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POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

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10 May 1984

CHINA REPORT
POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

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GENERAL

U.S. SUPPORTS BRITISH SEVERANCE OF LIBYAN TIES

OW240415 Beijing XINHUA in English 0102 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Washington, 23 Apr (XINHUA)--The United States has expressed its full support for Britain's decision to sever diplomatic relations with Libya.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes told reporters traveling with U.S. President Ronald Reagan aboard Air Force One to Honolulu Sunday that the U.S. administration considers Britain's decision "totally appropriate in light of the events in the past several days and we support it without reservation."

Meanwhile, State Department spokesman Alan Romberg told reporters here today that the United States has condemned what the Libyans have done and expressed its support for the decision of the British Government.

"We always are alert to steps that we might take in opposing international terrorism and that remains an active concern and active policy," he said.

Britain severed diplomatic relations with Libya and ordered the occupants of the Libyan Embassy in London to leave the country by next Sunday. The decision was made after a gunman firing from the Libyan Embassy in London shot and killed a policewoman and wounded 10 Libyan students demonstrating against the Libyan administration.

U.S. relations with Libya have been worsened in the past four years. The American Embassy in Tripoli was officially closed in May 1980 after having been burned five months earlier by rioters. A year later, the U.S. administration ordered Libya to close its mission in the United States and remove its entire staff from the country.

CSO: 4000/320

GENERAL

BUSH PRESENTS U.S. CHEMICAL ARMS BAN PLAN

OW191251 Beijing XINHUA in English 1226 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Geneva, 18 Apr (XINHUA)--U.S. Vice President George Bush today presented a chemical arms ban plan and urged the Soviet Union to study it seriously and not reject it out of hand.

Addressing the 40-nation Geneva conference on disarmament, Bush unveiled the U.S. plan which calls for a global ban on the possession, storage, production and export of chemical weapons.

Bush said that the verification provisions of the 66-page draft are indispensable to an effective treaty.

Under the draft treaty, which Bush called an unprecedented "open invitation" proposal, the United States "is willing to join other parties in a mutual obligation to open for international inspection on short notice all of its military or government-owned and government-controlled facilities."

The United States was encouraged by a Soviet move last February to allow international inspection teams to be stationed continuously at sites where chemical arms were being destroyed, Bush said.

"Our delegation looks forward to serious consultations with the Soviet delegation, and to detailed discussions with all other participations on the elaboration of these provisions and other necessary aspects of an effective agreement," he said.

Bush said that the U.S.-Soviet disagreement on verification has been "the major obstacle to achieving a truly effective ban of chemical weapons."

In a reference to the Soviet Union, Bush said that some governments, "without even seeing a draft, have already chosen to issue statements charging that the introduction of this treaty text here today is the result of simple political motivation."

The Soviet news agency TASS said yesterday that the purpose of the U.S. proposals was "to block efforts to reach any agreement by putting forward obviously unacceptable conditions and to camouflage plans for building U.S. chemical arsenals."

Bush also invited the Soviet Union to return to the two nuclear arms negotiations suspended five months ago after NATO began deployment of new Pershing-II and cruise missiles in Western Europe to counter an existing Soviet arsenal.

After Bush's speech, Viktor Issraelyan, head of the Soviet delegation, said that Moscow will study the U.S. draft "as we study all the documents submitted by any delegation at the disarmament conference."

He said that a call to resume negotiations when U.S. missiles were being deployed in Europe "can only be regarded by us as a technique to divert attention from actions to undermine the military balance between the U.S. and the Soviet Union."

CSO: 4000/320

GENERAL

FRG HAILS U.S. PROPOSAL TO BAN CHEMICAL WEAPONS

OW191350 Beijing XINHUA in English 1314 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Bonn, 18 Apr (XINHUA)--The Federal German Government cheered the proposal framework on overall prohibition of chemical weapons offered today at the disarmament conference in Geneva by U.S. Vice President George Bush.

Federal German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said in a statement that Bonn considers the proposal a political step of great importance which reflects the U.S. earnest to control arms race. [as received]

He said Federal Germany has abandoned production of chemical weapons since 1954 and been very interested in reaching an agreement on permanent worldwide elimination of chemical weapons. He called on all the countries attending the conference to make every effort to realize the goal.

Meanwhile, vice chairman of the parliamentary group of the Christian Democratic Union--the Christian Social Union Volker Ruehe expressed his belief that the U.S. proposal has practically chanced the world to stave off "a special cruel threat" posed by chemical weapons.

He said the recent use of chemical weapons in the Iran-Iraq war points to the urgent need to ban such weapons. He asked the Soviet Union, as a military power with bigger stockpiles of chemical weapons than other countries, to make a constructive response to the U.S. proposal.

Two government experts in disarmament, Juergen Todanhoefer and Olaf Feldmann, criticized the Soviet press for turning down the U.S. proposal before it was presented officially. This shows the Soviet Union is lacking sincerity for disarmament, he added.

CSO: 4000/320

GENERAL

JAPAN-U.S. 'FINANCIAL DISPUTES' UNRESOLVED

OW201224 Beijing XINHUA in English 1202 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Tokyo, 19 Apr (XINHUA correspondent Chen Liang)--The two-day Japan-U.S. financial talks which ended in Washington on April 17 made some progress but "major problems" remain in efforts to end the long-standing financial disputes between the two countries.

This was the third round of talks between the Japanese and U.S. officials who are known as the yen-dollar committee.

After a fruitless second round of talks in Japan last March, U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Donald Regan said that he was "extremely disappointed" at Japan's attitude of only being interested in talking about the problem and he demanded that Japan take concrete measures to make the yen an international currency and speed up the liberalization of Japan's financial market. However, Japanese Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita said that the U.S. request shall be considered in phases.

During the third round of talks, the United States continued to insist that Japan expand its capital market in Europe, open Japan's financial markets to outsiders, speed up the internationalization of the yen and enhance opportunities for American banks to operate in Japan.

A U.S. official disclosed after the talks that progress had been made in some areas, mainly in access to the Japanese capital market by foreign financial institutions, but that little headway was made for "the creation of a truly free Euro-yen market."

Japan refused an American request to set up a treasury bill market but agreed that foreign bonds could be issued in Japan and certificates of deposits be transferred as of April. Japan feared that the setting up of a treasury bill market would increase demand for the bill thus pushing up the interest rate which will in turn affect government control of the rate and cost borrowers' more.

The United States hopes that the yen will assume a role appropriate to the currency of the world's second "most important economy." But Japan expressed its fear that the internationalization of the yen will bring instability to the yen and have an adverse effect on Japan's exports.

It is widely held that the reason for the United States' pressure on Japan to solve the problem stems from its trade deficit with Japan, which last year stood at some 21 billion U.S. dollars, and the forthcoming election in the United States.

However, the Japanese authorities also do not want to alienate their own voters by allowing a fast inflow of foreign capital into Japan.

The Japanese press commented that as the world's second most important economy, it is natural for the yen to assume proper role as a major world currency. But the problem should be solved by Japan itself without outside pressure.

CSO: 4000/320

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GENERAL

JAPAN, BELGIUM OPPOSE USSR MISSILES IN ASIA

OW150933 Beijing XINHUA in English 0815 GMT 15 Apr 84

[Text] Tokyo, 15 Apr (XINHUA)--Japan and Belgium joined in opposition to any Soviet transfer of its Euromissiles to Asia and both stressed that the missile issue should be solved on a global basis, it was reported here.

During his five-day official visit to Japan starting from April 11, Belgian Prime Minister Wilfred Martens exchanged views with his Japanese counterpart Yasuhiro Nakasone on bilateral relations and the international situation.

Touching on the disruption of the Euromissile talks between the United States and the Soviet Union, Martens held that the security of Japan is a component part of the security of the Western countries. Therefore, the Western European countries will not accept a solution which will secure their own safety at the expense of Japan's security.

Reiterating Japan's position, Nakasone said world security should not be obtained at the cost of Asia.

On bilateral relations, Nakasone told Martens that in order to correct the imbalanced trade between Japan and Belgium and the European Economic Community (EEC) as a whole, his government plans to take further measures to liberalize Japanese market before the summit conference of the Western industrialized countries in June this year.

During his stay here the Belgian Prime Minister called on Japanese Emperor Hirohito. He left here today for South Korea on the second leg of his current Asia tour. It was reported that the Belgian prime minister will return to Japan on April 18 for an unofficial visit until 21st of the month.

CSO: 4000/320

GENERAL

ESCAP SESSION OPENS; QIAN MEETS KHIEU SAMPHAN

OW171950 Beijing XINHUA in English 1933 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Tokyo, 17 Apr (XINHUA)--The 40th session of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) opened here today to discuss policies and prospects of regional economic and social development and strategies for international development.

More than 600 representatives from 39 countries and regions attended the 10-day session.

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone extended his congratulations to the meeting and expressed the belief that Japan's peace and prosperity lies in the peace and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region.

He noted that the joint efforts of the region to solve its pressing problems will lay a foundation for the future advance of the Asia-Pacific region.

The prime minister also assured the meeting of Japan's determination never again to become a military power threatening the neighboring countries.

Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, who is chairman of the session pledged Japan's cooperative efforts, announcing that Japan will contribute 2,060,000 U.S. dollars in cash to the commission's cooperation fund in fiscal 1984.

In his speech at today's meeting, ESCAP executive secretary S.A.M.S. Kibria stressed industrial and technical cooperation among developing countries. He noted that the first such step was taken last November in Beijing, with the support and assistance of the Chinese Government, the United Nations development program and several other U.N. organizations.

"The encouraging outcome was that China and nine other member governments agreed on 32 bilateral technical cooperation projects in various fields, with their financing largely arranged at the same time," he said.

He also told the meeting that according to a commission resolution China will be hosting a trade fair in November, 1985, with the co-sponsorship of ESCAP. The fair, he said, "will provide a visible demonstration of the industrial and technological achievement of a dynamic and vibrant region."

Qian Qichen, head of the Chinese delegation, made a speech at the session. (His speech has been released.)

Representatives from Vanuatu, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Holland and Malaysia, and the Asian Development Bank also spoke on the occasion. The representatives of the developing countries pointed out that the world economic recession has brought grave consequences to the developing countries with regard to their development and demanded that the developed countries change their unequal policies that disregard the developing countries.

The Pakistan representative pointed out that the tariff barrier and restrictions by industrialized countries on agricultural imports have caused greater difficulties to developing countries. As a result of the global inequality, he said, the per capita income of the developed countries is twelve times as much as the developing countries and 42 times as much as the poorest country. This unequal system has made more than half of the world population live in poverty, he added.

Another issue which drew the attention of the participants at the meeting is the continued occupation of Kampuchea by foreign forces and the tense situation created by foreign intrusion of Thai border areas. The representative of Thailand in an address to the meeting said no country would be allowed to enslave another country by military means. He called special attention to the recent military action at the Thai border by foreign troops in Kampuchea. The occupying troops in Kampuchea had crossed into Thailand. The military aggression there was grave and had caused serious concern on the part of Thailand. Malaysian representative also called for close attention to the Kampuchean situation at the meeting.

Qian Qichen, and other members of the Chinese delegation this morning respectively called on S.A.M.S. Kibria, and Khieu Samphan, and had cordial conversations with them.

Qian Qichen attended a reception tonight given by Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe.

CSO: 4000/320

GENERAL

JAPANESE PRESS ON SRV AGGRESSION AGAINST KAMPUCHEA

OW191213 Beijing XINHUA in English 1147 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Tokyo, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--The Japanese press has launched a campaign against the Vietnamese aggression against Democratic Kampuchea, saying that it has been the cause of the freezing of Japan-Vietnamese relations.

TOKYO SHINMUN said in an editorial today that Japan champions the position of the ASEAN countries which demand the immediate withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea to allow the country to carry out free elections under the supervision of the United Nations and to seek a political solution of the issue through a U.N.-sponsored international conference.

However, it said, Hanoi has intransigently refused to do so.

Referring to relations between Japan and Vietnam, the editorial said although their relations have been normalized, they remain in a frozen state. It expressed the hope that their relations can be genuinely normalized through talks between the foreign ministers of the two countries during the period of the U.N. General Assembly this autumn.

As long as Hanoi refuses to terminate its de facto occupation of Kampuchea, it will be impossible to solve the Kampuchea issue, it said.

It also condemned Hanoi's stepped-up dry-season offensive against the Kampuchean patriotic forces which led to the intrusion by Vietnamese troops into Thailand.

MAINICHI SHINMUN commented yesterday that in the five years since Vietnam invaded Kampuchea, it has defied all the demands from the international community calling for the complete withdrawal of its troops so as to allow the Kampuchean people to determine their fate on their own.

In propping up the pro-Hanoi regime of Heng Samrin, it has managed to seize two-thirds of the country's territory, it noted.

The commentary also made mention of the Soviet Union's increased use of Vietnamese military bases, saying that this not only poses a threat to the ASEAN states and other Asian countries, but also casts a shadow over the independence, freedom and dignity of Vietnam itself.

GENERAL

NATO PRESENTS TROOP-REDUCTION PROPOSALS IN VIENNA

OW191744 Beijing XINHUA in English 1603 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Vienna, 19 Apr (XINHUA correspondent Yang Huasheng)--NATO nations today presented new proposals to Warsaw Pact delegates at the Vienna East-West troop reduction talks, aimed at breaking the deadlock on the issue of "data."

Under the proposals, NATO dropped its insistence on knowing the total of all manpower on both sides in Central Europe before the talks begin. It suggests an exchange of data on part of land forces and an agreement on data figures within an acceptable range of NATO estimates numbers of Warsaw Pact forces.

The proposals also suggest a five-year reduction plan which involves an initial cut of 13,000 Americans and 30,000 Russians and a pledge of no increase in land troops for either side.

It also wants to improve verification processes and take more effective verification measures.

On behalf of NATO member countries, Canadian Ambassador Thomas Hammond told a press conference that the NATO initiative is the first major action in the past two years and shows a significant change in the West's position.

But he stressed in view of the new flexibility on data, NATO wants to make verification more effective. The West insists on sending observers to main sites to verify troop withdrawals, he said.

However, chief of the Soviet delegation W. Mikhailov said at today's plenary session the NATO proposals could not resolve any obstacles which had blocked progress in the talks.

A spokesman from the Warsaw Pact also told reporters that the pact would study in detail the new proposals but he said the proposals could not narrow but would widen the differences on the data issued by both sides.

The talks which started March 16 will go into recess after today's session and will resume on May 24.

Observers here said the current talks did not smooth out but widened their differences because they lack the political willingness to reach an agreement. They made the talks a scenario for dialogue only but had not the sincerity for genuine arms reduction.

GENERAL

HE YING TALKS OF WORLD TRENDS TO LIAOWANG

OW221104 Beijing XINHUA in English 1030 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] Beijing, 22 Apr (XINHUA)--The growing tendency for independence, peace and non-alignment is the mainstream of current world situation, and has momentous significance to the struggle against hegemony and for world peace, former Chinese Vice Foreign Minister He Ying said.

He made this assessment in an interview published by the April 23 issue of the weekly OUTLOOK [LIAOWANG] to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the formulation of the five principles of peaceful coexistence, which include mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence.

He Ying, a diplomat with more than 30 years experience and now an advisor in the Foreign Ministry, said, "History has repeatedly proved that an enduring regional and world peace and fair and rational solutions to all international disputes can be achieved only through dialogue and peaceful talks, rather than conflicts and use of force, in the light of the five principles of peaceful coexistence."

He stressed that the five principles apply not only to countries with different political systems, but also to socialist countries, to capitalist countries and to allies alike.

"There will be no normal and stable relations between countries if the five principles are not followed," he said, adding that it is possible to ease world tensions and avert clashes and wars so long as all nations strictly comply with the five principles.

He expressed China's desire to establish and develop normal relations with all nations on the basis of the five principles.

He noted that the implementation of these principles calls for "practical deeds, not empty words."

The veteran diplomat also paid tribute to late Premier Zhou Enlai who, as he recalled, put forward the five principles for the first time in 1953 when receiving the Chinese and Indian delegations to the Sino-Indian border talks. These principles were then made public in a Sino-Indian joint communique in 1954 and later accepted as part of the 10-point principles governing international relations at the Bandung conference in 1955.

"Though the world situation is quite different now from 30 years ago, the five principles of peaceful coexistence is still valid and even has greater and more universal significance," he said.

"The five principles have been recognized by an increasing number of nations in the world as basic norms governing the development of relations between nations and the settlement of international disputes," he continued.

He pointed out that the Soviet aggression of Afghanistan, the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea, the U.S. invasion of Grenada, Israel's expansion in the Arab lands and South Africa's control of Namibia have "flagrantly trampled on the five principles and the U.N. Charter."

