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15 September 1985

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INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

EC ENVOY ON SUPPORT FOR ASEAN ECONOMIC EFFORTS

BK290204 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Aug 85 p 1

[Article by Cimi Suchontan]

[Text] The European Community (EC) is concerned about economic and political threats facing ASEAN and will support the region's efforts to counter them, said EC envoy Franz Froschmaier yesterday.

On the economic threat, he said that the EC recognised ASEAN's dilemma on the eve of the U.S. Congress vote on the protectionist Jenkins Bill.

He strongly criticised the U.S. act as one that could cripple ASEAN's growth and undermine its political stability.

Although Europe is spared in the Jenkins Bill textile quota onslaught, the director-general of the EEC's Information Commission said that the EC was opposed to it because Europe's own economy will be hurt if ASEAN's was jeopardised, as Southeast Asia was regarded as a vital EC trade partner.

He listed the adverse effects of American protectionism as:

--Damaging U.S. credibility in the new General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) talks where the Americans are urging other countries to fight protectionism.

--Hurting EC's economy by damaging ASEAN, the fastest growing market for European goods.

--Destabilising ASEAN's political situation.

On the dangers on ASEAN's political front, he reiterated that Europe fully supported ASEAN's position on Kampuchea.

On the question of the EC exerting pressure to get Vietnam to withdraw its troops from Kampuchea, he said that this was unrealistic as the EC has little influence in Indochina.

The EC envoy visited Khao I-Dang refugee camp on Tuesday and said that he was "impressed by the relief and humanitarian organisations' efforts and the assistance of the Royal Thia Government."

The EEC has provided \$223 million aid to Kampuchean refugees to date, compared to the U.S. contribution of \$207 million, while Japan has donated \$137 million.

Mr Froschmaier stressed that the EC was seeking urgently to strengthen ties with ASEAN and has established an EC information headquarters for ASEAN in Bangkok.

He said that the EC has continued to give development aid to ASEAN despite criticism at home and the long economic recession in Europe.

"Giving development aid is absolutely indispensable," he said.

Political and economic problems which undermine another region will, if left unchecked, in the long run hit Western Europe, he said.

The envoy said that he was confident that there were many U.S. leaders who understood the detrimental effects of protectionism.

The first five-year EC-ASEAN Economic Cooperation Agreement, which will come up for renewal soon, is highly valued by the community, he said.

ASEAN-EC trade amounted to \$16,000 million in 1984, with EC exports being \$7,599 million and imports accounting for \$8,457 million.

EC grants to ASEAN in the field of science and technology assistance from 1980 to 1984 amounted to \$6.5 million.

CSO: 4200/1490

BRUNEI

BRIEFS

VISA EXEMPTION GRANTED--Brunei has granted Britain and five other countries visa exemptions from 1 September. At present only nationals of ASEAN member countries are exempt from visa laws introduced earlier this year. British citizens will be allowed to visit Brunei for up to 30 days without visas. And French, Swiss, South Korean, Canadian and Japanese citizens will be allowed to remain in Brunei for up to two weeks without visas. A Brunei Foreign Ministry official said applications for visa exemptions from other countries were being considered. The British exemption does not apply to British overseas citizens or citizens of British dependent territories. They require visas whatever the purpose of their visit. [Text] [Kuala Belait THE BORNEO BULLETIN in English 17 Aug 85 p 1 BK]

CSO: 4200/1468

BURMA

ROUTING OF KAREN FORCE NOTED

BK201353 Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 11 Aug 85 p 8

[Article by Saw Ohn Pe, Htawk Ko Koe; "The Battle That Destroyed the 19th Battalion of the Insurgent Karen National Union"]

[Summary] The whole military column was buzzing with excitement as the local people brought news of the whereabouts of the insurgent Karen National Union's [KNU] 19th Battalion. Soldiers hurriedly packed their gear and checked their weapons, determined to crush the insurgents. After a pep talk from the Major who headed the military column, the No. 2 column of the 2d Light Infantry Regiment moved out at a brisk pace from Danyingon village, Hlaingbwe township, and headed in the direction of the KNU's 19th Battalion on 18 June 1985.

It was raining heavily, and visibility was poor. In the difficult circumstances, the column proceeded cautiously to maintain an element of surprise. "The KNU insurgents usually deploy vanguard units at different places to defend their key bases. The defense forces conducting search-and-destroy operations against the insurgents know this strategy very well."

"The No. 2 column of the 2d Light Infantry Regiment spent the whole day and night of 18 June marching through forested areas to locate the KNU insurgents but to no avail." The column refused to rest on 19 June and continued searching for the insurgents. "At 1410 on that day, contact was made with the vanguard unit of the KNU. The insurgents, unable to withstand the onslaught of the defense forces, fled, dragging their wounded with them. The Army column found one corpse and two weapons."

Knowing that speed was vital in catching up with the main insurgent force, the Army column pressed ahead and followed the fleeing insurgents. "As anticipated, the soldiers reached the headquarters of the 19th KNU Battalion and the Pa-an Township Front-Line Operations Office at 1900 and attacked immediately. Despite a favorable tactical situation, the KNU insurgents only fought for about 30 minutes before fleeing. They understood the might of the Armed Forces and the people.

"The Army column continued to press ahead with the attack to hit the KNU insurgents hard. At 1730 on 20 June, the Army caught up with the 19th KNU Battalion and another intense battle ensued. At 1730 on 20 June, the Army

caught up with the 19th KNU Battalion and another intense battle ensued. No longer able to defend themselves against the Army onslaught, the insurgents retreated around 1900, leaving behind several dead and some weapons.

"The escape routes of the insurgents were blocked, and the insurgents were again attacked by the 7th Light Infantry Regiment. In the regiment's three engagements, five insurgents were found dead and many weapons were seized.

"A comprehensive count of insurgent casualties and weapons seized in the battles is as follows:

"KNU insurgents lost 16 dead according to a body count and 2 were captured. Seized material includes 17 carbines, 29 M-16's, 6 BA-72 automatic rifles, 2 BA-63 automatic rifles, 4 BA-64 submachine guns, 1 M-21, 5 M-22's, 1 AK-47, 1 Sten gun, 6 rifles, 3 single round shotguns, 3 M-72 rocket launchers, 1 57-mm recoilless gun, 1 82-mm mortar, 1 M-79, 4,175 rounds of assorted ammunition, 316 40-mm shells, 4 81-mm shells, 29 82-mm shells, 6 3.5-launcher [as published] shells, 4 RPG's, 65 assorted mines, 40 detonators, 57 mine detonators, 262 magazines, and 1 BRC communications set, thirty huts and some documents were also captured.

"From the statements given by the two captured KNU insurgents, it was learned that more than 30 insurgents were killed and about 40 were wounded in the battles."

CSO: 4213/89

LAOS

PROPAGANDA CHIEF ON NEED FOR MORE MILITARY, PSS RECRUITS

Vientiane MEGNING LAO in Lao Mar 85 pp 3,4

Interview with Mr Somlat Chanthamat, Party Central Committee member and chief of the Party Central Propaganda and Training Committee, on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of MEGNING LAO (8 March 1980-8 March 1985)

Excerpt Question What is your opinion regarding the continued improvement of the propaganda content of MEGNING LAO for the future?

Answer Although MEGNING LAO has made definite progress, in order to strengthen the propaganda content in the future the editorial staff and news reporters will have to try harder, particularly in upgrading the theory and studying different plenums of the Party Central Committee, especially Plenum 7 (3rd session) of the LPRP Central Committee more than before, in order to carry out the effective application of the contents of the plenums for training Lao women of ethnic groups, and for focusing on encouraging the active Lao women's association to increasingly stand out.

In order to score achievements for the 30th anniversary of the LPRP and the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the LPDR, to have a revolutionary atmosphere, and to promote the contents of Plenum 7 and the plenum of the first nationwide Lao Women's Congress, especially the three goods and the two duties for training the Lao women's association to be more active.

MEGNING LAO, besides carrying out its political duty for the Central Committee for the Lao women's federation, will increase its propaganda to mobilize the Lao women of ethnic groups to carry out their duty in national defense and security so it will be strengthened. Moreover, MEGNING LAO must increase its conversion to the base widely and throughout in order to bring the actual outcome and outstanding new incidents to the base to propagandize and mobilize the Lao women's organizations, and also to make the newspaper stronger, richer, and more profound.

MEGNING LAO must help our Lao women to understand deeply their duty on the national defense and security battlefield. For example, we must educate and mobilize our husbands and children to awaken and volunteer for national defense and security work, and we must consider doing this as our obligation.

MEGNING LAO must help women to be conscientious and alert in preventing any spies from infiltrating their localities, and to take part in giving food and taking care of military cadres and combatants who come to their localities to do national defense and security work.

On the economic battleground MEGNING LAO must continue to mobilize strongly Lao women in order to promote agricultural production to meet the expected figure of 1.6 million tons in 1985, which guaranteed 1.4 million tons of rice, and to encourage Lao women to actively and effectively participate in improving the machinery of economic management.

On the educational, sociocultural, and public health battlefronts MEGNING LAO has already done well in propagandizing these aspects. It should continue to promote these, especially in mobilizing Lao women to decide to endure every difficulty in order to continue to upgrade unendingly themselves in terms of theory, political ideology, culture, and educational level.

Moreover, MEGNING LAO will have to propagandize in a timely manner the new and outstanding contents that are actually being carried out, and it must distribute its products to the readers' hands in the production bases. It must at the same time actively encourage and organize reading the newspaper and putting it into practice more so as to make MEGNING LAO an efficient means of propaganda. Thank you.

9884

CSO: 4206/167

LAOS

SOVIET-LAO ECONOMIC COOPERATION EXAMINED

BK271424 Moscow in Lao to Laos 1030 GMT 25 Aug 85

[Unattributed "article"]

[Text] Soviet-Lao economic cooperation is developing in all respects, especially in the trading sector. Scientific and technical cooperation is also being successfully strengthened. At present, the Soviet Union supplies an estimated 50 percent of Laos' total external economic assistance. Several protocols signed, in the Soviet Union, between the governments of the two countries on economic, scientific, and technical cooperation have contributed to implementing some 50 projects. Some of (these projects) have already materialized, such as the construction of oil depots and auto repair shops. Soviet experts have engaged in reactivating a tin mining operation. Soviet geological experts are now assisting Laos in setting up a national geological system, conducting a survey of coal deposits, and producing construction materials.

Soviet assistance to Laos in building roads is vital. At the request of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (LPDR) Government, Soviet experts designed two bridges crossing the Nam Neun and Ngum Rivers. Soviet engineers supervised the construction of the two bridges and trained Lao workers in construction techniques. Thanks to the close and friendly cooperation between Soviet and Lao construction crews, the two bridges were completed ahead of schedule. With the opening of the two bridges to traffic, Lao transport workers have been able to increase shipments of several essential economic goods by several thousand metric tons in recent months. The Nam Ngum River Bridge assures that goods can be transported year round on Route 13, which links Laos with the outside world. This route is extremely vital to Laos because that country lacks material, technical, financial, and human resources.

Soviet construction materials and equipment have also been widely used at many construction sites in Laos, including [words indistinct]. Construction workers building bridges and roads along Routes 9 and 13 are also using Soviet equipment and machines. According to Laos' first 5-Year State Plan, the number of Soviet trucks there is expected to increase to some 2,000. Soviet mechanics are also assisting Lao counterparts in repairing automobiles.

Soviet-Lao agricultural cooperation is also effectively developing and increasing. The Soviet Union has assisted Laos in erecting the Latsen Agricultural and Livestock Breeding Station in Xieng Khouang Province and in transforming and improving an intermediate agricultural techniques for agricultural cooperatives and settlements in many localities.

A state veterinary (?system) has also been set up in Laos with Soviet assistance in the form of medicine and equipment. Soviet and Lao veterinarians have provided medical checkups to livestock in many localities.

Cooperation between agricultural experts of the two countries is very beneficial. For example, they can now increase corn harvests by 200 to 250 percent. This shows that progress is evident throughout Laos. Experts also repair tractors and other farm machines given by the Soviet Union to be used as effective material and technical resources for the operations of many agricultural cooperatives and settlements in the central region.

Training Lao technicians and cadres for industrial, agricultural, and other enterprises in the Lao national economy is another important form of Soviet-Lao cooperation. Each year, several hundred Lao youths go to the Soviet Union for vocational training at many Soviet vocational training schools. Soviet experts in Laos are also contributing to the training of skilled Lao workers. During the construction of the Nam Ngum Bridge, some 300 Lao workers learned the techniques of bridge construction with assistance from Soviet engineers.

In addition, the Soviet Union also assists Laos in training skilled personnel and advanced engineers. Each year, several hundred Lao youths attend higher educational institutes in many regions in the Soviet Union. They are destined to become production directors, engineers, agricultural experts, and bridge and road builders, who are much needed in Laos.

Trade cooperation between the Soviet Union and Laos is now developing and expanding on a mutual basis. The Soviet Union has supplied Laos with a large quantity of industrial equipment, machinery, construction materials, medical equipment and medicine, and other essential goods. Laos exports coffee, tin, ore, and finished wood products to the Soviet Union.

To expand trade further between the two countries and to help boost the trade capabilities of Laos, the Soviet Union plans to provide technical assistance in the construction of new wood processing factory and the modification of a tin mine.

It can be said that Soviet assistance has made the Lao economy more independent and has helped Laos build a foundation for socialism. We firmly believe that the forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union by Kaysone Phomvihane, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers, will serve to strengthen Soviet-Lao relations strongly in all fields, including the economic field.

CSO: 4206/179

LAOS

PAPER WELCOMES PARTY LEADER'S USSR VISIT

BK310958 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 31 Aug 85

[31 August PASASON article: "Hail Success of Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihhan's Working Friendship Visit to Soviet Union"]

[Text] Comrade Kaysone Phomvihhan, general secretary of the LPDP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the LPDR, paid a working friendship to the Soviet Union 25-28 August 1985 in response to an invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, and the Council of Ministers of the USSR. The visit was short, but it is another event of historical significance. It has clearly reflected the further strengthening and promotion of the already close and uncrushable Lao-Soviet relations of fraternal friendship, militant solidarity, and cooperation.

During the visit to the country of great Lenin on this occasion, our top-level Lao guest was accorded a warm and wholehearted welcome. This working friendship visit to the Soviet Union by beloved and respected Comrade Secretary Kaysone Phomvihhan took place when all our Lao people are jubilant over the great achievements scored by the great Soviet people in perfecting developed socialism and in achieving a new culmination in the scientific and technical field as well as in the implementation of the resolution of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 11th Five-Year Plan. These glorious achievements serve as a significant contribution to the enhancement of the cohesion and strength of the socialist community. They constitute an encouragement for the various nations in the world to carry out their movements of struggle for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress.

This year, the Lao people and peace- and justice-loving peoples throughout the world, together with the Soviet people, have commemorated the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism and Japanese militarism. This clearly shows the gratitude expressed by progressive mankind toward the Soviet Union. It is also considered a warning to the various nations in the world to join the broad struggle, with the Soviet Union as the center, to check all possibilities leading to new disasters, limit and eliminate the danger of a nuclear war, end the arms race, and ease tension to safeguard world peace and security.

Our Lao leader's visit to the Soviet Union also took place as the Soviet people are striving in emulations preparing for the 27th CPSU Congress and as our Lao people are joyously concentrating forces to fulfill the first 5-year state plan for 1981-85 to achieve success to welcome the 10th founding anniversary of the LPDR and to prepare for the Fourth LPDP Congress. With the effective assistance of the Soviet Union, Vietnam, the PRK, and other fraternal socialist countries and friends in the world, over the past 10 years, despite the schemes and tricks of sabotage carried out by the enemies, our Lao people have successfully overcome various difficulties and trials and have increasingly promoted and expanded the revolutionary gains, thereby securely safeguarding the independence and sovereignty of the country and creating a number of initial factors for the building of socialism in all domains of work. Regarding the achievements resulting from Soviet assistance alone, the construction of many projects has been completed while many others are still under construction. The projects include the satellite communications system, the bridges across the Nam Ngum and the Nam Kading rivers, the 150-kilowatt radio station, the 150-bed hospital, and other construction projects in addition to the training and building of our Lao specialists in various fields.

In the meeting and talks with Comrade Mikhail S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, our Lao leader expressed great satisfaction over the complete unanimity reached by the two sides on all issues raised for discussions, in particular the issue of strengthening the solidarity and increasing all-round cooperation between the two countries--Laos and the Soviet Union--in the immediate future and for the long term. This has shown the mutual trust and close relations on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism between the two parties and the two countries. It has also served as a vigorous encouragement for the Lao people on the path advancing toward socialism as marked by the Great October Revolution.

Following the discussions on the situation in Southeast Asia, the two sides have reiterated that the root cause of the continued tension in this region is the continual intervention by various imperialist forces and the big-nation expansionists-hegemonists who have pursued a hostile policy toward the LPDR, the SRV, and the PRK and who have obstructed a constructive meeting between the three Indochinese countries and the ASEAN member countries. Now more than ever, our Lao people are jubilant and profoundly grateful at the USSR for reiterating its consistent solidarity with the Laos, Vietnam, and the PRK in their efforts to enhance continuously the cohesion among the three fraternal countries, the cohesion that is considered a necessary condition to guarantee the successes of the three fraternal Indochinese peoples in building socialism and defending the revolutionary gains. It is also considered an important factor contributing to the consolidation of peace in Southeast Asia. The two sides have agreed that the LPDR and the Soviet Union have reiterated their unchanged solidarity with the peoples of the SRV and the PRK who are marching forward along the path of building a new life and

struggling to safeguard the revolutionary gains in their respective countries in opposition to outside sabotage.

Through the glorious success of beloved and respected Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane in making the working friendship visit to the Soviet Union on this occasion, our entire party, army, and people are elated to see further the firm strengthening and profound development of the relations of fraternal friendship and fruitful cooperation between the LPDR and the CPSU and between the LPDR and the Soviet Union as well as between the Lao and the Soviet peoples.

CSO: 4206/179

LAOS

SOVIET ASSISTANCE IN EDUCATION REPORTED

BK300929 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Feature article: "Educational and Cultural Progress in Laos and Cooperation and Assistance From the Soviet Union"]

[Text] Prior to the liberation of Laos education was weak and backward; only 17 percent of Lao children were educated, and 90 percent of the population were illiterate. At present there are more children in school in Vientiane municipality than were being educated throughout the country before liberation. Some 85 percent of the people are now literate. There are not two universities--the medical university and the teachers training university--and seven vocational schools.

With the establishment of the LPDR, the LPRP took comprehensive measures to further its important goal of establishing a new educational system with national characteristics and socialist contents. Learning from Lenin, who said that those who cannot read or write stand outside the political arena, we found it necessary to start learning the basics to impart literacy. This has allowed the whole country to successfully stamp out illiteracy.

The Third LPRP Congress set a new, bright path for education. As stipulated in the current 5-year plan, the number of students attending primary schools has increased by 40.73 percent, while the number of secondary and higher-level schools has increased by 59.40 percent. The number of educational cadres and kindergarten teachers will be increased 6.4 times. At the same time, we must raise the level of specialized training for cadres and organize social science studies at the university level. From the primary school level, the process of learning must go hand in hand with practical, specialized, and vocational training in order to produce specialized engineers to meet the requirements of national construction.

The number of graduates from higher education institutes, small in the 1960's, has grown. There are now about 10,000 students who have graduated from foreign countries. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries have given us all-round assistance in the educational task. Relations with fraternal countries in this field have become firmer with each passing day. In Vientiane, Soviet professors are carrying out this great task. For example, they have been teaching the Russian language and have organized the Russian

language course at Dong Dok University and elsewhere. In addition, the Soviet Union has contributed to assisting our cultural development. Regarding information and propaganda work, the Soviet Union has assisted in building the inter-sputnik satellite station--a symbol of bilateral cooperation in the information and telecommunications fields. The making of the first Lao film on the struggle of the people of various tribes for their freedom and independence was recently completed.

Over the past 7 years 1.65 million books have been published for sale. It is expected that the publication of books for sale will be doubled within the current 5-year plan. It is also expected that the publication of newspapers and journals will be increased 4-fold. We are taking into consideration the building of radio broadcasting stations in all provinces.

The great, immediate tasks confronting the LPDR in its economic and cultural development are still numerous, but the Lao people of all tribes, under the wise and clear-sighted leadership of the LPRP, must surmount these tasks with their initiative and will surely be able to resolve all problems.

CSO: 4206/179

LAOS

TRADE UNION ON POLITICAL SHORTCOMINGS, ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

Vientiane HENG NGAN in Lao 1-15 Feb 85 p 5

/Article: Political Report/

/Excerpts/ Improving Trade Union Political Ideology and Organization

1. Political Ideology. Nowadays in the midst of a situation in which the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists are colluding with the American imperialists and other reactionary forces in carrying out psychological warfare and espionage and /schemes against peace/, we are also facing economic problems and a high cost of living. The implementation of the plans and policies of the party and government has not been appropriate for the situation. However, the workers and government employees still have a revolutionary ideology and confidence in the brilliant leadership of the party, and they are still loyal to the party ideology. They follow the party resolutely and make sacrifices for the benefit of socialism.

At the same time our workers and government employees still have weaknesses. They still cannot differentiate between friend and foe and between the two paths of socialism and capitalism, and they cannot grasp the transition period toward socialism. We must seriously categorize them as follows.

The awakening of social classes, socialism, leadership roles, and responsibility toward the right of collective ownership has not been clear. Some workers and government employees have not yet determinedly trained themselves to be new socialist men. Therefore, some get discouraged, become idle, and have independent ideology. They do not respect the regulations. They do little work. They trade and steal government property, pay attention to only their own interests, and leave factories, offices and organizations to work for capitalists. It is even worse when they flee to another country.

2. Organizing aspects. After the first nationwide Lao trade union congress, trade union organizations at all levels have improved one step further. /There are now 14 provincial-level federations nationwide. Vientiane Capital has three mobilization and training committees and eight production and executive sections. / Each federation has specialized task cadres to assist in certain kinds of work. The work section levels still

lack specialized task cadres in the trade union. Last year the Lao Central Federation of Trade Unions adopted a number of trade union regulations for work section levels and agreed on the work techniques of the secretariat and the Central Federation of Lao Trade Unions Executive Committee. As a result the Lao Federation of Trade Unions has a single work system throughout the country and has become clear and effective.

In the middle of last year on 20 July 1984 the Party Central Secretariat approved the machinery for the Central Federation of Lao Trade Unions to help in its work consisting of 6 departments, 23 sections, and a total of 97 cadres.

The Lao Federation of Trade Unions also temporarily agreed on the number of cadres for work on specialized trade union tasks in the trade union federations at the provincial, capital, and section levels. There are between 8 and 13 people at the capital level, and between 5 and 7 people at the section level.

3. Expansion of trade union membership. The expansion of the trade union from 50,000 members in 1983 to figure not given in 1984 under the slogan, "To welcome the nation's two historic days," was carried out actively and consistently in accordance with principles. The base trade union has determinedly trained, propagandized, and disseminated the duties and roles, and has mobilized workers and government employees to fill in applications for different levels of trade union organizations and to orient their lifestyle more profoundly toward production and production techniques.

9884

CSO: 4206/167

LAOS

PASASON ARTICLE NOTES GROWING STRENGTH OF PRK

BK281314 Vientiane PASASON in Lao 22 Aug 85 p 4

[Article: "The PRK Is Daily Growing Stronger"]

[Text] A significant portion of the communique of the 11th conference of the foreign ministers of the PRK, the LPDR, and the SRV, held in Phnom Penh, capital of the PRK, on 15 and 16 August states: The Vietnamese volunteer forces will pursue their yearly gradual withdrawals from Cambodia and will conclude their total withdrawal by 1990. This decision not only clearly reflects the consistent stand and good intention of the three Indochinese countries toward a settlement of the "Cambodian problem," in which the world's people are very much interested at the moment, but also points to the continuing growth and strength of the PRK.

As everyone knows, the presence of the Vietnamese volunteer forces in Cambodia is in accordance with the agreement reached by the PRK and SRV governments, aimed at saving the Cambodian people from the genocidal danger of the Pol Pot criminal gang. The noble assistance, filled with the proletarian internationalist spirit, from the Vietnamese people to the Cambodian people have been rendered in accordance with the request of the latter. It is an act to avenge for the genocidal crime of the Pol Pot clique in murdering more than 3 million Cambodian people during its rule in Cambodia.

In the past several years, the three Indochinese peoples have scored great victories in the struggle to defend and build their respective countries. The all-round victories scored by the Cambodian people in the past 6 years in particular have enabled the Vietnamese volunteer forces to smoothly withdraw from Cambodia on several occasions. This conforms to the contents and spirit of the treaty signed between the two countries and the joint communique of the three Indochinese countries' summit held in Vientiane in 1984.

In the past dry season, the Cambodian army and people, together with the Vietnamese volunteer forces, have managed to suppress and wipe out the Pol Pot remnants and other reactionary Cambodian groups from Cambodian territory, completely destroying and dismantling their sanctuaries along the Cambodian-Thai border. Therefore, the declaration on the definite time

table for the complete withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer forces from Cambodia by 1990 once again reaffirms the all-round strength of the PRK, particularly in the national defense sector.

The principled decision of the three Indochinese countries on the withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteer forces from Cambodia is not only an appropriate and correct approach but also conforms to the trend of peace and negotiations in the region and the world, aimed at reducing tension, in Southeast Asia and the world. This decision is also a practical measure leading to the settlement of regional problems so long as such Vietnamese withdrawals are not exploited to undermine peace and security in Cambodia.

As everyone is fully aware, the Cambodian seat at the United Nations has been occupied by the Pol Pot criminal clique in the disguise of the so-called CGDK for 5 years now with the support of the imperialists and international reactionaries. Without the support and succor of Washington, Beijing, and their regional reactionary henchmen, the so-called CGDK would disintegrate overnight like a flash flood. In the meantime, the PRK is not only able to stand up majestically to withstand all the threats and subversive acts of the international reactionaries and imperialists, but also grows stronger in all fields with every passing day as can be seen from the victories and achievements scored by the Cambodian people in building a new life and defending their beloved fatherland in the past 6 years.

CSO: 4206/179

LAOS

COMMENTARY SUPPORTS NICARAGUA, SCORES REAGAN

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 8 Jul 85 p 4

Text The middle of last week, Nicaragua's ambassador to the UN, Mr Rajeecha Micomora, sent a letter to the secretary general of the UN. Part of the letter explained that the presence of mercenaries in Costa Rican territory near the Nicaragua border has created a convenient condition for the Washington administration to penetrate deeply into Nicaragua, and it has caused clashes between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. The situation confirms the actions of the Washington administration in making Costa Rican territory into a springboard for militarily attacking Nicaragua in the south with the aim of linking up with an invasion from Honduran territory in the north. This is only part of the Reagan administration's activist plans for carrying out an undeclared war against Nicaragua. Many years ago, the American imperialists carried out obscurantist schemes, hoping to extinguish the Nicaraguan people's revolution under the leadership of the Sandinistas' United Front for National Liberation. But all of their actions and movements were destroyed, counterattacked and beaten badly. Nevertheless, to the present, the Washington administration not only has not given up its old schemes but is also even more deeply involved in an active and systematic destruction of and attacks on the Nicaraguan revolution.

