperatives, resolutely surpass the effectiveness of individual production and bravely prepare to build new cooperatives.

In building a new agricultural cooperative, the initial task to be done is that each level of the administration must announce and explain the meaning, purpose and principles for establishing the cooperatives. In addition [they] must grasp the conditions in each area such as: land area, the cattle and buffalo of each family and the number of families which do not yet have rice fields. The cadres who will become the administration of an agricultural cooperative must be prepared in order to assure that the cooperative which is established will have a suitable administration.

Another problem which many localities have encountered in building a new cooperative is the lack of cadres with leadership abilities. Therefore, everything must be done to transform people and create people who are good, capable, trained in production and respected by the people in order to insure that when a cooperative is built there are at least three to four administrative cadres to make up the administrative committee and the inspection committee of the cooperative.

The construction of an agricultural cooperative is the direct responsibility of the party committee and the administrative committee and involves the participation of various mass organizations; the provincial capital must choose one district to show the way, and the district [must] choose one or two leading cooperatives. Some notable lessons must be drawn as examples to the others. The essence of leadership in each area lies in focusing on the production and the administration of the cooperative; in producing the rice crop technical methods must be used on combined fields, the cooperatives must be improved and revolutionary strength must be built.

For these reasons it can be said that transforming agriculture and leading the farmers toward cooperative socialist production involves a broad revolutionary mobilization of groups of the masses. Each locality must concentrate all its abilities to heighten the spirit of responsibility for carrying out the policies of the party, create conditions to facilitate construction of new cooperatives, ensure the completion of its responsibilities and ensure that the objective of involving each province and locality in the new [form] of

production is done according to the regulations and on schedule. Vientiane Province, Khammouan Province, Saravane Province, Savannakhet Province, Sayaboury Province and Attapeu Province must have great resolve and proceed well in this activity. The provinces on the plains must be resolved to bringing progressive farmers into cooperatives and other cooperative units so that a level of 60 to 70 percent is basically reached; the mountain provinces [should reach a level] of 30 to 40 percent.

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CSO: 4206/159

LAOS

ELECTRICITY PROJECT IN SAVANNAKHET DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 10 Jul 85 p 2

[Article: "Construction of Electrical Transmission Lines to the Countryside"]

[Excerpt] On 22 June 1985 there was a ceremony which was very meaningful for the workers and the people of Outhoumphon District, Bohinkao District and Donghene District: it was the ceremony unveiling the diagrams for power line construction between the districts to bring light to the countryside and help the living standard of the multi-ethnic people take on a completely new look and [help them] live...

The report of Comrade Sikan Insisiangmai, the head of the project to construct the transmission lines informed us that: the rural electrification project for Savannakhet, Outhoumphon, Bohinkao and Donghene, located in Savannakhet [Province], expands the electrical network to the countryside according to a plan of the Ministry of Industry, Handicrafts and Forestry. [The project] depends on funds permitting construction from the Lao government and is in accordance with the Council of Ministers Order No 06 of 6 January 1981 concerning the expansion of middle voltage transmission lines of 22 kilovolts [2200 volts]. The State Electrical Enterprise of Laos is constructing and operating [the system].

This construction project was divided into two stages: the first stage was from 1981 to 1983 and the second stage was from 1984 to 1985.

The project was the initial stage of a change in direction involving reliance on the socialist countries; 85 percent of the electrical equipment for the project was purchased from the German Democratic Republic. There were 44 workers and 4 of them were women. Nine came from the Lao Electrical Center, and there were 11 day laborers. There were 12 who were attached to the workers' organization. There were 11 young people. Construction during the first stage was as follows: from 1981 to 1983 planning and data collection were done as well as clearing and surveying the path for the power line construction. In addition the equipment for a substation was assembled at Savannakhet. A 240-meter fence was built around the substation. An 8x24 [meter] dormitory was built for the workers. A 6-meter wide and 8-meter long service building was constructed for the people at Outhoumphon. Two more equipment storage buildings were constructed; 35 km of 22 kilovolt transmission lines were

erected from Savannakhet to Outhoumphon. A secondary transmission line 7 km long was erected from the generating station to the distribution station. Transmission lines were erected to serve six villages stretching 13 km. The middle voltage 22 kilovolt transmission lines ran a total of 55 km. As for low voltage .4 kilovolt [400 volt] distribution, 15 km of low voltage network were erected in Outhoumphon District and in various villages, and 70 160-watt street lights were erected. They set up six 22/.4 kilovolt transformers, and they set up a transformer for Bokuanatia, one for a military camp and eight for the following villages: Ban Thatinghang Village, Phonsin [Village], Natia [Village], Dongbang [Village], Khouakhaokat [Village], Nongkom [Village], Machihit [Village] and Ban Dongnakham Village. They used 1,045 concrete poles which were from 12 to 16 meters long and four latticed steel poles 10 meters long which held 286,359.5 meters of cable.

Now the technicians and workers assigned to this project are erecting the second stage of the transmission line project from the capital of Outhoumphon District to Bohinkao and Donghene; it is a middle voltage line of 22 kilovolts and will be completed at the end of 1985 in order to honor the tenth anniversary of the national day on next 2 December.

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CSO: 4206/159

LAOS

AAA BN TRAINING RESULTS, CONDITIONS NOTED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 16 Jul 85 p 3

[Article: "Artillery Crews from the Combined Services School and Battalion 'D'"]

[Text] A ZIL vehicle took our group to the firing range quickly. What one saw there was a yellow and green striped canopy as a shelter in the middle of a meadow. Under the canopy were tables arranged in two rows for the representatives who had been invited to observe this weapons firing test. In front of the representatives were those firing the weapons standing in three long rows waiting for the commander's order. Those firing were from the joint school and antiaircraft artillery battalion "D." Everything to be used in firing was scientifically prepared according to the rules. Each weapon was set up ready for combat. The rangefinders and telescopic sights were placed as required. The light yellow targets showed against the sky. What made everyone nervous was [the question of] proficiency in firing; almost all those firing were new recruits and some had been in the military just 5 to 6 months. This group had left their plows and volunteered to serve in the army at the call of the nation. In addition on this day the sky was full of clouds and it was very hot so that it was difficult to follow the target. When the time came the commander ordered those firing to take their stations. The first crew to fire included Comrade Sopha who was a student at the combined services school. A green flare sped into the sky to warn those firing to be prepared to destroy the target. In no time a red flare went up. Then in the sky 1,100 meters in front of us a mortar flare lit up. And then there was the target for Sopha gradually falling. Fire! It was the commander's order. The first shells climbed across the sky toward the target. In a moment the target was destroyed. Congratulations! Congratulations! Well done, Sopha! One could say that Sopha's results created an atmosphere of confidence for those who fired after him.

The weather was still very hot. Everyone's face looked red and their clothes appeared to be wet with perspiration, but the destruction of targets proceeded vigorously. The third to fire were from antiaircraft artillery battalion "D." After taking their positions with ease and confidence, the destruction of targets proceeded. This crew was equipped with three antiaircraft guns which fired together. They hit the target hung by a rope at 1,050 meters. This battalion was the unit which had received only just over a month of training, but they were able to achieve results cheerfully and destroyed two targets. These good results produced a haze of gunpowder smoke which would not dissipate.

The last crew to fire was a combined group from both the combined services school and antiaircraft artillery battalion "D" armed with six antiaircraft guns. In front [of us] a group of targets were released and appeared in the sky floating in the air. In each cycle of firing they checked the direction, sighted in, and loaded. Each one did his duty skillfully. The whole field fixed its attention on their progress. The commander raised the red flag and gave the orders: the target is in the sky at 700 meters, speed 10, fire! In the blink of an eye, their shells started to roar. The target was blown away when it was hit, and pieces were scattered all over. The commander shouted that the target was destroyed. Congratulations! There was the sound of clapping throughout the field.

Therefore the firing this time achieved good results from beginning to end. The students of the antiaircraft school which is affiliated with the combined services school and the gunners of the antiaircraft artillery battalion received only marks of skillful and good. Those initial results after the school's founding will be a mirror and a goal for later classes.

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CSO: 4206/159

LAOS

BRIEFS

SAVANNAKHET CO-OP EXPANSION--The construction of agricultural cooperatives throughout Champhon District of Savannakhet Province has expanded constantly. By the end of last June the multi-ethnic people had been able to establish 163 agricultural cooperatives. Altogether the cooperatives included 11,250 families and a total of 64,908 members of which 29,545 were primary workers and 13,894 were reserve workers. They cover a total of more than 14,950 hectares, they include 70.1 percent of the families throughout the district, and they have 64.61 percent of the wet field rice land in the district. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 10 Jul 85 p 1] 8149

ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION, SALES--Throughout the Lao State Electrical Enterprise the cadres and workers were determined to do their work vigorously as is shown in the results of the period of January 1985, which are: as regards the production and distribution of electricity in the first 3 months, they produced 265,794,800 kilowatt hours more than the plan for the period, which is 143 percent of the same period in 1984, and 248,716,184 kilowatt hours more electricity was distributed (domestically and abroad) than the plan for the period which is 93.57 percent of the same period last year. They produced 774 electric wire poles, which is two percent more than the plan. They produced 182 electric wire pole braces. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 8 Jun 85 p 2] 8149

NGHE TINH-XIENG KHOUANG SERUM PRODUCTION--On 5 July the committee responsible for the joint project to assist serum production in Xieng Khouang Province [undertaken] with the cooperation of experts from Nghe Tinh Province in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam summed up the success of serum production at the Lao-Mongolian Friendship Hospital. According to the report, in the initial stages they were able to produce 60 to 70 liters of serum per day. This included three types: salt serum, sugar serum and bovokansi serum. In addition they also produced more than 40 liters per day of distilled water to help care for the sick at the friendship hospital and other hospitals throughout the province. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 11 Jul 85 p 1] 8149

CSO: 4206/159

MALAYSIA

ELECTION LIKELY IN EARLY 1986

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Jul 85 p 1

[Text]

ALOR STAR, Mon. — The general election is likely to be held in the first five months of next year, sources said today.

The last general election was held in April 1982 and the next is due before April 1987.

The sources said the Government machinery was prepared for the elections.

"Presently, the Barisan Nasional leadership is ironing out certain minor problems among component parties. Once they are resolved, which could be very soon, we can have the elections," they said.

It is also learnt that the Umno headquarters will be directing all party divisions to activate their election operation rooms by next month.

By then the number of polling stations would be known and Umno divisions would be expected to set up election committees in the polling station areas.

Presently, almost all the divisions have completed their delegates' meetings. The remaining divisions have until July 31 to do so.

CSO: 4200/1503

MALAYSIA

MALAYSIA OFFERS TONGA ASSISTANCE

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 30 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by Azam Aris]

[Text] MALAYSIA is prepared to help Tonga develop its natural resources especially in the petroleum sector.

As a first step, Petronas will provide management and data processing assistance to Tonga in exploration ventures.

Petronas will look into the possibility of transferring technology in various other areas.

This was disclosed by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam after receiving his counterpart from Tonga, Mr Michale Baron Tuita, in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

Briefing the Press later, a Wisma Putera spokesman said the Deputy Prime Ministers discussed various steps needed to be taken before the actual explorations were conducted. The areas surrounding Tonga are believed to have oil reserves.

Datuk Musa urged Tonga to learn from the Malaysian experience in oil exploration and development. He said Tonga could follow the steps of how Petronas could turn into a strong oil corporation.

Both Deputy Prime Ministers also discussed extending the training offered under the Malaysian Training Coopera-

tion Programme (MTCP).

Tonga falls under the Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific division of the MTCP.

Since Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad's visit to Tonga in 1982, the number of participants from Tonga involved in training programmes conducted by Malaysian agencies has been increasing. So far 16 officials have been attached with various agencies under the MTCP.

Mr Tuita, who is also Energy and Resources Minister, wants Malaysia to continue these training courses conducted at the Cooperative College, the National Archives, the National Productivity Centre and the Telecoms Department.

The two leaders also discussed ways of further improving bilateral relations.

Later, Datuk Musa held discussions with Jordan Parliament Speaker, Sheikh Akes Al-Sayez.

Datuk Musa was briefed by Sheikh Akez on the latest development in the Palestinian Liberation Organisation. Jordan had also expressed concern over the prolonged Iran-Iraq war.

According to a Wisma Putra official, Datuk

Musa said Malaysia as one of the members of the Islamic Peace Committee, would continue its efforts of finding the right solution to end the war.

On bilateral relation issues, Malaysia will like to see a healthier growth in the volume of trade between the two countries.

Both parties hope that the air-link between Kuala Lumpur and Amman will promote better flow of traffics between both countries.

MALAYSIA

EMBASSY PLANNED FOR ALGERIA

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 19 Jul 85 p 2

[Text]

MALAYSIA and Algeria will set up their embassies in each other's capitals to upgrade their relations when their economic situation improve, Wisma Putra's deputy secretary-general Datuk Mon Jamaluddin said yesterday.

He told this to reporters after a meeting between Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam and Algerian presidential envoy Mr Al-Hamed Ben Abdul Gheni at the Home Ministry in Kuala Lumpur.

At present, the Malaysian ambassador-designate to Algeria, Raja Mansor Raja Razman, is ambassador to Italy and Tunisia. Raja Mansor, who is based in Rome, is expected to present his credentials to the Algerian president shortly.

Algeria's ambassador to Malaysia is also accredited to Indonesia and is based in Jakarta. — Bernama

CSO: 4200/1502

MALAYSIA

LITTLE EFFECT SEEN FROM SINGAPORE SLOWDOWN

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 8 Aug 85 p 22

[Article by Azam Aris]

[Text]

THE Malaysian economy will not be badly affected by the current economic slowdown in Singapore despite the close trade links.

Business and academic circles feel that the alarming slowdown in Singapore's economy will not be too much of a drag on the nation's economy.

However, they agreed that initially Malaysia may feel the squeeze but being broader based, the country will be able to adjust to counter adverse effects.

The dean of the Economic and Administration Faculty of University of Malaya, Dr Fong Chan Onn, said the current situation in Singapore will directly affect the country's unemployment rate.

"Malaysians working in Singapore may now find themselves being retrenched and this could increase the rate of unemployment," he said.

At the moment all the main business activities in the island — property, construction, manufacturing, shipbuilding and oil refining — are badly affected. In fact, the shrinking oil refining business had forced the Dutch oil giant to close one of its major crude oil

refining plants in the republic.

Most of the 100,000 Malaysians working on the island are in the construction sector and the majority of them are semi-skilled. A large number also work in the manufacturing sector.

Singapore's growth rate has been falling alarmingly in the past 18 months. From 10.1 per cent in the first quarter of 1984, the growth rate dropped steadily from quarter to quarter.

Singapore's First Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said recently that in the first four months of this year, the growth was only at 2.7 per cent. Zero growth had been recorded in the second quarter of this year and perhaps there could be a negative figure by the end of the year.

Besides the decline, what was more alarming was the speed in which the growth rate had dropped.

Dr Fong said there was no cause for concern over Singapore's "bad performance" as Malaysia's economic base is quite different. Malaysia's economy is more broad based and therefore is better able to withstand shocks.

Malaysia not only ex-

ports commodities but also manufactured goods. Singapore, on the other hand, is too dependent on exports of manufactured goods and the recovery of the US economy.

"Being broader based, our economy has not suffered as much as Singapore's during the recessionary period," he added.

On trade, Dr Fong said due to the current slowdown there would be a minor reduction in trade between the two countries. However, this will not unduly affect us as only a small portion of our exports are actually consumed in Singapore. About 80 per cent of the exports are later re-exported to other countries.

Dr Lawrence Siaw, the president of the Medium and Small Scale Enterprises Association, said since Malaysia's trade links with Singapore have been there for generations, its bad performance is bound to affect Malaysia.

"What is bad for them is bad for us, but then the effect will only be temporary as Malaysia has other alternatives. In the long run, if the economic slowdown continues, we have the option of increasing exports to other countries," he added.

MALAYSIA

NEW FUND TO SPUR ECONOMY

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 20 Jul 85 pp 1, 16

[Article by Khalid Jaafar]

[Text] ONE billion ringgit — that's the amount of money to be pumped in to stimulate the economy through a New Investments Fund, Finance Minister Daim Zainuddin announced yesterday. The fund will finance productive ventures by the private sector, particularly in manufacturing, agriculture and tourism.

The billion-dollar boost will be channelled to commercial banks through Bank Negara. Interest charged on such loans will be at a reasonable level, according to the base lending rate (BLR), details of which would be announced soon.

Encik Daim hoped with the fund the private sector would not grumble anymore about not being provided with sufficient funds to help stimulate investments.

Opening the UAB Tower, where the Robinsons department store once stood, in Kuala Lumpur, the Finance Minister said the setting up of the fund reflected the government's commitment to strengthen the economy and ensure growth and stability.

"I hope no one would question or dispute the commitment of the government and the ability of the banking system to help create a strong and efficient economy," he added.

He said the banking system was now more resilient after the implementation of several steps to ensure sound management and prudent practice.

He stressed that the strength and good name of the banking system could be tarnished by the activities of irresponsible bank officials. Hence, it was important for a bank to ensure that its managers showed a high level of integrity.

Encik Daim warned that the government would not hesitate to punish those found guilty of abusing the system.

To enable banks to improve their services and initiate innovations, the government has allowed financial institutions to take equity interest in venture capital and stockbroking companies.

It has also exempted tax on imported computer parts to enable banks to offer efficient services.

Encik Daim advised the public not to be foolish in believing rumours circulated by irresponsible people to erode confidence in and the credibility of the banking system.

Such rumours spreading from Kuala Lumpur to Singapore had aggravated the economy which was still recovering from the impact of world econ-

omic slowdown, he said.

There was also no reason for anxiety over the performance of the economy. During the first quarter of the year the economy five per cent growth was registered. He was confident the rate could be maintained the rest of the year.

Encik Daim said the government had carried out several measures to stimulate business activities and help improve competitiveness through fiscal incentives like relaxation on equity ownership for foreign investments and reduction of interest, telex and telephone rates.

Currently the government was reviewing tariffs on electricity. It was now left to the private sector to respond to the incentives offered or the country might "stagnate in a psychology of pessimistic inertia," he said.

As the economy was going through a transitional stage, the banking system should play a dual role in attracting more deposits to finance economic development and in strengthening the industrial and agricultural sectors.

In the past few years growth in economic activities had been slow as a result of recession in the

international economy as well as government financial discipline.

Encik Daim urged the private sector to undertake the kind of financial discipline as shown by the government which had trimmed its expenditure substantially.

However, he stressed that in striving to achieve monetary discipline banks should not open themselves to criticisms for "taking away the umbrella when it rains."

Banks had the responsibility of advising and assisting their customers to overcome difficulties, he said.

CSO: 4200/1502

MALAYSIA

DOWNTURN IN RUBBER EXPORTS

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 19 Jul 85 p 4

[Text]

PENINSULAR Malaysia's rubber exports totalled 101,989 tonnes in May, 16 per cent lower than April or 17.1 per cent lower than a year ago.

The Malaysian Rubber Exchange and Licensing Board (MRELB) June market review released yesterday said for the first five months this year, total exports amounted to 594,011 tonnes, 49,410 tonnes lower than the output for the same period of 1984.

According to the review, the fall in May exports was due to a general decrease in exports to all countries except Brazil whose imports rose 54.9 per cent, China (up 17.8 per cent) and Japan (up 5.4 per cent).

It said following a sharp decline in offtake by other importers, the Soviet Union became the

largest buyer of Peninsular Malaysian natural rubber although its offtake fell 7.5 per cent to 10,370 tonnes which was 10.2 per cent of the May exports.

Singapore was the second largest buyer with an offtake of 9,179 tonnes against 10,482 in April. However, exports to Singapore are mainly for re-export.

The United States, the biggest buyer in April, was relegated to third place when its purchases fell to 8,057 tonnes from 12,153.

Among other major buyers are South Korea whose offtake fell 13.4 per cent to 6,961 tonnes. Italy's purchases dropped 6.3 per cent to 6,582 tonnes and West Germany's purchases fell 33.4 per cent to 6,049.

However, Japan's purchases rose 5.4 per cent to

5,457 tonnes and China's purchases was 17.8 per cent higher at 5,037.

The review said the rubber market was in a state of quiet confusion in June with operators watchful and cautious leading to the lowest transactions ever recorded for natural rubber futures on the Kuala Lumpur Commodity Exchange (KLCE).

During the month, 289 lots or 7,225 tonnes of fob RSS One rubber futures contracts were traded in the 16 days of trading due to the Hari Raya holidays against 427 lots or 11,800 tonnes during the 22 trading days in May.

The average business done per day was 18 lots. The highest business done during the month on one trading day was 49 lots and the lowest was four lots. — Bernama ES

CSO: 4200/1502

MALAYSIA

ECONOMY GROWTH OF 5.6 PERCENT IN 1985

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 24 Jul 85 p 7

[Text]

MALAYSIA'S economy is expected to grow at a faster rate than that of most developed countries, Finance Minister Daim Zainuddin said.

The country's economy was projected to grow by 5.6 per cent compared with the expected growth rate of three per cent in most developed countries.

In a written reply to Encik Ibrahim Azmi bin Hassan (BN-Kuala Nerus) Encik Daim said: "When compared with OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) and developed countries, the projected performance of the country's economy is satisfactory.

"This good performance is proof of the success of various measures taken by the Government to help the economy recover.

"Whether the economy has recovered 100 per cent is a subjective question. What is important is that we should ensure that the national economy continues to grow".

The Government will continue in its efforts to ensure that development policies were geared to meet the needs of the present situation so that the economy would be more dynamic and responsive to global economic developments.

Encik Daim said the economy grew by 7.3 per cent last year and by 5.9 per cent in 1983.

The world economy was growing at a moderate rate and, as developed countries were expected to grow at three per cent next year, Malaysia's growth rate was

also expected to be moderate.

The effects of the recession were also felt by other countries especially developing nations.

The Malaysian economy depended on export earnings as exports accounted for more than 50 per cent of the national revenue. The economic development of the country also depended on the international economic environment especially the demand for Malaysian commodities by industrialised countries.

Guaranteed supply

Malaysian commodities were well received by other countries as the commodities had earned the confidence of consumers.

"The confidence in Malaysian commodities is due to, among other factors, high quality, competitive prices, guaranteed supply, and efforts by the Government and exporters to strengthen existing markets and penetrate new ones.

"Therefore, efforts should be continued to improve production efficiency, cost competitiveness and productivity to ensure Malaysian commodities can compete effectively in the international markets."

Encik Daim said exports had been on the increase. Exports of rubber went up from 1.52 million tonnes in 1980 to 1.58 million tonnes last year while exports of palm and palm kernel oil increased from 2,479,000 tonnes to 3,289,000 tonnes in the same period.

MALAYSIA

SOME NEP ASPECTS AFTER 1990: MUSA

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 2 Aug 85 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt]

Certain aspects of the New Economic Policy (NEP) need to be continued beyond 1990, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam suggested today.

Delivering the Sixth Tun Dr Ismail Memorial Oration after opening the four-day 19th Malaysia-Singapore Congress of Medicine, he said:

"It may be difficult to predict with exactitude and certainty what is to happen after 1990 (when the NEP is scheduled to expire).

"What must be clear is the fact that the struggle against social injustice cannot end on Jan 1, 1990, nor can it end on the first day of the 21st century.

"I pray that this nation will have the humanity and the wisdom to recognise that there will be a need to help all those deserving of help, the poor and the down-trodden, until the need is no longer there."

It is his opinion that if the NEP ends in 1990, Malaysia would continue to need a programme for social justice which would tackle the twin injustices of gross poverty and gross inequality.

"Let me make it perfectly clear that the basic principle of not pulling

any community down cannot and must not be changed.

"The task lies in getting those further behind to move vigorously ahead so that they can catch up.

"However, in so doing, we must not fall into the dual trap of failing to bridge the inter-ethnic gap and of creating an intolerable intra-community gap."

Looking back at the events that brought about the NEP, Datuk Musa said it was the most important of Malaysia's programmes of social justice aimed at eradicating poverty, regardless of race, and restructuring society.

Without it, the country would not have survived and escaped ethnic turbulence and violence in the past decade and a half.

"In terms of implementation and in the context of our aspirations and hopes, we certainly could have done better.

"Still, in the context of the art of the possible, it is arguable that we could have done worse, infinitely worse."

MALAYSIA

UPSWING CONTINUES IN PALM OIL OUTPUT

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 19 Jul 85 p 4

[Text]

MALAYSIA'S crude palm oil production continued its upswing during the second quarter of the year although the total output was still lower compared with the output for the same period last year.

The June CPO production totalled 255,536 tonnes, which is 9,514 tonnes higher than the May output or 25,855 tonnes higher than that of April. However, the June production was 15 per cent lower than a year ago.

The Statistics Department also reports that the cumulative production of CPO for the first six months was down by two per cent to 1,423,180 tonnes from 1,441,180 tonnes for the corresponding period last year.

About 91.07 per cent of the CPO was from Peninsular Malaysia while the rest was from Sabah and Sarawak.

Malaysia's production of palm kernel in June rose to 72,788 tonnes, an increase of 2,666 tonnes over the previous month.

The total production of palm kernel

for the first six months was 412,920 tonnes, an increase of 1,143 tonnes compared to the corresponding period last year.

Peninsular Malaysia produced 26,399 tonnes of palm kernel oil in June, 9,476 tonnes less than the June output last year.

The six-month palm kernel oil production to June was 173,872 tonnes, an increase of 10,570 tonnes compared to the same period last year.

Production of palm kernel cake in June for Peninsular Malaysia was 30,651 tonnes, down 14,722 tonnes than a year ago.

For the first six months, palm kernel cake production was 210,212 tonnes, up 958 tonnes against the production for the corresponding period last year.

Peninsular Malaysia exported 201,363 tonnes of processed palm oil (PPO) in May, bringing the total exports of PPO for the five months to 1,245,192 tonnes against the corresponding figures of 876,593 tonnes last year.

— Bernama ES

CSO: 4200/1502

MALAYSIA

TEACHERS CHARGED WITH USING RELIGION FOR SUBVERSION

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 29 Jul 85 p 3

[Article by Khairuddin Hassan]

[Text]

ALOR STAR, Sun. — Certain teachers are using religious themes to mislead students to subvert the Government's efforts towards national integration.

Education Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today he heard of teachers who told Muslim students it was *haram* (forbidden) to greet non-Muslims or accept their greetings.

"There are also those who claimed it is *haram* for Muslim students to stay in hostels with non-Muslims. These claims are ridiculous. I do not want to hear about them anymore," he said after opening the Kedah religious teachers' seminar yesterday.

Datuk Abdullah added that he had told the Prime Minister of these claims.

He also dismissed requests for a separate education system for Muslims.

"Education is for all. We cannot have educa-

tion systems that are based on religion. There should not be any selfishness in providing education to the people," he said.

He said teachers should have confidence in the existing national education system.

"This is vital because without their confidence and commitment even the best system will not be effective."

He added that the Government did not sacrifice religious studies under the present system.

"In fact we have improved Islamic studies in the schools from time to time. Besides making it compulsory for Muslim students to take up religious studies, we have also introduced Jawi classes to make sure that all Muslim students could read and understand the religious verses."

"Islamic studies will continue to be given emphasis in our review of the secondary school curriculum," he said.

CSO: 4200/1503

MALAYSIA

PROGRAM PLANNED AGAINST RACIAL POLARIZATION IN SCHOOLS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 6 Aug 85 p 1

[Article by Shahrin Shuib]

[Text]

PENANG, Mon. — The Education Ministry will introduce a nation-wide "integrated school" programme at the primary level in January as part of its remedial measures against racial polarisation in schools.

Education Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, announcing the move today, said initially the programme would involve the three types of existing schools where lessons were being taught in the children's mother-tongues — Malay, Chinese and Tamil.

Opening the 62nd State Education Directors' conference here this afternoon, he said 18 primary schools had been selected by his Ministry for the programme.

Datuk Abdullah said the "integrated school" programme would stress on participation and co-operation among the primary schools in joint curriculum activities, the joint use of school facilities and equipment, and the sharing and consolidating of their existing resources, experiences and skills.

"The programme is not intended to wipe out the right and opportunity of students of Chinese and Indian descent in acquiring primary education in existing Chinese and Tamil national-type primary schools," Datuk Abdullah said.

Combination

The selected schools for the programme have been categorised under two models.

The first model comprises three types of schools. They are the national school (SK)/national primary school (SRK), a national-type (Chinese) primary (SJK-Chinese) and a national type (Tamil) primary school (SRJK-Tamil) which are in the same area.

The second model comprises a combination of any of these three different schools in the same area.

The Minister said the

Scheme to start at the primary level

selected schools under the two models would set up their respective co-ordinating bodies each of which comprises headmasters, their senior assistants and representatives of teachers from the three types of primary schools.

Such bodies are responsible for planning, co-ordinating and submitting the programmes. The bodies will also evaluate implemented programmes and apply for aid from the PTA or other organisations.

Datuk Abdullah said he had directed his Ministry's Schools Division to organise workshops at the end of this year to discuss the programme in anticipation of its launch in January.

All the headmasters and representatives of teachers from the 18 selected primary schools would attend these workshops to discuss and plan various suitable activities.

Resolutions adopted at the workshops will form the basis for formulating guidelines for the programme. The programme is aimed at achieving:

- IMPROVED participation of pupils and teachers from the three types of schools in joint co-curricular activities;

- IMPROVED socialising, understanding, co-operation, mutual help and tolerance among the three schools in a conscious and planned manner;

- MAXIMISED joint utilisation of the respective schools' facilities and equipment; and

- ENHANCING co-operation among the re-

spective schools' Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) in service work for the progress of the "integrated schools" in addition to generating greater participation of the local community for the educational advancement of their schoolchildren.

Datuk Abdullah said all State Education Directors and education officers at the district level should formulate a strategy to inform the public to avoid any misunderstanding of the programme.

The programme, if successful, would be extended to the secondary level, he said.

MALAYSIA

BAHASA TO BECOME MAIN INDIAN LANGUAGE

Penang THE STAR in English 22 Jul 85 p 2

[Report by M. Veera Pandiyan and Kiri Raj]

[Text]

MALACCA, Sun. — The MIC will embark on a long-term strategy — from the primary school level — to make Bahasa Malaysia the main language of Indians in the country.

English will be made the "second priority" language while Tamil will remain "compulsory" to protect the community's cultural and traditional heritage, MIC president Datuk S. Samy Vellu said today.

He said the party would impress upon Indians that Bahasa Malaysia would inevitably be the language of racial integration and the key to safeguard the community's rights in the future.

The party, he said, would also stress to parents to consider English as the next priority language for their children to enable them to gain knowledge and experience.

As for Tamil, the party plans to make it a "compulsory" subject for Indian children to protect the community's cultural and traditional heritage.

The party president also said the MIC leadership was planning "structural areas" where Indians would be urged to settle down.

"This is to ensure that we are not a community spread out all over and isolated. This would also increase our strength and

voting power," he added.

Datuk Samy Vellu said classes for students and skill training institutes sponsored by the party would be located in such areas.

"We would also teach Indians business skills," he added.

The MIC leader said the first such "structural area" would be located at Kuala Muda Estate in Kedah.

He said the place, which would be developed by the MIC, would be able to support about 40,000 people.

The MIC was also planning to build a township at Bandar Seri Alam near Johore Baru, he added.

MALAYSIA

MIC WANTS CIVIL SERVICE HIRING POLICY REVIEW

Penang THE STAR in English 22 Jul 85 p 2

[Text]

MIC delegates unanimously resolved yesterday to urge the Government to review its policies on recruitment, placement and promotions of civil servants.

The resolution also called for Indians to be given increased intake and promotional prospects at all levels.

The 33rd party assembly adopted 12 other resolutions with little debate.

One of the resolutions urged the Barisan Nasional leadership to increase the MIC's allocation of Parliamentary and State seats.

The resolution noted that the Elections Commission had completed its constituency delineation exercise and that additional seats had been created.

It further stressed that the MIC represented the whole community of Indians and was an original partner of the Alliance and Barisan Nasional.

Another resolution called on the Prime Minister to direct Ministries and government agencies to provide opportunities to Indians to enable them to get their equitable share in the banking, finance, insurance, manufacturing and transport sectors.

Delegates also expressed their concern over the influx of Indonesian illegal immigrants.

He urged the Government to ensure that Malaysian labour was fully protected and that local workers were given the benefits due to them.

CSO: 4200/1502

MALAYSIA

DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PRODUCTION IN TWO YEARS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Jul 85 p 6

[Text]

Marconi (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd, a company producing communication equipment, will manufacture defence communication equipment when it begins the second phase of production in two years, company chairman Datuk Haji Hanafiah Ahmad said.

The defence communication equipment would not only be for use in Malaysia but also for export to other countries in South-East Asia, he said at the official opening of the company's factory yesterday by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The factory, which began operations on June 3, now only produces digital multiplex and line equipment for the Telecommunications Department.

Datuk Haji Hanafiah said the company would invest \$21 million more to bring the total capital to \$44 million under the second phase expansion plan.

Among the equipment to be produced would be optical fibre cables and optical line equipment for integrated services digital network applications, he said.

Datuk Haji Hanafiah, who is also Director-General of the Pilgrims Management and Fund Board (Tabung Haji), said the factory was a joint venture among Tabung Haji, the Armed Forces Fund, Bank Islam, the Kedah State Development Corporation and the Italian firm, Marconi Italiana Group.

The Italian firm holds 30 per cent of the equity and the others the remaining 70 per cent.

The factory now provides employment for about 300 people and when fully operational will be able to offer 600 jobs. — Bernama

CSO: 4200/1503

MALAYSIA

NEW EAST-WEST RAIL LINK PLANNED

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by K. Vijayan]

[Text]

TAIPING, Thurs. — A new East-West railway line linking Cukai in Terengganu with Port Klang is being planned, the Prime Minister announced today.

The new line will pass through the Kuala Lumpur Railway Station and the major towns in Pahang. It will also be linked to the Kuantan Port.

The new Bukit Tinggi Federal Territory will also be included in the list of new stations.

The East-West line will facilitate easy travel to the East Coast States.

Passengers from the north wanting to go to the East Coast by train now have to travel all the way to Gemas in Johore and catch a train to their destinations.

The new East-West link is also likely to prove a big boost for domestic tourism.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad explained that this new East-West line was necessary because of the rapid development taking place in the East Coast States, particularly following the discovery of oil off Terengganu.

He added that to reduce the burden that would have to be borne by the Government, parts of this new line would be privatised.

He said new railway stations to be built in the towns in Pahang, through which the line would pass, would have restaurants, shopping arcades and a hotel.

The tracks would run below these stations and not along

the way to Gemas in Johore and catch a train to their destinations.

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He added that to reduce the burden that would have to be borne by the Government, parts of this new line would be privatised.

He said new railway stations to be built in the towns in Pahang, through which the line would pass, would have restaurants, shopping arcades and a hotel.

The tracks would run below these stations and not alongside as in the existing stations.

He was confident that the new line would enhance economic activities in towns along the route.

Opening the centenary celebrations of the Malayan Railway, the Prime Minister also spoke of several modernisation programmes for it, including the introduction of electric trains.

Services

He described as "inevitable" the introduction of electric trains in view of the development and progress taking place.

Malaysia is rich in hydro-electric power and gas which can be exploited for the electric trains.

Electric trains would also help check air pollution, he added.

Financial constraints had hindered Malayan Railway's modernisation programme but this did not mean that the Government was neglecting its responsibility because the railway was the best means of transport for all the people, the Prime Minister said.

To attract more passengers, Dr Mahathir advised Malayan Railway to advertise and popularise its services.

Transport Minister Tan Sri Chong Hon Ngian later said that the East-West line project was in a "very advanced" stage of planning and was expected to cost \$1 billion.

MALAYSIA

OIL RESERVES TO LAST 22 YEARS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 30 Jul 85 p 5

[Text] MALAYSIA'S oil reserves of 3.5 billion barrels are expected to last for another 22 years if the current production rate of 410,000 barrels per day is maintained.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Khalil Yaakob said this period could be further extended if the production rate was reduced.

Replying to a question by Senator Haji Abu Bakar bin Lajim, he said the Government was aware of the importance of energy resources for industrial and other uses and was taking various steps for the optimum utilisation of the resources.

These steps include a programme to use a combination of the energy resources available and by using the most appropriate options between oil and other alternative sources of energy.

The nation's gas reserves stand at 49 trillion cubic feet. Gas production at Bintulu is carried out at the rate of 1,250 million cubic feet per day while production at the Terengganu off-shore gas deposits was estimated at 165 million cubic feet per day. About 85 million cubic feet of gas was produced at Labuan.

The production of gas at Terengganu and Labuan was expected to continue for another 20 years while the reserves

at Bintulu could be exploited for another 40 years.

The Minister said the chances of finding new gas reserves were very good and around the year 2000 new gas deposits between 21 to 37 trillion cubic feet could be exploited.

Uneconomical

Malaysia also imports about 800,000 tonnes of coal every year which is used by the Lembaga Elektrik Negara to produce electricity.

Although the country has between 400 to 500 tonnes of coal reserves the current low price of the commodity makes it uneconomical for the Government to expand the coal production industry.

Datuk Khalil assured the Senators that Malaysia's energy resources would not be depleted as the Government had drawn up a programme for the utilisation of fuel.

The Government has also embarked on a programme to use the existing resources efficiently and to research and develop the various fields related to energy to introduce non-conventional and modern technology.

On the possibility of Malaysia refining all of its oil produced locally, Datuk Khalil said that for the time being it would be cheaper to refine Malaysian crude oil in Singapore.

He said plans to build a large refinery in Malacca has been put off in view of the current economic slowdown but when the economic situation improves the Government may decide to continue with the project.

He said apart from oil, gas, hydro-electric, coal and other energy sources such as bio-mass waste, charcoal and the sun are also used to produce energy albeit on a small scale.