CSO: 4000/320

GENERAL

SOVIET, ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTERS HOLD MEETING

OW240353 Beijing XINHUA in English 0240 GMT 24 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow, 23 Apr (XINHUA)--Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti began talks today, with each side reaffirming its own stand on such major international issues as the deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe.

According to the Soviet News Agency TASS, both sides expressed "serious concern over the tensions existing in Europe and the world."

The Soviet foreign minister again accused the United States of attempting to undermine the military-strategic parity and gaining superiority.

He stressed that the deployment in some countries of Europe, including Italy, a new U.S. missiles "creates a situation in which conditions are lacking for talks on nuclear arms limitations and reductions."

The Italian foreign minister reaffirmed NATO positions on the Euro-missile issue and said the resumption of talks and thus progress are possible only when no preconditions are attached to it.

Andreotti expressed the hope that East-West dialogue will be continued.

During today's talks, the two foreign ministers agreed that bilateral economic relations should be expanded.

Gromyko and Andreotti signed an agreement today to further the economic, industrial and technological cooperation between the two countries from now to 1990. They also agreed to extend two existing accords on economic, industrial and technological cooperation up to 1990.

Andreotti, who arrived in Moscow yesterday, is the first senior minister from a NATO country to visit the Soviet Union since the United States began to deploy missiles in West Europe last year.

The Federal German and British foreign ministers, as well as the French president, will visit the Soviet Union within the next few months.

CSO: 4000/320

GENERAL

BRIEFS

REAGAN LETTER TO CHERNENKO--Washington, 18 Apr (XINHUA)--U.S. President Ronald Reagan, in a letter made public today, urged Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko to "pursue a constructive dialogue aimed at reducing the risks of war and the levels of armaments." In the letter congratulating Chernenko on his election as the Soviet President, Reagan said, "We must ensure that our differences, however large, are resolved without the use of force and we must seek to build a better set of relationships based on those values that are common to all mankind." He said that the United States "remains ready to pursue a constructive dialogue aimed at reducing the risks of war and the levels of armaments, resolving regional conflicts peacefully and promoting trust and confidence." The letter, dated April 11, the same day Chernenko was elected to his new post, was released one day after U.S. Vice-President George Bush presented a new U.S. proposal in Geneva to outlaw chemical weapons. The Soviet Union reacted coolly to the initiative. [Text] [OW190833 Beijing XINHUA in English 0705 GMT 19 Apr 84]

CSO: 4000/320

UNITED STATES

HEIGHTENED U.S. INTEREST IN REAGAN'S PRC VISIT

OW200810 Beijing XINHUA in English 0643 GMT 20 Apr 84

["Noted Americans Look Forward to Reagan's Visit to China"--XINHUA headline]

[Text] Washington, 19 Apr (XINHUA correspondent Qian Xing)--Interest in China and intensive studies on the People's Republic have reached a new high in the United States as the day of President Ronald Reagan's visit to China approaches.

Briefings to the president, to his entourage, to the reporters who will accompany him and to the general public are held almost every day here and, during recent weeks, seminars, panels and lectures on China and Sino-U.S. relations have been organized one after another not only in the capital but also in other cities by think tanks, academic institutions, universities and friendship groups. Every aspect of life in China is being studied and discussed with keen interest. China's present situation, its historical background and future prospects of Sino-U.S. relations are naturally the hot topics.

Institutions sponsoring the panels include the Asia Society, the Henry Jackson Foundation, the Brookings Institution, the Wilson Center (the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars), the Association for Asian Studies, and many others. Except such extreme rightist group as the Heritage Foundation, all these institutions attach great importance to the recent trend toward a more stable relationship between China and the United States and stress China's positive impact on world stability.

Celebrated figures from various walks of life interviewed by XINHUA all expressed a forward-looking attitude to the perspectives of Sino-U.S. relations.

James Reston, a noted columnist of the NEW YORK TIMES, who visited China in 1971, told XINHUA that the visit of President Reagan to China is a symbol of the progress that has been made in the last 13 years.

He said, "It has been slow but steady. Like all countries, we have many problems with one another. We are an impatient people, but learned something about the virtue of patience during the long generations of friendship between our two peoples. We also learned something about the dangers of misunderstanding during the recent years of separation and estrangement."

"Now, as I see it, both our countries are beginning to talk about the things we have in common as well as the things that divide us. That is a hopeful sign. We are turning slowly from confrontation to cooperation. It will be a long and perhaps difficult journey, but small steps are important," said Reston.

Commenting on Reagan's coming visit to China, Michel Oksenberg, professor of political science in the University of Michigan and National Security Council staff in the Carter administration, said that this is a significant trip, because the President will have an opportunity to come in contact with a new generation of Chinese leaders and to reach directly to the Chinese people through the Chinese media. This kind of periodic contact is important among nations, he said.

The purpose of the trip, he viewed, is to continue an effort to stabilize U.S.-China relations. The trip has significance in a search by leaders of both countries for a shared perspective on why their separate, distinctive national interests are served through increasing and strengthening bilateral ties, he added.

Lester R. Brown, a leading authority on trends in resource management, president of Worldwatch Institute, commented that President Reagan's visit augurs well for U.S.-China relations. "It is a measure of the importance Washington attaches to the expanding economic and political ties between our two countries," he added.

Richard Holbrooke, former assistant secretary of state, told XINHUA that President Reagan's visit to China would be an important trip to consolidate Sino-American relations. "Particularly important, it demonstrates that the Reagan administration has accepted the continuity of good relationship with China as began by President Nixon and furthered by Presidents Ford and Carter."

He said he believed that "U.S.-China relations are so important that it should not be the subject of domestic debate. It is indeed a policy that has had bi-partisan support in the United States."

CSO: 4000/321

NORTHEAST ASIA

BRIEFS

INCREASING CONTACTS WITH USSR--Tokyo, 15 Apr (XINHUA)--Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe told a press conference yesterday that his government decided to carry forward its contacts and dialogue with the Soviet Union in more ways and forms than before. Spelling out the government plan, he said that the two governments would negotiate a treaty on taxation in Moscow in June and in August there would be a Japanese-Soviet consultative conference in Tokyo on questions pertaining to the United Nations. In September, a Japanese firm week will be held in many Soviet cities and in October, the two governments will sit in a conference discussing bilateral trade and other economic matters. In addition, the agriculture ministers of the two countries will visit each other and Soviet journalists will be invited to visit Japan. People-to-people contacts, too, will increase with government blessing. And the existing restrictions on such interflow will be practically lifted. About the annual fishery talks with Moscow, Abe said that as the fishery talks with Moscow, Abe said that as the fishing season was drawing near, he hoped to see the regular negotiations take place at the earliest possible date. He admitted to the fact that the Northern Territories issue remained outstanding and relations with Moscow were still strained within the larger context of East-West tension. But, "the more severe the strain between Japan and the Soviet Union, the greater the need for wider channels of dialogue," he said. He also stressed the need to enable the Soviet people to have a broad and accurate understanding of Japan's important role in world politics and its policies." [Text] [OW151403 Beijing XINHUA in English 1319 GMT 15 Apr 84]

ASSISTING AFGHAN REFUGEES--Tokyo, 17 Apr (XINHUA)--Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said yesterday that Japan will seek to work cooperatively with other parties to lend assistance to Afghan refugees. At a meeting with Pakistani journalists, Nakasone said Afghan national self-determination and sovereignty had been encroached upon by external forces. He said he plans to exchange views on the issue when he visits India and Pakistan. On relations with Pakistan, Nakasone said the two countries could first hold talks at the foreign minister level, meanwhile increasing contacts and exchanges of personnel in the fields of business, culture, education and technology. Referring to the imbalance of trade between the two countries, Nakasone said Japan would study ways to increase its imports from Pakistan and to revise tariff arrangements. [Text] [OW171032 Beijing XINHUA in English 0906 GMT 17 Apr 84]

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

BEIJING REVIEW ON THACH'S 'DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE'

HK170802 Beijing BEIJING REVIEW in English No 15, 9 Apr 84 pp 12, 13

[Article by Xiao Ling: "War of Words in Dry Season"]

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach paid official visits to Indonesia and Australia last month, stopping twice in Bangkok on the way. As Vietnam's aggressive war in Kampuchea entered its sixth year, Thach's diplomatic offensive was regarded as an attempt to create friction among the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on the Kampuchean issue, and to split the three-party Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (DK).

However, Thach's visits did not produce any of the desired results. They only served to show once again that Vietnam will not change its aggressive policies toward Kampuchea, although it is still in a difficult predicament both at home and abroad.

When Thach was in Bangkok on 9 March, he ruled out a unilateral withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea, and said he would not propose any new initiatives concerning the Kampuchean issue during his visits to the two countries.

In Hanoi's view, Indonesia is a weak link in the ASEAN chain. Thach considers Jakarta as the sole bridge connecting the ASEAN nations with the Indochinese countries. But in Jakarta Thach rejected ASEAN's latest proposals for a solution to the Kampuchean question, demanding a step-by-step withdrawal of Vietnamese troops.

Thach called on Indonesia to join in facing what he called "the Chinese threat to Southeast Asia," and said Vietnam would pull its troops out of Kampuchea only if that threat was eliminated. "China is the threat to the region and therefore we must cooperate to face it," Thach said after meeting Indonesian President Suharto. He added that Vietnam and Indonesia share similar views regarding the challenges in the region.

However, Indonesia Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja said later Suharto did not respond to Thach's comments on this subject during their meetings. The so-called "Chinese threat" is fabricated by Hanoi, and Thach's plan was to divert people's attention from Vietnam's aggression in Kampuchea.

Thach was not welcomed by many people in Australia, and met with a large-scale demonstration in Canberra. Ironically, the Vietnamese foreign minister said that a peaceful demonstration is much better than an armed confrontation. Thach claimed that Hanoi will put forward a new proposal on the talks concerning Kampuchea. He also spread the view, obviously with ulterior motives, that China's stance has become a bit softer.

Thach stressed that Vietnam saw the removal of the Khmer Rouge as a military and political necessity, and demanded Khmer Rouge leaders be excluded from the DK Coalition Government before negotiations on Kampuchea can start.

The attitude of Vietnam has revealed Hanoi's hegemonist ambitions. Five years ago Vietnam launched a large-scale aggressive war in Kampuchea, attempting to wipe out the Khmer Rouge--the major obstacle to the establishment of Vietnam's "Indochinese federation." However, the Khmer Rouge forces persevered in armed struggle and succeeded in establishing the Democratic Kampuchean Coalition Government with the other two patriotic armed forces. Since January of this year, the Kampuchean resistance forces and guerrillas have conducted a series of attacks against Vietnamese aggressors, and Vietnam is confronted with setbacks and difficulties on the battlefield. Hanoi's attempt to wipe out the Kampuchean Khmer Rouge and other resistance forces has failed because it demanded the sacrifice of the Khmer Rouge. Vietnam is vainly hoping to achieve by political dodges what it has failed to do on the battlefields.

Nguyen Co Thach's diplomatic visits have aroused the vigilance of the ASEAN states and the DK Coalition Government. Son Sann, prime minister of the DK Coalition Government, said it is no use for Vietnam to try to split the coalition, and he has refused Thach's unreasonable demands. He stressed that the tripartite Coalition Government will strengthen its unity and fight to the end--the total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops.

Singapore Foreign Minister Suppiah Dhanabalan said that Vietnam's trick to split ASEAN is futile. The Thai Foreign Ministry has also refuted Thach's deceptive tricks. Describing Nguyen Co Thach as "a salesman of secondhand goods," Secretary General of the National Security Council of Thailand Prasong Soonsiri said that Thach's propaganda would fail because Vietnam's credibility is very low.

Both Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahathir and Indonesian President Suharto expressed their firm support of the Kampuchean people's resistance war.

Vietnamese authorities always employ tactics both of military aggression and diplomatic cheating. As there is still some time before the rainy season starts, will Vietnam conduct another military offensive against Kampuchean resistance forces after Thach's diplomatic failure? This question is certainly on the minds of many people.

CSO: 4000/323

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

KYODO INTERVIEWS KHIEU SAMPHAN ON SRV OUSTER

OW171836 Beijing XINHUA in English 1655 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Tokyo, 17 Apr (XINHUA)--Vice President of Democratic Kampuchea Khieu Samphan reiterated here today that there would be no possibility of making settlement of the Kampuchean issue through negotiations so long as the Vietnamese regime refuses to withdraw from Kampuchea, the Japanese News Agency KYODO reported.

Khieu Samphan made these remarks during an interview with KYODO's reporters.

He said that since the end of March, the Vietnamese have been launching dry-season attacks on the patriotic forces of Democratic Kampuchea from three directions, and that two of these Vietnamese spearheads have been defeated by the armed forces and people of Democratic Kampuchea.

Speaking of Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's recent visit to Indonesia and Australia, Khieu Samphan pointed out that the intrigue of Vietnam is to shake the stand of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and that the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea will never be shaken by the Vietnamese foreign maneuvers. On the contrary, it will close its ranks more than ever.

In talking about the policy of the Democratic Kampuchean Government, Khieu Samphan noted that Vietnam would never give up its ambition of annexation of Kampuchea even if it withdraws its troops from the country. He said that the Democratic Kampuchean Government will further unify the three anti-Vietnamese parties. He added that Pol Pot is still supreme commander of the armed forces of Democratic Kampuchea although he does not attend any activities in the government.

Khieu Samphan will have talks with Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe tomorrow and meet Construction Minister Kiyoshi Mizuno on Thursday.

CSO: 4000/323

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

KHIEU SAMPHAN, JAPAN'S ABE CONSIDER SRV TROOPS

OW181953 Beijing XINHUA in English 1938 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] Tokyo, 18 Apr (XINHUA correspondent Zhao Yi)--Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe met with Vice-President of Democratic Kampuchea Khieu Samphan here today during which the two leaders emphasized that Vietnam must withdraw from Kampuchea.

In an interview with Chinese correspondents after his meeting with Abe, Khieu Samphan said he had expressed his thanks to Abe for the firm support given to Democratic Kampuchea by the Japanese Government and people. He said he had told Abe that a political solution of the Kampuchean problem can be made only when the Vietnamese pull out of Kampuchea completely in accordance with the United Nations resolution.

He said the Japanese foreign minister had emphasized Japan's firm and never-to-change support of Democratic Kampuchea for its struggle against the Vietnamese aggression.

Abe told him that Japan also supports the position taken by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) of supporting Democratic Kampuchea, Khieu said.

"So long as Vietnamese troops do not pull out of Kampuchea completely, Japan will stick to its tough stance and will not resume its economic aid to Vietnam," Abe was quoted as saying.

Khieu said Abe had indicated Japan's welcome to the coming visit to Japan by President of Democratic Kampuchea Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

Khieu Samphan is here participating in the annual meeting of the U.S. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

CSO: 4000/323

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

KHIEU SAMPHAN DISCUSSES SRV-KAMPUCHEA SITUATION

OW192044 Beijing XINHUA in English 1625 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Tokyo, 19 Apr (XINHUA correspondent Zhao Yi)--The Vice-President of Democratic Kampuchea Khieu Samphan pointed out here today that the Kampuchean people are now in a favorable position as they are growing stronger and stronger, while the Vietnamese aggressors have been put into a situation which is deteriorating daily.

Khieu Samphan who is leading a Democratic Kampuchean delegation to attend the 40th annual meeting of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) here, said at a press conference this afternoon that the Democratic Kampuchean resistance forces have been hitting the aggressors in the enemy-controlled hinterland areas of Kampuchea since November of last year. He said the resistance forces have often attacked various provincial cities around the Tonle Sa Lake. The Vietnamese aggressors could launch their first offensive this year five months after the start of the present dry season, in the hope of retaining this grain-producing area in western Kampuchea. The enemy has suffered heavy losses. The Democratic Kampuchean leader exposed the latest Vietnamese attacks on Kampuchean refugee encampments as being done for propaganda purposes and to cover up the defeats Vietnam has suffered.

Khieu Samphan condemned the Soviet Union and Vietnam for pursuing expansionism. He said the three sides of the Democratic Kampuchean Coalition Government would continue to work together after the liberation of his country. They are also ready to work with any other parties. He said his country would like to develop relations with its neighbors and Western countries and practice a policy of a free and open economy.

On the ways and means of finding a solution to the Kampuchean problem, Khieu stressed that Vietnam must respect the related U.N. resolutions on Kampuchea by withdrawing all its troops from Kampuchea. This is the only way out for Vietnam, he said. Vietnam still rejects these U.N. resolutions, that is why the resistance forces have to continue to fight and inflict greater suffering on the aggressors by redoubling military attacks until they are willing to accept the U.N. resolutions, Khieu Samphan said.