Along with trade and economic sanctions, the Reagan administration also is using troops to threaten and deliver ultimatums and force Nicaragua in various ways. It is using mercenaries in Costa Rica to attack in the south. Worse than that, it is using tremendous amounts of money to assist the Contras in Nicaragua. For example, in the middle of June, once again the Reagan administration forced Congress to approve a measure for giving \$27 million in aid to the Contras in Nicaragua. Washington's actions seek to topple the revolutionary Nicaraguan government, particularly by overthrowing President Daniel Ortega and establishing a government of warlords and their obedient imperialist henchmen in its place. Every threatening, aggressive and destructive action of Washington absolutely cannot shake the brave revolutionary spirit of the Nicaraguan people. The Nicaraguan people under the leadership of the Sandinistas' United Front for National Liberation have been tested in the revolutionary fire, especially during these past 6 years, and they have become braver than ever in every area. They have been able to promptly counterattack the American imperialists' threats, protect their beloved land securely, continuously and majestically

snatch victory for the revolution and expose the Washington administration's schemes for infiltrating the country. On one hand, Washington's adventurous anti-Nicaragua policies are blamed widely by progressive world opinion in Latin America and around the world. On the other hand, the attempts of countries like the Contadora ones, which are searching for pacific ways to solve the problems in this region, are being supported by all nations. The revolution and the struggles of the Nicaraguan people are not isolated. All nations in the western world and progressive human beings have always completely supported and stood by the revolutionary task of the Nicaraguan people. The Nicaraguan people are ready to snatch victory for the revolution, per President Daniel Ortega's announcement in the beginning of June that, "The Nicaraguan people are always ready. We are using every necessary measure to counterattack every destructive movement of the American imperialists, who are carrying out an aggressive war against Nicaragua. We will never be weakened and must win."

12597

CSO: 4206/157

LAOS

XIENG KHOUANG OFFICIAL ON INTERNAL, SRV TRADE

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 9 Jul 85 p 2

/Interview with Comrade Phansy Vongviharn, chief of administration of the Xieng Khouang Trade Company, date and place not specified/

/Text/ In order to produce 1.6 tons of rice and tubers in 1985 as projected by the central government, trade is /playing/ an important factor in pushing production by peasants. Hoes, shovels, plows and necessary materials used in production are sent to peasants. The trade company also buys quite a bit of the goods produced and gathered by peasants.

In Xieng Khouang Province alone, imports totaled 126,910,375 kip in 1984, a 206 percent increase in volume over 1981's. In 1984, forest goods worth 16,500,000 kip were bought. As for exports, goods distributed by the province to people in every locale were worth a total 119 million kip, an increase of 21.4 percent over that projected and an increase of 271.6 percent over 1981 exports. On the average, an individual in Xieng Khouang Province bought 798 kip worth of goods from the state.

For 1985, based on lessons that we have drawn during these past years, we will have to struggle to buy /enough/ goods from the people to total 252 million kip. The primary goods that will be bought are cardamon and handicrafts made by the people themselves. And along with those, we will continue to expand markets by signing trade agreements with the twin city of Ngen Tinh of the SRV. It has ties with Houa Phan, Oudomxai, Louang Prabang, and Sayaboury Provinces, the Central Trade Company, the central government's Rattan Handicrafts Plant and the Central Agricultural Tools Manufacturing Company. It is believed that in 1985 we will sell goods to the central government and export abroad a /goods/ total of 273 million kip, and make a profit of 69 million kip from trade that will be contributed to the state's budget funds.

12597
CSO: 4206/157

LAOS

LAOS CRITICIZES THAI ATTITUDE ON RELATIONS

BK040428 Vietniane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 3 Sep 85

["Article": "Thai Side Should Rectify Its Wrong Attitude Before It Is Too Late"]

[Text] While the Thai and Lao peoples and various nations in the region are longing for and calling for the speedy normalization of Thai-Lao relations in accordance with the Lao side's sincere and reasonable proposals contained in LPDR Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut's 1 July letter addressed to the foreign minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, instead of reviewing its wrong attitude to pave the way for meetings and talks between the governments of Laos and Thailand with the purpose of peacefully resolving problem in accordance with the Lao-Thai and Thai-Lao joint communiques of 1979, the Thai Government has acted to the contrary. Since early August many incidents have taken place such that the Thai side has further deteriorated the fraternal, neighborly relations between the Thai and Lao peoples. In addition to resorting to propaganda campaigns slandering and vilifying the correct and just foreign policy of the LPDR Government, the Thai side has made use of, encouraged, and allowed the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Bangkok ruling circles and exiled Lao reactionaries to carry out undesirable activities to increase tension along the Thai-Lao border.

For example, on 9 August the Lao people felled logs and fastened them together to form a raft on which they floated along the Mekong River on the Lao bank. When they arrived in the area of Ban Samphanna village, Phialat subdistrict, on the Lao side of the river, Thai reactionary troops, in coordination with exiled Lao reactionaries stationed in Phatang precinct, Sangkhom district, Nong Khai Province, challenged and fired about 1,000 M-16 rifle rounds at them, killing one Lao citizen and wounding another. Later, on the night of 19 August, Thai border policemen crossed the Mekong River to the Lao side aboard a Thai Mekong River patrol boat. They positioned themselves on the Lao side in the area of Paksan District, Bolikhamsai Province, and brazenly and senselessly fired one 60-mm mortar round and one B-40 gun round at Paksan town. They later returned to the Thai side on the patrol boat. In Savannakhet Province, on 20 August six Thai patrol boats, including two big boats, sailed along the Mekong River, moving in circles at Kengkabao port. On the same day, one Thai jet aircraft flew near Kengkabao port and later returned to the Thai side. Many other provocations also occurred.

Parallel with the above challenge and provocations, in a noon program the Public Relations Department's Radio Thailand carried an article entitled "The Undying Thai-Lao Relationship," slandering and vilifying the LPDR Government's correct foreign policy and brazenly and openly calling on the Lao people to carry out their objective of subverting and dividing Laos so that they can swallow up this country.

On 2 September the radio station stubbornly carried the same article. At the same time, it tried to distort history and deceived itself in order to deceive the entire Thai nation into turning right into wrong. Particularly, it tried to distort the history of Thai-Lao relations and the heroic history of the three Indochinese countries which were once united by the French colonialists into the Indochina federation.

Nevertheless, no matter how cunning and cruel the Thai tricks may be, no one can distort historical facts. No reactionary forces can break the tradition of special solidarity, great friendship, and militant alliance among the fraternal peoples of Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia, who have gone through tests in the flames of protracted struggle against the wars of aggression unleashed by the French and U.S. imperialists. This tradition has become a vital factor deciding the success of the revolution in each country.

The Thai side's wrong attitude reflected by the above concrete acts has not only affected the LPDR's sovereignty and territorial integrity but also constituted a brazen interference in Laos' internal affairs and run counter to international practice on international relations, to the Charter of the United Nations to which both Laos and Thailand are signatories, to the spirit and content of the Lao-Thai and Thai-Lao joint communiques of 1979, and to the principles of peaceful coexistence. Moreover, these acts by Thailand are not new. Similar acts have taken place for a long time. This shows the unchanged nature of the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles, who want to sabotage the fraternal relations between the Thai and Lao peoples and obstruct and delay talks at the governmental level as proposed by the Lao side, with a view to creating permanent tension between the two countries and in the region in accordance with policies of the imperialists and the international reactionary forces.

Nevertheless, the common trend of various countries in the world, in the region and in Thailand, is for peace and the settlement of problems through talks. Therefore, it is now time for the Thai Government to review its wrong attitude. It should hold the interests of the majority of the Thai people above the ambition of the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles--reactionaries who are following foreigners--by turning to hold talks with the Lao side as proposed by LPDR Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut. All this is to resolve various problems in order to quickly normalize Thai-Lao relations, as earnestly desired by the two peoples, thus honorably contributing to safeguarding peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world.

CSO: 4206/179

LAOS

HOUA PHANH STATE TRADE IMPROVES, SMUGGLING DECREASES

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 6 Jul 85 p 5

/Text/ Last year, trade between the state and the people of Houa Phan Province was quite successful. Total forest goods purchased were worth 37 million kip.

The forest goods that people sold to the state were sold in local cooperative stores; for the most part, they were: cardamon, oily fruits, animal bones, cotton buds and others. Trade between the state and the people stepped up and expanded because new stores were set up for servicing trade with the people, the Trade Division also set up mobile trade units in each district and there were forest products purchasing units in every village and canton. All these were to facilitate people who wished to sell forest goods to the state. Before we established trade units, trade in our province was not successful because the distances from villages to the district store were too great. Most people are so busy with the daily production task that they do not have time to go and sell the forest products that they have gathered to the state. This has created a number of merchants who take the opportunity to buy these raw materials from the people. Currently, we are not only facilitating people trading the forest goods that they have gathered with the state but are also limiting illicit trade and smuggling.

For 1985, the province plans to buy a total 37,800,000 kip worth of forest products from the people. In 1985, we must plan for 5 percent more purchases than in 1984. To make this plan materialize, the Trade Division of Houa Phan Province has signed contracts to purchase forest goods with each district store.

In Xam Nua District, 6,700,000 kip of forest goods will be purchased from the people, 6 million kip in Xieng Kho District, 3,500,000 kip in Viengtai District, 8 million in Xam Tai District, 5,400,000 kip in Houa Mouang District, 6,200,000 kip in Viengthong District, and 2 million kip from provincial stores. In addition, Houa Phan Province also plans to buy products from the people, totaling 14,520,000 kip, an increase of 6.25 percent over 1984. Along with that, the province will need 197 million kip worth of equipment to use in production. Houa Phan Province has

especially expanded its trade network with those of the surrounding SRV provinces of Than Hwa and Cheun La and trade has been successful. In 1985, Houa Phan Province signed a contract with Hanoi Province for cooperative research in goods for export, namely, dry ginger, rattan and precious woods.

Because the trade network has thoroughly gone down to the grassroot areas, trade between the state and the people is increasingly and continuously opening widely. This is having a good impact on the trade network in the socialist trading system.

12597

CSO: 4206/157

LAOS

PASASON MARKS SRV NATIONAL DAY ANNIVERSARY

BK021239 VIENTIANE KPL in English 0954 GMT 2 Sep 85

["PASASON Hails 40th Anniversary of the SRV"--KPL heading]

[Text] Vientiane, 2 Sep (KPL)--Four decades ago today, a declaration was solemnly made by the great President Ho Chi Minh at Ba Dinh Square to mark the success of the Vietnam revolution and the founding of the first worker-peasant state in Southeast Asia, the organ of the party Central Committee of the Lao PDR writes, hailing the 40th founding anniversary of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

It continues: Following the August Revolution, the Democratic Republic [DR] of Vietnam was founded on 2 September 1985. This event became an important new factor opening an era for the furtherance of the socialist revolution in Vietnam. Thus, Vietnam became a firm cradle for the Indochina Communist Party headed by President Ho Chi Minh. Since then, great achievements were scored paving firm bases for independence, freedom and well-being for the DR of Vietnam, which eventually succeeded in complete national liberation in 1975.

The great revolutionary victories scored forty years ago had marked an end to the slavery yoke imposed by foreign imperialism upon the Vietnamese people, whose standing and prestige have ever since been raised in the international political arena. Vietnam has then contributed to reinforcement of world socialist system.

In the past four decades, however, the paper points out, the U.S. imperialists in collusion with hegemonists and expansionists and some reactionary forces in the region have escalated their joint sabotage efforts against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in the southern and northern parts of the country.

In conjunction with their intense propaganda to defame the SRV, they had mobilized 600,000 strong troops to aggress the northern frontier of Vietnam. They have further tried to sow discord in the alliance of special solidarity and all-round cooperation among the three Indochinese countries, on the one hand, and the ties enjoyed by the three Indochina countries and other fraternal socialist countries, on the other. Despite the enemies' sophisticated dark schemes, the revolutionary process in Vietnam, and in the rest of the Indochinese countries, generally speaking, has further moved forward.

The glorious victories reaped within the past 40 years in Vietnam have clearly demonstrated the correct and clear-sighted guidance of the CPV which has applied the Leninist formula of coupling the Soviet power with [words indistinct] in the country's development. Thus the SRV has scored significant results in agriculture. Its grain yield has increased between 2.7 to 3 tons per hectare now as compared to 1 to 1.7 per hectare--the figures prior to the August Revolution. The production of its electricity has annually increased by 10.4 percent. More than 20 percent of the total electricity output was put into the agricultural development sector.

The industrial development and other domains in the national economy were considerably improved. Educational, cultural and public health works were also scored--thus raising the livelihood of the Vietnamese people, the paper points out.

The paper continues to assess that the 40th Vietnamese National Day is being celebrated while the revolution in other Indochinese countries is favourably moving forward and their close alliance is being even more consolidated.

Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea have enjoyed their traditional close neighborliness relations which have reached a higher quality, stresses the paper. The three Indochinese countries have spared no efforts and resorted to all means to ever consolidate their combative alliance as hard as steel.

Basing on such spirit, they have jointly supported each other in the defense of their respective national independence and their revolutionary gains--thus foiling all dark maneuvers pursued by Beijing hegemonists and expansionists and U.S. imperialists, and other reactionary powers.

The entire Lao people, the paper underlines, seizing this splendid opportunity, express their gratitude to the fraternal Vietnam party, government and people for their support and assistance accorded to the Lao revolution. "As comrade-in-arms, we proudly consider the great successes of the Vietnamese people as our own. And we sincerely wish the Vietnamese people new and greater achievements in the implementation of the 5th congress of the CPV's resolutions, and wish for the further consolidation of the special alliance between Laos and Vietnam, and the alliance among Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea. This will help in the materialization of the declaration of the three countries' summit conference, and to the materialization of peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia--thus, strengthening the combative alliance and all-round cooperation with the USSR and other fraternal socialist countries," the paper concludes.

CSO: 4200/1484

LAOS

REPORT ON THIRD PHASE NAM NGUM DAM CONSTRUCTION

Installed Capacity

Vientiane HENG NGAN in Lao 16-28 Feb 85 pp 2,11

/Article: "Success in the Third Phase of the Nam Ngum Dam No 1 Construction Project"

/Text/ After accelerating the construction of the third phase of the Nam Ngum Dam No 1 construction project for over 2 years since February 1983, a ceremony was held on the morning of 3 March /1985/ at the Nam Ngum hydropower plant to summarize the achievement in constructing the third phase of the plant. Attending the ceremony were Mr Maisouk Saisompheng of the Party Central Committee and minister of Industry, Handicrafts and Forestry, high-level cadres from various sections concerned, many Lao workers, and foreign experts who had helped in this phase of the Nam Ngum Dam construction.

The project was started in February 1983 with the building of housing, pouring concrete for the floor of the building to house the machinery, installing water pipelines and sluice gates, repairing the shore and the machines that help to produce electricity, installing a /hydroelectric turbine/ and a 40,000-kW generator, and providing for running water for the actual experiment on 5 November 1984. They also installed electrical equipment, e.g., a 115,000-volt high voltage power line on the roof of the building to house the machinery, a large 50,000 volt-ampere transformer of 11,000/115,000 volts, along with other electrical equipment.

Besides increasing the output of this power plant, the success of the phase 3 construction of the Nam Ngum Dam No 1 project increases the government's income, decreases the amount of water wasted each year, and also increases the agricultural production efficiency of the plant.

The success of the third phase of the Nam Ngum Dam No 1 project resulted from a loan from the IDA (International Development Agency) of the World Bank and OPEC, good cooperation between Lao and foreign electrical organizations and engineering organizations, advisors from India, Switzerland and Japan, and assistance from the government and local units in Keo Oudom District, Vientiane Province, mass organizations, and the local people.

The Nam Ngum hydropower plant is able to produce 150,000 kWh, whereas before it produced only 110,000 kWh.

Phases, Funding Noted

Vientiane HENG NGAN in Lao 15-31 Mar 85 pp 6,11

Article by Noum Kammakon: "The Importance of Electrical Power"

Text Electric power has an important role in the economic construction of our socialist nation, in industrial and agricultural expansion, and in other ways in order to gradually raise the standard of living for the people of ethnic groups.

In making use of our rich natural resources, rivers are a source of hydro-electric power. The Nam Ngum No 1 power plant is approximately 70 km northeast of Vientiane Capital. Construction of the plant was divided into three phases. Phase 1 began in 1968 and was completed in 1971. Phase 2 began in January 1976 and was completed in October 1978, and resulted in the production of 111,000 kW of electricity.

In order to use all the energy of the water that had been let run to waste and to raise the power output to the capacity of the dam, the Nam Ngum Dam 1 phase 3 construction project started in April 1983 with the Lao State Electrification Enterprise as a driving force. The project received a loan from the World Bank IDA, OPEC, foreign electrical and engineering organizations, and advisors from India, Switzerland, and Japan.

In the early phase of the construction they built housing, poured the concrete floor for the factory, installed water pipes and sluice gates, repaired the river banks and the machines that help in producing the electricity, installed a hydroelectric turbine and a 40,000 kW electric generator, etc.

After accelerating the construction by the Lao cadres and workers and the foreign experts, the construction was completed in December 1984. Following testing, on 3 March 1985 the Nam Ngum Dam 1 phase 3 project held a ceremony to officially announce its success. The project raised the electrical power output from 110,000 kW to 150,000 kW.

This success has contributed greatly to modern and advanced economic, industrial, and agricultural expansion on the Vientiane Plain and in other places. It will ensure the revival and expansion of the base and factories, and will be used to better the daily living of the people of ethnic groups and to eliminate the old-fashioned way of living that depended mainly on nature. It will also help to decrease gradually the differences between the districts and the rural areas. This is in order to raise the standard of living of the people of ethnic groups step by step, and to jointly carry out the two strategic duties of national defense and socialist construction.

9884
CSO: 4206/167

LAOS

FURTHER REPORT ON SRV-AIDED CEMENT PLANT

Vientiane HENG NGAN in Lao 15-31 Mar 85 pp 7,10

/Article by Noi Manivong: "The Sai Phou Louang Cement Plant"

/Text/ The Sai Phou Louang cement plant under the Ministry of Construction is located on a hill in the Thoung Pong area approximately 15 km north of Vientiane. Prior to the construction of this plant there was only the old unfinished project built by Company 35 under the old regime. Following the national liberation a giant cement or clinker crushing plant was constructed in early June 1983 with half of the funding coming from neighboring Vietnam. It was completed on 22 March 1984. The project was divided into two phases, the first of which was to install the machinery. At that time there were only 15 Lao workers who had completed mid-level vocational courses in machine techniques and operation in the USSR and neighboring Vietnam. The second phase involved a production experiment. During this period the number of Lao workers increased from 15 to 58, most of them having graduated from senior high school and some of them having left their rakes and plows to go directly to machines and production. The work was divided up into four areas, i.e., technical production, materials management, salary and labor, and accounting and finance. There are 38 direct production workers whose job is to operate 2 machines, the grinder and the crusher. There is one female worker who drives a forklift to put the clinker onto a /conveyor belt/. The machines can produce 3 to 4 tons per day, the same quality as the cement we have ordered from abroad.

In early January 1985 they ran some production and tested the machines, giving Lao workers on-the-job training by the Vietnamese experts. After the experiment they produced 21 tons of cement per day. From the first production to early March they have produced 510 tons. In this period they distributed the cement primarily to the National Construction Company and also to many other companies. Now there is no cement at all left over in storage. They immediately distribute whatever amount they produce. Something else that was outstanding in the trial period was that on 7 to 8 March 1985 they increased the hours of production to 24 hours in 2 days and ran /3 shifts/ for the machines throughout 48 hours, whereas in other factories in Laos they run only 2 shifts at the most. Thus, in 2 days they were able to produce 83 tons of cement.

Although the two parties and two governments have not yet handed it over, in order to remember the labor of the Lao and Vietnamese workers who had helped each other to build this factory they named it the "Sai Phou Louang Cement Plant." Even though this name has not been given to the plant officially this is the one they are using and getting used to saying. This name has a profound meaning that reflects the friendship that has existed between Laos and Vietnam since ancient times. In every period Vietnam has always and sincerely helped Laos. During the war against the French and the Americans to liberate the country, the Vietnamese people not only helped Laos materially and spiritually, but they also made innumerable sacrifices of lives and blood for the Lao people.

Comrade Sonsak Insisai, assistant director of the plant, said "Our factory still has many difficulties to face, and our workers have not yet had a lot of experience. We lack both experience and technicians. Some raw materials still have to come from abroad e.g., clinker from the neighboring country of Vietnam. However, because of good decision-making by all the workers, the Lao workers decided to learn on the job following production testing.

Following determined production testing, our workers were seen to have gained skill over what they had before. By learning from the Vietnamese experts, all three comrades of the board of directors know the more important techniques. Moreover, in the midst of the entire parties, armies, and the people who are preparing to score achievements for the approaching two great national historic days, the 30th anniversary of the LPRP and the 10th anniversary of the LPDR, we are going to hold an emulation operation so that we can produce 5,000 tons of cement prior to 15 December 1985.

9884

CSO: 4206/167

LAOS

BRIEFS

PASASON ON SUCCESS OF LAO-SOVIET COOPERATION--Vientiane, 29 Aug (OANA-KPL)--
The daily PASASON, in an article today, points out the significant achievements resulting from the implementation of the Lao-Soviet cooperation projects. One of the important factors determining the success of the state first five-year plan in economic development of the Lao PDR, points out the paper, can be attributed to the firm cooperation and support received from the Soviet Union. Here the article cites that there are 16 projects in various sectors which have already been accomplished with the Soviet assistance. Within a period of 1981-85, through the Lao-Soviet joint efforts, achievements were scored in the installation of a satellite-earth station in the "intersputnik" framework, in the communication, transport, geological, and educational development. Also with the Soviet cooperation, activities in agriculture and public health have been significantly improved. In 1984 alone the Soviet aid in construction work reached 240 million kips. Here, the Soviet Union assisted in the construction of Tha-Gnon mechanic and repair workshop now in operation. The construction of the 150-bed hospital in Vientiane is in full swing which is expected to be complete next year. Another fruitful cooperation, the paper hails, is the livestock project at "Latsen" state-farm. The farm is expected to supply 150 tons of meat per year to the state. These achievements demonstrated in concrete terms that the successful socialist construction in the Lao PDR could not be disassociated from the Soviet and other socialist countries' assistance and support, this fact further ensuring the consolidation of alliance between these fraternal countries, the paper concluded. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0852 GMT 29 Aug 85 BK]

SOUPHANOUVONG RECEIVES BELGIAN, BRITISH ENVOYS--Vientiane, 29 Aug (OANA-KPL)--
Souphanouvong, president of the Lao PDR and of the People's Supreme Assembly, received here yesterday the letters of credentials from Patrick Northom and Hubert Anthony Justin Staples, respectively the newly accredited ambassadors of the Kingdom of Belgium and of Great Britain. During the meeting, President Souphanouvong wished the new ambassadors success in their diplomatic missions in view to strengthen the ties of friendship and the interests of the Lao people and those of Belgium and the UK. The two ambassadors have their residences in Bangiok, Thailand. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 29 Aug 85 BK]

KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN THANKS GORBACHEV FOR VISIT--Vientiane, August (KPL)--
K. Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao PDR, yesterday sent a message of thanks to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU CC of the Soviet Union. According to a TASS report, the Lao leader--while flying over the Soviet territory--expressed his wholehearted congratulations and sincere gratitude to the CPSU CC, the Supreme Soviet, the Council of Ministers and the Soviet people for their cordial and fraternal welcome accorded to him. "I am truly satisfied with the talks held with you, and the success resulting from my friendship working visit to the USSR, which confirmed our unanimous desire in strengthening and consolidating the relations of friendship, combative solidarity and all-round cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of Laos and the Soviet Union basing on Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism," the Lao leader stressed. "I am convinced that our talks will fruitfully contribute to the development of the Lao-Soviet relations, and the improvement of the cohesion of the socialist community, and to the reinforcement of international peace and security," K. Phomvihan stressed. He finally wished the great Soviet people significant victories in their construction of a developed socialist state in the USSR. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 30 Aug 85 BK]

FORESTRY AGREEMENT WITH VIETNAM--Vientiane, 30 Aug (OANA-KPL)--A memorandum on forestry cooperation between Laos and Vietnam was signed here yesterday. Signatories of the memorandum were, on the Lao side, Nousai Sitthisai, deputy-minister of industry, handicraft and forestry, and on the Vietnamese side. Tran Van Ken, deputy-minister of forestry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The signed document states that the two sides evaluated the past eight months activities on forestry co-operation and adopted an action plan for the rest of this year. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 30 Aug 85 BK]

KADING RIVER BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION--Vientiane, 30 Aug (OANA-KPL)--The construction work of Kading River Bridge linking Vientiane and the southern provinces on the strategic road No 13 is almost complete now. The bridge will be open for the public use at the end of next month. The 352-meter long and 10-meter wide bridge has been constructed since July 1981 by the bridge-road construction company No 1. The Kading River Bridge and the Nam Ngum Bridge--both on the highway No 13--are built by the Soviet Union aid. Both can support the load of up to 80 [metric] tons. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0912 GMT 30 Aug 85 BK]

PHOUMI VONGVICHIT MEETS SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS--Vientiane, 28 Aug (OANA-KPL)--
At the closing ceremony of an 18-day seminar on creche and kindergarten work, Phoumi Vongvichit, president of the commission for children international year, in charge of educational and cultural work, talked to the 50 participants from 13 provinces. P. Vongvichit, who is also Politburo member of the party CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, spoke of the important role of the wet-nurses and kindergarten teachers in particular during the period of national socialist transformation. During the 18-day seminar, the participants discussed ways and means to develop the child care network and other relative documents. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0915 GMT 28 Aug 85 BK]

YOUTH DELEGATION RETURNS--Vientiane, 21 Aug (OANA-KPL)--A delegation of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union [LPRYU] led by its first secretary Mrs Thongvin Phomvihan who is also member of the LPRP CC, yesterday was back home from the visits to some socialist countries. In Sofia of Bulgaria, the delegation attended the international children assembly "Sofia-peace Banner." While in Moscow, T. Phomvihan headed the LPRYU delegation at the 12th world festival of youth and students. Meeting the delegation at Wattai airport were Mrs Phetsamon Lasasamma, member of the party CC, vice-president of the CC of the Lao Women's Union and a number of senior officials. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0855 GMT 21 Aug 85 BK]

PASASON CITES THAI 'PLOTS' TO PROLONG TENSION--Vientiane, 27 August (KPL)--In an article today, the daily "PASASON" points out the Thai systematic plots aimed at prolonging tension in regards [to] the improvement of the Lao-Thai neighborliness relations. The prerequisite for the bilateral relations solution raised by Thailand was widely considered as Thai devious move in conjunction with the Lao-Thai problem. The Bangkok insistence on holding dialogues at local level with the Lao side, scrutinizing the matter closely, represents insincerity of the Thai side. The paper goes on to cite some points in case: The Thai side still restricts the transportation of in-transit commodities to Laos such as Japanese tar. This has successively been raised on several occasions by the governments concerned. Other questions to be settled at the government level are the so-called "refugees problem," and the bilateral trade on electricity. These matters must be handled at the governmental level and cannot be solved at the local level, emphasizes the article. The Bangkok administration has been apt to talk of peace regarding the Lao-Thai relations but no concrete acts have been substantiated to ameliorate the Lao-Thai neighborliness. Its successive military provocations against the Lao PDR clearly proved the point which runs counter to the spirit of the Lao-Thai joint communique signed in 1979. "So it is clear as daylight that the Bangkok prerequisite to the settlement of the problems is only aimed at maintaining a state of tense relations between Laos and Thailand. [In] so doing it will only serve the Thai ambitious rightist militarists and opportunists with regard to the Lao-Thai relations," concludes the paper. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0914 GMT 27 Aug 85 BK]

SISAVAT KEOBOUNPHAN ATTENDS TRADE UNION RALLY--The Lao Federation of Trade Union [LFTU] CC, on August 31, organized here a rally to mark the Trade Unionists' International Day for Peace (September 2), as accepted in a resolution of the 10th Congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions held in Havana in 1982. Present at the rally were Gen Sisavat Keobounphan, secretary of the LPRP CC, minister of interior; Boualang Boualapha, member of the LPRP CC, vice-chairman of the Lao Front for National Construction, Somboun Vongnoubountham, vice-chairman of the LFTU; and other senior officials. Socialist countries' diplomats here were also present at the meeting. [Excerpt] [Vientiane KPL in English 0922 GMT 2 Sep 85 BK]