He said the available sources of energy were sufficient without having to resort to nuclear power for energy.

MALAYSIA

VOMD EDITORIAL ON 'REVOLUTIONARY HEROES DAY'

BK021118 (Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 1 Sep 85

[Editorial: "Revolutionary Heroes Have Given Us Strength To Go On Fighting Endlessly"]

[Text] The day of triumph for our country's people and the day to remember our fallen revolutionary heroes, 1 September, has arrived. On this occasion, we extend our highest respects to and salute all families of fallen heroes. In a resolution issued on 9 June 1949 by the Communist Party of Malaya [CPM] Central Committee, 1 September was decided upon as the revolutionary heroes day. At that time, our country was entering the second year of the anti-British national liberation war.

In accordance with the wishes of the fighters and revolutionary people, the CPM called on all people in our country to follow the example of the fallen heroes who gloriously sacrificed their lives in the Kuala Lumpur suburbs on 1 September 1942. The party also called on the people to inherit the patriotic tradition of fighting against the Portuguese, Netherlands, British, and Japanese invaders and to remember the heroes who devoted themselves to the anti-British national liberation war with a view to ending the British imperialists' occupation of our country. Since the CPM announcement, 1 September has become the day for our country's people to remember the fallen patriotic pioneers and revolutionary heroes.

Our country's people have a brilliant history of struggling against foreign invaders for more than 400 years. Generation after generation, they have inherited the noble spirit of the patriotic pioneers and cultivated it in accordance with new historical conditions. This proves that our country's people highly appreciate the historical tradition and have never forgiven the actions of a handful of traitors who betrayed national interests and licked the boots of foreign powers.

Heroic sons and daughters of our country's people have continued to emerge in the patriotic peasants war, the anti-Japanese national liberation war, the anti-British national liberation war, and the internal revolutionary war, currently still in progress. They have followed the heroic examples of the fallen heroes; marched forward continuously; and remained undeterred by difficulties, imprisonment, and cruel torture. They have never hesitated to sacrifice their

lives for the interests of the people. This shows that generation after generation, the Malayan people are patriotic and valiant and cannot be bullied. This is the nobility and pride of our country's people.

Through the activities marking the revolutionary heroes days over the last dozens of years, we have not only been able to boost our spirit with the examples given by the patriotic pioneers who devoted their lives to the people without self-interest, but have also been able to educate the younger generation with the noble examples given by the revolutionary heroes. This will enable the younger generation to understand the meaning and value of life.

Along with the establishment and development of the patriotic and democratic united front during the past years, more and more patriotic and progressive people are taking part in activities to observe the revolutionary heroes day. On such days, comrades and friends from various organizations have not only gotten to know the 1 September revolutionary heroes, but have also absorbed the courage and fighting strength of historical figures such as (Bahaman) and (Tuk Janggut) and found inspiration in nationalist leaders such as Dr Burhanuddin al-Helmy and (Ahmad Bustamam).

People from all walks of life in our country are now trying to end the reactionary rule of the bureaucratic and comprador capitalist class, foil their antipeople and counterrevolutionary war, and establish a democratic coalition government. Therefore, activities to remember fallen patriotic pioneers and revolutionary heroes will definitely further intensify the fighting determination of all patriots and revolutionary people, strengthen their conviction to unite to overcome difficulties and defeat the tyrannical force.

Let the light of righteousness, kindled by the memory of the revolutionary heroes in our hearts, be brighter and brighter! The noble ideals of patriotic pioneers will definitely be realized.

CSO: 4213/321

MALAYSIA

VOMD CARRIES ISLAMIC PARTY MESSAGE

BK010745 (Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 28 Aug 85

['Id al-Adha greetings from the Central Committee of the Islamic Brotherhood Party of Malaya, PAPERI--"Let Us Unite To Oppose the Oppression and Hypocrisy of the Ruling Reactionary Clique"]

[Text] Peace be upon you. Beloved Muslim brothers and sisters. The 'Id al-Adha or the day of sacrifice for Muslims throughout the world has come. We feel honored today because this year's 'Id al-Adha falls on the 20th anniversary of the formation of the Islamic Brotherhood Party of Malaya, PAPERI. On this occasion, the Central Committee of PAPERI extends its greetings and apologies to all members of PAPERI, and all Muslims throughout the country. We also extend our greetings to all Muslim fighters in the Malayan People's Army [MPA] and our Muslim brothers and sisters performing the haj in the holy land. In conjunction with 'Id al-Adha, apart from performing the haj, virtuous Muslims offer sacrifices for blessings from God, and only pious sacrifices like those offered by the Prophet Ibrahim and his son the prophet Ismail would be accepted by God. We pray to God Almighty that the sacrifice and religious practice of all virtuous Muslims be accepted and in return receive mercy from him. On the occasion of 'Id al-Adha, we also ought to follow the example set by the Prophet Mohamed, the message of Allah, who after his flight from Mecca to Medina, brought his supporters and those who fled with him to Medina together so that they were united, became friends, and cooperated with one another. He arranged for peace among the Muslims so that the people enjoyed equal rights. He also prohibited monopolies and protected the interest of the masses. Due to that a united community could be established and the living standard and economic status of the Muslims could be raised.

God commanded that: And cover not truth with falsehood, nor conceal the truth when you know what it is, Sura Baqara, line 42. Devout Muslims are those who uphold the truth and oppose falsehood for the sake of their love for God and His apostles and they will be included in the virtuous group that does not disobey God. Thus, based on this command ever since its formation, PAPERI has been fighting for the truth and opposing the tyrannical reactionary ruling clique. For the past 20 years PAPERI has joined forces with Muslims who honor justice as well as with the patriotic democratic forces fighting against UMNO [United Malays National Organization] ruling clique's iron hands policy and actions that contradict Islamic principles. For the past few years, we--

PAPERI--and other patriotic and democratic forces such as the Malay Nationalist Revolutionary Party of Malaya [MNRPM], have been active in opposing the 2-M [Mahathir and Musa Hitam] clique's indifferent attitude toward and oppression against Muslims. We have been specially active in opposing the clique's plan to wrest power from the paramount ruler and other state rulers.

Due to that UMNO has considered PAPERI as a thorn in the flesh and accuses it of being an organization set up by communists. However, PAPERI and Muslims who uphold the truth will not be afraid of accusations and mistreatment by the reactionary regime. God commanded in a sentence: You do not have to feel humiliated and depressed, in fact, you are the most honorable person if you are truly religious. Prophet Mohamed explained the four characteristics of hypocrisy. They are: When he is being trusted he becomes disloyal; when he talks, he lies; when he promises he does not deliver; and when he opposes he will resort to something beyond reach. Prophet Mohamed has also said that an unjust leader of government will not be protected by the Almighty God. The 2-M clique is a group of hypocrites and an unjust leader precisely as cited above.

Let us examine the clique's statement. The 2-M clique claims that they respect the system of parliamentary democracy and constitutional monarchy--this is a 100 percent lie. It is common knowledge that the powers of the paramount ruler and the state rulers are constitutional, yet this clique once tried to usurp these powers to strengthen its autocratic and dictatorial powers. Does this not explain everything? When the plot to usurp power failed when discovered and strongly opposed by various parties, the wide circle of Muslims in particular, the 2-M clique then prohibited everyone from talking about the constitutional amendment issue. All mass media were strictly banned from publishing news on the constitutional amendment.

The 2-M ruling clique violated the system of parliamentary democracy in the Padang Terap by-election in Kedah state in the beginning of this year. It used money and power as well as its exclusive army to threaten and woo the local electorates. It also defamed and downgraded the PAS [Pan Malaysian Islamic Party]. In fact, it was responsible for the bloody tragedy that occurred by inflicting or beating to death some members of the opposition party. Through such dirty tactics, the clique gained the so-called majority of votes in the election. Such despised acts definitely annoyed the people, particularly the Muslims.

In spite of that, the ruling 2-M clique violated the democratic system more often, continued to oppress the people, and even rudely arrested the PAS' legal advisor who was not afraid to expose what actually led to the bloody tragedy in the Padang Terap by-election.

The 2-M ruling clique thought that its wicked aim could be achieved through aggression and fraud. Thus, it planned to hold an early general election and win by repeating its old dirty tricks.

The outcome of the April state elections in Sabah was a serious blow to the 2-M clique. The ruling party that it supports lost the election, proving that

its dirty tricks were only successful in the past. In the end, they failed to win the confidence of the people.

Following the defeat in the Sabah elections, the 2-M clique changed tactics and tried to tighten their control over UMNO. This ruling clique says it is opposing what they call "money politics," but the clique itself has actively practiced it and discarded those who could not afford to win positions in UMNO elections. It is undeniable that the 2-M clique will actively participate in money politics, apart from political aggression, in future general elections. We call on all brothers and sisters throughout the country, the Muslims in particular, to pay serious attention to the ill-doings of the ruling reactionary clique.

Beloved brothers and sisters! Let us now examine the statement made by the 2-M clique claiming that all along it has inserted Islamic values in the administrative system and formed a government that is clean, efficient, and trustworthy. What does the clique mean by this statement? All digressions and corruption of the Kuala Lumpur Government are well known all over the world. The Bumiputra Malaysia Finance [BMF] loan scandal involved 2.5 billion Malaysian dollars in national funds. This is disgraceful to us, and the country faces a big loss. The people throughout the country are very angry about this. They have repeatedly demanded that the scandal be investigated and those guilty of corruption be arrested. However, the ruling 2-M clique, which is afraid that its involvement may be uncovered if the secret is unfolded, keeps on deliberating on an investigation and covers up the matter. It certainly does not want to take stern action.

In order to protect its dictatorial power and to carry out the unfair legislation which it inherited from the colonialists, the ruling 2-M clique quickly took control of the army and police and forced the army and police to oppress the people and Muslims who oppose its unjust measures. The army and police are gathered and forced to fight the People's army in the jungle without stopping even on 'Id al-Fitr. In this way, Muslim army and police members are forced to go against Islamic teachings.

The ruling clique also gains personal advantage under the guise of doing things in the name of God. For example, its antvice law is aimed at arresting and fining the low ranking people and does not affect the big shots. From one corner it increases taxes and imposes a heavier burden on the people's lives, but from the other it allows bureaucrat and comprador capitalists to live in extravagance and allows more brothels and places of vice--which destroy Islamic social morality--to emerge.

Due to the implementation of the 2-M clique's cultural ideology which is based on its iron hands policy, the youth and students are crushed by frustration and poisoned by decadent Western culture. Activities of syndicates such as drug trafficking and other vices have not been wiped out effectively. Therefore, robberies, murders, and rapes continue to happen. Lately, drug trafficking and abuse have become a social epidemic in our country. The number of drug addicts throughout the country exceeds 500,000 persons. Most of them are youths, both male and female. In the past we seldom found Malay girls who were drug addicts, but now, the number increases daily. All these consequences of the 2-M ruling clique's outdated system of administration.

Beloved brothers and sisters! The policy implemented by the 2-M clique cannot eradicate poverty suffered by the people, especially that of the Muslims in the cities and rural areas. The ruling UMNO clique has misappropriated a large amount of national funds with the excuse of establishing big organizations and large scale industries. Actually these government-owned organizations and industries exploit the people to fatten a group of big bureaucrats and capitalists. Examples of such organizations are the Bumiputra Bank, FELDA [Federal Land Development Authority], and others. The National Trust Fund Unit and the National Capital Investment Board have exploited the people's wealth so as to enrich Mahathir's family members who are giant shareholders and owners of financial institutions. The Kuala Lumpur Government authorized the Malaysian Pilgrimage Management and Fund Board to monopolize all management concerning hajj pilgrimage to Mecca.

From certain points of view, the board's officials have misappropriated hundreds of thousands of Malaysian dollars of Muslims' savings when it followed the directives of UMNO ruling clique to speculate in hope of collecting huge profits. However, it does not give due benefits to the investors. Besides, the board demands huge expenditure from intending pilgrims but does not give satisfactory service.

Many Muslims are able to see clearly that the Pilgrimage Management and Fund Board has deviated from its original course. The Pilgrimage Management and Fund Board monopolizes everything by force. It forces and takes advantage of Muslims that have no other option. Such is the principle of the 2-M clique--using force on the wide circle of people, particularly the Muslims, who suffer lots of humiliation and oppression. Their standard of living cannot be raised accordingly.

Beloved brothers and sisters! There is God's command which says: It is compulsory that you defy, although you hate defiance. Prophet Mohamed uttered that: There will always be, among my followers, a group that upholds the truth. From these sayings we are confident that the righteous ones will defeat the wrong doers.

Muslims! Let us unite to honor justice and oppose the ruling UMNO clique which exploits religion for its political aims. Let us oppose oppression against Muslims and other people who protect justice. Let us fight against the 2-M Policies which are to the disadvantage of the people, and oppose its practice of using the people's wealth to wage an undeclared war, as well as its falsehood and hypocrisy.

We must emerge to strengthen solidarity, patriotic and democratic forces, to widen our united front to fight for true freedom for all Muslims and people throughout the country, and to eradicate poverty effectively. We must intensify efforts to form a coalition government composed of patriotic and democratic parties and figures as quickly as possible. Our efforts for justice are blessed by God. Fair effort will definitely be rewarded with victory.

May peace and the mercy of God be upon you!

[Signed] The Central Committee of the Islamic Brotherhood Party of Malaya, PAPERI

[Dated 10 dhu'l-hijja 1405 hegira [26 August 1985]

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

EDITORIAL DEPLORES OPM THREATS

Port Moresby PAPUA NEW GUINEA POST COURIER in English 23 Aug 85 p 4

[Text]

NO-CONFIDENCE votes and assorted other parliamentary diversions aside, there remains waiting in the wings an issue of paramount importance: the fate of the OPM and this country's official attitude towards it.

There is reason to suspect the movement — or at least a section of it — has turned full circle in its view of PNG.

Today's report on the threat by the OPM to kill villagers at Scotchiau near the border in West Sepik reinforces the thinking among border-watchers that an OPM backlash is being planned.

The threat, contained in a letter allegedly written by Charles Mider, a former "defence minister" with the rebels, cannot be ignored.

Its message is chilling: men, women and children will be executed if the rebel's movements this side of the border are reported to PNG authorities.

An element of this may be bravado, but the Government nonetheless must ensure it protects the several hundred people living in the district.

It must also face the prospect of the OPM becoming increasingly disenchanted with those whom it once regarded as staunch friends. The question is: can we afford to be friends at all?

CSO: 4200/1506

PHILIPPINES

FERDINAND MARCOS ON ISSUES FACING PRESIDENCY

Madrid CAMBIO 16 in Spanish 22 Jul 85, pp 90-93

[Interview by Patrice Barrat and Philip Brooks for GAMMA-TV, Manila)

[Text] After 20 years of absolute power, 10 of which were under martial law, Marcos does not conceive any alternative to himself for the Philippines. In spite of his poor health and the strong opposition which has organized in the country, he plans to run again in the 1987 elections.

[Question] For the last 21 months your country has been in a grave economic and political crisis. You are said to be in poor health. However, you remain here and your government seems to have the situation under control.

[Ferdinand Marcus] I exercise every morning. They no longer allow me to run, but I walk very fast--one kilometer in 10 minutes--I do deep knee bends and situps and work out with dumbbells.

[Question] But with regard to the economic and political crisis, what are you doing?

[F.M.] (laughing) We are also in training for that. The political situation is such that it probably will depend on the economic situation. But if there is a rebellion in the political dimension, we must combat it with different weapons. We combat it with both hands, the right and the left. The right is the steel fist of the military men, the left is economic development. Economic development can substantially solve all the political problems since subversive terrorists avail themselves of any economic difficulty to increase their popular support.

[Question] Are the Philippines still suffering the effects of the assassination of Aquino, the opposition leader who was cut down by bullets at the airport itself on his return to Manila?

[F.M.] I would say that the repercussions lasted a year, more or less. But now, the surveys we have made in our provinces indicate that Aquino's assassination has not affected my own or the ruling party's popularity.

[Question] After Aquino's assassination, you said that without your knowledge no member of the army could be involved in the assassination. However, the judicial proceedings now going on relate to high ranking officers, including former chief of staff General Ver. And witnesses for the prosecution state that only a soldier could have killed Aquino...

[F.M.] Yes, yes. But as probably will be established, these witnesses are under pressure and have given false testimony.

[Question] Well, there also is the Japanese press photographer who took a series of pictures which lead to the same conclusion.

[F.M.] The sequence, the coordination of the photos was not done by the Japanese. The Agrava commission's legal advisors were the ones who did it. They did it on their own. When they were asked if this was "the natural sequence of the events" they replied, "No, we re-arranged them."

[Question] If the court finds the military men guilty, will you accept the responsibility? You are the supreme commander of the Armed Forces.

[F.M.] Responsibility for the actions of the military men? Certainly not. If they are found guilty of plotting, we will limit the matter to those who did it. Why should I involve myself in that?

[Question] After Aquino was assassinated the Philippines were dropped from Reagan's tour. Do you consider this an insult to your country and to you yourself who had been in Washington?

[F.M.] It was I who suggested to Reagan that for him to come here would involve a very great effort, especially since his visit was not as necessary as might be thought. It isn't worthwhile for him to come. I understood that other SEATO (Southeast Asia Treaty Organization) nations would feel offended if he did so. Our relations with the U.S. have existed for a long time so we not only consider the U.S. an ally but also a brother. We fought the war together, we know the characteristics of the Americans, we know how their soldiers behave on the front and in the interior of a country.

[Question] In view of the fact that the American Congress refuses to help your government if reforms are not carried out, and the fact that William Casey, head of the C.I.A., recently saw you in Manila, don't you fear that the Americans will treat you like a new Shah of Iran or like a new Somoza?

[F.M.] No. I think those are all sensationalist stories prepared by the press correspondents who look for a good story to report. Like the story that Bill Casey, head of the C.I.A., told me that the American Government wanted to advance the date of the elections. That would have been out of order!

[Question] Do you plan to advance the date of the elections?

[F.M.] At present, no. Our position, the one adopted by our party, is to comply with the law and the constitution.

[Question] General Ver's son said recently that his family would be happy if General Ver were to return to the army before he retires. Could this happen?

[F.M.] Not only is it possible, but it is the only matter on which we have agreed. When General Ver wanted on his own to leave his post, this was accepted by the superior officers of the army. It was decided at the time that if he was found innocent, he would return to his post as chief of staff.

[Question] Don't you fear a reaction by the Philippine people or another crisis if you reinstate General Ver?

[F.M.] Justice is justice. Why punish someone who has not been convicted?

[Question] Does this not prevent General Ramos, acting Army chief of staff, from making the reforms in the army about which everybody is talking?

[F.M.] Those reforms have been carried out. Is there an army where there is not dissatisfaction from the chief of staff on down? An army in which there is no dissatisfaction is not made up of men but of queers.

[Question] Are you really the only alternative to a communist takeover? Why don't you believe in the possibility of a moderate alternative?

[F.M.] I would like to see who takes over power and then I would help him. I have been a long time in power. Before I was elected president in 1965, my only ambition was to be president for 8 years. Then came the crisis during which the communists wanted to tear down everything by violence and I had to declare martial law. But the communists are not our only enemies. The rightists are thinking of mounting a coup, there are secessionists movements of people in the south and of the oligarchists, who have all the wealth and endeavor to maintain the status quo, those feudal lords who hold almost all the land. They feel ill will toward me because by the agrarian reform I took away from them many thousands of hectares of land. Manila used to belong to a few families. I ordered urban reform, I have taken control of the slums and have made improvements there. I have taught the people to survive. This is what I have done.

[Question] If the rebels received support from abroad, would your government ask for help by foreign troops, American or Australian?

[F.M.] Well, the MNLF (the Muslim National Liberation Front), a secessionist movement in the south of the country, had Libyan support and we did not ask for help from anybody, we did not invoke the mutual assistance treaty. We fought them by ourselves. Our policy is not to permit the entrance of foreign troops into our country to fight our internal wars as long as we can do so ourselves. But if infiltration and subversion became so massive that we lost control, then we would have to do so.

[Question] Of what importance are the American military bases at Subic Bay and Clark? Wouldn't they be a threat to the Philippines in a general war since they have nuclear weapons?

[F.M.] As far as I know there are no nuclear weapons on those bases.

[Question] But those weapons pass through Subic Bay since 80 percent of the American Sixth Fleet is equipped with nuclear arms.

[F.M.] They doubtlessly pass through but do not remain there. Whatever the case may be, the fact is that without those bases the United States could not send their Air Force and Navy to the Strait of Malacca, the Pacific Ocean, the Strait of Hormuz or Diego Garcia.

[Question] Early this year, President Reagan signed a National Security Council directive calling you the "greatest obstacle to a change" in the Philippines.

[F.M.] No. That is not so. Surely it was one of his subordinates who wrote that is a special report.

[Question] The text also described you as "a necessary part of the solution."

[F.M.] Yes. I believe they know that according to all the polls conducted, both by the opposition and by our party, we would win any election at any time. But one must take into account that there are two trends in the United States.

[Question] Have you thought of turning to another country as your wife has suggested?

[F.M.] No, she has not suggested that. She has spoken of equidistant diplomacy. This means that we are surely going to deal with the Russians but with reservations. The USSR has awarded her all sorts of decorations.

[Question] Let us turn to economic matters. Mr President, the Philippine foreign debt is US \$26 million. This is 42 times greater than when you came into power. Also, the number of families below the poverty line has gone from 66 to 71 percent. The richest 20 percent of the families have increased their wealth slightly. Redistribution of wealth was, however, one of the main points of your "new society" project. During the 50's the World Bank described the Philippines as the most promising country in Asia. Now it is the poor relative of the region. What has happened?

[F.M.] In absolute terms we are ahead of the others. The others have made statistical progress. That means that their GNP [gross national product] has increased but this has not been accompanied by the distribution of wealth among the lower classes of society. Here, even the slightest progress has been shared by the lower classes. Therefore, the statistics you have quoted are distorted.

[Question] They were issued by your National Statistics Office and they are for 1984 and 1985.

[F.M.] If they have done so, I'll have to dismiss some people from there. They are not up to date.

[Question] What is the situation of human rights in the Philippines? How many prisoners are there?

[F.M.] There are no political prisoners...Nobody is in jail for political reasons. Anybody who expresses his opinions is free to do so. They may even speak against the law that governs expression and we do not touch them. But as soon as a person wounds somebody, uses violence, or violates the law, he is not a political prisoner, he is a criminal.

[Question] You have said that you would run for president in 1985.

[F.M.] Yes, God willing.

[Question] Could Imelda be your running mate?

[F.M.] No.

[Question] And if your party, the KBL, decides that the best ticket for the country would be Mr and Mrs Marcos?

[F.M.] I would dissuade them. I think I have enough influence on the party to prevent that ticket. I would tell them that I would withdraw if they included the "first lady."

[Question] Can you imagine losing the elections, no longer being president and having to retire? What would you do in that case?

[F.M.] I believe I would join the communications media. Then I would rest a little, play golf and swim. Have you seen our beaches? I think I would reside there. There is an island in the North which awaits me. It belongs to friends of mine. I would be able to stay there for some time. But I cannot anticipate such a situation. I can only say it is a possibility for a politician. One must prepare himself for such a contingency.

[Question] Then you would definitely leave the political arena?

[F.M.] Yes, unless conditions became so desperate that, as was the case with De Gaulle, the people asked me to return. De Gaulle required that certain conditions be met. The constitution would have to be amended, giving me greater power and...I would return.

[Question] Could conditions become so desperate that martial law would again be proclaimed?

[F.M.] I do not think so. Dear God, I hope it will not be so. We are tired of martial law. Perhaps there are other alternatives such as suspension of the right of habeas corpus or the return to more severe laws dealing with rebellion and security.

[Question] At times you are described as a dictator. How do you feel about that?

[F.M.] I am glad that I impress people so much that they call me a dictator. Look, to be a dictator one must be a type of strong man, and I think that I am rather one of those who has a sense of humor and laughs at everything, including death, if necessary.

9204

CSO: 8148/1957

PHILIPPINES

VALENCIA ON CORY AQUINO'S PRESIDENTIAL AMBITIONS

HK221105 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0100 GMT 22 Aug 85

["Analysis of the News" by Teodoro Valencia]

[Excerpts] Yesterday marked the second anniversary of the death of ex-Senator Benigno Aquino, Jr. As expected, there were two big demonstrations in Manila, one at the Ugarte Field in Makati, the other at the Liwasang Bonifacio in the very heart of Manila, in front of the Central Post Office building. Of course, these demonstrations follow the [word indistinct] which was the usual, but yesterday was specially significant.

Why? Because for the first time there was actual separation of the moderates headed by the widow of the late Benigno Aquino, Jr, Cory, and the more militants which converged at Liwasang Bonifacio headed by the leaders of the KMU, the Kilusang Mayo Uno [May First Movement] and other militant organizations flaunting red banners. There was a separation between the yellow and the red.

Some opposition leaders I have talked to yesterday read meaning into this separation. They said that probably it meant that the opposition people who have ambitions in 1987 or any earlier elections would like American support, and that this American support could not be obtained if there were a mixture of red and yellow, because the Americans are allergic to communism, or anything analogous to red.

As predicted by Cory Aquino herself in an interview over Channel 7 Newswatch, the demonstrations yesterday were not as big as those in 1984 because according to her, Filipinos celebrate only the first anniversary, after which only the diehards remain. Cory then appealed to the people to help commemorate Aquino Day or the anniversary of his death. And doing that, a good number of people passed by yesterday, marching from different parts of Metro Manila to converge at the parts indicated by Cory. That's what the marchers did.

Otherwise, Manila was a peaceful place yesterday, for some of the schools and universities cancelled classes in order to prevent the students from being caught in any possible violence or confrontation between the police and the demonstrators.

The center of conversation all day yesterday had nothing to do with the demonstrations that took place. They were usually about the recent pronouncements of Mrs Cory Aquino regarding her ambitions or the possibility of her being drafted to run as president in the next presidential elections, whenever that will take place. According to Mrs Aquino, she is not disposed to accept any such offer, but she asked the people to pray for her, to give her guidance. Meaning to say that the door is open, and the way the door was opened, everybody was said to come in.

There were all kinds of speculations about who is behind her, why she is running, and how this will affect the ambitions of many leaders of the opposition. Indeed, if Mrs Aquino is now attacked by some people in the opposition camp, do not be too surprised, because I know all the opposition leaders have hope that they will be chosen as the official standard bearer. And now with Cory Aquino being considered, her name in the rings of the streets, their chances, the chances of three opposition leaders, have become necessarily less, and they don't like it.

CSO: 4200/1420

PHILIPPINES

DAVAO EDITORIAL ON 'KILLING FIELDS,' GOLD SMUGGLING

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 9 Jul 85 p 2

[Editorial: "The Killing Fields of Davao del Norte"]

[Text]

As of this writing, there is a welcome respite from the killings in different locations and styles in the province of Davao del Norte.

It is termed respite because during the past couple of years, it is extremely a luxurious day when one is not killed or decapitated. The social condition in the province is such that it swings from chaos to confusion.

In the outskirts of Tagum, Davao del Norte for example, gunshots are daily occurrences. And one becomes adept at counting gunshots. Three shots mean nothing. But when it is five or more, a funeral car is sure to accompany the rising of the sun the following day.

But life must go on. Business is still brisk despite paying two taxes. One for the legitimate government and the other to the so-called invisible government. Schools and offices did not register a drop of attendance or rampant malingerings. It is because the people stay with the province for survival. Afterall, it is supposed to be the richest province in the entire of Mindanao.

Trade Ministry statistics showed that Davao del Norte dislodge even Baguio in terms of gold output. And if we have to consider the fact that the two gold mining companies in the province are virtually at a standstill in terms of production, one wonders where all that gold came from. The gold panners scratch enormous amount of gold in the mountains of the province. The traders for their part sell less than five per cent of what they buy from the panners to the Central Bank. This is merely a ploy to justify their hoard of gold. The rest or 95% of the gold produce in the province are smuggled out of the country.

The mountains of gold moreover carry its own share of the killings. In these parts of the province greed is suffocating. Daily killings though unreported are being smel-

led literally. It is safe to assume that in each and every thousand of gold tunnels and holes lay skeletons of those who were blinded by the glitter that is gold.

Where then are the leaders of the province, from the government, the church, the civic groups; those well-intentioned men who should sing the melody of peace and harmony? It is true the province is rich. It is rich and green from the flesh and bones of those killed in the fields.

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PHILIPPINES

DAVAO OFFICER LINKS PUBLIC SUPPORT, DECLINE IN VIOLENCE

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 7 Jul 85 pp 1, 8

[Article: "30 Communists Killed, 148 Others Arrested"]

[Text]

The involvement of the ordinary citizen in the peace and order drive is the dominant factor in the almost imperceptible decline in violent incidents in this city within the past few weeks.

This was the assessment made this morning by Col. Laudemer Kahulugan, Davao Metrodiscom commander, who attributed "the fighting edge of our lawmen over communist bandits and other lawless elements" to the growing concern and involvement of the city residents in the campaign.

"Our six-month counter-offensive against communist hoodlums, criminals, thieves, robbers and hijackers launched early this year is beginning to pay off," he said. Almost 30 suspected communist outlaws were killed and 148 others were arrested in successful encounters with Metrodiscom lawmen.

"Most of these encounters were based on information coming from civilians," Kahulugan explained. Noted Manila columnist Teodoro Valencia

also observed recently in his column "Over A Cup of Coffee" that the Davao Metrodiscom counter-offensive "could not have been accomplished without the cooperation of the Davao City citizens themselves."

Kahulugan also noted that, despite adverse reporting on the peace and order situation in the city by visiting foreign media men, "our men have steadfastly enforced the law as best they can and at the risk of their own lives." Such adverse publicity, he continued, will not deter us from doing our job as law enforcers.

Two recent clashes with communist hoodlums and holduppers likewise proved the high morale and improved fighting capability of Davao Metrodiscom and its supporting units—the Metrodiscom Intelligence and Security Unit (MISU), the 431st PC Company and the Metrodiscom Headquarters Force (MHF).

"We may be undermanned but we are a formidable team," Kahulugan concluded.

— RECOM XI

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PHILIPPINES

NPA LANDMINES HALT CONVOY, FIREFIGHT ENSUES

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 7 Jul 85 pp 1, 8

[Article by Jess Bentulan: "4 Land Mines Exploded; Two Die, Many Injured"]

[Text]

Four home-made land mines were exploded when a convoy of government troopers riding in V-150 vehicles and Land Rovers passed the Lanusa and San Agustin road in Surigao del Sur at around 9:30 p.m. the other day.

Among those injured were Pfc. Noel Panes and Pfc. Severino Serona. According to the military command in the province, two rebels were killed when a firefight ensued after the explosion.

The military said that the land mines were installed by about 20 New People's Army guerrillas.

The PC-INP provincial command said that the government troopers were ambushed while they were enroute to a barangay in San Agustin for a military operation.

The rebels withdrew toward the forested area when they sensed that a reinforcement was arriving at around 10:00 o'clock in the evening.

The military recovered several land mines from the battle scene and empty shells of bullets from M16 armalite rifles.

Lanusa and San Agustin are among the places in Surigao del Sur where ambushes often occurs.

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PHILIPPINES

BIAZON VIEWS OF NPA LAUDED, WEALTH HOARDERS HIT

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 7 Jul 85 pp 2, 6

[Article by Ed R. Fernandez in the "Pen at Large" column: "Prosecute Them"]

[Text]

Now it can be told. Who's the real economic saboteurs?

There is no question about Col. Biazon encouraging the people to make decisions whether to embrace communism or democracy. For the deeply religious Filipinos, they, no doubt, would settle for the latter, because the former is a godless ideology.

We even admire Col. Biazon for his guts and courage in really convincing those in the hills to come down to return to the folds of the law in the most friendliest possible means. This we believe makes Col. Biazon "the military officer of Davao City."

But we were equally sure also that Col. Biazon knows that those who went to the hills were not really communists in the real sense of the word. Col. Biazon knows that these people were the disgruntled Filipinos who could not reconcile the wide gap existing between the rich and the poor. They have, as far as their testimonies are concerned, exhausted their peaceful means and took up arms against the government, not necessarily ag-

ainst the marines of Col. Biazon, nor the Metrodiscom of Col. Kahulugan, nor the RUC of Gen. Echeverria. They were against those who hoard wealth of the nation and invested it in the foreign lands leaving the Filipino people to the brink of economic collapse.

We admire Col. Biazon for his friendly treatment of the so called rebel returnees. Rather than punishing them the harshest possible way, these men from the hills should be treated with utmost friendliness and care after all "they are not animals;" they are human beings.

But what can these military officers do, like Col. Biazon when he has still superiors to follow? What can this good Colonel do when he is still under the man who has plenty of investments abroad as discovered by the San Jose Mercury News and subsequently reprinted in the national papers? No matter how good his intention is he will never succeed that much. Now, who's the real economic saboteurs? Is it they who march

on the street begging for an explanation why the country is in the verge of economic collapse or is it they whose investments abroad could already pay the debts the government incurred in the IMF and the World Bank? Who are these people? The Business Day, Malaya, and Veritas will tell each and everyone of us.

We should blame maybe our "brothers in the hills" for being very impatient. Not patient enough until such time that truth will take its course. But why prosecute them as if they are the enemies?

This is now the time that the opposition and the military should unite in prosecuting these economic saboteurs. They are the cause why insurgency rose from a hundred to a thousand. Until such time that the government could not control them anymore. The Marcos government created the monster and it has a hard time destroying it.

But we can solve these problems. Let us not use violence. We are more civilized than that. We are after all still God-fearing.

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PHILIPPINES

DAVAO PAPER ANALYZES PROBLEMS WITHIN MILITARY

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 7 Jul 85 p 7

[Commentary by Agosto Durian: "What Ails the Military"]

[Text]

The tattered image of the AFP is now a cause of serious concern coming in the heels of relentless subversion which threatens to engulf the country. Not that the military was ever in the crest of popularity in our history.

Our revolutionary army during the Spanish and American wars were so fractious that without the invaders, our vain and envious generals would have indulged in fratricidal conflicts. Before Martial Law, the most ambitious of officers were reduced to mere errand boys of politicians. And the Martial Law regime saw the AFP perforated with graft and corruption.

By and large however, the AFP ranks as one of the better military outfits of any country in the world. Mutiny and defection even in the battle fronts of Mindanao are nil. When a platoon is called to reinforce or engage a superior number of enemy, the soldiers jump off with courage and daring.

It is the atmosphere outside of the military camps that debilitates the common soldier. The breakdown of morality and values is so prevalent that soldiers couldn't be so impervious to its contaminating effects. Business leaders cheat. Politicians who wallow in cor-

ruption are oftentimes idolized by society which is equally sick.

Thus, while we expect our soldiers to be paragons of virtues, we as a people are teaching them directly or otherwise to be morally anemic. The general malaise that befall on the Filipino is indeed regrettable. It is so widespread that no leader in sight could lead us from the morass we allowed ourselves to sink.

This situation is not helped by military leaders who hunger for power. A case in point is a high ranking military official who wanted to consolidate power at all costs. And if only to realize his overpowering ambitions, he resorted to farming out patronage in exchange of personal loyalty. Owing to his exalted position, he appointed (invariably with Malacañang blessings) mid-level officers to sensitive posts. Had he remained in power the ferment of insubordination would have gained grounds for a probable coup d'etat.

The intrepid NPA cadres especially its elite Sparrow Units are hailed as superfighters in the mold of the Ninja or the Samurai. But this notion is grossly exaggerated. Careful examination of field encounters would show that given the same

firepower, an average soldier can ably cope with three or four NPA regulars. This is attributed to the factors of training, discipline and courage which the military excell over the subversives.

Such being the case, how come the government forces seems to lose in the present struggle? If not how account for the large areas now being under control of the NPA?

Some military watchers claim that the present picture of the AFP is like a barrel that bulges in the middle. The AFP is heavy with officers from captains to colonels. While there are few able generals, the acute need are the bottom line officers. The second lieutenants or the provisionary lieutenants that leads small units to platoon levels.

The Philippine Military Academy is producing roughly 200 second lieutenants every year. But out of this number only few are being sent to the battlefield considering that other branches of the military like Air Force and the Navy also enjoy a quota of officers from the PMA. There is also some degree of reluctance on the part of higher command to expose fresh academy graduates to the front lines. Economics alone favor such feeling against sending fresh graduates to the battle lines. The government spends almost P.5 million to produce one academy graduate.

The case of the son of former Chief of Staff Fortunato Abat who was killed in Samar by the insurgents became an issue. Especially when fresh graduates from the academy continue to suffer casualties. Another opin-

ion holds that ROTC graduates who are considered "street wise" are effective bottom officers to lead small units. Recruitment from among the ROTC ranks are therefore urged.

Some observes claim that logistics of the military must be reoriented. It brings back to mind the last Independence Day parade of June 12. War machines like late model jet planes, missiles, sophisticated tanks and other armaments were paraded. But these war equipment are all geared to foil any invasion. Ironically, there is no foreseeable invasion of our country in the next twenty or fifty years.

The immediate threat that the military must contain is subversion. Jet planes with million pesos worth of spare parts and expensive fuel will just sap our economy. Undoubtedly, it is useless if not altogether irrelevant in anti-insurgency campaigns.

In Davao del Norte, war tanks continue to burn precious fuel like highway patrols. There was an instance when it was even used by soldiers in going to the public market to procure supplies.

Two things therefore must be done to improve the efficacy of the military. One is for the military planners to shed the invasion defense priority to that of anti-insurgency. The other is to retrain military personnel so that the fervor that must belong to each soldier cannot easily be eroded by growing discontent and compacency of our people. And unless this is done, we might wake up one day with the same army but with different commanders as well as commands.