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

SFRY, THAI PREMIER DISCUSS KAMPUCHEAN ISSUE

OW190831 Beijing XINHUA in English 0708 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Belgrade, 18 Apr (XINHUA)--Thailand and Yugoslavia today called for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Kampuchea, respect for that country's independence and the right of the Kampuchean people to decide their own future.

In their first round of talks here today, Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon, who is on a four-day official visit here, and Yugoslav Premier Milka Planinc also stressed the necessity of settling the problem of Kampuchea on the basis of the U.N. Charter.

The Yugoslav premier said that Yugoslavia, as well as Thailand and the vast majority of other countries, is dedicated to the political solution of disputes and crises on the basis of the principles and decisions of the United Nations and the policy of active and peaceful co-existence.

"On the same basis, Yugoslavia calls for a just solution to the Kampuchean problem and supports the activities of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), to which your country belongs, for the establishment of a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality in Southeast Asia," she emphasized.

She also held that in view of the current international political and economic situation, developing countries must cooperate even more closely than in the past.

On his part, the Thai prime minister said "by enhancing our cooperation on issues of principle affecting international peace and security, such as Kampuchea and Afghanistan, we can advance the cause of peace and security in this dangerous world."

Yugoslavia is the fourth leg on his six-nation tour to North America and Europe. He has visited Canada, the United States and Denmark and will leave here for Switzerland and the Federal Republic of Germany on Sunday.

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SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

GANSU, CHRISTCHURCH ESTABLISH FRIENDSHIP TIES

OW221626 Beijing XINHUA in English 1524 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] Lanzhou, 22 Apr (XINHUA)--China's Gansu Province and Christchurch of New Zealand today signed an agreement in Lanzhou City, capital of Gansu Province, on establishing friendship ties between them.

Signing the agreement were Chen Guangyi, governor of Gansu Province, and Hamish Hay, mayor of Christchurch.

New Zealand ambassador to China F.A. Small and Mrs. Small were also present on the occasion.

After the signing ceremony, the mayor of Christchurch planted a spruce at the Five-Fountain Hill Park in the city in the company of deputy mayor of Lanzhou Ge Shiyang.

Chemical fertilizer brought by Hay from New Zealand was applied to the tree symbolizing ever-lasting friendship.

This afternoon, Li Ziqi, secretary of the Gansu Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, and Li Dengying, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Gansu Provincial People's Congress, met all members of the friendship delegation from Christchurch led by its mayor.

A celebration rally was held in honor of occasion. Both the Chinese governor and the New Zealand mayor expressed the desire to promote their friendly cooperation pioneered by the noted New Zealand writer Rewi Elley and other New Zealand friends.

CSO: 4000/323

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

THAILAND PROTESTS TO USSR OVER EMBASSY CHARGE

OW221259 Beijing XINHUA in English 0804 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] Bangkok, 22 Apr (XINHUA)--Thailand has lodged a protest against the Soviet Union for using Thai soil to attack other countries which have diplomatic relations with Thailand, reported the local press today quoting a senior official of the Thai Foreign Ministry.

On April 10, the Soviet Embassy here held a press conference at which Soviet counsellor Oleg Hershov accused Australia, Japan and the United States of plotting to woo two Soviet diplomats to work for the American Central Intelligence Agency.

The senior Thai official was quoted as saying that director general of the political department of the Thai Foreign Ministry Suthi Prasatwinichai handed a protest note to Soviet ambassador in Bangkok Y.I. Kuznetsov who was summoned to the Foreign Ministry on April 19.

Suthi told the Soviet ambassador that the Soviet allegation that Australia, Japan and the United States plotted to recruit Soviet diplomats to spy for the American Central Intelligence Agency should have been made in Moscow and not in Bangkok. He also told the Soviet envoy that any press conference by the Soviet Embassy in Thailand should be aimed at strengthening the relations between the Soviet Union and the host country.

CSO: 4000/323

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

SON SANN SAYS SRV WANTS TO COLONIZE KAMPUCHEA

OW221037 Beijing XINHUA in English 0700 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] Bangkok, 22 Apr (XINHUA)--Son Sann, prime minister of the coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea, declared near the Thai-Kampuchean border yesterday that "the entire Kampuchean nation must be convinced by now that the Vietnamese only want to exterminate and colonize our country."

Son Sann, who just returned from his European trip, made the remarks while inspecting one of several makeshift camps near the Thai-Kampuchean border which accommodate more than 12,000 of Kampucheans fleeing into Thailand after the Vietnamese attack on Ampil Village last Sunday.

Son Sann, who is also president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), told a group of reporters that "there was some confusion at the beginning of Vietnam's assault. But now the morale of our fighters is very high and I believe the Vietnamese troops will not be able to take Ampil."

In an interview with the Thai newspaper BANGKOK POST, chief of the general staff of the KPNLF armed forces Sak Sutsakhan who accompanied Mr. Son Sann during the inspection tour said that it would not be easy for the Vietnamese to overrun Ampil. Ampil is now in its eighth day under Vietnamese attack. Two Vietnamese regiments from the Fifth Division are at present involved in the battle for Ampil, he said, adding that they are being reinforced by a third regiment from the northern zone.

Hing Kunthon, Sak Sutsakhan's deputy in charge of civilian affairs who has been in Ampil from the first day of the Vietnamese attack, told the BANGKOK POST that a few Soviet-built T-54 tanks and some 113 armoured personnel carriers recently arrived at Thmar Puok, 30 kilometers from Ampil.

CSO: 4000/323

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

SRV ACCUSED OF USING CHEMICALS IN KAMPUCHEA

OW231313 Beijing XINHUA in English 1249 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Canberra, 23 Apr (XINHUA)--Vietnam used chemical weapons in attacks on Saturday afternoon on a refugee camp on the Kampuchean side of the Thai-Kampuchean border, causing paralysis and blood-vomitting among the refugees, according to THE AUSTRALIAN today.

Adelia Bernard, a border camp coordinator for "the Catholic office for emergency relief and refugees" in the region, was quoted by the newspaper as saying that during the attack, she saw two shells explode in the air and emit a brown or grey smoke, and later, she learned of people becoming paralyzed and vomiting blood.

The whole camp, housing 30,000 to 45,000 refugees, mainly women and children, was set alight in the subsequent bombardments and only part of the women and children escaped, said Bernhard who has been working in the region for more than four years.

The Vietnamese had used chemicals in remote villages and such attacks were common, she added.

The refugee camp, called "Ban Sanagae," is situated 10 kilometers inside Kampuchea and 70 kilometers from Aranyaprathep, a Thai town southeast of Bangkok.

CSO: 4000/323

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

KHMER RESISTANCE RECAPTURES AMPIL LAKE

OW231039 Beijing XINHUA in English 0840 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Bangkok, 23 Apr (XINHUA)--The resistance forces of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) led by Son Sann recaptured the lost Ampil Lake last night after launching a one-day fierce counter-attack on the Vietnamese troops in the rain.

According to a field report reaching here from Ta Phraya District, Prachinburi Province of Thailand, three KPNLF battalions took part in the battle to recapture the Ampil Lake.

The Ampil Lake, about four to five kilometers southeast of the Ampil Village, the KPNLF's headquarters, fell into the hands of the Vietnamese troops during their military offensive on April 15.

The KPNLF is led by Son Sann, prime minister of the coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea.

Commander of the first Thai Army Division Major General Phichit Kunlawanit yesterday told reporters in Ta Phraya District that the Vietnamese troops defending the Ampil Lake were in "bad shape and very low in spirit." "These soldiers have been in Kampuchea for the past three or five years, they are very weary," he added.

Phichit said that the Vietnamese troops are under constant harassment from the resistance forces. They have also lost their logistic routes and the rainy season is approaching.

CSO: 4000/323

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

KAMPUCHEANS FORCE SRV RETREAT, SAYS RESISTANCE

OW232049 Beijing XINHUA in English 1939 GMT 23 Apr 84

[Text] Bangkok, 23 Apr (XINHUA correspondent)--The armed forces of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front led by Son Sann forced Vietnamese troops out of Ampil Lake and surrounding areas yesterday after a day-long fierce battle, the front's Vice-President Sak Suk sakhan told reporters on the Kampuchean-Thai border area today.

He said the Vietnamese troops had retreated to areas four to five kilometers east of Ampil Lake.

Ampil Lake, about five kilometers southeast of the Ampil Village, where the front's headquarters is located, fell to the Vietnamese on April 15. The resistance forces retreated to the perimeter of Ampil Village and set up a new defence line around that encampment.

According to Sakhan, his forces fired more than one thousand artillery shells on the Vietnamese positions in yesterday's fighting, the heaviest since April 15.

Hundreds of Vietnamese soldiers were killed or wounded in the past week while the casualties on the side of the resistance forces were 22 dead and 101 wounded and many houses of local residents were destroyed by the Vietnamese shelling, he said.

Commander of the first Thai Army Division Major General Phichit Kullavanijaya said today Vietnam had miscalculated the situation by launching the offensive because they thought the Khmer resistance forces would not dare to stage a counter-attack.

CSO: 4000/323

BRIEFS

SRV ATTACKS REFUGEE CAMP--Beijing, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--Democratic Kampuchea has expressed strong protest against the Vietnamese attacks on the refugee camp at Ampil Village, Radio Democratic Kampuchea said today. A statement, issued Tuesday by the spokesman of the Coordination Committee for Defense of the Coalition Government, called on the National Army and other anti-Vietnamese forces to fight bravely against the Vietnamese aggressors. It declared that the Vietnamese troops, supported by tanks and heavy guns intruded into Ampil village near the Kampuchean-Thai border, sending a large number of refugees fleeing into Thai territory. This brutal attack against innocent refugees shows that the Vietnamese aggressors are inhuman. The statement called on all the anti-Vietnamese forces to intensify their fight against the aggressors to force Vietnam to comply with the U.N. resolution, to withdraw its troops from Kampuchea and let the Kampucheans decide their own fate. The statement said that all the armed forces will continue their resistance and fulfill the responsibility placed on them by the nation and the people. They will also implement the Kuala Lumpur declaration on the formation of the coalition government and the decisions of the coalition government, it said. [Text] [OW190855 Beijing XINHUA in English 0730 GMT 19 Apr 84]

SRV TROOPS PINNED DOWN--Paris, 18 Apr (XINHUA)--Son Sann, prime minister of Democratic Kampuchea's coalition government, said today his national front has pinned down the advancing Vietnamese troops three kilometers from his headquarters they attempted to seize. Son, who is president of the National Front for the Liberation of the Khmer People, dismissed the report that Vietnamese occupation troops have destroyed his front's headquarters located near the Thai-Kampuchean border. Speaking in Paris on his way back to Kampuchea, he said the Kampuchean people are convinced the Vietnamese came to Kampuchea only to colonize and Vietnamize the country. Hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese immigrants have settled on the seized fertile land along the Mekong River, of whom 300,000 have already acquired Kampuchean nationality, he noted. The prime minister said the Kampuchea problem can be settled only after Vietnam withdraws its troops from his country to let the Kampuchean people exercise their right of self-determination. [Text] [OW192021 Beijing XINHUA in English 1443 GMT 19 Apr 84]

THAI-CAMBODIAN BORDER SITUATION--Bangkok, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--The Thai armed forces can control the Thai-Kampuchean border situation even though the Vietnamese offensive in Kampuchea threatens Thailand's safety, said Supreme Commander of the Thai Armed Forces General Athit Kamlang-ek today. Thai frontier troops are fully prepared to counterattack any possible Vietnamese intrusion, the 59-year-old general told reporters. Athit said that he is keeping in constant telephone contact with Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon who is now on a tour of Europe after North America. The prime minister is worried about the possibility of a deterioration in the border situation, Athit said, and would cut short his visit if necessary. If the Vietnamese shell Thailand, he said, "we will retaliate"; if they intrude into Thailand, "we will drive them out at once." Vietnamese troops, weapons and ammunition are being maneuvered in dozens of military vehicles into Kampuchean territory just opposite Thailand's Surin Province and into the inland of Battambang Province opposite Thailand's Ta Phraya District in Prachin Buri Province. The general pointed out that those two areas are the "hot spots" in the conflict between Vietnamese troops and Kampuchean resistance forces. Four Vietnamese officers found within Thailand's boundary were captured on April 8 and one Vietnamese soldier picked up on April 17, the newspapers here reported today. [Text] [OW191207 Beijing XINHUA in English 1154 GMT 19 Apr 84]

ESCAP SESSION RAPS INCURSION--Tokyo, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--Wong Kwei Cheong, head of a Singapore delegation today condemned Vietnam for its encroachment upon Thai territory and its attack on Kampuchean refugees. Speaking at the 40th session of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) being held here, he voiced full support to the Thai delegation which condemned Vietnam at yesterday's session. "We are greatly regretful over the serious situation on the Thai-Kampuchean border. We demand that aggression of Thailand and attack at Kampuchean refugees be stopped." This serious situation was a hindrance to peace and security in the Asia and Pacific region, he said. Head of the Indonesian delegation Moeslim Sya'roni in his speech also extended support to the Thai delegation in denouncing the invasion of Thailand by foreign forces. [Text] [OW190857 Beijing XINHUA in English 0734 GMT 19 Apr 84]

AUSTRALIA CONDEMNS SRV INCURSIONS--Bangkok, 18 Apr (XINHUA)--Visiting Australian Defense Minister Gordon Scholes, after hearing a briefing on border situations, condemned Vietnamese troops' incursions into Thailand and expressed grave concern over the development, it was learned here today. He was briefed by Thai National Security Council Secretary-General Prasong Sunsiri on the recent fightings between Kampuchean resistance forces and Vietnamese troops along the Thai-Kampuchean border when they met here yesterday. During the 45-minute meeting, Scholes told Prasong that Australia wanted to see peace restored in Southeast Asia and that his country would continue to accept Indochina refugees for resettlement. Prasong told Scholes that the Vietnamese attacks have driven some 80,000 Kampuchean refugees into Thailand. Scholes' statement followed a strong protest by Thailand's Foreign Ministry Monday against Vietnam's "unprovoked and deliberate" downing of a Thai spotter plane surveying the Thai-Kampuchean border zone. A Thai army spokesman confirmed Monday that Vietnamese troops overran a major Kampuchean resistance camp on the Thai-Kampuchean border in an attack Sunday. The Australian minister, who arrived here yesterday on the first stop of an ASEAN tour, is to inspect the Thai-Kampuchean border and visit a refugee camp today. [Text] [OW180804 Beijing XINHUA in English 0728 GMT 18 Apr 84]

SISTER-CITY TIES--Bangkok, 18 Apr (XINHUA)--Thai Deputy Prime Minister Phichai Rattakum proposed here today that sister-city relations between Thailand and China be expanded because such ties will help the two countries exchange experience and learn from each other. He said this during a meeting with visiting Beijing Vice Mayor Bai Jiefu who, two days ago, agreed in principle with the governor of Bangkok to twin the two capitals. Phichai said he hoped an agreement in that respect will be soon concluded and such relationship be established for more cities of the two countries. He specified that Khorat, a trading center for rice and cattle about 240 kilometers northeast of Bangkok, and Guangzhou, a major seaport city in southern China, can be sisters. During the meeting, the Thai deputy prime minister said that he plans to visit China later this year. Bai Jiefu expressed warm welcome to his forthcoming tour. [Text] [OW181326 Beijing XINHUA in English 1231 GMT 18 Apr 84]

YUGOSLAVIA, THAILAND SUPPORT CGDK--Belgrade, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--Yugoslavia and Thailand today reaffirmed their support to the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea [CGDK] headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and to all efforts to find a political resolution of the Kampuchean issue. During a meeting here today between Yugoslav President Mika Spiljak and visiting Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon which focused on the Kampuchean issue, both leaders stressed that it is intolerable to see the freedom and independence of a country violated by foreign forces. In a toast at a banquet in honor of the Thai prime minister, Spiljak said that nonaligned Yugoslavia holds views similar to those of the ASEAN countries (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) on resolving the problems in Southeast Asia. In their talks the two leaders expressed concern about the world situation and said they hoped that world crises would be tackled in compliance with the U.N. Charter and the principles of non-alignment. They also pledged to promote cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [OW200226 Beijing XINHUA in English 0215 GMT 20 Apr 84]

SOVIET ADVISERS TO KAMPUCHEA--Bangkok, 20 Apr (XINHUA)--The Soviet Union has recently sent another group of advisers into Kampuchea to aid the Vietnamese occupation troops, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) said yesterday. Some of the advisers are assigned to strategic points 15 kilometers east of Thai border village of Ban Nong Chan, according to the KPNLF radio monitored on Thailand's eastern border. The Vietnamese, while continuing to attack KPNLF headquarters in Ampil, have sent more troops, tanks and guns into an area opposite the Ban Nong Chan village, the radio said. The Vietnamese have also bombarded KPNLF's Sok Sann camp, causing great damage to the residents there. [Text] [OW201315 Beijing XINHUA in English 1224 GMT 20 Apr 84]

CSO: 4000/323

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA

U.S. EMBASSY MOVE TO JERUSALEM DENOUNCED

Jordanian Reaction

OW200144 Beijing XINHUA in English 0111 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Amman, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--King Husayn of Jordan today denounced the U.S. attempt to move its embassy from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem and stressed that the Holy City should be returned to Arab sovereignty.