PARLIAMENTARIANS SUPPORT USSR NUCLEAR TEST BAN--Vientiane, 2 Sep (KPL)--Lao parliamentarians, on August 30, issued here a communique supporting the appeal of the Soviet parliamentarians regarding the unilateral moratorium on the banning of nuclear weapon tests. The Lao parliamentarians stated in their

communiqué that they attached great importance to this Soviet constructive decision saying that the Soviet Union has set a good and concrete way to ease the threat of nuclear holocaust. It is therefore up to the U.S. to positively respond to the Soviet initiative regarding the ban on nuclear weapon tests which, in effect, will lead to disarmament and hence the elimination of the nuclear holocaust which threatens the entire mankind, stressed the communiqué. "We totally support the Soviet parliamentary group's view that no one can afford to be indifferent with regard to the questions of nuclear arms reduction and the general and total ban on nuclear arms tests in order to safeguard peace, security and the world civilization. Manpower and natural resources should be utilized for the benefits of building a prosperous world," underlined the message of the Lao parliamentary group. The message pledged that the peace movement efforts. [sentence as received] [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 1031 GMT 2 Sep 85 BK]

SOUPHANOUVONG GREETES GANDHI ON NONALIGNED DAY--Vientiane, 2 Sep (OANA-KPL)-- Souphanouvong, president of the Lao PDR, has sent a message of greetings to Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India, and chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, on the occasion of the historical day of the Non-aligned Movement. The message expressed warm congratulations and best wishes from the Lao president to Rajiv Gandhi in which President Souphanouvong praised the constructive contribution of India in strengthening the solidarity and unity among the Non-aligned Movement members. The Lao president's message hailed India's efforts which have helped to raise the movement's prestige in the international scene, in the struggle for peace and in reducing tension, against the preparation for war, as well as for the establishment of the correct and equitable new international economic order. The message also reaffirmed the invariable support of the Lao PDR to the Non-aligned Movement. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0916 GMT 2 Sep 85 BK]

SALI VONGKHAMSAO RECEIVES BELGIAN, BRITISH ENVOYS--Vientiane, 30 Aug (KPL)-- Sali VongkhamSao, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee, on August 28, received here Patrick Northom and Hubert Anthony Justin Staples, respectively the newly accorded ambassadors of the Kingdom of Belgium and of Great Britain. Sali VongkhamSao, on these occasions, wished the new ambassadors success in their diplomatic missions to strengthen the ties of friendship between the Lao people and the peoples of Belgium and the United Kingdom. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0908 GMT 30 Aug 85 BK]

LEADERS GREET MALAYSIAN NATIONAL DAY ANNIVERSARY--Vientiane, 31 Aug (KPL)-- Souphanouvong, president of the Lao PDR and Kaysone Phomvihane, chairman of the Council of Ministers have separately sent their greetings to His Majesty Sultan Iskandar Yang Dipertuan Agung of Malaysia, and His Excellency Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, prime minister of Malaysia on the occasion of the National Day of Malaysia. The messages expressed warmest congratulations and best wishes for happiness and prosperity from the Lao leaders to the Malaysian heads of state and government and to all people of Malaysia. The Lao leaders also wished for further strengthening of the friendship relations and cooperation between the two countries. On the same day, Phoun Sipaseut, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister for foreign affairs of the Lao PDR, also sent a message of the same nature to His Excellency Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen bin Tengku Ismail, minister of foreign affairs of Malaysia. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 31 Aug 85 BK]

GDR AID TO SCHOOL--On the morning of 11 May a ceremony was held at the Pak Pasak Vocational School in Vientiane to hand over the installation of the machines in the carpentry section according to the cooperative project between the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union (LPRYU) and the /Free German Youth volunteer solidarity unit/ that gave aid to the Pak Pasak Vocational School in Vientiane for use in actual training. There is a total of 19 carpentry machines, and many kinds of machines used in the installation valued at a total of 200,000 (German) marks. Mr Phiang Sisoulat, vice minister of Education, represented the Lao side in accepting this machinery. Mr (Dieterlik), GDR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, represented the /volunteer solidarity unit of the Free German Youth/ in handing over the machines. The ceremony was attended by the school board of directors, representatives of the two countries, and many cadres concerned. The carpentry machines that have just been successfully installed and handed over are modern, important, and valuable for all the teachers and students in this school for use in carpentry work and to improve it. /Text/ /Vientiane SUKSA MAI in Lao Jun 85 p 2/ 9884

GREETINGS TO AL-QADHDHAFI--On 31 August 1985, LPDR President Souphanouvong sent a message of greetings to Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, chief of state of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, in Tripoli. The message reads as follows: The celebration of the 16th anniversary of the September revolution provides a good opportunity for me, on behalf of the Lao Government and people and in my own name, to extend to you warm greetings and best wishes of happiness and prosperity and success in the cause of safeguarding the national independence in opposition to all acts of intervention and aggression of the imperialists and other reactionary powers to build socialism in Libya. May the friendship relations and militant solidarity between our two countries and two peoples be further promoted and expanded with each passing day! On the same day, Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs, also sent a greetings message to Dr Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, minister of foreign liaison of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. [Text [Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 31 Aug 85 BK]

BOLIKHAMSAI FOREST PRODUCTION--The first thing in sight on the road to the Pak Leuk Logging Commune, Tha Bok District, Bolikhamsai Province, is clearing of the road to the logging area. This road is very curvy, and it curves around brooks and mountains. The deeper /into the forest/ it goes, the more difficult it is for Bridges and Forestry Unit workers to struggle and accomplish their work beautifully. Some portions of the road being cleared have over a 15 degree incline and run near cliffs. Some parts cut through giant rocks and deep brooks, but the road does not end there. Because of the determination of the Bridges and Forestry Unit workers, hard-working and creative experts have moved the rocks in the brooks and covered them with dirt, which has made the road possible. Logging Zone 1 has 500 ha of timber. Projections are for 9,000 cubic meters of lumber. During the first 6 months of 1985, they were able to

cut 4,000 cubic meters of lumber. Logging Zone 3 has 500 ha of timber, with 9,000 cubic meters of lumber projected for 1985. It produced 5,000 cubic meters of lumber for the first 6 months of 1985. Logging Zone 2 has 500 ha of timber, with 9,000 cubic meters of lumber projected. It was able to produce 4,500 cubic meters of lumber during the first 6 months of 1985. Logging Zone 2 has a total of 16 workers. In 1984, these workers cut 20,000 cubic meters of lumber. They have already cut 13,700 cubic meters of lumber during the first 6 months of 1985. /Excerpt/ /Vientiane PASASON in Lao 6 Jul 85 p 2/ 12597

SARAVANE SECURITY--The local security network has improved in each village and district in the entire province. In particular, the number of young people in the security task has increased. Most of the young people are guerrilla militia and they also join the military service. /Excerpt/ /Vientiane PASASON in Lao 8 Jun 85 p 2/ 12597

CSO: 4206/157

NEW CALEDONIA

BRIEFS

SUPPORT FOR INDEPENDENCE URGED--New Caledonia's proindependence Kanak National Socialist Liberation Front, the FLNKS, says Australia is avoiding its moral obligations in not supporting independence for the French colony. Speaking at the establishment of the Kanak Information Center in Melbourne, a spokesman for the movement said Australia could play a key role in preventing further bloodshed in the struggle for independence. Mr (Jean Pierre) said that if independence was resisted, there would certainly be more bloodshed and violence. He said the FLNKS wanted to ask the Australian foreign minister, Mr Hayden, whether economic links with France were more important than the lives of Kanak people. The FLNKS Information Office was officially opened in Melbourne today at a ceremony attended by trade union leaders, politicians, and church leaders. Opening the office, the leader of the powerful Metal Workers Union, Mr (John Halfpenny), said Australian trade unions had an obligation to support the Kanak struggle and to involve themselves in the affairs of the Pacific region.
[Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 22 Aug 85 BK]

CSO: 4200/1467

NEW ZEALAND

TREASURY ESTIMATES SHOW DIMINISHING 'THINK BIG' BENEFITS

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 8 Jul 85 p 3

[Text] New Treasury estimates showing a huge drop in the economic benefits of the major energy projects have brought an indication from the Government that it will not venture into areas of development where the private sector fears to tread.

Releasing the estimates, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Trade and Industry, Mr Peter Neilson, said they showed a misallocation of resources which could have been spent elsewhere in the economy.

But that claim was rejected by the architect of "Think Big," the former Minister of Energy, the Hon Bill Birch, last night.

"It is nonsense," he said. "You would not have attracted the same amount of investment into New Zealand from abroad unless you had projects of this nature."

The new Treasury assessments show an overall drop of \$2.2 billion in likely economic benefits from five of the projects over their lives.

The worst declines in value have been recorded by the Montunui synthetic petrol plant, the Marsden Pt Oil Refinery expansions and the New Zealand Steel expansion.

All have fallen well below the 10 percent rate of return on investment which the Treasury uses as a guideline for approval of projects involving public funds.

The refinery expansions, \$700 million above the 10 percent rate of return at the time they were approved, are now \$330 million below it.

The synthetic gasoline project was \$115 million above the guideline when it was approved; it is now \$360 million below it.

The steel mill expansion, which was below the guideline even when it was approved--by the previous Government a month before the 1981 elections--is now a massive \$590 million down.

Petrocorp's amonia-urea plant has fallen below the guideline to the tune of \$45 million and while the smoothly built methanol plant at Waitara remains \$15 million above the desired rate of return, it was estimated at \$152 million above the rate when approved.

Mr Birch last night said the failure of projects to stay above the guideline did not mean they were unprofitable.

"There have been many successful projects in the public and private sectors that do not achieve anything like a 10 percent return."

The guideline was 10 percent above the rate of inflation and at current inflation levels an investment would have to return 26 percent to meet Treasury criteria.

"There would be very few projects in the New Zealand economy today with that sort of return," Mr Birch said. "As long as there is a positive return all these projects will add to the wealth of the country."

"Each of these projects is a winner. Some of them are going to be among the best investments this country has ever seen."

But Mr Neilson said the 10 percent rate was not an arbitrary guideline, it bore a direct relationship to the criteria applied to investments by the private sector.

"It seems clear to me that the fact the private sector was not prepared to shoulder the risk of these projects should have set alarm bells ringing in the minds of the previous Government."

Mr Neilson said that his Government believed the private sector was capable of undertaking major projects without direct state involvement.

The new approach was being followed in Government consideration of proposals to extract durene and other chemicals from the heavy gasoline steam at Motunui.

"Whether the project goes ahead will depend on how the private sector views its profitability," he said.

The loss of benefits from the Marsden Pt refinery project is blamed by the Government on cost overruns and construction delays.

The synthetic petrol scheme has suffered through falling world oil prices and the steel mill expansion is dogged by construction delays, lower steel prices and the increases in the likely costs of supplying coal to the enlarged mill.

CSO: 4200/1416

NEW ZEALAND

GOVERNMENT SAYS INFLATION LEVELING OFF

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 8 Jul 85 p 5

[Text] Wellington--The latest food price figures indicate that inflation is levelling off, says the Government.

The increase in food prices in June was 0.7 percent, according to the food price index released by the Statistics Department on Saturday. The increase in May was 0.6 percent.

For the June quarter as a whole, food prices increased by 3 percent, compared with 6.3 percent for the March quarter.

The annual increase to June was 16 percent, compared with 15.8 percent in the year to May.

Commenting on the figures, the Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr Caygill, said they were good news for the consumer and confirmed that inflation was levelling off.

"This is the second month in a row that food prices have increased by less than 1 percent," Mr Caygill said.

It was also the first time since the lifting of the price freeze that food prices had increased by less than 1 percent for two months in a row, he said.

On the base value of 1000 for the December 1983 quarter, the food price index rose from 1187 in May 1985 to 1195 in June 1985, the Statistics Department said.

This increase of 8 index points resulted from the combined contributions of a four-point decrease from the fruit and vegetables subgroup, an increase of four points from the meat, fish and poultry subgroup, and an increase of 8 points from the other foods subgroup, with significant price rises for bread, cheese, soft drinks, confectionery, meals away from home and takeaway food.

CSO: 4200/1416

NEW ZEALAND

INFLATION AT 38-YEAR PEAK FOR QUARTER

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 10 Jul 85 pp 1, 8

[Article by Michael Hannah]

[Text] New Zealand experienced its highest inflation rate in 38 years in the three months in June, as higher rents, electricity charges and petrol prices helped push prices up 5.1 percent.

The Government and Opposition have hotly disputed responsibility for the latest rise in inflation, which is the highest since the post-war Government removed a raft of subsidies in 1947, resulting in the highest quarterly rate recorded at 8 percent.

Otherwise, the June quarter rise compares with 5 percent rises recorded in September 1979 and June 1982, as the only increases within cooee since the Statistics Department started collecting figures in 1926.

The annual rate recorded in June was 16.6 percent, the highest annual rate since a rate of 17 percent was recorded in June 1982, just before the wage-price freeze was imposed.

The Government Statistician's figures show that in the latest quarter the biggest rise in prices was seen in housing, which contributed 25.9 percent of the 5.1 percent quarterly inflation rate.

Transport showed the next biggest contribution (17 percent) followed by household costs (16.8 percent), food (16.1 percent), and apparel (6.3 percent). Miscellaneous items contributed 17.9 percent to the rise.

Broken down, these figures showed the main rises in prices occurred in rentals on dwellings, interest charges on house mortgages, prices of used houses, timber, house paint, contractors' charges for house maintenance, electricity, coal, new and used cars, credit charges for cars, petrol, milk, meals away from home, bread, alcoholic spirits, beer and cigarettes and cigars.

Opposition spokesmen contend that inflation will rise about 17 percent later this year, but the Government considers the quarterly rate in September will fall below the 5.1 percent level of the June quarter.

The Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr Caygill, maintained that the biggest contributors--rents, electricity and petrol--were all attributable to the previous National Government.

The rent freeze had had to expire at some point, Mr Caygill said. The rise in electricity prices was caused by the removal of National Government subsidies on interest rates charged on loans raised by the Electricity Division, and on coal prices.

The Electricity Division, he noted, was the nation's biggest single user of coal.

Mr Caygill maintained that the whole of the rise in petrol prices was attributable to the levy raised to finance loans on the Marsden Point oil refinery expansion project. Although Mr Caygill conceded the 20 percent devaluation last year had made these loans more expensive to service, he also argued that the devaluation had provided savings in foreign exchange to offset this extra cost.

However, the Opposition spokesman on finance, Mr Bill Birch, laid the blame for the latest inflation rise on the Government's decisions to devalue the dollar, to remove interest rate controls and to raise Government charges.

He strongly rejected the assertion yesterday by the Associate Minister of Finance, Mr Prebble, that the petrol levy he agreed to was largely responsible for the latest inflation rise.

The rise in petrol prices was 9c a litre, imposed in April and amounting to a 10 percent rise.

"That compared with 25 percent for electricity, 35 percent for coal, interest rates have rocketed and housing rates have rocketed," Mr Birch said.

A separate row erupted between the parties over the impact of house rentals, the biggest single contributor to the inflation rise.

The Minister of Housing, Mr Goff, labelled the latest inflation rate as "the Muldoon-McLay Administration's legacy arising from their 32-month freeze on rents." He said three years of rental increases had been stored up during the freeze, and further pressure had been added to rent hikes by the diminishing supply of rental properties caused by the freeze.

The rent regulations compressed into one quarter rent increases which would normally have been spread over a full year, Mr Goff said. A rise of 18.2 percent in rents was shown in the latest June quarter, but this was much lower than most groups expected, Mr Goff said.

This comment was backed up by one economist who said that further rises in rents could show up in the next consumer price index in September. However, Mr Caygill said that there was evidence, albeit anecdotal at this stage, that rents had not only stabilised, but were actually falling in main centres.

The Opposition spokesman on housing, Mr Roger McClay, described the rental increase as a disgrace for New Zealand.

"Rent, interest rates, insurance and repairs cannot possibly be managed at this exorbitantly rampaging inflation rate," Mr McClay said.

"The results are not measured so much in terms of sets of figures, but rather in the real human casualty that they bring about--homes being lost by way of mortgagee sales, families cutting back on food and clothing to meet commitments of increased interest charges, social decay as a consequence of the very, very severe financial burdens being placed on families least able to cope, families being evicted for non-payments of increased rent."

Mr McClay said the first-home mortgage rebate should be reimplemented as "very urgent" measures were required.

While the Government maintains that quarterly inflation rates will now fall, the latest figures can be expected to rekindle the debate over whether the Government moved too quickly to deregulate the economy when it came to office almost exactly a year ago.

Looking ahead, the September quarterly figure is expected to show little further effect from rises in Government charges, but will show the impact of recent rises in items such as butter and sugar.

Mr Caygill said that interest rates would also contribute less, as the biggest rises in interest rates appeared in the last March quarter, after financial regulations were eased.

He believed rent rises would slow, and cited reports that rents had started to fall in some areas.

"I think there is reason to be optimistic that the September quarter C.P.I. will be lower than the 5.1 (percent)," he said. "It will be high, but it should not be as high as 5.1."

He considered the quarterly figure was more important than the annual rate of inflation.

CSO: 4200/1416

NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND PARTY TAKES 18 MONTHS RECESS

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 8 Jul 85 p 1

[Text] The New Zealand Party is to go into recess because, it says, its popularity is hurting Labour. The party president, Mr Malcolm McDonald, said today the party would wait 17 months before deciding whether or not to fight the 1987 election.

Mr McDonald said the party's council had made the decision.

In an accompanying statement the party leader, Mr Bob Jones, said the Timaru by-election had caused serious reconsideration of the electoral impact of the New Zealand Party.

That election showed a "solid but unimproved position for National," a sizable vote loss for Labour, and corresponding gain for the New Zealand Party. As a result National won the seat.

"Currently, we believe a change of government to be undesirable. While that attitude could change, we believe our continued presence, particularly as our support is growing rapidly as reflected by both Timaru and the polls, will have an undesirable electoral impact."

"As a result I have urged that the party abandon the political arena."

Mr Jones continued, "In 1983-84 over a ten month period we showed that it was possible to build an effective political machine when based on sound policies presented in a calm and rational manner. I believe that if the need arises we can and will do that again.

"There are a great number of changes still required in New Zealand. To effect them will necessitate courageous and visionary politicians. We have seen such conduct on the economic front over the past year for which we congratulate Messrs Lange, Douglas, Caygill and their colleagues," he said.

"We have also seen much nonsense but largely of insignificant moment.

"I would personally like to thank all of the worthy and good people who supported the party."

Mr Jones said his personal intentions from now, in this order, were: to go fishing, concentrate his efforts on building Robert Jones Investments Ltd into a major economic force, and in respect of public life, quoted Browning: "I give the fight up--let there be an end. A privacy, an obscure nook for me, I want to be forgotten even by God," or at least for 18 months.

Mr Jones was unable to be contacted today for further comment. His office said he was out of town.

In his statement, Mr McDonald listed the reasons for the Party council's decision as follows:

--The New Zealand Party was originally formed because of the financial crisis the previous Government's economic policies were effecting. The New Zealand Party outlined a programme of economic structural reform which the incoming Government adopted to the letter.

--A further reason for the party's formation was a concern on philosophic grounds at the debilitating Big Government dependency morality that had evolved.

The incoming government's economic measures indirectly addressed that issue as well. The prospect of either main party addressing the need for structural reforms in the social arena as the New Zealand Party has advocated, specifically the reduction of the welfare state excesses and its substitution of massively increased expenditure in the education and health areas, is not considered bright for electoral reasons.

--The New Zealand Party was further responsible for making the all important peace issue "respectable" and no longer perceived as the domain of the extreme left.

The council is concerned that as a consequence, foolhardy decisions were made in respect of nuclear power and in financial terms has, again for electoral reasons, resulted in a substantial rise in the anachronistic defence expenditure.

--The party's council is concerned at the prospect of again splitting the vote in the next election, once more at the expense of the Government of the day, as before. It currently believes that it would be undesirable for a change of government. However, that position will be reviewed in 18 months time.

--Throughout the life of the New Zealand Party its leader, Bob Jones, has constantly emphasised that its motives were structural reforms rather than the pursuit of power.

The latest NRB-Herald polls which are the most thorough of the nation's political polls, clearly show the New Zealand Party enjoying a significant rise in support. They also Mr Jones as the most popular of the three opposition party leaders, polling exactly twice the support of the formal Opposition leader, Mr McLay.

In these circumstances it is seen as an opportune moment to close the party as evidence of its sincerity in terms of its expressed motives.

The Party will consider whether it contests the 1987 election in eighteen months time, paying due regard to its probable impact on the outcome.

"In conclusion the Council thanks the many thousands of New Zealanders who worked hard to make it into the effective political force it has become and thanks the 250,000 voters who supported it in the elections," said Mr McDonald.

CSO: 4200/1416

NEW ZEALAND

ANALYST VIEWS NEW ZEALAND PARTY FAILURE

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 8 Jul 85 p 8

[Article by Tony Garnier]

[Text] Propelled by the enthusiasm of Wellington multimillionaire businessman Bob Jones, the New Zealand Party from the start set objectives which were never quite fulfilled.

It was set up in August 1983 to the right of National and strongly aiming to promote a private enterprise society.

Initially billed as a right-wing party, a basic aim seemed to be to get rid of the authoritarian style of leadership of then Prime Minister Sir Robert Muldoon.

As Mr Jones told the "Post" in April 1983, six months before the party was officially formed, there was a need for a new party that endorsed the principals of the National Party but simply wore a new label.

There was also a need for a new opposition party to the left that had a "clearly prescribed philosophy that's no longer an anachronism," he said.

'Prostituted'

"I think that the National Party has so prostituted itself in office that it is ruined," Mr Jones said. People would remember the Prime Minister, Sir Robert, as "a man who destroyed the National Party."

But from the start, the right-wing label didn't quite fit and the party failed to make the headway its founders claimed it would.

Spearheaded by a private enterprise economic philosophy, the party also put great stress on education policy--"the root of all the other problems the country has," said Mr Jones--and a radical defence policy, including taking New Zealand out of Anzus and becoming nuclear-free.

Promise

The initial promise looked good for the party as it stormed the news media for days at a time.

In a year-long whirl of free-spending glitter and champagne parties, the new party spent its first six months forming nationwide, and managing to field a full slate of candidates at the snap election in July last year--just eight months after the party's official launch.

The New Zealand Party failed to win seats, but did cream 12 percent of the overall vote, an achievement which arguably helped it achieve its initial aim--to see the end of a National government headed by Sir Robert.

Help

And along the way, it helped Labour win seats against National--Ohariu, East Cape, Glenfield, Hawke's Bay and Hamilton East, where its share of the vote in some cases reached more than 20 percent.

Then came the Timaru by-election and the party's hope was to destroy National and rub salt into the general election result wound.

But the strategy misfired. National won, and revealed that beneath the glitter and hopes of a new dawn, the New Zealand electorate was perhaps as conservative as it has always been; National is still the main alternative party in New Zealand.

Disproved

That result flatly disproved the initial claims Mr Jones made about his new party when he told the "Post" in April 1983 that Labour would win at the next election, go out in 1987 after serving one term, and would be replaced by the new parties.

Part of Mr Jones' prediction could still come true--Labour may go out in 1987, but if it does, it will be National, not the New Zealand Party, which storms back to the Treasury benches.

CSO: 4200/1416

NEW ZEALAND

EDITORIAL VIEWS LOOSENING JAPANESE TRADE BARS

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 10 Jul 85 p 16

[Editorial: "Japan Shows It Is Serious"]

[Text] By announcing some reductions in tariffs last month, Japan appears to have moved more convincingly than it usually does on freeing up imports. The June 25 package was one of a series of packages over the last few years in which Japan made gestures in response to criticism of its import policies. The main impression given by many of these packages was that Japan was doing the least possible to try to quieten foreign criticism. Sometimes Japan's efforts appeared to be derisory. However, the June 25 package contained more than token gestures. New Zealand and other countries will hope for continuation of this seeming new mood in Japan about being seen to be serious about imports.

Japan's readiness to move seriously on the issue has almost certainly come about because the United States Congress is in a mood to move harshly against Japan. The American Administration is struggling to hold back Congressional action against Japan and the European Economic Community. Both the Japanese Government and the American Government want another round of talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to free trade. Both Governments see this as a way of averting world-wide moves towards trade protectionism. The American Administration has gone as far as saying that if it cannot get agreement to hold talks under G.A.T.T., then it will conduct talks with those countries which will talk about the subject. New Zealand's interest in having the new talks is largely because there has been an undertaking from some of the major countries that agricultural trade will be included in the new round.

In spite of a willingness to have a somewhat freer outlook about imports generally, Japan has moved only slightly on imports of the greatest importance to New Zealand. Some comparatively minor New Zealand exports to Japan have been affected. The item of greatest importance is methanol, on which Japan has lowered the tariff from 4.9 percent to 3.9 percent. New Zealand had been pressing Japan for a lower tariff, and it is probable that Japan moved in response to New Zealand's request. The lower tariff will mean that New Zealand would save \$421,954 a year if New Zealand continued to export as much methanol to Japan as it did in 1984. Another

item affecting New Zealand is sphagnum moss. The tariff has been lowered from 10 percent to 5 percent, which would give savings on 1984 exports of \$159,471. The tariff on crustaceans and molluscs for seafood has been lowered from 12 percent to 9.6 percent. On 1984 exports, New Zealand would save \$128,282. On casein glues the tariff has been dropped to 6.4 percent from 8 percent. The savings would be \$113,412. A number of other items will affect New Zealand's exports to Japan in similar but fairly minor ways. The effect is hard to determine. The lower tariffs may mean that New Zealand exporters will be encouraged to send more to Japan.

New Zealand's main exports to Japan are aluminium, wool and dairy products. New Zealand would send more beef to Japan but for the strict quotas imposed by Japan. New Zealand's biggest export market for cheese is Japan. It seems unlikely that Japan will move rapidly to dismantle some of its main protectionist policies governing agricultural trade. Next month Japan will consider non-tariff barriers, which New Zealand regards as important for its trade with Japan. The Japanese acceptance of the fumigation methods New Zealand uses for the cherries it sells to Japan is an important step. This does not mean that New Zealand can export cherries to Japan immediately, but at least one barrier has been removed. If the Japanese show as much seriousness about considering non-tariff barriers as they showed about tariffs on June 25, New Zealand will have reason to be more hopeful about its agricultural trade with them.

CSO: 4200/1416

PHILIPPINES

FALL IN EXPORTS MAY AFFECT DEBT SERVICING

HK281559 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 28 Aug 85 p 19

[Text] A 10 percent or \$530 million fall in export receipts this year could complicate the country's debt servicing schedule on foreign debt even with the approved restructuring arrangement with foreign bank and foreign government creditors.

Actual export receipts during the first semester this year already reflected a drop of eight percent from the comparable figures last year owing to the significant declines in volume of shipments and low prices of the country's traditional exports like minerals, sugar, coconut products, and wood products.

At the same time, there was a marked softening in prices and a depressed demand for electronics and garment products due to the overproduction nationwide of electronic items and the protectionist moves by the country's major buyers of garment and textile products.

A decline of \$530 million, which is now expected by both government and private sector projections, in exports will aggravate the country's expected balance-of-payments during the year which was earlier projected to yield a smaller deficit of \$1.6 billion from the 1984 level of \$2.2 billion.

Earlier government projections placed export growth this year at 10 percent from the \$5.3 billion earned in 1984. This substantial increase in export was to have been primarily responsible for the reduction in the projected BOP [Balance of Payments] deficit during the year.

Based on anticipated BOP gap of \$1.6 billion, the debt service on the country's \$25 billion in 1985 was estimated at \$555 million in 1985 and \$823 million in for principal payments after the restructuring.

