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17 September 1985

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AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

SUPPORT FOR HONG KONG--The federal minister for trade, Mr Dawkins, has pledged Australia's support for Hong Kong after the territory has returned to Chinese rule in 1997. Speaking at a banquet in Beijing, Mr Dawkins referred to what he described as the dynamism of Australia's economic relations with China, which over the past year grew from the 10th to the 5th biggest market for Australia. He assured China of Australian support for Hong Kong, and cited the successful Australian bid to build a tramway system as demonstrating Australia's belief in the territory's continuing prosperity. Mr Dawkins is leading a 5-member trade delegation for talks with Chinese officials in a number of cities. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Aug 85]

CHURCH AGAINST U.S. FACILITIES--An advisory body of the Roman Catholic Church in Australia has called for the closure of the North West Cape joint defense facility in Western Australia. A discussion paper issued by the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace has also questioned Australia's continuing involvement in the joint facilities at Pine Gap and Nurrungar. In its first major statement on peace and disarmament, the 15-member commission describes the three joint facilities as integral parts of the American nuclear capability which lock Australia into a strategy for waging nuclear war. The commission says Australia should notify the United States that it will not renew the lease on the North West Cape facility when it expires in 1988. On Pine Gap and Nurrungar, the Commission says that unless the superpowers take immediate steps toward disarmament, the continued presence of the two facilities cannot be justified. It suggests that the surveillance and arms control verification functions of the two facilities be handed over to an established international authority. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 28 Aug 85]

HAWKE TO VISIT PNG--The prime minister, Mr Hawke, will spend 2 days in Papua New Guinea next month during that country's 10th anniversary of independence celebrations. He will be accompanied by the minister for aboriginal affairs, Mr Holding. Mr Hawke said he looked forward to signing a memorandum of understanding setting up bilateral aid arrangements for the next 5 years during his visit. The new formula has been concluded in negotiations between Australia's foreign minister, Mr Hayden, and Papua New Guinea's counterpart, Mr Biheno. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Aug 85]

EXTRADITION PACT WITH ITALY--Italy and Australia have signed a new extradition treaty designed to ease the transfer of wanted criminals between the two countries. The treaty, which will supersede the 1973 agreement, was signed in Milan by Italy's justice minister, Mr Martinazzoli, and Australian attorney general, Mr Bowen. Both men are attending the United Nations congress in Milan on crime. Under the new treaty to be ratified by the Italian Parliament, the Australian authorities will accept a report by an Italian magistrate as sufficient grounds for allowing extradition from Australia of a criminal suspect wanted in Italy. An Australian official said that previously, Australia insisted on evidence of guilt admissible in Australian court in support of all extradition requests. The official said Australia's growing Italian community was making the country an increasingly attractive haven for fugitives from Italian justice. In the next 3 weeks, Australia will also sign extradition treaties with Ireland, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Norway and will update existing treaties with Austria, Sweden and Finland [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0130 GMT 27 Aug 85 BK]

COKING COAL FOR PRC--An Australian company, Capricorn Coal Proprietary Limited in Central Queensland, has won a contract to supply coking coal to China's latest steel mill in Shanghai. The initial contract is for 125,000 tons at a cost of US\$6 million. The first shipment will be sent to China within the next few weeks. [Summary] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 28 Aug 85 BK]

TECHNICAL COOPERATION WITH PRC--Australia and China have agreed on economic and technical cooperation in the nonferrous mineral industry. The Australian trade minister, Mr Dawkins, now visiting China, signed a memorandum of understanding with the Chinese Government which may produce new trade in aluminum, copper, and nickel. During his 1-week visit, Mr Dawkins will also sign an agreement on cooperation in wool. [Excerpts] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 28 Aug 85 BK]

DEMOCRATS TO SUPPORT TAX PLAN--The leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Don Chipp, says the Democrats will support legislation for a capital gains tax. The support of the Democrats--a party which holds the balance of power in the Senate--is essential if the government hopes to include legislation for a capital gains tax in the current sitting of parliament. Speaking on a current affairs program, Senator Chipp said the government would get the support of the Democrats provided there were certain exemptions to the proposed tax. He said the family home would have to be exempt and this exemption indexed, and there would have to be a provision for capital losses to be offset against capital gains. Senator Chipp said it was unfair that workers paying tax under the pay-as-you-earn system were forced to pay tax on everything they owned while some people could make large amounts of money on the stock exchange and not pay any tax. The opposition Liberal Party says it will oppose any capital gains tax legislation. [Excerpt] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 1 Sep 85]

3-WEEK SINGAPORE EXERCISE--Sydney, 29 Aug (AFP)--Ten Australian Mirage jet fighters will fly to Singapore tomorrow to join a three-week exercise with the Singapore Air Force, a Royal Australian Air Force spokesman (RAAF) said today. The spokesman said the Darwin-based Number 75 RAAF Squadron will take part in exercise Churinga 85-3 with Singapore's Hawker Hunter, F5E Freedom Fighter and Skyhawk aircraft. About 140 other members of the squadron will fly to Singapore in Hercules transports. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0742 GMT 29 Aug 85]

FIJI

INDIANS REPORTEDLY AVOIDING MILITARY CAREERS

Suva THE FIJI TIMES in English 3 Aug 85 p 11

[Text]

The Minister for Home Affairs, Mr Militoni Leweniqila, says very few Indians are joining the Army and Navy because they do not seem to be interested.

Mr Leweniqila made the comment while answering questions in Parliament yesterday.

Opposition member, Mr Devendra Singh, had asked the Minister for a racial breakdown in the Army and Navy.

Mr Leweniqila said there were 1852 Fijians and 74 Indians in the Armed Forces.

He said recruitment was done on voluntary bases and it appeared Indians did not show a great interest in joining.

"Out of an average of 1000 Fijians turning up for interviews less than one hundred Indians arrived."

Mr Leweniqila said that apart from the low turnout of Indians, recruits go through a tough medical checkup.

"There is a criteria used in the Army called FE, which means Fit Everywhere. To join you have to be fit everywhere" he said.

Mr Leweniqila said that at present 17 Indians are serving at the Army Headquarters, 35 are in Lebanon, 27 are in the Sinai and nine in the Navy.

This compares with 718 Fijians at Headquarters, 564 in Lebanon, 456 in the Sinai and 114 in the Navy.

CSO: 4200/1466

MALAYSIA

MUSA HITAM TO ATTEND UN, COMMONWEALTH MEETINGS

BK311219 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 30 Aug 85 p 1

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Thurs--Malaysia is likely to rally support for a global war against dadah [DRUGS] abuse and trafficking at the 25th Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) at the Bahamas capital of Nassau beginning on Oct 16.

The Malaysian delegation, to be led by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam, is expected to take this opportunity to shore up its call for a concerted international effort against the dadah menace made during the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' meeting here last month.

The call at the ASEAN meeting received full support from not only the growing member nations but also its dialogue partners, including the United States, Japan and Canada.

ASEAN has also proposed introducing a motion on dadah at the 40th session of the United Nations General Assembly beginning on Sept 17 which Datuk Musa is scheduled to attend.

The seven-day CHOGM meeting is also likely to see Malaysia giving priority to the Kampuchean issue--a topic which two other ASEAN member nations in the Commonwealth, Singapore and Brunei, are also expected to discuss at length.

Sources said that both Malaysia and Singapore will present ASEAN'S latest initiatives for seeking a political resolution to the Kampuchea problem.

This is the proximity talks proposed at last month's ASEAN Foreign Ministers' meeting. The concept had been formally submitted to Vietnam during the meeting but to date there has been no response from Hanoi.

The last CHOGM meeting was held in New Delhi in 1983 to which the Malaysian delegation was led by the then Foreign Minister, Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie.

CSO: 4200/1473

MALAYSIA

SUZUKI IN MALAYSIA, COMMENTS ON DEFENSE SPENDING

OW010737 Tokyo KYODO in English 0431 GMT 1 Sep 85

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sep 1 KYODO--Former Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki said here Japan should be cautious in dealing with the issue over whether to scrap a 9-year-old policy of holding down national defense expenditures below 1 percent of gross national product.

The self-imposed ceiling on Japan's defense spending is well known in Southeast Asian and other neighbor countries, Suzuki told Japanese reporters Saturday night.

Even 40 years after the end of World War II, the Asian people would not forget what Japan did in this region during the war, Suzuki said in reference to Japanese occupation of Malaya and other parts of Southeast Asia.

He fears that any change in the defense budget policy might cause apprehensions among the Asian neighbors, said Suzuki, who is on a goodwill visit to Malaysia.

Suzuki, however, stopped short of urging the administration of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to stick to the 1 percent policy, which was established in 1976.

It may be unavoidable for Japan's defense expenditures to exceed the level of 1 percent of GNP at some time in future, but in that event, a new appropriate scheme to limit the spending is necessary, Suzuki said.

He will discuss the issue with Nakasone after he returns to Tokyo Friday, Suzuki said.

In fiscal 1985 budget, Japan's defense spending already reached 0.997 percent of a projected GNP, and Nakasone proposed that the 1 percent policy be replaced by a new one.

Earlier Saturday, Suzuki attended Malaysia's independence day celebrations held in Malacca.

He held talks with Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed on the previous day.

MALAYSIA

NEW BERJAYA CHIEF REAFFIRMS PLURALISTIC CONCEPT

Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 16 Jul 85 p 1

[Article: "Berjaya To Remain a Pluralistic Party"]

[Text] Kota Kinabalu, Monday [15 July]--Datuk Haji Mohd. Noor Haji Mansoor, the new president of the Berjaya Party [Sabah People's Union], today guaranteed that the pluralistic concept followed by Berjaya since it was formed would be maintained to ensure stability in and the unity of the people of this state.

Therefore, he said, any steps taken for the people's interests would continue to be based on the pluralistic concept.

He also asked new members of the party's nuclear executive committee to cooperate, work hard, develop an understanding of this concept and wholeheartedly serve the party and its members as well as the Sabah people as a whole.

In his maiden speech as the Berjaya president on the second day of the party's sixth congress being held here, Datuk Haji Mohd. Noor explained that it was the "pluralistic" concept that could guarantee unity in Sabah.

In celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Berjaya, he said, the people and party members in particular should think seriously again about the goals and the struggle of the Berjaya Party established when it was first organized.

Two Organizational Principles

"The Berjaya was organized for two reasons: one, to ensure that the Sabah State would always be part of the Federation of Malaysia, and, two to create a unified multiethnic society in Sabah," he explained.

Datuk Haji Mohd. Noor, who has been the party's secretary general for the past 9 years, said he was not in favor of political parties that were biased toward one ethnic group.

He disclosed that the Sabah Alliance Party (PBS) achieved a victory in last April's state election because the people had similar sentiments.

Nevertheless, he said, the victory provided a brief glimpse of how aware the public was of the need to hold to a pluralistic concept in a multiethnic state such as Sabah.

Datuk Haji Mohd. Noor, who also was the former state minister for financial development and planning under the Berjaya administration, criticized the new PBS government for continually criticizing the former Berjaya government.

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CSO: 4213/302

MALAYSIA

RICE IMPORTS TO BE REDUCED

Kuala Lumpur. BERITA HARIAN in Malay 17 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by Zaini Zainuddin: "Government To Reduce Imports of Rice"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Tuesday [16 July]--The government will reduce imports of rice to further expand the domestic rice market, said Haji Daud Taha, deputy minister of public enterprises.

The first step in cutting rice imports was taken recently by importing only the amount of rice stipulated in an earlier agreement.

"We have found that domestic rice production has risen. To avoid accumulating a surplus because of a lack of market for the rice, we have agreed to cut future rice imports.

"In addition, we hope to stimulate the consumption of domestically-produced rice," he explained.

Forced to Import Rice

Haji Daud informed BERITA HARIAN that the government had purchased 200,000 of the 400,000 tons of Thai rice agreed upon for this year and 40,000 additional tons from Burma.

The government will not import any additional Pakistan rice this year but will purchase the amount remaining under the agreement next year.

"We will purchase about 200,000 tons of Thai rice before the purchase contract ends at the end of this year," he remarked.

Although the government imports rice, Haji Daud said, it is not the government's intent to neglect the domestic rice market.

"The government always makes certain that domestically-produced rice has a satisfactory market. Imports are used to build up stocks of rice to make sure that no food problems arise," he said.

He explained that in the past, the government was forced to import rice because national rice production was unable to meet domestic demand.

Overall, the country produces 85 percent of the rice needed and imports 15 percent from Burma, Pakistan, and Thailand.

"Nevertheless, the amount of rice imported depends on how much rice is produced each year. If too little is produced, imports must be increased to accumulate a big enough stockpile so that no food shortage occurs," he added.

Haji Daud said the government cannot cut off rice imports because import contracts are still in effect.

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CSO: 4213/302

MALAYSIA

AGREEMENT REACHED WITH INDONESIA ON FIGHTING DRUG TRAFFIC, CRIME

Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 18 Jul 85 p 1

[Article: "Agreement Is Reached To Fight Drug Traffic"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Wednesday [17 July]--Malaysian and Indonesian police today reached agreement on heightening cooperation to combat drug traffic, the circulation of counterfeit currency, and smuggling on joint frontiers.

An agreement on continuing the training program for the exchange of officers and information was also achieved at the 11th joint Malaysian Royal Police Force-Republic of Indonesia Police (POLRI) meeting which ended here today in Bukit Aman.

Datuk Abdul Kudus Alias, director of the Criminal Investigation Department, who headed the PDRM delegation to that meeting said it was important that both police forces cooperate in combating criminal activities because criminals always fled to the neighboring country after committing crimes near the border.

"We shall cooperate more closely so that our surveillance and discovery of criminal activities on the border make a bigger impact," he said.

The agreement sealed at that meeting, he said, reflects a better mutual understanding of the problems that could ensure the security of both countries.

Two papers, one entitled, "Control Regulations--Malaysian-Indonesian Joint Exercises--Border Land," and, two, "Concept for Handling and Combating Crime in the Border Region," presented at the 2-day meeting are to be guides for joint sea and land exercises for both countries, he said.

An agreement on a joint plan for 1985-86 was also sealed at this meeting.

"This proves that any obstacle is surmountable if compromise and mutual understanding are achieved by the parties involved," Datuk Kudus said.

As far as exchange of personnel is concerned, he felt this was beneficial to the participants who obtained a much better understanding of police activities in the two countries.

Maj Gen (Police) Drs R. Sumaryo, deputy commissioner of Indonesian Police, said he was satisfied with the results of the meeting and affirmed that his country would sincerely ensure that the ideas formulated at the meeting were carried out for mutual benefit.

"This is needed because crime is increasing on our mutual frontier and the police of both countries must carry out their responsibilities better," he said.

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CSO: 4213/302

MALAYSIA

ELECTION OF NEW BERJAYA LEADERSHIP VIEWED

Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 18 Jul 85 p 8

[Editorial: "Berjaya with a New Leadership"]

[Text] A new leadership headed by Datuk Haji Mohd. Noor Mansor has been elected for the Berjaya Party [Sabah People's Union] which was severely defeated in Sabah's last election, leaving the government in the hands of a new party, the Sabah Alliance Party (PBS).

A new leadership, of course, was needed by that party if it was looking toward a brighter future. Former president Datuk Harris Salleh, a man who brought victory and defeat to the Berjaya Party, made a wise decision when he resigned.

Datuk Mohd. Noor's victory apparently calls for no celebration since it will be no small task for him to breathe new life into the party which won only six of the 40 seats in the Sabah State Legislative Assembly.