In a meeting with visiting U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Richard Murphy, Husayn reviewed the latest development in the region. He said that U.N. Resolution 242, which called for Israel's total withdrawal from occupied Arab land, was accepted by Jordan and supported by all Security Council members as the basis for a durable and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

He said that Jordan regards Israel's settlement drive in the occupied Arab territories as illegal and an obstacle to peace in the region.

Jordan will double its efforts for a just and honorable peace which would guarantee the Palestinian people's rights, he said.

Richard Murphy, who is on a fact-finding mideast tour, arrived here today after visiting Kuwait and Bahrain.

King Hassan, 'Arafat Oppose Move

OW200835 Beijing XINHUA in English 0746 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Fez, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--King Hassan II of Morocco and Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir 'Arafat today strongly condemned the U.S. decision to move its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

King Hassan II, who chaired the opening ceremony of a special session of Jerusalem committee tonight, said that the U.S. attempt, once realized, would affect not only the Islamic community but also the world as a whole, because it subjects the world to the law of jungle.

'Arafat, in his speech, lashed out strongly at Israel's occupation and judaization of Jerusalem.

The Israeli authorities have built up 32 Jewish settlements in Jerusalem to change the Islamic nature of the Holy City, which is a very important part of Palestine, he noted.

He pointed out that Israel's actions coincided with the U.S. scheme to relocate its embassy.

Habib Chatti, secretary-general of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, also made an address at the session, which entered into closed-door discussions after the opening ceremony.

The special session was proposed by King Hassan II and is attended by representatives from 14 out of the 15 members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference which constitute the Jerusalem committee. The only absentee is Iran.

CSO: 4000/324

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA

PAKISTAN, QATAR ISSUE JOINT COMMUNIQUE

OW182020 Beijing XINHUA in English 1954 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] Islamabad, 18 Apr (XINHUA)--Pakistan and Qatar have urged the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan and demanded restoration of its sovereignty and independent status.

A joint communique issued today at the end of a three-day visit here by the Amir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad al Thani said that both countries supported the resolutions of the Organization of Islamic Conference, the non-aligned movement and the United Nations on Afghanistan.

It said the amir and Pakistan President Ziaul Haq called for respect of the right of the Afghan people to determine their own political and economic system and the return of the Afghan refugees to their homes in safety and honor.

They expressed grave concern over the continued Iran-Iraq war and appealed to the leaders of Iran and Iraq to end all hostilities and to settle their disagreements through negotiations, the communique said.

On the Palestinian problem, they held Israel fully responsible for the continued deterioration in the Middle East, demanding that Israel completely withdraw from all occupied Arab and Palestinian lands and guarantee the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people.

The two countries shared the view that the transfer of the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem would lead to the worst impact on the relations between the Arab and Islamic countries on the one hand and the United States on the other and complicate the already aggravated Middle East situation.

The two leaders expressed full satisfaction at the development of the bilateral relations between Qatar and Pakistan and agreed to continue fostering cooperation between them in the political, economic, trade, technical, cultural and other fields, said the communique.

CSO: 4000/324

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA

PAKISTAN DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN INDIA'S VIOLENCE

OW192139 Beijing XINHUA in English 1910 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Islamabad, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--A Pakistan Foreign Ministry spokesman has described as untrue and baseless India's allegations that Pakistan is implicated in a Sikh agitation in India's east Punjab.

It was reported that Indian Home Minister P.C. Sethi yesterday accused Pakistan of supplying arms to the Sikh agitators.

In a statement issued here today, the spokesman said, "The government of Pakistan rejects these unfounded allegations."

"Pakistan," he said, "desires tension-free and good-neighbourly relations with India and continues to scrupulously follow the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of states."

"The Government of Pakistan expresses the hope that statements adversely affecting the atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence between the two countries will be avoided," the spokesman said.

"Speaking at the lower house of Indian parliament, Indian Home Minister Sethi asserted that the Sikh extremists have contacts with Pakistan and that arms are being smuggled into India from Pakistan which are reaching the extremists.

CSO: 4000/324

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA

REPORTAGE ON INDIAN, BANGLADESH BORDER CLASH

Troops Exchange Fire

OW211240 Beijing XINHUA in English 1044 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Dhaka, 21 Apr (XINHUA)--Indian security forces and Bangladesh rifles exchanged fire at Bhurungamari border in Kurgram District yesterday evening.

The clash was reportedly caused by the installation of a barbed wire fence on the zero-line of the border between the two countries.

Earlier reports said that the Indian Government decided last year to erect a fence along the Indian-Bangladesh border to prevent "illegal immigration." Building of the fence started last month. But Bangladesh opposed the action, saying that it violated a bilateral agreement reached in 1975.

According to a report of the Bangladesh National News Agency, the Bangladesh rifles protested in the morning when eight Indian border security forces (BSF) officers with 200 troops and 400 civilian surveyors, engineers and workers assembled at the spot to install pillars.

A meeting between the Bangladesh rifles commander and the BSF commandant on the issue was held in the afternoon. The agency said the BSF officials insisted on going ahead with the installation of pillars and erected five. The BSF opened fire in the evening in the face of opposition from Bangladesh rifles. The exchange of fire continued for 40 minutes, it said.

Indian Spokesman

OW212003 Beijing XINHUA in English 1616 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] New Delhi, 21 Apr (XINHUA)--Indian and Bangladesh border forces yesterday exchanged fire when India began to erect a wire fence along the border in Assam State.

A spokesman for the Indian External Ministry said today the Bangladesh rifles resorted to firing to prevent erection of wire fence by India along the border in Dhubri District of Assam. Indian border security forces returned fire "in self defense," the spokesman claimed.

The spokesman said personnel of the Bangladesh rifles had been trespassing on Indian territory and obstructing the work for the last two days by filling up pits dug up by India and uprooting pillars which had been erected.

The firing was said to have continued for about 10 minutes. There were no casualties on the Indian side.

India recently began constructing wire fences along its border sections in Assam and West Bengal states reportedly to check personnel infiltration from Bangladesh.

Bangladesh Protests

OW212011 Beijing XINHUA in English 1953 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Dhaka, 21 Apr (XINHUA)--One soldier of Bangladesh Rifles died and another seriously injured in Friday's skirmish with the Indian border security forces when the latter were building fences along Indo-Bangladesh border, Bangladesh television reported this evening.

It said that eight Indian border security forces officers with 200 troops and 400 civilian surveyors, engineers, and workers yesterday installed pillars along the border. The report said Bangladesh Rifles protested against the Indian move, but the Indian border security forces opened fire and the Bangladesh Rifles returned it.

The Bangladesh foreign office summoned Indian high commissioner in Dhaka today and lodged a strong protest to him against the Indian action. The Bangladesh foreign office called on the Indian authorities to take "urgent and proper steps" to control such actions for the peace and security of the border area, it added.

CSO: 4000/324

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA

SRI LANKA SEEKS PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO TAMIL ISSUE

OW200232 Beijing XINHUA in English 0205 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Colombo, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--Sri Lankan Minister of National Security Lalith Athulathmudali said this evening that Sri Lanka seeks to resolve the ethnic problem through political means.

Briefing parliament on his recent talks with Indian leaders on Sri Lanka's ethnic problem, he said that all leaders of India had reiterated their commitment to respecting Sri Lanka's integrity and sovereignty.

Those who desire to respect Sri Lanka's integrity, especially the terrorist groups, should keep India's commitment well in mind, he said.

He told parliament that he had told Indian leaders about the existence of camps in south India for training Sri Lankan Tamil guerrillas and suggested that the two countries conduct joint inspections.

He said, "We should, in evaluating India's attitude, draw a distinction between responsible official statements and utterances of those who are not in a position to take any action."

Ethnic violence erupted in Sri Lanka between the Sinhalese and Tamil communities last July. Since then, the Sri Lankan Government has taken various measures, including a round-table conference of all political parties, to settle the ethnic problem. Following last July's disturbances, India has offered to mediate to find a solution to the problem.

CSO: 4000/324

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA

COMMENTARY ON LEBANESE SITUATION AFTER LAUSANNE

HK190904 Beijing RENMIN RIBAO in Chinese 17 Apr 84 p 6

["Commentary" by reporters Chen Jichang [7115 4480 2490] and Zhou Guoming [0719 0948 6900]: "Situation in Lebanon Following the Lausanne Conference"]

[Text] Damascus, 15 Apr--After various Lebanese factions held the second national reconciliation conference in Lausanne, Switzerland, last month, the Lebanese situation has not taken a favorable turn but still remains turbulent and tense.

It is widely known that the Lausanne conference has not made the expected achievements. But the conference at least concluded with the six-point agreement, which includes a ceasefire, the formation of a supreme political-military committee, and a committee for drafting the constitution. At first, people expected that the agreement would be a starting point from which Lebanon would make a further step to achieve national reconciliation. But the fact goes contrary to their wishes. The ceasefire agreement was violated, and gunfire has not stopped in Beirut and the mountainous area. And it is difficult to put an end to the war. Under the threat of gunfire, Beirut airport and harbor are still closed. The Lebanese supreme political-military committee, which has been formed and has met several times, is facing difficulties. Still worse is the situation in southern Lebanon, where the Israeli and Syrian troops are facing one another with weapons drawn in al-Biqi' area. And the situation is one of a serious military confrontation.

Following the Lausanne conference [phrase indistinct]. On political reform, the Muslim faction favors a complete reform of the present sectarian system and demands a redistribution of power; whereas the faction of the Christian Haalangist Party insists on maintaining the present system under which power is distributed on a sectarian basis. At present, the outstanding issue on military affairs is disengagement of armed factions and the position of the troops. The Lebanese opposition faction demands that all belligerent parties withdraw 15 km from all positions. The faction also demands that President Amin al-Jumayyil establish a new military security organization made up of representatives of various factions, rescind Decree No 10 which gives the armed forces the power to maintain public order, and send the armed forces back to their camps. But the Lebanese Government believes that the demands of the

opposition faction will endanger the Lebanese Government's safety and that these demands cannot be met under the present circumstances. Since various Lebanese factions could not reach an agreement on these issues, they have replaced dialogue at the negotiating table with a test of strength in the battlefield. Hence, the two parties started fighting again before the ink on the ceasefire agreement had dried. It is just as Lebanese public opinion has pointed out: "Once they cannot reach a political agreement, the ceasefire agreement is just a scrap of paper."

After repudiating the Lebanese-Israeli accord, President al-Jumayyil pinned his hopes of solving the Lebanese issue on Syria. Recently, al-Jumayyil sent a special envoy shuttling between Beirut and Damascus in order to put an end to the present difficult situation in Lebanon. His aim is to prepare for another conference between the Lebanese and Syrian leaders. It is reported that al-Jumayyil plans to seek a long-term ceasefire and to form a new coalition government by asking Syria to influence and exert pressure on the Lebanese opposition faction, thereby paving the way for achieving national reconciliation. However, Syria has not taken a positive attitude toward a conference between the Lebanese and Syrian leaders. The country believes that the conference will not make great achievements before various Lebanese factions have reached a political agreement. Some Lebanese opposition leaders recently also asked Syrian troops to return to Beirut so as to maintain the ceasefire and stop the civil war. Undoubtedly, this has cast a new shadow on the conference between the Lebanese and Syrian leaders.

Israel is the source of turbulence and tension in the Lebanese situation. Following the Lausanne conference, it took advantage of the situation in which various Lebanese factions were engaged in civil strife. On the one hand, it intensified its instigation among various Lebanese factions and, on the other, it continued to create tension in Lebanon and added fuel to the flames in the Lebanese situation. The Israeli authorities not only have no intention of withdrawing from southern Lebanon, but they also have strengthened their suppression and fascist rule there. It has cut the links between southern Lebanon and the rest of Lebanon in a vain attempt to set up a permanent separatist regime in Lebanese territory. In addition, Israel has frequently mustered its troops in al-Biqa' area and is ready to make trouble.

After the Lebanese Government repudiated the Lebanese-Israeli accord, the open strife and veiled struggle between the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, over the Lebanese and Mideast issues entered a new round. What attracts our attention is that senior Soviet officials have recently made very frequent visits to the Middle East. This kind of abnormal activity has rarely been seen in recent years. Observers here believe that the Soviet Union is attempting to return to the Middle East and to win back the right to speak on the Mideast issue, by taking advantage of the setback the United States has suffered on the Lebanese issue and the American preoccupation with election year domestic politics. It is because of the open strife and veiled struggle between the two superpowers that finding a solution to the Lebanese issue has become more difficult and complicated.

The Lebanese civil war entered its 10th year this April. More than 9 years of civil war has brought about 300,000 casualties, accounting for 10 percent of the population of Lebanon, and economic losses which are beyond estimation. The Lebanese have tasted to the full the suffering caused by war. They eagerly desire to put an end to the civil war and to achieve national reconciliation, so that they can rebuild their homes in a peaceful environment. However, can this proper wish of the Lebanese people be fulfilled when, under the present circumstances, the country is caught by both domestic trouble and foreign invasion?

CSO: 4005/550

BRIEFS

UNIFIL MANDATE--United Nations, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--The U.N. Security Council today decided to extend the mandate of the United Nations interim force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) for another six months until October 19, 1984, at the request of the country. The UNIFIL was set up in March 1978 by a Security Council resolution for a six-month mandate, subsequently extended by successive resolutions. The decision was adopted this time by a vote of 13 for, none against and 2 abstentions (Soviet Union and Ukraine). The council reiterated its strong support for Lebanon's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence while making the decision. In a recent report to the Security Council, U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar called for consideration of a further course of action to make the mandate of the force more effective, specifically in southern Lebanon, in the context of an Israeli withdrawal from that area. [Text] [OW200901 Beijing XINHUA in English 0746 GMT 20 Apr 84]

PDRY'S ANTAR INSPECTS BRIDGE--Aden, 16 Apr (XINHUA)--Democratic Yemen's deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and First Deputy Prime Minister 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar today inspected Zingibar bridge--one of the reconstruction projects being built with aid by China. Antar expressed satisfaction at the quality and the smooth progress of the project after he had listened to the detailed accounts on the project by the leading Chinese constructors and technicians. He also praised other projects built in Democratic Yemen with aid by China. The Zingibar bridge was started last August according to a summary of talks between China and Democratic Yemen signed in 1971 and is expected to be completed this coming June. The summary also includes other projects to be built with Chinese aid such as the Ain-Mahfid road and drilling wells. [Text] [OW170913 Beijing XINHUA in English 0228 GMT 17 Apr 84]

EGYPT, USSR IMPROVING RELATIONS--Cairo, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--Egypt and the Soviet Union have agreed to an improvement in relations, the newspaper AL-AHRAM reported here today. Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali was quoted as describing his talks with Vladimir Polyakov, director of the Middle East department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, as "having achieved positive results." Polyakov, the last Soviet ambassador to Egypt, left here yesterday after concluding a three-day visit and reportedly expressed satisfaction at the development of Egyptian-Soviet relations. During his visit, he also met

with Ossama el-Bazz, presidential adviser on political affairs and first under-secretary of state in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. Since September 1981 when Polyakov and six other Soviet diplomats were expelled by the late President Anwar al-Sadat, relations between the two countries have remained at the charge d'affaires level. Since he succeeded al-Sadat as president in 1981, Mubarak has expressed the hope that Egyptian-Soviet relations would improve, and he recently commented that he looked forward to resumption of relations at an ambassadorial level as soon as possible. [Text] [OW200903 Beijing XINHUA in English 0801 GMT 20 Apr 84]

EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL IN SUDAN--Khartoum, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--Egyptian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today said any scheme to Zionize Jerusalem should be dealt with seriously as it concerns the Arab and Islamic world. 'Ali arrived here yesterday for the third meeting of the Sudanese-Egyptian political and diplomatic integration committee. He told reporters after meeting with Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri today that the U.S. attempt to move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem will jeopardize Jerusalem's future and the Middle East peace process. He said he and Numayri had discussed bilateral relations and the Middle East situation. It was reported that he brought a letter from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to Numayri concerning the role of the non-aligned countries in ending the Iraq-Iran war. Egypt is considering exchanging ambassadors with the Soviet Union though it has good relations with the United States, he added. On the U.S. policy on the Middle East, he said the U.S. cancellation of arms sale to Jordan and withdrawal of troops from Lebanon affected the Arab moderate states. Egypt today made public a four-point plan for ending the 43-month-old Iran-Iraq war. 'Ali said the present urgent problem is to urge the two sides to reach a ceasefire agreement. 'Ali left here for home this afternoon. [Text] [OW200831 Beijing XINHUA in English 0707 GMT 20 Apr 84]

CSO: 4000/324

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA

RENMIN RIBAO ON LI XIANNIAN'S VISIT TO JORDAN

HK141017 Beijing RENMIN RIBAO in Chinese 10 Mar 84 p 6

["Newsletter from Jordan" by RENMIN RIBAO reporters Li Yunfei [2621 0061 7378] and Chen Jichang [7115 4480 2490]: "One Thinks of One's Old Friends as Time Goes By; Friends Are More Intimate in a Distant Land"]

[Text] On the afternoon of 8 March, President Li Xiannian said goodbye to Pakistan and continued his trip westward to reach Amman, the capital of Jordan, bringing spring to this well-known city of historical significance.