CSO: 4200/1475

PHILIPPINES

SIGNS OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY INDICATED

HK281605 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 28 Aug 85 p 6

[Text] In spite (of) the fact that uncertainties continue to threaten the country's financial arena, the Central Bank reports positive economic and financial developments indicating signs of the long aimed for recovery.

A deceleration of the inflation rate and the realization of a modest overall surplus in the balance of payments were noted as well as signs of the stabilization of the exchange rate.

Though a decline in the real value of manufacturing production was reported, liquidity and deficit levels remain within program limits.

Early this year, an overall surplus of US\$22 million was reflected in the balance of payments. Total imports reached \$1,188 million, 20.6 percent lower than last year's level. Compared to previous year's figures, import arrivals in all major commodity groups except consumer goods record a 24.3 percent dip.

A 9.4 percent decline on exports narrowed down the balance of trade deficit to \$38 million from \$226 million. The balance of the non-merchandise trade account improved markedly from a deficit of \$347 million to \$40 million.

Mainly on account of the significant drop in banking sector obligations, total foreign exchange liabilities declined by \$237 million reaching \$25,181 million by the end of March.

CB reported a 32.3 percent drop in reserves over a 12-month period on account of large payments on oil imports, maturing interest and principal and interest arrears on foreign loans.

In the domestic front, reserve money declined by P [pesos] 2.9 billion to a level of P30.5 billion, decline attributed to the active pursuit of open market operations. As a consequence, domestic liquidity dropped by 0.1 percent, a reversal of the 12.0 percent increase during the last quarter of last year.

Savings and time deposits (quasi-money) grew by 5.7 percent accounting for the 66 percent of the domestic liquidity.

A 30.2 percent decline in total resource base of the domestic financial system with P288.6 billion in total resources was likewise noted.

Cash operations of the national Government recorded a deficit of P1.6 billion.

It is expected that substantial improvements noted in key areas will permit economic managers some latitude in dealing with the adjustment efforts' costs to the economy but CB's Jobo Fernandez would not take the developments for their face value and has instead issued the call for wisdom, caution and prudence in directing the economy into a new growth mode.

CSO: 4200/1475

PHILIPPINES

COTABATO EDITOR HITS IMF 'COERCION'

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS in English 13 Jul 85 pp 4, 9

["Comments on News" by Patricio P. Diaz, editor: "IMF Monetary Coercion"]

[Text]

One of the topics discussed in the American Political Science Association annual convention in Washington, D.C. in the last days of August and first days of September last year was the "Economic Coercion" done by the United States on some developing countries. Particularly cited was the case of India in 1967 when Lyndon B. Johnson was U.S. President.

Briefly stated, India was in dire need of food. The United States extended aid but tried to coerce India to change its agricultural policies. India resisted and drifted toward Soviet Russia.

A similar case is happening now in the Philippines. Coercion comes from the International Monetary Fund. Unless the Philippine monetary authorities led by Finance Minister Cesar Virata and Central Bank Gov. Jose Fernandez would agree to devalue the peso according to IMF guidelines, the second tranche of the SDR loan from IMF and the new commercial loans from foreign banks cannot be released.

Last December the exchange rate was P19.849806 to \$1, recovering from the P19.954864 of the previous month. Recovery continued in January to P19.104565. Last month, the peso recovered further to P18.497500. In Decem-

ber 1984, the peso was expected to float to P24 to \$1 this year.

Instead of depreciating, the peso, according to IMF, appreciated by more than 10 per cent in its "real effective exchange rate" and this is considered "unusual". The Philippine government, through the CB, was required to explain to the IMF why the peso had behaved so.

CB Governor Fernandez explained that the appreciation of the peso is due to the austerity program of the government which compressed imports thus automatically dropping the demand for dollars. The strengthening of the peso against the dollar in the past months, Fernandez said, "reflected accurately the economic conditions of the country" and was "realistic".

But the IMF is insisting that the peso is overvalued since "the allowable dollar holdings of commercial banks in the country are not sufficient to create free market for foreign exchange in the country." So the peso must be devalued further, arguing also that this will improve exports.

Here's a case of "No one else can be right but me." The IMF has predicted the peso to float to P24 to \$1. Virtually proven wrong by RP's austerity program, IMF does

not see any merit in the program and says IMF cannot be wrong, ergo, the peso is overvalued.

Bankers have predicted that there will be another devaluation this month or in early August or the Philippines cannot get its second SDR tranche and the first tranche from the rescue loans of foreign banks amounting to \$400,000 which the country badly needs.

It's to be wondered whether the IMF is really here to help the Philippines, the member country, stabilize the peso and its economy or to promote the importation of goods from America and other developed countries. Why the monetary coercion? IMF does not care what new misery another devaluation will bring unto the Filipinos.

CSO: 4200/1470

PHILIPPINES

WORLD BANK REPORT ON ECONOMY CITED

HK271444 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 27 Aug 85 p 2

[By Rigoberto D. Tiglao]

[Text] The Philippine economy will start to normalize only by 1987, with the real gross domestic product (GDP, or the inflation-adjusted value of goods and services produced within the country) growing by an average of only 2 percent during the 1985-1987 period, according to the latest estimates of the World Bank. The estimates were made about two months ago by the World Bank office in Manila and are used as the basis of the various appraisal missions for new loans the government is requesting from the Bank.

The World Bank broadly defined the start of normalization as the period during which the country posts much reduced and sustainable deficits in its balance of payments and national budget, and a more manageable level of external debt.

The latest estimates of the World Bank appear to involve a downward but firmed-up revision of the projections it made late last year in its so-called "country economic memorandum." In that study, it presented two possible scenarios for the country. An optimistic estimate--or what it called a "high-case scenario"--projected an average real GDP of 4 percent yearly in 1985-1990. The second projection, the "low-case scenario" which the new estimates appear to be gearing toward, projected that the 1985-1990 GDP will average only 1.9 percent per year.

The estimate for an average GDP of only 2 percent in the three years through 1987 means that a Philippine "economic recovery" will take place only after 1987 if "recovery" is to mean a resumption of the 6.2 percent growth rate in the real GDP during the 1970s in order to make up for ground lost in 1984 and possibly also for this year. A 2 percent real GDP growth rate will mean a continuous drop at least until 1987 in per capita income, which in effect means a worsening of poverty in the country. This is because a 2 percent growth rate will not be able to keep pace with the estimated 2.4 percent annual rate of increase in the country's population. This is especially too since real GDP already declined by 4 percent in 1984.

Although the new World Bank estimates indicate that it is now inclining toward its earlier "low-case" scenario for the Philippine economy, they apparently are already optimistic projections considering recent developments in the local and international economy which seem to be firming up as trends.

First, most private economists now are forecasting that with the 3.7 percent decline in gross national product (GNP, or the GDP plus income from abroad) in the first quarter of the year and without any perceptible changes in the economy so far, the GNP this year will decline by 2.5 percent to as much as 5 percent. This is in contrast to earlier government estimates--which the World Bank reportedly agreed with--that real GNP this year will be maintained at last year's level which means a "zero growth rate."

Second, the new World Bank estimates are still based on its worldwide scenario that GNP in industrial countries, on which the country's export performance is largely dependent, will average 3 percent from 1985-1990. However, recent trends indicate that the World Bank's projections for the world economic recovery may be off.

Prime Minister Cesar Virata last month emphasized this trend: "In recent months, we have observed signs of weakening of the world economic recovery process. Present economic trends in developed countries are below the world development report's projected average annual growth of 3.4 percent which will enable developing countries to fully recover or approximate their growth levels in the 1970s." Virata also attributed the fall in the country's export earnings in the first half of the year--which will mean a reverse of the government's projections that exports will grow by 10 percent this year--to the slowdown of the world economy's recovery.

CSO: 4200/1475

PHILIPPINES

VERITAS ON CONTINUED VIABILITY OF MILITARY REFORM MOVEMENT

Quezon City VERITAS in English 18 Jul 85 pp 5, 6

["The Human Factor" column by Melinda Quintos de Jesus: "The Possibilities for Reform"]

[Text]

FOR many Filipinos the idea of reform in the military is a hard act to take seriously. The experience of military repression and abuse weighs against the credibility of the reform movement in the AFP.

Most Filipinos need to be reminded that the Philippine military has had a longer history than Marcos' Martial Law and it is a history that has been largely committed to democratic values and to the supremacy of civilian rule. Ironically, Martial Law proved to be the "unmaking" of the Military as an institution that had enjoyed a considerable measure of prestige in Philippine society. Some of the "old soldiers" of that tradition have sadly lived to rue the day of infamy for the Filipinos in uniform.

But it is precisely because of this history that the reformist movement, dubbed "We Belong," deserves serious consideration at this point. It was not surprising that it should have had to go through the birth pains of false starts. When the movement went public at the graduation rites of Philippine Military Academy last March, it could only march into the heat of controversy.

But the initial confusion has now subsided. And the movement's public profile has gained clearer definition.

At this initial stage, however the public feels somewhat disappointed. To those who expected dramatic developments, the movement now suggests nothing more than a military cursillo, a return to the basics of the military credo, a renewal of commitment to the basic values of the military ~~that~~.

It had at some point even allowed itself

to cite the Marcos ideology as its inspiration. It seemed then that the movement was playing it too safe to be of any real significance.

But some observers are not that ready to dismiss the movement's possibilities. And there are those who detect the "wild card" in the military's hand.

If the movement succeeds to marshal the disaffected numbers of the military to the idea of reform, the military will surely play a crucial role in determining political directions in this country. How would a reformed military react to another declaration of Martial Law? What role would it play in the projected "snap" elections? Will it be a counterforce in the event of a power struggle outside of the electoral process?

The political strengths of the military has allowed it to intervene as a distinctive and persistent force in the politics of more and more countries in the world. The armed forces are politically advantaged by their superior organization and communication system, their cohesive esprit, and their monopoly of arms.

If anything at all, therefore, the movement seems to be sending the most urgent signal to the powers that continue to hold sway — that a disenchanting, discontented army has more resources than its civilian counterparts to effect the change that it desires.

Even now the reactions to it reflect the broad range of the Philippine political spectrum. Marcos dismissed it as army "gripping." The movement has been vilified by sectors within the military who see the reformists as disloyal to the institution. The

Communists charge it is part of an American plot.

But it is our sense that the moderate forces are watching the initiatives closely. A linkage between the two elements would be a mutually strengthening process of two separate but compatible forces. This way the middle forces can finally gain its coercive capability.

It may be by such mutual support of one another that the moderates within and without the military can gain more solid ground as the third option, the truly democratic option for Filipinos.

CSO: 4200/1470.

PHILIPPINES

SOURCES INDICATE RULING PARTY PREPARING FOR ELECTIONS

HK290112 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 28 Aug 85 p 20

[By Raissa Lamson Espinosa]

[Text] The Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL) appears to be preparing, whether or not snap polls are held, sources in government have indicated.

Interviews with sources from the KBL, the Minister of Local Government (MLG) and the Metro Manila Commission (MMC) as well as official handouts indicate that the survey on people's opinion on the snap elections was designed and is being conducted to come out against the holding of the snap polls.

The survey is complemented by a nationwide information drive. An information kit prepared by the Office of Media Affairs (OMA) has been given to all barangay captains, mayors, governors and KBL assemblymen. The kit indicates that the party wants the National Movement for Free Elections [NAMFREL] out of any election and the barangay officials in.

At the same time, the party is weeding out from its electoral machinery KBL barangay officials with anti-government sentiments and actuations.

At least in Metro Manila, the overwhelming vote against snap polls by barangay officials was "more of a survival gimmick (on their part) than an honest appraisal of what their constituents want," an elective KBL official claimed.

This official, who requested anonymity, alleged that the survey consisted of barangay officials being summoned by mayors to sign a prepared resolution, without giving them a chance to discuss the questions with fellow barangay officials and constituents.

The official claimed that barangay captains considered it politically expedient not to hold snap polls. This way, they cannot be held responsible for any embarrassment President Marcos may suffer in a Metro Manila electoral defeat. The official explained that in the elections last May, most barangay officials failed to deliver KBL votes. If they fail again, the KBL would not support their reelection, the official said.

The Metro Manila Vice Mayors League has not come out with a resolution on the snap polls. "We were not consulted," one vice-mayor said.

Vice-mayor James Barbers, who heads the league, confirmed that Metro Manila vice-governor Ismael Mathay Jr called the mayors but not the vice-mayors for the signing of a resolution. Barbers added, however, that the vice-mayors' stand was already understood.

Personally, Barbers said he is against a snap poll since it is "divisive and expensive." He added that Manila mayor Ramon Bagatsing has been conducting discussions in various districts on vital issues including elections.

Sources from the KBL and the MLG clarified that contrary to press reports, what was conducted so far is a survey among barangay officials and not among residents of Barangays.

The survey was being conducted "not in the usual manner" but through informal gatherings composed mostly of barangay officials and pro-government residents, they said.

An OMA information kit given to these officials presented the government side on the question of hidden wealth and the opposition's impeachment resolution.

The kit contained the following: a constitutional primer on impeachment, report of the Batasan committee on justice, human rights and good government quashing the impeachment resolution; explanation of votes by five KBL assemblymen and by MP Rafael Recto; majority party resolution on the impeachment issue; and Antonio Floirendo's affidavit on the MALAYA libel suit.

The kit also contained a letter from Joseph Bernstein of the New York Land Company telling Justice Minister Estelito Mendoza that the quotation attributed to him in the June 23-24 issues of THE SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS "is substantially correct" and that "no persons mentioned in the aforementioned articles own any interest in any properties owned and managed by The New York Land Company."

Finally, the kit had questions and answers on the impeachment issue. For instance, it claimed that the opposition's overriding objective in filing the case was "to win a propaganda advantage" but a more sinister cannot be ruled out. Was the so-called hidden-wealth story "planted" by "outside forces" in a newspaper with an "uncertain reputation" so that Filipino oppositionists could use it as the basis for an impeachment petition?" it asked.

The OMA kit stated that Comelec [Commission on Elections] refuses to accredit NAMFREL for the 1986 and 1987 elections because of doubts about its non-partisanship and independence. A handout claimed that "the national chairman (Jose Concepcion) and most of the active leaders of NAMFREL are members of the board of, or leading contributors to, known opposition organizations. Neither does the chairman conceal from the public his belief that the government is no longer credible; Jose Concepcion is a vocal proponent of a 10-point agenda to 'restore' government credibility."

As for the electoral reforms embodied in the proposed electoral code, the handout said that "the Code also seeks to affirm the right of barangay officials to be party inspectors and watchers of candidates."

The MMC Barangay Operations Center (BOC) is now conducting a loyalty audit of all barangay captains in Metro Manila. The same thing is being done in other regions, sources said.

Based on results, the KBL would decide which officials to use or bypass in the electoral machinery.

As for the continued presence of teachers in polling booths, Education Minister Jaime Laya's statement indicates that the KBL is wary about the teachers' growing militance especially in Metro Manila. Laya stated that the ministry might accede to the teachers' request last year for voluntary service during elections.

(The request was an offshoot of the death of six teachers in last year's poll violence.)

CSO: 4200/1475

PHILIPPINES

JUSTICE MINISTER SPEAKS AT COUNTERINSURGENCY SEMINAR

HK290901 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0800 GMT
29 Aug 85

[Text] Justice Minister Estelito Mendoza today urged government prosecutors to be vigilant against threats, harassments, and intimidations from insurgents as they prosecute cases involving national security. He issued the call in a speech at the 2-day seminar on counterinsurgency at Camp Aguinaldo. Mendoza said the responsibility of investigating and prosecuting national security cases is of greatest importance as it involves the life of the nation.

Added details from Mars Encarnacion:

[Begin recording] Mendoza told military and civilian prosecutors attending the seminar jointly sponsored by the Ministries of Justice and National Defense that the enemies of the state will use every means available, seize all opportunities, and take advantage of every mistake or failure to defeat our efforts. He added that the insurgents do not recognize the Constitution and will use threats to attain their objectives. [passage indistinct] in that effect, government authorities, especially law enforcement authorities as well as prosecuting officials, must dispense their responsibilities under the constitution and the law. In that effect, only the constitution and [words indistinct] insurgency as the situation calls for the exercise of extraordinary powers, such as the calling of the armed forces and imposition of martial law, suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, the crimes against the state security are treated as ordinary crimes.

Mendoza urged prosecutors to develop expertise and familiarity in the prosecution of security related offenses. [end recording]

CSO: 4200/1475

PHILIPPINES

MNLF ZONE COMMANDER CAPTURED IN DAVAO CITY

HK281615 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 28 Aug 85 pp 1, 4

[Text] A ZONE commander of the Moro National Liberation Front, suspected to have led a number of terrorist attacks in several towns of Davao Oriental, was captured by PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] criminal investigation service agents last Friday in Davao City.

The CIS identified the captured secessionist rebel chieftain as Amsari Oxillo, alias Mustapha Halid Munayni and Commander Musa Jabbar, MNLF zone commander whose 50-man band operates in Davao Oriental.

In a report to Brig Gen Hermogenes Peralta, CIS chief, Maj Rodolfo T. Saonoy, CIS 1th district commander, said that Oxillo and another suspect, Daniel Quimzon, alias Abdul Mutalib, were caught by the agents Friday morning at the corner of Aurora Boulevard and San Pedro street, Davao City.

The suspects' capture followed a surveillance there since August 14, which was prompted by a tip-off that armed persons identifying themselves as military men on a mission had been frequenting the place.

Oxillo was armed with a .45 caliber automatic pistol when captured. The agents also seized from him a letter demanding from a certain Luis Quinones of Lupon, Davao Oriental, p [Pesos] 10,000; and a note naming five Lupon residents as MNLF targets.

The CIS said Oxillo and his band were behind the blasting of the Sumlog bridge in Lupon, raids and ambushes in several towns of Davao Oriental; disarming of paramilitary units in Lupon, Cacawaynon and Macangao, robbery-holdup of a store in Lupon; a grenade-throwing incident at the Envir theater at Mati; attempt to blast an eatery in Mati, and other acts of terrorism.

CSO: 4200/1475

PHILIPPINES

FURTHER REPORT ON DAVAO SUMMIT ALTERCATION

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 21 Jul 85 p 9

[Article by Omer Oscar Almenario: "Straight From Davao--Pre-summit Misencounter"]

[Text]

The preliminary meeting held at the Central Bank building here last Sunday to lay the groundwork for the proposed summit conference for peace in Mindanao early August was marred by a shouting match between Assemblyman Alejandro Almendras (KBL-Davao del Sur) and Brig. Gen. Jaime C. Echeverria, head of the Regional Unified Command (RUC XD).

The altercation between the legislator and the military top brass started when one of the participants, Dr. Leon Garcia representing the multisectoral group, asked: "Is the summit management serious in inviting NPA (New People's Army) chieftains? Will they be assured of safe passage during the summit meeting?"

In response to the query, Almendras said: "For all we know, there are NPAs here in our midst," (applause) and hastened to add "or maybe those who applauded are members of the NPA," (laughter).

Sensing the openness of the participants, the KBL solon continued: "You NPAs, I know that you liquidated a lot of people because they committed offenses. So, if you have plans on me, please send me first a warning so that I can make amends for my sins."

At this point, Gen. Echeverria jumped to his feet, voicing a thunderous protest: "I disagree with Landring! Who are they to tell us to reform!" To which the assemblyman replied: "Gen. Echeverria, do not say who are they? They are also human beings like us!"

Perhaps to be better heard, Echeverria raised his voice. Thinking that the RUC chief intentionally shouted

at him, the legislator shouted back, and warned the general to refrain from further shouting at him.

The "verbal" encounter stopped when City Mayor Elias B. Lopez pleaded with the gentlemen to settle the disagreement peacefully.

Right after the rift was settled, Almendras took back the microphone and accused the military: "Even if I were made to resign or be removed from the Assembly, I must tell the truth no matter who gets hurt. Because I know that most of the 'salvagings' in Davao are done by the military."

Meanwhile, participants in the preliminary "Peace Summit" conference approved the creation of a core group which would pursue the initiatives for peace and order in the city and the rest of Region XI.

To be composed of Monsignor Antonio Mabutas, Archbishop of Davao, as chairman, with IBP chapter president Jesus Dureza and Dr. Leon Garcia as members, the three-man group will act as the steering committee for enlarging the forum for peace and in prioritizing the problems relevant to the peace and order situations in the area.

The core group was formed after Almendras relinquished his role as initiator of the proposed "peace talk" with Archbishop Mabutas so that "nobody could say that what we are working for has any political color."

The pre-summit meet identified 29 probable causes which have either triggered or worsened the peace and order problems in this part of the country.

The temporary suspension of classes at the University of Mindanao here has been condemned by the local chapter of the League of Filipino Students (LFS) as "a move to stop the general awakening of the students on the deplorable conditions in the school."

LFS said they were forced to hold a demonstration against the administration last July 11 to protest the unjustifiable increase in tuition and miscellaneous fees.

The militant league also claimed that the closure was only a strategy of the administration for the students to cool down and eventually forget about the whole thing. As of press-time, the university remained closed.

City Councilor Dominador Zuno was reported to have been mulling over the filing of a test case before the Supreme on whether President Marcos has the power to approve or reject a resignation tendered by an elective official.

Zuno's move to file a test case was triggered by the recent resignation of councilor Robert Alan Limso which was rejected by Local Government Minister Jose Rono.

Zuno claimed that an elective official should tender his resignation to the people who voted for him and not to any other official in the government.

For him to get the right answer, we think Zuno should file the test case and at the same time let Limso tender another resignation, this time to the people of Davao.

PHILIPPINES

TWO NORTHERN LUZON MAYORS ALLEGED NPA TIES

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 20 Jul 85 pp 1, 6

[Text]

BANGUED, Abra (AFP) - A witness against two human rights lawyers on trial for subversion stunned a packed courtroom here when he accused the mayors of this and another town of working for communist guerillas.

Rubete Anquilano, 24, an alleged surrendered member of the New People's Army (NPA), military wing of the banned Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), named the mayors yesterday in this capital of Abra province.

The military said Anquilano surrendered last April. He was presented as a key witness against Abra human rights lawyers Alberto Benosa and Romeo Astudillo and five others accused of links with the CPP-NPA.

The implicated Abra mayors, Roberto Seares of Bangued and Fred Luben of Bolney, immediately denied the witness' accusation that they were "couriers" of the NPA, which is entrenched in mountains around this town.

The witness' had also said under cross-examination by the defense that the mayors monitored government troop movements for the guerillas.

Bangued Mayor Seares, a physician, told newsmen here after being implicated that "My conscience is clear as I really have nothing to do with NPA" and said the witness testimony had a "political angle."

He said that before appearing in court, the witness "had been closeted with some ranking officials and politicians," but he did not elaborate.

CSO: 4200/1470

PHILIPPINES

RAMOS WARNS CAVITE ON 'INFILTRATORS', LABOR UNREST

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Jul 85 p 13

[Article by Del Villanueva]

[Text]

CAMP GEN. GARCIA, Imus, Cavite — Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, acting armed forces chief of staff, warned yesterday the military and local officials here against certain groups who, he said, are trying to foment unrest in the province.

Ramos issued the warning during the Provincial Peace and Order Council meeting in this camp attended by Cavite Gov. Johnny Remulla, Brig. Gen. Andres B. Ramos, Regional Unified Command 3 chief, and other military and local officials.

The AFP chief said that the entry of the "infiltrators" into the province may disturb the peace and order which now prevails in the province.

"You should not sit on your laurels in the peace and order campaign," Ramos stressed. "You should not be lax in the campaign because there are forces who are trying to infiltrate Cavite and instigate the people, particularly the workers, the destabilize the community."

He cited the labor un-

rest which erupted recently in the Bagong Bayan resettlement area in Dasmarinas and Carmona where a number of factories have been adversely affected by the strikes.

Ramos said several precautionary measures must be adopted by the local officials to avert the breakout of strikes in the industrial areas of Cavite.

He urged the officials to thresh out misunderstanding between labor and management by holding frequent dialogues between the parties concerned "so as to preserve industrial peace."

Ramos lauded the officers and men of the Cavite PC-INP for their success in the fight against lawlessness and criminality here.

He said that because of the campaign, Cavite now ranks as the most third peaceful province in Southern Tagalog.

Brig. Gen. Andres B. Ramos, Recom IV commander, said that the improved peace and order condition of the province was due to the positive interaction of the military, civic and government officials.

PHILIPPINES

CHURCH ASKED TO CLARIFY STAND ON REBEL CLERGY

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 21 Jul 85 p 4

[Text]

A trade union leader and former member of the disbanded fact-finding board that investigated the killing of Benigno Aquino has asked Church officials to clarify their position regarding priests and nuns who join guerrilla fighting to overthrow President Ferdinand Marcos.

But others say the demand is intended to embarrass the Catholics, bishops and could endanger clergy and Church workers defending human rights.

"As members of the Catholic Church, we would like to know what the Church has to say on priests taking up arms," unionist Ernesto F. Herrera said.

"We would like to be guided by that stand. We would like to know what the position of the Church is on this serious matter," he said, asking the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) to clarify its stand.

Herrera was reacting to recent news and interviews with guerrillas, including a much-publicized interview with former Divine Word Father Conrado Balweg, a rebel leader in the mountains of northern Luzon.

Another former priest appeared with the head of the New Peoples Army (NPA) in a press conference at a jungle stronghold in Mindanao. Both wore masks.

"What Herrera is asking is that the hierarchy take sides on a most sensitive issue. He is asking the bishop to condemn their own priests who may or may not be carrying arms," said a priest who asked not to be identified. "Many priests and nuns are in the hills because of unjust persecution and would be arrested and perhaps tortured if found by some military people."

"Look what happened to Father (Tullio) Favali (an Italian PIME missionary killed in April). Many of these clergy are following their consciences in a very difficult situation, and we are not here to throw stones at our religious brothers and sisters, even if they may be misguided," he said.

Last year Cardinal Jaime Sin of Manila, while condemning violence, referred to priests who took up arms as "brothers" needing prayers and understanding.

The American Committee for Human Rights (ACHR) has recently reported that many clergy and lay workers are under "increasing fire and persecution" by the government because it equates concern for social justice with subversion.

"Consistent gross violations of human rights" continue in the country and a growing Church-state conflict has emerged cen-

tering on the defense human rights," the ACHR report says, citing cases of torture and imprisonment.

"The Catholic Church is both caught and has chosen to position itself in the cross-fire between the Armed Forces and the growing insurgency of the New Peoples Army..."

At times, the report says, "the army is not able to distinguish between the guerrilla forces and parish workers who become suspect because of their presence in rural areas where the NPA is active."

Abuses outlined by the committee include surveillance of religious workers, harassment and intimidation, interference with religious teaching, illegal search and the seizure and killing of religious workers.

None of the abuses was investigated properly by police or satisfactorily resolved, the report says. The Church, instead of becoming intimidated, has become "more outspoken" in recent months, it says.

According to Task Force Detainees, a human rights monitor, 17 Church workers were arrested in the Philippines in 1983 and 1984 including two priests, one of whom was later released.

Some Church workers disappeared while in military custody.

CSO: 4200/1470

PHILIPPINES

2,000 LEYTE CITIZENS RALLY AGAINST NPA

Four NPA Returnees Speak

Tacloban City LEYTE FORUM in English 26-31 Jul 85 pp 1, 3

[Text]

SOME 2,000 residents, government officials, teachers, students, farmers, fishermen and concerned citizens of Inopacan, Leyte rallied last July 22 to show their indignation over the intervention of the Communist Party of the Philippines on the peace and order situation of the municipality and of the province in general for the past years.

Led and initiated by Mayor Alberto Lloren, an awardee in the recent Katatagan Awards for the invaluable service he rendered towards the maintenance of peace and order, the rally started at about 9:00 in the morning with a parade around the town. Participants carried placards denouncing NPA atrocities and ideology.

Among the speakers were four NPA returnees, one of whom was amazon Myrna Senones who lost an arm during an encounter last March 20 in Tigbao, Matalom, Leyte.