While it is difficult to organize and invigorate a new party, the task of reviving a party that received such a sharp blow is no less hard. In the span of Sabah's political history, it has been easier to bring a new party into being than to revive an old party whose image was tarnished.

The Berjaya leadership elected last Sunday [14 July] includes both experienced and new, young members. This combination can help to strengthen the Berjaya's position.

The newly-elected leadership should be guided by the lesson learned from the beating the party took in last April's election. They should hold a post-mortem to realistically review the facts in this tragedy.

A leader's personality is a very determining factor in the rise or fall of a party. A clear example is Berjaya which was such a strong party, but it fell because the Sabah people could not accept an arrogant leader.

Therefore, the Berjaya leadership must push to the fore the image of a charismatic leadership who realize that the party's strength can vanish in the blink of an eye if they forget what they are doing.

As the new president has said, Berjaya also should not be biased toward any ethnic or religious group. The image of a multiethnic party must be maintained.

Although some parties have won by raising ethnic issues, Sabah's political parties properly should adopt a pluralistic outlook in the future.

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CSO: 4213/302

MALAYSIA

VELLU'S CHARGE OF ETHNIC DISCRIMINATION REFUTED

Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 24 Jun 85 p 10

[Editorial: "Sensitive Issues Must Be Settled Through Discussion"]

[Text] Datuk S. Samy Vellu, MIC [Malaysian Indian Congress] president, alleged that the government discriminated against civil servants of Indian descent in granting promotions. This has disgruntled some persons enough to taunt him about resigning from his post. According to Datuk Vellu, the government has acted unfairly to non-Malay employees, particularly with respect to filling vacancies and creating opportunities for promotion. He made this comment when he officially opened the MIC Youth and Women's Congress. Undeniably he made this statement for political purposes or at least he wanted to show that the MIC was seriously interested in the fate of government servants of Indian descent.

Nevertheless, a poor impression of an individual is gained when a statement smelling of ethnic bias is made by a party's top leader who is also a minister. As a leader who understands the importance of social unity, he should avoid making any comment that might distress other ethnic groups. Any problem that involves ethnic bias should be settled by going through certain channels and should not be aired in the newspaper. If such matters are aired in the newspaper, some will support the position and others will oppose it, as has happened now. Poor impressions are gained when political leaders use ethnic issues for their political purposes.

Such a statement not only creates disputes but also damages the leader's authority and that of the government which has been fighting for ethnic unity and justice. Of course, the people will ask what has happened to the National Front's practice of conferring to reach agreement when one of its members acts as though he would like to disrupt the unity and union of the National Front. Couldn't this matter have been settled through discussion rather than made a matter of public knowledge? Various problems could have been raised in such discussion and unfair practices could have been pointed out. It is dangerous for leaders to be careless about what they say on sensitive issues.

It is even more dangerous if their statements are not supported by proof and all the facts available on the matter. The statement of Datuk Samy Vellu lacking details gives the impression that the government always discriminates in

selecting its personnel and in promoting individuals. Datuk Vellu, of course, is aware that before the New Economic Policy was instituted, only a few hundred Malays served with the government, and only a few held important positions. Fairness was restored after the NEP came into effect, and the practice of relegating certain ethnic groups to particular positions with the government was gradually eliminated. Many qualified Malays now hold high positions which earlier had been held only by certain other ethnic groups. If two candidates for a position were equally qualified, the Malay was selected. This was not intended to be discriminatory but was stressed as part of the government's new policy. This must be viewed as a victory for the NEP, and everyone must understand that in attempts to seek justice for one ethnic group, others may feel they are unfair.

Datuk Samy Vellu should have studied the situation in detail before saying what he did. A study should have been made of hundreds of employees, the type of work they did, and the number unemployed should have been considered. Was there a majority of any ethnic group in any of these categories? If the study confirmed what Datuk Vellu felt, the findings should have been revealed to the cabinet so that an orderly settlement of the problem could have been made. This way would not only have been more honorable, but would also have displayed mature leadership. It is hard to really settle any problem with pressure. If settlement is achieved in this way, people will hide their true feelings and wait for an opportunity to take revenge. Therefore, the best way to settle a problem is through discussion and consensus. Datuk Samy Vellu's allegation, which evidently has created dispute, could have been settled in this way.

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CSO: 4213/301

MALAYSIA

EASING OF RESTRICTIONS ON VISITS TO CHINA WELCOMED

Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 27 Jun 85 p 3

[Article: "Many Welcome the Easing of Restrictions on Visits to China"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 26 June--The government's decision to ease some restrictions on travel to China will improve trade relations between Malaysia and that country, Mr Chew Hock Thye, secretary general of the MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association] Youth Organization, said today.

Mr Chew said the government's policy would be advantageous for Malaysia.

China, he said, had a large market, and prospects for trade with that country were good.

Mr Chew hoped the new regulation would be applied fairly to all traders, trading groups, and companies in this country.

He also hoped the government would consider easing restrictions on social visits by Malaysians to China in the near future.

Last night Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the restrictions were lifted to facilitate and improve economic and trade relations between China and Malaysia.

The new ruling covered a new category of visits to China--visits which might benefit the economic sector.

Under this category, the 30-years of age limit was eliminated for traders who are believed to be "authentic" traders.

Traders under 30 years of age are not permitted to visit China for any purpose.

In Ipoh, the Perak Chinese Commercial Council and the Perak Chinese Association welcomed the government's step. They said it was a good one and businessmen would appreciate this move.

Tan Sri Chong Kok Lim, president of the Perak Chinese Commercial Council and the Perak Chinese Association, hoped the government would also ease restrictions on social visits to China.

This, he added, would permit more Malaysians to visit China so that they could get the feel of the country and compare life here with that in China.

The People's Progressive Party also welcomed the government's measure.

China offers unlimited opportunities for trade, and Malaysia must use this opportunity fully to penetrate the Chinese market, Senator Paramjit Singh, the party's president, said.

The HAMIM [Hizbulmuslimia Party], nevertheless, asked the government to use caution in carrying out this measure.

Although restrictions were to be lifted on visits for trade purposes, the government should be cautious and oversee those from Malaysia who go to China to avoid any undesirable incidents, Datuk Sudin Wahab, chairman of the Central HAMIM Information Bureau, said in Alur Setar.

Although HAMIM welcomed the measure to expand trade with China, it would like national security to be kept in mind, he said.--BERNAMA

6804

CSO: 4213/301

MALAYSIA

JOINT VENTURES WITH CHINA DISCUSSED

Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 11 Jul 85 p 17

[Article: "Malaysia and PRC Discuss Joint Ventures"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 10 July--Malaysia is conducting discussions with the People's Republic of China on prospects for organizing several joint ventures in China involving commodities.

Megat Junid Megat Ayob, deputy minister of primary industries, reported that Malaysia was hoping to establish meaningful cooperation with the PRC in rubber and timber ventures.

The prospects for tire manufacture are especially bright, but no detailed information such as the size of the PRC tire market is yet available.

The Malaysian Palm Oil Research Institute (PORIM) has begun to produce margarine jointly with a PRC company in the Ziamen area.

Trial production is underway now at the refinery which will be producing margarine for Chinese consumers in the near future.

Megat Junid gave this information to newsmen after he had held an hour-long discussion with Mr Wei Yuming, the PRC vice minister of trade and foreign economic relations, in his office here this morning.

According to Megat Junid, he had raised many economic and trade issues with Mr Wei, and they had exchanged views on many matters relating to commodities.

He said he had asked the PRC to import many more commodities, especially rubber and palm oil, from Malaysia since the trade balance between the two countries favored the PRC.

For instance, Malaysia had a trade deficit of M\$283 million last year while the volume of trade was only M\$1,056.2 million.

The volume of trade of US\$1,400 million between the PRC and Singapore is almost threetimes that with Malaysia.

Based on these figures, Megat Junid urged the PRC to increase direct trade with Malaysia rather than trading with Malaysia through Singapore or Hong Kong.

Megat Junid felt that Malaysia was now in a good position to take advantage of the PRC market potential especially for palm oil, rubber, and timber.

He assured the PRC that Malaysia was a supplier nation for raw materials in which they could have confidence and it could supply such commodities indefinitely.

Native rubber is now Malaysia's most important export to the PRC. In 1984, it represented 65 percent of total Malaysian exports to that country.

Rubber exports rose from 74,000 tons in 1982 to 115,515 tons in 1984 while PRC rubber consumption increased from 225,000 in 1975 to 400,000 in 1984. Malaysia's share was about 40 percent of total consumption.

Nevertheless, rubber exports to the PRC have dropped somewhat recently, but the PRC assured Malaysia it would not import less than 100,000 tons of rubber per year.

Lumber is also one of Malaysia's major exports to the PRC, and 477,300 square meters were exported to that country in 1984.

Nevertheless, only a small amount of lumber was exported, and Megat Junid asked the PRC to buy more from Malaysia.

The PRC is sending an official delegation to Malaysia next week to purchase more of this commodity.

The PRC has also been asked to buy more palm oil from Malaysia since exports have dropped from 49,749 tons in 1980 to only 14,754 in 1984.

Megat Junid informed Mr Wei that Malaysian palm oil was used for cooking purposes in more than 60 nations. The PRC uses palm oil solely for industrial purposes at this time.

6804
CSO: 4213/ 301

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

MAHATHIR DENIES PROBLEMS EXIST--Johor Baharu, 28 June--Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today told everyone, especially UMNO [United Malays National Organization] members, that there should be no misunderstanding that Datuk Musa Hitam was abroad because of problems between the prime minister and his deputy. He said he was aware that rumors had been spread in the past not only about his relations with Datuk Musa but also about the national economic recession. He said the rumors were totally unfounded and were spread by people with evil intentions. The prime minister told this to persons gathered to welcome him when he arrived at the Sultan Ismail Airport today to begin a 2-day official visit to Johor. He said Datuk Musa's absence during his visit to Johor should not be misinterpreted by anyone as proof that something had happened between them. Actually nothing has happened. Business called Datuk Musa away. If, when the prime minister was visiting Johor Baharu, Datuk Musa had to go abroad, that was the fact of the situation. "Nothing else should be made of this. The public and especially UMNO members should not comment on this," he stated firmly. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 29 Jun 85 p 1] 6804

CHEMICAL WEAPONS TRAINING INITIATED--Kluang, Saturday [6 July]--The Malaysian Armed Forces will use chemical weapons for national defense beginning next year. A special section for controlling the use of chemical and biological weapons will be organized at the Army Engineer School (SJTD) here at the beginning of next year. Lt Col Goh Boon Pah, SJTD commandant, provided this information when he paid respects to the Sultan of Perak, who is also an honorary colonel of the Engineer Regiment, during the sultan's visit to the school here today. According to Lt Col Goh, some chemical and biological defense training which will be instituted at the beginning of next year will teach army personnel how to defend themselves in battles where chemical and biological weapons are used. With the organization of this new section, the SJTD will have six sections in all. Others are exercises, assistance, administration, youth training, and a curriculum section. The SJTD is understood to have instructors who are chemical and biological warfare experts. They have been trained in several friendly nations. It is felt the armed forces need to test this type of weapon following developments in strategic warfare in the world at this time. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 7 Jul 85 p 4]

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ON POL POT RETIREMENT--Malaysia has described the Khmer Rouge's decision to retire its military chief, Mr Pol Pot, as a good step toward a solution to the Cambodian issue. Deputy Foreign Minister Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir said in Kuala Lumpur today that the step shows the Cambodian leaders are now prepared to put aside personal interests and feelings for the sake of the national interests. However, he said that what has now become a question is Pol Pot's new post. According to reports from Bangkok, Mr Pol Pot has been appointed as president of a technical office for national defense. Defense Minister Mr Son Sen was appointed as new chief of staff of the Khmer Rouge army. Thailand has also welcomed the news about Pol Pot's retirement, describing it as being consistent with efforts to seek a political solution in Cambodia. Foreign Minister Tan Sri Sitthi Sawetsila said in Singapore that he believes Pol Pot's mutation will remove any problems about the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia. He also believed that the step will pave the way for proximity talks. Tan Sri Sitthi is on a 2-day visit to Singapore. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1230 GMT 2 Sep 85 BK]

DEPUTY PREMIER CALLS POL POT REMOVAL 'VERY WISE'--Malaysia has described the reported Khmer Rouge decision to remove Pol Pot as its army chief as a very encouraging development toward resolving the Kampuchean issue. Datuk Musa Hitam said it is a very wise move, as Pol Pot has a controversial personality. The deputy prime minister was speaking to newsmen after taking delivery of a Proton Saga [Malaysian-made car--FBIS] at his office this (? evening). Datuk Musa said the Government, however, is still checking on the statement, which was broadcast by Khmer Rouge radio. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 3 Sep 85 BK]

CSO: 4200/1473

NEW CALEDONIA

ACTIVISTS OUTLINE INDEPENDENCE STAND

Suva THE FIJI TIMES in English 9 Aug 85 p 14

[Text] New Caledonia is not ready for independence, according to two pro-independence activists who visited Fiji last week on a three-nation tour.

Macate Wenehoua, the assistant executive secretary of the Socialist Kanak Liberation Party (LKS), and Patrick Holero, a member of the political bureau of the party, said their country needed both political and economic independence.

"We don't want to go begging after independence," said Mr Wenehoua. "That is why the LKS stands for total independence."

"We also want a united independence. This is a longer pursuit, but the intervening time could be used to prepare the country for independence."

The two visited Fiji as the first stop on their tour before going on to Australia and New Zealand.

Fiji was the only regional state they visited and their first stop because they said the multiracial society here is the type they would like to see take shape in their country.

Mr Wenehoua said the difference between his party and the other main independence grouping, the FLNKS, was that the FLNKS wanted independence straight away, while the LKS was prepared to wait and work for it.

Asked if the LKS had a date for independence, Mr Wenehoua said it was unrealistic to set a date.

"It will come about when people are ready," he said.

Another important difference was that while the FLNKS wanted Kanak independence alone, the LKS wanted multiracial independence.

The LKS believes that the French settlers in New Caledonia who now resist independence can be brought around to the idea.

Another reason for the two officials' trip was to try to deter the South Pacific Forum from placing the issue of New Caledonian independence before the United Nations Decolonisation Committee. This again is different from the FLNKS' view.

"LKS wants the issue discussed and solved on a regional basis. At the UN it will go out of the hands of the small countries of the South Pacific into that of the larger ones."

They want the Forum to act as a "referee" to make sure that France prepares New Caledonia for independence.

The party also wants the Forum to support an independence process that ensures that France prepares the country for independence.

"If the Forum supports an independence that does not work out, both New Caledonia and the Forum will be victims of that failure," Mr Wenehoua said.

The LKS claims between 30 and 35 percent support of those who support independence. In territorial assembly elections last November, it won 6 of the 42 seats and says it would have won more had its supporters not fallen victim to the FLNKS' poll boycott and roadblocks.

Earlier this year the six began their own boycott of the assembly after a Kanak independence supporter was shot and killed in Noumea.

The party supports plans for regional elections to be held under a new proposal by the French but opposes plans for a military base in New Caledonia that is part of that proposal.

The regional electoral system would break the economic monopoly of French and local businessmen and help prepare Kanaks for posts of responsibility, Mr Wenehoua said.

The party also rejects using violence as a means of pressuring the French.

"It is not easy to remain non-violent when others are fighting, but if we had joined the fighting, the New Caledonian situation would have been worse," Mr Wenehoua said.

"Trying to remain passive is not our problem. Our members were the ones who began the initial fight in 1968 and learned that violence does not provide the answer."

On their two-day visit, the two LKS representatives unofficially met government officials and the secretary of the Pacific Conference of Churches.