PHILIPPINES

'HORROR' OVER CPP EXECUTIONS OF ERRANT NPA REPORTED

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 7 Jul 85 p 8

[Article by Godofredo A. Eborá]

[Text]

DAVAO CITY — Recurring eyewitness reports on summary executions of lowranking NPA members on orders of communist party leaders were met with a feeling of horror and outrage from parents and relatives of the victims this week.

The first recorded case of such executions in the region was that of four NPA gunmen who were sent out to kill and disarm Hernani Duropán, a policeman in Maco, Davao del Norte April 1 this year, a Good Friday.

The four unidentified men, men who had apparently chickened out when their wouldbe victim fought back, were later executed by their own commander. The report gouted a close neighbor of the sister of one of the communist bandits as saying she had comforted the grief-stricken sister who became hysterical after she was made to witness the execution.

Duropán, who was hit by cal. 45 bullets in the face and right arm, managed to draw his ser-

vice pistol and fire at the four men. The four men were believed buried in a common grave.

Early morning of May 15 this year, the day after some 170 heavily-armed communist outlaws attacked a small patrol base in Kalapagan, Lupon, Oriental; a farmer in barangay Marayag was held at gunpoint by the fleeing outlaws who used his carabao to ferry their wounded companion across the Sumlog River.

The farmer told Mati Mayor Gervasio Valenteros he saw the armed men execute four of their wounded companions after reaching the other side of the river. The six men then took the firearms of the dead men and fled northward.

A radio report reaching Davao Oriental Governor Francisco Rabat also told of at least 26 dead bodies found floating on the Pamanyan River in the southwest. Eyewitnesses reported that many of them were still alive when they were dumped into a gorge upriver by rem-

nants of the communist band that tried to overrun the Calapagan patrol base May 14.

The most telling evidence of such communist atrocities, however, revealed by Myrna Lizada, former secretary to the education bureau of the Communist Party of the Philippines party committee in northern Mindanao.

Lizada, who was captured in an encounter in Claveria, Misamis Oriental early this month, said the executions of NPA bandits wounded in armed clashes with government troopers were carried out to rid the band of the burden of carrying wounded members. They also preclude the possibility of captured bandits to squeal, she added.

Her disclosure was confirmed by farmers in Claveria who claimed to have seen summary executions of wounded communist bandits. An NPA mass grave was likewise discovered in Claveria.

PHILIPPINES

BARANGAY OFFICIAL CHARGED ON NPA COLLABORATION

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 9 Jul 85 pp 1, 10

[Article by Godofredo A. Eboral]

[Text]

A barangay councilman and former home defense volunteer who had connived with a band of communist thieves by acting as their guide was nabbed in Carrascal, Surigao del Sur recently.

The communist collaborator was identified as councilor Felisimo Suaza, 32, married and a resident of barangay Pantucan in Carrascal.

His lid was blown by police corporal Buenaventura S. Sablas, Carrascal police station commander, who headed a combined constabulary-police team that arrested Suaza.

Sablas said the barangay official had been suspected for some time of having connived with a communist outlaw band operating in Pantucan. He was later found to have guided communist thieves that recently ransacked the barangay health center in barangay Adlay where the thieves carted away all the me-

dicine intended for distribution to poor families the next day. Sablas said a number of Pantucan residents are willing to testify to Suaza's involvement with the communists.

Sablas also revealed that the thieves then proceeded to the house of the barangay captain and took him hostage. Up to presstime, the whereabouts and fate of the barangay captain, who was reported only as a certain Alla, are not known.

Suaza's arrest came on the heels of a massive crackdown on supposedly upright citizens collaborating with the communist and the mass surrender of communist outlaws in Tandag, the capital town.

These collaborators, Sablas said, are either too afraid to fight for their rights or are blinded by communist promises.

"Most of them are found in the remote barangays where resentment is strong against any member of the community who collaborates with the enemy," he explained.

Communist bandits numbering 88 peacefully gave themselves up to government authorities in ceremonies at the provincial capitol seminar hall in Tandag, some of them coming from Carrascal. -

CSO: 4200/1463

PHILIPPINES

MUSLIM GOVERNOR LINKS MARCOS GOVERNMENT, 'WILL OF GOD'

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 9 Jul 85 pp 1, 7

[Article by Jonathan Santas: "Don't Disobey God; 'Marcos Reign Is a Will of God'--Dimaporo"]

[Text]

Cotabato City — Lanao del Sur Governor Sultan Muhamad Ali Dimaporo urged media practitioners to rally behind the government in fighting against the enemies of the state as he deplored before the officer and members of the Mindanao Press and Radio-TV Association (MINPRA) the involvement of some religious sectors in the Communist Party of the Philippines' struggle in toppling down the government.

Speaking before mediamen during the MINPRA Mid-Year Convention in Cotabato City last July 5 and 6, Governor Dimaporo said that the past war between government and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) is enough lesson to every Filipinos. He said thousands of lives were lost during the said war and it would be crazy to insist on destroying the good aims of the new society in exchange of the foreign ideology being preached by the CPP.

Governor, Ali Dimaporo claimed that he is the only gov-

ernment functionary who consistently stood firm fighting against the New People's Army and admittedly the number one in the liquidation list of the enemies of the state, according to his intelligence report.

In urging for unity to fight the Communists, Dimaporo also urged all government officials to fight against the ills of the government ranging from graft and corruption to military abuses.

He assured his audience that if anyone could produce and hand him two affidavits exposing the ills of government officials and military, justice will be meted out and should he fails to do anything to curb corruption and military abuses, he will resign from all his government posts.

The Lanao governor said that one of the problems confronting the government of Marcos today is the day to day killings all over the country. He said that this is the "catastrophe" being wrought by the communist terrorists to weaken the faith of the people in government authorities.

He strongly lambasted some government servants who are afraid to speak the truth. "Government servants and practically all civilians should rally behind the government," the governor added.

Citing the comparison of communist way of living to our democratic way of life, the governor said that life in the Philippines is better than the lives of millions who are living in communist countries like Vietnam, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Cambodia and in Russia.

The governor also expressed apprehension over the attitude of some religious sectors who are peddling communist ideologies.

The governor ended his speech saying that "it is the will of God that Marcos is our president and should we disobey Marcos we are disobeying God."

Governor Ali Dimaporo reportedly was endorsed the Muslims and other big entities all over Mindanao and Luzon to be the running mate of President Marcos in the coming presidential elections.

PHILIPPINES

COMMERCE CHAMBER ASKS LIBERALIZATION OF IMPORT LAWS

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 9 Jul 85 p 9

[Text]

The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) has urged the government to make a thorough review on the liberalization of the country's import and trade policies.

Acting PCCI president Victor Lim said the move is response to reports that liberalized trade and import policies would be implemented next year to hasten the national economic recovery program.

Lim said liberalization of the country's import and trade policies should be a joint effort of the government and the private sector.

He said the measures needed should be clearly defined so that local industrial and business could properly plan ahead.

He added as long as the problems of shrinking demand for their products, high interest rates, high cost of power, labor unrest and highly selective cre-

dit exist at their current levels, the effectiveness of trade liberalization remains questionable.

The PCCI, according to Lim, appreciates the objectives of trade liberalization: industrial efficiency and competitiveness in the world market.

He said while local business and industrial communities recognize these objectives as valid, local businessmen clamor for appropriate timing in the implementation of such a policy.

Lim warned that an indiscriminate liberalization could result in an excessive demand for foreign exchange without the compensating export expansion.

Lim stressed that clear-cut and reasonable objectives, a properly phased and inter-related action program and strict and fair application of sanctions on violators will give decision-makers the information and the time to plan their own moves.

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PHILIPPINES

DAVAO COLUMNIST HITS FOREIGN INVESTMENT

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 9 Jul 85 p 9

[Article by Astrid Jose A. Bana in the "Variables and Variances" Column: "The 'Benefits' of Investment"]

[Text]

The Philippine government encourage the entry of more foreign investments into the country by adopting an open-market and trade policy. Accordingly, foreign investments promise many benefits or advantages. None of these promises, however, have been kept. Let us briefly examine them.

1. Capital Inflow—foreign investments do indeed bring in capital. But 88% of their operating funds are borrowed from local banking sources, and they avail of the money borrowed by the Philippine government from foreign financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Moreover, the problem lies in that they take out more than they put in. According to a study conducted by the UP Law Center, for every dollar of foreign investment, it earns an average of \$3.58, of which \$2.00 were repatriated and \$1.58 were reinvested. In 1970's alone, foreign investors (Transnational corporations) took out some \$72.2 billion from Asean developing countries, including the Philippines. Apart from transfer pricing and other gimmicks, foreign firms far outweigh their capital inflow at

a rough ratio of 4 is to 1, according to the July 17-23, 1978 issue of the Economic Monitor. 2. Technology Transfer—according to a study entitled "Technology Transfer, Multinational Corporations in the Philippines", the transfer of technology, if any, is only between the home based and the subsidiary, a geographical transfer which keeps the ownership and control of technology in the hands of imperialist firms. Furthermore, according to the National Science Development Board (now: the National Science and Technology Authority), transnational corporations and other similar foreign enterprises hardly undertake any research and development activity in their local subsidiaries or affiliates. Most of the laboratories they maintain in the country are for quality control, product testing, and the like. No actual research and development is undertaken whereby the technology transfer can be improved and/or adopted to the local resources, both natural and physical. Transnational corporation have thus not contributed significantly to the creation and introduction of intermediate and/or appropriate technology that will

greatly contribute to the economic and social development of the country.

3. Modernization and Industrialization—transnational corporations carry the mystique of being the most powerful carriers of modernization. Modernization takes the form of infrastructure development projects, such as cemented roads, irrigation dams, energy sources and others which benefited the TNC's themselves, while peasants and cultural minorities stand to be dislocated. Regarding industrialization, foreign firms will set up plants if they are certain these would not complete in their profit generating ventures, as reported in the Times Journal, November 27, 1979 issue. Thus, the Philippines is only: a) a transshipment center for storage and repacking of goods for distribution to outlying markets; b) a base for processing, assembly or manufacture of items for re-export out of imported raw materials; c) a base for manufacturing parts components, assemblies, and sub-assemblies for finished products under sub-contractual

arrangements; and d) a purely managerial base of operations with tax and tariff incentives.

4. Employment Generation—this as an advantage of foreign investment is a fallacy. As examples, the Philippine Sinter Corporation in the Philvidec Industrial Estate in Misamis Oriental, to hire 700 workers, they have to relocate 100 families or also about 700 people; Stanfilco's 1,300-hectare rice farm only employs 100 workers; the 8,000-hectare palm oil plantation in Agusan del Sur will only hire 2,800 workers, now that they have yet developed about 5,300 hectares, they have already dislocated about 400 families or an equivalent of 3,000 people.

5. Better Quality of Life for the people—we have not yet started to talk about decreasing incomes, malnutrition, inflation, the severe lack of housing and education, the inoperative land reform program, pollution, the militarization of rural villages, the arrests and tortures which have come with martial law, and the more secure stranglehold of monopoly capitalism over the country's economy and politics.

CSO: 4200/1463

PHILIPPINES

SEIZED PAPERS ON NDF SEARCH FOR 'WELGA' LEADER

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 11 Jul 85 p 8

[Text]

If you're a lawyer, a doctor or a media man with some talent for rabbleroxing and an itch for the spotlight read on, this is for you.

The communist party through its political arm, the National Democratic Front (NDF), is scouting for "gifted" persons like you to lead another Welga ng Bayan slated sometime in September this year.

"These and other specifications for the job are revealed in several NDF documents seized by intelligence men in General Santos City," said Capt. Francisco Villaroman who led the raiding team June 24.

The documents were in the possession of Elvina Cañadilla alias Rina/Eva/Yolie, 26 and her husband Rafael Quintela Jr. alias Romy/Sandro when they were nabbed by Villaroman's team. As CPP/NPA provincial party committee secretary for South Cotabato and General Santos City, Cañadilla is the highest-ranking communist party woman in those areas. Quintela is an executive committee

member of the same party committee.

In this report to South Cotabato provincial commander Col. Andres N. Superable, the captain said most of the seized documents have already been declassified and their contents will be made public shortly.

Similar documents seized inside the Davao Metrodiscom detention center from three security prisoners confirmed the NDF plan to hold a region-wide Welga ng Bayan on September 21 and 22. The documents, including drama sketches and a daily update of one of the prisoners, were confiscated from Sotero Huinda, Judith Pagunsan and Alicia Bade, all facing subversion charges.

The seized papers hinted at a number of setbacks suffered by NDF in its white area timetable although they did not say if the arrest of lawyers Ilagan, Arellano and Risnar was one of them. To the communists, a "white area" consists of protest actions and similar activities that appear legal on the surface but are actually designed to provoke mob violence.

CSO: 4200/1463

PHILIPPINES

KMU LEADER PROTESTS ARRESTS, RAIDS BY MILITARY

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 17 Jul 85 pp 1, 8

[Article: "Raids, Illegal Arrests by Military Condemned"]

[Text]

"Military raid on legal and peaceful assemblies accompanied with illegal arrests is becoming a new trend here in Davao City. And this we vehemently condemn!" Thus said Meynardo Palarca, General Secretary of the Center of Nationalist Trade Unions in Mindanao (CENTRUM-KMU), a Mindanao-wide labor alliance of unions, federations and regional alliances.

The General-Secretary of CENTRUM-KMU was referring to the military raids on the LFS (League of Filipino Students)-Southern Mindanao Regional Assembly on July 14 and on the NAMAHAAD (Nagkahiusang Mamumuo sa Halayong Amihang Dabaw) regular monthly assembly, and the arrest of the participants in both assemblies.

21 LFS members were arrested at Gino-o Beach Resort when the 439th PC Company raided the LFS-Southern Mindanao assembly held at the said place. The LFS members were brought and detained at Toril Police Station.

Two months ago, on April 14,

fourteen union presidents and union board members attending the NAMAHAAD monthly regular assembly at Esteros Village were arrested by the military for illegal assembly and were brought to Camp Catitipan. 12 of them were released on the same date, while the other two were released two days after.

Mr. Palarca said that the charge of illegal assembly on the 14 labor leaders and the raid on the assembly were definitely absurd, considering that no law prohibits such a legitimate and peaceful assembly from taking place, especially so that the assembly was held in a private establishment with the knowledge and consent of the owner, Mr. Esteros. "In other words, the July 14 Gino-o incident is a repeat performance by the military of the April 14 Esteros Village incident," Mr. Palarca further said.

"CENTRUM-KMU is sure that the July 14 Gino-o Beach incident will not be the last. And we would like to ask the military what assembly would be next?" Mr. Palarca asked.

Mr. Palarca said that CENTRUM-KMU hopes that the student leaders will not face the same faith that the two labor leaders of NAMAHAAD had faced. "Labor organizer and union president Nicodemos Orullo and Rudy Buntog were released only after they had been badly beaten up for two days, causing their hospitalization." Mr. Palarca further said that the two labor leaders were subjected to torture for them to admit that they are NPA members.

"While the US-backed Marcos regime is saying that it is undertaking 'democratic reforms,' the abovementioned raids, on the other hand, prove otherwise. the thousands of examples that point out to the reality that this 'democratic reforms' means heightened repression and suppression of the Filipino people's democratic rights." Mr. Palarca bastard organization. Capt. Bario however refused to confirm whether the reported teach-in at the beach resort was part of an LFS move to escalate student protest action in other schools and universities.

CSO: 4200/1463

PHILIPPINES

RIGHTS ACTIVISTS DISCUSS TORTURE OF DETAINEES

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 17 Jul 85 pp 1, 7

[Press Release: "104 Detainees at PC Barracks Tortured"]

[Text]

An all day forum-workshop on the medical — legal responses to the problems of torture was held at the Maguindanao Hotel on Saturday, July 6 this year.

A joint project of the Free legal Assistance Group (FLAG) and the Mananambal Alapig sa Hamogawayong Nasud (MAASA-HAN), the forum brought out new ways of detecting and treating victims of torture as well as remedies of obtaining legal redress against torturers.

Based on statistical update presented during the forum, it was noted that torture of persons detained by the police, military, and paramilitary elements has increasingly become "more of a rule than an exception." Data revealed that out of 108 detainees officially confined at the PC barracks in Davao City, 104 have been tortured and only four did not report any form of torture. It was learned that many of the torture victims have been reluctant to file charges against their torturers out of fear of reprisals vs. themselves or their families. The types of torture that have been documented by forum participants include methods ranging from beatings and maulings with pistols and armalites to the "cellophane treatment" which is a type of suffo-

cation with a plastic bag, and

is prevalent. Filipinos are killing fellow Filipinos. Our own community is in danger of disintegration because there are forces bent on tearing us apart. We do not need just a song for Davao City. We need the same sense of binding force of love and concern that launched "we are the world". We need binding force of love and concern for Davao City. Now more than ever, the country needs you to express your deep sense of responsibility and for you to display your capability to start a momentum and groundswell that others can follow.

There are lines in the song "we are the world" that go: "there's a choice we are making we are saving our own lives" these lines, my fellow rotarians and dear friends, speak of our own predicament. We have our own choice to make to save not only our lives but the lives of our fellowmen as well. Those of you who are recipients of death threats and love letters from our invisible friends of the other side of the ideological fence surely know intimately how it feels. I am therefore confident you will not deny your ability and your courage to this cha-

electrocution. Rape has occurred in a number of cases where women detainees were involved.

A FLAG lawyer pinch hitting for Atty. Silvestre Bello III presented the legal provisions and pronouncements against torture. He cited among others the statement of Lt. General Fidel Ramos acting AFP chief of staff, reminding the military of his Memorandum issued on January, 1983 regarding the observance of the proper procedure in arresting persons. The medical—ethical ramifications in cases where doctors take part in or acquiesce to torture was discussed by Dr. Dante Escalante. He pointed out that doctors in some countries, including Argentina, have already been barred from practicing medicine for having taken part in such atrocities. The physical symptoms of torture which enable physicians to document and prove that detainees have been tortured were detailed by Dr. Maria Luisa Aportadera.

Dr. Laureen San Agustin, a psychiatrist, provided the technical background in cases of psychological torture such as blindfolding, handcuffing and threats. These practices are usually used in conjunction with physical torture to break the victims' will, said Dr. San Agustin. Dr. Aportadera and Dr. San Agustin recently arrived from Europe where they attended a conference-training in torture sequel. The open forum was coordinated by Atty. Rolando Delima and Ruben Abarquez, and Dr. Ruben Robillo. Master of Ceremonies was Atty. Emelina Quintillan, also a FLAG lawyer.

The forum-workshop which was attended by lawyers, physicians, and social development workers ended with a resolution enjoining the creation of "reaction team" that would monitor cases of torture and would immediately respond to the rehabilitation of torture victims.

(Press Release)

CSO: 4200/1463

PHILIPPINES

REPORT ON PRESS INTERVIEW WITH NPA RETURNEES

Davao City THE MINDANAO MIRROR-BULLETIN in English 8-14 Jul 85 pp 2, 7

[Commentary by Chuck Villamore: "Interview With 5 Rebels"]

[Text]

Our local neighborhood toughies look tougher, hardier, and more ruffian-looking than the five glassy-eyed rebel-returnees who looked more like fore a strange crowd during suckling babes ready to cry before that Friday, July 5, press interview at Maguindanao hotel, hosted by Kapihan sa Dabaw program. The looks, however, are deceiving; more of a surface covering that hides hearts of steel hardened by the roughness of mountain life and a life of hit-and-run encounters with the military and other law enforcers that continually hunt them down, up or downstream, in mountain fastnesses, and in the asphalt jungles of the city.

The five were brought here by the commander of the 3rd Inf. Ba. in South Cotabato, Lt. Col. Ernesto Uy, a burly bulk of a military man, around five-foot ten inches in height, an NPA-encounter-scarred veteran based in Polomolok, South Cotabato. •

The five rebel-returnees who were also encounter-scarred before capture were: Kadre Jonny, 17 years, Bilaan; kadre Bong, 22 years, elementary

grade, Bilaon, team leader (NPA); Kadre Magno, 23, with the NPA guerrilla unit in Tampak, Cotabato; Kadre Michael, 23, 2nd year high school, NPA armed guerrilla unit in Sultan Kudarat; and kadre Roger, 17, 4th year high school, organizer in South Cotabato, Kabataan Commander, recruiter, and KM president, South Cotabato. Roger is the most articulate of the five and answers questions with aplomb and directness. He aims to be a lawyer if given the chance to study again; has taken the NCEE with the stunning grade of 97%. He was here during the Welga ng Bayan strike and recruited a host of students, out-of-school youths, etc. Roger claims that the NPA has infiltrated not only the studentry, drivers, labor groups, etc., but also the military, the press, and some members of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, and the clergy. Nothing practically escapes the infiltration of the NPA. It is widespread and indeed endangering the security of the country.

The teasing slogans during strikes, demos, and rallies, the placards that scream "Tbagsak

si Marcos", "Ibagsak ang US Imperialism", etc., are all the handiwork of the propaganda network of the NPA, with Roger as an effective instrument in the propaganda work, so he claims. The CPP-NPA works tooth-and-nail to get, what Roger calls, the intellectual sympathizers. The reason for the many intellectuals who fall prey to communist promises and misleading political agitations.

The rest of the five had similar ring of dissatisfaction in their public revelations; they are now disgusted for having been misled into believing that they are actually fighting for, and helping the cause of the country and its people. They now find that they are fighting for a different ideology, an ideology alien to that of their parents' and forbears', destructive of their traditional beliefs and customary way of life. Kadre Michael publicly admitted that his decision to desert the cause snowballed when his request to go to church was denied outright with the statement that can get nothing good from his belief in God.

All were one in admitting that what hindered them from outright surrender to the military was the blatant lie that torture only await those who would surrender to the military. It was a big lie, as they now admit and find out.

How will these brothers now who were led astray by false hopes and beliefs be rehabilitated? Brig. Gen. Jaime Eche-

verria, RUC commander, has high hopes that the bill now pending in the Bataan, similar to the Balik Kapatid program for the MNLF returnees, will soon be approved to rehabilitate NPA-rebel returnees. So far, returnees are made to do handicraft work, rattan craft, etc. as their rehab work.

There is now a general awakening to the problems of insurgency in the country and the populace are more alert in helping the military in its counter-insurgency thrust. Echeverria cautions the parents to be more attentive to their children, for the NPA recruiting thrusts primarily include young gullible men from 17 to 20 years of age.

On the otherhand, Col. Rodolfo Biazon, 3rd Marine Brigade commander, is of the belief that Davao will still be the first to rise from the peace and order mess despite being the No 1 area enmeshed in it. Biazon believes that the four leadership groups that must be involved primarily in the stabilization of the insurgency problem are: media, the student group, clergy which now has come up denouncing atrocities committed by the NPA, and the political opposition which must continue its fiscalizing role, for without such opposition no democracy can ever survive.

It is to be hoped that the mentioned general awakening that now pervades hereabouts continue unabated until such time that Davao may really be the first to rise from the peace-and-order morass it finds itself now.

PHILIPPINES

WE FORUM REPORT ON OPPOSITION UNITY SUMMIT

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 12-18 Aug 85 p 3

[Article by Butch Fernandez: "Plotting an All-Out Anti-Marcos War; Will the Opposition Unity Last?"]

[Text]

The elusive opposition unity, long dreamed of by a people clamoring for change, appears once more to have taken concrete shape with the unanimous approval by opposition leaders of the "shadow cabinet" concept during a mini-summit of the National Unification Committee (NUC) held in Makati before the weekend.

The moderate Filipino electorate, to be sure, has pinned its waning hopes on the opposition's ability to unite as one solid political force capable of toppling Mr. Marcos' 20-year rule through non-violence.

At the mini-summit last Friday, opposition leaders seem to have struck a surefire unity formula in the form of a shadow cabinet including representatives from all sectors and political parties in the opposition.

Reports said the shadow cabinet, to be composed of national and regional political party leaders under the national unification conference, will be tasked with carrying out the "day-to-day political battle with the Marcos regime."

Under the approved concept, a new coalition government representing all sectors of the political spectrum will emerge to present itself as the alternative to the Marcos administration.

Sources at the mini-summit said NUC leaders gave their collective nod to the concept but said that a more detailed presentation of its composition and goals be made to avoid "misconceptions."

All parties under the NUC umbrella, which includes the Liberal Party (LP), the Nacionalista Party (NP), the Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan (PDP-Laban), the United Democratic Organization (Unido) and six other regional political parties will have a representative in the shadow cabinet that will also perform 'watchdog' functions to document the so-called "mismanagement" and "misrule" in the Marcos administration.

The opposition envisions the shadow cabinet as having a multi-sectoral composition in an apparent move to arrive at a happy compromise to accommodate all moderate anti-Marcos parties in the "new government."

But some irritants still remain which could throw them back to square one even before they can begin, observers said.

Who will get the accreditation as the Dominant Opposition Party (DOP) in the forthcoming polls is a question that continues to be a thorn on the side of the contending parties vying for the DOP tag.

Others say the DOP should remain with the Unido, which fielded most of the winning candidates in the Batasan elections last year; but since the NUC is now considered as the new opposition umbrella of which Unido is a ranking member, many others

contend that the DOP mantle should hence be transferred to the NUC.

The NUC's candidates pool composed of four possible nominees from national parties who will pick the presidential standard bearer of the opposition was also questioned by some regional leaders who claimed that some regional parties "are even better organized than major parties" which, they said, went into hibernation during the martial law years.

But all these have been shelved temporarily to give way to the formation of a coalition government.

Proponents of the shadow cabinet, an accepted feature in parliamentary governments, said they also plan to invite representatives from the cause-oriented groups and other militant organizations to sit in the envisioned coalition government to make it as broad-based as possible.

"We need to farm out responsibilities so that the opposition can tackle all suggestions in support of the coalition," the NUC source told *WE Forum*.

It will be recalled that one of the leading lights of the so-called "cause-oriented groups," former Senator Lorenzo Tanada, had late last year proposed the formation of a "coalition government" to prepare to manage the country's affairs in a post-Marcos era.

Former Senator Salvador Laurel promptly seized on the idea, and immediately proposed a summit among opposition leaders, but somehow, the initial brainstorming led to bitter accusations between Tanada followers and Laurel's camp, thus putting an end to one possible measure for them to get together.

Cause-oriented groups then went ahead and came up with their own "master plan" for a post-Marcos coalition government, and this was immediately pooh-poohed by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, who said that any coalition with the communists is useless, because they are bound to dominate any forum.

The "master plan" had considered including even the leftists in the new coalition.

How well the cause-oriented groups or the left will take this latest proposed shadow government crafted by mostly moderate leaders has yet to be seen.

But among the moderate politicians, everyone seems genuinely convinced that this latest show of unity is bound to be more lasting than the last, considering, they say, that the struggle against Mr. Marcos has reached "irreversible" trends.

In effect, it boosts the "all-out war" they have started against the Malacanang tenant with the impeachment moves. How well they can pull their act together after this is anyone's guess. And Mr. Marcos' lookout.

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PHILIPPINES

DAVAO MEDIAMEN ON NPA HIT LIST

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 16 Jul 85 pp 1,7

[Text] Nine local mediamen are reportedly under the list of persons to be "liquidated" by the New People's Army (npa) in Davao City.

Ramie Tan, radio reporter of DXMC, said that he was informed by Lt. Domingo Villareiz of Tugbok Police Station that nine newsmen are written in a note book found in the possession of a slain NPA team leader last week in Tugbok.

Ramie Tan, who is one of the mediamen in the "death" list, told his colleagues that "we are marked for liquidation by the NPA."

Aside from Tan, other names which appeared in the NPA's document are: Tony Ajero, editor of the Mindanao Daily Mirror; Roger Flaviano, publisher-editor of the People's Daily Forum; Nerio Quimte, announcer of DXRD; Freddie Vergara, DXDC, Tony Vergara, DXMF; Al Genoquin, DXRD; Max Robles, DXRA; and Doming Lambayong, DXOW.

Ramie Tan said that the Tugbok Police Station showed him the confiscated NPA-BHB documents while he was gathering police reprots for his radio program. According to the documents, he said, some of the nine newsmen are programmed to be assassinated by the hitmen of Armed City Partisan United (urban guerrillas) in the months of August and September this year.

No reason was given why the nine mediamen are now the target for liquidation.

CSO: 5600/4402

PHILIPPINES

YOUTH OFFICIAL, AIR FORCE DEATHS LINKED TO NPA

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 9 Jul 85 pp 1,7

[Article by J. Y. Sonza]

[Text] A ranking leader of the Kabataang Barangay (KB) and Pagasa Youth Movement (PYM) in Bansalan, Davao del Sur was waylaid and brutally killed by armed men last Friday while an officer of the Philippine Air Force was shot to death in Panacan Davao City last Sunday.

P/Lt. Arnulfo Gohol, Bansalan Police station commander identified the victim as Dominador Gomera, 23 years old and resident of barangay Darapuay, Bansalan.

Investigation conducted by the local police indicated that the youth leader was shot four times by four armed men at around 4:00 p.m. inside his residence.

The report also disclosed that Gomera was approached by the four assassins and was brought to a corner inside his residence. Minutes later, the four suspects fired their M-16 rifles on the hapless victim.

Mrs. Gomera, mother of the outspoken youth leader said during the investigation that the four armed men who wore fatigue uniforms immediately left their residence after killing her son.

She further said that, earlier, her son has been receiving death threat letters from alleged leaders of the NPA, warning him to stop getting involved with KB and PYM activities.

KB and PYM organization are active conduits of government under the office of the president and the Ministry of Social Services and Development (MS-SD).

Further investigation showed that Gomera's father was also murdered by a group of unidentified armed men on his way home two years ago. The Gomeras father and son were known leaders in the community of Darapuay, a barangay of Bansalan some 20 kilometers from the poblacion.

The murder of Dominador Gomera is the second known killing of youth leaders staged by armed men. The first incident took place last April 1, this year in the same locality.

Meanwhile, a sergeant of the 620th Philippine Airforce who was assigned at the Davao International Airport was gunned dead the other day at around 4 o'clock inside a vehicle at Panacan relocation center.

Sasa Police Station identified the fatality as Sgt. Ramon Talong Reyes with serial No. 5597-03. The victim who was on board a vehicle at Purok 11 was shot by one of three gunmen with .357 caliber Magnum at the left eye and cheek. Reyes died on the spot.

At around 9 o'clock in the evening, the elements of Sasa Police Station and PAF company conducted a military operation after being tipped of the whereabouts of a suspected trigger man.

The government troopers arrested a certain Bartolome Gutierrez, 29, jobless and allegedly a member of the Armed City Partisan Unit of the New People's Army.

The suspect was identified by the victim's wife and daughter who were allegedly at the scene when the incident occurred.

CSO: 5700/4402

PHILIPPINES

CHURCH WORKERS PROTEST GROWTH, ACTIVITIES OF ARMED CULTS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 8 Jul 85 p 6

[Text] Chanting pig Latin incantations and brandishing poison-tipped knives, members of the Tadtad cult in Mindanao sally forth to battle against communist guerrillas and other "enemies of God."

The cults' natural animosity toward communism and the Muslim minority, coupled with burning fanaticism, has made them an ally of the government in its drive against insurgency in Mindanao.

Church workers accuse the military of backing some of the cults. In April, the Ilagas, a cannibalistic sect allegedly employed as government militiamen, is alleged to have murdered an Italian missionary and kept a piece of his brain as a "trophy."

Church agencies who met in Mindanao last month charged that a significant number of the cults, whose membership run into thousands, have been armed and trained to fight New People's Armed guerrillas.

"We have no documentary proof for that, but from what we gather from what is happening, there is a suspicion," Bishop Feliciano Palma, spokesman for the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, said.

The Ilagas were the first known cult group. They emerged initially as a self-defense force formed in Christian settlements in 1970 against Muslims.

The other groups followed, sporting such names as Tadtad, 4K, Rock Christ, New Jerusalem, Sagrado Corazon Senor, Alpha-Omega, Seven Rangers, New Apostolic Church and Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association.

The groups, which revolve around cult figures, blend animism, folk Christianity and magic to whip up fervor among their adherents, who are led to believe that certain ritual practices can make their bodies deflect blade and bullet.

Church workers say the Ilagas shave their heads, cover their bodies in oil and recite pig Latin incantations before battle, while the Rock Christ and the 4K have amulets. The Tadtads chant incantations and lace their knives with poison.

Like the Tadtads, many cults were originally armed with long knives with which to attack their enemies. But assemblyman Homobono Adaza from Misamis Oriental said officials had information that the military was now arming some cult members with high-powered rifles.

"The government's theory is that by supporting these groups they will in effect act as a counterfoil to the insurgency," he said.

Estimates of the cults' total membership vary. Adaza put it at "between 20,000 and 30,000." "A sizeable number of the deaths in Mindanao are due to the activities of the religious fanatics," he charged.

Bishop Federico Escaler said armed cultists had also started harassing leaders of Christian community organizations which they perceived as run by communists.

"The fanatical groups are really multiplying...they are harassing the Basic Christian Community leaders," he told a news conference last week.

Monsignor Palma said fanaticism was disowned by the Roman Catholic church and maintained that the rise of cults was due to the adherents' "lack of religious knowledge."

Adaza said they were a sign of alienation from established religion.

"Due to the difficulty of the times, we are trying to find answers to the day-to-day questions. And it is these religious fanatics who provide extreme answers which are attractive to ordinary men and women," he said.

The Bolo Battalion, a newly founded sect operating in Bukidnon and Misamis Oriental, last week allowed an Agence France-Presse correspondent to visit the founder's jungle camp fortified with sandbags.

"If you have faith, you have invulnerability," Datu Teodoro Bay-Oman told the reporter, who was accompanied to the camp by a military intelligence agent.

The cult leader proudly displayed what he said was an operating license from a constabulary official who certified that "the bolo battalion has been actively assisting...the military authorities in maintaining peace and order."

Brig Gen Madrino Munoz, the military chief in Northern Mindanao, refused to comment when asked if the military was arming and training the cult groups. (AFP)

CSO: 5600/4393

PHILIPPINES

BISHOPS ASSAIL GOVERNMENT, REBEL, CULTIST TERRORISM

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 8 Jul 85 pp 1, 10

[Article by Vicente Foz]

[Text] The Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) headed by Antonio Ll. Mabutas denounced yesterday the killing of media men, labor leaders, professionals and church workers, ministers and priests whose work is dedicated to others.

In a statement, the bishops noted "a new wave of criminality against life is attempting to crush our sense of human dignity and worth."

The conference also denounced the execution of civilians suspected as subversives by the government forces, or as informers and "enemies of the people" by the New People's Army.

Mabutas said: "Neither the cause of national security nor that of national liberation' can justify such blatant violation of the right to life, so cold-bloodedly terminated, oftentimes, on the basis of mere suspicion."

The bishops also assailed as "unholy strategy" the use of cultists and members of fundamentalist sects in the government's counter-insurgency campaign.

"Not only is it counter-productive," they said, "it is likewise conducive of the worst forms of terrorism, fanned as it is by questionable beliefs and practices."

Mabutas called on the government to reorganize and properly screen or dismantle the Civilian Home Defense Forces (CHDFs) and other armed groups, particularly in places where they have become "instruments of terror, rather than of peace."

The bishops said:

"We forthrightly call this wave of inhumanity as terrorism. We refer to various acts inimical to persons and designed to terminate dissenting opinions, impose control, or subjugate the human will by overt or implied application of blatant power for one cause or another. By whatever name it

is called, salvaging or liquidation, kidnaping or extortion, intimidation or harassment, the increasing use of force to dominate people is a frightening reality which we as pastors cannot ignore."

They called on the Catholics to reflect in their own communities "in the light of your faith upon the social realities that deeply affect the living of your Christian life."

CSO: 5600/4393

PHILIPPINES

'SHOOT-TO-KILL' ORDERED AGAINST LABOR LEADERS' MURDERERS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 8 Jul 85 p 9

[Article by Omer Oscar Almenario]

[Text] Davao City--The 11th PC/INP regional command here has reportedly issued "shoot-to-kill" orders of two prominent labor leaders in the city who were both executed by still unidentified armed men.

Brig Gen Dionisio Tan-Gatue Jr, RECOM XI commander, ordered the Davao Metrodiscom and all provincial constabulary commands in the region to hunt down the killers of labour leaders Maximo Nunez and Rodrigo Lapulapu.

Lawyer Nunez, national vice president of the Associated Labor Unions-Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (ALU-TUCP) for southern Mindanao, was slain here last June 15. Lapulapu, an ALU-TUCP organizer, was killed inside his house on Christmas Day last year.

The same manhunt has also been launched in other parts of the country where the perpetrators of the twin killings could have sought sanctuary.

Earlier, a multisectoral group staged here June 30 a funeral march to denounce the slaying of worker Wilfredo Canillo, allegedly by a security guard of the Davao Fruits Corp (DFC) at Dona Asuncion Village this city.

According to the Nagkahiusang Mamumuo sa Habagatang Mindanao (NAMAHEMIN), a regional alliance of militant workers here, Canillo was shot by a certain "Dalanghirang," a DFC security guard and said to be a military asset, while the victim was looking for a room to be rented.

After killing Canillo, NAMAHEMIN said, Dalanghirang placed handgun beside the victim's body and spread it with money, reportedly to establish a holdup or extortion lead.

Meanwhile, the bodies of the Diaz brothers, Leonardo, 32, and Roland, 28, were found June 28 in the corner of Torres and Lapulapu Sts one day after they were reported kidnaped by unknown armed men. Both were believed "salvaged."

Leonardo sustained 14 stab wounds in different parts of the body, while Rolando had two gunshot wounds, one in the head and another in the chest.

The victims' mother told police that her sons left their residence in Quezon Blvd, this city, aboard their car to collect money from business clients.

The following morning, she said, her sons were found dead. As of press time, the victims' car remains missing.