In her testimony, Senones, 20 years old and a member of the Political Organization Team (POT) operating

in the Matalom-Malibog area, said it was her disgust over the atrocities committed by the NPAs that made her leave the underground movement. During her capture, the amazon said she had a change of heart brought about by the realization that the promises made by the terrorists were empty words designed to mask the NPAs true nature.

On the other hand, NPA surrenderee Alfredo Ayag, 26 years old and a regular member of the underground forces before his voluntary surrender on May 3 this year, said he could no longer bear the atrocities wrought by the party especially the killing of innocent farmers. Speaking for a full hour, Ayag, formerly with aliases Romel, Bobby, Bob and Barong, said he had seen for himself how utterly repugnant the ways of the Communists were and of the hollow promises made to him when he was recruited.

A trusted member of the NPA, Ayag further said that in his four-year stay with them he had learned that the party does not believe in God, hence are not afraid

to kill as he had witnessed many times and had even been party to the killing himself.

Aside from this, the surrenderee also disclosed that countless farmers were killed because they were not able to give the terrorists the food-stuffs or money they demanded weekly.

As regards to the freedom and equality promised by the communists, Ayag said these are all big lies because even in the present, there exists a clear discrimination regarding certain privileges of the higher authorities and the lower ranks within the organization.

The other two returnees-speakers were Danilo Nabale, 17-year-old POT member from Abuyog and

Ranulfo Adogas, 23, from San Antonio Hilongos, Leyte. Adogas was a member of the NPA liquidation team assigned to assassinate the mayor.

Also present in the well-attended affair were Col. Domingo Rio, deputy regional commander for Operations, Col. Anacleto Arque, PC Leyte provincial commander and Police superintendent, other military officers and guests.

The indignation rally ended at about 1:30 in the afternoon with Mayor Lloren appealing to the residents of Inopacan to continue to support the counter-insurgency campaign of the municipality.

JPRS>SEA>85>141
15 September 1985

Editorial Lauds Example

Tacloban City LEYTE FORUM in English 26-31 Jul 85 p 4

[Editorial: "People's Indignation"]

[Text]

THE DECISION of the citizens of Inopacan, Leyte — more than 2,000 of them — teachers, students, government officials, farmers and fishermen all — to hold actively a rally against the Communists to show their indignation at the subversive activities and Red-instigated intervention in the peace and order situation of their community is one that is most timely and should be a laudable example of meeting the insurgency problem.

The denunciation of the atrocities committed by NPAs were made by four NPA returnees to the community. Speaking frankly of how they were misled by hollow promises of NPA

leaders and how they were witness to the atrocities committed by the terrorists, the speakers convinced their audience of their sincerity. It was also evident from their stories that others in the insurgent group would desire to return to a peaceful life if they could.

Other towns should take the Inopacan rally as a model in the counter-insurgency campaign of the government. Such a multi-sectoral campaign is honed to be more effective than the purely military and governmental appeals made to the public. It is the people themselves raising their indignation and their voices raised as one is powerful.

PHILIPPINES

NORTHERN LUZON ANTI-INSURGENCY ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Baguio City THE GOLD ORE in English 27 Jul 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

CAMP DANGWA, La Trinidad - Government troopers captured last week a fortified NPA camp in Sitio Lidlibo, Barangay Cayapa, Bakun, Benguet.

Regional Unified Command One (RUC 1) Public Information Officer Major Dominador Ventura said he went with the party of RUC 1 Commander Brig. General Tomas M. Dumpit who flew in to the area this week for an inspection.

Ventura said the camp was composed of three main huts surrounded by training facilities. There was no firefight as the NPA's reportedly have left the camp for foraging activities in adjacent sitios of Cayapa. There was no report of arrests. The camp was overrun Friday morning, July 19.

Seized during the capture of the camp were two Japanese rifles, typewriters, a mimeographing machine, printing materials and voluminous subversive documents.

MEANWHILE, residents of Cayapa, Bakun, are protesting the arrest of four leaders of their community organization, the *Timpuyog ti Umili a Mangitandudo ti Kalintegan dagiti Igorot (TUMAKDIG)*.

A report received by the Cordil-

era News Agency from residents of the area stated that combined elements of the PC' INP and CHDF from neighboring towns of Aliiem and Sugpon, Ilocos Sur and Sudipen, La Union entered Cayapa last July 15.

The soldiers under the command a certain Captain Beredo guided by an NPA surrenderee reportedly arrested TUMAKDIG Vice-President Robert Balaudan, Secretary Osias Daguasi, community leaders Pedro Labongen and Rimando Dolo. Balaudan, Labongen and Dolo were later released but Daguasi allegedly remains in military custody.

TUMAKDIG, an affiliate of the Cordillera People's Alliance (CPA), has been repeatedly questioned in the past by military authorities in Bakun and surrounding areas for their alleged subversive links. TUMAKDIG members have sent petitions for assistance to the CPA and Benguet Governor Ben Palispis.

In another development, two NPA guerillas were killed Monday morning, July 22, during a twenty-minute shootout with Task Force Amianan troopers some ten kilometers away from Solsona, Ilocos Norte.

Gen. Dumpit said the slain NPAs were identified only as Ka Edgar and Ka Lito.

The bodies of the slain NPAs were brought to Solsona town for proper identification.

Recovered after the shootout was one armalite rifle with serial No. 103582, four magazines, one hand grenade, personal effects and other subversive documents.

On the government side, two scout ranger soldiers were reported wounded during the firefight.

The slain NPAs are believed to be part of the same group who attempted to burn down the Solsona Dendro thermal plant two months ago.

Colonel Armand Agbayani, Task Force Amianan Commander in a report to Gen. Dumpit, informed that pursuit and support operations to pin down the NPA's are still going on.

Gen. Dumpit added that the ongoing counter insurgency operations is part of Operation "Dapil" launched by Task Force Amianan sometime last month in order to flush out rebels from their strongholds at the provincial borders of Cagayan and Ilocos Norte.

Dumpit confirmed the continuous sightings of NPAs dissidents along the provincial boundaries which only proved that adjacent municipalities has been the gateway route of dissidents from Cagayan, Kalinga-Apayao to Ilocos Norte. *dbm.

CSO: 4200/1470

JPRS>SEA>85>141
15 September 1985

PHILIPPINES

VALENCIA ON ENRILE SUPPORT FOR CEBU JOURNALISTS

HK030433 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0100 GMT
3 Sep 85

["Analysis of the News" by Teodoro Valencia]

[Text] Once again the issue of press freedom is in the air. Only last Saturday the members of media--newspapermen, broadcast journalists--held a rally in front of the national [words indistinct] in downtown Manila. They pleaded with the government to spare the lives of Filipino newspapermen, to stop inviting them for interrogation under the auspices of NISA [National Intelligence Security Agency]. Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile made a special trip to Cebu to confront the Cebu newsmen who had filed a petition before the Supreme Court to restrain NISA from inviting them for interrogation. No less than the defense minister said that the procedure adopted by the NISA of Cebu smacks of witch-hunting. However some of the men involved in the interrogation were military officers, but the military had nothing to do with what they were doing because when they are assigned to NISA, that is no longer the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] because that is the National Intelligence and Security Agency. Enrile said that if NISA has any evidence against the mediamen, the logical thing for them to have done was to charge them in court or to cause their arrest through the proper procedures, and then to interrogate them in the presence of their lawyers. In other words, here is a situation where the media people and the minister of defense are in total agreement, that the NISA summons or subpoenas to mediamen in Cebu should stop. Fortunately the Supreme Court agreed, but this did not mean that the people in Cebu who were interrogated are lily-white or that they are innocent of anything that NISA would like to charge them with. In other words, the NISA people in Cebu City were right in trying to stop NISA from giving them subpoenas and interrogating them without benefit of counsel. But it did not mean that they were innocent of the suspicion that provoked NISA into inviting them for interrogation. That is a matter that will have to be decided later.

CSO: 4200/1475

PHILIPPINES

SHARI'AH JUDGES TO TRAIN IN EGYPT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 15 Jul 85 p 33

[Text]

Filipino Muslim Shariah practitioners who were earlier appointed by President Marcos as Shariah judges in the two autonomous regions in Mindanao will go to Cairo, Egypt to observe actual Shariah judicial proceedings there.

This was disclosed by Minister Simeon A. Datumanong of the Ministry of Muslim Affairs and Cultural Communities (MMACC) who said that the Shariah judges will also attend special course at the Ma'ad Al-Qada' (Institute of Juridicature) in Cairo, a renown world training center for Shariah practitioners and judges.

Courses to be attended by the judges are the theoretical and practical aspects of the Islamic Law and the procedures with emphasis on Muslim personal and family relations, Datumanong said.

The establishment of the Philippine Shariah court system for Filipino Muslims in the South was provided for by PD 1083, known as the Code of Muslim Personal Laws, which is called for under the Tripoli agreement. (JJ)

CSO: 4200/1470

PHILIPPINES

VERITAS PROFILES THREE NEW COMELEC APPOINTEES

Quezon City VERITAS in English 18 Jul 85 p 12

[Article by Efren L. Danao]

[Text]

REPORTS on the possibility of holding a snap presidential election have resuscitated again the question of credibility and impartiality of the Commission on Elections (Comelec). When President Marcos swore into office three new Comelec commissioners last July 30, oppositionists immediately raised a howl of protest, claiming that the three are partisans of the ruling party.

The three new commissioners, Chino Marquinez of Manila, Mario Ortiz of Cebu City, and Mangontwar Guro of Lanao del Sur, thus join Chairman Victorino Savellano and Commissioners Jaime Opinion, Froilan Bacungan, and Ramon Felipe Jr. in the Comelec roster.

Commissioner Marquinez was described by MP Lito Puyat of Manila as "a Marcos loyalist who would only be too glad to do any bidding of the KBL."

"Chino was a colleague at the Manila City Council. He ran a number of times for councilor and won only in 1971 because he suffered a scratch in the face during the Plaza Miranda bombing. He unsuccessfully sought inclusion in the KBL ticket in Manila for the Batasan elections," Puyat added. Puyat himself was reported to have sought a slot in the KBL ticket before his inclusion in the opposition slate.

Marquinez admitted that he has been in politics since 1963 when he first ran for the Manila City council under the Liberal Party. "I have always been an LP member although I belong to the

moderate group," he said.

He supported Mayor Ramon Bagatsing in the 1980 local elections although he said he was an LP member at that time. Regarding the 1984 elections, Marquinez said: "They said I'll have a slot in the KBL ticket. And then, the UNIDO thru Mel (Lopez) also offered me a slot. At that point, my belief is that these two parties are basically the same. The party to me is immaterial as long as I can serve the people."

"I'm first and foremost a lawyer. I'll evaluate facts as presented to me. I just don't side with any party without considering what is right and what is wrong. The people's interest is my primary concern. I've always conducted myself in this manner," Marquinez said.

HE admits that the Comelec is suffering from a credibility gap and he wants to help bring back the body's credibility by doing first of all his job as Comelec commissioner.

He also stressed the need for the Comelec to update its communications facilities, otherwise it will be doomed to failure.

"Why was Namfrel ahead of the Comelec in coming out with figures? It's because Namfrel has ham radios, single side bands all over the country. My proposal is for the Comelec to get all these facilities so we could get early reports of what's going on and so that the trend can be established immediately," he added.

Marquinez explained that if the trend is established early, nobody can monkey around with the results.

He said that the President appointed him and the two other Comelec commissioners because the President has trust in them. "All members of the Supreme Court, for instance, have the trust of the President, that's why they were appointed. But just because we are appointed doesn't mean we owe our loyalty to the appointing power. The President merely exercised the task assigned to him by the people. Our loyalty should be to the people," Marquinez said.

Commissioner Guro was a majority floorleader of the Constitutional Convention. He organized the Konsiyensya ng Bayan in Region 12 in 1978 and fought the KBL.

He comes from Lanao del Sur which is one of the more controversial provinces during every election. He denied, however, that Lanao del Sur elections are as irregular as depicted in the papers.

He appealed to the people to judge the new Comelec after the elections. "Let us perform our job first," he said, as he expressed confidence that they could regain the good name of Comelec in the coming elections.

Guro stressed that although he was appointed by the President, he does not consider himself beholden to the President.

On the other hand, Commissioner Ortiz sidetracked the question of loyalty to President Marcos when he said: Loyalty to the President does not mean disloyalty to the country. But the highest loyalty is to God and Country."

Ortiz was described as a politician who started his career under the wings of the late Sen. Sergio Osmeña Jr. and ended up with the Durano camp. He was the No. 1 councilor in Cebu City in the 1959 elections when he ran under Osmeña's ticket. When Osmeña ran for the Senate in 1961, the vice mayor, Carlos Cuison, became mayor and Ortiz became vice mayor. He became acting mayor from September to December 1963.

Ortiz did not run in 1963. Former Sen. John Osmeña said: "In 1967, Ortiz wanted to be Tio Serging's running mate because he wanted to be mayor but Tio Serging chose Eulogio Borres. So, Ortiz bolted Tio Serging's camp and allied himself with the Duranos. In 1969, he campaigned for Marcos against Tio Serging."

Osmeña said that Ortiz was the lawyer on record of all KBL candidates against the Panaghi-usa.

Ortiz denied that he was appointed "as a reward for satisfactory service for the KBL in the last elections" as charged by the opposition.

"My participation in the May 1984 elections was limited to my being the chief legal counsel and member of the speakers bureau. If service for the KBL is the main yardstick, then there are others more deserving of the appointment.

He said he left Osmeña after Osmeña "double-crossed" him not only once but twice.

He admits that Comelec has a credibility problem but he adds: "The opposition will probably always find fault but with my brief association with the old Comelec commissioners, I found out they're really determined to correct their image."

He said he was hesitant at first to be endorsed for the Comelec post but he later considered it a challenge that must be accepted.

"I'll do my best," he said. —

THAILAND

DAILY VIEWS 'RAPPORT' BETWEEN PREM, ATHIT

BK150915 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 15 Aug 85 p 6

[POLITICAL PERISCOPE column: "No More Rift Between the Two Leaders"]

[Text] The picture [published in Thai newspapers] showing a smiling Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon gently putting his hand on the arm of Supreme General Athit Kamlang-ek at a gathering at Sanam Luang on the eve of Her Majesty the Queen's birthday on August 11 needs no accompanying explanation.

It is worth more than 1,000 words of any writer trying to describe the reestablished cordial relationship between the two men who hold the destinies of this country and its citizens.

Though reports emerged from time to time that the two men saw each other privately, their appearance together on National Mother's Day was the first close encounter in the public in several months.

What's more than an ordinary encounter was that the two men appeared to be in a jovial mood and on especially friendly terms without any trace of misunderstanding or enmity which soured their relationship a year ago and subjected the country's political stability to uncertainty.

Exactly one year ago, Pa [father] Prem dodged public attention and spent his day quietly at his favorite retreat in Nakhon Ratchasima while General Sunday [Athit] reaped all the credits and stole the show for organising one of the biggest rallies this country ever saw at Sanam Luang to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's birthday.

The outpouring of loyalty towards the Queen and the Royal Family was phenomenal and it was estimated that about a million people participated in the event which was said to be bigger in terms of the number of attendants than the student-led popular uprising on October 14, 1973.

But this time, Pa Prem didn't exile himself temporarily to his Nakhon Ratchasima retreat to seek solace. Nor did General Sunday attempt to repeat the same feat he accomplished a year ago. Both were together to join thousands of people of different walks of life in their demonstration of loyalty towards the Queen with Pa Prem being the chairman of the ceremony.

Even though the show this year was not as big as that of the previous year, it was believed that it was the intention of the Government to keep it that way, probably having taken into consideration the gloomy economic situation and the economic hardships faced by many people. Yet the spirit was as strong.

Perhaps, the most significant phenomenon that emerged from the event was the obvious rapport between the Prime Minister and General Athit. Any political observers who may still doubt their relationship should have second thoughts after having witnessed the event.

Ever since he made the unfortunate blunders by blasting the Government for the baht devaluation and its handling of the Mae Chamoi chit fund last year, General Athit seemed to have learned the costly lesson and to be constantly aware of not repeating the same mistake.

For him, keeping a low profile and becoming less critical of the Government will probably pay off. The Prime Minister, who is himself a humble person who cherishes old friendships, should not have missed this change of behaviour and will certainly appreciate it.

If the August 11 friendly get-together is any indicator, it is hoped that General Athit's star which was unfortunately obscured early this year will be, once again, on the rise--if not as meteoric as before.

CSO: 4200/1425

THAILAND

PRASONG COMMENTS ON AID CUT FOR REFUGEES

BK030317 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Aug 85 p 18

[Text] Moves by U.S. Congressmen to cut funds for refugees, which would affect Kampuchians in Thailand, are not yet final and could be reversed, National Security Council [NSC] Secretary-General Prasong Sunsiri and well-informed diplomatic sources said yesterday.

Thursday's decision by the House Appropriations Committee, to slash the budget from \$337.68 to \$292.95 million, is just one step in a series yet to be taken, Sqn Ldr Prasong said.

Although the full House gave final approval to a \$14.28 billion-dollar Foreign Aid Authorisation Bill, spelling out wide policy guidelines and spending levels, the committee decision is the second step, which actually allocates money.

The committee decision has come under fire from high-ranking Thai and U.S. officials such as Assistant Secretary of States Paul Wolfowitz and Deputy Foreign Ministry spokesman Pratchayathawi Tawethikun.

Mr Wolfowitz warned on Thursday that such a decision would be sending wrong signals to first asylum countries such as Thailand which could reassess its humanitarian policy.

Sqn Leader Prasong said that several more stages need to be taken before the cuts become effective.

The NSC chief also said that he was assured that Reagan Administration officials would voice further opposition to the move.

He said that the committee decision still has to be approved by the Senate and full House.

"There's a high chance that changes will be made (to the committee's decision)," Sqn Ldr Prasong said, adding that top U.S. officials "will speak for us (Thailand)."

He admitted that if the cuts are made and Thailand is affected, it would not be good for the country which has to bear the burden of too many displaced persons and refugees.

Sqn Ldr Prasong reiterated, however, that it was still too early to assess how Thailand would be affected if such a decision prevailed.

He urged members of Congress to consider the decision carefully.

Well-informed diplomatic sources said that the committee decision was "very much in the process" and that the funds could very well be restored.

The sources said that they believe the cuts to be an "across-the-board" decision, adding that further details should be forthcoming soon.

The House and the Senate went into a one-month recess on Thursday, the sources said, adding that it may be quite a while before a final decision is made.

The sources emphasized that the decision to slash the refugee programme budget is motivated by a desire to reduce the huge American budget deficit, and does not reflect on the refugee programme at all.

"It has nothing to do with the displeasure of the refugee activity here, but a need to bring down the budget and should be viewed solely from that point," one source said.

Speaking about the refugees in Khao-I-Dang holding centre, Sqn Ldr Prasong said that there remained only about 18,000 to be resettled, adding that the U.S. takes about 2,500 to 3,000 each month.

He said that by the end of this year the 18,000 in Khao-I-Dang should be resettled. He said that he hoped to close the camp by the end of the year.

Sqn Ldr Prasong said that Thai rangers are on constant alert to prevent other displaced persons from sneaking into the holding centre.

Commenting on the 55,000-odd displaced Khmers, mostly supporters and families of the Khmer Peoples National Liberation Front (KPNLF), housed in the nearby Site VII (Bang Phu Camp), the NSC chief said that he hopes to move them by the middle of this month to Site II (Dong Rek).

The move would make Site II the largest temporary refugees site in Thailand with about 120,000 to 125,000 Khmers.

CSO: 4200/1425

THAILAND

FORMER PREMIER WARNS U.S. ON PROTECTIONISM

BK030449 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Aug 85 pp 1, 18

[Article by The Chongkhadiki]

[Text] Former Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan yesterday urged all ASEAN governments to unite and warn the United States about the possibility of retaliatory trade countermeasures if Congress passes the protectionist Jenkins Bill next month.

Meanwhile he had written to President Ronald Reagan, all U.S. Congressmen and other influential Americans, explaining how the bill would cripple Thailand's economy if it was enacted. He wrote the letters in his capacity as chairman of Parliament's Foreign Relations Committee.

If his pleas fall on deaf ears, he said, the Thai Government must consider as a last resort the use of countermeasures with the five governments of Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines and Brunei. These could include:

- Banning imports of long-fibre cotton, chemical products and other goods from the United States.
- Prohibiting American ships from the region.
- Restricting the use of American airlines for cargoes originating from, or passing through, ASEAN territory.

If these retaliatory countermeasures were endorsed, it would be a dramatic turnaround of policy by ASEAN which is traditionally friendly towards the U.S.

Many economists in the Thailand-U.S. Trade Council earlier this week told the POST the Jenkins Bill would "almost certainly be passed" next month.

The bill will penalise Thailand far more severely than most other textile-exporting countries, they added.

Gen Kriangsak in the letter yesterday pleaded with President Reagan "not to injure" Thailand's and ASEAN's growth.

"Please do not invite from your friends countervailing restrictions," he warned.

"Too much is at stake in the Pacific Basin for our energy and resources to be wasted in mutually inhibiting action," he said.

Gen Kriangsak, a conservative known for his traditional pro-American position, wrote letters to every U.S. senator and congressman explaining the crisis facing Thailand.

He urged President Ronald Reagan to consider Thailand's economic position which will be crippled if the Jenkins Bill is passed.

During the Vietnam War, Gen Kriangsak stood by the Americans over their resistance to North Vietnamese aggression against the South.

In the 1950s Gen Kriangsak led a Thai expeditionary force to Korea.

"In the pursuit of peace and freedom," Gen Kriangsak reminded Mr Reagan, "I and my countrymen have stood shoulder to shoulder with you in war."

As Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces and, later, as Prime Minister, Gen Kriangsak maintained the closest alliance with the U.S. on strategic affairs.

The Jenkins Bill will offset ASEAN's ability to defend itself, he argued, to the detriment of the U.S.

"Thailand and the other countries in East and Southeast Asia that are free, by our own efforts have made substantial economic progress in recent years," he said.

"As we grow stronger so we shoulder more of the burden that you have borne for so long," Gen Kriangsak wrote.

Hoping that it would not be in vain for him to intervene with the U.S. Congress at this time, he has also written to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr Thomas O'Neill and Vice President George Bush.

CSO: 4200/1425

THAILAND

SAP HEAD SCORES INACTION ON ASEAN SUMMIT PROPOSAL

BK250155 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Aug 85 p 1

[Text] M.R. Khukrit Pramot has criticised the government for ignoring his call for an ASEAN summit meeting to build up its economic bargaining power in the wake of a deteriorating world economy and growing protectionism.

The Social Action Party [SAP] leader had earlier this month called for an ASEAN summit to deal with the deteriorating economic situation in Southeast Asia, caused by world economic instability and growing protectionism among industrialised countries.

He had also offered to act as Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon's special envoy and visit the other ASEAN countries to discuss the proposed summit.

In an interview yesterday, M.R. Khukrit complained that the government had shown no interest in his proposal despite the fact that it was heralded in the regional press and welcomed by a Malaysian Cabinet minister.

Reaffirming his belief in an economic summit, M.R. Khukrit noted that ASEAN, with its abundant natural resources and a population of 285 million, had a powerful enough background to create considerable bargaining power for the region's economic benefit.

He had earlier said that the summit should send a strong and clear signal to industrialised countries that ASEAN will not stand idly by and "watch the fruits of its development destroyed by international economic deterioration and growing protectionism."

He also proposed that the summit draw up a treaty for economic integration, with a timetable for three phases of development--free trade area, customs union and common market--within six months.

Adding a light touch to the press conference, M.R. Khukrit said that there is a sure way of attracting the government's attention, "but I will not shoot myself in front of Government House."

Regarding government stability, he said that the present government will survive until the end of its term in 1987 and ruled out the possibility of a coup.

He predicted that his party will have a tough time campaigning in the 1987 general election because SAP is also responsible for economic affairs. He noted that SAP economic ministers have done their best, but the deteriorating economic situation is much due to the world economy.

The SAP leader said that he disagreed with Finance Minister Sommai Huntrakun's present restrictive financial policies.

"I don't know what we can do. Khun Sammai is the Prime Minister's man and belongs to no political party," he said. The best he can hope for is to help the government complete its term and keep democracy intact, M.R. Khukrit said.

He denied a press report quoting a SAP member as saying that his party is proposing a cabinet reshuffle.

CSO: 4200/1425

THAILAND

VOFA COMMENTS ON INTERIM MEKONG COMMITTEE MEETING

BK301421 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Lao 1230 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Unattributed "article": "The Interim Mekong Committee and Social and Economic Development of the Region"]

[Text] The Mekong River is one of the most important international rivers in the world. Its total length is some 4,200 km. It originates in the Tibetan plains and flows through China, Burma, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam. The lower Mekong River basin begins from the point where the Burmese, Thai, and Lao borders meet. According to a survey, the lower Mekong River basin has great potentials for hydroelectric generation and irrigation, both from the Mekong River itself and its tributaries. These potentials, if exploited, will greatly benefit the countries in this region, namely Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam. This means that a sound plan has to be outlined to develop and use these potentials systematically.

That was why the Mekong River development committee was set up in 1957 with assistance from the then ECAFE [Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East]--or the present ESCAP--with the principal objective of developing a plan for systematic and effective utilization of the water from the Mekong River to benefit the member countries in the region as much as possible, namely Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia.

Activities of the Mekong committee were temporarily suspended between 1975 and 1978 due to political changes in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, which are members of this committee. However, in 1978 Thailand, Laos, and Vietnam agreed to set up the interim Mekong committee to reactivate the activities of the former Mekong committee. This new provisional committee will gain its full status only when its fourth member country--Cambodia--is able to function as a normal committee member.

Activities of the Mekong committee, including many important development branches--such as generating electricity; the agricultural, fishery, and irrigation fields; and marine transport development--are extremely vital to the economic and social development projects of its member countries. Assistance given to the member countries by many donor countries and international organizations within the framework of the Mekong committee since its establishment has amounted to over \$184 million.

Over the past 20 years, many important projects in generating electricity and developing irrigation in northeastern Thailand, such as the Ubonrat dam project, the Sirinthon dam project, the Sirikit dam project, and the Lamtakhong dam project, are all under the assistance program of the Mekong committee. At present, several river development projects in Thailand have received assistance from the interim Mekong committee, such as the project to develop an irrigation system in Mahasarakham Province, the Huai Pong irrigation pumping project in Nong Khai Province, and the fish breeding project at Lom Khomnoi in Ubon Ratchathani Province. In addition, Thailand has also paid special attention to the development of the Phamong dam project, which is an important regional project for electricity generating and irrigation development for Thailand and Laos. This project is anticipated to produce 15,356 (?kilowatts) per year and to irrigate 12 million rai [about 4.8 million acres] of land in the northeast. That is why the Thai Government has attached great importance to this project and expects the feasibility study of the various aspects of the project to make rapid progress.

As for Laos, it can be said that the Mekong committee provides the most important source of national development of that country. Laos' largest single foreign currency earner has been its sale of electricity from the Nam Ngum dam project to Thailand--a project that is also under the scope of the Mekong committee.

At present, the interim Mekong committee plays a significant role in developing agricultural work in the Vientiane plains and the marine transport and goods ferrying services along the Mekong River--services that are extremely vital to landlocked Laos.

As for Vietnam, the committee has placed great emphasis on its activities to develop the delta area, on which no crop can be cultivated because of sea water, into an arable region, thereby increasing agricultural production and improving the living conditions of the Vietnamese people.

The Mekong committee has engaged in not only projects at the national level but also at the regional level, which are considered beneficial to all the member countries, such as the hydrometrical research project and the flood prediction project. The implementation of these projects can hardly be carried out without such a central organization as the Mekong committee.

In addition to providing direct assistance to its member countries through these projects, the interim Mekong committee also acts as a forum for technical exchanges between the member countries and the 16 developed donor countries and 20 international organizations, including the FRG, Japan, the Netherlands, the EC, the UNDP, and the Asian Development Bank.