Amman, capital of Jordan, has a time-honored history of 3,000 years and is also one of the modernized cities of the Middle East. There is a story that in ancient times the Ammonites built a solid castle on a hilltop here, which people called Ammonite goddess," thus giving rise to the name of Amman. Now, under the leadership of King Husayn, this well-known ancient city, called the "museum in the desert" is vibrant with youth and vitality. Thriving verdant palms, spacious and neat asphalt paths, villa-like structures of a unique style, and an endless stream of traffic combine to present a picture of increasing prosperity.

President Li walked down the ramp of the plane and cordially shook hands with King Husayn, who had been waiting at the airport. The two exchanged greetings. King Husayn had twice visited China and is a friend known to the people of China. Today, the two state leaders were meeting here again. This is really a case best described by the saying: "One thinks of one's old friends as time goes by; friends are more intimate in a distant land!" A grand welcoming ceremony was held at the airport. On the road to the state guest house, the people of Amman waved their hands, greeting the guests from the East. The national flags of China and Jordan were hung in all the main streets and public squares of Amman. Welcome posters and giant pictures of President Li, with Arabic and Chinese writing, could also be seen everywhere. All this gave expression to the Jordanian people's profound friendship for the friendly envoy of the billion people of China.

After a brief respite at the state guest house, President Li and his wife, Lin Jiamei, went to the Na-de-wo [4780 1795 3087] Palace to meet with King Husayn and Queen Nur. In the evening, the king and the queen again held, at the "Al-Husayn youth city," a grand banquet in honor of President Li. The next day, the leaders of the two countries held talks for three and 1/2 years.

President Li has been invited to visit Jordan at a critical time, marked by a turbulent situation in the Middle East. At the grand state banquet held by King Husayn for President Li, the leaders of the two countries made clear their respective views and standpoints on the Middle East situation. They unanimously condemned the policy of aggression and expansion pursued by Israel and voiced support for the just struggle of the Arab and Palestinian peoples. President Li expressed appreciation of King Husayn's support for this struggle and for his energetic efforts in promoting Arab unity. King Husayn also praised China's "firm stand, true to its word" in supporting the Palestinian people and Arab rights.

In cordial and friendly talks, President Li and Husayn again exchanged views on the Middle East problem. The two sides reached unanimous agreement on supporting the just cause of the Palestinian people, promoting Arab unity, and bringing about an overall and just settlement of the Middle East problem. President Li attached great importance to the chance given him to get further acquainted with the brave struggle of the Arab and Palestinian peoples. During his meeting with King Husayn, both sides gladly reviewed what the king had achieved on his two visits to China. At the end of the year before last, King Husayn led a delegation of the seven-party Arab committee; whose establishment was decided upon at the 12th Arab summit conference, on a visit to China. At the same time, he paid an official visit to China. At that time, the leaders of the two sides achieved unanimous agreement in their views on the Middle East situation. Before King Husayn concluded his visit to China, President Li had gone to the guest house to see the king off.

President Li Xiannian expressed great appreciation for the important contributions that King Husayn had made toward promoting mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples of the two countries. King Husayn also expressed the same sincere feelings of friendship. He praised the rapid development of relations of friendship and cooperation that has taken place since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. What especially moved one is that King Husayn treated the first visit made by President Li to Jordan since he became president of the PRC as "a special day" that Jordan would forever commemorate with infinite pride and dignity.

Before President Li's arrival at Amman, these reporters visited some Jordanian friends. They all warmly praised President Li's visit. A-bu-du-la Ao-wei-da-te [7903 0592 2629 2139 1159 4850 6671 3676], minister of culture, youth, and cultural relics, said: "The current visit by President Li makes a good beginning to a new stage in the development of relations between Jordan and China. There is a wide area of cooperation and mutual exchanges between Jordan and China." A-li [7093 6849], director of the Amman institution of higher learning, said: "China has always supported the just cause of the Arab states and the Palestinian people. The Chinese President's visit will have a positive effect on Middle East Affairs and the Palestinian cause." A lawyer also said: "President Li Xiannian's visit will promote cooperation between Jordan and China and between the Arab world and China and strengthen the forces of the Third World devoted to the cause of world peace."

Indeed, President Li's visit to Jordan has played an important and positive role, not only in strengthening friendship, understanding, and cooperation between China and Jordan but also in strengthening unity between China and the Arab world and in supporting the just cause of the Arab nations and the Palestinian people.

CSO: 4005/530

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

COLOMBIA WANTS SUPERPOWERS OUT OF CENTRAL AMERICA

OW200935 Beijing XINHUA in English 0905 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Bogota, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--Colombia said today that political solutions to Central American tensions deteriorated by armed clashes in Nicaragua and El Salvador hang on an end to the interference from the superpowers.

Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo told reporters here Wednesday that unfortunately the four-nation contadora group's mediation did not work because the United States and the Soviet Union paid lip service to the efforts of the group but actually intensified their military involvement to back their own sympathizers all the same.

Despite the worsening situation in Central America and the failure of its peace efforts, the contadora group will stay the course, he said.

He called for direct dialogues by the group members--Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama--with the United States, the Soviet Union and Cuba on the Central America issue.

The possibility for the dialogues will be discussed during the Panama meeting at the end of this month.

CSO: 4000/325

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

LI LIAN LED HEILONGJIANG GROUP VISITS CANADA

Attends Trade Exhibition

OW160951 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1457 GMT 15 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Edmonton, 14 Apr (XINHUA)--A PRC economic and trade exhibition opened in Edmonton, the western industrialized city of Canada, on the afternoon of 14 April.

Bud Olson, leader of the Canadian Federal Government of the Senate; Peter Lougheed, prime minister of Alberta Province of Canada; Chinese Ambassador to Canada Yu Zhan; and a Heilongjiang provincial goodwill delegation from the PRC, which is led by Li Lian and has been visiting Canada, attended the opening ceremony.

Group Leaves Canada

SK230233 Harbin Heilongjiang Provincial Service in Mandarin 2200 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Having concluded its visit to Canada, the Heilongjiang provincial goodwill delegation headed by Li Lian left Vancouver for home on the morning of 20 April. The delegation had arrived in Canada on 9 April at the invitation of the Alberta Provincial Government of Canada. The delegation was warmly received by the Canadian Federal Government, the Alberta Provincial Government and by the people of Canada.

Since the establishment of the friendly ties between Heilongjiang and Alberta Provinces in 1981, sustained progress has been made in the economic, trade, cultural and sports cooperation and exchanges. The current visit has further promoted the friendships between the two provinces. During its sojourn in Alberta, the delegation investigated the management of medium- and small-size cities, the operation of household-based farms and livestock farms, and technological transformations of enterprises. The delegation also conferred with the Alberta Provincial Government on further developing the economic and trade cooperation between the two provinces.

CSO: 4005/551

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

EDUCATOR ESTIMATES POPULATION IN 2000

HK120820 Beijing BEIJING REVIEW in English No 14, 2 Apr 84 pp 20-22

["Abridged" article by Zhou Shujun, associate professor in the Planning and Statistics Department at the China People's University: "Prospects for China's Population in 2000"--from an article published in JINGJI YANJIU YU JINGJI GUANLI [ECONOMIC STUDY AND MANAGEMENT]"; passages within slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] How large will China's population be by the end of this century? We have made the following five estimates, excluding the populations of Taiwan Province, Xianggang (Hong Kong) and Aomen (Macao), working from a population figure of 1,008.18 million on July 1, 1982.

Table 1. Projected Population Growth Rates

Average annual national growth rate to 2000 (0/00)	Population by 2000 (million)
12	1,251.72
10	1,211.95
9.45	1,199.80
9	1,189.94
7.5	1,157.63

Looking at Table 1, there is little possibility of the first and fifth estimates coming true. The fourth--showing China's population by the end of this century at about 1,190 million--is based on an average annual natural growth rate of 9 per thousand. This is the desired goal which, in spite of great difficulties, can be reached so long as we throw in all our might.

The second estimate, based on an average annual growth rate of 10 per thousand, projects that by the end of this century, China's population will exceed 1,200 million. This is not desirable. However, if we do not make sufficient efforts or overlook something in our work, it is entirely possible.

The third one, based on an average annual natural growth rate of 9.45 per thousand, sees China's population by the end of the century at slightly less than 1,200 million. This is to say, in the 18.5 years between July 1982 and the end of 2000, the net increase should not exceed 191.82 million. Or, in other words, the average annual increase must be kept under 10.37 million. The task is an arduous one. But so long as we make efforts it can be fulfilled.

To realize the third estimate, the state has set five requirements for family planning work: 1) Educating the people in policies for controlling population growth and raising the quality of the population; 2) drafting laws asking each couple to have only one child; 3) granting preferential provisions in areas such as job assignment to families with only one child; 4) improving public health work, including birth-control technology and tools; and 5) developing social welfare, such as monthly allowances for disabled peasants so as to relieve them from worries about the future. Coupled with other measures, the five requirements, if implemented, are certain to ensure a job well done in family planning, which in turn will guarantee the realization of the strategic goal of population control mentioned above.

It is estimated that by 2000 China's population will be slightly less than 1,200 million. Under most conditions, the annual natural growth rate will be reduced to 5 per thousand by that time, with each couple at child-bearing age giving birth to only one child. What characteristics will the population have then? What changes will take place in its internal structure?

/The Population Will Become Relatively Static./ Since the 1970s, China's population has gradually moved from a period marked by a high birth rate, low mortality rate and high population increase into a period of low birth rate, low mortality rate and low population increase. This situation has effected a fairly large change in the age distribution of the population. At the beginning of the 1980s, the age distribution of China's population was in the shape of a pyramid, with the number of people aged 21 and younger accounting for about half of the total, and those aged 65 years and older making up less than 5 percent. Because of planned birth control, the proportion of young people will come down sharply by the end of this century, the proportion of middle-aged people will increase vastly, and the proportion of the elderly will also increase by a fairly large margin. By then, the age distribution of the population will be shaped like a hammer and the population will gradually become static. If this trend is maintained, the natural growth rate of the population will be reduced to zero in the first decade of the next century.

According to the theory of population reproduction created by a Swedish demographer, China's population structure in 1964 was as follows: people 14 years old and younger, 40.4 percent; those between 15 and 49 years old, 47.3 percent; and those at 50 and older, 12.3 percent. Therefore, the population structure was of an increasing type. By 1978, the ratio between

the three was 35.8:49.4:14.8. Although it was still of an increasing type, it would become static gradually. By the end of the century, because of a further reduction in the proportion of people under 14 and an increase in those over 50, the population structure will become static. There is also the possibility that it will approach the limits set for the decreasing type.

The changing age distribution, with the proportion of old people on the rise, prompts many to ask: Will there be an "aging" problem? Of course, the proportion of people 65 and older will increase with the implementation of the policy of "one couple, one child," the drop in the birth rate and the increase in average life expectancy. In other words, the population will, on the average, grow older. However, it does not mean that by the end of this century China's population will have become "aged," because a population can be described as "aged" only when the proportion of people over 65 years exceeds 10 percent. It is estimated that by the end of this century people over 65 will account for only 7 to 8 percent of China's population, and 8.9 percent at the most.

/Dependency Coefficient Will Be Gradually Reduced/ Since 1949, more and more members of the non-agricultural population have been employed. Naturally, the more people given jobs, the fewer the people they support. (see Table 2)

Table 2. Dependency Coefficients

	Ratio between the employed and people they support	Percentage of the employed in the non-agricultural population
1949	1:5.15	16.2
1952	1:2.60	30.0
1957	1:2.15	30.2
1978	1:1.06	64.1
1980	1:0.83	64.4

There will be no obvious changes in the dependency coefficient by 2000 because the increase of old people supported by others will be offset by a corresponding reduction in the number of children.

However, people may ask a new question: With people encouraged to have only one child per couple, will the situation arise by 2000 in which one able-bodied couple will have to support four old people and a child?

No. There are two reasons. First, because young and middle-aged people will make up the larger part of the population by then. It is unlikely that the average dependency coefficient in the whole society will go up. Second, although we advocate "one couple, one child" in practice, we will not carry it out indiscriminately. There are policies allowing certain women at child-bearing age, who have special difficulties, to have a second child after obtaining approval. The policy is even more flexible for minority nationalities. In some one-child families, the situation of one able-bodied couple supporting four old people and one child might occur. That problem, however, can be alleviated through labour insurance.

Of course, in the next century, the problem of an able-bodied couple supporting four old people and one child will probably become more serious. By then, however, our productivity will be greatly developed, and material and cultural standards as well as labour insurance will be greatly improved. It will be completely possible for society to handle the problem of looking after the old. The burden will be taken off the sons and daughters.

/The Sex Ratio Will Become Balanced./ In calculating the sex ratio, the female population is given as 100 and males are expressed as a proportion of this. The sex ratio between the new borns in the world today is somewhere between 100:104 and 100:107 (usually 100:105 and 100:106). Later, the different death rate for men and women in various age brackets and other factors will gradually lead to a balance in the sex ratio. In a number of countries, there are more women than men. According to statistics released by the Kuomintang government in 1947, the sex ratio in old China was 100:110. In the 1953 census, men accounted for 51.82 per cent of the population and women 48.18. Therefore, the sex ratio was 100:108. In 1957, it was 100:107, and in 1965, 1975 and 1979, it stood at 100:105. The sex ratio in the 1982 census was 100:106, with men accounting for 51.5 per cent of the population. From these, we can see that for a long time China has more men than women. But in general the sex ratio is balanced. It is estimated that by 2000 the number of men and that of women will be very close.

Can the implementation of the "one couple, one child" policy lead to an imbalance in the sex ratio? Generally speaking, no. However, there is that possibility if man-made problems are taken into consideration. Because of the implementation of the "one couple, one child" policy, most people prefer to have boys, especially in the countryside. Hence, the possible abandoning and even killing of female infants. It is necessary for us to strengthen education and adopt effective measures to prevent this.

CSO: 4000/326

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

LATEST CENSUS REVEALS EDUCATION STATISTICS

HK120842 Beijing BEIJING REVIEW in English No 14, 2 Apr 84 pp 22-23

[Text] The manual tabulations of the third national census show that in 1982 China had 605,932,447 people at or above the primary school education level, accounting for 60.36 percent of the population. Of them, 1 percent, or 6,016,969 people were college or university graduates or undergraduates, and 244,755,168 were senior or junior middle school graduates, accounting for 40.39 percent.