CSO: 5600/4393

PHILIPPINES

ARTICLES PROFILE CEBU PEACE, ORDER SITUATION

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 8-11 Jul 85

[8 Jul 85 pp 5, 12, 14]

[Series by Godofredo M. Roperos: "Special Report--The Cebuano Under Siege"]

[Part I of 4]

[Text]

REGARDLESS of what our civil and military leaders are saying, we in Cebu are living in abnormal times. Try as anyone must to belie this assertion, the statistics in the last ten months or so, and the photographs of the dead, the dying, and the maimed that daily grace the front pages of our newspapers, are vital proofs that cannot be denied.

Let us not be deluded into thinking or believing that this problem we have, of a deteriorating peace and order condition, will improve itself on its own, simply because our top leaders do not believe that it is so; that it is an abnormal enough situation to merit a closer attention from them, as serious problems ought to be given.

We know the symptoms; we have seen it happen in Mindanao, notably in Davao. What Davao underwent at the beginning some two years ago is what we are having now in the rural areas of this province. Our top military officials cannot now deny this deteriorating situation; because they have already admitted this many months before when no less than Gen. Fabian Ver himself accepted the surrender of some 200 so-called NPAs in Asturias.

We are truly living in uncertain times, and the sooner our top civil and military leaders admit this and sincerely seek cooperation of our people in the countrysides, the sooner

we may be able to contain the problem before the matter really gets out of hand. For whatever it is that has disturbed the serenity, the peace and quiet of our mountains, is eventually bound to reach down to the lowlands if left unchecked.

WE AREN'T SURE

What is disturbing is that we really are not sure who are the people we have been told have taken over control of many areas in the uplands. Some say they are members of the New People's Army (NPA) from Mindanao, just like what the late Regino Laurente was; others say they are nothing but criminal elements, posing as NPAs, making the people believe they are by behaving like the real NPAs.

"But the question is that they do not seem to have any ideology at all," said one barrio schoolteacher to us. "They are gentle to the rural folks. They do not demand, they ask for help. But once you start giving, they expect you to do it regularly."

On the first Tuesday of June, at about 2 p.m., during the market day in barangay Manguiao, Asturias, one Eliezer Awit, a former CHDF member who had turned barangay tanod, was confidently leaning against a post of a makeshift store in the market under tall coconut trees. He was talking with some friends. His companions had just disarmed a drunk who was brandishing around a sharp hunting knife.

Suddenly, without the least provocation, someone opened fire at him with a handgun from a distance of only a couple of yards. After the second bullet hit him on his left side, he fell. In an instant, a fellow CHDF snatched the armalite that Awit had slung on his shoulders, and fired back at the man who fired the shot.

"The man was hit; surprisingly he still managed to withdraw towards where his companions had positioned themselves," a food vendor who saw the action told us. "He would not have been hit if he was not careless while withdrawing. He looked experienced and trained."

We learned later from Roger de Guzman, a resident of the barangay, and a member of the Asturias Sangguniang Bayan, when we dropped in on him last week, that the assailant who was one of the four who died along with two innocent civilians in that incident, has re-

mained unidentified up to now. But his people are sure that he was not one of the mountain folks, because while he was not wearing any shoes or slippers, his feet were not calloused, nor the toes spread far apart like the mountain folks'.

COMMANDER BLACKIE

One week later, on the same day, the barangay captain of Bairan, a village still farther up from Manguiao, brought down to the poblacion the dead body of one Jesus Trocio, more popularly known as Commander Blackie. His whole body showed signs of being beaten up. All his fingers were cut off, and he was shot through the mouth.

Commander Blackie, like SB Roger de Guzman, had been one of the original members of the Laurente group. Having voluntarily surrendered to the authorities, he was granted an amnesty. Since then, our informant told us, he had chosen to return to farming in barangay Bairan. It was in his farm where he was killed last June 11. The shot through the mouth strongly indicated that it was his former companions who had done him in, probably on suspicion that he had "sung" to the military.

ONCE upon a time, the mountains of Balamban, Asturias and Tuburan, typical of the rest of the province, while almost totally denuded and

craggy, have been an idyllic haven of rural folks who persisted on making a living from the unproductive land. No matter that the returns for their long day's toil do not equal the efforts exerted, so long as their lives are secure, their nights are peaceful, their sleep unperturbed, lulled by the cool mountain breeze and the tranquilizing sounds of swaying cogon grasses and singing cicadas.

Used to a hand-to-mouth existence, they worked from dawn to sunset in the same hillside farms that have sustained the lives of their forebears before them. Unable to know then a life better than the one they were born into, they know no discontent, nor do they hanker for a different kind of life than what they have been used to. Theirs had been a life caught in the cycle of the four seasons, a circumstance that until recently, seemed as if there would never a way of escape.

But suddenly, the changing conditions of the world beyond their mountains have also sent ripples of change to their own backyards, wreaking violence to the lifestyles they were born into. Thus, the assault against the mountainfolks' traditional way of life which began during the last World War when people from the plains were forced to live in the hills, found impetus from the advances mankind achieved in science and technology.

OPEN TARGETS

The impact of the changes wrought in recent years by the introduction of the transistor radio, the building of barangay roads, the new farming technology, even the importation of the so-called "Texas" fighting cocks, have been so severe, that some social scientist friends, likening it to an earthquake, rated it seven on the Richter scale. So great has been the effect that it seems to have altered not only the lifestyles of our rural folks, but also their outlook and attitude towards the world.

Thus, made more sensitive to the inadequacies of their own lives, they began to dream of better things, feeling for the first time a sense of discontent regarding their own material condition. Conscious of the poverty they were enmeshed in, they have become open targets to those who would wish to use them, exploiting their misery and their discontent. Aroused from their own long indifference to their social condition, the mountainfolks now learned to extract full value of their "services" from those who would desire to "employ" them.

"They have changed so much," a priest told us recently. "Where before they always have a warm welcome for visitors, when we can be certain of their hospitality just like a sunrise, this is no longer so now. They make you feel that they expect something in return for whatever they do for you. They are already infected by the materialism of our times."

And so, it should no longer be a source of wonder to us to learn that out there in the mountains between Balamban and Cebu city, there is already such a place anti-narcotics people and local police call the "Golden Triangle," after that notorious area in the Burmese mountains that produce heroin by the thousand tons a year. Only that in our case, it is marijuana that they plant and harvest.

While we cannot truly assert that this area does not just exist in rumor and fantasy, but in reality, since we have never been there, yet various people we have talked to told us that this place has now become a multimillion-peso enterprise guarded not just by armed mountainfolks, but by men who act like the mercenaries we see in the movies, armed with assorted firearms, the likes of which the villagers have not seen before.

"I asked one farmer from the area to describe to me the firearms that the unidentified men he saw there were carrying," one informant told us. "And he described to us one much shorter than a carbine, but much bigger than a .45, with a long magazine. It sounds like an Ingram."

CRIMINALS & IDEOLOGUES

To us who do not have much interest in firearms, and do not even care to possess one, an Ingram is just any other name of a gun like Winchester or Squibman, until we were told that the going rate at present for this particular make of gun is P30,000 more or less; and that one bullet alone costs P20. Having such an expensive gun with such an expensive bullet placed in the hands of certain people whose sense of moral purpose is unclear, should only make us believe that there is really something percolating in our mountains, enough to leave all of us worried.

But that is only on the side of possible infiltration by criminal elements of our countryside. There is still the matter of the ideologue insurgents believed to be mustering support—both moral and economic, to start with—from the mountainfolks. On this count, there is much that

we have gathered, too, but largely from separate sources who told us only of what they have gathered either from actual experience or from first hand sources. Hence, while the information seem highly credible on the surface, we confess that we are at the same time wracked with doubt as to their veracity.

One question uppermost in our minds is whether there is truly a Communist infiltration in the province. Due to constant media exposure, the NPA is what people immediately equate with Communism often bypassing the fact that it is only an arm of a more sophisticatedly conceived organization of a determined group of Filipinos who subscribe to a different form of government based on an ideology contrary to what we have traditionally held.

But the NPA is the most aggressive arm of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP). It is what moves surreptitiously in the barangays, first with

members of semi-legal teams (SLT), so-called because they assume legitimate identities as salesmen of consumer goods, faith-healers, or mission workers of religious sects, conducting legit business in the village. Actually, SLTs undertake "social investigations" (SI) during their stay, among the barangay inhabitants.

RECRUITMENT

Our informant said that when a barangay is subjected to an SI, the inhabitants are carefully scrutinized, not only for their economic condition, which includes financial status and properties owned, but also their attitudes and thinking towards things in general. Then they are classified into three categories: *advanced, progressive, or backward*.

Those listed in the "advanced" category are candidates for immediate recruitment; it means that they are sympathetic to the cause of the CPP. Those listed under the "progressive" category are those considered as potential recruits. They are people who are openly anti-government, but are in no way openly sympathetic to the Communist cause. They are just plainly dis-

contented with the way the government is doing things. "The "backwards" are those who are openly pro-government; those closely tied up with their religion, as well as the inveterate drinkers or gamblers, those with questionable morality who would do more trouble than good to the community if left unchecked. The backwards, so our informants told us, are hapless candidates for the liquidation squad.

Once a barangay has undergone the SI, it becomes the target of members of political organization teams (POT). The POT is responsible in putting some sense into the data gathered by the SLT which has, in the meantime, vanished from the target community to move to another area. It is the POT that begins the spadework for the organization of the party in the barangay. Those who are listed in the advanced and progressive categories may then be considered part of the mass base. They will be asked to help the party cause by contributing certain specified amounts monthly.

One informant told us that some SLTs are already operat-

ing in barangays along the road. And that in the Toledo-Balamban-Asturias-Tuburan sector alone some 25 to 30 barangays have passed the SI phase. But whether the POT has already come into these villages, he cannot say. But in Asturias, Roger de Guzman told us, barangays like Bairan and Baye in the mountains have 80 percent of their inhabitants already considered as part of the mass base; other villagers like Obogon count for 60 percent.

If we were to consider the mass of information we have gathered as highly correct, and of A-1 reliability, then we have to accept that a CPP organization or a provincial party committee has already been set up here. But we have our doubts in the sense that if this is true, then why should the military still consider Cebu, or the whole region for that matter, basically a peaceful area? Isn't the infiltration of even a single SLT alarming enough?

DECEPTIVE

It would indeed be deceptive if our military leaders continue to lull us into inaction by saying that the situation is still manageable, when all along not just

the city, but most the countryside have already been subjected to somekind of "treatment" by subversive elements in our midst. Already, some 30 towns out of 48 are rumored to

be "infected" either by criminal elements or by insurgents, not to mention the five cities.

If this is true, it is hard to accept that this is really happening to the Cebuano who has all these years been trying to live a comparatively peaceful life since his liberation from Japanese occupation. If his countryside is no longer safe for him to roam around at will, and his cities are also as doubly threatening to the security of his life and limb, where will he go then, what must he do?

Whatever is happening in our countryside, in the mountain fastness of the province, one thing we can be certain of - the innocence of our hills has been violated, and so do the peace and security of the Cebuano who live in them.

(Tomorrow: THE FORBIDDING MOUNTAINS. A Look At The Various Armed Groups Who Are Said To Roam Our Highlands From North To South)

[9 Jul 85 pp 7, 14]

[Series by Godofredo M. Roperos: "Special Report--The Cebuano Under Siege: A Closer Look at the Peace and Order Situation in Our Countrysides"; "The Armed Groups that Roam Our Mountains" Part 2 of 4]

[Text]

IT IS difficult to ascertain when our mountains started to become a convenient haven of many lawless elements. Once upon a time the lair of courageous Cebuano guerrillas valiantly fighting the superior Japanese forces which had occupied Cebu in the early '40s, more than four decades ago, today the same mountains seem to form a formidable rampart that now holds civil and military authorities at bay, while the armed bands continue their siege of the peace-loving citizenry.

All information we have gathered, point to some 20 or so armed groups roaming the uncomplaining hills of Cebu, threatening, extorting, robbing or "persuading" the inhabitants to donate amounts to their cause, while most if not all of the groups have decided to stay put in certain areas as base, making it appear as if they have subdivided the whole length of our mountains from north to south for their respective sector of operation, with each sector assigned as jurisdictional operating area of each band, there is no information however, that they have formally agreed on this.

Under this arrangement, it would appear that the various armed groups have merely agreed to informally respect the arrangement. For by all indications, most armed groups operate only in specific sectors, and never going out beyond his "designated" sector. Thus, it is quite possible that a criminal incident reported to the police authorities as occurring in, say, Catmon or Tuburan mountains, we can instantly point to it as probably the work of Guilbert Cudias and his group, since he has been known to operate in that area.

OBJECTIVES

In any case, the armed bands in our mountains are said to be pursuing varied objectives, not the least of which are political. There are a couple of stationary groups, however, which are there to protect the business interests of miners. But depending upon the size of the mining operation, the security group may either just be a few-five to 10 - or many, from a dozen to a score. The business security forces - if we must call them that - however, are neither belligerent nor aggressive, but reacts only if they, or the area they are supposed to secure, is threatened.

An immediate instance we can cite of this situation, was the recent incident where the jeep carrying the payroll

money for one of the coal mine firms operating in the mountains of Danao City was held up, and a security man was slain, with the payroll money totalling P3,500 taken. Not long after that, the men who reportedly participated in the crime, fell one by one, allegedly in the encounter with police elements pursuing them. While we can confirm only the fact of their liquidation, we are not privy to how they were done in, except the reports that it was a "well-oiled machinery" that did it.

At any rate, what we are trying to portray is one face of the armed bands that have been introduced into the peaceful world of our mountains. They are a ragtag group, actually, but carrying deadly weapons backed up by calloused determination to assert themselves in their harsh and often unkind environment. Thus, they do not hesitate to use their weapons and kill, even if there is no need at all to do so. Of course, together with the business security forces, there are the 20 armed bands which have spread out all over our highlands.

They are spread throughout the length of our 200-kilometer long mountain range, more or less, from north to south, each group establishing a base in a particular sector, although nothing stops them from going to another one if they so desire, to forage even on another group's backyard. But for our own purposes at the moment, let us just try to locate some of the groups in the respective locale that our various informants said they are supposed to be based if only to show the extent of their operational area, and the extent of their fearful influence.

CUDIAS

The more militant among the armed groups, is probably that one of Guilbert Cudias. He is identified with the

ideologues who were apprehended in December, 1962, but he escaped from the custody of the Regional Security Unit a year later. He operates in the area bounded by the towns of Asturias and Tuburan on the northwest, and Catmon, Carmen and Sogod on the northeast. He is at the moment, believed to be undertaking a massive recruitment operation in the barangays of his area. Late October last year, he had a man believed to be an informer, killed and beheaded in Catmon, further proof of his ruthlessness.

And yet, like the other bands, Cudias has only about 10 members in his groups, armed with assorted firearms that include M-16 rifles. But among his group, our informant said, are some of the most effective "liquidators" in the business, headed by one alias Alcapon. But what to our mind, is the more worrisome, is the fact that being an ideologue, Cudias could very well promote on his own, the cause of the communist without even the prodding of the provincial party committee.

Next to Cudias is the Nolasco Bobo group which operates in an area bounded by Asturias and part of Balamban on the northwest coast, and Liloan, Consolacion and Cebu City on the northeast. The group, so we were told, has established its base in the Luanan area, in the vicinity of the water reservoir site contemplated to be constructed to supply Cebu City's water needs in the 1990s. Nolasco, incidentally, was one of the reported 19 prisoners who escaped from the Bagong Buhay Rehabilitation Center jail in December, 1963.

It may be recalled that of the 19 who escaped on Dec. 16, only five were later recaptured or surrendered. Two of them, Benjoracio Maturillas and Ernesto Caputi, surrendered a week later, to Balamban Municipal Mayor Socrates Y. Gonzales. With Nolasco Bobo now known to be in the hills, it may be safe to presume that the balance of 13 unaccounted for, whose criminal infractions were generally murder and robbery, are also in the mountains as members of his gang or with other groups.

Our information is that Bobo, armed with several long arms and handguns, is into the

marijuana business in his area of operation. Said to be an escapee of the Davao Penal Colony, he was pointed to as the one who did away Commander Blackie, although for what reasons, our informant could not however say. We were assured, though, that Commander Blackie was with the group assigned the Mangulao mission which somehow fouled up, and he was wounded man dragged by his companions during their retreat. Subsequent information we got, however, said that it was the Commander Nilo group that ended Commander Blackie's career.

BALULOT

Known generally as Bernardo Balulot, Commander Nilo or Commander Bernad as he is also called, is another of those who seemed to have an ideological direction in his activities. In Asturias-Tuburan area, he operates along the coastal barangays. He was reportedly the target of the PC/INP in the area during the Guinebasan village fiesta last week when a young man, Leonardo Sulasco, was picked up instead, and a few days later was found dead from a gunshot wound on the forehead along the bank of the Buanoy river, only a few yards from the main road. The PC provincial command, we were told, is still having the case investigated.

Barangay Tubigagmanok and neighboring San Roque, are believed to be among some 20 or so barangays listed as targets for "development" by the NPA semi-legal teams operating in the Balamban-Asturias area. Since the late Regino Laurente was reportedly an ideologue from Agusan del Norte who came to Cebu on his own, it is possible that the remnants of his band - of which Commander Nilo is one - have continued to do what he had started, and developing their own splinter group.

(It is possible, that the late Laurente was not officially blessed by the CPP to do the task he set out to do. We were told that there are a number of so-called NPAs operating in Cebu and Bohol who are actually not "missioned" to do so. They have fallen out of grace from the party because they were unable to subscribe and adopt to its discipline by nature, temperament, and probably, physical make-up. But they

are sold to the goals of the party, and to the essence of its ideology, but not to the rigors of discipline demanded of them. Hence, they broke away from the party, and are operating on their own.

(Our information is that, their activities are being tolerated by the party because, while they are no longer officially connected with it, the activities they undertake are essentially the same as the party's. In a way, they are being tolerated, for after all, the products of their efforts may eventually be made use of by the party's rural organizations in the area when the time comes.)

LESSER GROUPS

There are other lesser groups operating in the mountains of Balamban, Asturias and Tuburan. One of them is the reported Fredigildo Banate group who concentrates more on the Tuburan-Asturias boundary, the Commander Eagle band based in Barangay Mahan-ay; the Gregorio Sanchez group which is reported to be engaged not only in raising marijuana, but also in gun-running, and recruitment. Further north, in the mountains of Tabuelan, there is also Commander Fredo with only four members, but with a number of assorted firearms, just like the rest of the smaller groups located in the area.

It is said that Commander Tatay has moved out of his earlier base in Minganilla, and is now on the Toledo City side. In which case, he may be sharing lairs with Commander Tomas who has not been sighted lately. Commander Tomas is said to have some dozen or more members, again with assorted firearms, and maintaining an extensive marijuana plantation in some mountain barangays of the city. This band has the distinction of being a sort of cavalry when they move around the mountains. One of their "equipment" are horses.

Towards the Pinamungahan-Aloguinsan sector, there are the Erming Gullas group and the Juan Fanilag band; and on the San Fernando side, there is the reported Tata Bayot group. Both the Gullas (or Gollas) and Fanilag band have only an estimated dozen members each. But more than enough to sow terror and threats to the mountainfolks, and squeeze them for contributions to sustain the band. Of course, in the perception of the police authorities, these groups have not been very active lately, and may be lying low for some unknown reasons.

On the Barili-Aloguinsan area, there are the Dodong Lasuerte band and the Silves-

tre Gingoyon group. It is said that Dodong Lasuerte's group undertakes forced recruitment among the mountain-folks, and go into liquidation when thwarted. Whether true or not, we have no way of confirming the information. While Lasuerte is reported to have about 12 members, Gingoyon is said to have only about five. On the San Fernando-Carcar side, there is a Commander Victoriano, but he has not been seen lately in the area. No one could tell us where his group might have gone. It may be possible that he has merged with another group.

There seems to be not much activity now in the Dumanjug, Ronda, Alcantara area. The remnants of Languita's group have not been very visible in recent months. Our informants from the area surmised that perhaps the group has broken up and gone on their separate way, or perhaps, are now engaged in other activities singly.

COMMANDER DAVID

Towards the far south, there is still the remnants of Commander David's group. When we were in Dumaguete City recently, we tried to confirm the fact of Commander David's death in the town of Siaton. We were told that there should really be no doubt about his death. Com-

mander David, it seems, had crossed Tampi to Negros Oriental, to escape the intensive manhunt staged by Provincial Commander Jewel Canson for him in the Oslob-Santander-Samboan-Malabuyoc area.

Right now, the remnants of his group is supposed to be headed by a Commander Tommy Blue and a Commander Riza, an amazon. How far it can make a go with its new leadership only time and the effectiveness of our military's counteraction, will tell.

In the meanwhile, we who are in the lowlands are left wondering what kind of life the once innocent and peace-loving mountain folks are having now in the face of the prevailing situation. While incidents of killings and liquidations may not be as many as in the Metro Cebu area, for instance, the fact that there are present in their midst these host of armed men, should certainly not be giving them the peace that they used to have, and more importantly, the kind of sound sleep that one can get only from the silences of our hills.

Tomorrow - THE MILITARY RESPONSE: What Moves Are Being Taken By The PC/INP to Counter the Armed Band's Fearsome Activities)

[Series by Godofredo M. Roperos: "Special Report--The Cebuano Under Siege: What Moves Are Being Taken by the PC/INP To Counter the Armed Bands' Fearsome Activities?"; "The Military Response" Part 3 of 4]

[Text]

NOT SINCE the anti-Hukbalahap campaign and the communist encroachment in some areas of the Visayas in the early '50s, has the Philippine military been faced by a more formidable challenge to its capability and machoness, than it is today from the CPP/NPA, as well as from the increasing number of criminal elements which, we believe, are spawned by the economic crisis we are presently experiencing.

The challenge, unfortunately, seem to be blooming all over the country like the wild lilies in the pond, teasing to discomfiture the touchy ribs of our armed forces, not used to its being played upon by the wily "challengers" and the alarmed civilian populace pressing for instant response and action. Presumably knowing more of the true situation of an area at any given time--what with its extensive intelligence network--the AFP may feel it unthinkable, indeed, for any of us in the civilian sector to be able to make it act simply because we are alarmed or worried or terrified by the prospects of facing an unknown fate.

In Cebu, or for that matter, the Central Visayas, where most of the people have been enjoying a lengthy period of comparative peace and quiet, the sudden realization that their peace is being threatened, or their life itself endangered, may have shocked them into the instant demand for an immediate solution to the problem which has grown even more complex because of our economic dilemma, and the resultant financial constraints that the AFP reportedly has promptly found itself in.

But of course, every well-meaning and right-thinking citizen will never cotton kindly to such the idea of financial constraint as the cause behind the PC/INP's inability to institute an immediate response, which could be the justification, surely, behind the vehement demand of certain sectors in our community for a change in the PC/INP's top leadership. The hue and cry that accompanied the demand is quite loud enough, but it seems to have fallen on deaf ears.

It is precisely because of this perceived indifference of the top military leadership to the Cebuano's plight that we felt the need to make a closer look at our situation, if only to ascertain for ourselves what could be the true picture of our peace and order situation. What we have uncovered so far not only looks alarming on the surface, but also quite frightening. But some of our fears have been allayed after our talk with Provincial Commander Lt. Col. Jewel Canson.

AIR OF CONFIDENCE

There is an air of confidence in Colonel Canson when he told us of the measures his command has taken and contemplates to take to stem the tide of unrest and criminal infractions in the mountains. Considered more as an operation man than a desk-bound performer, he had ten years of seasoning with the CANU (Constabulary Anti-Narcotics Unit) to prepare him for the task of provincial commander in a province such as Cebu.

"It is true that there are about 23 armed bands operating in our mountains at the time I assumed my present position," Colonel Canson told us during our hour-long talk at the Sun*Star offices. "But I am happy to say that only five are very active now. The rest have not been sighted for some time."

To show that they are quite well aware of what is happening in our mountains, Colonel Canson told us that certain developments in the area bounded by Balamban, Asturias, Liloan and Cebu City, indicate that the sector has been divided into at least five subdivisions, three on the Balamban side and two on the Asturias side, with each subdivision handled by an armed group.

On the Balamban area, one subdivision, according to him, which is bounded by Barangays Arpili, Buanoy and Abucayan along the national road, and up towards the mountains that include Barangays Cantibas, Cansomoroy, Buhing Tubig, etc., is controlled reportedly by a non-politically-oriented band headed by the Ardillo brothers, a certain Boy and Tony. It seems that the band are concentrating on marijuana trafficking.

The other subdivision, the one that include Barangay Gaas where the so-called Golden Triangle is located, is supposedly in the hands of the Nolasco Bobo group. This is one of the five most active bands at the moment. This group, like the Cudlas band--which is first of the five most

active--has some ideological pretensions, in the sense that the members also undertake recruitment and ask contributions from the villagers.

The third subdivision on the Balamban side, is said to be taken care of by remnants of the Laurente band. While the two on the Asturias side, are controlled by Commander Nilo and other remnants of the Laurente band. This is the third most active band as identified by Colonel Canson. How the band of Gregorio Sanchez which is based somewhere in Luca, on the Balamban side, fit into this setup we are not quite clear.

COMMON DENOMINATOR

The way we understood it from the Provincial Commander, the common denominator among the bands that have assumed "leadership" over the subdivision, is marijuana production. In which case, the Sanchez band may be involved in one subdivision's management, since its original activity had been largely the maintenance of a plantation.

The two other most active bands are in the southern part of the province. Colonel Canson was not quite clear on the two, but we understand that one is the Commander Tatay group, and the other, the remnants of Commander David's band which is now led by Commander Riza, the David widow, and a certain Tommy Bluc who, a Sun*Star Daily staffer claims, used to study in one of the universities in the city.

What then is the basic military response to the problem? We asked the Provincial Commander who looked much younger than we thought he was.

"Our response is not merely through the force of arms," the Colonel said. "This is a struggle to win the hearts and minds of the people. So we have the Restructured Patrol Squad (RPS) that is doing the yeoman task of containing our problems in the hills."

It seems that the RPS was the same innovation we heard being undertaken by the local military at the instance of Brig. Gen. Renato Earmas. It used to be known as the Restructured Rifle Squad. But it seems, the latter name does not sound appropriate to what the squad is really tasked to undertake, which is not merely to use their rifles as the name itself implies, but more.

CIVIL MILITARY ASSISTANCE

The squad composed of at least nine military personnel, while they are well-trained and disciplined soldiers, are also at the same time extended additions: training each along certain lines of expertise. Thus, the squad now is composed of an agriculturist who can advise farmers on plant and animal diseases; a herbal specialist who can suggest effective but cheap remedies for simple sicknesses; a terrain specialist who assist villagers in some projects; and even a barefoot doctor, who counterbalances the role of the herbal medicine specialist on emergencies, such as accidents.

The RPS are assigned certain sectors, and they undertake civil-military assistance to the communities in their area of operation. A multi-faceted group, they are also battle-trained, and can engage an enemy in any ground. At the moment, there are already some 16 or so teams assigned in various parts of the province. Some are made mobile, and undertake civic action tasks, in areas not covered by a stationary team.

Yesterday, a number of teams congregated in Mangulao for a scheduled civic action program. The Barangay Captains of surrounding villages have been asked by Mayor Dominador Toong to meet at the market site to discuss common problems with the Mayor and Colonel Canson, as well as with officials of other government offices. Hopefully, certain concerns which may have become a hindrance to the people's pursuit of a better life, may be traced and resolved.

The teams are closely cooperating with the members of the Bantay Bukid. The name is given to a concept of cooperation and coordination among key leaders of a barangay, the main objective of which is to insure safety and security of each village. Among the members are the Barangay Captain, the Barangay Tanod, and the Civilian Home Defense Force member in the area. A concept of the provincial government, it is actually a counterpart of Bantay Dagat, which is supposed to oversee our fishing grounds.

That the fielding of the RPS has successfully checked the rise of criminality in the countryside, is something that we

can gauge from quantifiable results. It seems that in the first six months of the year, the number of criminal infractions committed by armed bands and other persons totalled more than 300 cases reported. Compared with the number reported during the same period last year which was about 600 cases more or less, there is clearly, a decline in the incidence.

"That is not a questionable figure," Colonel Canson said, "because I built in it a 25 percent margin of error, which is already quite big, if we talk only of the unreported cases. But even with that margin, we still came up with a 42 percent decrease in mountainside crimes."

INTEGRATED DEFENSE PLAN

In order to be sure of a dependable and effective cooperation against the armed bands in the mountains, the PC Provincial Command has more and more sent out seasoned and experienced PC personnel, and confined the police to the poblacion and lowland barangays. The idea is to assure

mountainfolks of an immediate response to their call for assistance, as did happen in the Oslob-Santander-Samboan sector a few months ago, at the height of the Commander David problem.

"What is important, however, is that we are able to gain the people's support," the Colonel said. "So much of the success of these things depends upon how much support and cooperation we get from the civilians in the affected areas. We succeeded much sooner in Santander because the people helped us."

The local military has conceived of a so-called Integrated Defense Plan which call for the integration into the defense program a component that also introduces certain development projects needed in the particular community where the armed forces will be actively operating. In this wise, not only the military personnel are taken care of, but the civilian population is also able to share in the benefits of the military presence.

There were still quite a number of instances and cases that the Provincial Command

der cited to us to show that his command has adequately responded to the problem of criminality and the disruption of peace and order in our mountain communities. The fact that there is, in his own words, a marked decrease in the incidence of crime in the area in the first half of this year, when compared to the same period last year, before his ascendancy to the leadership of the command, is perhaps enough proof that the PC/NP at the provincial level is on its toes.

"I recognize the problem," he said, "and we can contain it, too, given the modest logistical support and the assistance of other agencies. We have shown it in the Commander David case, we can do the same thing in other areas, if needed."

And you know, we believe the Colonel can, too.

Tomorrow: THE ULTIMATE QUESTION: Can the NPA-Armed Bands Menace Be Successfully Countered?

[11 Jul 85 pp 5, 12]

[Series by Godofredo M. Roperos: "Special Report--The Cebuano Under Siege: A Closer Look at the Peace and Order Situation in our Countrysides..."; "How Can We Stop the Menace of the NPA and the Armed Bands?" Last of 4 Parts]

[Text]

WHILE many of us strive to attain sound sleep nights in the security of our homes, a hundred, perhaps, give or take a few more, are not having any sleep at all. They are out in the wilderness of the hills seeking out people, talking to them in voices trained for cadence and modulation, about mastered ideas designed to reach the emotional depths of peasants who have never been talked to in that manner before.

Then, the peasants, their eyes eventually opened to the reality of their poverty, to the miserable lives that a harsh and heartless society is said to have consigned them into, begin to nourish a deep sense of discontent, a disenchantment with the life they have been used to all these years, and a feeling of hatred against the people they were told have brought up-on them the horrid condition of their lives, take roots in their hearts.

This is the way the seed of the Communist ideology is implanted in the minds and hearts of our peasants in the mountains. In their naive outlook of the world beyond the village or the town, they accept as gospel truth what

they are told, demanding no clarifications, or asking for answers to questions that nag their minds. They are a people hardened by the sun, wind, and rain, and learning from the weather's coming and going throughout the year, the full measure of their own existence.

Thus politicized, they are suddenly found shedding off traditional values, and taking on new beliefs with fanatical zeal, as if with the new knowledge, they acquired a kind of strength that makes them far more superior compared to the "unbelievers" down in the lowlands. Indeed, this is how Chairman Mao successfully executed his now too well-known strategy of encirclement of the towns and cities.

STRATEGY

The strategy was a complete opposite to the one used by the Marxist-Leninist in the Soviet Union which concentrated on industries in urban areas. With non-industrialized countries of Asia, such as China, how can such strategy succeed? The Chinese modified and adapted the strategy to Asian conditions: control the uplands and starve the lowlands.

Is it possible that the same strategy is being used on us by the CPP/NPA here? Indeed, our country's being fragmented into islands presents both advantage and disadvantage under this strategy. But in our case, Cebu being a small island, it is a clear advantage, if given a weak and indifferent government forces, an uncooperative and apathetic citizenry along with a corrupt and graft-ridden civil government.

At the height of the Huk problem in the early 1950s, William C. Bullitt, a former American ambassador to the Soviet Union, wrote an assessment of the Philippine situation sometime in early 1952.

The Huk insurgency then was practically knocking at Manila's door. We recall, for we were at this time a student at the U.P. in Dillman, that the nearby village of Balara had already become a Huk lair.

Wrote Mr. Bullitt then: "In the great rice bowl of Central Luzon, Huks constantly levy tribute in food, money and goods. If the farmer or villager pays up regularly and is not suspected of giving government troops information about Huk movements, he is allowed to live—otherwise he is killed. Only those mineowners who pay regular taxes in food and money to the Huks are allowed to work their mines. On the southern islands the Huks burn down those pineapple-processing plants whose owners do not contribute regularly. Blackmailed capitalists thus are helping to maintain the Huks who are dedicated to their destruction.

"The Philippine Army had been demoralized by corrupt and incompetent officers. Politicians and their cronies were growing richer and richer from graft; the poor were growing poorer. The presidential election... had been disgracefully corrupt; voters had been terrorized. In consequence, many decent Filipinos had begun to despair of democracy and to conclude that the Huk communism might be the lesser of two evils. (Underlining ours.)

LITTLE CONFIDENCE

"At the moment there is little confidence that the government can carry out any program honestly or efficiently. There has been too much graft. The masses of the Philippines are decent, kindly people. Their intellectual literacy... is high for Asia. Their moral literacy—thanks to 300 years of Christian teaching and 50 years of American education—is even higher. Their passion for education is almost pathetic. Their faith in democracy used to be as universal as their faith in God, but after the Philippines became independent most of their political leaders began to behave as if they had been educated in pillage politics by Boss Pendergast."

If it were not for the references to the Huks, Mr. Bullitt might as well be writing of the contemporary situation than of that period 35 years ago. Indeed, if one believes in the saying that history repeats itself, there is no more authentic example than between this period of our history as described by the American ambassador so succinctly, and the condition of our country today.

It would appear as if the insurgents, knowing what happened in the past, where they failed and where they succeeded, are being given a second chance to succeed. For in their first attempt, the Philippines was lucky enough to have seen the ascendancy of a new leader who, while admittedly not a very talented man, was able nevertheless to capture the imagination of the Filipinos, gained their total confidence and cooperation, and thus was able to contain the tide of Huk successes.

For combatting insurgency is a deeply demanding job, and cannot be accomplished purely by military action alone. The incessant pronouncements of our top military leaders in the region saying that the task of maintaining the peace and order situation here should be a joint effort between the civilian and military populace, is not a call beyond the normal, but a realistic proposition.

The problem is that such a joint endeavor calls for the existence of mutual trust and confidence from both "contracting" parties. And we are afraid that at the moment, the civilian sector has a rather very low regard for the Filipinos in uniform, not because of the uniform simply, but because of the situations of some of the men who were allowed to wear the uniform and abused the privilege, besmirching what used to be a spic and span image of the nation's armed forces.

REGAIN TRUST

Yes, indeed, to successfully counter the debilitating activities of insurgents and criminal elements in our mountains which has slowly taken the form of a siege on the Cebuano, specially on those who live in the lowland, there is a need for a joining of efforts between the civilian and military sectors. But for the civilian to cooperate with the military, or for that matter, the total government, the people's trust and confidence must first be regained.

In the 1950s, as it also is today, the problem as described by Ambassador Bullitt was of a graft and corruption-ridden government and a demoralized military due to corrupt and incompetent officers. This was the time of the Liberal Party and President Quirino (although we know personally that Apo Pidiong was a victim of the people he trusted around him—we should know because we worked with him on his memoirs at his house in Novaliches).

The country then was on the verge of collapse, but for

the timely arrival of President Magsaysay on the scene. Magsaysay, with the help of a host of concerned Filipino leaders, undertook a no-nonsense massive reform program in government, including the armed forces, instituting by example, a norm of public morality and personal discipline. Only then was he able to wrest the country from the precarious edge of the precipice to which it was driven.

Certainly, there is no doubt that we can counter the alarming activities of the NPA and the armed bands in our mountains. We can deny success to the countryside committee of the Cebu CPP. We can regain the confidence of our mountaineers in the duly constituted authorities in spite of their poverty, in spite of the violence that may have already been wrought on their lives by the ambiguous nature by which our top leaders over the years have undertaken the governance of this country. But we may have to pay a price.

NOT IRREVERSIBLE

There is no doubt in our mind now, after going through the information we have gathered about the so-called communist infiltration of the province, that is a *fait accompli*. Whether we like it or not, there is already in our midst a corps of ideologues out to sell to our people the grandeur and the beauty of a novel idea. And believe it or not, when in the adroit hands of this trained corps, the ideology that they are peddling becomes so attractive, it is quite difficult to refuse, specially when one—as Mr. Bullitt had written—has lost his faith in democracy.

But of course, we are sure that the situation is not irreversible. At any moment that the government and the people can agree to work together in the arduous task of re-ordering our lives for democracy, everything may just fall into place, as it did in the '50s. If the insurgents are learning from the mistakes of their forebears' experience in the past, there is no reason why we cannot also learn from the successes of the '50s counter-insurgency campaign.

If we are to believe the information we are getting that the armed men in our mountains believed to be NPAs, are exacting levies from the people on a monthly basis from P0.50 to P5.00, depending upon the results of their "social investigation," and exacting tributes in the form of rice and other food items, they are doing exactly the same thing the Huks did in their time, according to the Bullitt report. Then they are not really learning from past mistakes.

This act is anathema to our people, specially if they are not yet committed to the ideology and the movement. And we can be sure that this is already generating a lot of resentment and disillusionment among the mountaineers, except that, cowed by the guns and threat to their lives, they are unable to express their sentiments, much less offer any resistance to their "tormentor."

There is no doubt in our mind that we have the capability and the material wherewithal to change the course of our lives in relation to our present problems. What is needed is our determination and our will—and a leadership that enjoys the confidence and the trust of the masses, not just in the military, but in the civil government as well.