Mr Wenehoua said the PCC was happy with their stand as it was close to that of the churches.

The Foreign Affairs official was "receptive" to what they said.

They also met an official of the Agriculture Department to get an understanding of Fiji rural and agricultural development programme.

Based on their talks with the agriculture official, they hope to formulate a plan for their country which they will discuss again on a return trip.

CSO: 4200/1465

NEW ZEALAND

BRIEFS

TRADE DEFICIT FIGURES--The government's push for more exports appears to be paying off. The latest monthly trade figures show an almost \$200 million increase in the amount we earned from exports in July this year compared with the same month a year ago. However, the cost of imports also increased by \$177 million in July, resulting in a trade deficit for the month of \$192 million. Our trade reporter says this is a \$30 million improvement on the July deficit last year. Total imports cost almost \$1.2 billion, with export receipts totalling almost \$1 billion. The final trade figures for the year ended in June have also been released, revealing a trade deficit for the 12 months of 41,125 million, compared to the provisional deficit announced 2 weeks ago of just over \$1.4 billion. [Text] [Wellington Overseas Service in English 0000 GMT 28 Aug 85]

ROK TRAWLER HELD--The fate of a confiscated \$5 million Korean trawler now rests in the hands of the fisheries minister, Colin Moyle. It is the second time in a year that the Korean boat has been seized by the New Zealand Government. The (Taichang) 83 was confiscated in December last year, and the master and first mate found guilty on 38 charges of breaching fishing regulations. At the time, the trawler was put up for tender by the government and sold back to the (Taichang) company in Seoul for \$820,000. This time round the future of the boat is in doubt. It is believed the (Taichang) fishing company might not be able to afford to buy the trawler back. It is believed the boat has huge debts hanging over it, including a portion of a mortgage for \$5 million from a Panamanian finance company. Colin Moyle will make the decision on what is to be done with the boat after receiving a full report from officials. [Text] [Wellington Overseas Service in English 0030 GMT 28 Aug 85]

'RIGHT-WING FUNDAMENTALISTS' OPPOSITION--Right-wing fundamentalists have been identified as a new political opposition to the government. Labor Party President Margaret Wilson says it is no surprise that the right-wing fundamentalists decided to follow the example of their American counterparts and establish a formal party. In the past, the fundamentalists have been associated with moral issues, but Ms Wilson says it is now clear they intend to work on a broader front, and in particular, they oppose the government's antinuclear policies. Ms Wilson told the Labor Party Conference in Christchurch today that while the party never denies the right of people to express their point of view, it has a commitment to truth and tolerance. [Text] [Wellington Overseas Service in English 0100 GMT 30 Aug 85]

PROBLEMS OF ANTINUCLEAR POLICIES--New Zealand's Physicians Against Nuclear War thinks the government will find it difficult to implement its latest antinuclear proposals. A spokesman, (Ian Prior), says the physicians still trust assurances from the government that it will adhere to its antinuclear policy, but the policy will run up against the American refuse-to-conform-or-deny policy. Dr (Prior) said information from the Hawaiian Center for Defense information says that 85 percent of America's main naval ships carry nuclear weapons. He says that unless the Americans send a non-nuclear-capable ship to New Zealand as a gesture of goodwill, it is difficult to see how the government's proposals can operate. [Text] [Wellington Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Sep 85]

CSO: 4200/1477

PHILIPPINES

MILITARY SAYS NPA GUERRILLAS MASSING IN DAVAO DEL SUR

HK271420 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 27 Aug 85 pp 1, 2

[By Arnold Atadero]

[Text] Military authorities have alerted their troops in Cotabato and the Davao Provinces to a plan by the New People's Army (NPA) to attack two towns of South Cotabato.

Intelligence information in the hands of the military disclosed that a group of about 200 to 300 NPA guerrillas had been massing in hideouts in Davao del Sur.

The same information also disclosed that Nakilala and Tulunan, both in South cotabato, were again earmarked for attack by the rebels. The two towns had been attacked earlier, in July this year.

The information was given last Sunday to Deputy Defense Minister for Civil Relations Carlos Cajelo by military commanders of Region 11 (Southern Mindanao), led by Brig. Gen Jaime Echevarria and Brig Gen Dionisio Tan-Gatue, and Davao Sur Gov Primo Ocampo. Cajelo was sent to Region 11 by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile to confer with military and civilian officials on the rehabilitation program of the government for dissident returnees.

Cajelo told the METRO MANILA TIMES yesterday that NPA rebels had been sighted several times in Davao del Sur. He said the rebels planned to take another crack at Tulunan and Makilala to establish a production base.

It was recalled that the same rebel group attempted to overrun the two towns last 29 July, but government troops foiled their attempt.

A series of gun battles erupted between the rebels and army scout rangers, militiamen, policemen and other paramilitary units, resulting in heavy casualties on the part of the rebels.

Brig Gen Cesar Tapia, military commander for Region 12 (Central Mindanao), estimated that about 50 of the rebels died in the encounter. The government also suffered some casualties.

Cajelo said the NPAs wanted to control Tulunan and Makilala because these towns are rich in corn, rice and coffee. He added that the fragmented rebel groups in Regions 11 and 12 wanted to show they were still strong.

During the conference held in Tagum, Davao del Norte, Cajelo was told by local military commanders that 14 NPA commanders wanted to rejoin the government and avail themselves for amnesty program.

The grant of amnesty is among the most important features of the rehabilitation program for dissident returnees spelled out in Executive Order 1048 promulgated recently by President Marcos.

In his remarks before local civilian authorities, Cajelo, who is also an assemblyman from Cotabato, stressed that the policy of national reconciliation is still the basis of the overall counterinsurgency program.

CSO: 4200/1455

PHILIPPINES

KALAW ON OPPOSITION UNITY EFFORTS, STRATEGY

HK261606 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 26 Aug 85 pp 1, 9

[By Vicente B. Foz]

[Text] Member of Parliament Eva Estrada Kalaw asked all political parties in the National Unification Committee (NUC) yesterday to "refocus our attention and resources" on unifying all anti-Marcos forces on the local level to ensure "the downfall of the present administration."

In a letter, Kalaw, Liberal Party [LP] cochairman, reminded MP Cecilia Munoz-Palma and former Sen Francisco Soc Rodrigo, NUC chairperson and vice chairman, respectively, that since last 10 March, when the opposition convention agreed on a unification process down to the grassroots, "actual implementation of the unification plan has been bogged down by many issues which have preoccupied the NUC membership."

For months now, Kalaw said, "We are still preoccupied by the same issues--presidential candidacy, reconciliation of platforms, accreditation of the dominant opposition party--forgetting that the most important element to an opposition victory at the polls is a strong and united local machinery to deliver the votes as we experienced in the last Batasan elections."

She added: "The most attractive presidential candidate, selected by a most sophisticated formula, will have a hard time winning unless we have a delivery system operating in every barangay in the country."

In view of the opposition's experience with poll irregularities in the Batasan elections, Kalaw said, "We have a lot of work to do in strengthening that delivery system."

Thus, the lady MP stressed, the opposition should prepare for the local elections by immediately carrying out the NUC unity process and selecting the local alliance councils.

The regional and national arbitration committees envisioned in the NUC process, Kalaw said, should now be organized to settle the issues in the selection of local candidates.

Kalaw said the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL) and the Commission on Elections (Comelec) will find it most difficult not to accredit the NUC on a national basis if the grouping has completed local unification in every city and municipality in the country.

She also warned NUC member-parties against "falling into a trap that is part of a grand design to catch the opposition off guard and unorganized at the local level."

Opposition unification will be hastened, Kalaw said, if the leaders concentrate on "our most immediate concern, the local elections, setting aside the details of the other issues that may have unnecessarily divided us and which, in any case, are now substantially resolved or are capable of resolution after the local elections."

Kalaw assured the NUC of the LP's "unwavering support" to the cause of opposition unity and democratic change.

CSO: 4200/1455

PHILIPPINES

SPECIAL INK, TRANSPARENT BOXES MAY BE USED IN POLLS

HK271109 Hong Kong AFP in English 1049 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Text] Manila, 27 Aug (AFP)--The Philippines' chief election official today said his office may use a special ink to fingerprint voters and transparent boxes for ballots to ensure "free, fair and orderly" elections.

Victorino Savellano, chairman of the Commission on Elections (Comelec), said he wasn't sure if there would be a snap presidential poll this year, but vowed there would be safeguards to protect the integrity of such a poll.

Mr Savellano, who was appointed head of the watchdog body last May, told the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines that "the matter of snap elections is for the political leadership to decide."

He said the Comelec needed only 45 days to prepare for a snap presidential poll, which the ruling New Society Movement (KBL) [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] is said to be considering.

Mr Savellano said ink which stays on a voter's fingers for at least 24 hours may be used to prevent people from voting more than once in different precincts. Critics say that the administration has used such voters to ensure poll victory.

Mr Savellano said transparent ballot boxes, which the opposition proposed in place of the regular metal ones to check ballot-box stuffing, may be used if the Comelec can afford them, or if the government releases the needed funds.

The election for provincial and municipal officials is set for 1986 and the regular presidential election for 1987. The ruling party has proposed a snap poll to give President Ferdinand Marcos, in power for 20 years, a fresh mandate after the opposition filed an impeachment resolution against him which was crushed.

CSO: 4200/1455

PHILIPPINES

MARCOS SETS UP REHABILITATION PROGRAM FOR EX-REBELS

HK280323 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 28 Aug 85

[Text] President Marcos has set up a rehabilitation program to facilitate the reintegration into society of dissidents who returned to the folds of the law. The president's move is aimed at making them productive elements of their community. To implement this program, the chief executive created a 14-member committee headed by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and 12 deputy ministers as members.

In setting up the program, the president reiterated that maximum reconciliation remains the basic government policy in the handling of subversives and dissidents. He also pointed out that the amnesty granted pursuant to presidential decree 1429 is still in effect and could be availed of by former rebels. The grant of cash for the turning in of firearms surrendered by the former rebels will also be provided in accordance with the rules and regulations to be prescribed by the committee. He directed the Defense Ministry and the Office of Media Affairs to enhance this policy with an effective information campaign.

At the same time, the Justice Ministry will revitalize the amnesty commission established under Presidential Decree 124 to speed up the granting of amnesty in accordance with the provision of the said decree. The president with authorize the committee to call on all government agencies and offices for assistance. These ministries and agencies will support the program initially out of their program funds; in the succeeding years, they are to include such expenses in their respective budgets.

CSO: 4200/1455

PHILIPPINES

WORLD BANK OFFICIAL ON SUPPORT FOR ECONOMIC PROGRAM

HK280325 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 28 Aug 85

[Text] The World Bank has expressed anew its willingness to extend all possible assistance to enable the Philippines to attain economic recovery. The assurance was given to the president by World Bank Executive Director Edgar Gutierrez Castro, who called at Malacanang. He was accompanied by Prime Minister Cesar Virata and Central Bank Governor Jose Fernandez.

The president cited the \$3 billion trade credit and \$400 million new money from the country's creditor banks. He said that if we utilize them judiciously and support the banking system we should be able to recover fast within the year. However, the president stressed that the government is now implementing a two-pronged effort, that is economic recovery and the fight against insurgency.

The World Bank official assured the president that all the help that they can get will be in this direction, and that they are very glad to do it.

The Central Bank governor pointed out that with the available resources, the real question is how to get the business community to revitalize its thinking and to take advantage of the credits now available to them at low rates of interest.

The prime minister informed the president that two major loans totalling \$250 million to help government corporations and financial institutions are still undergoing negotiations.

CSO: 4200/1455

PHILIPPINES

COMMENTATOR ON NPA STRATEGY ON MANILA

HK261033 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0100 GMT 26 Aug 85

["Analysis of the News" by Teodoro Valencia]

[Text] Over the weekend, you must have read the story that the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the defense minister, Juan Ponce Enrile, told local military leaders in San Fernando, Pampanga, that the plan of the New People's Army is to intensify guerrilla offensive in central Luzon and the southern Tagalog Region, to isolate Manila, to surround Manila, thereby, making it easier to wrest power from the administration. I have no doubt that the plan exists because that was the battle plan of the Huks in the early 50's and late 40's. But the Huks never succeeded, although they reached as near Manila as Novaliches and Quezon City. Why? Because the Huks did not enter Manila, knowing that the armed forces of the U.S. at Clark were going to the rescue of the Philippine Government at that time.

Well, the same thing can happen now. Anytime the Huks operate in central Luzon and endanger the peace of people, the military bases of the U.S. will be bothered and they will have to defend the peace and quiet of those establishments. And what can that mean? Perhaps the NPA don't know, only the old Huk commanders will.

[Passage indistinct] What could be the battle plan, of which we do not want to contest the claim of the minister of national defense, we are going to say that. The fact must be told that the people of Manila know that the entire force of the Armed Forces of the Philippines will be made to guard on whoever would want to enter the city and make trouble, because this is where the civil government is, and as long as Manila remains in the arms of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the power of the national government will remain and any uprising in any other portions of the archipelago can easily be put down.

But I suppose the minister of defense said it because it's the obvious thing to say, because obviously that is going on, but it is not something that simple, because the government will not let it happen.

CSO: 4200/1455

PHILIPPINES

VALENCIA WARNS AGAINST DELAYING BUDGET

HK280907 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0800 GMT 28 Aug 85

["Analysis of the News" by Teodoro Valencia]

[Text] It looks like the budget, the 1986 budget, which must be enacted within the [word indistinct] period, may not be taken up in the session of the Batasang Pambansa where the proceedings are going in the legislation are being prolonged by political bickerings and debates, there may never be time for the budget.

Unfortunately, the budget cannot be legislated by the president by using his amendment No 6, which is the only thing that is not allowed to be done under amendment No 6. So what will happen will be that the government will have to function by using this year's budget, the 1985 budget. There was a time that the new budget proposal carried an increase of something like 12 percent. It will have to mean that the operations of government in 1986 will be very much hampered by lack of appropriations. The ruling KBL will have to devise ways and means to pass the 1986 budget, [passage indistinct] which is usually what happens.

On the other hand, we cannot suspect the opposition of deliberately doing this, but it could be what will happen. And in such an eventuality, the entire Batasang Pambansa will have to take responsibility to the nation, but particularly the members of the opposition. And the majority will win for this failure to act.

For in the election in 1986, May of 1986, this will be an issue against the opposition in general. The candidates for governors, mayors, vice mayors, members of the provincial boards, members of the town councils--have nothing to do with this action at the Batasang Pambansa. But they will bear the responsibility just the same. And this will be debated, and the people will take sides.

Unfortunately, the people who will suffer will be those not guilty of almost everything that the people will find, all coming from the irresponsibility of the Batasang Pambansa.