On an average, there were 440 college or university graduates for every 100,000 people in China. This national average was exceeded in Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Liaoning, Qinghai, Jilin, Shaanxi, Heilongjiang, Ningxia, Fujian, Xinjiang, Jiangsu and Hubei. However, the figures for Henan, Yunnan, Shandong, Guangxi, Anhui, Guizhou, Sichuan, Zhejiang, Hunan, Jiangxi, Hebei, Guangdong, Tibet, Inner Mongolia, Shanxi and Gansu were below the national average. (See Table 1)

Table 1. Education Levels in the Population (Manual Tabulations)

	University graduates	College under- graduates or students	Senior middle school students
Beijing	330,308	119,020	1,628,336
Shanghai	285,989	125,374	2,412,809
Tianjin	123,136	54,145	1,033,010
Liaoning	261,645	101,791	3,337,718
Qinghai	25,779	5,689	199,261
Jilin	144,921	52,960	2,428,969
Shaanxi	180,023	69,500	2,269,669
Heilongjiang	168,838	54,910	3,063,459
Ningxia	19,855	5,814	206,230
Fujian	123,393	33,301	1,477,707
Xinjiang	61,033	21,896	841,680
Jiangsu	280,504	104,643	4,222,270
Hubei	210,967	88,824	3,592,953
Gansu	85,598	22,447	1,223,889
Shanxi	109,980	40,156	1,881,791

	<u>University graduates</u>	<u>College under- graduates or students</u>	<u>Senior middle school students</u>
Inner Mongolia	83,334	26,467	1,436,096
Tibet	6,968	1,038	22,960
Guangdong	212,729	69,766	4,694,941
Hebei	182,952	49,447	3,990,196
Jiangxi	114,426	43,421	1,825,110
Hunan	177,908	68,355	3,536,385
Zhejiang	126,914	54,607	2,019,524
Sichuan	309,965	116,972	3,955,902
Guizhou	86,833	23,559	845,724
Anhui	146,127	56,028	1,972,954
Guangxi	103,098	29,233	2,378,668
Shandong	189,085	73,486	4,376,519
Yunnan	80,598	27,277	908,980
Henan	181,598	62,348	4,694,318
National Total	4,414,495	1,602,474	66,478,028

	<u>Junior middle school graduates</u>	<u>Primary school leavers</u>	<u>University graduates per 100,000 people</u>
Beijing	2,684,962	2,417,372	3,578
Shanghai	3,325,303	2,989,151	2,411
Tianjin	2,214,307	2,390,627	1,586
Liaoning	9,866,637	12,735,134	732
Qinghai	544,725	999,470	662
Jilin	4,709,218	8,118,746	642
Shaanxi	5,599,602	9,440,101	623
Heilongjiang	7,247,661	11,607,545	517
Ningxia	605,457	1,000,614	510
Fujian	3,262,343	9,397,071	477
Xinjiang	2,289,284	4,423,855	467
Jiangsu	12,135,498	19,732,951	463
Hubei	8,944,551	17,034,424	441
Gansu	2,388,159	5,422,844	437
Shanxi	5,526,531	9,821,903	435
Inner Mongolia	3,720,883	6,314,475	432
Tibet	68,364	311,583	368
Guangdong	10,024,533	23,086,232	359
Hebei	10,208,381	19,287,130	345
Jiangxi	4,399,740	12,805,737	345
Hunan	9,329,715	23,235,789	329
Zhejiang	6,915,644	15,310,873	326
Sichuan	15,423,474	41,330,996	311
Guizhou	3,259,608	8,216,091	304
Anhui	7,073,442	14,753,600	294
Guangxi	5,727,533	14,139,619	283
Shandong	13,171,751	25,103,593	254
Yunnan	3,328,392	9,539,974	248
Henan	14,281,442	23,192,882	244
National Total	178,277,140	355,160,310	440

The manual tabulations also show that in 1982 there were 235,820,002 illiterate and semi-literate people (those aged 12 and older who knew fewer than 1,500 Chinese characters and could not read simple books and newspapers or write simple messages).

According to statistics from the 10 per cent sample survey, 31.90 per cent of the population aged 12 and older were illiterate or semi-literate. This means one in every 3.14 people is illiterate or semi-literate.

In the second national census in 1964, 52.4 per cent of the population aged 13 and older were illiterate or semi-literate. Clearly, some progress has been made in the efforts to wipe out illiteracy.

Of the illiterate and semi-literate population in 1982, 29.49 per cent were between 12 and 34 years old, giving that age group an illiteracy rate of 15.79 per cent. Those aged between 35 and 54 accounted for 35.25 per cent, with an illiteracy rate of 43.96 per cent, and 35.26 per cent were 55 or older, giving that group an illiteracy rate of 75.88 per cent. There is still much work to be done in expanding education and eliminating illiteracy.

The illiteracy rate among women was much higher than among men. The national illiteracy rate for men was 19.17 per cent, while that for women was 46.27 per cent.

The illiteracy rate of the urban population was 16.43 per cent, and that of the rural population was 34.78 per cent. The illiteracy rate of the population aged between 12-44 was 19.04 per cent.

Table 2. Illiterates and Semi-literates of Both Sexes, by Age groups
(Statistics from the 10 percent sample survey only)

Age group	Illiterate and Semi-literate people			Percentage in the population aged 12 and above		
	total	men	women	total	men	women
12	254,444	72,167	182,277	9.60	5.29	14.18
13	278,624	76,758	201,866	9.87	5.29	14.71
14	244,787	66,914	177,873	9.98	5.30	14.95
15-19	1,178,322	271,054	907,268	9.40	4.25	14.74
20-24	1,064,209	215,988	848,221	14.32	5.71	23.27
25-29	2,078,147	456,985	1,621,162	22.44	9.56	36.18
30-34	1,917,234	501,786	1,415,448	26.28	13.24	40.38
35-39	1,520,196	405,293	1,114,903	28.05	14.20	43.45
40-44	1,876,627	578,444	1,298,183	38.79	22.43	57.47
45-49	2,472,226	809,863	1,662,363	52.20	32.33	74.49
50-54	2,518,337	875,211	1,643,126	61.65	40.59	85.18
55-59	2,302,099	829,369	1,472,730	67.89	47.39	89.75
60 and older	6,087,278	2,167,066	3,920,212	79.41	60.89	95.46
National total	23,792,530	7,326,898	16,465,632	31.90	19.17	45.27

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

FIRST YEARBOOK ON EDUCATION PLANNED

OW111405 Beijing XINHUA in English 0712 GMT 11 Apr 84

[Text] Beijing, 11 Apr (XINHUA)--A comprehensive and complete yearbook of Chinese education will be published for the first time since the founding of the People's Republic in 1949, according to the Ministry of Education.

The CHINA EDUCATION ALMANAC (1949-81)" devotes its first part to a detailed account of the country's educational administration, regular education from kindergartens up to graduate schools, education for the handicapped, adults and minority ethnic groups, teachers' training, textbooks, research programs and exchanges with foreign countries.

The second part of the yearbook consists of important documents, basic statistics, a chronological table and facts about major universities and schools.

The Chinese edition, totalling three million characters, is edited by Education Ministry staff and will be published in the third quarter of this year by the Greater Encyclopedia of China Publishing House.

Subscription orders are being received until the end of this month. The deluxe edition will cost 21 yuan (about 12 U.S. dollars) and the paperback 10 yuan (about five U.S. dollars).

One editor says that the yearbook will be useful to top education administrators in reviewing the past three and a half decades and setting up an education system that suits China's conditions.

He believes it will also help educators write books on teaching and the history of education in China and run schools well.

In addition, a 1982-83 education yearbook is being edited.

The education almanac is one of 46 yearbooks to be published by China this year.

Chinese scholars are also compiling an education volume of the "Greater Encyclopedia of China."

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

QIAN TIPPED AS PRC'S NEXT FOREIGN MINISTER

OW121109 Tokyo KYODO in English 1100 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Tokyo, 12 Apr (KYODO)--A source in Tokyo well versed in Chinese affairs says Qian Qichen, foreign vice minister and Chinese chief delegate in the current Sino-Soviet normalization talks, may be China's next foreign minister.

A plan is taking shape within the Beijing leadership for Qian to succeed Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian in two or three years, according to the source, who asked not to be named.

The personnel change does not mean demotion for Wu, but is an "ordinary" personnel shift chiefly because of Wu's advanced age, the source said. Wu is aged about 63.

Wu has been highly rated in China since he was named foreign minister in 1983, the source said.

If Qian, now an alternate member of the party Central Committee, should become foreign minister, Wu would be named a state councilor and would devote himself to diplomatic policy decision-making in a senior cabinet post, the source said.

Former Foreign Minister Ji Pengfei is now a state councilor in charge of foreign affairs, working as a key figure in China's policy on the future of Hong Kong.

It is not clear whether Ji would remain a state councilor after the speculated personnel change of Wu and Qian, the source said.

Vice Minister Qian, who is said to be the No 1 expert on Soviet affairs in the Chinese Foreign Ministry, has been leading the Chinese delegation in the Sino-Soviet normalization talks since 1982.

China watchers here are speculating how Qian's assumption of the diplomatic portfolio might affect China's diplomatic strategy.

One expert did not rule out the possibility that China with Qian as foreign minister might delicately shift its policy from the current independent position of staying neither too close nor too far away from either of the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union.

Qian's date of birth has not been disclosed outside China, but he is believed to be in his mid-fifties.

Details of his career before his appointment as ambassador to Guinea in 1974 are not known.

He is said to have deepened his knowledge of Soviet diplomatic and domestic affairs while in Moscow as counselor at the Chinese Embassy.

Qian became director of the Information Department of the Foreign Ministry in December 1976 and became well known to foreign correspondents in China.

Qian came to Japan in May 1980 accompanying then Premier Hua Guofeng on an official visit.

During the Sino-Soviet normalization talks, Qian has not yielded an inch to his Soviet counterpart Leonid Ilyichev over a three-point Chinese demand for the removal of "three obstacles" to normalization.

While never compromising on the basic position, Qian has succeeded in getting the Soviets' agreement to expanding trade and cultural exchanges between the two countries.

His diplomatic ability in the negotiations with the Soviets has greatly enhanced his reputation.

CSO: 4000/326

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

RURAL THEME FILM VIEWED BY PEASANTS AT LOCATION

OW130921 Beijing XINHUA in English 0839 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Beijing, 13 Apr (XINHUA)--"Our Niu Baisui," a film on a rural theme, drew merry laughter and applause from five thousand peasants at an open-air premiere in a Shandong village.

The film, based on life and characters in the very village, was specially brought from Shanghai to gauge the peasants' critical reaction.

Directed by Zhao Huanzhang, 53, of Shanghai film studio, it won a first prize in this year's Ministry of Culture best film awards, announced Wednesday.

"Exhilarating!" "That's just what it's like here!" "Bravo!" These were comments from villagers in Chengshanwei, Rongcheng County.

The film describes how Niu Baisui, a village communist party member, rounds up an idler, a troublemaker, a brawler, and a thief that other teams of peasants refuse to take under the contract responsibility system, reforms them and leads them to prosperity. Comedy is supplied when Niu Baisui's wife Qiangying misconstrues his efforts to help Juhua (Chrysanthemum), a hot-tempered widow who despairs of life.

Niu Baisui is typical of millions of rural cadres: simple, honest, kind men and women guiding peasants onto the road to prosperity under the current agricultural responsibility system. He wants everyone to live a better life--this is the keynote of the film.

"Niu Baisui is just like one of us," said one peasant.

"How could you behave so like us?" one woman asked Wang Fuli, the Shanghai actress who plays Chrysanthemum.

The director was in the audience, keen for local response.

"Their enthusiasm moves me," said Zhao. "I want to make more films for peasants." Zhao, who loves filming, declined a recent promotion to deputy director of the studio. He now lives in Shanghai with his wife and three children. "I tried to combine party spirit with a human touch in the character of Niu Baisui," said Zhao, a native of Shandong who joined an army troupe as an actor in 1949. Before taking up film direction he was a log keeper in the studio.

Asked why he has a particular interest in shooting rural films, he said, "I suppose it comes from the habits of a lifetime."

The scenario was written by Yuan Xueqiang, 36, a Shandong peasant himself. His boyhood friends thought he was simply out of his mind when after a day's farm work he shut himself in his small hut and wrote the story on the back of used labels under a kerosene lamp. His mastery of peasant humor and wit has enabled him in part to write a superb film full of strong, local flavor catering to Chinese peasants' fancies.

A critic in the magazine POPULAR CINEMA says that the film "is deeply rooted in Chinese soil."

"Our Niu Baisiu" was one of the 16 feature films on rural topics last year, many more than in 1982. According to 1982 statistics, 19.4 billion peasants, a daily average of 50 million, saw films.

CSO: 4000/326

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

HU YAOBANG TALKS ON PARTY RECTIFICATION IN HUBEI

OW151456 Beijing XINHUA in English 1431 GMT 15 Apr 84

[Text] Beijing, 15 Apr (XINHUA)--Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang said that the whole party should do a good job of party consolidation this year while ensuring that economic work is done well. Further progress should be made in developing the national economy, he said.

The relations between the two are: party consolidation should promote the country's economic performance, which in turn would be a test for party consolidation, he added.

Hu Yaobang said this to leading cadres of Hubei Province and Wuhan city in Wuhan on April 13. He made an inspection tour of Henan and Hubei Provinces from April 3 to 13.

The general secretary also stressed the determined efforts to bring to leading posts a great number of outstanding young cadres. Facts show the young cadres have extensive knowledge, are vigorous and with less conventions. They work with soaring enthusiasm and this is something most valuable, he said.

He called on the cadres to pay attention to both industry and agriculture in Hubei. The province's agriculture had expanded in recent years, he said. From his own observation, he said, in some areas the peasants had solved the problem of food and clothing, but they were not getting better-off as expected. He called on the cadres to strengthen leadership, adopt more flexible rural policies and make on-the-spot investigations to help the peasants get well-to-do.

"If the peasants get better off, our country will be rock firm," he said. Referring to the fact that some peasants get better-off earlier than others, he stressed there is nothing to be afraid of. "The peasants advance toward prosperity wave upon wave and this is by no means what is called polarization," he said.

Hu said that Hubei had great potential for developing its industry, proposing measures to be adopted to improve enterprise management, introduce advanced technology, absorb funds from abroad, and to appoint knowledgeable young cadres to leading positions.

During his inspection in Henan, Hu Yaobang said that the province should continue to develop agriculture with its advantageous climate and soil conditions.

He also said that Henan should continue to do afforestation well, adding that much progress had been made in the past few years. He encouraged its people to explore the waste lands and hills to turn Henan into an advanced province in afforestation.

Referring to the underground resources, Hu said that Henan should speed up the development and utilization of the oil of the Zhongyuan (center China plain) oilfield. The resources of coal, nonferrous metals and alkali salts should be explored on a large scale, he said.

CSO: 4000/326

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

NATION TO OBSERVE YOUTH YEAR; COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED

OW171900 Beijing XINHUA in English 1501 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Beijing, 17 Apr (XINHUA)--China began preparations to observe the international youth year (IYY) in 1985 by setting up China's IYY organizational committee here this morning.

The 19-member China committee is headed by Hu Jintao, chairman of the All China Youth Federation. Its vice-chairmen are Vice-Minister of Education Peng Peiyun, Vice-Minister of Culture Ding Qiao, Vice-Minister of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission Lu Jindong, member of the secretariat of the Communist Youth League Central Committee Liu Yandong and secretary-general of the All China Students' Federation Li Keqiang.

[Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese at 1441 GMT on 17 April carries the namelist of the officials of China's IYY Organizational Committee. According to the namelist, Liu Yandong is concurrent secretary general of the committee, and members of the committee are: "Yu Mengjia, deputy director of the Department of International Organizations and Conferences of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Jia Zueqian, deputy secretary general of the UNESCO China National Commission; Wang Shi [3769 4258], deputy director of the Central Television Station; Yu Wentao [0060 0795 7118], deputy secretary general of the All-China Youth Federation; Pang Bingan [1690 3521 1658], deputy director of the International Department of the XINHUA NEWS AGENCY; Qu Jian [4234 0256], deputy director of the Foreign Affairs Office of the Beijing Municipal Government; Zhai Jianmin [5049 1696 3046], deputy director of a bureau under the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications; Lin Junxiong [2651 0689 7160], deputy editor in chief of the China Youth Publishing House; Wang Wenqi [3769 2429 6386], deputy editor in chief of the China Youth Journal; Wang Jiancheng [3769 1696 4453], deputy director of the China Youth Travel Service; and Li Guangrong [2621 0342 2837], vice chairman of the Beijing Municipal Youth Federation."]

The first meeting of the committee today discussed IYY preparations.

A resolution to this effect was passed at the 34th U.N. General Assembly in 1979 under the motto "participation, development, peace."

The aim of such an activity is to call to the attention of society as a whole and the governments of all countries the importance of the question of youth, to rally forces, international, regional, national as well as local, to give more care to the young people, solve their problems (such as education and employment) so that they can contribute to economic and social development.

This resolution won support from governments all over the world. Over 80 countries have set up or are setting up IYY coordinating organizations.

At the committee's first meeting held this morning Hu Jintao said IYY is of special significance for China because it has 290 million youth. The Chinese Government, he said, attaches great importance to the growth of youth, the future and hope of the nation. Chinese youth wish to promote friendship and understanding with world youth, he said.

UNESCO China National Commission deputy secretary general Jia Xueqian, and Vice-Minister of Education Peng Peiyun also spoke at the meeting, supporting the setting up of this committee.