Let us return to Mr. Bullitt again, referring to the conquest of the Huk movement: "All this—and more—can be done if the political leaders of the Philippines can now rise to the level of moral literacy which distinguishes the little people of their country. If they cannot, the show window of American

democracy in the Far East will continue to display dirty, shoddy products. And, in the end, Communism will hold the field because democracy has failed."

In a democracy, after all, it is not the few top leaders of government, but the people that must prevail.

PHILIPPINES

TWO ARMY MEN KILLED IN CEBU, WEAPONS TAKEN

'Urban Terrorists' Suspected

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 10 Jul 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

Intelligence operatives yesterday said the killing of two Army men 6:45 a.m. Monday at a busy sidewalk in Tabunok, Talisay, Cebu could be the work of urban terrorists known in the underground as Armed City Partisans Unit (ACPU).

Operatives had tagged one popular ACPU figure, but the identity was withheld pending ongoing surveillance operations.

The identity of the alleged urban terrorist, tagged as the triggerman, was based on testimonies initially gathered from Cynthia Entienza, younger sister of one of the slain Army soldiers.

GUNNED DOWN

Gunned down before horrified commuters and marketgoers were Pfc. Allan Entienza and Pfc. Greg Ilarmo, both assigned with the Sixth Infantry Division (6ID) based in Molunda, Marawi, Lanao del Sur.

A third Army man, Pfc. Raul Escultor, escaped the killing by leaving shortly before the killing while Entienza's sister was spared by the gunman.

Police Maj. Jose P. Alorro,

commander of the Talisay police station, said his men also had difficulty gathering evidence because the testimonies of the witnesses failed to positively pinpoint the culprits.

A lone gunman, in his early 30's, shot dead Entienza and Elarmo in front of the Shell gasoline service station in Tabunok.

ESCORTING

The two Army men were escorting a fellow Armyman who had been slain during an encounter with New People's Army (NPA) rebels in Marawi. The slain soldier was identified as M/Sgt. David Duran of Minglanilla, Cebu.

They were on their way to Cebu city that morning to meet four more slain bodies of comrades in clashes with NPA rebels when the shooting took place.

Meanwhile, Alorro said he was willing to be reassigned to any station if higher authorities willed it.

"I have no other choice if that's the decision of higher authorities. But I still believe I'm doing the best I can to curb criminality in Talisay," said Alorro. **EMG**

Columnist Views Banditry Possibility

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 9 Jul 85 p 4

[Commentary by Wilfredy A. Veloso]

[Excerpt]

Long before gun-snatching became a vogue, there was already a policy requiring troopers who come to a place for a visit or for rest-and-recreation to deposit their firearms with the proper military authorities in the area. If this policy were strictly enforced, those two soldiers who were shot dead yesterday in Talisay might still be alive today. With their armalite rifles, they proved to be tempting targets for the "agaw-arnas" gang.

* * *

I am not ready to subscribe to the common belief that the "agaw-arnas" gang is composed of NPA elements out to get firearms for use in promoting their cause. Bandits also need firearms for their own use. If the victims happened to be soldiers, maybe it was only because they were carrying just the type of weapons the "agaw-arnas" gang wanted. I don't think the gang would be as keen in going after holders of "patik" or locally-made firearms.

CSO: 5600/4396

PHILIPPINES

BARANGAY OFFICIALS BELIEVE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST CHDF

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 10 Jul 85 pp 1, 12

[Article by Jimmy C. Alinsug: "CHDF Atrocities Belied"]

[Text]

Two barangay officials, an alleged former member of the fugitive band leader Regino Laurente, an armed group that used to sow terror and fear in the mountain barangays of Asturias and Balamban, yesterday believed the reported atrocities allegedly committed by CHDF members.

[as published]

Sangguniang Bayan member Rogelio de Guzman of Asturias and a confessed member of the armed group of Laurente told mediamen that CHDF members were not responsible for the robberies and killings reportedly committed in barangay's Manguiao and Magkalape, Asturias, Cebu. De Guzman said the fabricated information was designed to create conflict between barangay officials and the people which is the aim of National Democratic Front (NDF).

The NDF, a front of the Communist Party of the Philippines, (CPP), usually launches propaganda sorties in the mountain barangays in

order to create chaos among the constituents.

The same view was made by Manguiao barangay captain Cresencio Comedia and Barangay Captain Zosimo Erbeto of Magkalape, in an interview with VISAYAN HERALD.

The denials were made during a Civic Action project initiated by Lt. Col. Jewel Canson, Cebu PC/INP Provincial Commander, who flew to barangay Manguiao by helicopter together with RUC 7 officials.

The RUC officials who joined Canson in the Civac were. Lt. Col. Manuel Cabiogon, chief of the Civil and military operations of RUC 7, Capt. Gilbert Llanto and Col. Alfredo Ramos, chief of the 7th Civil Relations Group.

A medical and dental team was also dispatched to

the area to give free consultation and medicines to the barangay people.

The PC Cebu and RUC 7 troopers who conducted a Civac at Manguiao were augmented by 342nd PC CO led by Capt. Lane-o Nerez.

Last June 4, remnants of the Laurente group raided the Manguiao public market causing death to former barangay captain Eliezar Awit and the wounding of four other persons.

Canson said the raid was led by Kumander Nilo alias Kumander Bernan. Kumander Blackie, whose real name is Jose Trocio, was wounded during an encounter with CHDF militiamen in the course of the operations.

It was reported that Kumander Nilo finished off Kumander Blackie in the mountain barangays of Bairan, Balamban, Cebu (JCA)

PHILIPPINES

DAVAO GENERAL, KBL LEADER DISAGREE ON NPA PARTICIPATION

KBL Leader Cites Military Abuses

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 16 Jul 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

A near shoot-out at the preliminary meeting of the peace and order summit held at the Central Bank building Sunday nearly erupted when the KBL regional chairman Alejandro D. Almendras and RUC-XI commanding general Jaime C. Echeverria exchanged heated words over the proposal to include leaders of the CPP-NPA in the summit talks.

The heated altercations was triggered by the denunciations made by Almendras against military abuses and the salvagings of innocent civilians suspected of being NPA's. Almendras also told the military men to ask from the NPA's a chance to reform themselves before being liquidated by the sparrow liquidation squad.

"There are NPA's all around, even in this meeting," Almendras said. "Whenever I go to the rural areas I was always warned that there are NPA commanders following me and I told the NPA's not to kill me immediately but to warn me of my 'at-raso' so I can reform myself."

Addressing his accusations of military atrocities before Msgr. Antonio Mabutas, Almendras, in a thundering voice said: "I know for a fact that there are many innocent civilians killed by the military on suspicions of being NPA's. There are com-

plaints lodged to me." He cited the case of the Sarsaba family whose youngest son was salvaged by the military on suspicions of being a subversive despite the fact that the two eldest brothers of the victim were in the military, one a soldier and another a policeman. "If I am wrong with this," Almendras said, "I am ready to resign as KBL chairman."

Reacting to the accusations of Almendras, Gen. Echeverria cautioned not to make the summit talks as a forum to elevate the status of the NPA's and objected to what Almendras said that militarymen should ask from the NPA's a chance to reform before being liquidated by the sparrow unit.

"Who are they?" I know what I'm doing and I won't give a damn to them whether I am doing right or doing wrong," Gen. Echeverria said.

Almendras tried to interrupt but Gen. Echeverria advanced

to where Almendras was standing and said: "Don't put the words into my mouth. Don't shout at me. What do you think of us, cowards, 'tanga?' If they will shoot me, I'm not afraid to die. I'm with the government."

An armed man sauntered into the conference room and what could have triggered a shootout between the bodyguards of Almendras and the security men of Gen. Echeverria was diffused when Mayor Elias Lopez pacified them. Msgr. Mabutas also reminded the two quarreling officials that the forum was for peace. The archbishop called for a snack break and reconciled the two.

Columnist Blames KBL Chairman

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 17 Jul 85 p 3

[Article by Paul A. Sapsal in "The Spotlight" column: "Almendras Invited General Echeverria To Be Insulted"]

[Text]

The preliminary peace summit conference held at the Central Bank, Sunday July 14 turned out to be a war of words of titanic magnitudes. With accusing finger, KBL regional chairman Landring Almendras told Gen. Echeverria to stop police brutality and military abuses as it is one of the several causes in the proliferation of dissidents in this country. On top of his voice MP Almendras accused Brig. Gen. Jaime C. Echeverria of salvaging many innocent civilians. The RUC-XI Commanding General, seemingly could not hold his temper, has to raise his voice telling Almendras not to shout.

As initiator of the summit peace conference who arranged the preliminary peace talks at the Central Bank, MP Almendras was supposedly the host who invited the two generals in Recom-XI and many

other VIPs including Msgr. Antonio Ll. Mabutas. As host, it would be very unbecoming to insult his guest not to mention his present stature as KBL chairman of the Region XI and as Deputy Minister of Human Settlements Ecology which should earn the unsolicited respect of the people.

While it is true that Almendras has to tell to Gen. Echeverria what he has in mind, MP Almendras must choose the right venue so that the General will not be humiliated so much with all that insults. By insulting Gen. Echeverria in the presence of the many invited guests including the media, it only shows that Almendras has not learned the correct ethics in dealing with people. In fact he has the bad habit of giving tongue lashing to Bureaucratic directors which is unwittingly devoid of proper decorum.

Echeverria Hails Almendras

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 18 Jul 85 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt]

2 DIGOS, DAVAO DEL SUR
— Brig. Gen. Jaime C. Echeverria, chief of the Regional Unified Command (RUC) XI hailed yesterday the efforts launched by MP Alejandro Almendras to bring the New People's Army to the peace table.

Echeverria likewise guaranteed immunity from arrest to
[lines missing]

"It is a welcome move," Echeverria told the media here. Echeverria likewise guaranteed immunity from arrest to NPA representative — but with the necessary clearance from his superiors.

The twin statements served to dispel fears of military opposition to the peace initiatives set to motion by the concurrent KBL regional chairman and deputy

human settlements minister.

"In our search for peace, any course of action could be a solution provided that it is properly handled," he added.

The RUC commander here pointed out that dialogs are, in fact, the very heart of the Armed Forces' noncombat measures to meet the insurgency problems. "And any soldier, any civilian can initiate a dialog whenever there is a feeler for one," he said.

On the fear of elevating the stature of the NPA, Echeverria exuded confidence that the peace talks would give government a chance to persuade NPA's to abandon the communist cause.

"The majority in the NPA ranks are not communists," Echeverria said. "They will not like communism if they see it for what it really is. Communism is essentially unFilipino."

He also said that dealing with the NPA's is not exactly the same with hardcore communist party members, who constitute a very small portion among the ranks of the insurgents.

Echeverria's guarantee for a "safe passage" to the NPA's came with the condition that higher headquarters indicates its official sanction of the Almendras initiative.

If approved then we will guarantee their (NPA's) immunity from arrest. They can come out as free as any citizen," he said.

This appeared to be a formality however with Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, acting AFP chief of staff, giving his nod to the peace talks late last week in a press conference attended by members of the national and local press. — (OMA-NMPC/Rimando)

CSO: 4200/1464

PHILIPPINES

AFF 'DIABLO' GROUP TAKES ISSUE WITH DAVAO JOURNALIST

Columnist Alleged on 'Payroll'

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 17 Jul 85 pp 2, 5

[Letter to the Editor from Diablo Crimebusters, a registered Armed Forces of the Philippines organization, Davao Oriental chapter]

[Text]

Mati, Davao Oriental

Greetings:

We, the members of the DIABLO Squads, the Crimebusters, Davao Oriental Chapter have high regards to your newspaper publication, ever since our fraternal organization was formed.

We regret, however, that some of your contributing editors have failed to meet the norms and objectives of a media by writing stories which are "slanted" and out of proportion, for a fee.

Mr. Bert Tesorero's June 30, 1985 issue of "Point At Issue" column, playing up Lt. Col. Peña by putting out phony statements on the one hand, and unfairly besmirching the image of the Diablo Squads, the Crimebusters on the other is a clear indication that the play-up is an "envelopmental" rather than developmental.

For the information of your goodself and the staffers, particularly Bert Tesorero, we are enclosing herewith xerox copies of the affidavits of some Mati

cops who figured in the illegal raid of Flordeliz Lopez Inigo farm in Panombon, Mati. The same is self-explanatory.

We believe that Mr. Tesorero already knew that Diablo is an acronym because he is a writer, and yet he still preceded the word Diablo with El, an article Paking Rabat uses whenever he puts out a discrediting issue against the brotherhood organization. As a reminder, D stands for dauntless I stands for ingenious, A for advocator, B for banner, L for liberty and O for oneness of which when made into a phrase will mean, we the members of the DIABLO Squads, the Crimebusters are the dauntless and ingenious protectors of the helpless and advocators for the defense of the Pilipino banner, liberty and oneness. In Pilipino language, it means matapang at matapat na tagapagtanggol ng mga naapi, watawat, kalayaan at pagkakaisa ng lahing Pilipino.

For the information of Bert Tesorero, there are a total of 143, not 37 as mentioned in his Point At Issue are members of the Diablo Squads, the Crimebusters in Davao Oriental. The

group compose of 98 PC, 30 INP and 15 Magic Group members headed by Capt. Gil K. Taojo, Jr., PC (inactive) who is presently taking up Law course in one of the universities in the city. The brotherhood organization is still flourishing fast in Davao Oriental and Davao del Norte.

Contrary to Tesorero's story, Col. Salvador Sayson is not and has never been a member of the Diablo Squads, and the organization is a mysterious group as what Tesorero term it. Col. Sayson has his own crowd of his frequency. Of course, we can not blame Tesorero for his choice of words because he is only earning for a living from his sources. Paking Rabat and Col. Peña. But for a "seasoned" columnist practicing yellow journalism is something worth cursing.

We have records of all scribes, local or invading who are under the regular payroll of Paking Rabat.

Our Intelligence group or DS.2 report indicated that Tesorero is among the several scribes who are regularly receiving "cover-up" wad from a

known bigwig in Davao Oriental. We saw him in Mati last June 6-7, 19 and very recently.

We have also contacted the provincial fiscal of Mati, Atty. Arnulfo M. Agleron to verify who are the members of the Diablo Squads facing criminal charges as what Tesorero have accused in that June 30 issue. Fiscal Agleron vehemently denied the report saying he does not know who are Diablo Squads members and who are not, and "I do not know who is Bert Tesorero. Nobody approached me and inquired about the Diablo members being charged. My

last visit in Davao was February, 1985 and since then I have never been to Davao nor have talked to any mediamen," Fiscal Agleron said.

Tesorero's story hinted us that he was instructed by his Davao Oriental "boss" to plug the story, despite, the erratical source.

Finally, we wish to thank you for lending your eyes reading our sides. This would probably be a jabberwocky, but we certainly would appreciate it very much if this will fit in one of your Open Letter portion. Thank you and more power to the business.

We are,

Very truly yours,

DIABLO SQUADS, the Crime-busters, Davao Oriental Chapter

By:

(Sgd.) LAPULAPU

Founder Supreme Godfather

(Sgd.) DAGOHUY

Unit Supreme Godfather
Consultant

Journalist Defended

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 18 Jul 85 pp 1, 7

[Article: "Diablo Probe of Gov. Rabat's Corruption of Media Asked"]

[Text]

Mati, Davao Oriental — July 17 (by long distance) — The intelligentsia circle here were shocked by the open letter published in the *Mindanao Daily Mirror*, from the DIABLO group here accusing columnist Bert Tesorero of "putting out phony statements... and unfairly besmirching the image of the Diablo Squads... that the play-up is an 'envelopmental' rather than development."

They said that Bert Tesorero has been known to them as a level headed journalist and the expose against him should be clarified for the sake of the credibility of the media in Davao Oriental.

"We know that Governor Rabat has been subsidizing mediamen based in Davao City to promote his image as governor of the province. That is part of

the strategy of a politician and we do not question him for that, knowing that the mediamen he is hiring are known to be 'press-stitute,' if you please, and are not believed or respected by the Davao Oriental community at large. If, however, a level-headed journalist, like Bert Tesorero, is accused of receiving "envelope" from Gov. Rabat, that is something that should alarm us for then we sense the death of the freedom of the press here," the intelligentsia group said.

The province of Davao Oriental hinges on the critical pivot of economic dislocation, political hooliganism, escalating insurgency, governmental neglect and high corruption under the present administration that has placed the province at the crater of social upheaval. The only hope to prevent the social holocaust is to maintain the credibility of public reports in the province in order to fasten the loosening faith of the people in the government, the group said.

"If the people in Davao Oriental will lose faith in the credibility of the media, that is the end of us," the group bewailed.

The remedy to the situation is not for Bert Tesorero to answer the published accusations against him but for the media organization in Davao City or the Mindanao-wide media organization to look into the expose against Bert Tesorero. It would be more welcomed if the media organization in Davao City can find means to include Governor Francisco G. Rabat in the investigation to determine whether or not he is liable for corrupting the media," the group said.

The issue, they said, is not whether Rabat has corrupted Tesorero. The critical factor is to disabuse the mind of the Davao Oriental constituency of media corruption because once they lose faith in the media they will also lose faith in our democratic system. — (D.O.)

CSO: 4200/1464

PHILIPPINES

GOVERNMENT FAILING TO DRAW ON OFFICIAL LOAN COMMITMENTS

HK201455 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 20 Aug 85 p 2

[By Conrado R. Banal 3d]

[Text] Government efforts to tap at least 75 percent of the official foreign loans committed to the country for this year have become critical.

Sources in banking disclosed that the 12-bank advisory committee representing the country's bank-creditors abroad has expressed "deep concern" over the government's failure to draw from these official loan commitments.

Two cabinet members are abroad at present precisely to arrange the country's drawing from those loans, while the Central Bank [CB] is packaging another Apex loan from the World Bank--its second. This loan would be lost for good if the CB misses this chance to arrange it.

In Washington, Trade and Industry Minister Roberto V. Ongpin is negotiating the release of a \$100-million loan from the World Bank for the government's export promotion program. Called the export development fund, the loan was committed last year, but because of problems which surfaced during the World Bank-government negotiations, its release has been delayed. Sources in the government said Ongpin is personally attending to the loan because the government wants it to be released this year.

In Bonn, Economic Planning Minister Vicente B. Valdepenas Jr is also negotiating for official bilateral loans from West Germany. The sources noted that official loans from multilateral financial institutions such as the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and bilateral loans from the United States and Japan--the biggest landers of such loans to the Philippines--may be insufficient to cover the gap in the country's international payments during 1984 and 1985. The government therefore has to make sure it can draw from other bilateral sources of loans, they said.

The CB is also rushing its proposal to the World Bank for the new Apex loan--a dollar borrowing administered by the CB and loaned out to companies through conduit banks. An earlier \$250-million Apex loan from the World Bank has already been allocated to various conduit-banks. Sources said the CB wants the conduit-banks to commit the entire loan amount to the borrowers so it could get a new Apex loan from the World Bank.

The CB has already sounded out the World Bank regarding the new loan, sources said. Changes in the Apex lending program however are needed. Sources in the CB disclosed that the CB has learned several lessons from the first Apex lending program and the World Bank wants to alter certain features of the program for the next loan.

The government's drawings from the committed official loans are being watched by foreign banks because these are required under the terms of the financial rescue package. Under the agreement for the rescue package, the foreign banks would release the entire \$925 million in new money--a major component of the package--only if the government avails of at least 75 percent of these official loans. The new money goes hand in hand with official loans because foreign banks will refuse to release fresh loans to the country if it does not tap loans which have already been committed, a Manila-based foreign banker explained.

Behind this observation is a more concrete need of the country to get those official loans. Based on IMF-government projections, the country may incur about a \$2.99-billion deficit in its international payments during 1984-1985. This would be covered by the \$925 million in new money from foreign banks and about \$2.07 billion in loans from official sources. But out of the \$1 billion in official loans that the government needs to draw this year, only \$100 million has actually been disbursed.

Furthermore, there are problems in the disbursements of these loans. The export development loan from the World Bank, for instance, whose release within this year Ongpin is negotiating, may be cancelled by the bank. It has been rendered redundant by the recent opening of the country's \$3-billion trade financing facility by foreign banks. A World Bank team told the government that the export loan, as originally envisioned, would not be approved by the bank's board. It suggested therefore that its concept be changed. The sources said however that it would take more time to devise the [word indistinct] of a new lending program for exporters in line with the new concept proposed by the World Bank team.

Originally, the loan was to be a short-term revolving credit facility for the raw material importations of exporters. At the time the loan was conceived, the main problem of local industry was the scarcity of dollars. With the availability of import financing through the \$3-billion trade facility from foreign banks, the World Bank suggested that the government use the loan to provide both short-term and long-term lendings to exporters. This way, the loan can provide exporters with either working capital or with funds for equipment purchases.

CSO: 4200/1420

PHILIPPINES

IMF CALLS FOR FURTHER BANK REFORM

HK201443 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 20 Aug 85 p 3

[By Rigoberto D. Tiglao]

[Text] The International Monetary Fund (IMF) wants the government's planned financial reforms to include a policy of correcting the practice of government-controlled banks of extensively using deposits of the national government and its corporations.

BUSINESS DAY sources in the government quoted IMF documents as saying that among the "strong safeguards to prevent policy failures by government financial institutions--include the removal of their privileged use of deposits by the national government and the public corporations."

The sources said the IMF was referring not only to the Philippine National Bank (PNB) and the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), but to the six other government-controlled banks as well.

These are the Union Bank of the Philippines, which like the PNB and the DBP has a major chunk of its deposit base made up of funds of the social security system [SSS]; Commercial Bank of the Philippines which has deposits of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS); Associated Bank of the Philippines, which has DBP deposits; International Corporate Bank, which has deposits of affiliates of the National Development Co (NDC); and the Republic Planters Bank, the depository bank of the Philippine Sugar Commission (Philsucom). It could not be determined whether the IMF included in its list the Traders' Royal Bank which Prime Minister Cesar Virata, in a recent bearing of a Batasang Pambansa subcommittee, said had deposits (in the form of a trust fund) of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp (operators of the casinos in the country) amounting to P [Pesos] 1.3 billion.

The IMF's prescription is broadly based on its assessment that one of the major problems of the country is that its financial system has largely failed in mobilizing domestic resources. While the banks are supposedly the mechanism for mobilizing such resources--the savings of the public--a big portion of the banking system is made up of government-owned banks, whose deposit bases, to a significant degree, consist of funds of the national government and its corporations. This means that the banks are not fully performing their function

of gathering peoples' savings since these deposits actually are budgetary funds of the national government and its corporations.

The IMF position, actually based on studies by the World Bank which is preparing the package of financial reforms, is also an offshoot of its belief that free-market forces will be an automatic check to any future financial mismanagement of government banks.

The IMF, for example, pointed out that "reflecting a major misdirection of resources over a number of years, about 75 percent of the assets of the PNB and the DBP are now nonperforming, and the resulting cash deficits will place a substantial burden on the budget on the medium term." The IMF economists reportedly argued that if PNB and DBP did not have secure deposits of government entities--the SSS for example had P10.6 billion in assets in these banks at the end of 1984--the two banks would not have loaned out billions of pesos to industries that now have defaulted on their loan repayments. The competition among the various banks to get the SSS funds as deposits, if the government banks did not have the privilege of using them, would also have bidden up the interest rates for the deposits. The higher cost of the funds, reflecting market rates, would also have made the banks more cautious in their lending operations.

Officials of government banks however [word indistinct] that they are only performing a function similar to what a private banks plays for its sister companies. "Although we have large deposits from government corporations, we are bound to extend loans to them," an executive of a government controlled bank said. If the bank pays a lower interest on the corporations' deposits, it is bound to charge a lower rate on the loans it extends to them, he added.

SSS administrator Gilberto Teodoro also defended the SSS deposits in the PNB, DBP and Union Bank by pointing out that the rates the institution got for the time deposits were the "most reasonable" for generating revenues out of the funds.

The government's "program of action" for the financial reforms, which includes the reorganization and/or disposal of government banks, has been included as a major agenda item in the IMF's ongoing second program review, on which depends whether the country can draw on the two quarterly branches of the fund's credit line within the year. The program of action is actually being jointly drawn up by the Central Bank and a World Bank mission now here in Manila. The government may have no choice but to comply with the World Bank's prescriptions for the reforms since the bank will extend at least \$100 million in new loans to support the programs. With the government expecting no new loans from commercial banks next year, the World Bank loans are crucial to the country's efforts to generate new foreign exchange so it could build up its international reserves.

CSO: 4200/1420

PHILIPPINES

FINANCE MINISTRY SAYS NATIONAL INCOME UP

HK221517 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 22 Aug 85 p 2

[Text] The national government grossed P[peso] 57.69 billion last year, up by P10.98 billion over the 1983 figure of P46.64 billion, according to Prime Minister Cesar Virata.

In the Finance Ministry's 1984 annual report submitted to President Marcos, Virata said that of the P57.69-billion tax revenues collected, about P50-75 billion came from the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) and Bureau of Customs.

Non-tax revenues amounted to P6.88 billion last year against P7.043 billion in 1983.

Taxes on net income were among the biggest sources of revenues, totaling P13.109 billion; taxes on property amounted to P262 million; taxes on domestic goods and services P18.79 billion; and taxes on international trade transactions P17.63 billion.

Interest income reached P1.438 billion; collection from other offices P4.390 billion; grants P311 million; shares and profits of government corporations P20 million; and other earnings P728 million.

Virata described 1984 as an economic stabilization year. "Economic stabilization was the major goal of the national government in 1984. It geared all its policy tools toward its two-fold objectives of dumping inflationary pressure and strengthening the country's balance of payment position," he said.

For 1985, Virata added that the national government will loosen some of the tight financial constraints that have led to the slowdown of investments and other activities in the public sector.

CSO: 4200/1420

PHILIPPINES

MASS ACTION PEACEKEEPING TASK FORCE CREATED IN CEBU

HK221521 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 22 Aug 85 p 3

[By A.B. Batuhan]

[Excerpt] Cebu City--In the face of the numerous massive demonstrations that have taken place here recently, Cebu City Mayor Ronald Duterte yesterday ordered the creation of the Cebu City Peacekeeping Task Force.

The task force will plan and supervise the implementation of policies that will cover the conduct of mass actions and other peace and order related activities.

The city authorities also issued the guideline limiting mass actions to public places where vehicular and pedestrian traffic will not be disturbed. Aside from this, all requests for a permit for mass action must be received by the office of the mayor 2 or 3 days before the scheduled activity.

Duterte stressed the need for outlining these policies in the face of more mass actions scheduled by different organizations.

Designated by the city mayor to head the task force is Lt Col Antonio Sable, deputy metrodiscom [metropolitan district command] commander for operations.

The guidelines according to Duterte will be discussed together with representatives from various groups, including the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) and Panaghiusa party, two groups spearheading the recent mass actions.

It is hoped that the nature of the task force will be expanded to gather information and strengthen the police force for better management and coordination.

CSO: 4200/1420

PHILIPPINES

STATISTICS OFFICE QUESTIONS REPORTED INCOME FIGURES

HK221525 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 22 Aug 85 pp 12, 11

[By Matias Din]

[Text] Serious questions have been raised on the reliability of data furnished to the President by Vicente Valdepenas, director general of the National Economic Development Authority, on steady increases in local incomes.

A source at the National Census and Statistics Office (NCSO) said yesterday that "in truth, we finished our incomes survey only last July 31. Various reports from other regions are yet to be collated and audited."

The source says Economic Planning Minister Valdepenas used only the figures that tended to paint the bright side of the economy, but failed to cite the median income figures for 1982 to 1983, which slid from P[peso]3,218 to P2,901, for a "negative growth of 7.1 per cent, the source said.

Valdepenas's report to the president, he said, was based solely on the quarterly trends of 1984, and was therefore "misleading."

The median income is the value that divides a set of incomes into two equal proportions.

It can be founded by arranging the set of numbers in descending order and taking the middle number (if there is an odd number of items in the set) or the arithmetic mean (if there is an even number of items in set).

Valdepenas reported to President Marcos that increases in the Filipinos' incomes were generally in pace with increases in the price of prime commodities. The claim left many businessmen and academicians incredulous.

The private sector has been leery of government figures for quite some time, the source added.

Valdepenas, he said, "skipped the disagreeable figures" in preparing the report to President Marcos.

The salient points in Valdepenas's report to the president are as follows:

Wages of agricultural workers rose 12 times as a result of legislation, from P3.50 a day in 1965 to P46.67 a day in 1985.

Wages of industrial workers increased eight-and-a-half times from P6 a day to P57 in the same period.

Real incomes rose by 1.9 percent from 1979 to 1980: 2.2 per cent from 1980-81; 7.9 per cent from 1981-82; and 8.3 per cent from 1982-83.

Actual incomes, on the other hand, rose consistently, by 12.8 per cent in 1979-70 [as published]; 22.2 per cent in 1980-81; 19 per cent in 1981-82 and 19.9 per cent in 1982-83.

Valdepenas mentioned in his report to President Marcos that inflation rate was down to 18.8 per cent and continues to decline since November 1984.

Income rates have been upgraded to allow the people to keep pace with increases in price, Valdepenas said.

CSO: 4200/1420

PHILIPPINES

THREE CONSTABULARY OFFICERS LINKED TO ARMS PILFERAGE

HK211459 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 21 Aug 85 p 3

[Text] Two PC [Philippine Constabulary] lieutenant colonels and a captain have been linked to the pilferage of high-powered firearms at the armory of the Constabulary Support Command in Camp Crame.

The three officers, whose identities were withheld, have been invited for questioning on their alleged involvement in the pilferage, Camp Crame authorities said yesterday.

The authorities also revealed that several PC enlisted men, who are suspected to have been also involved in the pilferage, have been arrested by Criminal Investigation Service agents.

Brig Gen Hermogenes Peralta, CIS chief, reported to Lt Gen Fidel V. Ramos, acting AFP chief of staff and chief of constabulary, that the suspects are now detained at the CIS stockade in Camp Crame.

The number of arrested and detained suspects was not revealed.

Peralta also reported to Ramos that eight of the 23 M-16 rifles and 1S [as received] M-14 rifles stolen from the armory have been recovered.

Other suspects are expected to be arrested and this could lead to the recovery of more of the missing rifles, CIS investigators said.

The pilferage was discovered last month when the officer-in-charge of the warehouse of the Coscom's 2d Supply and Service Unit, could not account for the 41 rifles in his custody.

The warehouse officer-in-charge S/Sgt Eladio C. Coronado, was subsequently arrested and detained at the Camp Crame stockade on orders of General Ramos.

CSO: 4200/1420

PHILIPPINES

RULING PARTY MP'S WORKING ON SUCCESSION LAW

HK221515 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 22 Aug 85 pp 1, 4
[By Catalino Makabenta]

[Text] The ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan [KBL] is committed to the enactment of succession law making the prime minister the acting president if the speaker of the Batasang Pambansa cannot act as such when the presidency becomes vacant.

Member of Parliament Manuel Garcia (KBL-Davao City), vice chairman of Batasan Committee on Revision of Laws, Codes and Constitutional Amendments, said yesterday a bill prescribing the order of succession to the Office of President will be reported out by the committee and taken up by the Batasan after the enactment of the Omnibus Election Code.

Parliamentary Bill No 3203 filed by Garcia and MPS Arturo Pacificador, Rodolfo Albano, Salvador Britanico, Salacnib Bateria and Emerito Calderon, all of the ruling party, provides that if the president resigns, becomes permanently disabled, dies or is removed from office before the 1987 presidential election, the speaker shall act as president until president or vice president shall have been elected in line with section 9, paragraph 1, article 7 of constitution as amended in 1984.

In the event of the removal, resignation, death or inability of the speaker to act as president, the prime minister shall act as president, and if, for the same causes, the latter cannot act as president, the speaker pro tempore shall be the acting president.

The bill further provides that the acting president may not declare martial law or suspend the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus without the prior consent of the Batasan.

The bill also prohibits the acting president from exercising the lawmaking power of the president under Amendment No 6.

In urging Batasan approval of the bill, the authors said, "in these critical times, when the foundations of our democratic institutions are threatened, it is the better part of prudence to provide for any eventuality of a vacancy in the highest office of the land so that there will always be an official who shall provide the essential leadership and direction for our country and people."

Garcia committed the ruling party to the enactment of a succession law when Batasan Assistant Minority Floor Leader Neptali Gonzales interpellated him during his sponsorship of the Omnibus Election Code.

Gonzales had noted that there was no provision in the Election Code which would carry out section 6 and 9, article 7 of the constitution expressly directing the Batasan to provide for an order of succession in the event of a vacancy in the office of the president.

Gonzales had earlier said that should the president dissolve the Batasan and then resign to seek a fresh popular mandate before his current 6-year-term ends in 1987, the president, before resigning, can issue a decree appointing a government caretaker since the speaker who is expressly authorized by the constitution to act as president during the interval will have ceased to exist with the abolition of the Batasan.

CSO: 4200/1420

PHILIPPINES

MANILA TO RECEIVE 400 MILLION PESO GRANT FROM FRG

HK221527 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 22 Aug 85 p 3

[Text] The Philippines will receive some P[Peso]400 million in financial and technical assistance next year under the country's bilateral relations program with the Federal Republic of Germany.

German Ambassador Klaus Zeller said at an airport news conference Monday that the Philippines and the FRG agreed on the P400-million package (61.7 million deutsch marks) after successful negotiations in Bonn early August.

The Philippine panel was headed by Economic Planning Minister Vicente Valdepenas while the German side was headed by Dr Volkmar Koehler, parliamentary state secretary in the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation.

Zeller said that of the total amount P165 million (25 million DM [Deutsch marks]) have been allotted to project assistance, lending additional boost to joint RP-FRG project in telecommunications and urban development.

Of the Project Assistance Fund, P33.1 million goes to completion of flood control mechanisms of the Dagat-Dagatan resettlement project, while P132 million is pegged for telecommunications.

The new loan of P165 million has a 30-year maturity and 10-year grace period with 2-percent annual interest.

Zeller also said that P130 million (19.7 million DM) has been allotted to technical assistance projects, including the Cebu upland project, technical assistance in coal mining, export promotion project in Germany and an energy utilization project.

Cooperation with Germany in the educational field through scholarships and study grants was given P13.2 million.

Zeller added that the sum of P99.3 million was included in the package to carry out joint projects undertaken by the governments with private entities.

The German Federal Republic was one of few countries which gave commodity loans to the Philippines last year. Zeller, however, said that the 30 million deutsch marks or P198.6 million in commodity loans it extended to the Philippines has not been used fully by entrepreneurs. But he said the amount is expected to be availed this year.

PHILIPPINES

INDUSTRIALIST ONGPIN, VIRATA DISAGREE ON ECONOMY

HK230333 Hong Kong AFP in English 0314 GMT 23 Aug 85

[By Cecil Morella]

[Text] August 23 (AFP)--The Philippine economy is less wobbly today after slipping uncontrollably in the wake of the 1983 murder of opposition leader Benigno Aquino, though experts predict continued negative growth this year.

Business has received a fresh infusion of foreign loans and interest and inflation rates are going down, but labor unrest and low world prices for the country's troubled exports sector remain on the path to full recovery.

The economy went into a nosedive amid the turmoil spawned by the August 21, 1983 murder of President Ferdinand Marcos' main political foe at Manila Airport. Massive capital flight ensued, and foreign investors shied away.

Business ground to a halt in October 1983 as 480 creditor banks froze all financing when Manila announced that it could not pay maturing principals on part of its external debt, now officially estimated at \$25.2 billion.

The Philippine economy contracted by 5.5 percent in 1984--its worst performance since World War II, gaining for itself the appellation of "sick man of Asia."

Top Filipino industrialist Jaime Ongpin, echoing forecasts by private economists, said last week that the Philippine economy would contract by 3 to 5 percent in 1985. The government's economic planners, led by Premier and Finance Minister Cesar Virata, disagree.

"We are still hoping that it will be either zero to 1 percent growth for 1985," Mr Virata told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in a recent interview.

"Right now we have this recovery program. I think we are well on the way," he added.

He said inflation hit 18.8 percent in July and the government was aiming for a single-digit rate by end-1986. Inflation peaked at more than 63 percent last October for an annual 50 percent in 1984.

The Central Bank said interest rates have dropped to 23.5 percent from a peak of 37.5 percent in November, while international reserves stood at \$1.1 billion last month from a low of \$483 million in October 1983.

The rosy forecasts may actually fall short, with Mr Virata himself warning last week that total merchandise export receipts may suffer a 7 percent decline this year to \$5.2 billion from \$5.6 billion in 1984.

The forecasts for positive economic growth assumed a 10 percent rise in exports earnings this year.

Mr Virata said the slump in international prices of coconut, sugar, minerals, electronics and garments have badly hit the Philippines.

Meanwhile, despite a decline in layoffs--over 90,000 workers lost their jobs last year as factories trimmed their operations--strikes went up by 58 percent to 215 in the first semester to chalk up man-hour losses to 9.39 million.

Picketlines have also become more violent, raising fears that this may discourage any new foreign investments. Nine trade unionists have been killed this year in clashes with police who tried to break up illegal pickets.

A huge cloud over the economy is the mounting communist insurgency, enabling the 12,000-strong New People's Army to gain more and more recruits from the unemployed and discontented.

The official unemployment rate of the country's 20 million-strong labor force remains low at 6 percent, but Labor Minister Blas Ople explained recently that Filipinos in the "underground economy"--the self-employed with unreported incomes--were included among the employed.

Underemployment however is unofficially estimated at 25-30 percent.

Bernardo Villegas, vice president of a private think tank, the Center for Research and Communication, said the informal economy accounted for 30 percent of the gross national product last year.

The government pins its hopes on the first two installments of a \$610-million standby facility from the International Monetary Fund, and the first drawing from a \$10-billion rescue package worked out with its foreign bank creditors.