CSO: 4200/1455

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

KBL ASSEMBLYMAN ON ELECTIONS--According to Kilusang Bagong Lipunan [KBL] Assemblyman Salvador Britanico, snap elections may be held this year to early next year should efforts to impeach President Marcos persist. He said the decision is in the hands of the president. Earlier, the president had declared that elections will be held in 1987. The KBL then decided that presidential elections could be held before President Marcos' term of office expires. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 19 Aug 85]

HIDDEN WEALTH PROBES--The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will continue to expose Filipinos with hidden wealth and huge investments in the U.S. and other countries. Acting Foreign Minister Pacifico Castro said that he had already sent circulars about conducting investigations to Philippine embassies abroad. In his speech at the Kapihan sa Maynila [Manila Coffee Shop], Castro said that there was nothing concrete yet from the investigations, but he added that foreign service officers are conducting investigations with great care so as not to infringe upon the rights of individuals, as well as the laws of other countries. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 19 Aug 85]

SECURITY MINISTRY PROPOSAL FROZEN--It was requested at the Batasang Pambansa that the government temporarily suspend or freeze any plans to create a new ministry to administer the rules concerned with peace and order as well as with domestic security. The request was made by Member of Parliament Natalio Beltran in a resolution presented before the Batasan. Beltran said that the creation of a new ministry concerned with public safety would only hamper the efforts to resolve the present internal disorders. He added that it would only mean increased expenditures to the government. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 16 Aug 85]

EVIDENCE ON OPPOSITION HIDDEN WEALTH--The Batasang Apmbansa's Committee on Rules and Regulations will hold another emergency meeting tomorrow in order to expedite discussion of important bills and proposals. The meeting will follow a series of delays in proceedings caused by lengthy periods devoted to explanations of votes. On the other hand, Member of Parliament Arturo Pacificador said that while the majority party also possessed evidence that some opposition members had hidden wealth, it did not tackle the issue in the Batasan. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 27 Aug 85 HK]

DEBTOR COUNTRIES' REPRESENTATIVES TO VISIT--Representatives from several Latin American nations will be in the Philippines next month. They have been invited by the Philippine Government to visit the country from 27 to 28 September. The representatives are from Latin American nations with debts from international institutions. Recently, in Havana, the Latin American nations held a conference to discuss what [word indistinct] with the huge debt problem of the region. The visitors will be in the country before Prime Minister Cesar Virata leaves for South Korea for another meeting with the country's creditors. [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 28 Aug 85 HK]

CIVIL RELATIONS UNIT CHANGED--A new command came into existence today in the Armed Forces. The Army Information Command was formally created today. It is the new name of the Philippine Army Civil Relations and Information Service. The change in name was made in a program in Fort Bonifacio, marking the 20th anniversary of the Army Civil Relations Unit. [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 28 Aug 85 HK]

CSO: 4200/1455

THAILAND

COMMENTARIES, OFFICIALS ON PRK BORDER, INDOCHINA MEET

Sitthi, Prasong Comment

BK191148 [Editorial Report] Bangkok Army Television Service in Thai at 1355 GMT on 18 August carried its regular Sunday "Conversation on the Country's Problems" program. The 70-minute recorded program, also broadcast simultaneously by Radio Thailand and all other Bangkok Television stations, presents a panel discussion on the topic of "Thailand and the Solution to the Kampuchean Problem." Taking part in the discussion are Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, Secretary General of the National Security Council Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, and Deputy Army Chief of Staff Lt Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut.

Moderator Dr Wisanu Khruangam opens the program by reviewing tension and armed clashes along the approximately 800-km Thai-Cambodian border during the past few years before introducing the three participants to the audience.

Air Chief Marshal Sitthi says: "The Cambodian problem is a problem between Cambodia and Vietnam" which has come into existence since Vietnam sent 200,000 troops into Cambodia and captured Phnom Penh on 7 January 1979. The Vietnamese aggression will affect the "stability of Thailand and the other ASEAN countries" and runs counter to ASEAN's determination to establish "a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality." He notes that the signing of the friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Vietnam also means military assistance for Vietnam.

Asked about the military situation in Cambodia, Lt Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut replies that "the fighting between the aggressors, Vietnam, and the Cambodian patriotic movements is continuing in Cambodia." He points out that Vietnam has failed to defeat the Cambodian patriotic forces during the past seven dry-season offensives despite its military might and abundant assistance from its friends. He notes that there were only about 4,000 to 5,000 men of the resistance force but now the number has increased up to 70,000 to 80,000 while Vietnam still has to keep 180,000 soldiers in Cambodia. "Vietnam is fighting not only 70,000 to 80,000 resistance soldiers but also the whole Cambodian people now number 5 to 6 million." At present, the Cambodian resistance forces "have encircled the major towns and interrupted Vietnamese military operations throughout the country." He discloses that the Cambodian people detest the influx of Vietnamese citizens who settle in Cambodia and "try to swallow or

gain control over the country's economy, politics, and military." However, Vietnamese troops can only control "major towns but the areas around and between those major towns are obviously under the control of the patriotic movements."

Air Chief Marshal Sitthi then recalls good relations between Vietnam and China that turned sour after China turned down the former's request for support for its hegemonist plan in the region, which resulted in constant slanderous propaganda against China. He quotes PRC's Deng Xiaoping as telling him: "I have to put cotton in my ears" so that I will not hear anything. Sitthi stresses that it is not "for Vietnam to judge whether Pol Pot is good or bad to topple his government." He reveals that the Soviet Union has been providing \$1 billion in economic aid and \$800 million in military assistance for Vietnam annually to enable "it to wage the war in Cambodia."

Asked about the impact of the situation in Cambodia on Thailand, Squadron Leader Prasong replies: "The presence of 20 divisions of Vietnamese occupation troops in Cambodia and the ongoing fighting between the Vietnamese troops and the CGDK forces has affected not only Thailand but also all countries in the Southeast Asian region," adding that the Vietnamese affiliation with the Soviet Union invites other big powers to compete in the region.

"Looking from the angle of our national stability, security, and interests, Thailand has to face both immediate and long-term consequences. Concerning the immediate consequences, the presence of Vietnamese troops close to our border and the fighting against the CGDK forces leads to encroachments on our territory and deliberate violations of Thailand's sovereignty." As a result, our soldiers and officials have been killed in the defense of the country. Besides, the fighting in Cambodia has forced more and more refugees to flee to Thailand. Regarding the long-run consequences, "it is obvious that Vietnam has a policy of occupying and dominating Laos and Cambodia, which, if successful, will result in numerous repercussions on Thailand." Therefore, Thailand cannot "stand idle or be neutral" because our national interests, stability, and security are affected.

Asked what Vietnam has to gain in its attempt to influence other countries in this region, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi says that since Ho Chi Minh formed his communist party in 1930, Vietnam planned to merge the three Indochinese countries. He quotes the foreign minister of the Democratic Kampuchean Government as telling Thai leaders during his visit here in 1975 that "Vietnam had persuaded his country and Laos to join it to take action against Thailand." Citing accounts given by former communist leaders, who surrendered to the government, on their trip to Vietnam to request weapons and ammunition during which Vietnam had volunteered to send its troops to help the Thai communists liberate Thailand, the foreign minister says: "This has proved Vietnam's intention to seize, not liberate as they say, our 17 provinces in the northeastern region." He continues: "A Vietnamese leader once told a Western country's prime minister that the Indochinese Federation's population will number 75 million. Since the combined population of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia does not exceed 60 million, the prime minister asked where the extra 15 million people came from. He was told that the figure included those people living in our 17 northeastern provinces."

Squadron Leader Prasong adds that he also met with those leading members of the Communist Party of Thailand [CPT] who surrendered to the government. "They told me that during their trip to Hanoi to attend the Vietnamese communists' Fourth Party Congress in 1976, they met and talked with Le Duan, first secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam. He cited the liberation of Laos, Cambodia, and South Vietnam and asked why the CPT failed to make such an achievement. He said the Thai communists should employ the strategy they used in Vietnam and offer support and assistance to the CPT." "Later the CPT members from the northeastern region met with the present Lao deputy prime minister when he was serving as minister attached to the prime minister's office. I do not want to mention his name. He persuaded the CPT to launch military operations first in the northeastern region because he felt that the CPT had not done anything so far. He proposed that two divisions of Lao soldiers, who could speak Thai and wear the CPT uniform, be sent into Thailand to help the CPT. One division would attack from Loei to Khon Kaen through Udon Thani Province. The other would start from Mukdahan down to Ubon Ratchathani and meet the first one in Khon Kaen Province. Then they would set up their command post on the Phu Phan mountain. The Thai communists asked him who would then take care of security inside Laos. He said that Vietnam would send its troops to take care of Laos."

Squadron Leader Prasong continues: "Both Laos and Cambodia will not talk about the projected Indochinese Federation, but they talk about the special relations which is similar to the way the Soviet Union is treating its satellites in East Europe." Vietnam is busy with its problems which he believes it cannot do anything about. Particularly the problems it is facing in Cambodia. However, it has not yet discarded its hegemonist ambitions.

Asked about the Foreign Ministry's planned action or policy, the foreign minister emphasizes ASEAN's solidarity and effort to seek a "political solution to the Cambodian problem" and call for "the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia to allow the Cambodians to exercise their right to self-determination." "At the same time, we are trying to talk with Vietnam to convince it that the use of military force will never bring about success because this is a very expensive practice which will only degrade Vietnam's own image. Vietnam is now being isolated since most countries support us and do not support Vietnam. It is now facing numerous economic problems and has to depend solely on the Soviet Union. In fact, we give priority to our diplomatic means--diplomatic and political pressure--coupled with our friends' help."

The foreign minister notes the effectiveness of military pressure from China and Vietnam's fruitless attempts to call for the normalization of diplomatic relations with China. He stresses that the "trump card" that can end the Cambodian problem is in the hands of the Soviet Union. Therefore, the ASEAN member countries are appealing to the Soviet Union to halt its military assistance and push Vietnam to hold talks with us. He adds: "Even the United States supports us. The U.S. Government and Congress have passed legislation to provide assistance worth at least \$5 million for the Cambodian patriots who are now fighting against Vietnamese aggression and occupation in Cambodia."

Lieutenant General Chawalit then adds that the military has made all preparations of a "defensive nature" to ensure safety of the people living along the border which include the setting up of self-defense villages and deployment of troops at the major border passes as well as "reserving part of our force ready to take action outside the country if it is really necessary." He says although the war is inside Cambodia, it also has an impact on Thailand.

He continues: "It is merely a joke to say that the Vietnamese would one day come to have their meals right in the heart of Bangkok. I am still very much in doubt as to whether the Vietnamese in Cambodia can return to have meals in Ho Chi Minh City because they also have considerable difficulties at home."

Asked if the military will not try an offensive strategy, Lieutenant General Chawalit replies: "We have done our utmost not to get involved. However, if Vietnam provokes us as that is their national goal, and Vietnam has explicitly demonstrated its animosity against Thailand, we might have to act accordingly."

Foreign Minister Sitthi says: "The Cambodian problem will not be prolonged 10 or 20 years as some people say. It should end within the next 2 to 4 years."

Squadron Leader Prasong adds that Vietnam is now fighting a war in "the wrong place" and will be defeated by the Cambodian people while Lieutenant General Chawalit says the Thai people have confidence in Thailand's stance on the Cambodian problem. Foreign Minister Sitthi notes that "unity among the people in the country" is the most important factor in the defense of the country from external threat.

Gen Wanchai on Policy

BK180933 Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 18 Aug 85 pp 1, 16

[Excerpts] Lt Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun, assistant army chief of staff for operations, delivered a speech on the topic: "The Vietnamese behavior along the Thai border" at a meeting of doctors, lecturers, and medical students at Airirat Hospital on the afternoon of 16 August.

Lieutenant General Wanchi began by saying that Vietnam, as history shows, wants to dominate both Laos and Cambodia. Vietnam has claimed that its military presence in Laos was aimed at helping the latter's liberation struggle. However since Laos gained its independence, Vietnam has refused to withdraw its troops--five divisions--from that country. Meanwhile, the Vietnamese aggression against Cambodia, which has involved the deployment of seven to eight divisions in that country, has had constant repercussions on the Thai border areas.

He disclosed that approximately 60,000 soldiers of the three Khmer resistance factions have now penetrated deeper inside Cambodia and are operating around Phnom Penh and the Tonle Sap area. The guerrilla warfare employed by the resistance forces has plunged the Vietnamese side into a defensive position and forced it to send reinforcements into the affected areas.

Lieutenant General Wanchai went on to say that it is necessary to keep a watch on the situation as the dry season draws near. Many people wonder if our stance on the Cambodian problem is correct or not. The treatment of this issue is divided into two categories. First, the Foreign Ministry has been assigned to carry out political action and has achieved fairly satisfactory results. Many countries have condemned the Vietnamese intervention in Cambodia. Besides, ASEAN also agrees that the Cambodian problem should be solved only through political means. Second, the government has also formulated a policy for the military to implement. The supreme commander said: We will not get involved if our border area is not affected; however, we will never allow anyone to fight a war on our territory. Any deliberate act of intrusion will meet with due retaliation.

He said that we will have to face some problems "in the coming dry season regardless what resolutions the United Nations might adopt in the next session. In the long run, we must realize that if Vietnam succeeds in occupying Cambodia, it will not stop there. Vietnam will try to move southward to conquer other countries."

Regarding ASEAN's proposal for proximity talks, it is believed that Vietnam will not accept the result of talks if it has not participated in the negotiations. We are aware whether Vietnam wants peace or settlement of the conflict through the use of force.

He concluded his speech by citing some people as saying that Thailand should adopt an indifferent attitude, or it will only "drag the war into the country." He noted that such a view will only create discord and differences in opinion among the people which Vietnam can use as a tool to undermine our unity and strength. The reason we have to react as we do is because the issue is affecting our national stability.

Columnist Notes SRV Strategy

BK23094 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 21 Aug 85 p 4

[Phichian Khuranthong column: "Vietnam Has Turned To Play the U.S. Card; Good For the Cambodian Problem"]

[Text] While the textile problem is attracting much attention among the general public, a positive trend has emerged in the Cambodian conflict with Vietnam agreeing to the idea of a political solution. Vietnam has been condemned for its military actions against the Cambodian resistance factions in Cambodia.

The communique issued at the conference of the Indochinese foreign ministers in Phnom Penh last Friday says that Vietnam has accepted the idea of proximity talks between the Heng Samrin regime and the Cambodian resistance groups as proposed by Malaysia.

The communique also reveals that Vietnam will withdraw its troops from Cambodia by 1990. Only a day after that, Nguyen Co Thach stated that the total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia might take place before 1990 if the situation in that country improves satisfactorily.

This new trend can be regarded as a gesture of reconciliation by Vietnam. However, it could also be only a test of the reaction by ASEAN, the Cambodian resistance groups, and China as well.

It should be noted that on the same day that the communique was issued, Vietnam accepted the request for senior U.S. Government officials--Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Armitage and Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Paul Wolfowitz--to visit Vietnam. The visit was scheduled for 28-29 August.

The return of the remains of 26 U.S. MIA's and permission for the United States to set up an office to search for U.S. MIA's indicates that Vietnam is fairly enthusiastic about establishing contact with the United States. In other words, Vietnam is playing the U.S. card.

Observers believe that the renewal of contacts between the Soviet Union and China which resulted in the signing of the 5-year trade agreement under which the value of trade between the two countries will amount to \$14 billion has forced Vietnam to play the U.S. card.

An ASEAN diplomat in Hanoi told me a few weeks ago that renewed contacts between the Soviet Union and China would certainly have repercussions on Vietnam. In responding to this development, Vietnam declares that its relations with the Soviet Union are deep rooted.

The source quoted Vo Dong Giang, minister attached to the SRV prime minister's office, as saying in his speech marking the 35th anniversary of Vietnamese-Soviet relations 3 months ago that Vietnam supports good relations between the Soviet Union and China but not "at the expense of Third Countries." His statement indicates Vietnam's concern over the impact of the normalization of Sino-Soviet relations.

Diplomats have also noted that the statement issued at the end of the Le Duan's recent visit to the Soviet Union does not carry any weight in connection with China and other issues.

Vo Dong Giang's strongly-worded speech in Vietnam completely contradicted that statement. This is an indication of the pressure imposed on Vietnam by the Soviet Union which is part of the triangular relationship among the three countries--the Soviet Union, China, and Vietnam.