The immense benefit derived from the various activities carried out by the committee constitutes an important factor encouraging the member countries to attach special attention to maintaining cooperation within the committee regardless of the differences in their political and economic systems.

At the 21st plenary meeting of the interim Mekong committee, which was held in early August, both the member and donor countries reaffirmed the importance of the committee's activities and pledged to continue rendering support and assistance to the committee's functions. Such a phenomenon is a good omen for the long-term economic and social development movements of this region.

It is generally accepted that cooperation within the sphere of work of the interim Mekong committee still generates immense benefit to the member countries. The Thai Government is sincere in maintaining its good cooperation with the other two member countries within the sphere of this committee's work. We hope that Laos and Vietnam will adopt a constructive attitude toward an atmosphere of mutual cooperation with Thailand for the sake of the well-being and mutual interests of the people in this region.

CSO: 4206/178

THAILAND

BRIEFS

POLICE CONFISCATE CHAMOI CASH--Crime Suppression Division police yesterday cashed in several cashier's cheques and closed all bank accounts opened by Suphin Wongmaniphirak and her younger brother Phairat Hanphanit. The money belongs to oil share operator Chamoi Thipso who gave it to the woman to look after. Mrs Suphin, 34, traveled from her home in Sing Buri to Bangkok to open accounts and buy cashier's cheques at various banks after she discovered 10 million baht cash in a suitcase given to her by Mrs Chamoi. CSD Commander Pol Maj-Gen Bunchu Wangkanon was told of the money and what had happened to it by Mrs Suphin on Friday afternoon. Both the woman and her 30-year-old brother took a team of CSD officers, led by Pol Lt-Col Phonphat Sukyanan, to the banks yesterday. The withdrawal of the money lasted six hours until 3:00 pm. The cash is now at the CSD headquarters where Mrs Chamoi's other assets valued at about 70 million baht are being kept. Another group of CSD officers also questioned Mrs Chamoi's former husband yesterday. Wing Commander Phot Thipso, 67, a retired Air Force officer who reportedly divorced Mrs Chamoi last year after 10 years of estrangement, was escorted from his Bang Khen home for an interview. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Aug 85 p 1 BK]

CSO: 4200/1425

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

THAI PAPER REPORTS INTERVIEW WITH DK'S SON SEN

BK030110 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Sep 85 p 1

[Report by Jacques Bekaert]

[Text] Son Sen downplayed last dry season's Vietnamese offensive in a rare interview with the press during Democratic Kampuchea Coalition Government President Prince Norodom Sihanouk's visit last week to the Dong Rak "liberated zone" inside Kampuchea.

Sihanouk, who went to Dong Rak to receive the credentials of the new ambassadors of China and Bangladesh, was welcomed at the camp by several members of the Democratic Kampuchea group, including Son Sen, the new commander-in-chief of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK).

The occasion offered a rare opportunity to meet some of the most secretive members of the Democratic Kampuchea group, including Son Sen (he had been promoted to his new position four days earlier, on August 24).

Son Sen said that the Vietnamese offensive last dry season had done little damage to the NADK.

Khmer Rouge troops were moving "deep inside (Kampuchea), around the Tonle Sap and close to Phnom Penh, following our plan," he said.

"Believe me, we do enjoy popular support inside the country, otherwise it would be completely impossible for our men to go so far and stay for so long inside Kampuchea."

He explained that the goal of his forces was "to force Vietnam to negotiate. They feel the pressure, they know what is the situation inside Kampuchea, they know our forces are making constant and steady progress," Son Sen claimed.

Asked if the Vietnamese military presence at the border did not prevent supplies of food and weapons from reaching NADK troops, the new commander-in-chief said that there were "no problems." The troops were "present along the Tonle Sap. The great lake is rich in fish. As for the ammunitions, we are very careful not to waste it. We are not fighting big traditional battles. We can go on and we will keep making progress," he said.

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

KHMER ATTACK ON SRV CONVOY--Aranyaprathet--About 140 Khmer Rouge troops ambushed a Vietnamese convoy carrying food and supplies to soldiers in the occupied areas at Khao Phnum Yeay Som and Phnum Malai in Kampuchea on Sunday. A report reaching this frontier town yesterday said the fighting broke out on Sunday at 6.30 p.m. at a spot opposite the Thai village of Khlong Nam Sai some 15 kilometres south of Aranyaprathet. The report said the battle was still in progress and put Vietnamese casualties at three dead and a number of others wounded. Two Khmer Rouge fighters were wounded, it said. Eastern forces Deputy Commander Col Chettha Thanacharo said the Vietnamese forces were making improvements to the highway which links Phum Nimit with Phnum Malai. He said the Vietnamese forces usually supply its troops currently occupying overrun Khmer Rouge headquarters at Phnum Malai via this strategic road. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 3 Sep 85 p 2]

CSO: 4200/1482

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

SRV ASSISTANCE IN FOODSTUFFS DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 12 Jul 85 p 3

/Text/ Along with other cooperation between the two countries, cooperation in the foodstuffs area has been increasingly expanded and grown in efficiency. After the people of Cambodia were completely victorious in extinguishing the Pol Pot faction which had sold out the nation, many teams of technocrats from the SRV's Ministry of Foodstuffs came to Cambodia to conduct a survey and draft a plan of cooperation between the two countries.

At the beginning of 1984, an aid treaty in the foodstuffs, economic /development/ and science areas was signed between the Ministry of Commerce of Cambodia and the Ministry of Foodstuffs of Vietnam. After that, many teams of technocrats from the Ministry of Foodstuffs of Vietnam came to Cambodia to join with Cambodian cadres to make a basic survey and lay out economic plans. An 8 ton per hour and a 25 ton per hour rice scale were completely installed. A rice grade inspection center was established. In addition, Vietnam sent a team of basic foodstuff project experts and business administration experts to assist in developing business administration cadres in the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

Toward the end of 1984, the rice mill, which is the product of the cooperation and special solidarity of Cambodia and Vietnam, was installed in Kamongsom Province. The team in charge used available funds to improve the machinery. The team encouraged cadres and state employees to collectively express their creativity to increase efficiency and production.

Kamongsom is the rice basket of Cambodia. Therefore, the rice mill had to be a big one so that it could meet demand. This success proves the solidarity of the united front and special relation between Vietnam and Cambodia in the new revolutionary period. To date, the Vietnamese have dedicated to Cambodia a total of 10 rice milling machines of two different sizes, 0.7 tons and 0.4 tons per hour. These rice milling machines have been distributed to every province in the country to meet demand and the needs of all ethnic groups in Cambodia. In 1985, the Ministry of Foodstuffs of Vietnam is concentrating on making parts to put in the rice milling machinery to double their efficiency over 1984's.

The task resulting from solidarity in the new period surely will contribute additional pages to the history of the relation between the two nations of Vietnam and Cambodia.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

ASSEMBLY'S MESSAGE ON USSR NUCLEAR MORATORIUM

BK010918 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1217 GMT 30 Aug 85

[Text] Phnom Penh, 30 Aug (SPK)--The PRK National Assembly in a 28 August message to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium expressed its support for the 29 July statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The full text of the message reads:

The PRK National Assembly and the Cambodian people as a whole have followed with keen interest and warmly salute the USSR parliamentarian group's call for support to the statement of Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, concerning the Soviet Union's decision to unilaterally suspend all nuclear explosions as of 6 August this year. This moratorium will be in effect until 1 January 1986, and it will continue to remain effective if the United States, for its part, abstains from carrying out nuclear tests.

As known by all, since the beginning of the nuclear age, particularly during the 1980's, the Soviet Union has waged a consistent and energetical struggle for the suspension of the stockpiling of nuclear arsenals, for an end to the military rivalry, and for the strengthening of the mutual trust and peaceful cooperation between states. To this end, the Soviet Union has on many occasions raised good-will proposals, such as the declaration that it will not be the first to use nuclear arms. It is certain that the Soviet Union does not want to seize military supremacy over the United States. Through its decision to unilaterally cease nuclear explosions, the Soviet Union has made a concrete, practical step forward. This moratorium proves to be of great importance to prevent the creation of new types of weapons and the modernization of existing ones. If there are no longer any tests, all these weapons will be outdated and thus a brake will be clamped on the arms race which will therefore become impossible. If the peace- and justice-loving mankind and the progressive people the world over unite in a rocklike force to hamper the deadly danger affecting the future of our civilization--danger caused by the unbridled nuclear arms race launched by the ruling circles in the United States and their allies of the NATO bloc--detente, peace, international security, and cooperation will be established in the world.

On behalf of the PRK National Assembly and of the Cambodian people as a whole, we salute and fully support the USSR parliamentarian group's 20 August 1985 call. We energetically support the 29 July statement of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev dealing with the unilateral moratorium and ban on all nuclear explosions, as well as the new proposals of the Soviet Union for the strengthening of peace and security in Asia. Along with the tireless efforts of the USSR and of the socialist community in favor of peace for mankind, the PRK together with the other two fraternal countries in Indochina has also waged a struggle to transform Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation. The communique of the 11th conference of the foreign ministers of Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam held in Phnom Penh is a concrete contribution to the establishment of peace in the world.

The PRK National Assembly is determined to unite energetically with the parliaments of the USSR and of other socialist countries in order to reach the common ideal: peace and socialism. We also call on the peace-loving progressive forces in the congress and among the people of the United States to unite with us in order to put pressure on the Reagan authorities to do the same as the USSR, namely to fully and completely end the nuclear arms race on ground, at sea, and in outer space for peace on earth.

If the United States persists in its nuclear arms tests, it will bear full responsibility for the consequences that may derive therefrom.

CSO: 4219/71

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

HUN SEN GREETES GANDHI ON NONALIGNED DAY

BK010838 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0421 GMT 1 Sep 85

[Text] Phnom Penh, 1 Sep (SPK)--Hun sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the PRK, sent his warm greetings to Rajiv Gandhi, chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, on the occasion of the "Nonaligned Day."

In his message, the Cambodian leader said:

Since its founding, the Nonaligned Movement has induced a rapid growth and has become an important force in the common struggle of the peoples for peace, national independence, and the establishment of a new international economic order. Despite the many sabotage maneuvers conducted by imperialism and other international reactionary forces, the movement has succeeded in preserving its unity and its noble objectives. Under India's highly deserved chairmanship, the movement has continued to develop and to bring new important contributions. The resolutions of the seventh nonaligned summit in New Delhi in 1983, resolutely maintaining the results of the sixth summit in Havana concerning Southeast Asia, refusing to admit the presence of the genocidal Pot Pot clique, and recommending dialogue to restore peace and stability and to develop cooperation in this region, constitute a remarkable demonstration of these contributions. In light of the current situation in Indochina and Southeast Asia and of the new initiatives full of goodwill put forth by the recent 11th conference of the foreign ministers of Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam held in Phnom Penh on 15 and 16 August, the resolutions of the seventh summit of Delhi turn out to be even more sensible and constitute a base for the settlement of problems concerning Southeast Asia and Cambodia. I express the wish and conviction that the Nonaligned Movement will continue to advance unceasingly in this direction, in accordance with the requirements of the situation and with the aspiration of the peoples. The PRK pledges to do its best to bring about active contributions.

CSO: 4219/71

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

SAY PHUTHANG CHAIRS REGIONAL PARTY CONGRESS

BK271104 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] The 15-18 August Kompong Speu regional party congress--held under the chairmanship of Comrade Say Phuthang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chairman of the Central Organizational Department--has concluded with brilliant results.

During the 3-day meeting, members of the audience listened carefully to and engaged in lively debate on the draft political report of the KPRP Central Committee and the draft of some additional articles for the party's constitution incorporating good suggestions from the meeting for discussion and adoption at the party's fifth congress. The meeting, through a process of collective democracy, elected a number of members and alternate members according to the report on their performance and their suitability to serve the party. These representatives will take part in the party's fifth congress to be held in the near future.

In his closing speech, Comrade Say Phuthang called on party members, the armed forces, and the entire people to awaken and strive to struggle and sacrifice for the cause of defending and building the Cambodian fatherland. Party members, in particular, should strive to produce pioneering efforts, heighten their responsibility, and carry out well the 6-point task of party members. Furthermore, Comrade Say Phuthang said that for Kompong Speu Province in particular to win new victories, cadres, party members, workers, personnel, and the entire people in the province should contribute to the emulation efforts to create new achievements to welcome the party's fifth congress and contribute to mass organization movements throughout the country. This is to produce a vigorous force for the task of defending and advancing the building of the country, promoting unity, and heightening the proletarian internationalist spirit, particularly the strategic militant solidarity among Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos, which is the constant factor for the development of each country.

On that occasion, the comrade recalled the KPRP's tradition of struggle in close cooperation with the fraternal CPV and the LPRP to lead mass organizations in each country to defeat French colonialism, Japanese militarism, U.S. imperialism, and feudalism and in the end to topple the barbarous and savage

Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan genocidal clique created by the Beijing hegemonists-expansionists. This has checked in a timely manner the danger of genocide, loss of territory, and aggressive and expansionist ambitions in Southeast Asia during the past 6 years. At the same time, Comrade Say Phuthang highly appreciated the efforts by the party, state authorities, people, and masses in Kompong Speu Province to implement the three revolutionary movements of the party to produce achievements to welcome the forthcoming party's fifth congress.

CSO: 4212/101

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

KAMPUCHEA EDITORIAL ON EMULATION EFFORTS

BK290949 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 28 Aug 85

[KAMPUCHEA editorial: "All of Us Strive To Emulate To Produce Achievements To Welcome the Party's Fifth Congress"]

[Text] Under the clear-sighted leadership of the KPRP, from year to year our PRK has gradually and firmly advanced in every field. As Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin said in his address on the 34th founding anniversary of the KPRP, over the past 6 years, due to the all-out efforts of the entire party, army, and people with the fraternal assistance of Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union, and other fraternal socialist countries, the Cambodian revolution has scored successive victories. This year's successes are greater than those of the previous years, particularly the military victories in 1984 and more importantly those during the 1984-1985 dry season, which were the greatest ones since the 7 January 1979 victory day.

These proud achievements were the brilliant results of the patriotic emulation movement for the defense and construction of the fatherland, which has become a vigorous movement of the entire party, army, and people. It has rallied forces and united them firmly for the cause of defending and building the country and nation. The KPRAF, police and militia forces, cadres, personnel, and people throughout the country have heightened their valiant fighting spirit and emulation efforts to thwart all perfidious maneuvers and activities of enemies of every stripe. Many front-line units have not only maintained their support bases along hundreds of kilometers of border but have also actively fought to control and capture important enemy positions. Army units in provinces and districts throughout the country have actively taken part in the emulation movement to implement the 5-point task set by the Ministry of National Defense.

Many units are fighting the enemies and building their units simultaneously. They are also carrying out mass agitation work and are ready to defend firmly and build their localities. Militia forces in every locality, which have been successively expanded and strengthened, have closely cooperated with provincial and district armed forces and launched operations to sweep up enemies in their areas and defend communications lines, bridges, and villages and communes. They have achieved good results.

Militia forces in ministries, services, factories, and enterprises are masters of the situation in defending their localities and in ensuring production in safety.

Having grasped the slogan: A citizen is a soldier, our people in every locality throughout the country have actively contributed to providing information, exposing hidden enemy forces, sounding the alarm, serving as guides, and taking part directly in fighting and smashing the enemies. Every strata of our people have contributed to the national defense labor movement. They have participated vigorously and achieved fine results. Along with this, our people have also been active in efforts to win back misled persons. As a result, almost 3,000 misled persons have returned to the fold during the first 6 months of this year, bringing with them more than 1,000 weapons. In comparison to the same period in 1984, this represents an increase of almost 300 percent.

In agriculture, despite unfavorable natural conditions coupled with destructive enemy activities in some areas, our peasants have cooperated with state authorities and establishments specializing in agricultural techniques to grave all obstacles and take part in the emulation movement. They are fighting the enemies with one hand and carrying out production work with the other. They have participated vigorously and actively, with a lively spirit of diligence, mastery, and initiative combined with experience and good techniques. They have transplanted and broadcast more than 280,000 hectares of rice, including some areas planted with intensive rice crops.

Regarding industrial production, the value of industrial products produced during the 1st half of the year has increased by 41 percent over the same period last year. Many factories and enterprises have fulfilled and surpassed their plans. The service industry, education, public health, social affairs, and other fields have also produced remarkable results.

Through this vigorous movement to defend and built the country, we have discovered outstanding individuals with outstanding achievements in production and in battle. They have been promoted and included in the party, state authorities, and mass organizations. Cadres, party members, members of the youth union, combatants, and a multitude of our workers have been outstanding in carrying out their tasks. They have done this through a resolute revolutionary stand and loyalty in serving the party and people. They have been exemplary and are a vanguard in their honesty, thrift, and diligence. Through this, branches of the party, core group, and youth union have been firmly expanded and strengthened.

In sum, during the last half of 1985, we have scored many great achievements in every field, militarily, politically, economically, culturally, socially, and diplomatically. These great achievements are the pride and highest honor of our nation. However, in comparison to our requirements, we see that our achievements are still limited and we have not yet fulfilled the goals of the party, revolution, and people. Furthermore, although the enemies have been dealt serious defeats, they are still stubbornly persisting in destructive activities to sabotage our country's revolution. The Beijing hegemonist-expansionist clique, in collusion with the U.S. imperialists and rightist

reactionary circles in Thailand, is seeking every means to infiltrate the Pol Pot remnants into Cambodia to carry out destructive activities. Therefore, all of us should necessarily heighten further our patriotic spirit in the emulation movement and on every battlefield to score increasingly greater victories for the nation and the fatherland. All of us should strive to make efforts to take part in the emulation movement to produce achievements to welcome the party's fifth congress.

Party organizations, state authorities, and mass organizations in every unit, locality, factory, and enterprise should primarily pay attention to vigorously and most actively promoting the patriotic emulation movement by focusing on study, research, and wide dissemination of the speech by Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin at the 34th founding anniversary of the KPRP and the appeal of party regional meetings. Furthermore, we should plan well the direction of the emulation movement through its various stages on the basis of the concrete situation in each locality by stressing the three movements: fighting the enemies and winning back enemy soldiers; increasing production and practicing thrift; and building real revolutionary forces and widely disseminating their significance among the cadres, personnel, and workers to heighten vigorously and actively the spirit of advancing the emulation movement.

Emulation councils in every ministry, service, province, municipality, and unit throughout the country should pay attention to producing monthly reports and summing up well the results of the 2d half of the year. Efforts should be made to locate exemplary units, pioneers, and individuals with outstanding achievements and promoting and making them members of the party, core group, and youth union. Apart from these activities, ministries, services, provinces, and municipalities should sign agreements to emulate and unite before and after the party's fifth congress to create concrete achievements dedicated to the party's congress. Promoting, organizing, and implementing well the emulation movement to produce good results to welcome the party's fifth congress is showing the profound sentiments of each one of us toward the KPRP and is also a most active contribution to the common cause of defending and building our Cambodian fatherland.

CSO: 4212/101

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

ARMY PAPER MARKS AUGUST REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

BK021001 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 31 Aug 85

[KANGTOAP PADEVOAT editorial: "A Model Line for the National Liberation Movement of the Oppressed Nations"]

[Text] The August Revolution of Vietnam is now 40 years old. It is true that 40 years of history are a short span of time, but these 40 years are permeated with struggle of national defense and reconstruction of a nation rich in culture and civilization. The model of this struggle opened a brand-new era for the Vietnamese nation as well as for all oppressed nations in Southeast Asia and the world as a whole, namely an era of independence, freedom, and magnificent socialism.

For nearly 90 years under the rule of the French colonialists and thousands of years under the oppression of the monarchist-feudalists, poor Vietnam was not far from being erased from the world map. Thanks to the talented leadership of the CPV founded and led by President Ho Chi Minh, the victorious light of the August Revolution was kindled in response to the call of the Vietnamese nation, long crushed under oppression.

The rapid success of the August Revolution awoke the sense of the whole Vietnamese nation, prompting the Vietnamese people to rise up in an energetic struggle until total victory, advancing toward happiness and building the foundations of socialism once and for all. Along with the serious defeat of the German fascists and Japanese militarists in World War II, the valiant and courageous Vietnamese people intensified their struggle, developing their spirit of patriotic revolution and toppling the ruling system of the colonialists and imperialists that had stagnated on Vietnamese soil for nearly 1 century. This victory gave birth to the first worker-peasant administration in Southeast Asia under the leadership of the Workers' Party in which the people have become the master of the society and of everything in the state like in all other nations.

The truth of the August Revolution propelled Vietnam straight toward the shore of a brand-new socialism in Southeast Asia. It is true that the August Revolution was a distant bell tolling, but it was also a shining beacon of great influence on the oppressed nations. The formula of the August Revolution was a very simple test. However, it was of profound significance that all countries under the domination of the colonialists and

neocolonialists could easily copy, study, and imitate by rising up in a resolute struggle to bring a change for their homelands and build them according to the Marxist-Leninist revolutionary mold.

The program of study on the August Revolution worked out by the nations in all continents has elicited excellent proofs of success that crushed the oppressive apparatuses of the colonialists and imperialists in a brilliant and pridesworthy manner.

First of all, the lesson of the August Revolution has become a tradition full of objectivity in the Indochinese peninsula, particularly in fraternal Cambodia and Laos, as it created combined revolutionary forces that fought undauntedly against the bloody oppression of the French colonialists in the past as well as the U.S. imperialist aggressors in collusion with the Beijing expansionist-hegemonists and their lackeys, the traitorous Cambodian groups, at present.

The brilliance of the August Revolution shows the resolute, united struggle of the forces of the masses fighting unstoppably like a torrential current, defeating the colonialists and imperialist aggressors, and, in the latest decade, seriously beating and appropriately punishing the Beijing expansionist-hegemonists along the Sino-Vietnamese border, firmly building the Marxist-Leninist revolution on the beautiful land of Vietnam.

The entire Cambodian Army and people, like the progressive people the world over, would like to participate with firm optimism in the grand celebration of the historic 40th anniversary of the August Revolution of the fraternal Vietnamese people. The light of the August Revolution has given a radiant future to the Cambodian and Lao peoples and our three countries have become strong and staunch outposts of socialism in the Indochinese peninsula, setting a brilliant example for the people in Southeast Asia and the world.

The excellent model and experience of the August Revolution greatly encouraged the Cambodian people to struggle resolutely shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal Vietnamese people and the peoples of Laos, the Soviet Union, and all fraternal socialist countries in the world in order to safeguard the independence and built their beloved fatherland along the line toward the shore of socialism and in defense of peace and freedom in Southeast Asia and the world.

The August Revolution will remain immortal in the memory of the world's people and will be engraved indelibly in the red hearts of the Cambodian people.

CSO: 4212/101

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

SRV FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL SPEAKS

BK290731 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 28 Aug 85

[Station correspondent's interview with chairman of the Cambodia-Vietnam Friendship Association Chan Ven on the 40th anniversary of the August Revolution and National Day of Vietnam]

[Excerpt] [Correspondent] Would you please summarize the effectiveness of the Cambodia-Vietnam friendship and the goal of the association in strengthening and developing this special militant solidarity.

[Chan Ven] I have already told our compatriots and listeners that the victory of the August Revolution and the great victory of the SRV in the past 40 years has made the militant solidarity between Cambodia and Vietnam advance with a new step, and that this solidarity has become a strategic factor in determining the victory of the Cambodian revolution. Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, stated at the (?32d) anniversary of the KPRP founding that the bonds of solidarity between the Vietnamese people and party and those of Cambodia have become the most vital condition for our people's survival. This solidarity is a factor in the development of our country's revolution. It is also a principle for the construction of our party and for our cadres and party members. We must always preserve and defend the closed bonds of solidarity with the CPV and the Vietnamese people.

Concerning the role of the Cambodia-Vietnam Friendship Association, we would like to state that under the party's leadership, we have made every effort to contribute to strengthening and developing the bonds of special militant solidarity between Cambodia and Vietnam. The concrete duty of our association is to cooperate with the Cambodian people and to do everything to make our people, the masses, cadres, employees, workers, monks, and our army understand more about Vietnam and the traditions of the valiant and courageous struggle of the Vietnamese people. We have strived to make our people understand clearly the assistance of the Vietnamese party, government, and people for our revolution.

We have created more branches of our Cambodia-Vietnam Friendship Association in the central ministries and offices, provinces, towns, and localities such

as in factories, enterprises, universities, schools, and so on. Therefore, there are many duties of our association.

In the name of the Cambodia-Vietnam Friendship Association and that of the Cambodian people, on the occasion of the anniversary of the August Revolution and the 40th anniversary of the national day of the fraternal Vietnamese people, our entire Cambodian people would like to sincerely express their profound gratitude to the Vietnamese party, people, and army, especially to the Vietnamese volunteer troops and experts who have carried out their proletarian duty on Cambodian territory. The Cambodian people would like to acclaim the great victory of the fraternal Vietnamese people in the cause of the defense and construction of their socialist fatherland. They wish that the fraternal Vietnamese party, government, and people will score new greater victories in the cause of the construction and defense of their socialist fatherland. Furthermore, the Cambodian people wish that the bonds of special militant solidarity and friendship between Cambodia and Vietnam and among Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos develop further and last forever.

CSO: 4212/101

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

ORGANIZATIONS GREET SRV BODIES ON NATIONAL DAY

BK301238 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1112 GMT 30 Aug 85

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 30--Kampuchean mass organizations have sent fraternal greetings to their Vietnamese counterparts on the 40th anniversary of Vietnam's August revolution (August 19) and on the 40th national day of Vietnam (Sept 2).

The message signed by Chea Sim, chairman of the National Council of the United Front for Construction and Defense of the Kampuchea Fatherland, and addressed to Huynh Tan Phat, chairman of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, says: "The victory of the August Revolution in Vietnam put an end to French colonialism and to feudalism, in Vietnam and the two other countries of Indochina. It paved the way for the founding of the then Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the first socialist state in Southeast Asia."

"The victory on August 19, 1945 was a great historical event not only to the Vietnamese people but also to all oppressed people in the world," the message further says.

"This great victory also created favourable conditions for the revolutions in Kampuchea and Laos to win successive victories over the common enemy, and for the creation of a solid strategic alliance of the three Indochinese countries," the message points out.

The message expresses profound thanks to the party, the government, the front and the people of Vietnam for their proletarian internationalist support and assistance to the Kampuchean people.

Another message, signed by Mean Sam-An, president of the association of revolutionary women of Kampuchea, and addressed to her Vietnamese counterpart, Nguyen Thi Dinh, says that these anniversaries bring to mind the heroism of Vietnamese women and the people of Vietnam as a whole in their struggle for liberation from colonialism and exploitation to shape their own destiny.

The message, after praising the great sacrifices made by Vietnamese women in helping save the Kampuchean people from extinction by the genocidal regime of Pol Pot, stresses that the Kampuchean revolution will advance and that the unbreakable solidarity between the parties, governments and peoples

of the two countries will bloom still more magnificently despite the enemy's perfidy.

The message declares Kampuchean women's determination to further strengthen militant solidarity with their Vietnamese sisters so as to foil all divisive schemes of the enemy.

The joint message from the People's Revolutionary Youth Union and the Association of Revolutionary Youth of Kampuchea to the Ho Chi Minh communist Youth Union and the Vietnam Youth Federation says, among other things:

"We rejoice at the brilliant successes obtained by the people and youth of Vietnam in the past 40 years and highly praise the heroism displayed by the Vietnamese people and their army in fighting side by side with Kampuchea against the common enemy."

"May the militant solidarity, friendship and multiform cooperation between Kampuchea and Vietnam last for ever," the message adds.

The Kampuchea Federation of Trade Unions, in a message to the Vietnam federation of trade unions, says: "We highly appreciate the great efforts exerted by the people and working class of Vietnam under the clear-sighted leadership of the president Ho Chi Minh, the founder of the first worker-peasant state in Southeast Asia."