The package included \$5.8 billion, in rescheduling of maturing foreign debts, \$925 million in new money and a \$3-billion trade facility. The last two have been drawn upon, while the first is still being worked out.

Mr Ongpin said the new money would largely be used to pay arrears and charges on the foreign debt, adding the trade facility would not help "when there are no people who are going to be in a position to use those credits" due to depressed demand induced by low incomes.

Industrialist Raul Concepcion said many were wary of investing even in agriculture--currently the government's best hope--because of the escalating communist guerrilla campaign in the countryside.

American Chamber of Commerce official Jim Black said there was "very little" new investment coming in the country, which economists blamed on "political uncertainties" and lack of confidence in Mr Marcos' 20-year--old government.

Significant segments of the erstwhile politically conservative business sector have joined the opposition in street protests against Mr Marcos for his alleged role in his rival's slaying. Twenty-six people including three generals are on trial for the murder.

Mr Villegas said full recovery will not be forthcoming "until we sort out our political mess."

CSO: 4200/1420

PHILIPPINES

BATASAN REOPENS AS KBL SOLONS RAP IMPEACHMENT MOVE

HK260600 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] The Batasang Pambansa will have the urgent task of approving the 1986 budget when the assembly resumes its session this afternoon. While fireworks are expected to mark debates on the bill, the early approval of the measure is expected. Considered a cornerstone of the national recovery program, the new budget has been fashioned to further stimulate national economic gains.

Meantime, Assistant Majority Floor Leader Arturo Pacificador today lashed at opposition moves to continue questioning constitutionality of Presidential Decree 1177. The decree empowers the president to transfer funds. Pacificador said the opposition should raise the issue in the Supreme Court if they are really bent on questioning the constitutionality of the decree.

[Begin Pacificador recording--in Tagalog] They have been questioning this decree every year. They claim that we are protected by the law, yet not one of them, since 1979 when they began questioning the constitutionality of the decree and even when they use the issue in the impeachment motion, not one of them has gone to the Supreme Court to raise the issue. It is only the Supreme Court that can decide whether a decree is constitutional or not, and not the Batasang Pambansa. This is but a ploy to harass the Batasang Pambansa. [end recording]

In a related development, a member of the Batasan Committee on Justice and Good Government today reacted to opposition plans to recommit the impeachment resolution in today's Batasan session.

MP Rene Cayetano called on the opposition solons to exercise extreme care and caution in using the power of impeachment.

[Begin Cayetano recording] I have read this information in the paper. I could not comment on the substance of this, of course, for obvious reasons, not only that I am a member of the committee, but I have not seen what they claimed to be a complaint that rest with the necessary facts, that would merit the committee to go beyond the first stage of inquiry. I'm hoping that they give it sufficiency of form and substance. But I would like to share this view with my opposition colleagues in the Batasan, that, first of all, I would exercise extreme caution and care in using the power of impeachment. The power

of impeachment is lodged with the legislative body, but this must be used sparingly. In fact, this must be used as a last resort to remedy a situation which could not otherwise be cured by all other available means. I have said this many times, and I would like to say it again, that impeachment should never be treated in a very light-hearted or cavalier manner. If there are certain mistakes in Parliament and programs by the president due to hindsight, impeachment should not be used because there are other available means by which these programs or policies can be cured. It is very difficult for our people to accept a scenario where the legislative is trying to remove the president of the republic before expiration of his term. We owe it to everyone, not only to our constituents, but in fact to the future generations. [end recording]

CSO: 4200/1420

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

STUDYING RELATIONS WITH U.S.--A technical committee formed by the cabinet hopes to complete by next week a study of Philippine relations with various countries. The cabinet has gone over an initial report of the committee headed by Deputy Minister Jose Leviste. Acting Foreign Minister Pacifico Castro said that the technical committee has in turn formed subcommittees to study Philippine ties with countries like the U.S. [Begin Catro recording] We went over the work of the technical secretariat on the review of the relations with foreign countries headed by Secretary General Leviste. And they have created two other subcommittees to study, analyze, and formulate decisions on different aspects of Philippine relations with the U.S. Since it's a wideranging study, it might take 2 weeks more. [end recording] [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 23 Aug 85 HK]

MUSLIM HITS U.S., MNLF MEETING--Chairman (Sani Wali) of the regional autonomous government of western Mindanao today appealed to the U.S. Government not to interfere in the country's internal affairs. (Wali) was reacting to public reports that the Pentagon and the U.S. State Department had received two MNLF leaders in Washington last week. (Wali) said the U.S. Government should not have received or accepted the visits of Macapanton Abbas and Dimas Pundato. He said Abbas and Pundato do not have the capability nor (?legal titles) to talk for the MNLF. [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1100 GMT 23 Aug 85 HK]

COMMUNISTS 'PLAN TO ISOLATE MANILA'--The Communist Party and the NPA plan to isolate Manila, the seat of the national government, by controlling the countryside politically, economically, and militarily. This was disclosed yesterday [23 August] by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Region III Unified Command Chief, Brigadier General Jose Magno. The general said the NPA is increasing its cadres and armed partisans and their gun-snatching and assassination activities in Metro Manila. However, both Minister Enrile and Gen Magno assured that the armed forces have the manpower, strength, arms, and equipment, and can readily repulse any such attempt by the rebels. The situation in Central Luzon, including Metro Manila, was discussed by defense and military officials in a meeting in San Fernando, Pampanga, with peace and order councils from Bulacan, Pampanga, Aurora, Tarlac, Nueva Ecija, Bataan, and Zambales. Minister Enrile said the plan is to isolate Manila and eventually force the city to capitulate. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 23 Aug 85 HK]

NPA REHABILITATION SCHEME--President Marcos is expected to sign an executive order detailing a new rehabilitation program for the NPA. The rehabilitation scheme is patterned to that offered to Muslim rebel returnees. The planned scheme was announced by AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] [words indistinct] Eduardo Ermita. [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 26 Aug 85 HK]

VIRATA ON LOAN TERMS--Exporters and importers who will avail themselves of the \$3-billion trade facility will be charged about 11 to 12 percent interest. This according to Prime Minister Cesar Virata. The prime minister said exporters and importers will be dealing in terms of foreign exchange earnings. According to him, there are four options that the borrowing sector could choose in settling their foreign exchange indebtedness with the Central Bank. Virata said there are schemes where they pay in pesos to the Central Bank when their debt is due. Since this debt is going to be restructured, it will be the responsibility of the Central Bank to pay this debt on the basis of the restructured term. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 22 Aug 85 HK]

CHARGES AFTER RALLY VIOLENCE--Military authorities are preparing charges against the instigators of the violence at last Wednesday's protest rally in Cebu City. Five military men assigned to the rally were injured the demonstrators attempted to march to the PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] regional headquarters in Camp Sergio Osmena. The judge advocate's office in Cebu City is studying what charges to file possibly against officials of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan. [New Nationalist Alliance] [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 23 Aug 85 HK]

WORLD BANK LOAN--The \$100-million loan from the World Bank is now available to the agricultural sector. President Marcos said the loan will finance various projects aimed at boosting farmers' income and speeding up the country's economic recovery. The president made the announcement after receiving a report from Agriculture and Food Minister Salvador Escudero that the loan became effective beginning August 17. The chief executive said the World Bank assisted agricultural credit is expected to finance (broadway) investments like annual crops, particularly rice, corn, sugar cotton, vegetables and fruits, pork and livestock development including cattle and dairy production, as well as fishery development particularly aquaculture. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 21 Aug 85 HK]

FEAR OF ARMY--A special investigating team of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] is on a mission in Piddig, Ilocos Norte. Acting AFP Chief Fidel Ramos ordered the team to look into allegations in the foreign press that residents in Barangay Estacia are living in fear of the military units. Ramos gave the investigating team until tomorrow to submit their report. [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 22 Aug 85 HK]

CHURCH, MEDIA GROUP WARNED--Information Minister Gregorio Cendana has urged church leaders and members of the media in northern Mindanao to exercise vigilance in order to protect the freedom of expression and religion. He warned that unless this is done, the church and media are bound to lose some-

their freedom of religion and expression. Cendana issued the warning during a meeting with an all-Mindanao media-church-military liaison committee in Cagayan de Oro City yesterday. The information minister reiterated that unless something is done to check the growth of communism in the countryside, the people are also bound to lose their freedom. [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0800 GMT 21 Aug 85 HK]

'SUBVERSIVE' PAPERS IN HIGH SCHOOL--Two persons suspected of distributing subversive propaganda materials to young high school students in Talomo, Davao City were nabbed by a constabulary team Wednesday morning. Capt. Melchesideck C. Bargio, team leader and 439th PC commanding officer, identified the suspects as Jerry Gascon, 18, single, a resident of Manuel Guiangga, Tugbok district; and Romeo Bayron, 27, single and a resident of Sampaguita St. in Mintal. Capt. Bargio said the arrest was made during a dragnet operation at the Talomo population, particularly in the areas of Washington Salakot and Semento. The propaganda materials which included streamers and pamphlets, were confiscated by Bargio's team from the suspects in the premises of two barangay high schools in Talomo. [Excerpt] [By Godofredo A. Ebor] [Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 19 Jul 85 p 7]

CSO: 4200/1463

THAILAND

POST WELCOMES DK RESHUFFLE, AWAITS FUTURE ACTION

BK030416 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Sep 85 p 4

[Editorial: "A Retirement the World Will Welcome:"]

[Text] Pol Pot has left the Kampuchean scene. Well almost. If we are to believe a communique from his own faction, the former secretary-general of the Communist Party of Kampuchea is about to become a researcher in military affairs as "chairman of the high technical office for national defense."

Few tears will be shed on Pol Pot's early retirement. His name has become a symbol of some of the worst examples of man's inhumanity to man. He has been blamed for hundreds of thousands of deaths when the Khmer Rouge brutally ruled Kampuchea between April 1975 and December 1978. His leadership during those years took the country to the verge of extinction and gave the Vietnamese the excuse they sought to invade.

Most nations that support the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea in its struggle against the Vietnamese occupation were deeply embarrassed by the overwhelming although shadowy presence of Pol Pot. His failing health is probably one of the main reasons why he has been relieved of his military command.

His transfer to an "inactive" position will be welcomed all over the world --providing, of course, that it is a real "retirement" and not just another cosmetic measure to appease those alarmed by a possible return to power of a man once described as "another Adolf Hitler."

His removal from the front scene of the Kampuchean tragedy should also ease the way for future negotiations between Hanoi and the DK Coalition Government. Vietnam once supported Pol Pot and contributed to his victory over the Lon Nol administration. The Soviet Union, until the very end of the Khmer Rouge regime, prevented any inquiries by the United Nations on the country's human rights record. Today Moscow finds Pol Pot less palatable. The question now arises as to whether the Soviets will support some form of dialogue with the "new-look" Democratic Kampuchea faction.

Pol Pot's successors Son Sen and Khieu Samphan have sometimes been described as "moderates." Only time will tell if they really are. It will be

interesting to watch their future moves and see whether they can really cooperate with the two nationalist members of the Coalition Government. The task of the new leadership to give their party a new and better image will certainly not be an easy one. Their language today is reassuring. But it will be future actions, not current phrases, that will be the basis for making a clear judgment on the men taking over from Pol Pot.

CSO: 4200/1489

THAILAND

SECOND BORDER POINT TO RETURN LAO REFUGEES PROPOSED

BK311105 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 31 Aug 85 p 3

[Text] The Interior Ministry wants to open a second border point in Mukdahan Province for repatriating Laotian refugees, an official said yesterday.

Wirachai Naeobunnian, director of the Interior Ministry's Information and Foreign Affairs Division, said the idea had been proposed to the United Nations which later forwarded it to the Laotian Government.

Thailand now has only one such repatriation point in Nong Khai Province.

The existing border point in Mukdahan is used only for the transport of goods between the two countries, not for repatriation of refugees, said Wirachai, who is also deputy director of the Operation Center for Displaced Persons.

He said the Interior Ministry is awaiting a response from the Laotian Government.

Since the repatriation programme began several years ago, about 3,000 Laotian refugees have been sent back to their homeland. These returnees were treated quite well and faced no punishment or persecution from Laotian authorities, said Wirachai.

About 200 more Laotians who have expressed willingness to return home are awaiting repatriation. Another 100 Laotians who are not classified as refugees will also be sent back.

Since the first of July this year, the Thai Government has adopted a tough policy against new arrivals.

Under the policy, Laotians arriving in Thailand will be interviewed by Thai authorities and UN officials. Those who are not genuine refugees would be immediately sent back to Laos.

CSO: 4200/1489

THAILAND

CLASHES CONTINUE WITH BURMESE COMMUNIST REMNANTS

BK241010 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 24 Aug 85 p 32

[Text] Chiang Mai--Muser defense volunteers killed two more members of the Burmese Communist Party (BCP) in an afternoon battle in Ban Tha Chomphu of Mae Ai District.

The attack, led by Muser tribesmen, came only several hours after another unit of provincial police broke contact with another BCP force in fierce fighting at noon yesterday in the adjacent Ban Hua Mae Rieng in Mae Sao Subdistrict, police said.

One day earlier, on Thursday, the same group of Muser defense volunteers killed four men of the same group in a suppression operation against the BCP who have become more active on Thai soil.

In the Thursday fight, two of the group escaped the Muser attack.

The Muser carried on following the two fugitive members of the BCP and before 4 pm yesterday spotted them occupying a farmhouse of a Thai family one kilometer away from the main community of Ban Tha Chomphu.

The Musers called on the two to surrender but they answered back with automatic gunfire from M 16 rifles.

The Musers surrounded the house and fought back for nearly an hour armed only with their shotguns given to them by the police authorities, the report said.

The two BCP men reportedly ran out of ammunition and the Muser volunteers broke in and shot them dead in the farmhouse.

The attack raised the death toll of BCP members to 5 in the recent fighting against the BCP presence.

In a related operation against the BCP, the report said that police and defense volunteers were hunting for members of the BCP today after scattering them from the village of Ban Hua Mae Rieng in Mae Ai District in a fierce fight yesterday.

Some of them escaped the attack with wounds and police seized an M-16 automatic rifle, ammunition and a radio transmitter and receiver from the site of yesterday's battle, the report said.

Police were confident that the escaping BCP men had separated into small groups and were roaming in the rugged areas of either Mae Ai and adjoining Fang District.

"They were the opposition to Khun Sa (of the Shan United Army [SUA] and they would not be able to cross the border into Burma," a police source said, adding that the SUA dominated most of the area opposite the Thai border here.

The police reported that there were about 30 BCP men active inside Thailand and that they had attempted to gain influence among the Thais in remote villages of Mae Ai and Fang.

An unidentified number of them had been spotted in Ban Hua Mae Rieng in Mae Sao Subdistrict of Mae Ai yesterday. Police at about 11 am surrounded the village in an operation to arrest

Fighting then erupted for about 30 minutes before the BCP broke contact, separated into small groups and escaped from the village.

"This group claimed it was a liberation movement but we regard them only as ordinary bandits," a highly placed police source said, explaining their illegal activities that included narcotics trading.

CSO: 4200/1489

THAILAND

THAI DAILY NOTES LIKELY RESULTS OF MILITARY RESHUFFLE

BK180325 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Aug 85 p 1

[Article by Banyat Tatsaniyawet]

[Text] Deputy Army Chief-of-Staff Lt Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut is likely to be promoted to Army chief-of-staff with the full rank of general in the forthcoming military reshuffle, expected to be approved early next month, a senior military source said.

A highly-respected army officer known for his talent in strategic planning and also the brains behind the No. 66 23 order, Lt Gen Chawalit will succeed Gen Banchop Bunnak, who is expected to be transferred to the Supreme Command and to become chief-of-staff of the armed forces, replacing Gen Pathom Soemsin who is due to retire at the end of September.

The source said that Lt Gen Phichit Kunlawanit, commander of the First Army Region, who was earlier believed likely to concurrently assume the post of assistant commander-in-chief, is expected to stay on in his present position only.

But the source predicted that he will be assisted by Maj Gen Issaraphong Nunphakdi, commander of the First Division, who is expected to be elevated to deputy commander of the First Army Region.

Fourth Army Region Commander Lt Gen Wanchai Chitchamnong is likely to be transferred from Nakhon Si Thammarat to Bangkok to become deputy chief-of-staff of the armed forces.

Lt Gen Chuthai Saengthawip, deputy chief-of-staff of the armed forces, is expected to be named deputy army commander-in-chief replacing Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan who will retire next month.

The source added that Lt Gen Akkaphon Somrup, assistant army chief-of-staff, is likely to succeed Lt Gen Mana Rattanakoset as assistant army commander-in-chief. Lt Gen Mana will retire next month and has already announced his intention to enter politics by standing as a candidate in the election for the new Bangkok governor.

Moving up the ladder will be Maj Gen San Siphon, commander of the Eastern Force confronting Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea, who is likely to be named commander of the Bangkok-based First Division.

Third Army Region Commander Lt Gen Thiap Kromsuriyasak will retire and his post is expected to be taken over by his current deputy, Maj Gen Ruamsak Chaikomom.

Meanwhile in the South, Maj-Gen Panya Singsakda, deputy commander of the Fourth Army Region, will move up and become the commander, said the source.

Deputy Permanent Secretary of Defence Ai Chief Marshal Sansoen Wanit is likely to be promoted to permanent secretary, replacing Gen Chamman Ninwiset who is also due to retire.

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Among major positions he has held are trainer for operations of the Artillery Division, chief of staff of the Artillery Division and deputy commander of the Second Army Region.

He became assistant chief-of-staff in October last year. He and his wife Mrs Praphai have two children.

Lt Gen Khamhaeng Chanthawirat

The newly-appointed assistant army commander-in-chief was born on April 19, 1926 and completed his high schooling at Amnuaisin School before entering the Army Preparatory School and graduated in the so-called "Class 5."

He also went through the Army Staff College and staff training in the Philippines.

Among the important posts he has held are military attache in Japan and commander of the Army Intelligence Department.

He became assistant army chief-of-staff for intelligence in October last year.

Lt Gen Chuthai Saengthawip

Newly-appointed Army Deputy Commander-in-Chief Lt Gen Chuthai Saengthawip has been in the army service for 36 years, starting his career as a company chief of the Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion.

Born on January 8, 1926, Lt Gen Chuthai finished Matayom [grade] 6 at Amnuaisin School and later continued his studies at Chunlachomklao Royal Military Academy and was one of the Class 5 graduates.

He also studied at the Faculty of Economics, Thammasat University before becoming a student of the Armed Forces Staff College and the National Defense College.

Lt Gen Chuthai had been in the Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion for nine years and finally became deputy commander of the battalion before he was promoted as major and transferred to become a division head of the Adjutant-General's Department.

With the higher rank of lieutenant colonel, he was moved to the Policy and Planning Division of the Supreme Command's Directorate of Joint Personnel.

He was again transferred back to the Army and was attached to the Anti-Aircraft Artillery Division.

He was promoted as major general in 1978 and became deputy army chief-of-staff for intelligence and deputy army chief-of-staff in 1982 and 1984 respectively.

Lt Gen Chuthai and his wife Mrs Sarasiri have three children.

Lt Gen Akkhaphon Somrup

A native of Ayutthaya, the 60-year-old general has a long record of military service. He belongs to the Class 5 graduates of the Army Preparatory School which includes such big names in the military establishment as Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek and Deputy Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan.

Since Lt Gen Akkhaphon was born on October 29, 1925 he still has one more year left before his mandatory retirement.

He attended the Army Intelligence School, the Artillery School and then the Army Staff College.

Among the early posts he held were platoon commander of the Second Battalion of the Fourth Artillery Regiment and later platoon commander of the First Battalion of the Seventh Artillery Regiment.

In 1955, he was assistant officer for operations and training of the Seventh Artillery Battalion, before being moved to the Army Intelligence Department. He subsequently became military attache to South Korea and later chief-of-staff and deputy commander of the Territorial Defense Department between 1980 and 1981.

In 1982, he became commander of the Artillery Centre and the next year assistant army chief-of-staff for personnel--the post he is currently holding.

He and his wife Mrs Chamchon have no children.

Lt Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun

Lt Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun, the Army's new deputy chief-of-staff, had been a classmate of top army officer Lt Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut at Chunlachomklao Royal Military Academy and the Armed Forces Staff College.

He was one of the only 24 students of Class 1 of Chunlachomklao Royal Military Academy. A few other students in the same class included Lt Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong and Lt Gen Charuai Wongsayan.

After his return from the war in Korea, young Wanchai was appointed chief of intelligence at the First Division in 1966. One year later, he was permitted by the Army to pursue his studies at the Armed Forces Staff College in the United States.

Two other military officers who were also enrolled in the same college in the U.S. were Lt Gen Somkit Chongphayuha, currently chief of the Army Training Command Department and Lt Gen Charuai Wongsayan, now Assistant Army Chief-of-Staff for civilian affairs.

He taught at the Armed Forces Staff College in Thailand for six years after his return from the U.S. He was then selected as an intelligence chief for a company fighting in Vietnam.

Lt Gen Wanchai had been attached to several other agencies in the Army including the First Army Region and the Capital Security Command before becoming assistant army chief-of-staff for operations in 1983.

He and his wife Mrs Saratsanan have five children.

CSO: 4200/1489

THAILAND

PAPER NOTES RELEASE OF MILITARY OFFICERS NAMES

BK300519 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Aug 85 p 3

[Text] Military officers affected by the annual reshuffle approved by his majesty the king last week will soon be notified individually as Defense Ministry officials are beginning to send out letters of notification, informed sources said yesterday.

According to the official list obtained by the Post, Gen Prayun Bunnak, a relatively obscure figure attached to the Army headquarters, will become the Under Secretary for Defense succeeding the retiring Gen Chamnan Ninwiset, while Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Banchop Bunnak will replace the retiring Gen Pathom Soemsin as Armed Forces Chief-of-Staff.

General Banchop and General Prayun were both Pre-Army Class 5 graduates and are due to retire next year.

Deputy Army Chief-of-Staff Lt-Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut will become Chief-of-Staff, putting him in line as a possible successor to Gen Athit Kamlang-ek who has his tenure extended for another year.

The other deputy Army Chief-of-Staff, Lt-Gen Chuthai Saengthawip, will be Deputy Army Commander-in-Chief. The other two assistant Army Commander-in-Chief will be the present Assistant Chief-of-Staff for Intelligence Lt-Gen Kamhaeng Chanthawirat and Assistant Chief-of-Staff for Personnel Lt-Gen Akkhaphon Somrup. All three officers were pre-Army Class 5 graduates and are due to retire next year.

Commanders of First, Second and Fourth Army regions remain unchanged. Only Maj-Gen Ruamsak Chaikomin, deputy commander of Third Army Region, was elevated who will take over as commander when Lt-Gen Thiap Kromsuriyasak retires next month.

In the Air Force, Air Marshal [AM] Chamnan Phattharayothin, Deputy Chief of Staff, will become Deputy Air Force Commander-in-Chief. The two Assistant Commanders-in-Chief will be Director of Education and Training Department AM Wathit Lohasut and AM Phisut Ritthakhani, attached to the Air Force headquarters.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Thuanthong Yot-Awut becomes Chief-of-Staff. Assistant Air Force Chiefs-of-Staff AM Waranat Aphichari, for Operations, and AM Kaset Rotchananin, for Logistics, will become Deputy Chiefs-of-Staff.

AM Chamnan, AM Wathit, AM Phisut and ACM Thuanthong were all members of pre-Army Class 5.

In the Navy Vice Admiral Surathin Chantharaphakdi, Deputy Commander of the Royal Fleet, will become Chief-of-Staff and will be replaced by Chief-of-Staff of the Royal Fleet Vice Admiral Sam-ang Sisophon.

In the Army, Assistant Chief-of-Staff for Operations Lt-Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun will become Deputy Chief-of-Staff, while the other Deputy Chief-of-Staff will be Lt-Gen Charat Wongsayan, the present Army Comptroller.

Director of Army Operations Department Maj-Gen Suchinda Khraprayun will become Assistant Chief-of-Staff for Operations, while Director of Intelligence Department Maj-Gen Ngamphon Nutsathit will be assistant chief-of-staff for intelligence. Deputy Director of the Territorial Defense Department Maj-Gen Sa-NGat Chanwathitanon will become assistant chief-of-staff for personnel, and Director of Army Engineering Department Maj-Gen Kasem Sanguanchat becomes assistant Chief-of-Staff for Logistics.

Lt-Gen Suraphon Bankitsophon, Assistant Army Chief-of-Staff, will become Deputy Armed Forces Chief-of-Staff, and Vice Admiral Winit Siphotchanat, Commander of the Naval Officers College, will be another deputy.

Observers pointed out that the reshuffle this year was "quite fair" and in accordance with the line of command. For instance, Maj-Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, Director of Operations Department, was promoted as assistant Army Chief-of-Staff for operations; Vice Admiral Surathin Chanphakdi, deputy Commander of Royal Fleet, was elevated Chief-of-Staff.

CSO: 4200/1489

THAILAND

CLASS 5 GROUP STRENGTHENED IN ANNUAL RESHUFFLE

BK010345 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Sep 85 p 3

[Article by Soemsuk Kasitthipradit]

[Text] The annual military reshuffle last week saw several officers loyal to the Army's Class 5 group promoted.

Elsewhere Col Watthana Sanphanit and Col Kittti Rattanachaya, two prominent military officers from Chunlachomklao Royal Military Academy Class B, were promoted to be commanders of the Special Warfare Division and the Nakhon Si Thammarat-based Fifth Division respectively, according to information made available to the POST.

Col Watthana, deputy commander of the Bangkok-based First Division, is promoted to command another influential unit in Lop Buri, the First Special Warfare Division, to replace the incumbent Maj-Gen Wimon Wongwanit from Chunlachomklao Class 5, who has been transferred to the position of First Division Commander, replacing his former classmate Maj-Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi who becomes deputy commander of the Second Army Region.

Col Watthana is a former commander of the Second Regiment in Prachin Buri and is believed to be quite close to the Class 5 people.

Army Operations Department Director Mau-Gen Suchinda Khraprayun will be the first lieutenant-general from Class 5 and has been promoted to Assistant Army Chief-of-Staff.

The Class 5 grouping, especially Maj-Gen Suchinda, has close relations with Lt-Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut who has been promoted to Army Chief-of-Staff.

Col Kittti, deputy commander of the Fifth Division in the South, is promoted to Division Commander. He has been with the Fourth Region in the South for a long time and has served as deputy commander for the past three years. He was personally congratulated by Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon on a trip in the South last month.

Col Yutthasak Sasiprapha, deputy commander of the First Division and reportedly a good friend of First Army Region Commander Lt-Gen Phichit Kunlawanit, is

promoted to chief-of-staff of the Territorial Defense Department, a relatively obscure post even though he is becoming a major general.

Maj-Gen Wimon's transfer to the First Division has surprised military observers who expected him to be promoted to a higher position because he was one of the first three Class 5 officers to be made a major general in 1982. The other two were Maj Gen Suchinda and Maj Gen Itsaraphong.

Maj-Gen San Siphon, also of Class 5 and earlier tipped to become the next First Division Commander, will remain in his present position as commander of the Second Division in Prachin Buri.

Maj-Gen Wimon was one of six Class 5 officers assigned to lead government troops from Korat in Nakhon Ratchasima Province to regain control of the capital from rebel units in the abortive April Fools' Day coup in 1981.

CSO: 4200/1489

THAILAND

BRIEFS

PAPER REPORTS NEW STRATEGY TO WEAKEN COMMUNISTS--Anti-communist authorities have been instructed to place top priority on further weakening the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) instead of its front organizations and its army, in the campaign against communist insurgency this year, highly-authoritative sources told THE NATION yesterday. The sources said that the plan has been given top priority because in the present circumstances, the rank and file in the CPT is still very much in disarray because of ideological confusion which is expected to spread further. The key to achievement of the task is to make use of ideological conflicts to ensure that leaders at all echelons in the CPT switch from armed struggle to a peaceful means of struggle, the sources said. One source said that the armed struggle of the outlawed party was able to continue because of the existence of the party and the front organizations or non-member supports, and therefore the correct way to halt the armed struggle was to destroy the CPT itself and the front organizations. He also said that the CPT has geared its activities away from armed struggle to political campaigns and has been moving from the jungle and mountainous areas into urban areas. The overall strength of the armed communist movement nationwide is put at 1,240-1,480. The guerrillas are spread into various regions: 160-200 in the Central Plains, 140-190 in the Northeast, 190-240 in the North and 750-850 in the South. The insurgents are most active in the South. [Text] [Bangkok THE NATION in English 1 Sep 85 p 1 BK]

'TOP COMMUNIST LEADER' DEFECTS TO GOVERNMENT--A top communist leader recently defected to the government after he was released from house arrest by the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT), informed sources told THE NATION yesterday. The communist leader was identified as Chaowalit Thapkhua, a member of the CPT's Central Committee and of the Central Committee of the CPT's northeastern branch. Chaowalit reported to the Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC) early this year, according to the sources. His surrender, however, has been kept confidential. According to the defector, he was placed under house arrest at the party headquarters in mid-1983 following his trip with Udom Sisuwan, another senior communist defector and a former Politburo member, to the fourth party congress. Udom, alias Comrade Som, was also secretary general of the northeastern regional committee of the communist movement. Both northeastern leaders were said to be upset with the results of the party caucus, said to be dominated by the pro-Beijing faction led by Wirat Angkhathawon. Chaowalit, whose jungle name was Comrade Watthana, traveled to

the capital following the house arrest and gave himself up to the ISOC in April, this year. According to the defector, the party headquarters was located in dense jungle in Nasan District, Surat Thani. Many senior communist leaders, including Wirat Thongchaemsi, believed to be party secretary general, and Sin Toemlin, a Central Committee member, stayed at the jungle base. Chaowalit, 58, was born in Maha Sarakham and studied at the Ban Somdet Teachers' College before joining the CPT. He made it to the top of the insurgent movement by his outstanding performance during his days in the jungle. [Text] [Bangkok THE NATION in English 25 Aug 85 p 2 BK]

NEW ZEALAND'S REFUGEE AID--The New Zealand Government has announced a further contribution of 1.57 million baht towards humanitarian relief efforts for displaced Kampucheans in Thailand. This follows a grant of 1.59 million baht made earlier this year. The latest contribution will be divided between the emergency appeal of the International Committee of the Red Cross for Kampuchean displaced persons in Thailand which will receive 570,000 baht, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees' appeal for Kampuchean displaced persons, 570,000 baht, and bilateral humanitarian assistance to civilian supporters in Thailand of the two non-Communist factions, the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and the KPNLF of the Kampuchean resistance, 429,000 baht. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 2 Sep 85 p 2 BK]

JANUARY-JUNE RUBBER EXPORTS--Thailand exported 322,787 tons of rubber from January to June this year, up 29.3 percent from the same period last year. Earnings were estimated at 6.6 billion baht during that period. The increased exports of rubber this year were due to the devaluation of the baht last year, causing Thai rubber buyers to purchase much more this year. Japan topped the list of buyers this year, with purchase of 168,561 metric tons, followed by the United States, Singapore, China, and South Korea respectively, according to the Board of Trade. [Summary] [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 28 Aug 85 BK]

NEW ENVOYS TO USSR, POLAND, SFRY, ITALY, BRAZIL--The Cabinet has approved the appointment of nine senior Foreign Ministry officials to become ambassadors and directors-general. Included in the list was director-general of the Foreign Trade Department Danai Dulalampa who was transferred from the Commerce Ministry to become chief of the Foreign Ministry's Economic Affairs Department. Other appointees include director-general of the Treaty and Legal Department Suchinda Yongsunthon, who becomes Ambassador to Italy; Ambassador to the Philippines Prakit Rotchanapruk, who becomes Ambassador to the Soviet Union; Ambassador to Yugoslavia Prathip Sochirat, who becomes Ambassador to Brazil; Ambassador to Turkey Somchit Intharasing, who becomes Ambassador to Brunei; Ambassador to West Germany Pramuan Nawabut, who becomes Ambassador to Yugoslavia; Ambassador to Malaysia Phadung Thanyangkun, who becomes Ambassador to Poland; Ambassador to the Soviet Union Waikun Samruatruamphon, who becomes director-general of the Treaty and Legal Department; Deputy Director-general of the ASEAN Department Sukhum Ratsamithat, who becomes an Ambassador attached to the Foreign Ministry. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Aug 85 p 2 BK]

CSO: 4200/1489

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

HANOI RADIO EDITOR REVIEWS INDOCHINA SITUATION

BK310935 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 29 Aug 85

[Radio Editor Vu Dinh Vinh's "Heighten Vigilance for National Defense" feature]

[Text] Our people always wish to live in peace, independence, and freedom. Concerning China, we advocate restoring friendship between the two peoples and normalizing relations on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. We have time and again proposed to resume talks with the Chinese side to resolve problems between the two countries through peaceful negotiations. On several occasions we have also proposed that both sides refrain from conducting armed activities and other acts of confrontation and from opening fire along the border between the two countries. By putting forth these proposals and by unilaterally implementing them on several occasions, we have wished to ease tension at the Sino-Vietnamese border and eventually to eliminate the danger of war and normalize the border situation.

We have made a persistent effort in this direction. On 26 August, at the Friendship Gate in Lang Son, 19 Chinese arrested during their illegal intrusions into Vietnamese territory were returned to China so that they could be reunited with their families. These Chinese had confessed to the Vietnamese authorities to the crimes committed during their illegal intrusions into Vietnamese territory and expressed gratitude to our government and people for the humane treatment and lenient policy they had received during their temporary detention.

While upholding their goodwill, our army and people have always been aware that the situation is still complex and that the national defense task remains very weighty. Standing on the frontline, our armed forces and people of various nationalities still have to be constantly on the alert and stand ready to fight to fulfill their glorious duty, thereby firmly defending the fatherland's border and territory. At present, we must simultaneously overcome the grave consequences of the war that lasted for decades and carry out major tasks aimed at transforming the economy and society and building the material and technical bases of socialism. Standing shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries as well as with the peace and progressive forces throughout the world, we are also pursuing the consistent policy of peace and opposing war and the arms race, for the sake of peace, security, and social progress in the region and the rest of the world.

It is for this reason that the important and good-will decisions made by Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia at the 11th conference of the Indochinese foreign ministers held in Phnom Penh on 15-16 August have continued to be welcomed by large sections of public opinion. Public attention has focused on two key points: First, Vietnamese Army volunteers will continue their gradual annual pullout and will be totally withdrawn from Cambodia by 1990; second, the PRK stated that it is prepared to hold talks with Cambodian opposition groups or individuals to discuss the realization of national reconciliation on the basis of the elimination of the genocidal Pol Pot clique and the holding of general elections after the total withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteers from Cambodia.

The most profound impression created by the communique of the 11th Indochinese foreign ministerial conference is the growth and stability of the Cambodian revolution and the persistent goodwill of the three Indochinese countries. Everyone knows that the Indochinese countries; proposals were put forth at a time when public opinion throughout the world has clearly realized the crimes committed by the genocidal Pol Pot clique and has demanded its elimination and when some ASEAN member countries, such as Indonesia and Malaysia, have welcomed the efforts by the Cambodians themselves to seek a peaceful solution to the Cambodian issue.

The Indochinese countries' proposals reflect the actual situation in Indochina and may set into motion the process of negotiations among the parties concerned, thereby helping ease tension and create a favorable atmosphere for attaining a peaceful solution to the problems of Southeast Asia.

Our foreign minister, Nguyen Co Chach, recently concluded his visit to Indonesia. During the visit, he held talks and gave a joint press conference with his Indonesian counterpart, Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja.

The two ministers discussed regional and international issues of mutual concern. They were of the opinion that their talks had proceeded in a constructive atmosphere and had achieved good results and that these talks were consistent with the importance of the present juncture and with the two countries' efforts to contribute to peace and stability in Southeast Asia. It can be said that the recent dialogue between Vietnam and Indonesia went beyond the framework of bilateral relations. The two sides are making an effort to help improve relations between the two groups of countries and achieve peaceful coexistence among countries of different social systems.

As many people in the ASEAN countries have begun to understand that the situation in Cambodia is irreversible, prolonging by one way or another the settlement of the issues concerning Cambodia--as some countries and forces are trying to do--also means running counter to the interests of peace and security of the regions as a whole and of each country in the region in particular.

In this context, what consequences has Thailand's policy toward the Indochinese countries resulted in? A number of foreign correspondents recently visited Bangkok to examine and analyze the situation. A correspondent of the U.S. news agency, AP, wrote in THE NEW YORK TIMES: For 6 years now Thailand has pursued

the policy of supporting various Cambodian resistance groups--meaning the reactionaries. The Thai-Cambodian border area is the operational base of these forces. From this area Pol Pot's troops and those of other Cambodian groups carry out activities against the government of Chairman Heng Samrin which is actually administering Cambodia.

A special correspondent of the U.S. paper, THE WASHINGTON POST, affirmed: Thailand has come under heavy fire for its foreign policy concerning Southeast Asia. Several ASEAN countries are dissatisfied with Thailand's heavy dependence on China in its confrontation with the Indochinese countries.

The Japanese news agency, KYODO, also reported: Thailand's continued assistance for the Pol Pot forces against the Phnom Penh administration has raised considerable doubt among public opinion. Everyone knows that Pol Pot is a tyrant. A question arises: Why, then, does Bangkok still back Pol Pot and support his bid to return to power in Cambodia?

The ASIaweek magazine observed: Keeping to prolong the war by continuing to support the Khmer Rouge forces' activities at the Thai-Cambodian border will jeopardize the stability of Thailand itself.

These remarks have shown that Thailand has isolated itself. For the sake of a peaceful and stable Southeast Asia, public opinion in the region, including Thai opinion, is demanding that Bangkok put an end to its unwise policy.