Therefore, Vietnam has to turn to play its U.S. card as an option it has to create bargaining power to be used in its relations with the Soviet Union. In so doing, Vietnam must seek a compromise with ASEAN as the United States demands the total withdrawal of its troops from Cambodia as a condition for the normalization of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

However, the Cambodian problem will not simply end after Vietnam decides to play its U.S. card because it also depends the future bargains to be made by the parties concerned and prevailing circumstances. The immediate situation suggests that other countries, including ASEAN members and Vietnam, should stay away and let the Cambodian people solve the problem themselves.

Editorial on SRV

BK241128 Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 21 Aug 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Thailand and Cambodia"]

[Text] For over a decade now Cambodia has been under communist rule. At first, the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge ruled the country with its erroneous policy. The brutal massacre of the Cambodian people by the Khmer Rouge was given as the reason for Soviet-supportee Vietnam to step into Cambodia and seize power.

Over 200,000 Vietnamese troops control all strategic locations in Cambodia, while the puppet Heng Samrin has no power whatsoever to bargain with either Vietnam or the Soviet Union.

Acting like other freedom-loving people, the Cambodians, who detest communism and foreign influence, united themselves to form a liberation army in 1978. Since then, a war between the Cambodian people and foreign troops has broken out in Cambodia as the numbers of Cambodians killed and fleeing to Thailand increases.

Vietnam and the Soviet Union have been condemned by many countries for their interference in Cambodia. The United Nations called for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from that country 3 years ago and has adopted similar resolutions every year. Vietnam disregards the UN call and continues to kill more and more Cambodians.

Thailand is the country closest to the situation. It must feed and shelter Cambodian refugees for humanitarian reasons. The Vietnamese aggression during the early period did not affect Thailand much. However, during the past 2 years, Vietnam has sent more troops and weapons into Cambodia, pushing the Cambodian National Liberation Forces closer to the Thai border. The fighting is starting to inflict more damage on Thailand.

Vietnam has inflicted losses of life and property on the Thai people. Worse still, it has been accusing Thailand of supporting the Cambodian National Liberation Forces and clamoring that Thailand is the slave of imperialism. Thailand, therefore, has the right to take all retaliatory measures and defend itself. However, the Thai Government has always practiced restraint.

The Cambodian people's national liberation struggle is a thorn in Vietnam's flesh. Vietnam once fought a war inside its country against the free world's major power. At that time, its troops had excellent morale because they knew that they were fighting for national liberation and independence. In the war of aggression against Cambodia, Vietnam is fighting the Cambodian patriotic forces, who are striving to liberate their country.

Vietnam has been suffering heavy casualties in its war in Cambodia. Vietnamese leaders have not learned anything from the past. Like the Vietnamese,

the Cambodian people highly treasure their country and are willing to sacrifice their flesh and blood for their country's sovereignty and independence.

As for Thailand, we have every right as well as legitimate, humanitarian reasons to retaliate against Vietnam and to defend ourselves. Vietnam has inflicted casualties and damages on our country as well as Cambodia. The statement by a senior military officer during the TV panel discussion program last Sunday that, if the situation remains unchanged, Thai troops might have to break into Cambodian territory to retaliate against Vietnam was right and quite reasonable.

War never benefits anyone. Vietnam has suffered much from the war during the past over 30 years. If it continues to behave like a mad dog chasing people, the best way to deal with it is to kill the mad dog for the safety of all.

CSO: 4207/275

THAILAND

COLUMNIST CRITICIZES U.S. EMBASSY, NOTES ANTI-AMERICANISM

BK181251 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 10 Aug 85 p 3

[Text] Thailand has its own culture which can be dated back as early as the Sukhothai period. The United States of America was formed as a country in 1777, late during the reign of King Krunghon. Like other African countries, it is a newborn nation.

The Americans today are the offspring of hundreds of thousands of foreign couples who migrated to the United States earlier, so they must compete and try to be creative for their own survival. People in the United States find it difficult to trace what race they belong to. Some of them are descendants of British islanders or French immigrants. Rather uncouth are those of Italian stock who later became mafia gangsters. Because of their ambiguous nature and their lack of culture, the people from the United States are branded as "ugly Americans."

The day before yesterday, U.S. Embassy official Patricia A. Langford proudly announced that 30,000 Thais apply for a visa to go to the United States every year, or on the average 100 persons per day. I must admit that many Thai people want to see America. However, I am very much in doubt about the process of visa issuance at the U.S. Embassy.

An employee of THAI RAT newspaper last month applied for a visa to visit the United States. Acting big as if he were an angel (in fact a devil), an official in charge told him to bring his land deed and bank statement to prove that he has permanent residence in this country. My friend rushed home and returned with the required documents.

After delaying the game for some time, the U.S. Embassy official asked for my friend's reporter identification card. There are some 1,000 employees of THAI RAT newspaper but not all of them are reporters. They are employed as printers, accountants, security officials, drivers, and so forth. However, he managed to find a reporter ID card for himself to show to that cheap foreigner.

After having checked all the documents he asked for, the American official did not know what to do next but simply said: "You have all the documents required, but I am not in the mood yet." So my friend had to wait until that American was in the mood.

One week later, he went to that embassy official to ask him to kindly issue the visa since he had already furnished all the required documents. That American laughed in his face and said: I do not want you to go to my country. Your appearance suggests that you will be another Robin Hood [illegal alien in the United States].

Five years ago, a Thai gold medal athlete participating in a sports tournament in the United States was refused a visa on the grounds that she was poor because she wrote on the application form that she was a vegetable seller.

As I was writing this column, I came across the latest foreign news on a bomb explosion at the U.S. Embassy in Frankfurt on 8 August which resulted in the death of 2 Americans and the destruction of 29 cars.

I have now come to realize why the Americans are so objectionable to most people.

CSO: 4207/275

THAILAND

RADIO SAYS LAOS INSINCERE ABOUT BORDER ISSUES

BK051314 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 5 Aug 85

[Article: "Laos Lacks Sincerity"]

[Text] Listeners, the Thai Government has always tried to peacefully resolve the dispute with Laos over the territory in Ban Klang, Ban Sawang, and Ban Mai in Ban Khok subdistrict, Uttaradit. In October 1984 Thai soldiers were withdrawn from the three villages in an effort to seek diplomatic negotiations to resolve the dispute. However, what happened was that about 800 Lao soldiers intruded about 2 km deep into Thai territory and deployed heavy weapons in the area. A total of 992 Thai villagers in the 3 villages also left their homes with the Thai soldiers, fearing danger of future fighting. They were resettled in Ban Huai Yang, about 8 km from the Lao border, and each family was given 50 rai of land to farm. These people were allowed to return to their former homes if they wished, and several families already returned. A total of 762 people now remain at Ban Huai Yang.

In any event, Laos has slandered Thailand, alleging that Thailand herded people away and prevented them from returning to their homes. Laos also continued provocations against Thailand. Some 42 Thai soldiers were wounded and 2 others killed since the dispute began. A villager and five Lao soldiers were killed while two others defected and four captured since then. Lao soldiers also tried to obstruct Thai road construction work.

Listeners, that was a summary of the situation in the disputed area as given by Lt Col Krailoet Khanthongkham, commander of the task force of the First Cavalry Battalion, First Cavalry Division. We, Thai people in the rear areas, have come to realize how the Lao behaved. Lao provocations and slanders have continued incessantly. Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry spokesman Sawanit Khongsiri has said that Thailand has tried to ease tension by withdrawing its soldiers from the disputed area in order to bring about negotiations. But it appeared that Laos has not tried to create an atmosphere conducive to negotiations. It would claim that the disputed villages belong to it and set unacceptable conditions. Thailand is always ready to negotiate over the disputed area, but there must be chance of success if negotiations were to take place. Vientiane constantly urged negotiations, but it has not taken any concrete action to make negotiations materialize. Its soldiers regularly fired shots into Thai territory. How can negotiations materialize in this situation? Moreover, other

problems also exist along the Thai-Lao border due to unclear maps which were compiled some 70 years ago. These problems should also be included in negotiations as well. But Laos has always slandered Thailand after every border incident, alleging that Thailand refused to negotiate. Thailand feels that the border disputes should not be allowed to remain unsolved and hopes that Lao leaders would create an atmosphere conducive for negotiations.

Listeners, it is evident that the Thai Government has always acted with flexibility and sought peaceful settlement of disputes with Laos, but Laos has responded by slandering Thailand. Lao action shows that it lacks independence and wants to play up minor issues in order to pollute an atmosphere conducive to negotiations and in order to conduct propaganda. All of this takes place while Laos' economy is already poor. Laos acts persistently and arrogantly because it feels it has the backing of some countries. It also constantly fabricates things. For this reason, to sum up, problems between Thailand and Laos have become difficult to solve due to lack of sincerity on the part of Laos.

CSO: 4207/275

THAILAND

BRIEFS

MALAYSIA FISHING TALKS--Referring to Thai fishermen's protest against Malaysia's exclusive economic zone, Director General of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department Sawanit Khongsiri said Thai and Malaysian officials are trying to resolve the issue. He noted that Thai and Malaysian prime ministers agreed during their earlier meeting in Phuket to study the possibility of a joint fishing venture. The Foreign Ministry, studying Malaysian law, learned that Malaysian law allows Thai boats to fish in Malaysian waters, provided permission is sought in advance. Sawanit said Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpraphan is currently in Malaysia to seek a resolution to the problem, adding that there will be negotiations in September when the Thai agriculture minister goes to Malaysia to discuss joint fishing ventures and related matters. Sawanit asked Thai fishermen to discontinue their current demonstration because the government is trying to solve the problem. Besides, the demonstration may jeopardize Thai-Malaysian relations. [Text] [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 22 Aug 85 BK]

CSO: 4207/275

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

SPK COMMENTARY LAUDS SOVIET MORATORIUM PROPOSAL

OW141337 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1114 GMT 14 Aug 85

["Moratorium"--SPK headline]

[Text] Phnom Penh, SPK, August 14--The unilateral halt of all nuclear tests declared by Soviet President M. Gorbachev recently is of great significance to the destiny of the world.

Desirous of working toward an end to the danger of swelling nuclear arsenals and to set a good example, the Soviet Union invited the Reagan administration to do the same--halting all nuclear tests as from August 6. But the White House, bent on carrying out its war-mongering policy, is making big efforts to go ahead with its "Star Wars" programme despite vehement protests at home and abroad. Its rationale is that the interests of the United States and world peace are at stake.

But facts have shown that it is the U.S. imperialists who are intensifying their military build-up in every corner of the world, including the Asian-Pacific region. They have formed new reactionary military alliances and introduced more nuclear weapons into this region. Their invitation to the Soviet Union to send observers to a new nuclear test in Nevada is only aimed at misleading public opinion.

The Kampuchean people, like other peoples in Asia, Africa, South and North America, Oceania and Europe, do not want a repetition of the tragedies at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We want peace and friendship for this generation and all generations to come.

We therefore enthusiastically welcome and strongly support the latest peace proposal from Moscow which allows mankind another chance to preserve its unique civilization.

Four thousand million humans on this planet are for the Soviet nuclear moratorium and demand a positive response from the United States.

CSO: 4200/1418

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

KPRAF UNIT IN SIEM REAP DESCRIBES ANTI-DK OPERATIONS

Vientiane KONGTHAP PASASON LAO in Lao 20 Jun 85 p 2

[Article by K Somsamout: "The Pol Pot Looters Hunting Battalion"]

[Text] Battalion 20 of the Cambodian revolutionary military located in Siem Reap Province carries out its duty in defending the western border adjoining Thailand. The Cambodian reactionaries sneak into this mountainous area from Thai territory in order to destroy the peace and happiness of the Cambodian people. "Pol Pot hunters" is what the combatant cadres of Battalion 20 have called themselves to demonstrate their decision to stop and wipe out the reactionaries and to keep them from infiltrating the border.

One night looters came from Thai territory to rob the people's property. They tied up the entire (Hem Cheung) family and were getting ready to carry out their activities. However, Battalion 20 combatants arrived in time before the looters could kill them and thus saved their lives. This unit has also helped in construction and self-defense training in eight cantons. These cantons are now able to provide security. A total of 150 houses, 5 schools, and 1 hospital have just been constructed by this battalion.

Even though it is a mobile fighting unit, it still maintains its housing complex in order and strictly follows its normal training and lifestyle. The brightly lit club contains the national flag and a picture of Chairman Heng Samrin. Next to a clear space nearby a flock of chickens were scratching and looking for their prey. There is a beautiful green vegetable garden besides a well.

In the bedrooms they made their own bamboo beds. The weapons were clean and polished. Some of the B40, B41, medium, and light automatic weapons and mortars were assembled first, and some were added after their seizure from the enemies. The unit seized a total of 240 assorted weapons. A number of these weapons were given by the higher echelons.

This battalion was set up in 1978 at a place in the liberation zone in (Kong Pong Cham) Province. At the beginning there were few weapons and people, and they had no fighting experience. However, after having acquired their fighting experience in the Cambodian national liberation, since 1979 this unit has been getting stronger in many ways.

Comrade (Somle), who at 53 is the oldest in the unit, was once a cadre in (Balang) Canton, (Sotnikoum) District, Siem Reap Province. After the Pol Pot clique had sneaked in and murdered the people in the village, including his entire family, in his hatred for them he volunteered to become a soldier so he could carry a gun and fight the enemy directly.

The youngest combatant in the unit, (Seun Ngai), is only 15. He was orphaned when his parents were killed by Pol Pot's clique. He had been saved by Vietnamese soldiers. At that time they thought about sending him to the school in the canton, but he resolutely refused to go. He begged to become a soldier so he could annihilate Pol Pot's clique first, and then he would be willing to go to school. This means that Seun Ngai has become a combatant of Battalion 20.

All the combatants who have outstanding achievements and different ages are as close to each other as if they had the same parents. While each individual is different, what they have in common is their misfortune in having their families and relatives killed at the hands of Pol Pot's clique.

Since the day it was established this battalion has been able to wipe out and stop enemies who had invaded the border a total of over 200 times. Each time the unit became stronger with a steady increase in weapons, experience, and fighting ability. This battalion has annihilated hundreds of Pol Pot's clique, and it has captured and causes thousands of them to surrender. As a result of these achievements, the State Council of Cambodia awarded the battalion the third class medal.