"We warmly congratulate Vietnamese workers on the outstanding achievements they have made in the past 40 years in advancing the common revolution and in laying the material foundations of socialism on the beautiful land of Vietnam," says the message.

"We wish the working people of Vietnam still greater successes in consolidating the bonds of solidarity, friendship and cooperation between the workers and trade union organizations of the two countries," concludes the message.

CSO: 4200/1483

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

PHNOM PENH MEDIA MARK VIETNAMESE ANNIVERSARY

BK011325 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1103 GMT 1 Sep 85

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK 1 Sep--The press in Kampuchea has prominently highlighted the 40th anniversary of the Vietnamese August revolution (April 19) [as received] and the 40th national day (2 Sep) of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The weekly REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES in its frontpaged editorial on these big events stresses that the victory of the August revolution, consecrated by the declaration of Vietnam's independence and the founding of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam--the first worker-peasant state in Southeast Asia--by President Ho Chi Minh at Hanoi's Ba Dinh Square on Sep 2, 1945, ushered in a new era in Vietnam, an era of independence and freedom, and in which the people became true master of their destiny.

The editorial recalls the various stages of the victorious struggle waged by the heroic people of Vietnam under the correct, clear-sighted leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam against enemies of all colors, in defense of independence and socialism. It continues: "Continuing the tradition of solidarity initiated by the Communist Party of Indochina, the communist party, the government, the people and the Armed Forces of Vietnam have always assisted Kampuchea in its revolutionary cause. Vietnamese Army volunteers are carrying out their internationalist duties to Kampuchea. Thanks to this, the Kampuchean revolution has scored brilliant success in national defense and construction. The resounding victories recorded in the 1984-85 dry season came next in importance to only the victory over the genocidal Pol Pot regime on Jan 7, 1979."

The weekly carries many other articles on Vietnam and devotes two full pages to photos under the headline: "The Fraternal People of Vietnam in [words indistinct] stories highlighting Vietnam's development on all planes. The paper's editorial points out that the impact of the victory of the August revolution was felt outside Vietnam's frontiers. "It strongly encouraged the liberation movements in other countries, especially in Kampuchea and Laos," the editorial notes.

In the 40 years since, the editorial says, Vietnam has always been inspired by the conviction that "nothing is more precious than independence and

freedom" and has relied mainly on its own effort to defeat all its enemies --the colonialists, the imperialists and the expansionists.

The editorial recalls how Vietnam has saved Kampuchea from the genocidal regime of Pol Pot. It continues: "The Socialist Republic of Vietnam has been and will remain the mainstay of revolutionary forces on the Indochinese Peninsula, an outpost of socialism in Southeast Asia. Vietnam is contributing to the cause of world revolution and to peace and stability in this region; its prestige is rising on the international arena."

Radio "Voice of the Kampuchean People" acclaims these important events by highly praising the Vietnamese people for their outstanding achievements over the past 40 years.

"The victory of the August revolution," the radio says in a recent broadcast, "brought about tremendous changes on the land of Vietnam. It smashed the triple yoke of native feudalism, French colonialism and Japanese fascism, weighing heavily on the Vietnamese people for many years. The reunification of Vietnam created good conditions for the work of defense and reconstruction."

The radio stresses the Vietnamese people's desire for peace and points out that "Vietnam, as a member of many international organizations, has been true to its role as an independent country supporting other oppressed nations in struggling for freedom."

The radio highly praises the great sacrifices made by Vietnamese Army volunteers in the spirit of internationalism to the revolution in Kampuchea. It concludes by expressing profound gratitude to the Vietnamese people and wishing them still greater success in defending and rebuilding socialist Vietnam.

CSO: 4200/1483

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

RADIO HIGHLIGHTS KPRAF ACTIVITIES IN PAST WEEK

BK300853 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 29 Aug 85

[From the "Weekly Roundup of Salient Events" Feature]

[Excerpt] According to results from various battlefields, in 53 battles last week our armed forces, militiamen, and the Vietnamese volunteer army put out of action 264 enemy soldiers. Of these, 73 were killed on the spot, 21 were wounded, and 29 taken prisoner; 64 enemy soldiers and 77 misled persons were also shown the way and returned to the revolution and people. We seized an assortment of 84 weapons, 16 mines, 500 kg of TNT, and destroyed an enemy warehouse.

Between 13 and 18 August, some units of our armed forces and the Vietnamese volunteer army in charge of P'aong area closely cooperated in patrolling the area. They engaged a group of enemy soldiers and put 15 of them out of action, seizing 5 weapons and 25 bundles of goods. On 18 August, in the Cambodia, Laos, Thailand triborder area, a group of bandits sneaked in across the border bringing food supplies and ammunition to their starving colleagues inside the country. They were intercepted by our units and the Vietnamese volunteer army [words indistinct] seized four weapons and a quantity of war materiel.

On 16 August, a group of starving bandits emerged from the jungle in an attempt to plunder the people's rice in Baray District. They were intercepted by our militiamen in Chong Dong village. Two of the bandits were killed on the spot and seven others wounded. We also seized a compass, a pair of binoculars, and all their weapons.

CSO: 4212/101

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

'FINANCE MINISTRY EDITORIAL' ON BUSINESS TAXES

BK310932 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 30 Aug 85

["Finance Ministry editorial": "Actively Implement the Business Tax Policy With Success"]

[Text] Under the PRK regime, the state is formed through a vote by the people, and it represents the working people. Aside from the task of ensuring national defense and maintaining social order and security, the state has the additional obligation of restoring production and social life and providing guidance for and assistance to the economy so that it benefits both society and the peasants and workers. At the same time, it has the duty to promote the development of the cultural, educational, and health services and of social welfare for the people. To realize all these undertakings, the state must obtain funds and material property by collecting some assets deducted from the domestic economy in the forms of patriotic contributions, business taxes, and so on.

In the transition period of the advance toward socialism, taxes are an important source of income for the state budget. The state collects funds from the people to purchase machinery and fertilizers; construct irrigation networks; develop agriculture and industry; and build communication lines, ships docks, garages, schools, and hospital to serve the people in further increasing strength for national defense and for the maintenance of security, ensuring social order, providing a livelihood for the people, and enabling them to live and work in stability.

Each riel given by the people has contributed to the restoration and development of the economic, cultural, and social life of the country; to national defense endeavors; to constructing facilities provided to the people themselves by the state; and also to ensuring the happiness of their children in the future. Not only will the money paid by the people in taxes and collected for the state budget be well preserved, but it will also be spent to serve the material and spiritual needs of the people themselves.

Since the country has been freed from the danger of genocide by the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary Gang, the principles and policies of the party and state have been to boost and exploit to the maximum the people's will to restore production rapidly to meet their everyday needs and the needs of national

defense and reconstruction. All business activities throughout the country have been gradually restored and expanded. To guide and assist these activities correctly, the state proceeded in 1981 with the listing of all the professions, and later it issued the policy on levying taxes on a number of professions in three sectors: commerce, food and a number of designated professions.

At the end of 1982, together with the procedures of listing professions, the state defined the policy on taxes for imported goods and the professional taxes usually imposed on medium and large professions in the food and beverage and service sectors.

In the past few years, small-scale campaigns to drum up business tax contributions were implemented in a limited number of sectors, fields, and bases. The intensity of the campaign itself remained insignificant. At present, the situation of business activities has undergone great changes. The small industries and handicrafts have grown into medium and large productive bases. The communications and transport sector has also undergone rapid development in both overland and river networks. Trade and service have also been expanded and broadened to all localities, from the main towns to the remote countryside. Many professional sectors and fields have had high yields but have not yet fulfilled their obligation of contributing to the state budget. In the stage of implementing the tax policy, there are still shortcomings in leadership; guidance; and organization of implementation and in monitoring, following up, warning, and exhorting the organization of the collecting apparatuses. Moreover, cooperation among the various departments concerned remains loose.

Over the past 6 months, the Council of State has publicized three law-decrees dealing with professional taxes, patent taxes, and domestic goods taxes. The law-decree on business taxes released by the state has been implemented throughout the country and has been expanded to cover many professions in many fields. The business tax policy provides different priorities and incentives among different professions. For example, the productive sector receives greater priority and incentives than the petty trading sector, the goods necessary for production and livelihood are liable to lower taxes than luxury goods, and the collective organizations receives greater priority over private activities. To assist the workers in their living conditions, small professional bases with low income have their tax rates reduced or receive tax exemption. In this situation, where the national economy is still weak and unable to supply significant funds to the state, it is imperative to launch a campaign to pay business taxes, particularly among major professional sectors with high yield. This constitutes an important source for the state budget.

All these points will actively contribute to guiding the development of production and boardening the circulation of goods according to the targets of the state plan, thus ensuring the interests of the society and those of the businessmen themselves.

The business tax policy is a major policy of the party and state. It is connected to many other policies and principles, to many sectors, to the armed forces, to the mass organizations, to the whole society, and to the interests of the people in general. The implementation of the business tax policy requires the constant leading and guiding attention of the party committees and authorities at all levels in the ideological, political, organizational, and implementational fields. Coordination between the tax authorities and the departments concerned, the armed forces, and the mass organizations will also be an important contribution to the success of tax collection. Along with the work of organizing and supervising the implementation of the tax policy, it is imperative to train tax collecting cadres in the political, ideological, vocational, and professional fields and to take care of their revolutionary ethics.

The business policy must be broadly spread, explained, then interpreted thoroughly among the cadres, the armed forces, the people, and the professional bases, ensuring that this becomes a broad mass movement responding to and providing support for the principles of the state's tax collecting policy. At the same time, it is imperative to oppose opportunely the enemy's smearing and discrediting propaganda campaign against our state's tax collecting policy. Each citizen must participate in monitoring and ferreting out all negative acts, such as slanders against the policy, illegal trading activities, graft, hoarding, and tax evasion. All productive and professional bases must be awakened and correctly implement the policy, fulfill their obligations, and contribute to and respect all economic and financial principles of the administrative regime regarding business taxes. With the current amendment and addition, the business tax policy is fair and reasonable and it accords with the character of the revolutionary administration.

CSO: 4212/101

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 26 AUG - 1 SEP

BK020820 [Editorial Report] Cambodian media monitored by Bangkok Bureau carried the following reports on agricultural developments during the reporting period 26 August-1 September:

National level: Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1110 GMT on 28 August transmits the following report:

Solidarity groups in Kampuchea, despite insufficient rains, particularly in Kandal and Kompong Speu provinces, had by mid-August plowed 1,145,000 hectares and transplanted rice on half of the 1,700,000 hectares earmarked for this monsoon cropping. The peasants are also nursing a new batch of seedlings to replace the previous one, which was ruined by dryness. The Ministry of Agriculture has provided [words indistinct] areas with 117 motor pumps and large quantities of chemical fertilizer, insecticide and sprayers. It has also sent technical personnel to help peasants in intensive farming. Also by mid-August peasants in Takeo Province, 80 km south of Phnom Penh, had plowed 127,600 hectares and put 78,700 others under rice. This accounted for 63 percent of the plan and was up by 37,600 hectares over the same period last year. To ensure the irrigation works, they have also dredged two canals capable of watering some 1,700 hectares and strengthened thousands of metres of [word indistinct] border.

Kampot Province: According to a report broadcast by Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 1300 GMT on 28 August, by mid-August, peasants in Banteay Meas District had plowed more than 15,000 hectares of land, transplanted 7,000 hectares of rice, including 3,000 hectares of early rice, 2,534 hectares of medium-term rice, 1,903 hectares of later rice, and 107 hectares of floating rice. In another report broadcast at 0430 GMT on 31 August they say that so far peasants in Kompong Trach District had re-tilled 9,350 hectares of land; sown 3,210 hectares of rice; transplanted 5,750 hectares of early rice, 2,090 hectares of middle rice, and 4,390 hectares of late rice; planted 770 hectares of industrial and subsidiary crops; and collected 22,300 metric tons of natural fertilizers. According to SPK in French at 1128 GMT on 1 September, by mid-August peasants in the province had put 57,000 hectares of land under rice, or 63 percent of this rainy season plan. They had also planted 4,300 hectares of subsidiary crops, 1,700 hectares of industrial crops, and more than 50,000 hectares of kapok trees and pepper.

Prey Veng Province: At 1300 GMT on 29 August the radio reports that so far peasants in the province have planted 4,300 hectares of corn, 265 hectares of cassave, 264 hectares of potatoe, more than 100 hectares of beans, 350 hectares of vegetables, 300 hectares of short-term industrial crops, more than 1,600 hectares of sesame, and more than 200 hectares of sugar cane.

Kompong Speu Province: In a report in French transmitted at 0418 GMT on 26 August SPK says that so far, despite drought, peasants in Phnum Sruoch District have managed to transplant almost 4,700 hectares of rice or more than 55 percent of this rainy season plan. According to the radio at 1300 GMT on 31 August, by mid-August, peasants in Samroang Ton District had transplanted 10,706 hectares of rice and planted 810 hectares of subsidiary and industrial crops.

Svay Rieng Province: At 1300 GMT on 1 September the radio reports that so far peasants in Svay Rieng District have retilled 29,400 hectares of the planned 37,000 hectares of land; sown more than 3,200 hectares of various types of rice; and transplanted, broadcast, and planted more than 23,000 hectares of rice.

Kompong Cham Province: In a report in French transmitted at 1147 GMT on 26 Augst SPK says that by mid-August peasants in Kroch Chhma District had planted almost 1,000 hectares of rice and 1,250 hectares of subsidiary crops and had put 550 hectares of land back to cultivation.

CSO: 4212/101

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

MONGOLIAN LEADERS THANK YOU MESSAGES TO PRK LEADERS

Dugersuren Message

BK270622 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 27 Aug 85

[Text] Comrade Hun Sen, PRK foreign minister, has recently received a message of thanks from Comrade Dugersuren, foreign minister of the Mongolian People's Republic. The message, among other things, says: I am happy with the close and fraternal relations and cooperation between our two countries based on the firm principles of Marxism-Leninism and progressive proletarian internationalism for the benefits of the Mongolian and Cambodian people in accordance with the interests of peace, democracy, and socialism.

Batmonh Message

BK260750 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 26 Aug 85

[Text] Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the PRK Council of State; and Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, recently received a message of thanks from Comrade Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian Revolutionary People's Party and chairman of the People's Great Hural Presidium; and Comrade Sodnom, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic, for a congratulatory message sent on the 64th anniversary of the Mongolian people's revolution. The message, among other things, says:

We are firmly convinced that the fraternal relations of friendship, militant solidarity, and close cooperation between our two countries, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, will further develop and be strengthened in the future.

Once again, we would like to express to you, and through you to the Cambodian people, sincere wishes for greater success in the cause of defending and strengthening national independence, sovereignty, and revolutionary gains against attacks by imperialists and other reactionary forces in the struggle to build a new society in your country.

CSO: 4212/101

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA CONGRATULATED--Phnom Penh, 29 Aug (SPK)--Heng Samrin, chairman of the PRK Council of State, sent warm congratulations to Daniel Ortega Saavedra on the occasion of the latter was elected to the post of coordinator of the executive committee recently created by the Sandinist National Liberation Front. The message notably says: Under your clear-sighted leadership, I am convinced that all perfidious maneuvers by the U.S. imperialists to maintain economic pressure and sustain antirevolutionaries to infiltrate Nicaragua in order to undermine its revolutionary gains are found to be defeated by the firm will and invincible strength of the heroic Nicaraguan people. I wish you new and greater successes in carrying out this noble task for the common goals of peace, freedom, democracy, and social progress. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0411 GMT 29 Aug 85 BK]

DELEGATIONS VISIT SRV COMBATANTS--Phnom Penh, 29 Aug (SPK)--On the 40th anniversary of the Vietnamese national day, a delegation from the PRK party, state, and mass organizations visited Vietnamese combatants on proletarian internationalist mission in western Cambodia. The delegation was led by Mean Sam-an, alternate member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Women's Association. Another delegation led by Masa Loas, deputy minister of the cabinet of the Council of Ministers, also visited Vietnamese combatants stationed in Ta Sanh (Battambang). [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0414 GMT 29 Aug 85 BK]

RETURNEES TO THE REVOLUTION--Phnom Penh, 26 Aug (SPK)--Since the beginning of the year, thanks to the lenient policy of the party and government of the PRK, 154 misled persons have rallied to the revolutionary cause in Santuk District, Kompong Thom Province, some 150 km north of Phnom Penh. During the same period, 14 others reported themselves to the revolutionary power of Prey Veng Province, 90 km east of the capital. These returnees handed over to the local authorities a remarkable quantity of arms and other war materiel. Fully enjoying the rights of citizens, the returnees are now leading a new life with their families with the assistance of the local authorities. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 1144 GMT 26 Aug 85 BK]

GDR'S HONECKER BIRTHDAY GREETINGS--Phnom Penh, 28 Aug (SPK)--Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the PRK Council of State, sent his warm greetings to Erich Honecker, general secretary

of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State on the occasion of his 73th birthday anniversary. In his message the Cambodian leader wrote: "I have the firm conviction that the good relations of friendship and the close multifaceted cooperation between our two countries will continue to develop and broaden for the well-being of our two peoples and for world peace." Chairman Heng Samrin wished his GDR counterpart the best of health and great success in carrying out his noble task full of responsibility. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0428 GMT 28 Aug 85 BK]

SOVIET AID DISTRIBUTION--On 25 August, a delegation from the KUFNCD National Council and general secretary of the PRK-USSR Friendship Association, distributed some gifts in the form of blankets, plates, cloth, kettles, sewing machines, bicycles, radio sets, and ballpens--gifts from the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Peoples--to victims of natural disasters in Kompong Chhnang Province. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 27 Aug 85 BK]

LAO DELEGATION--Phnom Penh, 28 Aug (SPK)--At the invitation of the emulation committee of the PRK Council of State, a Lao delegation of the Medals Institute [L'Institute de Medailles] of the Council of Ministers led by its directors, Heuangmani Bouahan, arrived in Phnom Penh on Tuesday for an official and friendship visit to Cambodia. The delegation was received upon its arrival by Sa Not, deputy director of offices of the Council of State in charge of emulation movement. The presence of Soukhala Phakonkham, Lao acting charge d'affaires to Cambodia, was also noted. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0431 GMT 28 Aug 85 BK]

SRV FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION ARRIVES--Phnom Penh SPK 29 Aug--A delegation of the Vietnam-Kampuchea Friendship Association, led by its president, Phan Truong Tue, arrived here Thursday for celebrations of Vietnam's 40th independence day in Kampuchea. It was welcomed at Pochentong Airport by Chhuk Chhim, vice chairman of both the Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association and the Association of Revolutionary Women of Kampuchea, and other Kampuchean officials. Vietnamese ambassador Ngo Dien was also present. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1109 GMT 29 Aug 85 BK]

SOVIET FLOOD RELIEF--Phnom Penh SPK 23 Aug--Relief has been distributed to people who were affected by floods last year at 13 communes surrounding Phnom Penh and in the provinces of Kandal, Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, Takeo and Kompong Speu. The relief donated by the Soviet Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity, consisted of bicycles, radios, sewing machines, blankets, textile, household utensils and school materials. It was brought to the afflicted localities by a delegation of the national council of united front for construction and defense of Kampuchean fatherland led by Men Chhan, vice president of the front and general secretary a.i. of the State Council. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1107 GMT 23 Aug 85 BK]

CSO: 4200/1483

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

AAPSO SENDS ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE TO SWAPO

OW241808 Hanoi VNA in English 1543 GMT 24 Aug 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA 24 August--The Vietnam AAPSO committee has extended warmest greetings to the South West African people's organization (SWAPO), on the anniversary of the people's liberation army of Namibia (26 August).

The message says:

"Since its foundation, the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) has under SWAPO leadership won big victories in the struggle against the racist aggressors of South Africa backed and assisted by U.S. led Western countries. Your armed forces' fight has also made important contribution to the present political and diplomatic struggle in Namibia and the world as a whole, thus ceaselessly increasing the SWAPO's prestige.

"Together with other progressive people throughout the world, the Vietnamese people strongly condemn the South African administration for their deliberately rigging up the puppet government to legalize its prolonged occupation of Namibia, and resolutely demands that the Pretoria administration seriously implement the U.N.'s resolution 435 on the return of independence to Namibia whose only genuine representative is the SWAPO."

"Once again," the message says, "the Vietnamese people reaffirms their militant solidarity with and unswerving support for the Namibian people's indomitable struggle against the Pretoria regime for their genuine independence and freedom."

The message expresses the confidence that the Namibian people and army, under SWAPO leadership and with the great assistance of the front-line countries, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the socialist countries, and all progressive forces throughout the world, will win even bigger victories and that they will certainly win total victory.

CSO: 4200/1469

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

BRIEFS

ECONOMIC RELATIONS PRAISED--Hanoi VNA 22 August--Miron Ovidiu, Charge d'affaires A.I. of Romania, held a press conference at the embassy here this morning on the 41st national day of the Socialist Republic of Romania. Present at the conference were representatives of the foreign ministry, the international department of the communist party of Vietnam Central Committee, and large numbers of Vietnamese newsmen. Miron Ovidiu brought out the great significance of 23 August 1944 in the glorious history of the Romanian people. He reviewed the brilliant achievements recorded by the Romanian people over the past 41 years under the leadership of the communist party, particularly since the Ninth Congress of the party. He said that an underdeveloped country before the second world war, Romania has today become a developed industrial-agricultural country with G.N.P., 28 times as big as in the old regime, and an even better life for its people. The Romanian charge d'affaires expressed his joy at the development of the friendship, solidarity and all-round cooperation based on mutual respect and mutual trust between the communist parties, governments and peoples of Vietnam and Romania, particularly at the development of the economic and commercial relations between the two countries. [Text] Hanoi VNA in English 1538 GMT 22 Aug 85 OW]

AAPSO SENDS SOLIDARITY MESSAGE--Hanoi VNA 24 August--The Vietnamese AAPSO committee has sent a message to the African National Congress (ANC) expressing the Vietnamese people's support for the South African people's struggle against the racist regime in South Africa. After recalling the seething struggle of the people from different walks of life in South Africa over the past days, especially in Johannesburg and its vicinities and on the outskirts of Elizabeth Port, against the racial discrimination of the Pretoria Administration for the People's Welfare and Democracy, the message says: "These events prove that the South African people's revolutionary struggle under the ANC leadership has achieved a new quantitative and qualitative development. "Together with other progressive people in the world, the Vietnamese people strongly condemn the Pretoria racist regime backed by the U.S. led imperialist forces for having perpetrated brutal crimes against the South African people. We demand that the South African administration release immediately Nelson Mandela and his family and thousands of other South African patriots now still under detention." "We believe that the South African people under the leadership of the ANC, their sole authentic representative, will win still greater victories in their revolutionary struggle against racism for genuine independence and freedom and other legitimate national rights." [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1553 GMT 24 Aug 85 OW]

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JPRS-SEA-85-141
15 September 1985

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

HOANG TUNG SPEAKS--Hanoi VNA 22 August--A symposium on forty years of Vietnam's socialist realist literature was held here on 20-21 August by the Institute of Literature, the Writers' Association and the Van Hoc (Literature Publishing House in honour of the 40th anniversary of Vietnam's August revolution (19 August) and 40th national day (2 September). Among those present at the symposium were Hoang Tung, secretary of the communist party of Vietnam Central Committee; Ha Xuan Truong, alternate member of the Party Central Committee, and head of its department for culture and arts. Nearly 40 reports were delivered at the symposium. Addressing the symposium, Hoang Tung recalled the major achievements of Vietnamese literature through the successive stages of revolutionary struggle and said that Vietnam's socialist literature has played an important role in the people's spiritual life and is a contribution to world literature. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0725 GMT 22 Aug 85 OW]

CSO: 4200/1469

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

JOINT BUSINESS FOR NORTH-SOUTH SHIPPING SET

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25, 27 Jun 85

[Investigative report by Minh Son: " Haiphong Joins With Private Business in North-South Shipping "]

[25 Jun 85 p 2]

[Text] Needs in Daily Life

In addition to its activities aimed at hurriedly gaining control of goods and money, getting prepared to get rid of bureaucratic practices and state financing and totally switching to economic accounting and socialist enterprise, the commercial-touristic sector of Haiphong has been doing joint business with 30 families of private business people in north-south shipping, mainly by sea. The initial contributions of money and goods by those families as capital to the state amounted to 6 million dong. The families that volunteered to do joint business with the state are all professionally capable. Most heads of those business families are from 45 to 60 years of age. Many families have been living on and being devoted to business for two generations.

Following the total liberation of the South, as communications were resumed on the sea, the birth of the passenger steamship Thong Nhat has created favorable conditions for the movement of people between Haiphong and Ho Chi Minh City. The movement of goods between the South and the North is to an important extent linked with the weekly runs of the passenger steamship Thong Nhat and a number of other means of transportation.

Due to irregular development, mostly of the consumer goods-producing industry, among different localities in the country, particularly between Ho Chi Minh City and the northern provinces, price differences have appeared among different regions. At the end of February 1985, in Ho Chi Minh City the very common price of 100 balloons was 80 dong; the same balloons in Haiphong were sold at the price of 2-3 dong a piece. Plastic and aluminum housewares

and a number of other necessary items also showed price differences up to 1-3 times higher. This did not include some special products which the northern provinces had and the southern provinces did not have, or vice versa.

The above-mentioned situation pointed to a reality that was dictated by the needs in everyday life: there must be circulation and exchange of goods and products among regions and between one locality and another. In the meantime, the state commerce had been doing very little, had not known how to do things or had failed to pay proper attention to satisfying the people's needs. In fact, there were shipments of goods from Haiphong to a number of localities in the south, but attention usually was paid only to major goods like cement, iron and steel, coal, and so on.

Few people had thought of dealing in such items as needles, thread, tooth paste, glass lamp tubes, metal lamp bases brought from Saigon, or shipping to the south such discarded materials as pieces of torn raincoats, broken plastic toys, torn gunnysacks, and so on. These items might be considered negligible, but actually in a year the quantities needed could amount to a few thousand tons. We know that a few corporations, wards and districts of Haiphong did try to have a few shipments of special goods produced in the north sent to Ho Chi Minh City and to bring back from there a number of consumer goods, but the fact that they did not know how to do such business, did not define clear-cut responsibilities, had a large staff and showed inadequate skills and poor storage resulted in considerable losses on their part. Some goods were stored for years and still remained unsaleable. A district-level corporation had to throw away thousands of tires because of their decreased quality.

The state commerce was not yet capable of satisfying the urgent needs of consumers; by natural law, private business people would have to fill the gap. That was why the north-south business trips originating in Haiphong were becoming more and more active and sometimes created considerable difficulties for market management. And in order to prevent them, Haiphong once had to take such administrative measures as raising taxes, making arrests and strictly prohibiting north-south trade. However, reality showed that the results obtained had been poor and there had appeared a number of other negative aspects.

One, if the state raised taxes, the people doing north-south business would add the extra taxes they had to pay to the costs, which at the end consumers would still have to pay. Two, if arrests were made and strict control were imposed, private business people would seek every means to bribe control officers and ship officials, as they have corrupted a number of cadres and state officials. As a result, taxes and freight charges still remained undercollected. For the same reason, the state would be unable to control goods and money.

Three, the fact that the circulation of goods was hampered by "market-banning, river-blocking" action would create an artificial surplus of goods in one place and a shortage of goods in another. Meanwhile, there were consumer goods-producing installations in the south that needed the discarded materials from some Haiphong enterprises to make new products but found that their need remained unfulfilled. Again because of the circulation of goods being far from troublefree, some farmers felt reluctant to invest in the making of various kinds of traditional special products.

As there is a need for circulation of goods in everyday life, production can reach a high level of development only when it is able to satisfy the urgent requirements created by the law of supply and demand. As Haiphong had understood and become aware of the above-mentioned situation, it chose as a solution doing joint business with private business people in the transitional period it was going through.