CSO: 4000/326

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

MOST DIVORCE CASES SETTLED THROUGH CONCILIATION

OW171158 Beijing XINHUA in English 1031 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Beijing, 17 Apr (XINHUA)--Eighty to ninety percent of divorce cases in China have been settled by people's courts at various levels through conciliation.

Wang Zhanping, vice-president of the Supreme People's Court, said this at a meeting with Australian High Court Justice Gerard Brennan here today.

China handles nearly 400,000 divorce cases annually, over half of all civil cases.

Other civil cases mainly involve land, property and inheritance.

The reasons for the increases of divorce cases after 1978 were traditional parentally arranged marriages, hasty marriages by young people and the involvement of a third party. The number of divorce cases has however declined in the past two years.

The vice-president attributed the decline to the development of socialist ethics and an improved legal system that more effectively than ever protects the legitimate rights and interests of the people.

Wang Zhanping noted that only in about 10 to 20 percent of divorce cases were court judgments necessary after the failure of conciliation.

CSO: 4000/326

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

WRITER 'POLISHES' LAST EMPEROR'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY

OW180900 Beijing XINHUA in English 0708 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] Beijing, 18 Apr (XINHUA)--A signed article in the latest issue of the magazine NEW OBSERVER reveals that "from emperor to citizen," an autobiography by China's last emperor Aisin Giorro Puyi, was polished by Lao She, an eminent modern writer.

A memorial meeting was held in Beijing last month in memory of Lao She who died in the turmoils of the cultural revolution.

Critics have attributed the fluency of language and strong Beijing local flavor to Lao She's polishing.

The book was immensely popular and has been translated into English, Japanese, French and German.

Puyi, the last emperor of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), who died in 1967, wrote the book after 1959, telling of his experiences as an emperor and then as a citizen in the People's Republic of China.

Puyi was crowned at the age of three and toppled by the 1911 revolution. Twenty-three years later, he became puppet emperor of the Japanese-backed "Manchukuo" and was captured by the Soviet Red Army in 1945 when the Japanese surrendered.

He was sent back to China in 1950, where he was turned into a new person through an imprisonment of nine years. He found himself a member of the national committee of the Chinese people's political consultative conference in 1964 when he put out the book.

But before its publication, the article said, the Qunzhong (the masses) Publishing House invited Lao She to do the polishing.

Lao She, who died one year before the emperor, was an outstanding writer famous for his mastery of language. He was praised as "the people's artist" and "a cultural giant" at a commemorative meeting held last month here. His polishing added fluency and elegance to the book.

Now Pujie, younger brother of the last emperor has finished a 100,000-word reminiscences of China's last imperial dynasty, which is expected to come out next year.

CSO: 4000/326

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL GROUP AWARDS FAIR, ZHAO ZIYANG

OW192135 Beijing XINHUA in English 1841 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Guangzhou, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--The China export commodities fair was awarded a medal with a mercury emblem and a globe in relief at a ceremony here today.

The medal was given to chairman of the fair Wang Pinqing by Lorenz Maria Gallo, secretary-general of Gold Mercury International.

Wang Pinqing thanked Gold Mercury International for the honor conferred on the fair and pledged continued efforts to expand trade relations and economic cooperation between China and other countries, and promote the friendship between the Chinese people and people all over the world.

Speaking at a press conference after the ceremony, Gallo praised the China export commodities fair for its contributions to promote trade and economic relations between China and other countries. The fair has been held twice a year since 1957 without interruption, he said.

He also described the fair as a window for China's foreign economic cooperation and a bridge for expanding trade and economic cooperation between China and the rest of the world.

A delegation from Gold Mercury International visited China's 1984 spring export commodities fair now in session here.

The delegation arrived in Guangzhou yesterday after awarding Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang a Gold Mercury International emblem for peace in Beijing on April 14.

CSO: 4000/326

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

NIE RONGZHEN PREDICTS BETTER CARE FOR ELDERLY

OW191150 Beijing XINHUA in English 1128 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Beijing, 19 Apr (XINHUA)--Some one hundred million people over 60 in China will receive more and better social care.

This was stated in a letter from Nie Rongzhen, member of the Political Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, to the Chinese National Committee on Aging read out by the committee at today's press conference here.

Nie has been invited to be honorary chairman of the committee. Another 25 veterans have also been invited to be advisors, including Yu Qiuli and Song Renqiong, members of the Political Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, Hu Yuzhi, Fei Xiaotong and Xue Muqiao, noted Chinese scholars and Qian Xinzong, former public health minister.

Nie Rongzhen also writes that as a populous socialist country, China should provide the elderly with better care and obtain more experience in the aging problem.

Committee Chairman Yu Guanghan gave a brief account of work for the elderly in China.

He said that aging was a worldwide social problem, and that as China's population aged, the number of its aged people would rank first in the world.

According to 1980 statistics, China has 80 million people over 60, accounting for 8 percent of the population. It is estimated that the number will go up to 130 million by the year 2000, 11 percent of the population, and to 280 million, 20 percent, by the year 2025.

This aging, said Yu, would have a great impact on the development of the national economy, politics, and society.

He hoped that the press would give much more publicity to respect and care for old people, a good tradition in China.

The Chinese National Committee on Aging, set up in April 1982, aims to investigate and coordinate problems related to aging and help the elderly keep fit through physical exercise and better medical care.

It now publishes a journal THE AGED IN CHINA, and is preparing to set up a fund for the aged, a recreation center and a paper. It will also liaise with other countries. It is to send a study delegation to Japan in the latter part of the year and hold a joint international seminar in Beijing on the aging problem with its counterpart in the United States.

The committee is now helping set up an educational association for the aged, a medical care association and a society for elderly people.

Committees on aging have been set up in Tianjin, Shanghai, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Inner Mongolia and Guangdong. Other provinces are preparing to do so. Cultural and sports organizations have also been founded for the elderly. Beijing and Tianjin have organized elderly scientists and technicians to use their rich experience and professional knowledge to contribute something to the society after their retirement.

Publications include "Longevity," "Retirement," and "Medical Care Consultant."

CSO: 4000/326

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON 1983 FILM PRODUCTION

OW201953 Beijing XINHUA in English 1503 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Beijing, 20 Apr (XINHUA)--New progress had been made in China's film production in 1983, Shi Fangyu, director of the film bureau of the Cultural Ministry, said today.

Speaking at a press conference here, the director, who is also a film script writer, noted that films made last year had a wider scope of subjects and varied styles with closer attention paid to reflecting present-day life.

He said the number of films themed on present-day life accounted for over 60 percent of the total produced last year. Of the 16 prize-winning feature films for 1983, 12 had contemporary themes, he added.

Winners of the Ministry of Culture award were announced here last week. Winners of China's two other film awards, an academic award determined by specialists "golden rooster," and the "hundred flowers" based on public opinion polls, will be announced next month.

The 58-year-old director said China's film industry is progressing yearly like a climber on his way to the top of a mountain.

According to Shi Fangyu, China turned out 603 features from 1949 to 1965 and another 558 between 1977 and 1983. The annual output has risen from 21 in 1977 to 127 last year, topping the annual state quota of 120 set for the Sixth 5-Year Plan (1981-1985).

Chinese films have been showing in more than 70 countries and regions. They have taken part in quite a number of international film festivals and won prizes in some competitions.

Asked whether China's current effort against cultural contamination had affected its film production, the director said that there was no cultural contamination involved in the films shown to the public, adding that criticism and self-criticism is a normal practice in China.

Shi Fangyu, who had just inspected four film studios, said he was optimistic about the film production in 1984.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

MINISTRY OF CULTURE GIVES BEST FILMS AWARDS

OW212111 Beijing XINHUA in English 1030 GMT 21 Apr 84

[Text] Beijing, 21 Apr (XINHUA)--China's Ministry of Culture presented 41 gold cups to the best films of 1983 at a ceremony in the theater of the Beijing exhibition center here today.

Warm applause from more than 2,000 film workers and movie fans broke out as representatives of prize-winning film crews appeared on stage amid lively music and camera flashes.

Chang Yan, director of the first-prize-winning "Behind the Accused" which depicts a factory director's struggle against unhealthy social trends, said that more films should be produced to reveal the problems, complexity and diversity of present-day life.

Gong Xue, who plays a self-employed young seamstress in "Under the Bridge," said she felt that the hearts of the audience could only be won by presenting heroes true to life in a natural way. Also a first prize winner, this feature film is among the most popular here. So far, Gong said, she had received more than 1,000 fan letters, some asking for a sequel.

Ding Qiao, vice-minister of culture, praised the prize winning films for their vivid depiction of the bubbling life and problems and difficulties in the present modernization drive. "Closely linked with the people," Ding said, "these films have a strong artistic appeal."

He also described most of the films produced last year as "better in ideological content and artistry" than those made in the previous year. But he added that some films were still unreal and slipshod. Children's films and thrillers were few in number and low in quality, he said.

The vice-minister urged the film industry to attach more attention to the social effects of its products, continue to delve deeply into life and raise its artistic standards.

Also addressing the ceremony were Xu Zhen, director of the science film "Grey Magpie," and Hong Kong's Lee Han Chiang, who directed "The Burning of Yuan Ming Yuan" and "Power Behind the Scenes."

Among those present were Yang Jingren, vice-chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese people's political consultative conference, Zhu Muzhi, minister of culture, and Xia Yan, chairman of the film association.

[Beijing Domestic Service in Mandarin at 1200 GMT on 21 April, in a report on the award ceremony, adds that the Ministry of Culture held a tea party on the evening of 21 April at the Great Hall of the People for the prize-winning film workers at which Xi Zhongxun was present]

CSO: 4000/326

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

YE FEI, ZHANG AIPING AT MEMORIAL HALL OPENING

OW221851 Beijing XINHUA in English 1836 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] Beijing, 22 Apr (XINHUA)--People can get a glimpse of the life and work of Cao Xueqin, the author of the great classical novel "A Dream of Red Mansions," at a memorial hall opened on the outskirts of Beijing today.

The hall is located at the White Banner Village in the fragrant hills west of the city.

Cao Xueqing (1716-1763 or 1764) finished the novel in 1760. The novel depicts the fall of the Jias, an aristocratic family of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) to show the inevitable decline of the decadent feudal system.

Although Cao has been dead for more than 200 years, he is still respected by the Chinese people as a great thinker and writer who opposed feudalism. His novel has been translated into English, German, Japanese, Russian and Korea.

The memorial hall was set up on the basis of Cao's former residence after renovation and expansion.

Displayed in the hall are relevant historical relics, written materials and household articles used in Cao's days and a group of tablets in his memory. The exhibition is expected to help people collect and study cultural relics concerning the later years of Cao Xueqing while he lived in the fragrant hills. The collection will be useful for a further comprehensive study of the writer's life, his family history and his writings, according to an official at the memorial hall.

Hu Deping, president of the China society for the study of Cao Xueqing, said at the opening ceremony that the memorial hall would collect and publicize materials for the study in the spirit of "a hundred schools of thoughts contending" and "eliminating the false and retaining the true."

Attending today's opening ceremony were vice-chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee Ye Fei, state councillor Zhang Aiping, noted experts in the study of "A Dream of Red Mansions" and about 1,000 people from different circles.

Pu Jie, brother of the last emperor of the Qing Dynasty and a well-known calligrapher, inscribed the name of the memorial hall.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

BEIJING HISTORY, DEVELOPMENTS REVIEWED

OW220230 Beijing XINHUA in English 0202 GMT 22 Apr 84

["Beijing--Ancient Capital Marching Toward Modernization"--XINHUA headline]

[Text] Beijing, 22 Apr (XINHUA)--The year 1984 sees the 3,041st anniversary of the founding of Beijing as the capital of a principality called Yan.

"Yanjing," or the capital of Yan, is still used as the name of books, stores and hotels today. It was expanded during the warring states period (475-221 B.C.) and later became the political center of China during the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368).

Beijing is an ancient metropolis with striking modern characteristics, but the basic layout of old Beijing has been preserved. The city protects 189 sites of historical interest, including the forbidden city (the palace museum), the summer palace, the temple of heaven and a group of ancient parks.

High rises mix with glazed-tiled ancient buildings to make the city more magnificent.

Beijing has undergone great changes since it was made capital of the People's Republic of China 35 years ago.

The development of Beijing expanded from the old city proper. The 7.8-kilometer north-south axis has been stretched to 15.3 kilometers. Another axis, a 40-kilometer-long east-west road, has been completed. These two axes intersect at the world-famous Tiananmen Square, the center of Beijing.

The municipal area has been expanded from 707 square kilometers in 1949, the year of liberation, to more than 16,800. The population has increased from 1.56 million to 9.33 million.

In the past three decades, more than 101 million square meters of floor space have been completed, 4.9 times the total of the old city, including 48 million square meters of housing, roughly four times that of old Beijing.

Over the past few years, more than four million square meters of housing have been completed annually. Fifty-two residential areas are being developed.

Old Beijing had only 215 kilometers of paved roads, with five buses and one streetcar still operating in 1949.

Now well-paved highways and roads extend some 2,700 kilometers. Overpasses and a subway have been built, and a new subway circle line will be opened on October 1.

About 7,000 buses, trolley buses and taxis transport citizens every day. Beijing railway station is the hub of the country's communications network. The Shoudu (capital) airport is also the country's largest modern international airport.

Wooded and grassed areas in Beijing cover about 3,000 hectares. Ten more parks are being built to add to the existing 30.

There are 51 institutions of higher learning in the city, including Beijing and Qinghua universities. The city also has more than 1,000 middle and technical schools and some 4,000 primary schools.

More than 509,000 tourists visited Beijing last year, 2.7 times the number in 1978, and 94,000 of them came from the United States.

According to a comprehensive development plan, Beijing's urban and outlying rural population will be restricted to 10 million. The old city will be preserved with modern reconstruction. Historical relics will be well protected.

A group of satellite cities and towns is to be built on the outskirts. Beijing will also control pollution strictly and beautify the city through the joint efforts of its citizens.

CSO: 4000/326

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

STREET CONSULTANTS AID MODERNIZATION DRIVE

OW221902 Beijing XINHUA in English 1845 GMT 22 Apr 84

[Text] Beijing, 22 Apr (XINHUA)--Beijing residents thirsty for knowledge today flocked to two ancient parks in town where free consulting services were offered by specialists and scholars.

One of the venues was the working people's Palace of Culture in the center of the city where consultants at 15 booths provided advice and information on college examinations, law, the world situation, journalism, literature and art, child care, household electrical appliances and gardening.

The occasion was the first "readers' day" organized by the "CHINA YOUTH NEWS" to mark its 33d anniversary. Twenty thousand young people thronged the palace, seeking advice while enjoying a rich cultural program.

The other venue was Beihai Park (winter palace) in northern city where 800 scientists, doctors and teachers provided free counseling and physical check-up for the Sunday crowd.

Free consulting services on a whole spectrum of subjects have become a regular practice in the Chinese capital since earlier this year, although sporadic activities of this kind had taken place in the last few years.

People who saunter through the busy quarters of downtown Beijing on holidays will often see college professors, research fellows, jurists, specialists in natural or social sciences, artists and writers, sit at street-side booths and answer questions covering an extremely wide range of topics.

"What is 'black humor' in Western literature?" "What should I do to my husband who often beats me up?" "Is it harmful to take contraceptive medicines for long?" "How to portray people in creative writing?" "Why is the family contract system in the countryside socialist in nature?" "Is there any difference between Keynesianism and Reaganomics?"

These are about a tiny fraction of the immense variety of queries brought up by eager seekers of new knowledge and information or people pestered by thorny problems.

Many of China's top-rate scholars, whom admirers don't usually get to see even at their own institutions, often turn out to join such services and meet the people.

One chilly morning found professor Ma Hong, a leading economist and president of the Academy of Social Sciences; Zhang Youyu, 85, president of the societies of law and of political science; Tang Tao, a noted literary theoretician; and many other such experts sitting at street booths and chatting with large crowds around them.

Not just serious problems are discussed in these consulting services. Subjects on the lighter side such as fixing of television sets, radio-recorders and refrigerators now increasing rapidly in people's homes, tailoring and hairdressing now becoming fashionable, and cooking foreign food are also dealt with, though by a different category of specialists.

With the steady improvement of people's life, professional tradespeople also take to the streets, giving up a day's rest or business, to help their fellow citizens solve problems arising from an increasingly modern way of life.

A 75-year-old chef today taught how to prepare a Western-style soup at one of the consulting booths. A makeup expert explained the appropriate methods of applying cosmetics and getting rid of freckles.

Officials at the municipal government say there is no special office in the city responsible for organizing street-side consulting services. Each institution arranges its own services in light of social needs.

But the purpose is obvious--to disseminate new knowledge and information to help the nation's modernization drive and improve the people's well-being, the officials say.