9884

CSO: 4206/164

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

CSSR PHOTO EXHIBITION--Phnom Penh, SPK, August 12--A photo exhibition marking the 40th liberation day of Czechoslovakia from the Hitlerite fascists jointly opened in Phnom Penh Monday by Kampuchean News Agency "SPK," the Czechoslovak News Agency "ORBIS" and the Czechoslovak Embassy in Phnom Penh. Present at the inauguration were Chheng Phon, alternate member of the Peoples Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and minister of information and culture, Mean Sam-an, alternate member of the party Central Committee and president of the Association of Revolutionary Women of Kampuchea and Em Sam-an, SPK general director. Czechoslovak Ambassador Jiri Vesely and other members of the Diplomatic Corps in Kampuchea were also present. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1102 GMT 12 Aug 85 BK]

COOPERATION WITH SRV PROVINCE--Phnom Penh, SPK, August 11--The relations of friendship and cooperation between the Kampuchean Province of Kompong Thom and its Vietnamese twin province of Dong Nai have been developing. Dong Nai has sent experts to help Kompong Thom strengthen the revolutionary administration and develop economy, culture and social affairs. The two provinces have also exchanged visits of officials and mass organizations. They signed a protocol on economic and technical cooperation mainly aimed at assisting the Kampuchean province in economic development and national defence. A number of qualified cadres and workers from Dong Nai are in Kompong Thom on their missions of promoting industry, agriculture, communications, irrigation, healthcare and education. They have also contributed to the formation of local cadres. Dong Nai has supplied Kompong Thom with a number of equipment, machines and seeds and stock of high yield. Economic and cultural establishments have been built in Kompong Thom with Vietnamese assistance. This year, Dong Nai helps Kompong Thom restore an irrigation network, build a brickyard, capable of producing 3.5 million roof tiles and bricks a year, enlarge a saw mill, build a reservoir in the provincial town and a sugar factory. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1119 GMT 11 Aug 85 BK]

SRV ANNIVERSARIES HONORED--Phnom Penh, SPK, August 19--A whole range of mass activities will be organized in Phnom Penh for the 40th anniversary of the Vietnamese August revolution (August 19) and Vietnam's 40th National Day (September 2). Right now competitions are being held for photos, paintings, poems and songs on Kampuchean-Vietnamese friendship. Films on Vietnam are being screened at cinemas and public offices and photo exhibitions will open soon to acquaint the population with Vietnamese great achievements in armed struggles and national reconstruction. Talks on Vietnam will be given at colleges and schools and friendly get-togethers with Vietnamese experts will be arranged. On September 2, a big meeting will be held, and Kampuchean leaders will pay floral tributes at monuments for Vietnamese and Kampuchean combatants. They will also call on Vietnamese Army volunteers at hospitals. For these special occasions a number of Vietnamese experts will be decorated. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1206 GMT 19 Aug 85 BK]

CSO: 4200/1418

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

FOREIGN PRESS ACCLAIMS INDOCHINESE CONFERENCE

OW291823 Hanoi VNA in English 1513 GMT 29 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi, 29 Aug (VNA)--"The Indochinese foreign ministers' recent conference is an important event in the political life not only of the three Indochinese countries but also Southeast Asia as a whole," said the Mongolian newspaper UNEN in its 24 August commentary.

The paper continued: "The conference has demonstrated the three Indochinese countries' persistent policy aimed at maintaining peace and stability in Southeast Asia and Asia as a whole. The conference's decision to withdraw all the Vietnamese Army volunteers from Kampuchea in 1990 is an evidence to the constant growth of the Kampuchean revolutionary administration and its increasingly raised international prestige."

The paper voiced Mongolia's strong support for the clear-sighted decision of the 11th conference of the Indochinese foreign ministers and added: "Mongolia highly values the decision's impact on the present international life."

Under the title "For a Lasting Peace in Southeast Asia," the MONGOLIAN NEWS on 23 August wrote: "The recent Indochinese ministerial conference has been an important political event not only for Southeast Asia but also for entire Asia."

RUDE PRAVO and other Czechoslovak newspapers on 27 August carried articles acclaiming the results of the 11th conference of the Indochinese foreign ministers.

CSO: 4200/1479

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

REACTION TO INDOCHINESE PROPOSALS REPORTED

OW301003 Hanoi VNA in English 0713 GMT 30 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi, 30 Aug (VNA)--The Australian peace committee has pointed out that the decisions taken by the foreign ministers of Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam during their 15-16 August meeting in Phnom Penh "should help to break through the deadlock that has existed in this region."

This statement was made by a delegation of the Australian peace committee during a one-day visit to Kampuchea on 19 August, after attending the AAPSO Presidium's enlarged conference on Asian security in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

The statement reads: "We representatives of the Australian peace committee now visiting Kampuchea, having read and studied the communique of the eleventh conference of the foreign ministers of Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam (held 15, 16 August 1985), would like to express our view that the decisions arrived at should help to break through the deadlock that has existed in this region.

"The countries of Indochina are not responsible for this deadlock. The so-called problem of Kampuchea was created and maintained by China. With the connivance and full support of the United States and ASEAN states (especially Thailand) the so-called problem has remained.

"Now the People's Republic of Kampuchea has declared her readiness to start talks with various Khmer opposition groups for the realization of national reconciliation through the elimination of the genocidal Pol Pot clique, with elections to be held following the total withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer forces from Kampuchea. All fair-minded people should be able to support this and it should be publicized widely to make this support possible."

The statement hailed the recent meeting and discussions in Jakarta between Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and his Indonesian counterpart as "a welcome development which we all hope will open the way to further negotiation and lead to the solution of the existing situation."

It continues: "The recent defeat of the Polpotist forces and their ousting from Kampuchea are a step in the direction of their de-recognition throughout the world.

"The unbreakable unity of Kampuchea with Laos and Vietnam and the support of the world's progressive forces will be realized in the region. This will contribute to the maintenance of peace in other areas of the world and the avoidance of nuclear war."

In his 21 August meeting with a representative of the Vietnamese Embassy in Stockholm, Arne Soderavist, Political Bureau member of the Swedish Workers' Communist Party (Arbeihr Partiet Kommunisterna), voiced full support for the proposals advanced by the 11th conference of the Indochinese foreign ministers.

He described these proposals as a vivid demonstration of the close solidarity among the three Indochinese countries and a positive contribution to peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Meanwhile, the party's paper NORSKENS FLAMMAN, on 27 August devoted a whole page to carry in full the communique issued by the Indochinese foreign ministers' conference, and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's interview with Vietnam News Agency and the Vietnam Radio and Television Commission on the results of the conference.

In Cuba, a communique hailing the Indochinese peace initiatives was jointly issued by the Cuban Committee for Solidarity With Vietnam, the Cuba-Laos Friendship Association and the Cuba-Kampuchea Friendship Association.

The communique said: "The proposals put forth by previous and recent conferences of the Indochinese foreign ministers have once again shown to the world opinion that every step taken by the three fraternal countries of Indochina always aims at positively contributing to the relaxation of tense situation in Southeast Asia and the world over."

The Cuban mass organizations called upon all progressive and peace-loving forces in the world to strongly support the three Indochinese countries' policy of good neighbourliness, mutual respect and peaceful coexistence as well as their just cause.

CSO: 4200/1479

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAM'S 40TH NATIONAL DAY MARKED ABROAD

OW271610 Hanoi VNA in English 1510 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA 27 Aug--Marking the 40th National Day of Vietnam (September 2), the Soviet paper PRAVDA yesterday ran an article highlighting the Vietnamese people's great achievements in all fields.

It said "at present, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has to overcome heavy consequences of 30 years of wars on the one hand and carry out great tasks of socio-economic transformation and building the material and technical bases of socialism. Together with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries as well as the progressive forces in the world, Vietnam is pursuing a foreign policy of peace, against war and the arms race, in the interests of peace, security and social progress all over the world".

In Mongolia, a photo exhibition on the Vietnamese people's economic, cultural, scientific and educational achievements was opened yesterday. On show are 200 photos underlining the cooperation between Vietnam and the other socialist countries.

Also yesterday, days of Vietnamese films were opened in Ulaanbaatar.

The Secretariat of the International Union of Students yesterday issued a statement calling upon various organizations, all democratic and progressive forces in the world to step up their activities in support of Vietnam.

In Czechoslovakia, a meeting in honor of Vietnam's 40th National Day was held in the Kachina agricultural cooperative, in Kutona Hora district on August 20 by the Czechoslovakia-Vietnam Friendship Association.

Speaking on this occasion, V. Chalupa, president of the Czechoslovakia-Vietnam Friendship Association recalled the Vietnamese people's heroic struggle over the past 40 years especially the anti-U.S. struggle for national salvation. He pointed out that Vietnam's victory over the U.S. imperialists has contributed to strengthening the socialist camp and been of great political significance in the world.

He also reaffirmed Czechoslovakia's continued support and assistance to Vietnam's national construction and defense.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAMESE NATIONAL DAY MARKED ABROAD

OW281736 Hanoi VNA in English 1612 GMT 28 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi, 28 Aug (CNA)--A meeting was held in Ulaanbaatar yesterday to mark the 40th anniversaries of the August Revolution and the National Day of Vietnam (2 September). Present were Demchigiyn Molomjamts, Political Bureau member and secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Mongolia Central Committee and Bugyn Dejid, Political Bureau member and head of the control commission of the party Central Committee and others.

Speaking on this occasion, Lieutenant General J. Jamian, president of the Mongolia-Vietnam Friendship Association, said: "The Vietnamese people are making big achievements in national construction. The friendship and cooperation between Mongolia and Vietnam is developing firmly. The Socialist Republic of Vietnam has made a considerable contribution to the defence and consolidation of peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world, and to the elimination of the war danger."

A photo exhibition on Vietnam has opened in Sofia yesterday to introduce the Vietnamese people's achievements in socialist construction and the friendship between the Vietnamese people and the people of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, and the Indochinese countries' current efforts to consolidate peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

In Nicaragua, meetings, talks, exhibitions and film shows were held in Managua in celebration of Vietnam's revolution and national days.

Interviews with the Vietnamese ambassador to Nicaragua were arranged by the news agency and radio of Nicaragua and BARICADA the biggest daily of the country.

The paper NUEVO DIARIO, for its part, introduces works by the 18th-century great Vietnamese poet Nguyen Du and the late President Ho Chi Minh and the history of poetry in Vietnam. Many mass organizations and offices have sent letters and messages of congratulations to the Vietnamese Embassy in Managua.

The congratulatory message of the Nicaragua Committee for Solidarity With Other Peoples to its Vietnamese counterpart said: "The Vietnamese people's struggle led by the great President Ho Chi Minh is a vivid example for the Sandinista National Liberation Front and for our entire people."

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

HOANG TUNG MEETS WITH JAPANESE JOURNALISTS

OW011814 Hanoi VNA in English 1643 GMT 1 Sep 85

[Text] Hanoi, 1 Sep (VNA)--A high-level delegation of the Japan Federation of Press Workers' Union (JFPWU) arrived here 31 August to visit Vietnam and attend the celebration of Vietnam's association and Vietnam News Agency.

The delegation, led by Toshio Hara, managing director and editor-in-chief of the KYODO News Service, and Yoshimichi Nomura, deputy-secretary general of the JFPWU and director of the International Affairs Department of NIHON SHIMBUN KYOKAI, includes leading members of various Japanese papers such as MAINICHI SHIMBUN, YOMIURI SHIMBUN, NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, SANKEI SHIMBUN, HOKKAIDO SHIMBUN, ASAHI, and of the JIJI Press.

Right after its arrival in Hanoi it called on the leading boards of the Vietnam Journalists' Association and Vietnam News Agency.

On 31 August, the delegation visited Haiphong City. The Japanese guests were received by Dao Duy Thanh, secretary of the city party committee, who briefed the guests on the city's achievements.

Today, the guests were cordially received by Vietnamese party and state leaders.

At a reception in honour of the Japanese journalists today Hoang Tung, secretary of the party Central Committee and president of the Vietnam Journalists' Association, briefed the guests on the Vietnamese people's efforts in national construction and defence as well as the role played by the Vietnamese press at the present stage of the revolution.

The delegation will attend the Hanoi meeting in celebration of the 40th anniversary of Vietnam's National Day and visit Ho Chi Minh City before returning to Japan.

CSO: 4200/1479

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

SRV-USSR WORKERS CULTURAL PALACE INAUGURATED

OW011832 Hanoi VNA in English 1557 GMT 1 Sep 85

[Text] Hanoi, 1 Sep (VNA)--A ceremony for the inauguration of the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Workers' Cultural Palace was held here this morning under the joint sponsorship of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions (VFTU), the party and people's committees and the Federation of Trade Unions of Hanoi.

Present on the occasion were To Huu, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Hoang Tung, secretary of the party Central Committee; Nguyen Duc Thuan, member of the party Central Committee and president of the VFTU; Hoang Quoc Viet, former president of the VFTU and honorary president of the Central Committee of the Vietnam fatherland front; Le Van Luong, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the Hanoi party's committee; Tran Vi, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Hanoi people's committee; and others.

Also present on the occasion were the visiting delegation of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions (AUCCTU) led by L. A. Zemlyannikova, secretary of the AUCCTU; and the Cuban party and state delegation led by commander of the revolution Ramiro Valdes, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, vice president of the State Council and the Council of Ministers, and minister of interior; representatives of the Soviet Embassy here and Soviet experts.

After the two countries' national anthems played by the army band, Nguyen Duc Thuan and L. A. Zemlyannikova cut the inaugural ribbon. Tran Vi attached on the wall of the main hall a board bearing the inscription in Vietnamese and Russian "workers' cultural palace, gift of All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions of the USSR."

On this occasion, and amateur art troupe of the Leningrad Trade Union gave a performance.

CSO: 4200/1479

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

BRIEFS

SWEDISH COMMUNISTS SUPPORTS SRV--Hanoi, 28 Aug (VNA)--Lars Werner, chairman of the Swedish Left Communist Party (SLCP) has reaffirmed the SLCP's support for the policy of continued aid to Vietnam. Speaking on the television on 26 August, he said: "Vietnam has sustained the most atrocious war waged by the U.S. imperialists. The United States has violated international law and must bear responsibility for the heavy consequences of its art in Vietnam." He expressed support for the decisions of the Phnom Penh conference of the Indochinese foreign ministers, saying that they are "positive signs opening the way to a political solution." The SLCP supports Vietnam and will continue to oppose all anti-Vietnam campaigns," he stressed. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1559 GMT 28 Aug 85]

DIPLOMATIC SERVICE ANNIVERSARY--A press conference was held in Hanoi last Saturday by the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry to mark the 40th anniversary of the founding of the diplomatic service, 28 August. Over the past 40 years, the Vietnamese diplomatic service had made considerable contributions to the national democratic revolution and also to the socialist revolution in Vietnam. The service has done its utmost to enhance the Vietnamese Government prestige in international arena and establish relations with 112 countries. [Text] [Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 27 Aug 85 BK]

CZECHOSLOVAKIANS HONORED--Hanoi, 29 Aug (VNA)--The Vietnamese Embassy in Czechoslovakia held a ceremony in Prague yesterday to confer the friendship order and medal on Czechoslovak units and individuals who have made meritorious contributions to Vietnam's national construction. Present at the ceremony were the deputy minister of labour and social affairs and vice president of the Czechoslovakia-Vietnam Friendship Association; the first deputy minister of interior; the vice president of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences; and others. With the accreditation of the Vietnamese State Council and the Council of Ministers, Ambassador Yu Song presented seven friendship orders to the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (CAS), the Prague Polytechnic, the Bratislava Technical University, the Ceske University, the Brno Technical University, the Kosice Technical University, and the Prague University of Chemical Technology; and 32 friendship medals to Czechoslovak cadres and experts. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1539 GMT 29 Aug 85]

MALAYSIAN NATIONAL DAY--Hanoi, 30 Aug (CNA)--Vietnamese leaders have extended their best greetings to Malaysian leaders on the occasion of the 28th National Day of the Republic of Malaysia. President of the State Council Truong Chinh, in a message to King Sultan Iskandr, expressed his wish for constant consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Malaysia in the interests of the two people and of peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia. He wished the Malaysian people happiness and prosperity. Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van dong, in a message to Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed, wished the Malaysian Government and people many new achievements in their nation construction and in making worthy contributions to peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia. Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has sent his greetings to his Malaysian counterpart, Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1633 GMT 30 Aug 85]