How To Do Joint Business?

The Haiphong Market Transformation and Management Committee was playing an important role in getting the state commerce and private business people together in joint business to operate north-south shipments. First of all, it relied on the opinions of the people; such sectors as public security, finance and tax affairs; and the command of passenger steamship Thong Nhat while conducting an investigation and finding out the ability of business families to provide capital; on that basis, it made analyses and divided them into groups -- group one consisting of families that have been doing shipment business for generations and are highly skilled; group two, families that earn income from both shipment business and other occupations; and group three, those nonprofessional people who operate just a few shipments per year.

After having divided the families into groups and acquired a good knowledge of their economic conditions and business capabilities, the Market Transformation and Management Committee invited all of them over and clearly explained to them the party and state policies and actual decisions of the Municipal CPV Committee and People's Committee about market transformation and management in the new situation.

After nearly a month of learning and discussions aimed at finding good and reasonable things and further developing the patriotic traditions and love for socialism (among the families of small business people some were credited with having hidden and fed cadres in their homes during the resistance against the French; others having husbands and sons having made considerable contributions in the period of the anti-American fight), almost all families doing north-south shipment business voluntarily applied for doing joint business with the state. In the first round, 30 families were accepted as

members of these joint business installations. The commercial-touristic sector of Haiphong has assigned Minh Khai Department Store (at the same level as a Haiphong corporation) to do joint business with them in buying and selling goods. Four of its cadres have been sent over to hold such key positions as store director, deputy director, chief accountant and treasurer.

The first thing that was done right after joint business had been set up was to determine the mechanism for operations and limits for division of profits and bonuses. The store drafted an agreement for operations, which defines the cooperative-enterprise store as consisting of the state commerce on the one hand and private business people specialized in doing shipment business and having capital of their own, which has been put into organizing the store, on the other. The commercial-enterprise cooperative store is an independent accounting unit having the capacity of a juridical person, has its own seal and bank account, receives state support and operates in accordance with guidance from the state commerce, has the task of doing business by buying and selling or exchanging and exploits sources of goods in accordance with the unified plan of the municipality in the locations designated by the Municipal People's Committee. It must contribute to and supplement the commodity fund of the municipality for the purpose of serving production and satisfying the people's consumption needs and taste, as well as stabilizing prices; ensure profitable business and harmonious existence of the three interests of the state and collectives of business people and consumers; and help to implement the policy of the party and state on market arrangement, transformation and management. The people who join this cooperative business are business people holding class A and B business licenses and professional business people having capital, sources of goods, customers and business location and specialty. They must be doing serious business, have not committed any major wrongdoings and must voluntarily apply for contributing capital to the joint business. Each person must have at least 100,000 dong of capital in cash or goods. Capital put into business by private business people is protected by the state. In the early period, the store mainly uses this capital from private people and, whenever necessary, the state will put in additional capital or borrow capital from the credit fund. The capital that private people put into joint business, if necessary, can be partially withdrawn when they no longer remain in the business and, if there are legitimate reasons, will be gradually returned within 2-3 months. Money contributed by both sides is considered fluid capital and is guaranteed by the state budget as cash in accordance with the needs for business development.

The cooperative-enterprise store must fulfill all of its obligation to the state in accordance with regulations, in terms of paying business license, industrial-commercial, business, income and other taxes.

[27 Jun 85 p 2]

[Text] About profit distribution, the agreement indicates that the part of profit distributed on the basis of shares to the state commerce will be put in its entirety into the state budget. As to the profit distributed to the shares of private business people, it is temporarily handled as follows: Wages and bonuses paid to the shares are not added to the profit, nor included in the computation of income tax. Depending on the actual work and the nature of business of each private business people, a reasonable level of exemption ranging from 10 to 20 percent of the profit distributed to his shares will be determined. The system of exemption of industrial-commercial tax will be fully applicable. For difficult cases, the existing tax rules will apply.

About the distribution of profit, the bylaws of the store indicate that the results obtained in each business shipment should ensure payment of wages to management cadres, who have been sent over by the state, and a living standard for those being directly involved in business (this standard of living can be higher than that of cadres and workers, even in the case price compensations are included in wages). The remaining share of actual profit is divided as follows: 30-50 percent, depending on the results of the shipment concerned, will be put into the budget; as to the remaining 50 percent, 15 percent will be put into the 3 store funds (10 percent into the business development fund; 2 percent, the bonus fund; and 3 percent, the welfare and insurance fund) and 85 percent will be distributed to the shares. Income tax is computed on the basis of this distributed profit that each share earns. In the case the results of business are too poor, still 30 percent of the profit made must be put into the budget in order to ensure a minimal receipt for the state. The management board of the store, in addition to a number of cadres sent over by the state, can appoint its own representatives to serve as deputies in the store in order to directly observe all members in connection with the control and sales of goods. The agreement also defines the procedures for welfare, bonuses and disciplinary action.

The above-mentioned agreement, however imperfect it may be, serves as a basis for members of a joint business to control all activities and at the same time is an accepted document in the present joint shipment business between the state and private business people.

Gains and Losses

The joint north-south shipment business between the state commerce and private business people in Haiphong has been in existence for just nearly 2 months. The store has made only 5 shipments, 4 by sea and 1 by land, with the volume of goods totaling nearly 100 tons. As the new work was being carried out for just a short time, its strengths were not all seen yet, nor did any

weaknesses and negative aspects fully appear. But the officials in Haiphong, particularly the commercial-touristic sector and other sectors concerned, have already affirmed the following gains and losses in this joint business.

The greatest and most obvious gain was the fact that the state was able to control the sources of goods and the main source of capital among the people doing north-south shipment business. To a definite extent, the commercial sector was able to influence and operate the sources of goods in certain zones. Whenever goods were put aboard or unloaded from a ship, the private business households made a detailed declaration to show the volumes, quantities, types and qualities of the goods they were dealing in. The goods were weighed, measured and counted again and later were confirmed by the store and sectors concerned, such as taxation, shipping and customs. By controlling the volumes of goods bought and sold in such shipments, the state can not only make adjustment and coordinated efforts to channel various types of goods to where consumption needs exist but also, through the movement of such goods, learn about the taste and liking of consumers and thus guide local production sectors toward making products that suit better the people's needs. In addition to having a volume of goods of various kinds and abundance to add to its commodity fund, the state can gradually guide private business people from doing spontaneous business in which making profit is the foremost purpose toward joining the socialist enterprise. This does not take into consideration the fact that the state can increase the source of income of the state commerce. In the first month, the store put 170,000 dong of profits into the state budget.

According to a number of families of private business people doing shipment business, in the past they had been in a painful situation as every control officer anywhere had the authority to make things miserable for them. Between the place where they bought goods and the place where they sold them to consumers they had to "spend" so much money at very many gates, at very many checkpoints. Some people said that during a single shipment they had to carry with them hundreds of thousands of dong in cash to "spread" all over the route they traveled. The payment of taxes and freight charges to state organs, with invoices and receipts being issued in a proper manner, accounted for only two-thirds or less, but the total amount equal to one-third or more that they actually spent was "discreetly given" or offered to control officers, without any documents or invoices being issued. In the case they had been able to buy some special products or exotic foods and delicacies, they had to have some "gifts" given to control officers at every checkpoint as samples of "produce from our own garden." As we had some in-depth conversations with a number of families of private business people who had joined the state in doing business, we learned what they considered their gains: They now have peace of mind as they do joint business with the state, are no longer called "dealers," can do business in the full capacity of juridical person, are protected by the state and hence concentrate their efforts on looking for sources of goods and

and getting to know consumers' taste and liking in order to sell goods. They are no longer afraid and do not have to seek every means to get through checkpoints; even their entire business group does not have to worry about getting the goods through; there no longer exists a situation in which everybody is on his own while trying to win.

The losses, which have just begun to appear, were quite obvious among private business people. They were telling lies and speculating in and hoarding goods in order to deal with the state commerce.

Arousing Positive Factors

As we arrived at Alley 190 of Da Nang Street, we had to get off our bicycle and to walk for about 10 minutes before coming to house No 25. It is the home of Mrs Pham Thi Nham, 55, one of the active members of the north-south shipment joint-business store. She has been doing business to earn her living for nearly 40 years. She started by being a street vendor and then was a wholesale buyer of fish from fishing boats for resale in urban areas. When the steamship Thong Nhat began to operate, she went to many northern provinces, mostly Hai Hung and a number of highland provinces, to buy goods, brought them to Haiphong to be shipped to the south, where she again bought other goods for resale in the north. Although the book of business and business license bear only her name, other members of her family are to be utilized to full capacity whenever a shipment arrives or leaves. Mrs Nham's husband, nearly 60, now a retired Haiphong longshoreman, is still healthy, works as a cart operator as a second job and has been quite useful for the shipments of goods. A grownup daughter, who is married; a second son, who has fulfilled his military obligation and is waiting for being given a job; and a third son, who has graduated from the driving school and is awaiting a job assignment -- all three are utilized for transporting goods home, putting them aboard a ship or into a truck and getting information about current prices of goods in different locations.

"Now that you are in the joint business, with shared capital and shared business," I asked her, "are members of your family still useful?"

"While there are not enough means of transportation provided by the state," she said, "while the state officials are not yet very good at doing business and knowing the goods and prices -- besides, although you are in the joint business, the store assigns a turnover figure to each family, it is up to a family to buy good merchandises, to keep their quality, to avoid losses, to sell them quickly, to reach a high turnover and thus to make more profit and to earn high income -- other members of my family still can contribute to serving the business."

As we tried to understand more, we realized that almost all families of private business people relied on their steady professional skills and on quick information about daily changes of prices of the goods they were dealing in from the places they had been bought to the places they would be sold to make timely adjustment for their business. On the other hand, they were very sensitive to the taste and liking of consumers. Either in Haiphong or in Saigon, when there were signs of a shortage of a certain item, their goods would immediately appear on the market. Mrs Nham also told us that as she is 55 and her health is declining, once in a while she has thought of retiring, but she still cannot give up her job yet. After she joined the joint business, her income has somewhat decreased, but since she now has peace of mind and feels relieved, she feels reassured in carrying out the business.

We visited with Mrs Pham Thi Nghia, 59, in her home at 2 Chu Van An Street where we saw her family's two beds being pushed together to leave a space for storage of goods. More than 5 tons of goods all packed in large bags, raised from the floor with props to remain dry and ready to be sent to Saigon with the next shipment. As we looked at those neatly stored bags, we remembered having seen at a commercial organ the same line of goods being piled up in a disorderly manner and exposed to rain and shine, which partially explained why our exported goods were sent back from abroad because of failure to meet specifications and quality requirements.

Mrs Nghia said that the ladies' capital had an average turnaround of 4 per month, or 48 per year (perhaps in our state commerce nowhere else has achieved a higher turnaround of capital). She deals in very many lines of goods, including the ones she buys in the northern delta and midlands, later puts aboard a ship in Haiphong and sends to Saigon, where they are exported to foreign countries. Prices of such goods change a great deal between the time they are delivered in Saigon harbor and the time they are sold abroad. For this reason Mrs Nghia and many other ladies in the joint north-south shipment business store once wished they could do joint business with the state in exporting the above-mentioned goods and other products. The state fulfills the exporting task while the joint business store fulfills the task of exploiting the sources of goods, storing goods and transporting them to Haiphong harbor. With this arrangement the state can both increase the volume of domestic goods available for export and get more foreign currencies while reducing the transportation, circulation and other "negative" expenses involving the movement of goods from Haiphong to Ho Chi Minh City prior to their export. In the joint north-south shipment business between the state and the Haiphong private business people things have not been rosy all the time. Van Nam, director of the Municipal Commercial-Touristic Service, had good reasons to worry about this fact: the capital in the business today mainly comes from private business people. Since the state does not hold an advantage in terms of the invested capital and as the capabilities and professional skills of the

cadres and state officials taking part in the joint business are still poor, the efforts to direct and guide the business toward the lines of goods as dictated by the state plan are limited. Members of the store management board worry about not only a serious shortage of the means of transportation by land between the locations where goods are acquired and the Haiphong harbor but also the fact that the means of transportation for shipment of goods from Haiphong to Ho Chi Minh City, and vice versa, can now satisfy only a very small part of the total need for transportation and circulation of goods between the two regions. The passenger steamship Thong Nhat can carry only 200 tons of goods per trip, in which the store is given space for only 20 tons; in average each member can send only .7 ton, while his actual need is to be able to send 5-10 tons of goods per shipment. Is it time to think we should soon have ships that are solely designed for the task of carrying goods between the south and the north?

5598

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HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

PROSPECTS OF FAMILY PLANNING IN VIETNAM

Hanoi VIETNAM COURIER in English May 85 pp 26-27

[Article by Anh Thu]

[Text]

As in most developing countries the large and fast-growing population in Vietnam has exerted great pressure on socio-economic development programmes. But unlike the case in many countries, the overriding concern here is not only to redistribute the population, organize effective migration, adjust the pace of urbanization and protect natural resources and the environment, but first, and foremost to reduce the population growth rate.

The population growth rate in Vietnam has been very high over the past forty years. Since 1939, it has averaged about 3 per cent annually. In 1955-1960, following the conclusion of the anti-French war of resistance, it jumped to 3.8 per cent. In the period from 1955 to 1977 the population of Vietnam grew from 25 to 50 million in spite of the anti-US war of resistance. Following are some results of a census conducted in 1975: In Ward 16, District 4 of Ho Chi Minh City, of the 1,253 women of child-bearing age two-thirds had from 6 to 10 children. In Hai Binh commune, Tinh Gia district, Thanh Hoa province, a commune of average size, 70% of the families had 7 and more

children. In 1975, Binh Tri Thien province had 1.7 million inhabitants. From 1975 to 1980 more than 100,000 of its inhabitants went to other provinces under the programme of redistribution of the work-force. Yet, due to the high birth rate (3%) the population figure in 1980 was again 1.7 million.

By 1984, the population of Vietnam had grown to 58 million. Over the past forty years, the increase in food production has barely kept pace with population growth. The result has been a stationary level of per capita food production, a high population density, and the shrinking of farmland. At present, Vietnam is the 13th most populous country in the world and is also among those with the lowest national income per head of population.

As early as 1962, the Vietnamese Government decided to enforce a programme of family planning. The programme was entrusted to the Health Ministry, assisted by the State Planning Commission, the Federation of Trade Unions, the Women's Union, the Fatherland Front... Policies aimed at encouraging birth control have been is-

sued. Thanks to this, the population growth rate dropped to 2.4% in 1980 from 3.3% in 1970 and 3.8% in 1960.

However, this still falls far short of the demands of economic development. In August 1981, the Council of Ministers issued a new instruction regarding family planning, calling on each couple to have two children at most, with a view to bringing the rate of population growth down to 1.7% by the end of 1985. Birth-control targets are to be attained at all Government offices and production establishments. Each locality is to set a target for itself on the basis of the national target and its own concrete conditions. As a result, by 1984 the population growth rate had dropped to 2.2% throughout the country. Most encouragingly, some rural localities with a long record of fast population growth have obtained good results in birth control.

Lac Hong commune in My Van district, Hai Hung province, is a case in point. In this agricultural commune with a population of 4,211, each couple has only two or three children, compared with the national average of five. The birth-control programme has received warm response from the population. Few women marry before the age of 22 and most stop bearing children at the age of 30. Most couples are applying contraceptive measures. Users of contraceptive devices, apart from free medical care, also receive bonuses in paddy and other foods. These measures have concurred to bring the annual population growth rate at Lac Hong down to 1.6%.

Regrettably, however, there are not yet many places like Lac Hong. Nationwide, propaganda for family

planning remains inadequate. A large section of the population still has mixed feelings about birth control, and doesn't know how to go about it. A survey shows that only about 30% of all married couples of child-bearing age are using contraceptives. The national population which stood at 30 million in 1960 will have risen to 60 million by mid-1985. On an average, a Vietnamese woman of child-bearing age still has four or more children, compared with six in 1960. In other words, more than 20 years after the birth-control programme was started, the number of children per family has been reduced by only two while the total population has almost doubled. Although the birth rate in Vietnam is lower than the average in the Third World (2.3% compared with 3.1%), the mortality rate has been lowered thanks to progress in medical care and improvement in the social environment (0.7% compared with 1.1%) with the result that its population growth rate is higher than the Third-World average (2.2% compared to 2—2.1%). The present annual increase in the population is 1,300,000, which means a drop in per capita food production if 400,000 tonnes more of food is not produced each year.

Lowering the population growth rate is a prime concern of the Vietnamese Government. So far, this work has been entrusted to the health service. The latter, if left to itself, cannot cope with such a vast problem which involves many aspects of social life. Besides, investments have remained inadequate.

In April 1984, the Council of Ministers set up a National Population and Family Planning Commission, directly under its authority, which is to give a real thrust to

the campaign. The Commission has ramifications in all provinces, cities and special sectors.

In recent years, a body of specialists in demography has gradually taken shape in Vietnam. Their reports and forecasts have attracted wide attention and received general approval. Scientists say that if the birth-control campaign should progress at the present rate there would be no hope of reducing the number of children per family to two by the end of this century and the population would have exceeded the 80 million mark by that date. They also point to the need of bringing the number of married couples using contraceptives from the present 30% to 70% within the next ten years. The birth rate should be so reduced that the population would stabilize at 75 - 80 million about the year 2000.

A more vigorous propaganda campaign should be launched so that family planning be accepted by the entire population. Since all young men have to do military service, family planning should also be a topic for education in the army. Demographic education at school, which began a few years ago, must be improved so that all young people will realize the vital importance of birth control before they get married. More importantly still, Government policies should provide for more effective incentives in this regard.

Viewed against the results reaped so far and the target set for the year 2000, the battle to be fought in the last 15 years of this century will not be an easy one. However, the crucial guarantee for its success lies in the fact that the Party and the Government have fully grasped the importance of the problem. Shortcomings in the conduct of the campaign are being overcome. The experience gained in countries with

comparable conditions is being seriously studied. We have good reason to hope that the target set by Vietnam for the year 2000 in this regard will be reached. ●

POPULATION EDUCATION FOR ADULTS

Hanoi VIETNAM COURIER in English May 85 pp 28-29

[Article by Vu Ngoc Binh]

[Text]

Social evolution and scientific progress have brought about rapid and far-reaching changes in the world. Many scientific branches have come into existence in order to solve urgent problems affecting mankind, one of which being population education which lies at the interface of the sciences of education and demography. Its final aim is to raise the quality of life while its immediate aim is to stress the importance of the demographic question so that people may have correct thoughts and attitudes with regard to State policies on this question.

Born one decade ago and chiefly carried out in Asia, Africa and Latin America where poverty and ignorance prevail, population education needs to be perfected with the help of practical experience. Uncontrolled growth of population is one of the causes of poverty and hunger. Population education being a pressing problem for all it can meet with success only with the support and approval of the whole of society.

This young science with an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary character is fundamentally based on the science of demography. It

is not sex education, nor family planning nor birth control, though they are included in population education. Its targets are determined by State policies on demography which in our country are first of all aimed at reducing the population growth rate and rationally redistributing the population. Together with many other countries in Asia and the Pacific Vietnam is actively taking part in the UN population education programme and is conducting experiments with the technical assistance of UNESCO's Regional Office for Education in Asia and the Pacific (ROEAP) and the financial aid of UNFPA (United Nations Fund for Population Activities). Thanks to this we have already started a national 4-year population education (1984—1987) programme.

First, this programme is devoted to experimentation in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and in Thai Binh, Quang Nam—Da Nang and Long An provinces. Later on, on the strength of the experience gained, the programme will be carried out countrywide. It is a major task of all branches of activity and social organizations to do away with the "population explosion". The educa-

tional branch, in particular, will assume the task of working out the contents of population education and family planning and introduce them to the educational system.

Population education will be dispensed in four main branches of education: complementary (adult) education, general education, pedagogy and infant education. At the international seminar on population education, held in 1982, particular attention was paid to its introduction into complementary (adult) education. As a part of the national education system, adult education includes a comprehensive network of educational establishments, extending from anti-illiteracy classes to the final classes of general education, and works hand-in-hand with cultural, information, and scientific popularization organizations. Its task is to improve the cultural level of the toiling people, help them raise their professional and technical standards and causes them to become true collective masters of society.

The main beneficiaries of complementary education are young cadres and workers—people who are physically and mentally mature. Most of them have or are about to have a family and are members of the work-force of society. All their activities directly affect the development of the country and they play an important role in the implementation of the Party line and policies, particularly regarding demographic questions. The point here is that most of those attending complementary classes do not yet possess the necessary knowledge of those questions and

still fail to grasp the significance of Party policies on demography. Hence their views of these matters are not always correct and at times even downright backward concerning such questions as family size, the desirability of children, standard of living, etc.

The introduction of population education into the curriculum of complementary education will effectively contribute to highlighting the Party's principle on education: To combine study with work, theory with practice, the school with society, and education with productive labour. Population education will be a "novelty" in the present programme of complementary education and this new science will contribute to boosting the three revolutions now going in Vietnam.

The experience gained in many countries where population education is being dispensed has shown that it is possible to boldly drop obsolete notions from the present educational programme and replace them by new ones taken from population education. On the other hand one should also avoid unnecessary constraints getting in the way of the performance of the current programme. The contents of population education should be improved and enriched to become a useful component of this programme (particularly in relation to such disciplines as biology, geography, literature, mathematics).

While in the past, the post-primary education specific topic courses for farmers or the secondary education courses for the village cadres in the Mekong river delta already contained elements of demography and population education such as birth control,

family planning, fundamentals of hygiene, child rearing as well as general knowledge today, these elements will be selected and read-apter to conform to the requirements of people of different walks of life, social conditions, and age groups and to the characteristics of each region.

It is necessary to have appropriate programmes and teaching materials for populated areas like urban and industrial centres, and for the armed forces. Population education should include:

1. Fundamentals of demography (population, rate of natural growth, birth rate, death rate, demographic structure, population pyramid, population density...)
2. Population growth, causes and effects;
3. Demographic situation in Vietnam and in the world;
4. Relations between demographic and other problems;
5. Sex education and family planning;
6. Main problems of the demographic policies of the Party and the State.

The inclusion of population education in the teaching programme is to be carried out in three ways:

1. Special lessons or programmes to be made into components of the present teaching programme;
2. Propaganda materials popularizing scientific knowledge;
3. Inclusion in such disciplines as biology, geography, literature, mathematics.

The teacher must be constantly aware of the necessity of dispensing population education. For this purpose it is necessary to prepare programmes and materials to suit

various categories of people and various regions. This education should be assisted by the mass media: newspapers, radio, T.V., films, posters, etc.

Population education in adult classes requires close cooperation with other branches of education; cooperation between the Ministry of Education and other departments and social organizations, and between the central administration and local administrations.

They must work together in the preparations of materials, the use of audio-visual aids, and the training of teachers. It is also necessary to make the best use of international assistance and cooperation and to learn from the experiences of other countries.

In the immediate future, we shall still meet with great difficulties in the organization of population education as this branch is completely new to our people but we also have basic advantages: our Party and State have issued concrete policies in this respect; the educational service is resolved to implement them; our people as a whole have given them a warm welcome; the educational reform is underway; furthermore we are receiving precious international cooperation and assistance and benefiting from the rich experience gathered by other countries. The introduction of population education into adult education in particular and in the national education system in general will certainly contribute to solving urgent population problems, serving the educational reform and the three revolutions, and working for the welfare of our people and the prosperity of our country. ●

CHRONOLOGY

HANOI'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS FOR 16 MAR-15 APR 1985

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[Text]

(16 March — 15 April)

MARCH

16. Opening in Hanoi of an exhibition of paintings by painter Nguyen Tu Nghiem. 68 lacquer and oil paintings are on display.

17. Tokyo: The Japan — Vietnam Friendship Association holds a grand meeting to celebrate its 30th founding anniversary (19 March 1955 — 19 March 1985).

18. A Portuguese Communist Party delegation, headed by Octavio Pato, Political Commission member and Secretary of the Party Central Committee, ends its official visit to Vietnam.

19 — 23. Mongolian Foreign Minister, Mangalyn Dugersuren, visits Vietnam.

— The Vietnam — Japan Friendship Association organizes a film show on the occasion of its 20th founding anniversary.

20. The Vietnamese Government hands over to a US Government representative the remains of five US servicemen who died in Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

20 — 21. Holding in Hanoi of a conference by the Executive Bureau of the International Trade Unions of Metal and Engineering Industry under the World Federation of Trade Unions.

21. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam demands that the Thai authorities stop condoning acts of terrorism against Vietnamese residents in Thailand.

— Signing in Hanoi of minutes on scientific cooperation for the 1986 — 1990 period between the Polish Academy of Sciences on the one hand and the Vietnam Institute of Sciences and the Vietnam Commission for Social Sciences on the other.

21 — 22. Hanoi: Holding of a conference on medical cooperation programmes by the Vietnamese Ministry of Health, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

21 — 28. An SRV National Assembly delegation, led by its Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho, pays a friendship visit to Albania.

25 — 29. A Vietnamese Communist Party delegation, led by Vo Chi Cong, member of the Political Bureau of the CPVCC leaves Hanoi for Hungary to attend the 13th Congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party.

26. Hanoi: Starting of the construction of the Lenin Monument at Chi Lang park (Centre of Hanoi).

27 March — 1 April. A Vietnamese military delegation, led by General Van Tien Dung, Defence Minister, pays an official friendship visit to India.

27 — 28. Hanoi: A symposium on "The Epochal Significance of the Victory over Hitlerite Fascism and Japanese Militarism" is held.

27. Havana: Signing of an agreement for further strengthening cooperation and mutual assistance between Cuban information and publishing offices and the Vietnam News Agency.

APRIL

1 — 7. Nguyen Huu Tho, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, pays an official friendship visit to Cuba.

3 — 6. Soviet Deputy-Foreign Minister Mikhail Stepanovich Kapitsa visits Vietnam.

4. Combat Group 52, Brigades 7703, 7706, and 9906 of Vietnamese volunteer troops begin their withdrawal from Kampuchea.

— Berlin: The Vietnamese Embassy in Berlin receives a token part of the 4,000 books of mathematics donated by the late Doctor of Science Ludwig Bill (GDR).

4 — 6. A delegation of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation (ACCT), led by Prof. Doctor Francois Owono Nguema, ACCT General Secretary, pays a visit to Vietnam.

4 — 14. A delegation of the Polish United Workers' Party, led by Marian Wozniak, Political Bureau member, Secretary of the Party Central Committee and First Secretary of the Warsaw Party Committee, pays an official friendship visit to Vietnam.

8 — 12. Nguyen Huu Tho, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, pays an official friendship visit to Mexico.

11. On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the liberation of South Vietnam, the Su That (Truth) Publishing House put out three books containing precious documents made public for the first time: "The South: the Bronze Rampart of the Homeland" (by

President Ho Chi Minh); "Party Documents" on the Struggle Against American Aggression, for National Salvation", and "Letters to the South" (by Le Duan).

— Prof. Christopho Bouramene, Minister of Health and Social Affairs of the People's Republic of Congo, pays an official friendship visit to Vietnam.

— Budapest: Exchange of ratification instruments for the Vietnam—Hungary Friendship and Cooperation Treaty.

12. A Vietnamese military delegation, led by General Van Tien Dung, Defence Minister, pays an official friendship visit to Indonesia.

— The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam sends a message of condolences to the Central Committee of the Albanian Party of Labour on the death of Enver Hoxha.

14. Nguyen Huu Tho, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, pays an official friendship visit to Nicaragua.

— Opening of the finals of the national table-tennis competition for 1985 (prizes offered by the Nhan Dan daily).

15. The Council of Ministers makes public a decision conferring on 40 provinces, cities and special zones under the central administration, the Gold Star Order, the highest distinction given by the State, for their great contributions and achievements over 40 years of revolutionary struggle against foreign aggression and for building and safeguarding socialist Vietnam.

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END