CSO: 4209/610

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

ARMY PAPER ON SUPPRESSION OF FULRO IN DAC LAC

BK011453 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 21 Jul 85 p 2

[Report by Vu Manh]

[Text] Upon receiving an order from the post commander to reconnoiter an area to support a mopping-up operation against FULRO [United Front for the Struggle of the Oppressed Races] bandits, unit leader Le Huu Luong (Border Defense Post No 2 of the Dac Lac Border Defense Force) enthusiastically threw the knapsack on his shoulders [and] set out on the mission. He quickly took a short cut through the jungles to the area near the Dac Rue Spring to study the surroundings. After walking for about 5 km, Luong suddenly discovered the footprints of some strangers near a puddle of rainwater at day-break. The puddle was muddy, indicating that someone had just waded through it. Luong thought: It would take at least 7 days by jungle trail to travel from here to the village, so how could someone get here so early? Moreover, the villagers seldom travel back and forth in this area, which has long been regarded as a bandit hideout. I must be alert; maybe the bandits came out early in the morning to search for food. Luong put a round of ammunition in the chamber of his rifle, then walked on. After he had walked for a relatively long distance, Luong found that many branches of some small trees on both sides of the trail were broken and patches of wet grass had diverged into a small path. Following these tracks, Luong soon detected five bandits--four of them were digging up wild potatoes near a tree in front of him while the fifth was standing guard with a rifle in his hands. Taking advantage of the rugged terrain, Luong moved closer to the bandits, who were spaced some 10 to 12 meters apart, laboriously digging up wild potatoes. I must capture the guard alive, Luong said to himself. He then moved stealthily to a big tree nearby. However, as Luong was about to reach the tree, the guard also walked from the opposite direction apparently to a cluster of wild potatoes. Luong quickly used his bayonet to stab the guard in the chest. Alarmed at the loud scream uttered by the guard a moment before he dropped to the ground, the other four bandits started to run for their lives toward the Dac Rue Spring. Luong chased them some 7 km before he lost track. Determined not to allow these bandits to escape, Luong returned to the border defense post to suggest that he be given a combat unit to track down and destroy the bandits. With the approval of the commander, Luong again enthusiastically set out on the mission with the combat unit. Hungry and thirsty after walking for 2 days and nights from one forest to another, Luong and the combat unit could not find

the bandits. However, when Luong found a cigarette butt on the bank of the spring at approximately 0800 the next day, he realized that the bandits were still hiding in the area. Luong and the members of the combat unit immediately took up combat positions. Meanwhile, from higher ground, the four bandits could also see Luong and all members of the combat unit. One of the bandits raised a M-79 and aimed it at our men. However, from a more advantageous position, Luong opened fire first, bringing down the bandit as the M-79 slipped out of his hands. Knowing that the other bandits would try to retrieve the body of their friend and his weapon, Luong and the members of the combat unit waited. A moment later two bandits, moved in to drag the body of their friend away while another fired his rifle aimlessly in an attempt [to] divert our men's attention. As the two bandits were pulling the dead body out and reaching for the M-79, our combatants opened fire, killing both of them on the spot. Meanwhile, taking advantage of the rugged terrain to move closer to his target from another direction, Luong shot at the last bandit, wounding him.

By actively following the enemy tracks, in a short period of time Luong and the members of the combat unit were able to wipe out the four bandits and seize their weapons and means of sabotage. Le Huu Luong, that young party member, was awarded the Military Exploit Order Third Class by the higher echelon.

CSO: 4209/610

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

BRIEFS

SON LA SELF-DEFENSE NETWORK--To date, almost all villages in Son La Province have built their paramilitary forces at platoon and company levels. Some 815 cooperatives have formed their self-defense and militia units and consolidated their people's security teams. Meanwhile, various organs, state farms, forestry sites, enterprises, and schools in the province have set up 364 self-defense units. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 21 Aug 85 BK]

CSO: 4209/610

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

ENVOYS TO PRC, FRANCE HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE

OW180727 Hanoi VNA in English 0719 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi, 18 Aug (VNA)--Vietnamese Ambassador to China Nguyen Trong Vinh held a press conference in Beijing yesterday on the eleventh conference of the foreign ministers of Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam held in Phnom Penh on August 15-16.

The ambassador brought out the good will of the three Indochinese countries in seeking a political solution to the Kampuchea issue, stressed the principled stand and good will of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in their relations with the People's Republic of China, and affirmed that Vietnam would completely withdraw its troops from Kampuchea by 1990.

Nguyen Trong Vinh answered questions put by many journalists.

In Paris yesterday, Vietnamese Ambassador to France Ha Van Lau held a press conference to present the communique of the recent Indochinese foreign ministerial conference.

The ambassador emphasized the decision of Vietnam and Kampuchea that Vietnamese army volunteers shall completely withdraw from Kampuchea by 1990, and the statement of the government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea expressing its readiness to start talks with various Khmer opposition groups or individuals to discuss the realization of national reconciliation on the basis of the elimination of the genocidal Pol Pot gang.

Ha Van Lau answered many questions asked by journalists on the developing trend of dialogue in Southeast Asia and the growth of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in many fields. He brought out the desire of the three Indochinese countries to engage in serious talks aimed at contributing to peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

CSO: 4200/1387

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

PDRY CHAIRMAN CABLES SRV LEADER ON ANNIVERSARY

GL011734 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Sep 85

["Text" of congratulatory cable from 'ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, to Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, on the occasion of SRV National Day--date not given]

[Text] On the occasion of National Day, it pleases me to send to you the warmest comradely greetings on this dear occasion to the sons of your people, and to all the people who have struggled and continue to struggle to achieve freedom, independence, and progress.

The independence of Vietnam opened a new page in the path of the struggle of the Vietnamese people who established the first state of workers and peasants in Southeast Asia and accomplished splendid achievements. The Vietnamese people set a marvelous example of steadfastness in attaining the sovereignty of their homeland, and its freedom, progress, and unity.

On this occasion, we express the pride of our party and people in the struggle relations which link us with your country within the framework of the principles and goals which we are striving to achieve. We renew the solidarity of our people with the steadfastness of your people against all imperialist and reactionary plots aimed at foiling their achievements and sovereignty.

Dear comrade, we wish you robust health and happiness. We hope that your friendly people will gain more achievements under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam. We hope that the relations between our friendly peoples and parties will develop further.

CSO: 4604/38

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

LEADERS GREET INDONESIANS ON NATIONAL DAY

OW170829 Hanoi VNA in English 0723 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi, 17 Aug (VNA)--Truong Chinh, president of the State Council, and Pham Van Dong, chairman of the Council of Ministers, have extended their warmest greetings to President Suharto on Indonesia's 40th National Day.

The congratulatory message says:

"The Vietnamese people rejoice at the great achievements recorded by the industrious and creative people of Indonesia, under your excellency's leadership in turning Indonesia into a prosperous country, thus making important contributions to the cause of peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

"The revolutions of August 1945 in Indonesia and Vietnam ushered in for the two peoples a new era of national independence and helped strengthen the friendship between the two nations.

"Over the past 40 years, in spite of many changes and divisionist moves by outside forces, the Vietnam-Indonesia relationship has always been a firm tie based on mutual understanding and respect.

"Today, the friendship and cooperation between our two countries have been broadened in many fields. The exchange of visits by diplomatic, military, economic, trade, scientific and technical delegations between our two countries have brought about satisfactory results and opened up new prospects for bilateral cooperation.

"Indonesia, with its important position in the region as well as in the world, has made active contributions to peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia."

The message wishes the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Indonesia further consolidation and development, and the Indonesian people under President Suharto's leadership ever bigger success in national development.

On this occasion, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has sent greetings to his Indonesian counterpart Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja.

CSO: 4200/1387

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN GREETES INDONESIAN NATIONAL DAY

OW170825 Hanoi VNA in English 0706 GMT 17 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi, 17 Aug (VNA)--NHAN DAN today expresses warmest greetings to the Indonesian people on the occasion of the 40th national day of the Republic of Indonesia (August 17).

The paper recalls the achievements recorded by the Indonesian people in economic construction as well as in consolidating and defending their national independence over the past 40 years, and says:

"Vietnam and Indonesia are close together geographically and share similarities in their history of national construction and defence. Both were victims of colonialism and imperialism and are now facing the danger of Chinese expansionism and hegemonism. The two countries have long been bound by mutual sympathy. President Ho Chi Minh's visit to Indonesia in 1959 was an important milestone in the relationship between the two countries. Indonesia supported the Vietnamese people's liberation fight against U.S. imperialism and today continues its relations of cooperation with Vietnam. President Suharto has expressed his belief that the strengthening of the friendship and cooperation between Indonesia and Vietnam would benefit both countries and importantly contribute to the cause of peace, stability and development in Southeast Asia. The two countries' efforts to find a correct solution to the regional problems, the exchange of visits between the defence ministers and foreign ministers of the two countries as well as the Vietnam-Indonesia symposiums in Hanoi and Jakarta bear witness to the constant development of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries for the sake of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world".

The paper says in conclusion:

"The Vietnamese people take this occasion to wish their Indonesian friends still greater successes in national construction and defence, and the friendship and cooperation between the two countries further consolidation and development in the interests of the two peoples and of the common struggle to make Southeast Asia a region of peace, stability, cooperation and friendship".

CSO: 4200/1387

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

HOANG TUNG ATTENDS 7TH COMINTERN EXHIBITION

BK161802 Hanoi VNA in English 1653 GMT 16 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi, 16 Aug (VNA)--An exhibition titled "7th Congress of the Communist International and Our Time" opened here this afternoon on the occasion of its 50th anniversary [word indistinct] jointly sponsored by the Ho Chi Minh Museum and the Dimitrov National Museum. It will run from August 17 to August 26.

Present at the opening were Hoang Tung, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnamese Central Committee, representatives of the party CC International Department and Propaganda and Training Department, the Foreign Ministry, and mass organizations.

Bulgarian Ambassador Philip Markov, the ambassadors, counsellors and charge d'affaires A.I. of other socialist countries in Hanoi were also present.

The exhibition displays more than 100 photos and documents concerning the tasks of the communists and workers' movement in the thirties put forth by the 7th Comintern Congress namely to rally all forces to fight [word indistinct] fascism and war and to preserve peace.

The success of the 7th Comintern Congress was associated with the great contributions of G. Dimotrov, general secretary of the Comintern, an eminent son of the Bulgarian people.

The exhibition also deals with the present unprecedentedly wide movement pillared by the Soviet Union for peace and against the arms race.

CSO: 4200/1387

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

BRIEFS

GIFTS FROM SOVIET UNION--On 21 August in Haiphong, the Ministry of Communications and Transportation held a solemn ceremony to receive two 4,000-ton freighters as gifts from the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet of the Soviet Union. At the ceremony, the vice minister of communications and transportation of Vietnam and an official of the Soviet Embassy delivered speeches hailing the militant solidarity and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 22 Aug 85 BK]

DIPLOMATIC TIES SET UP--To date, our country has established diplomatic relations with 113 countries throughout the world--30 of them in Asia, 27 in Europe, 40 in Africa, 13 in America, and 3 in Oceania. In January 1950, while our people were still waging an arduous and courageous war of resistance against the French colonialists, the Soviet Union and other socialist [countries] established diplomatic ties with our country and expressed unreserved support for our revolutionary cause. After South Vietnam was liberated in 1975 and our country became completely independent and reunified, another 39 nations established diplomatic relations with the SRV. In addition, we have entertained relations with and set up missions in many international organizations, such as the United Nations in New York, the United States; and UNESCO in Paris, France. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 31 Aug 85 BK]

TRAN QUYNH AT INDONESIAN RECEPTION--Hanoi, 17 Aug (VNA)--Prasetyo Pujo, ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia, gave a reception here this evening in honour of his country's 40th independence day (August 17). The guests were Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Tran Quynh, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach; Minister of Public Health Dang Hoi Xuan; Minister of Justice Phan Hien, and Vice Defence Minister Senior Lieutenant General Tran Van Quang. The host and guests proposed toasts to the historic anniversary of the Indonesian people to the consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between Indonesia and Vietnam, to the ever bigger achievements of the Indonesian people in their national development, and to peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0816 GMT 18 Aug 85 OW]

CSO: 4200/1387

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

REPORT ON LE DUAN'S VISIT TO HAIPHONG

BK281120 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Text] In recent days, Comrade General Secretary Le Duan visited a number of economic and cultural establishments in Haiphong.

Comrade Doan Duy Thanh, member of the party Central Committee, and other comrades in the municipal party standing committee warmly welcomed the comrade general secretary and briefed him on the significant changes in the municipality's socio-economic situation in recent years, especially with regard to implementation of the resolution of the party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum.

Along with quickly building various economic and welfare projects and boosting production, especially agricultural production, Haiphong has made great efforts in further renovating its economic management system in the direction of discarding bureaucracy and subsidization and switching completely to socialist economic accounting and business transactions on the basis of considering planning as the central task.

The municipality has paid attention to rectifying distribution and circulation work, reorganizing trade and service-support activities, securing sources of goods and money, and carrying out market management and control.

After nearly 2 months of implementing the system of indexing wages to cost-of-living increases and gradually incorporating wages which have been adjusted according to cost-of-living increases with production costs, the economic and marketing situation has, in general, been stabilized with improvements noted in various trade, financial, and monetary activities.

The comrade general secretary visited a number of service-support and cultural establishments in the heart of the municipality. He personally examined the trade support services at the infrastructure and inquired about the health of cadres and personnel.

The comrade general secretary was very pleased and commended the municipality for having promptly changed its working methods and for having created an upward trend. He urged the municipal party committee to make the entire party organization better understand and implement in a most satisfactory manner

the various resolutions of the party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum in order to improve the municipality's economic construction, cultural development, and the strengthening of national defense and security to make rapid and vigorous headway.

Comrade General Secretary Le Duan visited the Pha Rung dockyard belonging to the Sea Transport General Department, Ministry of Communications and Transportation. Comrade Tran Xuan Nhon, head of the Sea Transport General Department; Trinh Van Phan, director of the dockyard; and a large number of the dockyard's cadres, workers, and staff personnel expressed their joy and honor at welcoming the comrade general secretary who came to visit them.

With Finnish cooperation, the Pha Rung dockyard was started in mid-1970 and was put into operation in early 1984. It is capable of repairing all types of sea-going vessels from 5,000 to 15,000 tons. Since the inauguration of the first phase of its construction in March 1984, the dockyard has repaired 14 vessels and restored to operation more than 10,000 tons of ships for the maritime sector.

The comrade general secretary toured a number of workshops in the dockyard where he was greeted by many Finnish experts. He cordially chatted with and solicitously urged workers and cadres to manage the dockyard satisfactorily and to strive to improve their labor output, product quality, and economic results to make ever greater contributions to developing the shipping sector in our country.

CSO: 4209/601

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

TRUONG CHINH ATTENDS THANH HAO MEETING 17 AUG

OW181057 Hanoi VNA in English 0713 GMT 18 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi, 18 Aug (VNA)--A meeting was held at the Thanh Hoa provincial capital yesterday by the party and people's committee and the fatherland front committee of Thanh Hoa Province to mark the 40th anniversary of Vietnam's August revolution and national day and to receive the gold star order conferred by the state.

Truong Chinh, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and president of the State Council attended the meeting.

Among those present were also Ha Trong Hoa, alternate member of the CPV CC, secretary of the provincial party committee; Ha Van Ban, chairman of the provincial people's committee; Trinh Ngoc Chu, deputy secretary of the provincial party committee; Nguyen Xuan Thuy, president of the provincial fatherland front committee; Binh Phuong, member of the CPV CC and head of its department for internal affairs; Nguyen Ky Cam, member of the CPV CC and secretary of the party committee of the Nghe Tinh Province; Vu Than, member of the CPV CC and secretary of the party committee of Binh Tri Thien Province; and Nguyen Viet Dzung, director of the office of the National Assembly and lieutenant general Le Quang Hoa, vice-minister of national defence.

A delegation of Laos' Houa Phan Province which has sisterhood relations with Thanh Hoa Province and a representative of Soviet experts in the province attended the meeting.

In his speech, Ha Trong Hoa brought out the historic significance of these glorious anniversaries and the great achievement recorded by the people in Thanh Hoa over the past 40 years.

Ha Van Ban read out the decision of the State Council to confer the gold star order on Thanh Hoa Province, and President Truong Chinh pinned the order on the tradition banner of the province. He expressed his hope that the party and people of Thanh Hoa will further promote their revolutionary tradition to make the province richer and a pace-setter, as the last President Ho Chi Minh had wished.

CSO: 4200/1387

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

NHAN DAN ARTICLE REVIEWS COLLECTIVIZATION

OW191145 Hanoi VNA in English 0803 GMT 19 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi, 18 Aug (VNA)--Following are excerpts from an article by Duong Quoc Cam, head of the department for agricultural cooperation of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, appearing in NHAN DAN on August 16:

By the end of 1957, with the successful completion of the land reform, agricultural collectivization began in North Vietnam. By late 1960, already 85.8 percent of peasant families in the north had joined 40,401 low-level and small-scale cooperatives which accounted for 68.1 percent of the total cultivated hectareage in North Vietnam. On the average, each cooperative at that time had 83 households and worked 43 hectares of cropland.

In the fight against the U.S. air war and the liberation fight in the South, the cooperatives in the North underwent many a serious trial and grew quickly in organizational capacity, demonstrating their superiority over private farming in the organization of life and fighting against the air marauders, in mobilizing manpower and resources for the front....

The liberation of the South in 1975 created more favourable conditions for the northern cooperatives to consolidate and perfect the socialist production relations, renovate and improve economic management, boost production, stabilize and improve the life of the farmers, and contribute further to national construction and defence. Since 1981, the initial results of the renovation of the managerial mechanism and the application of new policies on agriculture, especially the change-over to the system of end-product contract quota assigned to production groups and individual farmers has had a profound effect on the movement of agricultural cooperation and production in the country.

At present, there are in the North 13,315 cooperatives, mostly fully socialist in character, embracing 98.8 percent of the peasant households and over 90 per cent of the cultivated hectareage. On the average, each cooperative in the northern plains now has 466 households and 211 hectares of land. The figures are 90 and 64 respectively in the mountain areas.

Agricultural collectivization started in central and southern provinces soon after the complete liberation of South Vietnam in 1975 and the country's reunification in 1976 when socialist construction began on a national scale.

By May 1978, the central coastal provinces had 21,000 production groups and teams of low-level cooperation involving 73 percent of the peasant families while cooperativization in pilot areas began in most districts.

In the central highlands provinces, mutual aid groups were formed in areas inhabited by the Kinh majority ethnic group, and labour-cooperation groups in areas inhabited by ethnic minorities. All the provinces had set up pilot cooperatives.

On the strength of this movement and the experiments of the successful pilot cases, there began in the south a large-scale campaign for agricultural collectivization in two forms: cooperatives and production teams. By the end of 1979, the provinces on the central coast already had 70-90 percent of the peasant families joining cooperatives or production teams, chiefly cooperatives. In the plains of central highlands the rate was 74 percent chiefly in production teams.

"In southern plains, in view of the specific conditions, especially social and economic conditions of agricultural production which already had the distinct characters of a capitalist consumer society, agricultural transformation had to proceed in a different way from the north. [Punctuation as received]

In the early years, the execution of the land policy, the grouping of peasants into labour-exchange and solidarity production teams, and especially the building of cooperatives and production teams, ran into numerous difficulties. Impatience to get the program achieved in disregard of the local characteristics had led to failure in many areas, and remedy measures were adopted in time.

To date, the southern provinces have basically solved the land question in rice-growing areas, and re-allocated 422,000 hectares of land among the farmers. Concrete steps were taken to engage them in collective production in the form of production teams (33,000 teams) and cooperatives (540 cooperatives) involving 75 percent of the peasant household and 71 percent of the cultivated hectareage. On the average, each production team embraces 40 households and works 43 hectares, while a cooperative has 251 households and 197 hectares.

At the present rate, it is expected that by the end of this year, the southern provinces will have basically completed agricultural collectivization with production team as the main form as has been called for by the resolution of the 5th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

On the whole, the agricultural collectivization campaign is now 27 years old in the north and more than eight years old in the south. The whole country now has 15,360 cooperatives and 35,727 production teams involving 89 percent of peasant households and 78.6 percent of the cultivated acreage.

CSO: 4200/1387

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON PARTY BASE LEADERSHIP

BK270948 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 23 Aug 85

[NHAN DAN 24 August editorial: "Implementing the Fifth Party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum Resolution: Enhance the Leadership and Militancy of Basic Party Organizations"]

[Text] The fifth party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum resolution is an extremely important one, reflecting a revolutionary renovation in our party's leadership over economic management. The implementation of the resolution requires that the leadership and militancy of basic party organizations be enhanced.

The primary, most important thing is that each cadre, each party member, and each basic party organization thoroughly understand the major viewpoints and very important guidelines and policies of the resolution; unify his knowledge, ideology, and action; resolutely eliminate bureaucratism and subsidization ills; and completely shift to the new system of socialist economic accounting and business transactions.

The strength of basic party organizations and party chapters can be manifested by turning the viewpoints, guidelines, and policies of the Eighth Plenum resolution into a mass movement of revolutionary acts to emulate in productive labor and practice thrift to achieve high productivity, quality, and effectiveness; stabilize livelihood, transform and manage the market; and accumulate capital for industrialization and security and national defense consolidation.

Adopting the new management system, along with the new favorable conditions, there are also many complicated new difficulties. However, no matter how great the difficulties and complexities, we still have to overcome them to perform by all means major changes in economic management to develop our economy further.

The new management system, with its new socioeconomic guidelines and policies, requires that all basic party organizations conduct propaganda well among cadres, party members, and the people; promptly grasp the thoughts and aspirations of the people; and make everyone understand clearly the significance, substance, and purpose of each guideline and policy. On this

basis, we will change our economic thinking and our behavior toward and procedures of production and business.

We should consolidate the basic party organizations through the revolutionary campaign to renovate the management system in connection with perfecting the organization of training and education for cadres, party members, and the people. We should enhance the leadership and militancy of basic party organizations in socialist trade sectors, including banks, finance, food, and material supply. The activities of party chapters in these sectors should be improved to reflect a clear, specific scope and a program of action aimed at implementing the Eighth Plenum resolution to control goods and money, accelerate the socialist transformation and management of market and prices, stabilize the people's livelihood, maintain pricing and financial discipline, and preserve economic secrecy.

The cadres and party members in business installations should uphold their vanguard role; firmly maintain their revolutionary quality; and resolutely struggle against negativism, undiscipline, and lack of organization.

The party organizations and chapters in state factories and economic units should lead the work of various collectives and mass organizations and control the activities of the management agencies and their chiefs in implementing the Eighth Plenum resolution and the specific guidelines and policies of the state. They should provide leadership to step up production under the new management system with the requirements of achieving high productivity, quality, and effectiveness and without having to make up for losses at a time when the economy is still rife with many imbalances. This is an extremely difficult task for the basic party organizations in production units.

The activities of party chapters in factories should be aimed at guiding cadres and party members in motivating the masses to establish advanced labor norms, thriftily use materials and fuel, rationalize production, improve technical work, observe production regulations, and protect socialist assets well.

The party chapters and cells in production teams should be consolidated so as to perform well their leading and control functions and to implement the socialist accounting and business transactions on the basis of planning by the grassroots level.

The basic party organizations and directors should help leading collectives at all levels work and participate in renovating planning, promoting initiative, and accepting new techniques to increase productivity and quality, lower production costs, and link responsibility to benefits, thereby achieving the principle of distribution according to labor. They should resolutely eliminate bureaucratic subsidization and completely shift to socialist accounting and business transactions.

The basic party organizations play the important role of cooperating with directors to rearrange production and the management mechanism; deal with labor surplus; and fix pay grades, wages, allowances, and bonuses.

The basic party organizations in rural areas should thoroughly understand the new requirements of leadership over the development of production. They should perfect the product contract system, improve the planning task and economic accounting, develop the family-based economy, and conduct close control and inspection to make production and business profitable.

Cadres and party members in rural areas should uphold their exemplary role in implementing the state policies on procuring grain and on unifying and monopolizing grain business. They should overcome much negative phenomena as stockpiling products, establishing systems and policies conflicting with the regulations of collectives and the state, and neglecting the accumulation of capital for cooperatives to recycle and expand production.

The party organizations in city wards should intensify leadership over market management, vigorously accelerate the socialist transformation of private trade, develop handicrafts and artisan industry, consolidate marketing cooperatives, develop service operations, and stabilize the city ward people's livelihood in accordance with the Eighth Plenum resolution.

Through these tasks, the basic party organizations should strive to build mass organizations both ideologically and organizationally and engage their members in movements for revolutionary acts vigorously to step up production, stabilize livelihood, accelerate socialist transformation, strengthen the technical and material bases of socialism, and consolidate security and national defense.

The renovation of economic management will give rise to a contingent of good management cadres who are dynamic, creative, and flexible. Once well aware of the requirements of renovating management, the basic party organizations should plan to enhance the quality of their contingents of cadres in accordance with these guidelines:

--Conduct advanced and basic economic management training under the new system;

--Assign the right men to the right jobs; and

--Resolutely replace unqualified and incompetent cadres who cannot perform under the new system.

The permanent task of basic party organizations is to educate cadres and party members in preserving and enhancing their revolutionary quality and improving their sense of organization and discipline in the course of implementing the Eighth Plenum resolution. By performing these tasks, the leadership and militancy of basic party organizations will be enhanced.

CSO: 4209/601

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

LE DUAN ADDRESSES THAI BINH MEETING

OW270845 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 25 Aug 85

["Full text" of speech by Le Duan, CPV Central Committee General Secretary, at 24 August Thai Binh meeting marking 40th anniversary of August Revolution --read by announcer]

[Text] Dear friends: As earlier reported by the Voice of Vietnam, on 24 August Comrade General Secretary Le Duan attended a ceremony held by Thai Binh Province to mark the 40th anniversary of the August Revolution and Vietnam's National Day, 2 September, and to receive the Gold Star Order.

Following is the full text of the Comrade General Secretary's address to the Thai Binh party organization and people.

Presidium members, dear comrades and compatriots of Thai Binh: These days, our people, with considerable pride, are celebrating the 40th anniversary of the August Revolution and Vietnam's National Day, 2 September; glorious days which mark a turning point of our country entering a new era, the era of independence, freedom, and socialism.

The past 40 years have been a fighting period crowned with armed exploits, a period of unprecedentedly rapid growth in our country. Under the invincible banner of the party and the great Uncle Ho, our people have successively defeated two big imperialists, France and the United States, and the Chinese expansionist-hegemonic force, and have firmly defended and developed the gains of the August Revolution. We have scored initial achievements of strategic significance in socialist construction.

In our people's common undertaking, the Thai Binh party organization and compatriots have made many great contributions. Thai Binh whipped up a mass revolutionary movement in the early 1930s; it was one of the first provinces to rise up to regain power. It had a renowned people's warfare movement in the Red River Delta during the anti-French war of resistance. Hundreds of thousands of Thai Binh's sons successively joined up, and took part in the fighting on all battlefields. From this land have emerged many typical examples, such as Nguyen Thi Tien, Ta Quoc Luat, Bui Quang Thuan, and Pham Tuan.

Thai Binh is the land of a yield of 5 tons of rice per hectare; the leading banner in intensive cultivation and multicropping; a locality with an early people's movement to go and build new economic zones; a promoter in district building, in integrating cooperatives with districts, and in using districts as areas for reorganizing production and the people's livelihood, carrying out a new distribution of labor, and conducting simultaneously the three revolutions in the rural areas.

Thai Binh has systematically built the system of collective mastery, raised the material and cultural life of the people, and made increasingly great contributions in manpower and material resources for the whole country.

On behalf of the party and the state, I warmly hail the outstanding achievements that the Thai Binh cadres and people have scored in combat and construction. With those achievements, Thai Binh deserves to be awarded the Gold Star Order, the noblest order of our state.

A coastal delta province, Thai Binh is endowed with abundant capabilities for constant and further development. Let the Thai Binh party organization and compatriots strive to accelerate the three revolutions, consolidate and perfect the new production relations, rapidly apply scientific and technological advances to production and the people's livelihood, regularly strive to create new socialist men, unceasingly enhance the laboring people's role in collective mastery--mastery in all political, economic, cultural, and social domains; mastery from production to goods distribution and circulation; mastery in firmly safeguarding national defense security.

Overall agricultural production development must be achieved, both in cultivation and stockbreeding, in rice and in secondary and industrial crops. Strenuous efforts must be made to raise the rice yield--from the 7 tons of rice yield per hectare--and gross grain output and, on that basis, expand the major industrial crop acreage. Let Thai Binh develop many more Vu Thangs and Dong Hoas [model agricultural cooperatives--FBIS], and generate a new impetus for a rapid advance to large-scale socialist production.

Thai Binh must develop its occupations, especially those involving jute, rush, and sericulture. It must vigorously promote artisan industry and handicrafts, with importance attached to output, quality, and efficiency. It must continue to do a good job in district building and create a rational agricultural-industrial structure. Along with strengthening the state-run and collective economies, it must pay attention to developing the family economy. It must expand the building of rural areas; popularize primary and general middle school education; organize well the material and cultural life of the laboring people; send hundreds of thousands more people to build new economic zones, especially in border areas; carry out cultivation, in a concentrated manner, of industrial crops, such as rubber, coffee, and tea; exploit well the coastal areas and develop the maritime economy; and accelerate sea and aquatic fishing and farming.

Export must directly involve every sector, district, installation, and family. Efforts must be made so that one-third of the annual man-days will be devoted

to export work. Contributions must be made to importing technical equipment for our country's industrialization, and savings must be continuously amassed for socialist construction.

As the leading organization for all types of tasks in the locality, the provincial party organization must be truly strong and stable, enhance internal unity, and raise the leadership and practical organization level of every party organization echelon, cadre, and party member. It must strive to build the mass organizations, and develop their role in collective mastery. It must strive with a high sense of responsibility to renovate the economic and social management mechanism; overcome the bureaucratic subsidy-based system of management, conservatism, and inertia; and do a good job in implementing party resolutions, especially the Eighth Resolution of the party Central Committee.

Let the Thai Binh party organization and compatriots strive to uphold the homeland's glorious traditions; develop their strengths; remedy their shortcomings; make strenuous efforts; score new, greater achievements; and contribute, along with the people countrywide, to successfully carrying out the dual strategic tasks of building socialism and defending the fatherland. Let them continue to advance, exploit efficiently the province's inherent potentials and capabilities, and build Thai Binh into a province with a developed economy and culture, a shining star, a mighty fortress on the edge of the South China Sea. Let them show themselves to be worthy of the honor and the weighty responsibility entrusted to them by the party and the state, and to be worthier of being followers of the older generations that shed blood for the sake of the fatherland's independence and freedom.

CSO: 4209/601

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

NGUYEN THANH BINH SPEAKS IN HOANG LIEN SON

BK271154 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Text] On the morning of 25 August at the 19 August Square in Yen Bai City, the Hoang Lien Son provincial party committee, people's committee, and VFF committee and the 2d Military Region Command held a grand meeting to mark the 40th anniversary of the August Revolution and 2 September National Day and to receive the two Gold Star Orders awarded to the Armed Forces and people of the province and cadres and combatants in the 2d Military Region by the state.

More than 200,000 people attended the meeting, including representatives of various organs, mass organizations, and units of the Armed Forces; outstanding combatants and emulators; veteran cadres and revolutionaries; representatives of families having rendered services to the country and families of fallen combatants and war invalids; and representatives of 870,000 people of 27 fraternal nationalities in the province. Also present were Comrade Nguyen Thanh Binh, secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrade Hoang Truong Minh, member of the party Central Committee, chairman of the National Assembly's Nationalities Council and director of the party Central Committee Nationalities Department, and Comrade Hoang Quoc Viet, a veteran revolutionary and honorary chairman of the VFF.

Comrade Ha Thiet [secretary of the Hoang Lien Son provincial party committee --FBIS] delivered a speech pointing out the historical significance of the August Revolution and the revolutionary and patriotic traditions of the Armed Forces and people in the province. He said: As the revolutionary movement spread out from the base area near Chan Yen, the people of various nationalities responded to the party's appeal by rising up to join their compatriots throughout the country in carrying the August Revolution to victory.

During the war of resistance against the French colonialists, Hoang Lien Son served as the gateway and a rear area for the direct supply of human and material resources to ensure the victory of the Dien Bien Phu campaign. In the resistance against the U.S. aggressors, the people of various

nationalities in the province sent off tens of thousands of youths, who had followed the footsteps of their fathers and brothers in the struggle for the liberation of the south and unification of the country. The Armed Forces and people of Yen Bai, Nghia Lo, and Lao Cai gallantly shot down 116 aircraft of the U.S. aggressors.

Faced with the act of aggression of the Chinese expansionists in February 1979, Hoang Lien Son became a large front line. Once again, the Armed Forces and people of various nationalities in the province united as one and, without fear of sacrifice, they contributed worthily to the defeat of the Chinese aggressors.

On the agricultural and forestry production front, Hoang Lien Son has recorded considerable achievements. Collective peasants in the province have overcome all difficulties in opening up virgin land to expand the cultivated area and actively carry out intensive cultivation of rice and other crops.

Hoang Lien Son, which possesses the largest tea area in the country, has set up the area of raw materials for the production of paper and yarn; the area of special products, cinnamon, and Chinese medicinal herbs; and the area of vegetable seeds. The allocation of land and forests and the development of afforestation in the direction of combining agriculture with forestry are being extensively carried out among all cooperatives, and the exploitation of apatite, kaolin, and white cement and production of electrical insulators are being developed.

On behalf of the party Central Committee and state, Comrade Nguyen Thanh Binh presented Gold Star Orders to the Armed Forces and people of Hoang Lien Son and the cadres and combatants of the 2d Military Region. He commended the Armed Forces and people of Hoang Lien Son for having achieved many heroic military exploits in the fight against the aggressors and overcome difficulties to record many successes in production.

Comrade Nguyen Thanh Binh urged the party organization, Armed Forces, and people of Hoang Lien Son and cadres and combatants of the 2d Military Region to strengthen Army-people solidarity, heighten vigilance, and strive to build Hoang Lien Son into a prosperous and powerful province, thus making it worthy as a firm and solid front line to defend the country's border.

He said: All cadres and all units must advance vigorously under the guideline of the Eighth Plenum resolution and quickly develop all the potentials and advantages of the province to build a comprehensively developed forestry-agriculture-industry structure.

On this occasion, Comrade Nguyen Thanh Binh also presented the Ho Chi Minh Order to the Armed Forces of Hoang Lien Son and 33 Independence Orders to various families of fallen combatants.

Following the meeting, cadres and combatants of the Armed Forces in the 2d Military Region and self-defense and militia units of various organs and the people of all nationalities in Hoang Lien Son participated in a parade --a show of force and revolutionary impetus of the Army and people in the province and military region.

CSO: 4209/601

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

PHAM HUNG ADDRESSES AWARDS PRESENTATION CEREMONY

BK271427 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] The Ministry of Interior held a ceremony in Ho Chi Minh City on 22 August to present the Military Service Order First Class and the For the Fatherland's Security medal awarded by the Council of State to cadres credited with achievements in building the public security service in the southern provinces.

Comrade Pham Hung, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and concurrently minister of interior, attended the ceremony. On behalf of the Ministry of Interior, Comrade Pham Hung pinned the Military Service Order First Class and the For the Fatherland's Security medal awarded by the Council of State on 12 comrades who have rendered meritorious service in building the public security sector in the southern provinces.

In his address at the ceremony, Comrade Pham Hung warmly welcomed the contributions by the comrades credited with achievements in building the public security service over the past 40 years, enabling it to develop incessantly. He expressed his hopes that those comrades who have made many outstanding contributions to the public security service will bring into full play this fine tradition, thereby constantly strengthening the service and enabling it to satisfactorily fulfill any tasks entrusted by the party and state.

On behalf of the recipients of the state-awarded orders and medals, Comrade Huynh Viet Thang expressed gratitude for the attention and care of the party, the state, and the Ministry of Interior that have honored them with noble awards. He promised to continue contributing more energy and efforts to building the public security service to make it firmer and stronger with each passing day.

CSO: 4209/601

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VO VAN KIET PRESENTS AWARDS AT SON LA MEETING

BK280947 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Text] On 26 August, the Son La party, people's, and fatherland front committees held a solemn meeting to mark the 40th anniversary of the August Revolution and 2 September National Day and to receive Gold Star Orders awarded by the Council of State. Comrade Vo Van Kiet, member of the CPC Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chairman of the State Planning Commission, attended the meeting.

Also attending the meeting were Tran Quyet, member of the CPV Central Committee, vice minister of interior, and former first secretary of the Son La party organization; representatives of the 2d Military Region command; and representatives of Lai Chau, Vinh Phu, Hai Hung, and Ha Son Binh provinces. Also present were delegations of the Lao party organization and administration of Houa Phan and Bokeo provinces led by Comrades Buaket and Thao Van, respectively.

Comrade Hoang No, member of the CPC Central Committee and secretary of the Son La party committee, delivered a speech stressing the significance of the historic August Revolution and recalling the arduous struggle of the Son La army and people during the past 40 years, especially the historic campaign of Dien Bien Phu, during which the province procured 4,500 metric tons of grain, 235 metric tons of foodstuff, and 2.5 million man-days to serve the combat task. During the anti-U.S. war of destruction, the province fought fiercely against the enemy, shooting down 76 aircraft of various types and capturing alive 8 U.S. pilots. The province has also scored remarkable achievements in the economic, cultural, and education development programs.

The Son La people's committee chairman solemnly read the Council of State's decision awarding the Gold Star Order to the cadres and people and the Ho Chi Minh Order to the armed forces of the province. Comrade Vo Van Kiet pinned the Gold Star Order and Ho Chi Minh Order on the province's traditional banner.