SRV-MPR FRIENDSHIP ANNIVERSARY--Hanoi, 30 Aug (VNA)--A get-together was held here today by the Vietnam-Mongolia Friendship Association to mark its 25th anniversary. Among those present were Le Quy Quynh, deputy head of the office of the Council of Ministers and vice president of the Vietnam-Mongolia Friendship Association, representatives of the association's chapters in Ha Son Binh and Hanoi, the Foreign Ministry and the international department of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee. Mongolian Ambassador Gelegiyn Adiyaa and members of the embassy staff were also present. Speaking at the function, Le Quy Quynh praised the glorious achievements of the Mongolian people in the recent past and paid tribute to the diversified and fruitful activities of the Mongolia-Vietnam Friendship Association. He expressed thanks to the party, the state and the Mongolia-Vietnam Friendship Association for their strong support and valuable assistance to the Vietnamese people. Ambassador Gelegiyn Adiyaa expressed his joy of the fine development of the friendship and fraternal cooperation between Mongolia and Vietnam. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1605 GMT 30 Aug 85]

FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION VISITS LAOS--Hanoi, 31 Aug (VNA)--A delegation of the Vietnam-Laos Friendship Association led by Nong Quoc Chan, vice minister of culture and vice president of the association, has left here for Laos for the celebration of the 40th national day of Vietnam in Laos. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1542 GMT 31 Aug 85 OW]

RUSSIAN TEACHERS AWARDED--Hanoi, 31 Aug (VNA)--The Hanoi subsidiary of the Pushkin Institute of Russian acting on behalf of the jury board of the 5th International Russian Olympiad (1984) and the Pushkin Institute in Moscow yesterday presented insignias and awards to the excellent teachers of Russian in Vietnam. The ceremony was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Education and the Hanoi Educational Service, the Soviet Embassy, the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society, and Soviet teachers of Russian in Hanoi. At the International Russian Olympiad last year of the seven members of the Vietnamese team, six won gold medals and the other, a silver medal. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1527 GMT 31 Aug 85 OW]

SOVIET FREIGHTER PRESENTED--Hanoi, 31 Aug (VNA)--A ceremony was held at the Saigon port in Ho Chi Minh City to receive the "Adizan" ship as gift from the Soviet Merchant Marine Ministry to the Vietnam sea transport service. Present at the ceremony were representatives of the Vietnamese Ministry of Communications and Transport and the Vietnam sea transport service. Soviet consul general in Ho Chi Minh City O. A. Volkov was [word indistinct] at the ceremony, Bui Cong Khai, representative of the Ministry of Communications and Transport, thanked the party, government and the Merchant Marine Ministry of the Soviet Union for their gift. The Soviet freighter was renamed the "Song Da 2" and officially put into operation. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0658 GMT 31 Aug 85]

LIBYAN NATIONAL DAY--Hanoi, 31 Aug (VNA)--President of the State Council Truong Chinh today sent a message of greetings to President Col Mu'ammur al-Qadhdhafi on the occasion of the National Day of Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah (1 September). President Truong Chinh wished the Libyan people, under the leadership of President Col Mu'ammur al-Qadhdhafi, still greater successes in national construction and defence to contribute to the struggle of the Arab people, the people in Africa and the rest of the world for peace, national independence and social progress. He also wished for further consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between the two peoples. Also on this occasion, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach extended his greetings to A. S. al-Turayki, secretary of the people's committee for the People's Bureau for foreign liaison. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1726 GMT 31 Aug 85]

VIETNAMESE RECEIVE LAO AWARDS--Hanoi, 1 Sep (VNA)--A ceremony to confer the gallantry order, the high distinction of the Lao state on 39 Vietnamese experts working in Laos was held in Vientiane Friday on the occasion of Vietnam's 40th national day (2 September). Present at the conferment ceremony were Lieutenant General Siphon Phalikhan, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, vice minister of national defence and acting chief of the general staff of the Lao People's Army; Major General Choumali, member of the party central committee, vice minister of national defence and deputy chief of the general staff; and other high-ranking officials. Charge d'affaires A. I. Vu Tien, military attache colonel Nguyen Dinh Chan of the Vietnamese Embassy in Laos and many Vietnamese experts were present on the occasion. Addressing the participants, Lieutenant General Siphon Phalikham expressed profound gratitude for the great and effective support of the Vietnamese party, government, people and army to the Lao revolution over the past decades. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0749 GMT 1 Sep 85]

LAO SEMINAR ON SRV--Hanoi, 2 Sep (VNA)--A seminar on Vietnam on the occasion of the 40th anniversaries of the August Revolution and National Day of the Vietnamese people was held in Vientiane, capital of Laos, on 31 August afternoon by the Lao Front for National Construction (LFNC) Central Committee, the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association and the Vientiane party and people's committees. Among those present at the function was Souphanouvong, Political Bureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, president of the State Council of the Lao People's Supreme Assembly and the LFNC. Addressing the meeting, President Souphanouvong said the great successes of the Vietnamese revolution over the past 40 years are important contributions to the national liberation and the struggle of oppressed nations, movement throughout

the world. For the Lao people, Vietnam's August Revolution has created condition for their uprising and taken the Lao revolution to a new period of development, he said. Earlier, get-togethers and talks on Vietnam and the Vietnamese revolution had been arranged by the Lao Party Central Committee for propaganda and training, and various ministries. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1622 GMT 2 Sep 85]

ECONOMIC DELEGATION TO HUNGARY--Hanoi, 3 Sep (VNA)--An economic delegation of the Vietnamese Government led by Tran Phuong, member of the CPV Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and head of the Vietnamese section in the Vietnam-Hungary Inter-Governmental Commission for Economic and Technical Cooperation, left here this morning for the 13th meeting of the commission to be held in Hungary. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1443 GMT 3 Sep 85]

SOVIET PRESS ON NGUYEN CO THACH'S INDONESIA VISIT--Hanoi VNA 27 Aug--The Soviet daily PRAVDA in an article today hailing the results of Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's recent visit to Indonesia says: "The dialogue this time between Vietnam and Indonesia has gone beyond the framework of their bilateral relations". The paper goes on: "The two sides are trying to find out the similarities in the stances of the ASEAN and Indochinese groups of countries in order to improve the relations between the two groups of countries and establish the peaceful co-existence between countries of different social systems." "Many people in the ASEAN countries have begun to realize that the process of consolidating the people's power in Kampuchea is irreversible. To prolong the settlement of the Kampuchean question means to obstruct the making of Southeast Asian atmosphere healthy, and run counter to the interests of the region in general and each country in particular". The Soviet news agency TASS yesterday ran a commentary, pointing to the common aspirations of Vietnam and Indonesia, that is to consolidate peace and security in Southeast Asia and develop the all-round cooperation of mutual benefits. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1506 GMT 27 Aug 85 OW]

NEW EGYPTIAN ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS--Hanoi VNA 24 Aug--Muhammad Abd al-Khaliq Shalabi, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Vietnam, presented here today his credentials to Vietnamese Vice President of the State Council Nguyen Huu Tho. The Vietnamese leader had a cordial conversation with the Egyptian diplomat. Present on the occasion were Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Hoang Bich Son and Deputy Head of the Office of the National Assembly and the State Council Le Trang. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1550 GMT 24 Aug 85 OW]

CSO: 4200/1461

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

NGUYEN VAN LINH, MAI CHI THO ATTEND 1 SEPTEMBER MEETING

BK010628 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 1 Sep 85

[Text] This morning, 1 September, the party, people's and VFF committees of Ho Chi Minh City held a grand meeting at the Thong Nhat Conference Hall in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the August Revolution and the 2 September National Day.

Comrades Nguyen Van Linh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the city party committee; Mai Chi Tho, member of the party Central Committee and deputy secretary of the city party committee; and many middle- and high-ranking cadres of the central government and the city, together with a large number of representatives of the local people of various strata, attended the meeting. Also on hand were representatives of foreign general consulates and agencies, foreign experts working in Ho Chi Minh City, and numerous local and foreign press, radio, and television correspondents.

Making a speech at the meeting, Comrade Mai Chi Tho brought out the glorious traditions and history of our army and people in the days of the August Revolution and reiterated the absolute confidence of the people of various strata in Ho Chi Minh City in the clear-sighted and skillful leadership of the CPV, which has led the Vietnamese revolution from one victory to another.

Comrade Mai Chi Tho stressed: Developing these glorious traditions, the party organization, people, and armed forces of Ho Chi Minh City are resolved to fulfill their immediate tasks well, namely to stir up a vigorous movement for revolutionary actions, for emulation in productive labor, for satisfactorily implementing the resolution of the party Central Committee's eighth plenum, and for building the city to make it increasingly civilized, prosperous, and strong, thereby worthy of being named after great Uncle Ho.

CSO: 4200/1479

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

AFP REPORTS UNITY SITUATION OF VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS

HK020616 Hong Kong AFP in English 0410 GMT 2 Sep 85

[By Laurent Maillard]

[Text] Hanoi, 2 Sep (AFP)--After 40 years of rule, the Vietnamese Communist Party is still united despite recent shifts in its economic and diplomatic policy and an upcoming congress expected to bring in younger leaders, observers here say.

Discussing the situation within the party last week, its Central Committee secretary, Hoang Tung, admitted that "debates" had occurred in the party but said these had never led to the creation of factions.

"There is no opposition to party policy within the party," he said, noting that its leadership had been stable "for decades."

Many foreign and Vietnamese observers here seem to agree, saying that the major debates and confrontations, on the economic reform and diplomatic opening up to the West, occurred in 1984 and early this year.

"The strategic choices have been made and do not seem likely for the moment to be put into question," a diplomat said.

He listed the "stronger reliance on the Soviet Union which has doubled its aid for the next 5 years, the 'liberal' economic reform decided at the eighth party plenum last July, and the opening up to the West decided last year by the sixth plenum."

The opening to the West has been notably implemented since then by contacts with the United States to solve the problem of the U.S. servicemen listed as missing in action (MIA) since the Vietnam war, he added.

Observers say that a consensus appears to have been reached within the leadership to implement the decisions taken, before evaluating them at the Sixth Party Congress expected to be held in mid-1986.

Mr Hoang Tung stressed that the congress would deal not only with the economy but also with foreign and domestic policy.

Observers said the congress was also expected to include the replacement of the main "historic leaders" still in power with younger men.

Names and hypotheses are already circulating here, but observers agree that the only virtual certainty so far is that the replacement will be gradual and that the groundwork for it is being actively laid by the "outgoing" leaders.

Mr Hoang Tung implicitly referred to the talk of changes, stressing that "Vietnamese communists do not think a leadership change in the party constitutes a break with tradition."

Nor does the current regime's stability appear threatened for the moment by the effects of the weariness, if not the discontent, of many Vietnamese in the face of continuing difficulties of daily life, observers said.

"There is no organized opposition to the regime in the north, where all opposition was decimated a long time ago," a Western observer said.

"In the south, where the potential for [words indistinct] is even greater, the different centers of opposition--Chinese, Catholic, and cadres of the former regime--have a very difficult time organizing."

Mr Hoang Tung, who conceded that there were difficulties but denied the existence of discontent among the population, stressed that the best response to current problems was the development of collective ownership which he called "the best condition for individual development."

The "reformist" orientation of recent months has been accompanied by a noticeable increase in collectivization of land in the south and of private business, particularly in Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, where the press gives virtual daily coverage of the "progress of socialization."

Another response to discontent was a major clean-out movement within the party. Reliable sources say that in recent years, some 200,000 members have been ousted from the party out of a total membership of some 1.7 million.

But several sensitive issues still represent a potential source of trouble for the regime, observers said.

In the south particularly, relations with a large section of Catholics still appear strained, according to several reports.

In addition, the United Front for the Struggle of Oppressed Races (FULRO) guerrillas operating in the high plateaus of southern Vietnam have yet to be completely eliminated.

However, the authorities maintain that these guerrillas are "about to suffer the fate of Pol Pot"--a reference to the Vietnamese Army's successes in a recent offensive against Cambodian resistance guerrillas, including supporters of the former Cambodian leader.

According to Western estimates, the FULRO guerrillas now effectively only number about 2,000 to 2,500, compared to some 10,000 in 1975, and the zones where they operate have been progressively reduced.

The problems of Vietnam's re-education camps and "boat people" are less pressing than a few years ago, but they still have a very strong impact on the international community.

Mr Hoang Tung said that an unspecified number of some 7,000 people still held in the camps for their links with Americans or the former government of South Vietnam would be released for the 40th anniversary of Vietnamese independence today.

But he ruled out the immediate release of all the prisoners, whom Hanoi considers war criminals.

The number of boat people leaving Vietnam clandestinely seems to have dropped slightly since the beginning of this year.

Some 13,500 boat people arrived in various Southeast Asian countries in the first 6 months of 1985, compared to about 32,000 for 1984, according to UN High Commissioner for Refugees figures.

CSO: 4200/1479

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

PHAM VAN DONG OPENS NATIONAL EXHIBITION-FAIR

OW291809 Hanoi VNA in English 1545 GMT 29 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi, 29 Aug (VNA)--The second national exhibition-fair on economic and technical achievements was opened here this morning to honour the 40th anniversaries of the August Revolution (19 August) and the National Day (2 September).

Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, cut the ribbon to open the exhibition-fair.

Present on the occasion were Nguyen Van Hieu, minister of culture and head of the exhibition-fair's organizing committee; Dang Huu, alternate member of the CPV Central Committee and chairman of the State Commission for Sciences and Technology; Soviet Ambassador B. N. Chaplin; members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of commercial offices in Hanoi; and others.

Minister Nguyen Van Hieu delivered an opening speech, pointing out:

"The 2d national exhibition-fair on economic and technical achievements is held in honour of the 40th anniversaries of the August Revolution and the National Day. We note with joy that the exhibition-fair are participated by all the 40 localities and 28 economic branches and service throughout the country, and that more than 200 projects, and nearly 5,000 selected products are displayed." [as printed]

Minister Nguyen Van Hieu and Doan Phuong, vice chairman of the State Commission for Sciences and Technology, showed chairman Pham Van Dong and guests over pavilions.

CSO: 4200/1479

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

NATIONAL DAY BOOK EXHIBIT--Hanoi, 30 Aug (VNA)--A book exhibition was opened here by the Ministry of Culture on the occasion of the 40th anniversaries of the August Revolution and national day. Present at the opening ceremony were Hoang Tung, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; Ha Xuan Truong, alternate member of the CPV Central Committee and head of its department for culture and arts; Le Xuan Dong, deputy head of the party's department for propaganda and training; Nguyen Van Hieu, minister of culture, and representatives of concerned offices, and large numbers of writers, poets, and translators. The exhibition features the progress in book publication, printing, and distribution over the past 40 years. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1609 GMT 30 Aug 85]

SECOND NATIONAL EXHIBITION-FAIR--Hanoi, 30 Aug (VNA)--Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, yesterday visited the newly opened second national exhibition-fair on economic and technical achievements at the Giang Vo exhibition centre. Le Duc Thinh, minister for home trade; Le Thanh Cong, vice minister for culture; and Le Minh Tuan, director of the exhibition-fair, showed the party leader around various pavilions. Le Duan expressed his satisfaction with the progress of different branches and localities. He particularly pointed to the need to continually raise the quality of products and to make quality the first criterion of economic and technical progress. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1640 GMT 30 Aug 85]

HOANG TUNG, OTHERS AT SRV PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT--Hanoi VNA 26 Aug--An exhibition on 'Forty Years of Vietnamese Photography' was opened here this afternoon by the Vietnam Photographers' Association on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of Vietnam's August Revolution and National Day. Present at the opening ceremony were Hoang Tung, secretary of the communist party of Vietnam Central Committee, Dao Duy Tung, member of the CPVCC and head of its department for propaganda and training; Ha Xuan Truong, alternate member of the CPVCC and head of its department for culture and arts; On Huy Can, minister in charge of culture; and Dao Tung, vice president and general secretary of the Vietnam journalists association. The exhibition displays 221 works by 140 photographers (four women), many of which won prizes at various exhibitions at home or abroad. The exhibition demonstrates the development of the Vietnamese photography since its birth in 1945, which has, over the past forty years, described the Vietnamese people's revolutionary life and struggle. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1513 GMT 26 Aug 85 OW]

AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURE MINISTER ON FOOD SUFFICIENCY

OW291802 Hanoi VNA in English 1517 GMT 29 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi, 29 Aug (VNA)--On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the August Revolution and National Day (2 September), Vietnam News Agency has interviewed Minister of Agriculture Nguyen Ngoc Triu, on the main achievements of agriculture. Following are excerpts of his answers:

"Since the August Revolution in 1945, the Vietnamese countryside has changed radically through the land reform and the agricultural cooperation movement in the north in 1959-60 and agricultural transformation in the south which is expected to be completed this year.

In the two resistance wars and the present fight against the multi-faceted war of sabotage by international reaction, the Vietnamese countryside has always fulfilled its tasks of supplying manpower and food for the frontline, thus contributing to the national liberation revolution.

To meet the growing demands of society in food has long been the key task of agricultural production. Food production in recent years has obtained encouraging results. The rice acreage per hectare yield and output have all increased significantly, thus importantly contributing to solving the food problem in spite of a high population growth rate.

Before the August Revolution in 1945, only from 3.5 million to 3.8 million hectares throughout the country were grown with rice yielding from 1 to 1.7 tons per hectare. The summer rice was planted only in lowland areas with yields much lower than in the autumn rice crop. In 1984, 5.6 million hectares were put under rice yielding 2.75 tons per hectare. Of this number, 1,657,000 hectares were grown with winter-spring rice yielding 3.35 tons per hectare, a three-fold increase over the productivity of the summer crop in the past.

"Since the 1960's, rice has been planted in three main crops in the north: winter-spring, summer-autumn and autumn crops. In the conditions of Vietnam where the per capita share of arable land is very low, multicropping on the same plot of land a year is along with intensive farming, a crucial measure to increase crop output (the coefficient of land utilisation has risen from one before the August Revolution to 1.5 at present).

The unstable summer rice crop in the north which has been grown over a millenary history has been gradually replaced by high-yield winter-spring rice which now already accounts for more than 60 percent of the cultivated acreage in the winter-spring crop.

In the south, a revolution is under way in the crop structure. Whereas only the autumn rice was grown in most localities of the south in the past, today two other rice crops have been added, the winter-spring crop and the summer-autumn crop.

Stockbreeding has been vigorously developed both in quality and quantity. The rapid increase in the number of pigs, buffaloes, oxen, cows and poultry has supplied more food, draught power and fertilize for agriculture, and materials for the export industry.

Average annual food increase from 1981 to 1984 was nearly one million tons. In 1984 the whole country yielded nearly 18 million tons of food, an all-time high, more than double the level in the pre-revolution days.

Minister Nguyen Ngoc Triu went on: "In the past year, the scientific and technical revolution has played a key role in boosting agricultural production.

In a relatively short period of time, including the war years, initial material and technical bases have been laid for agriculture and a large contingent of agricultural scientists has been trained to apply scientific advances to production.

Over the past 5 years, the application of the contract quota-based system in the agricultural cooperatives has served to further promote agricultural production. The application of scientific advances significantly raised the scientific standard of the farmers, especially the young in the countryside."

Minister Nguyen Ngoc Triu went on: "Vietnam is not a small country. It has the 13th largest population in the world.

To improve the people's material and cultural standard the question is how to reduce the present population growth rate of 2 percent or more to only 1 percent at the end of this decade.

That is why, family planning is a task of strategic importance which must be strictly done by all sectors, all branches and services, from the centre down to each family."

CSO: 4200/1479

AGRICULTURE

EXPANSION, DIVERSIFICATION OF AGRICULTURE NOTED

OW270733 Hanoi VNA in English 0707 GMT 27 Aug 85

["Forty Years of the Cultivation Branch"--VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi VNA 27 Aug--After forty years of transformation of cultivation as from the National Day in 1945, Vietnam's coefficient of land utilization has risen to 1.5 (1.82 in the north and 1.36 in the south).

Though the mild climate allows the growing of two or even three crops on the same plot a year, in the colonial days, due to the shortage of water, the average coefficient was only 1.2 in the whole country.

Besides multi-cropping, the crop structure has also improved. The rice acreage has been reduced from 85 percent of the total cultivated land to 70 percent while the area under subsidiary food crops increased from eight percent to 14 percent, that of annual industrial crops from two percent to five percent and long-term industrial crops from three to five percent.

Since rice is the staple crop, improvement of the rice strains is a primordial factor for crop restructuring in Vietnam. In the past, Vietnam grew a single rice crop a year in autumn while the summer crop could be grown only in low-lying areas in the north. Today, thanks to better water conservancy, the summer rice crop has been expanded gradually to occupy 70 percent of the total rice acreage in the north in 1970. During the Anti-French Resistance War, the spring rice crop was introduced into the mountainous areas and then broadened to the delta areas.

In 1968 and 1969, thanks to the import of new rice strains such as dwarf Tran Chau and I.R.-8, the yield of spring rice already surpassed that of summer rice. In 1970, new rice strains such as I.R.-22 and N.N.-75-10, which are characterized by a short stem, high yield and resistance to the leaf-blanching disease, created conditions for enlarging the acreage of the early autumn rice.

In the south, the two main rice crops are grown in winter-spring and summer-autumn. Because of their short cycle, another crop may be planted in some areas with long experience in intensive cultivation.

Technical progress in planting vegetables, subsidiary food crops and industrial crops has contributed to the diversification of cultivation. Of late, potato and soybean have been planted on growing acreages in the north.

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

'INCONSIDERABLE DAMAGE' CAUSED BY STORM--A big storm hit the provinces to the east and northeast of Hanoi with the velocity from 80 to 100 km per hour. This is the third storm that hit Vietnam so far this year. Thanks to good preparations and antistorm measures, the damage caused by the storm was inconsiderable. The rain accompanying the storm created favorable conditions for the transplanting of autumn rice in the localities that have been facing drought. The Central Antistorm and Flood Steering Committee and all localities in Vietnam are prepared and take all available measures to cope with the natural calamities, which often hit the northern and central provinces in this season. [Text] [Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 27 Aug 85 BK]

CSO: 4200/1461

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

VNA ON NORTHERN PROVINCE'S TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT

OW261655 Hanoi VNA in English 1502 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA 26 Aug--Hoang Lien Son is a high-lying province inhabited by more than 20 ethnic minorities. It shares a 204-km common border with China. With a land area of nearly 15,000 square kilometers, the province, however, was crossed fully by a railroad, partly by a highway. Three provincial roads passable only to small cars led to the western part of the province.

The rest was small tracks used only for pedestrians and horse or ox-drawn carts.

Today, Hoang Lien Son Province has 851 km of highways, 1408 km of provincial roads and 1,450 km of district roads in addition to more than 1,000 km of timber haulage tracks. This represents an 11-fold increase over the road system before the August Revolution in 1945.

Besides, the province has a water-borne transport system on the artificial lake of the Thac Ba Hydro-electric Power Station covering more than 200 square kilometers.

The development of the transport systems has enabled Hoang Lien Son to receive 150 settlers coming from densely-populated provinces in the plain and greatly facilitated the transport of agricultural materials to the mountain areas. A low-yield rice growing province in the past, Hoang Lien Son has "passed the five-ton per hectare gate". Many co-ops reaped as many as 1-10 tons of rice a year. The expanding transport system has also helped the province to build a tea-growing area, the biggest in the country and areas for the planting of a number of special industrial trees such as cinnamon, abresin and tung and forest to supply materials for the local paper mill.

The most recent exploit of the road builders and population of Hoang Lien Son is two new motor-roads leading from the mountain resort of Saps and the district town of Bac Ha to the northernmost districts of Bat Sat and Muong Khuong at the border. Construction which was completed in late 1984 after five months work necessitated tens of thousands of workdays contributed by the local population.

106 simple suspension bridges totalling 7,162 meters in length have also been built with money and manpower partly contributed by the local population.

Hoang Lien Son sustained heavy damage during the U.S. war of destruction and especially in the invasion by the Chinese expansionists in early 1979. Even now it is facing a daily war of sabotage conducted in open and surreptitious ways. But with the cooperation and assistance from other localities such as Ho Chi Minh City, Thuan Hai, Tien Giang and Ben Tre Provinces in the south and Ha Nam Ninh Province in the north, the province has quickly stabilized the situation and made continual progress in all fields. Under the plan of the transport service, by the year 2000 the transport system in the province will have been perfected with motor-roads reaching the remotest villages.

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POPULATION, CUSTOMS, AND CULTURE

BRIEFS

BUDDHISTS CELEBRATE NATIONAL DAY--Hanoi, 2 Sep (VNA)--A meeting was held here on 1 September by the central and Hanoi committees of the Vietnamese Buddhist Church to celebrate the 40th anniversaries of the August Revolution and National Day. It was attended by large numbers of buddhist dignitaries and laymen. The meeting adopted a letter to the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, the State Council, the Council of Ministers and the Fatherland Front Committee expressing the Buddhists' determination to carry forward the Vietnamese Buddhist Church's patriotic tradition and to contribute more to the national construction and the defence of the socialist motherland. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1605 GMT 2 Sep 85 OW]

CSO: 4200/1479

PUBLICATIONS

NEW BOOK ON VIETNAM'S DIPLOMATIC STRUGGLE

OW030905 Hanoi VNA in English 0658 GMT 3 Sep 85

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Hanoi, 3 Sep (VNA)--"Our People's Victory of Epoch Significance and Struggle on the Diplomatic Front" is the title of a new book published by the "Su That" (Truth) Publishing House and introduced by NHAN DAN in an article on 28 August.

The article said: "The central theme of the book is the close relation between the Vietnamese people's struggle over the past 40 years and the world people's struggle. The Vietnamese people have won because they live in the period of transition from capitalism to socialism opened by the Great October Revolution. What is more, this is the second stage of the transition period, the post-war stage, when the three revolutionary currents are surging more powerfully with every passing day.

"The success of the resistance war against U.S. aggression for national salvation opened a new period, the 'post-Vietnam' period, the period in which the economic and political crisis of imperialism continuously deepens, while the socialist system has extended to four of the five continents and the struggle of the Asian, African and Latin American countries against imperialism is gathering momentum.

"In the 10 years since 1975, the Vietnamese people have been coping with Chinese expansionism and hegemonism, the biggest and oldest hegemonistic force in human history which has a population accounting for one-fourth of the world population and lives next door to us. The favourable conditions of the post-Vietnam period has enabled our people to effectively counter this enormous pressure.

"The national factor is also important in Vietnam's victories over the past 40 years. In spite of more than 1,000 years of foreign domination the Vietnamese nation has preserved its distinct identity and characters which have resisted all attempts at assimilation.

"But the most important factor is undoubtedly the leadership of the Communist Party. The past 40 years have been the valiant fight of many other nations but they have all obtained incomplete success. In many a country, the banner of national independence and the leading role in the revolution finally slipped into the hands of other classes.

Our party is one of the few which have adopted a correct international policy especially during the sixties. At that time, the United States was a domineering military power and a virtually unchallenged aggressor and interventionist. Many people adored and feared the United States and were overawed by its modern weapons, especially nuclear weapons. In the world revolutionary movement, a crisis burst out, chiefly due to the difference in evaluating the United States and the revolutionary capacities of the nations. In that situation, the Chinese authorities put forth ultra-leftist "revolutionary" theories thus sowing serious discord among the world revolution movement. Never before had the world revolution been so divided and deadlocked as in those years. The situation deteriorated after the failure of the revolution in some countries.

"In that difficult situation, the CPV worked out a correct line to defend international unity while safeguarding national independence and sovereignty and promoting the revolution and the fight against imperialism. Our party quickly saw the weaknesses of U.S. imperialism and was determined to resist its aggression. To China, Vietnam holds specially important position because it lies on the way of China's expansion to the south. Prompted by its global strategic calculations, China gave Vietnam considerable aid in the latter's resistance wars against the French colonialists and U.S. imperialists. But in the end it failed to materialize its dark design. The United States' heavy failure in Vietnam was also a heavy setback for China. Over the past 10 years China has changed its policy of supporting Vietnam into opposing Vietnam and finally committed naked aggression against Vietnam. Since 1978, to oppose Vietnam has become part of China's global strategy of opposing the Soviet Union in the hope of having access to U.S. capital and techniques to implement its "four modernizations" program. But this global strategy had partly failed, so China had to readjust its plan. China's policy of opposing Vietnam has also received initial stinging rebuff. If China continues this policy it will become an obstacle to China's readjustment policy."

In its second part, the book deals with the ways of putting the epochal factor to Vietnam's account. It said: "We had to cope with big countries many times stronger in terms of material force. Therefore, we could not win complete victory within a short period of time, instead we had to defeat the enemies part by part, repel them step by step and win complete victory. The militant alliance between Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea is another vital factor for the success of the revolution in each country.

We have been striving to continuously enhance the solidarity among the Asian, African and Latin American peoples and to achieve a Southeast Asia of peace, friendship and cooperation. We note with satisfaction that the evil schemes of China to put the ASEAN countries against the Indochinese countries are failing and the prospects for peace and stability in Southeast Asia are better now than ever.

In exploiting the epochal factor, we have always attached importance to both the questions of time and opportunity. In the past resistance wars, we chose to fight a protracted war but (effectuated) the policy of "long ambush," and strove to win victory in the shortest possible time.

Seizing the opportunity, we pushed up the liberation fight while braving up for the worst. As a result, we have won repeatedly even after China openly betrayed us, signed the Shanghai communique with the United States and ceased aiding us."

The book points out that in the new era, the era of national independence and unification and socialism, the diplomatic activities must be closely combined with economic and political activities, especially economic activities, in order to carry out well the two strategic tasks of building socialism and defending the socialist home land.

CSO: 4200/1479

PUBLICATIONS

BRIEFS

TRUONG CHINH, PHAM VAN DONG BOOKS--Hanoi, 30 Aug (VNA)--Two new books by Vietnamese leaders have been published by the "Su That" (Truth) Publishing House on the occasion of the 40th anniversaries of the August Revolution and National Day of Vietnam. The first is entitled "Some Questions About the Socialist Republic State of Vietnam." It is written by Truong Chinh, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and president of the State Council. Truong Chinh made a deep analysis of a series of questions regarding the strategic tasks of the Vietnamese revolution and the party's policies such as socialist revolution, economic construction, the strengthening of the proletarian dictatorship, etc. The other is entitled "Glorious Victories" by Pham Van Dong, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers. This is a collection of speeches and reports by the chairman on the national democratic revolution and the socialist revolution, and the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1529 GMT 30 Aug 85]

BOOK ON LE DUAN VISIT TO USSR PUBLISHED--Hanoi VNA 25 Aug--A book entitled "A New and Important Turning-Point in Vietnam-USSR Comprehensive Cooperation" has just been published by the "Su That" (truth) publishing house in Hanoi. It consists of reports, speeches and documents about the official friendship visit of a high-level party and government delegation led by Le Duan, general secretary of the Vietnam party central committee to the Soviet Union in late June this year. The introductory note said: "This visit is an event of crucial significance, a new and extremely important milestone in the development of the friendship and multiform cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union." The success of the visit is a strong encouragement to the entire party, army and people of Vietnam in their endeavours to achieve the objectives of the third Five-Year Plan (1981-1985) and prepare for the upcoming Five-Year Plan (1986-1990). [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0733 GMT 25 Aug 85 OW]

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