On behalf of the party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers, Comrade Vo Van Kiet solicitously conveyed greetings of party and state leaders to the party organization, the administration, and people of Son La. He urged the army and people of Son La to develop the province's glorious tradition, overcome difficulties, satisfactorily exploit the potentials of a mountain province, and create realistic changes to improve the local people's economic and social lives, thereby being worthy of the noble awards of the party and state.

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VAN TIEN DUNG ATTENDS HA NAM NINH MEETING

BK010927 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 29 Aug 85

[Text] On 29 August, the party, people's, and VFF Committees of Ha Nam Ninh Province held a grand meeting in Nam Dinh City to mark the 40th anniversary of the August Revolution and the 2 September National Day and to receive the Gold Star Order.

Comrades Sr Gen Van Tien Dung, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of national defense; Vu Dinh Lieu, member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Col Gen Nguyen Quyet, member of the party Central Committee and commanding officer of the Third Military Region; a delegation of the Lao sister province of Oudomsai headed by Comrade (Khamseng), member of the provincial Administrative Committee; and representatives of Soviet and Indian experts working in Ha Nam Ninh attended the meeting.

Making a speech, Comrade Nguyen Van An, alternate member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the Ha Nam Ninh provincial party committee, stressed: Under the leadership of the party Central Committee, the Ha Nam Ninh party organization has led the army and people throughout the province in successfully fulfilling the party's strategic tasks in the locality. On the front of economic building and development, Ha Nam Ninh has recorded important achievements. In recent years, marked progress has been made in agricultural production. The average grain output for the 1981-85 5-year period increased by 180,000 metric tons over the previous 5-year period. The volume of pork production in the best years has reached the 29,000-metric-ton mark. The local industrial sector has also made big strides. It now includes 112 enterprises and 14 production branches and accounts for 30-40 percent of the province's total revenue. Education, culture, public health, sports, and physical education have developed fairly comprehensively, contributing to enhancing the spiritual life of the local population.

On behalf of the party and state, Sr Gen Van Tien Dung pinned the Gold Star Order on the province's traditional banner. He commended the great and important contributions of Ha Nam Ninh's party organization and people to the nation's common cause over the past 40 years. He reminded the local party organization and people to bring into full play their fine traditions and exploit their existing strengths and potentials in labor, land, forests, the sea area, and the material and technical bases so as to develop ceaselessly and advance their province. Ha Nam Ninh should and can develop agriculture

comprehensively, strongly, and steadily to resolve the problem of grain and foodstuffs, to create on-the-spot sources of raw materials for industry and export, to stabilize the people's living conditions, to associate industry with agriculture within the province and at the district level, and to build the locality into a socialist industrial and agricultural province that is rich economically, stable politically, strong in national defense and security, and beautiful culturally.

On this occasion, the Ha Nam Ninh party and people's committees, entrusted by the state, presented the Ho Chi Minh and Independence Orders to 10 typical revolutionary cadres of the province.

CSO: 4209/610

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VO CHI CONG PRESENTS AWARDS AT HA BAC MEETING

BK311118 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 29 Aug 85

[Text] On 29 August the Ha Bac Party, People's and Fatherland Front Committees held a solemn meeting at Bac Giang City to mark the 40th anniversary of the August revolution and 2 September National Day and to receive the Gold Star and Ho Chi Minh Orders. Attending the meeting were Vo Chi Cong, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee; Le Quang Dao and Nguyen Thanh Binh, secretaries of the party Central Committee; Hoang Quoc Viet, honorary chairman of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee, revolutionary veteran, and one of the first party members of Ha Bac; and Col Gen Dam Quang Trung, member of the party Central Committee and commander of the First Military Region.

Comrade Nguyen Thanh Quat, secretary of Ha Bac Party Committee, delivered a speech stressing the historical significance of the August revolution and the revolutionary tradition of the province's army and people. He also reviewed achievements scored by Ha Bac in socialist construction and other fields, especially in agricultural production and in implementing the 1981-85 5-year plan. The average grain output of the province increased by almost 90,000 metric tons annually compared with the past 5 years. In the 1985 5th month-spring crop, the province's average rice yield was 29.5 quintals per hectare, while 200 agricultural cooperatives collected 30-60 quintals per hectare. Industrial crops outputs have increased rapidly, especially peanuts, tobacco, and soybeans. Production has been developed. The people's daily life has been improved and stabilized. The situation in the mountain, midlands, and delta areas has improved considerably. About 80 percent of the peasant families in Ha Bac live in brick houses with essential facilities.

On behalf of the party Central Committee, the National Assembly, the Council of Ministers, and the Council of State, Comrade Vo Chi Cong pinned the Gold Star Order on the province's traditional banner and pinned the Ho Chi Minh Order on the determined-to-win banner of the Ha Bac Armed Forces. He commended the province's army and people for their achievements during the past 40 years, which have contributed significantly to the revolutionary cause of the people throughout the country. He urged the Ha Bac party organization and people to develop their right to socialist collective mastery; satisfactorily exploit the available economic potential and strength; accelerate agricultural production; promptly develop industry, small industry, and handicraft; improve export;

stabilize and gradually improve the people's daily life; and create new, vigorous changes to turn Ha Bac into a province with political firmness, economic prosperity, and strength in national defense, thereby positively contributing to the common revolutionary cause of people throughout the country in the new stage.

The meeting concluded with a parade of almost 20,000 representatives of mass organizations, the armed forces, and units representing economic and cultural sectors of the central and local levels.

CSO: 4209/610

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VO VAN KIET PRESENTS AWARDS AT LAI CHAU MEETING

BK290944 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 28 Aug 85

[Text] On 28 August, the Lai Chau Party, People's, and Fatherland Front Committees held a solemn meeting to mark the 40th anniversary of the August Revolution and the 2 September National Day and to receive the Gold Star Order awarded by the Council of State. Comrade Vo Van Kiet, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chairman of the State Planning Commission, attended the meeting.

Also attending the meeting were almost 600 representatives of mass organizations and the people's armed forces, revolutionary veterans, and heroic emulation combatants representing 370,000 cadres and people of various nationalities.

Comrade Nguyen Niem, secretary of the Lai Chau Party Committee delivered a speech stressing the historic significance of this glorious anniversary, reviewing achievements scored by our people during the 40 years of national building and defense, and recalling great the achievements scored by the Lai Chau Party Organization and people during various stages of our revolution. Comrade Nguyen Niem said that the province's immediate task in the days ahead is to promptly reorganize production in agriculture, forestry, and other economic sectors in conformity with the province's natural conditions.

Amid the very joyous atmosphere of receiving the Gold Star Order bestowed by the state to the Lai Chau Army and people, Comrade Nguyen Niem expressed the profound gratitude of the local people toward the party and state. He pledged that the army and people will do their best to build Lai Chau into a province with a prosperous economy and firm national defense. It is imperative for the province to triumphantly implement the party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum resolution on prices, wages, and money and the Council of Ministers' resolution on consolidating the six northern border provinces and strengthening the national defense task.

Comrade (Lo Van Inh), chairman of Lai Chau People's Committee solemnly read the Council of State's decision awarding the Gold Star Order to Lai Chau Province. Comrade Vo Van Kiet pinned the Gold Star Order on the province's traditional banner.

On behalf of the party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers, Comrade Vo Van Kiet conveyed the solicitous greetings of the party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers to the people, cadres, and combatants of Lai Chau Province, the scene of the Dien Bien Phu campaign that shook the world. He praised the Lai Chau party organization and people for the achievements scored during past years. As for tasks in the days ahead, Comrade Vo Van Kiet urged the province to continue firmly solving the problem of grain and foodstuffs with special attention being paid to intensive cultivation and production increases. The comrade expressed the hope that the party organization and people of Lai Chau will strive to surge forward to [be] worthy of the noble award of the party and state.

CSO: 4209/610

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

CRYPTOGRAPHIC SERVICE OBSERVES ANNIVERSARY--The Central Cryptographic Department [Ban Cow Yeeus Trung Uwong], together with the 9th Military Region and the Hau Giang provincial party and people's committees, recently held a ceremony in Can Tho City, Hau Giang Province, to mark the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Vietnamese cryptographic service, 12 September 1945-12 September 1985, in the Mekong River Delta provinces. The delegates present at the ceremony recalled the traditions and great achievements of cadres, party members, workers, and office employees of the Vietnamese cryptographic service in general and of the cryptographic service of the Mekong River Delta provinces in particular over the past 40 years of fighting, building, and growing. Through various stages of the revolution, the service has met the requirements of leadership, guidance, and command of the party, the state, and the army, thereby contributing to the achievement of our nation's great victories. The delegates expressed their resolve to bring into full play their glorious revolutionary traditions, outstandingly fulfill all tasks entrusted, and make effective contributions to the cause of building and defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 31 Aug 85 BK]

AUGUST REVOLUTION RALLY--Hanoi, 18 Aug (VNA)--A mass rally was held at the municipal theatre square here this morning in honour of the 40th anniversary of the August revolution. Attending the rally, jointly sponsored by the Hanoi party and people's committees, were Hoang Tung, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; Vu Canh, Tran Lam, Tran Do and Van Phac, member of the CPV CC; and great numbers of Hanoians from different walks of life including those who took part in Hanoi's armed uprisings 40 years ago. In his address, Le Van Luong, secretary of the Hanoi party committee, urged the Hanoi population to promote the spirit of the August revolution to turn the capital city into a pace-setter for the whole country in socialist development and national defence. The rally wound up with parades of the Hanoi armed forces and people along Hanoi's downtown streets which witnessed the seething revolutionary struggle these days 40 years ago. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0827 GMT 19 Aug 85 OW]

JPRS-SEA-85-143
19 September 1985

HIGHER PARTY SCHOOL CONFERENCE HELD--Carrying out a task entrusted by the CPC Central Committee Secretariat, from 22 to 24 August the Nguyen Ai Quoc Higher Party School held a scientific conference on the Eighth Party Central Committee Plenum's resolution and its theoretical and practical basis.

A large number of professors, PD and MA degree holders, teaching cadres, and researchers at various party schools, research institutes, and colleges and representatives of many central agencies and some localities attended. Comrade Hoang Tung, secretary of the party Central Committee, presided over and summed up the conference. Comrade Prof Nguyen Duc Binh, member of the party Central Committee and director of the Nguyen Ai Quoc Higher Party School, opened the conference. The conference heard more than 40 statements dealing with various theoretical and practical issues, especially the major points of the Eighth Party Central Committee Plenum's resolution. [Text]
[Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 26 Aug 85]

CSO: 4209/601

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON GOOD MARKET MANAGEMENT

BK261128 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 22 Aug 85

[NHAN DAN 23 August editorial: "Implementing the Fifth Party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum Resolution: Let Us Persistently and Continuously Ensure Good Market Management"]

[Text] Satisfactorily organizing and managing the social market constitutes not only a pressing demand in the immediate future and an extremely important measure to help implement the new socialist accounting and business system laid down in the Eighth Plenum resolution, but also a permanent and continuous task for the socialist state.

Experience acquired by a number of localities shows that market management can satisfactorily be conducted with the uniform coordination of the sectors concerned and the persistent, constant, and continuous guidance of all party committee and administrative echelons and that prices can be subject to drastic changes if work related to market management is performed in a passive, perfunctory, and sluggish manner.

One of the decisive factors in market transformation and management is persistently and constantly to expand and consolidate the scope of operation of the state-run economy and develop the socialist trade sector. Although great progress has been made in ensuring state control over goods and money, in general the state is still unable to control a large portion of goods on the social market. In the southern provinces, the state can control only 50-60 percent of the volume of industrial goods produced or procured by the small industrial and handicraft sector while the rest goes to the free market.

The enforcement of the policy concerning state control and monopoly over the purchase and sale of grain and other major farm products and essential materials and industrial and consumer goods remains slow. The delivery and circulation of goods and the service behavior and attitude of the socialist trade sector still show many weaknesses and limits. The activities of combining the circulation of goods with the circulation of currency, circulation with production, and purchase and sale with transportation still have not been carried out uniformly.

It should be pointed out that even some business organizations and state agencies have fomented market disorder by things such as buying goods at any price and offering high prices to compete for the purchase of export goods, thus making market management more difficult. Some organs without authority to do business still do so at will. Apart from failing to maintain price discipline firmly, these organs have spontaneously increased the prices of certain commodities under state jurisdiction. These practices must be quickly overcome.

Workers, civil servants, and people wonder whether prices and the market can be satisfactorily managed with the implementation of the Eighth Plenum resolution. In view of this, all sectors, organs, and production units are vested with a heavy and permanent task--participating in the struggle to manage the market satisfactorily. They must ensure that the state truly masters the market. This is aimed at making the Eighth Plenum resolution effective in every aspect of our social life and economic activities.

By satisfactorily managing the market, favorable conditions will be created for the state to control goods and money and master the market and prices. This is an extremely important, pressing, and long-term task, which requires the persistent and continuous guidance and supervision of all party committee and administrative echelons.

CSO: 4209/601

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

NHAN DAN URGES REORGANIZATION OF HANDICRAFTS

BK301031 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 26 Aug 85

[NHAN DAN 27 August editorial: "Implementing the Fifth Party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum Resolution, Link the Transformation With the Reorganization of Small Industry and Handicrafts Production"]

[Text] One of the main objectives of the Eighth Plenum resolution is to promote the development of production and to achieve high productivity, quality, and effectiveness, while completing the socialist transformation and strengthening the national and collective economies.

Small industry and handicraft production holds a very important position and supplies society with large amounts of consumer goods. If production is well managed, it will further help the state control goods and money and manage the market and prices.

To step up small industry and handicrafts production vigorously and to help the state control many such products, we should link the transformation with the reorganization of small industry and handicrafts production.

As yet, in the south from Binh Tri Thien southwards, there have been nearly 2,300 cooperatives specializing in small industry and handicrafts production, almost 7,000 cooperative teams, 24 cooperative enterprises, and more than 7,500 specialized production installations in the agricultural cooperatives and other economic sectors.

These collective production installations have absorbed more than 61 percent of the total number of craftsmen. In the first half year alone, the southern provinces established 551 cooperatives and 372 cooperative teams, increasing the percentage of collective work installations from 2.66 to 7.57 in comparison with the same period last year. In many localities, the cooperativization movement has developed quickly, yielding many good experiences.

In linking the transformation with the consolidation and perfection of socialist production relations in those existing collective installations, we should determine the appropriate forms to accelerate vigorously the transformation of private handicrafts. Ho Chi Minh City, where 67.1 percent of the cooperativization movement has achieved, is also the place where production has been reorganized completely in the three major fields of textiles, bicycles and spare parts, and glassware.

Although the rates of cooperativization in the eastern provinces and nine Mekong Delta provinces are still low, production in the fields of milling rice and processing cane sugar and coconut and peanut oil, blacksmithing, and some small engineering centers supporting agriculture has been gradually rearranged.

The scope of transforming and reorganizing production is to rearrange the workforce, divide labor and cooperation among the various economic elements of the state, collectives, and individuals, among which state-run industry always holds the leading role. At the same time, the vigorous development of small industry and handicrafts should be emphasized along the lines of modernizing small industry and perfecting handicrafts.

The transformation of small industry and handicrafts should be based on the rearrangement of production. The division of labor and the decentralization of management should be completed gradually as the transformation progresses.

At present, 42 percent of the small industry and handicrafts installations still have not been transformed and their production has not been reorganized. The rates of cooperativization are below 50 percent in nine provinces. From 26 to 48 percent of the total number of cooperatives are rated weak or average in their relations of ownership and distribution. Many disguised production phenomena in the market. Many products of small industry and handicrafts are still floating in the free market without being subjected to the policies of industrial and trade taxes and to the state management control, thus disrupting the market and prices. The situation of bad quality and trade taxes and to the state management control, thus disrupting the market and prices. The situation of bad quality and counterfeit commodities continues to prevail.

The rearrangement of production in connection with the socialist transformation of small industry and handicrafts production should be carried out positively, urgently, and steadily in a manner suitable to each trade and each job.

We should continue to classify and consolidate the existing cooperatives and production teams. We should carefully classify those objectives to be transformed, including the individual households of craftsmen; revamp the various forms of cooperative production teams; and resolutely eliminate those deceptive installations that have seriously violated the economic policies of the state and party.

Moreover, we should perfect the management of small industry and handicrafts at all levels, conduct basic and advanced training of cadres, assign key cadres to the primary installations, and carry out labor division and management decentralization in a clear-cut and specific manner between the economic sector and the territorial division to create unified management by the sectors and the authorities at all levels, which will cooperate with one another to promote the development of production.

Localities must concentrate on transforming and rearranging those branches of goods under their control to increase quickly the volume of consumer goods for use in their localities and to contribute remarkably to the central government's commodity stock and export efforts.

In transforming and reorganizing production, localities must pay attention to developing traditional branches and trades, exploiting to the fullest the local strengths, building up major branches and trades, making all kinds of goods more diversified and of higher value, ensuring that goods are really placed under state control, and contributing to managing the market and prices satisfactorily.

The task of transforming and rearranging artisan and handicraft production requires the uniform cooperation of all sectors and echelons from the central down to the grass-roots level. especially with regard to the direct leadership and guidance of various party committee echelons and local administrations.

Efforts must be made to develop the collective mastery of millions of handicraft workers so they can turn out more products for society with a higher degree in output, quality, and results.

CSO: 4209/610

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

NHAN DAN ON TECHNICAL INNOVATIONS IN PRODUCTION

BK301119 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 27 Aug 85

[28 August NHAN DAN editorial: "Implementing the Resolution of the Fifth Party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum, Let Us Promptly Apply Technical Innovations in Production"]

[Text] Boosting production in the direction of improving output, quality, and efficiency is one of the essential goals set forth in the resolution of the party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum. In agriculture, this goal must be reflected through efforts to make full use of manpower, land, and other existing material-technical bases in an effort to ensure that every piece of land is used in the most satisfactory manner and that crop cultivation and animal husbandry attain high output.

Promptly applying technical innovations in production on the basis of simultaneously carrying out the three revolutions is an important guideline for achieving in-depth agricultural development--that is, improving output, quality, and efficiency.

On the agricultural-forestry-fishery front, we have made relatively good technical improvements. Technical improvements on crop varieties and animal species have made it possible to increase the average output by 150 or 200 percent.

Improvements have been noted in rationally arranging crop sowing schedules carrying out intensive cultivation, multicropping, planting catch crops between rows of other crops or overlapping the successive crops, broadening branches and trades, and developing various stockbreeding and crop cultivation techniques. These techniques are applicable to animal species requiring large breeding space and to crop plants suitable only to certain habitats--fresh or alkaline soil; low-lying or high-lying land areas; and the lowland, midland, mountainous, or coastal regions.

Introducing technical innovations in major crop production will create a great possibility for us to increase agricultural-forestry-fishery output and yields.

Many technical innovations have been test applied in small areas before being introduced into major crop production in larger areas and localities. This has affected new changes for the better in efforts to achieve ultimate results in production.

In this decisive step, to attain great and widespread successes, the technical revolution must be closely linked with the revolution on production relations and with the cultural and ideological revolution. With an appropriate management system that can encourage every unit and individual to apply technical innovations and can make every individual and every unit aware of the fact that the application of new technical know-how will benefit society, the collective, and themselves, we will be able to create conditions for turning the application of technical innovations into a widespread mass movement.

Applying a technical innovation amounts to replacing old production habits with new technical knowledge. Therefore, every worker must be given appropriate technical training.

Usually, several technical innovations are designed for only one aspect of a closely related technical system. Each kind of new technology usually has certain specific material requirements. A crop variety with potentially high yields and a high degree of fertilizer absorption usually places many demands on farmland irrigation, fertilizer, and sowing schedules. An animal species with potentially rapid weight gains also requires an appropriate breeding system.

Organizational and managerial efforts in each production unit and locality and especially each district will help ensure uniform application of technical innovations to exploit their output potential. Non uniform cooperation usually results in outputs, qualities, and results incommensurate with our potentials and investment efforts.

It is the goal of agricultural production to serve living things. Agricultural production depends mainly on natural conditions, so it bears a tangible local character. We must respect the experiences and habits of each region and each locality. This, however, does not mean that we no longer need scientific findings.

Agricultural science is a close combination of scientific research and experimental production in ricefields. Final judgement over a technical innovation must be based on research conducted by scientists and experiments carried out by a large number of productive laborers on ricefields.

The hasty and random application of new technologies that have not yet been widely tested and approved by an authoritative scientific council usually produces undesirable results or fails, causing property losses to the collective and individual peasants.

CSO: 4209/610

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON SOCIALIST RETAIL NETWORK

BK010917 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Aug 85

[29 August NHAN DAN editorial: "Implementing the Resolution of the Fifth Party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum, Let Us Organize Well the Retail Network of Socialist Trade"]

[Text] Thoroughly aware of the resolution of the party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum, almost all provinces and cities have shown initial efforts in rearranging and reorganizing the retail network of the state-run trade sector and of marketing cooperatives in the direction of resolutely discarding bureaucracy and subsidization and switching completely to socialist economic accounting and business transactions.

Hundreds of market stalls and shopping outlets have been repaired, expanded, or set up in places convenient to customers. The retail network at various levels, especially districts and precincts, has initially been organized according to each particular branch of goods and each marketing area as part of efforts to reduce intermediary links and to create conditions for the quick delivery of goods from manufacturing places to consumers.

Many localities, especially cities and towns, while trying to reduce the number of people who work indirectly for public offices, sections, and corporations to increase the work force directly engaged in retail business, have initially used successfully small traders with good records in observing the market management policy as retail agents for the socialist trade sector in the marketing of certain kinds of goods.

Business hours of many shopping outlets of the state-run trade sector have been extended. Some shopping outlets have organized their personnel into work-shifts so they can work on a rotating basis to keep their businesses open continuously from 0500 to 2200 throughout the weeks and months. They no longer close for inventory or meetings.

The retail network of the socialist trade sector has, in the recent past, developed widely from the lowlands to the mountainous and coastal regions. In the southern provinces alone, the home trade sector has increased the number of its stores, market stalls, and shopping outlets from 18,000 to 28,000 with the marketing cooperative sector reporting an increase of 8,000 shopping outlets. As a result, efforts to secure the sources of goods and money, stabilize

prices, and restore social market order gradually have shown some improvements. The socialist trade sector has initially regained the confidence of the people, and there have been not a small number of commodities, branches of goods, and stores good enough to compete with those belonging to private traders, thus contributing practically to boosting production and rendering better service to the people's welfare in accordance with the new system.

These positive changes should be widely promoted. In general, the results obtained by the retail network have, however, been disproportionate to requirements, tasks, and the latent potential in the sources of goods, in material-technical bases, means of operation, workforce, and in the management system of the socialist trade sector. Many kinds of goods are still stagnant. The rotation of capital invested in business is slow. A remarkable portion of the wages of workers and civil servants is flowing to the free market, where prices are unstable.

Facts show that in many localities, with the same kinds of goods, the same marketing areas, and in the same period of time, private traders have been more successful than the socialist trade sector despite the fact that the socialist trade force is stronger. This shows that the retail network of the socialist trade sector has not yet been organized well enough. Some localities are still inflexible, as they have set up stores and shopping outlets based on average population figures without taking into account the characteristics and nature of branches and trades as well as the working conditions, tastes, and consumption demands of the people.

After setting up a store, problems such as what kinds of goods to handle and in what quantities, whether these goods are suitable to the tastes and convenience of the buyers, and whether the attitude and qualities of sales personnel are courteous and honest have not received much attention.

The division of labor and responsibilities and the disposition of the retail network among sectors and units in charge of business transactions such as the home trade, foreign trade, food, supply, and marine product sectors, between the central and provincial and district corporations, and between the state-run trade sector and marketing cooperatives have not yet been resolutely and rationally carried out in accordance with the principle of unified domestic market management. As a consequence, there has been an overlapping of responsibilities in some places while the market has been neglected in others, thereby causing a glut of certain items and a lack of other items and creating artificial shortages of goods. The employment of retail agents remains arbitrary, with little inspection and control being exercised, allowing them to sell goods at any price provided that the revenue meets the set norms, and so forth. All these shortcomings have not only reduced the business efficiency of the socialist trade sector but have also created a loophole that bad elements and the enemy may take advantage of to disturb the market and sabotage our economy.

Abolishing bureaucratism and the state-subsidy system and definitely switching to the system of socialist economic accounting and business transactions is a task requiring that the socialist trade sector organize the retail network well.

It is imperative that this network be capable of meeting the foremost requirement of extending the greatest possible convenience to consumers--that is, sparing them the trouble of making long shopping trips and, at the same time, enabling them to buy enough commodities for daily consumption in a relaxing fashion and at reasonable prices.

To achieve this aim, first of all projects and plans should be formulated to deploy the network of stores, stalls, and retail points in accordance with the characteristics, nature, and needs of each village, subward, district, and precinct. For example, large shopping centers must be built in economic and cultural hubs, communications centers, and populous places to retail a great variety of items. In workers' quarters where most people do their shopping just before or after their production work shifts, there is even a greater need for large numbers of small, scattered, mobile stalls to provide fast and convenient service, especially in selling goods necessary for the consumers' daily life.

On the basis of such plans, we must link the selling of goods to the location of population centers and calculate the service radius of each store and the number of people that each store and each shop attendant must serve. We must carry out a division of labor among the state-run trade forces and marketing cooperatives in the effort to gain control over various branches of goods, and localities and must rationally arrange and deploy the retail outlets of the private trade sector under the state's guidance, management, and control. At the same time, we must formulate dynamic, flexible, and effective operational procedures for the entire retail network so as to ensure timely service to meet the highly varied requirements of production and the people's life, including during busy production seasons and major holidays and festivals.

The arbitrary, uncivilized, and disorderly deployment of the socialist trade sector's retail network must be ended to avoid excessive concentration of retail outlets in one place and utter scarcity of stores in another, negligence of the market, and inflexibility and arbitrariness in trading activities. This irrational and unbalanced deployment and this lack of dynamism in trading activities are also a cause of late deliveries of goods to consumers, of price fluctuations, and of delays in the restoration of social and market order.

Satisfactorily organizing the socialist trade sector's retail network is an extremely important measure contributing to the effective implementation of the Eighth Party Central Committee Plenum's resolution.

CSO: 4209/610

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BRIEFS

MARKETING REGULATIONS ENFORCED--The Ho Chi Minh City people's committee recently enforced a regulation on the marketing, exchange, manufacture, and consignment of goods from various economic units at the central level and from other provinces and municipalities operating in Ho Chi Minh City, and from units of the city operating in other localities. This was aimed at establishing order in socialist production and business transactions and creating favorable conditions for the implementation of the party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum resolution on prices, wages, and money. At present, more than 150 economic units of various central-level sectors, provinces, cities, and special zones throughout the country have set up offices in Ho Chi Minh City to handle the exchange and reception of goods. Meanwhile, the city has also maintained economic cooperation with 38 other provinces and cities. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 23 Aug 85]

CSO: 4209/601

AGRICULTURE

RECENT AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES REVIEWED

OW031059 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 30 Aug 85

[Text] Our country's agricultural production front in the last 10 days of August presented the following noteworthy features:

According to the Statistics General Department, by 25 August, the entire country had planted more than 2,271,000 hectares of 10th-month rice, or more than 70 percent of the planned area and more than 90 percent of the area planted in the same period last year. The northern provinces have basically completed the 10th-month rice planting and are concentrating efforts on tending rice plants so that they can develop and tiller. They have so far completed the first weeding of more than 70 percent of the planted area and the second weeding of more than 350,000 hectares of 10th-month rice.

The drought-control issue has been basically settled, thanks to regular and fairly heavy rainfalls in almost all provinces in the past week. Moreover, the rice area affected by harmful insects and diseases has been reduced considerably. The total affected area countrywide now amounts to nearly 130,000 hectares in the South. However, the rainfalls have caused flooding and waterlogging in some 10th-month rice fields in certain localities. Currently, the flooded area in the northern provinces exceeds 100,000 hectares, including more than 4,000 disastrously flooded hectares. Many vast areas in Thai Binh and Ha Nam Ninh Provinces are seriously flooded or waterlogged. Localities have opened sluices to drain water and are now fighting waterlogging by all available means to save the rice crop.

Peasants in the southern provinces are making intensive efforts to rapidly harvest the summer-fall rice and transplant the entire acreage of 10th-month rice. By 25 August, the southern localities had harvested nearly 400,000 hectares of summer-fall rice or more than 50 percent of the planted area at a pace 1.5 times faster than in the same period last year. However, the current pace of planting of the 10th-month rice in the southern localities is slower than in the same period last year. By 25 August, only 70 percent of the planned area had been transplanted at a pace slower than that of transplanting the 1984 10th-month rice.

The planted acreage of summer-fall subsidiary and industrial crops nationwide this year is smaller than last year's, especially in the southern provinces where the sugarcane and jute acreages are respectively 60 and 50 percent of the acreages in the corresponding period last year.

Friends: Next week, localities should concentrate on the following tasks in agriculture production:

The southern provinces should concentrate efforts on neatly and promptly harvesting the summer-fall rice and on transplanting the entire 10th-month rice area. Meanwhile, they should boost the tending of the planted rice area. As the summer vaccination time for domestic animals has come, localities should rapidly start and complete vaccination work in order to protect their health.

Along with accelerating the care for rice fields, the northern localities should pay attention to eradicating harmful insects, especially stem borers and leaf folders to protect the 10th-month rice crop. Although the affection by harmful insects decreased this week, the affected rice area has remained large. Localities should spray insecticides while resorting to other means of eradicating insects in order to protect the growth of rice plants. Along with draining water from waterlogged rice fields, localities should build embankments to conserve water in high-level fields.

While tending the 10th-month rice crop, localities should prepare for the winter crop cultivation by checking the available amount of seeds of various varieties and working out production plans soon.

Moreover, localities should also make intensive efforts to ready sufficient fodder for domestic animals during the winter crop season.

With the tradition of August Revolution and with the spirit of emulating in production activities to greet our country's national day, let our peasants and cadres in various localities concentrate all efforts on boosting agriculture production with the determination to achieve a successful 10th-month rice crop and on making adequate preparations for the subsequent crop production season.

CSO: 4209/610

AGRICULTURE

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON USE OF AGRICULTURAL LAND

BK271558 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 25 Aug 85

[26 August NHAN DAN editorial: "Implementing the Resolution of the Fifth Party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum: Manage and Use Agricultural Land Effectively"]

[Text] The resolution of the Fifth Party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum advocates discarding bureaucracy and subsidization and switching completely to socialist economic accounting and business transactions on the basis of carrying out planning for our national economy, including agricultural production.

In light of the resolution of the party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum, the agricultural sector must also surge forward, trying to attain the highest output, quality, and results.

Not only will a comprehensive, vigorous and steady agricultural growth contribute greatly to developing the economy, carrying out national industrialization gradually, and stabilizing the people's lives but it will also help create favorable conditions for practicing the new economic management system.

Land and manpower are the two essential material factors for agricultural production, including forestry and marine products production. With our large population, our country's average per capita land area is only 0.1 hectare, a very low proportion when the country must tackle satisfactorily the question of grain for human consumption, animal husbandry, and a reserve. It must pay attention to its most important task, which is grain production, while promoting comprehensive agricultural development. To achieve this goal, it is necessary to manage closely and use effectively all existing lands, especially agricultural land.

Our country has many different climatic areas coupled with plentiful sunshine, energy resources, and rainfall. With various material-technical bases already built, technical innovations already applied, and the people's age-old experience on agricultural cultivation, we enjoy sufficient conditions for exploiting and using land rationally. We must ensure that all kinds of soil can yield products and that land is used with increasingly improving results.

This will contribute greatly to bringing agricultural production into play with ever-higher output, yields, and results.

In recent years, many sectors--such as agricultural, forestry, marine products, and land management--have, together with certain general economic sectors and various localities, shown great efforts in the management and use of land. Localities have conducted surveys and prepared geological maps for approximately 12 million hectares or more and have classified land, ricefields, and bodies of water for over 2.86 million hectares.

Ha Nam Ninh and Hai Hung provinces, the Red River Delta, the provinces in the Mekong River Delta, and Ho Chi Minh City have basically completed the surveys, classification, and statistical registration of land. By grasping firmly the area and quality of each particular kind of soil, various districts, cooperatives, and production collectives have been able to provide themselves with a scientific basis on which to examine and revise their planning activities.

Many cooperatives and production collectives have shown their conscientiousness in using land economically and have made full use of all their land for cash cropping, planting overlapping cash crops and carrying out intensive cultivation so as to increase crop output.

However, agricultural land has still not yet been used satisfactorily. We use only two-thirds of our land area. Many localities and areas still use mono-crop production. Land use efficiency has not been commensurate with potential. The area of land and bare hills laying fallow is still large. Half the bodies of water have not yet been used. Soil erosion and degradation are now alarming, while the proportion of annual land use is still low.

Many localities have not been active enough in guiding the survey, classification, and statistical registration of land, thus leading to a failure to grasp firmly the area and quality of each category of soil.

A number of collectively-owned land areas have been nibbled at. In certain areas in the south, there have been indications of a considerable reduction in the land under rice cultivation. The area reduced is equivalent to the whole area under rice cultivation in the six northern border provinces or the whole area under rice cultivation in the three provinces of Quang Nam-Danang, Nghia Binh, and Phu Khanh. The area being reduced or left uncultivated includes first class soil embankments and areas that used to be planted with two or three rice crops per year. This is a great loss to agriculture and has adversely affected planning for grain production areas in the country.

Various state farms have 49 percent of the wasteland, a large proportion. Production collectives, private households, and state organs or enterprises have, respectively, 20.5 percent, 20.4 percent, and 10 percent.

Many localities have handled the allocation of land at will without complying with state stipulations. The phenomena of exploitation in the rural areas have not yet been eliminated, and there is still laxity in the forest

protection task. All these are shortcomings in the land management task to be quickly overcome.

Managing land closely and using it rationally and linking manpower with land constitute the basic guidelines for obtaining more agricultural, forestry, and marine products for society. Managing and using land rationally will also help protect and improve the environment.

Should the entire country strive to make full use of 25 million laborers and exploit to the fullest all the 25 million hectares [figures as heard] of agricultural and forestry land, then every man will have employment and every piece of land will yield products. An immediate demand at present is that no locality or establishment be allowed to let its land go uncultivated. Each must step up intensive cultivation and multi-cropping, increase the rate of land use, protect existing forestry assets, and stop the practice of forest destruction.

The midland and mountainous regions must link the task of settled farming and settled life with the allocation of forest land and forests to collectives, cooperative members' families, production collective members, and individual peasants for use in production or other purposes. These people must be guided on how to carry out production in accordance with the modes of linking agriculture with forestry and carrying out general business transactions if all wasteland and bare hills are to be put to use.

Every person, sector, and echelon must respect the entire people's right of ownership over the natural resources in the land and must regard this as a basis for developing the production force and consolidating and perfecting socialist production relations.

The responsibility for managing and using land in accordance with the law and with the orientation for socialist economic accounting and business transactions to attain the highest output, quality, and results rest with everyone who wishes to contribute to implementing the resolution of the party Central Committee's Eighth Plenum.

CSO: 4209/601

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

DROUGHT AFFECTS CUU LONG PROVINCES--The Cuu Long Delta provinces plan to cultivate 1.3 million hectares of rice for the 10th-month crop. The provinces of Hau Giang, Minh Hai, Kien Giang, and Cuu Long, with plans for 900,000 hectares, have been most seriously affected by the drought. So far, hundreds of thousands of hectares of rice, including some 20,000 hectares of perishable rice plants and seedlings, have been seriously ravaged by drought in each province. All localities have provided guidance to production collectives, agricultural cooperatives, and peasants on the use of motor pumps and buckets combined with irrigation methods to obtain water for the affected rice. The Agriculture Ministry has met with representatives from Hau Giang, Minh Hai, Kien Giang, and Cuu Long provinces to discuss measures to actively combat the drought to save the rice. It has given priority to supplying the necessary fuel and agricultural materials to help the localities combat the drought, determined not to allow the drought to continue and affect the yields of the 10th-month crop. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 24 Aug 85]

NORTHERN FLOOD CONTROL--The storm which hit the coastal province of Quang Ninh and the port city of Haiphong brought heavy rain to the midlands, the Red River Delta, and Thanh Hoa Province. As a result, 85,000 hectares of rice in the lowland areas are flooded. The people in these localities are trying to drain water to save rice. In the past 2 days, Thai Binh Province saved 30,000 hectares of autumn rice and Hai Hung Province saved more than 20,000 hectares. [Text] [International Service in English 1000 GMT 28 Aug 85 BK]

CSO: 4209/610

BIOGRAPHIC

BRIEFS

OBITUARY OF HANOI MILITARY OFFICIAL--The SRV Ministry of National Defense, the CPV Committee and People's Committee of Hanoi Municipality, the Capital Military Region Command, and the bereaved family, with boundless grief, hereby announce that Comrade Major General Phi Trieu Ham, born on 25 December 1925 in Tu Cuong Village, Thanh Mien District, Hai Hung Province; standing member of the Executive Committee of the Hanoi municipal CPV organization; political director of the Capital Military Region; and recipient of the Military Service Order First and Second Class; the Resistance Order Third Class; the Anti-U.S. Resistance for National Salvation Order First Class; the Victory Order Third Class; the Liberation Fighter Second and Third Class; the Glorious Fighter Order First, Second, and Third Class; the Determined-To-Win Military Banner Order, and the Freedom Order First Class of the LPDR, has passed away after a period of illness. Despite the wholehearted care of the party and the army, he succumbed to serious illness at 0421 on 23 July 1985 at Military Hospital 108. Gen Phi Trieu Ham is now lying in state at the Conference Hall of the Capital Military Region, 33 Pham Nhu Lao Street, Hanoi. Trips to pay respect to the late general will be organized from 0800 to 1130 on 26 July. The memorial service and funeral ceremony will begin at 1400 on the same day. [Obituary] [Text] [Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 Jul 85 p 1]

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