A high level of culture and ethics is part of China's socialist modernization program, they say by way of explanation.

CSO: 4000/326

SOUTHWEST REGION

STRESS ON IMPLEMENTING UNITED FRONT POLICIES NOTED

HK080628 Lhasa Xizang Regional Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpts] While carrying out party rectification, the united front department of the regional CPC committee has paid attention to implementing the united front policies. Policies have now been properly implemented in 47 cases.

In carrying out party rectification, the department has treated the implementation of policies for patriotic figures whose homes and property were ransacked as an important content of simultaneous rectification and correction of defects. They have strengthened leadership and assigned more personnel for carrying out this work.

There are relatively many problems of this type in Lhasa City. The united front department has worked with the city CPC committee in repeatedly studying and verifying the cases and has rapidly solved a large number of problems, working on each one. They have assigned people to specifically investigate and handle certain long-standing, great, and difficult problems that had not been solved over a long period of time.

A patriotic figure in Shannan Prefecture had had his property ransacked during the 10 years of turmoil. The united front department worked with the prefectural united front department in carrying out repeated investigations. The truth was quickly made clear, and the patriotic figure was paid compensation.

The united front department recently summoned comrades from all prefectural and city united front departments to a forum to demand that these departments get a good grasp of implementing the policies while carrying out party rectification.

In a comment on this report, the office of the regional party rectification guidance group said: To pay attention to policy implementation during party rectification is [words indistinct] for implementing the principle of simultaneous rectification and correction of defects and taking practical action to strengthen people's confidence in making a success of rectification. Generally speaking, the region has done well in policy implementation. However, at present there is still little or no action in certain units. We hope that all units will check on the implementation of policies in light of the spirit of party rectification. These include the policies on nationality, religion, the united front, intellectuals, and so on.

The key to doing a really good job in policy implementation lies in further emancipating the mind and clearing away leftist influence. We stress earnest attitude and serious approach.

SOUTHWEST REGION

YUNNAN MEETING STUDIES HUMANISM, ALIENATION

HK080424 Kunming Yunnan Provincial Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The Propaganda Department of the provincial CPC committee and the provincial Education Department jointly held a study and discussion meeting in mid-March on humanism and alienation, to train study backbone elements for institutes of higher education.

Since the start of this semester, the institutes of higher education in the province have formally included in their education plans organizing the students to study Comrade Hu Qiaomu's important article "On Humanism and Alienation." They have proposed: We must integrate this study with learning from the heroic deeds of the Huashan rush-rescue combat collective and launching the drive for five stresses, four beauties, and three loves. It is necessary to conduct vivid and specific education in historical materialism and the communist view of life in connection with the reality of the students' current state of mind, to solve a number of ideological problems among them.

The participants at the meeting held: Organizing the students to study Comrade Hua Qiaomu's important article is of very great significance for stepping up ideological and political work in institutes of higher education, eliminating spiritual pollution, and fundamentally guiding the students to establish the communist view of life and the world. They also said: Viewing the state of mind of college students in Yunnan, we should concentrate on solving three problems of ideological understanding when organizing the students to study the article: 1) Solve the problem of their communist ideals and faith; 2) learn how to correctly view the value of man; 3) establish the socialist concept of ethics and morality.

CSO: 4005/532

SOUTHWEST REGION

GUIZHOU DEPARTMENTS DISCUSS IMPROVING EDUCATION SYSTEM

HK100241 Guiyang Guizhou Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] From 3 to 4 April, the provincial CPC committee propaganda department and the provincial education department jointly held a meeting on the work of the province's higher education system. All participating comrades held earnest discussions on how the province's higher education system can serve the purpose of achieving the general target put forward at the 12th CPC National Congress and on development range, curriculum, and the building of a teacher contingent at the province's universities and colleges. They also raised measures for improving the existing problems in the province's higher education system.

Comrade Deng Xiaoping recently said that education must face modernization, the world, and the future, and thus promptly pointed out the direction for educational reforms. The participating comrades said: In order to achieve the fighting target put forward at the 12th CPC National Congress and to build our province into a base of energy, heavy industry, light industry, agriculture, animal husbandry, and forestry, all fronts and localities urgently need various professional persons. It has become an urgent and important issue to emancipate our mind, carry out educational reforms in various aspects, and to speed up the development of our province's higher education system by proceeding from the province's reality.

All participating comrades held that to speed up the development of the province's higher education system, it is necessary to proceed from the province's reality and the status quo of educational development. The existing universities and colleges in the province have a poor foundation. They lack school buildings, libraries, and laboratories, and their quality of teaching needs to be upgraded. In the next few years, it is necessary to concentrate human, material, and financial resources to enrich, perfect, and expand the existing universities and colleges. All existing universities and colleges must reform old disciplines, establish new ones, and develop in an all-round manner.

At the meeting, many comrades said that educational reform should be carried out in various aspects. The essential problem is to fully unleash the initiative of the management contingent, teachers' contingent, the contingent

of ideological and political work, and the contingent doing logistics work. At present, it is necessary to further implement the policy on intellectuals and strengthen the building of the teachers' contingent.

Attending the meeting were presidents and CPC committee secretaries of all nine universities and colleges in the province. Zhu Houze, secretary of the provincial CPC committee, and (Gong Qianyong), director of the propaganda department of the provincial CPC committee, attended the meeting and gave speeches.

CSO: 4005/532

SOUTHWEST REGION

GUANGXI MEETING ON EDUCATION, SCIENCE, OPENS

HK130407 Nanning Guangxi Regional Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Excerpts] A regional conference on education, science, and technology convened by the regional CPC committee and people's government opened in Nanning today. Present were leading comrades of the party and government in the region Wei Chunshu, Jin Baosheng, Qin Yingji, Wang Zhuguang, Hou Depeng, Ou Jiwen, Lin Kewu, Shi Zhaotang, Ye Fusun, Qin Zhenwu, Wang Rongzhen, Wu Keqing, and Luo Ming.

Wei Chunshu, deputy secretary of the regional CPC committee and chairman of the regional government, spoke at the opening ceremony. He said: During the Spring Festival period, CPC Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Hu Yaobang inspected our region. He demanded that we emancipate our minds and work hard to catch up and change Guangxi's backwardness as quickly as possible. He also demanded that we promote production to reach at least a medium level in the whole country, or higher, and try to enter the top 10 [word indistinct] whole country in the next 20 to 30 years.

This demand of the leading comrade of the CPC Central Committee is in full accord with the actual conditions in Guangxi. It reflects the fundamental interests and urgent aspirations of the people of the region. It is a major guiding thought for future work in the region. Here, I want to give a few views from the angle of science, technology, and education:

1. We must rely on progress in science and technology and develop education. In order to reach a medium level or higher in the whole country, the region's total industrial and agricultural output value must rise from 14.9 billion yuan in 1980 to 100 billion yuan by the end of the century. So long as we rapidly shift to the track [word indistinct] construction, strengthen scientific management, develop brain power, make rational use of talent, and raise our economic and technical indices to the level of developed countries in the 1970's and 1980's, our conditions in capital, energy, raw materials, and talent will be able to ensure the attainment of the strategic goal of rejuvenating Guangxi's economy.
2. The whole party and the whole of society must attach importance to and support science, technology, and education.

Comrade Wei Chunshu said: The CPC Central Committee has listed science, technology, and education work as one of the three strategic focal points in socialist modernization. This shows tremendous trust in and encouragement for

our science, technology, and education workers. In order to shoulder this glorious and arduous task, we must have a clear idea of the guiding ideology. In science and technology, we must persistently rely on science and technology in economic construction and ensure that science and technology are geared to economic construction. In education, we must uphold the orientation of having education geared to modernization, the world, and the future. We must continue to emancipate our minds, speed up readjustments, restructuring, and development of science, technology and education.

In the afternoon, Hou Deperig, member of the regional CPC committee Standing Committee and director of the regional science and technology committee, delivered a report entitled "Clearly understand the situation, work hard to catch up, and strive to create a new situation in science and technology in the region." (Yu Mingyuan), secretary of the party branch of the regional education department, delivered a report entitled "Emancipate the mind, be bold in reforms, and [word indistinct] in education."

CSO: 4005/532

SOUTHWEST REGION

BRIEFS

CHENGDU PLA YOUTH LECTURE--On 4 April, the Chengdu PLA Units held a lecture meeting in the youth book-reading drive for defending the motherland and rejuvenating China. Eight young book-reading standard-bearers from units in Sichuan and Xizang delivered lectures at the meeting. Chengdu PLA Units Commander Wang Chenghan and Political Commissar Wan Haifeng, and Provincial CYL Committee Deputy Secretary (Wang Zhongxing) listened to the lectures. Over 500 cadres and fighters were present. [Text] [HK050329 Chengdu Sichuan Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 4 Apr 84]

GUIZHOU NONPARTY FIGURES' VIEWS--According to GUIZHOU RIBAO, in order to do a good job in party rectification, the provincial CPC committee held a forum on 3 and 4 April to listen to criticisms, views, and suggestions from nonparty figures on the work of the provincial CPC committee. Zhu Houze, Su Gang, Wang Chaowen, Wu Shi, Song Shugong, and Li Jifeng listened to their views. Hu Ronggui and (Huang Lumin), respectively leader and deputy leader of the Guizhou liaison group of the Central Commission for Guiding Party Rectification, also attended the forum. Comrade Song Shugong, member of the provincial CPC committee Standing Committee and director of the united front department, presided. [Excerpts] [HK070619 Guiyang Guizhou Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 6 Apr 84]

CSO: 4005/532

NORTH REGION

NEI MONGGOL CIRCULAR ON HOUSING INSPECTION

SK090412 Hohhot Nei Monggol Regional Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The regional discipline inspection commission recently issued a circular urging CPC committees and discipline inspection commissions at all levels to strengthen leadership and devote a certain period to conducting overall acceptance tests on the housing inspection work with concentrated efforts.

The circular points out: Under the leadership of the central discipline inspection commission and the regional CPC committee and with the attention and efforts of all CPC committees and discipline inspection commissions, we have achieved noticeable results in the housing inspection work over the past year. As of 15 February this year, 85.6 percent of the units at the county or the regiment level in the region had been inspected. Among the party members and cadres at and above the county or the regiment level who had the problems of the five categories as stated in the open letter, 90.2 percent had been inspected and dealt with.

The circular states: Malpractices in housing construction and distribution have been basically checked in the region. However, there are still some problems:

1. The housing inspection work was not conducted evenly. Some leagues and cities are fast while others are slow in doing this work. Some units have never seriously attended to this work or achieved noticeable results since the issuance of the open letter.
2. Some people were checking malpractices while others continued to indulge themselves in malpractices. Certain party members and cadres still abused their power to occupy more and better houses than they were entitled to or build high-standard, excessively large houses.
3. Some localities and units did not pay close attention to this work or adopt effective measures to do it. As a result, people who were found to have occupied larger houses than they were entitled to did not abide by regulations to vacate the excessive houses or to pay more rent. They either completely ignored the regulations or abided by it in part.

4. The problem of a few leading cadres who occupied two houses or more has not been totally solved, and the masses still have many complaints about this.

5. Spot checks showed that some units failed to do this work successfully. The number of such units was large in certain leagues and cities.

The circular also stipulates: Complete examination and approval procedures should be established for future housing construction. Construction plans should be examined and approved, so should the construction, funds supply, land appropriation, and construction licenses. All relevant departments should strictly supervise and check the work.

CSO: 4005/534

NORTHWEST REGION

XINJIANG CIRCULAR ON SPEEDING UP RADIO, TELEVISION WORK

HK060606 Urumqi Xinjiang Regional Service in Mandarin 1300 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The regional CPC committee issued a circular recently, which approved and transmitted the report submitted by the party group of the regional radio and television department on speeding up the region's radio and television work. The circular called on all localities to act accordingly in light of their own conditions.

The circular pointed out: Radio and television are the most powerful modern instrument which educate and encourage the whole party, army and people of all nationalities in building socialist spiritual and material civilization, and are the most effective instrument for the party and government to establish close ties with the masses. In recent years, Xinjiang's radio and television work has developed relatively fast and achieved marked results. However, the present state of radio and television cannot meet the developing needs of the situation and the increasing demands of various nationalities. Located at the border of the motherland and covering a vast territory, Xinjiang is a multinational region. Therefore, improving the quality and speeding up the development of radio and television work is a strategic task for Xinjiang's social development. Party committees and governments at all levels should strengthen and improve leadership over radio and television work, resolutely carry out reforms of radio and television work in an orderly manner, and appropriately increase the amount of funds and manpower according to needs and possibilities so as to do well in radio and television work at all levels.

The circular pointed out: Radio and television work is an important component part of the building of socialist spiritual and material civilization. Radio and television organs at all levels must adhere to the principle of party spirit, conscientiously subject themselves to party leadership, and remain united politically with the CPC Central Committee. Those comrades working on the radio and television front should acquire a high sense of political responsibility, observe discipline in propaganda work, strictly implement the personal responsibility system, and put an end to all sorts of political mistakes and major technical malfunctions.

CSO: 4005/533

NORTHWEST REGION

SHAANXI COMMENTATOR ON 'THIRD ECHELON FORCE' BUILDING

HK091343 Xian Shaanxi Provincial Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Station commentator's article: "It Is Necessary to Really Do Well in Firmly Grasping the Building of the Third Echelon Force"]

[Excerpts] Endeavoring to build the third echelon force well is a strategic measure which was put forth by the Central Authorities and which has a bearing on the future and the destiny of our party and country and on the success or failure of socialist modernization. It is also a key task to complete the work of making cadres more revolutionary, younger, better educated, and professionally more competent. We must grasp this work firmly and well.

To build the third echelon force well, we must first have a high degree of revolutionary sense of responsibility and sense of urgency. This is a premise for doing this work well. The current arduous economic construction task and the challenge of the new world technological revolution urgently require us to quickly build a strong third echelon force so as to guarantee that leadership groups at all levels can meet the needs of socialist modernization. However, some comrades lack conscientiousness and a sense of urgency. Some comrades hold that the new groups set up after structural reform can remain stable for several years and that the building of the third echelon force can be delayed. Some places and units have so far not seriously studied this work and have no idea of it. This idea of delaying this work or doing it slowly is very harmful to the completion of this key task. These comrades mainly lack strategic foresight and only see that the new groups have undergone a greater change than they did before structural reform but do not see that there is a great disparity between what has been done and the needs of socialist modernization. Let us take the new groups of the departments, committees, and bureaus at the provincial level as an example. Cadres under 50 years of age account for only 17.6 percent and the age of many groups has not formed a ladder-shaped structure. The structure of knowledge and professions also is not rational. What is especially worth noting is that some comrades of the new groups exceed the age limits stipulated by the Central Authorities for the posts. There will be more comrades who exceed the age limits next year and the year after next. If we do not set up a strong third echelon force at an early date, we will place ourselves in a very passive position to do our future work.

Strictly doing this work well in respect of politics, age, and culture is a key to building the third echelon force well. Our aim of building the third echelon force is to hand the leadership power at all levels over to real

Marxists. Therefore, in deciding the third echelon force, we must strictly do well in respect of politics. We must resolutely prevent people of three categories, those people who oppose the line since the 3d Plenary Session of the 11th CPC Central Committee, and all kinds of people who violate the law and discipline from sneaking into the third echelon force.

Under the premise of persistently making cadres more revolutionary, we must strictly do this work well in respect to age and culture. We must lay stress on selecting and promoting those young cadres who have the cultural standards of university or college and above, including those who become useful persons through self-study and who are familiar with professional and technological knowledge. We do so because we want to change the status quo of leadership groups at all levels and to meet the needs in creating a new situation in socialist modernization.

To fully take the mass line and to link democratic recommendation with organizational examination is the foundation for building the third echelon force. On the basis of recommendation by the masses, organization departments at all levels must strictly examine candidates for the third echelon force so as to maintain the purity of the third echelon force. CPC committees attaching importance to this work and the principal leaders going into action personally is a vigorous guarantee of building the third echelon force well. The building of the third echelon force for leadership groups at all levels involves a wide field and is a very arduous task. CPC committees at all levels must attach a high degree of importance to it and the principal leaders must personally go into action.

Party rectification has provided extremely beneficial conditions for the building of the third echelon force. CPC committees at all levels must organize forces and in connection with party rectification, must further deepen the understanding of the reserve cadres. They must promptly readjust and reinforce the lineup of the third echelon force. After the candidates for the third echelon force are decided, we must carry out training in a planned way, in accordance with the strong points of each cadre, bearing in mind the leadership work which they are to shoulder, and with the principle of supplying expertise that is lacking.

CSO: 4005/533

NORTHWEST REGION

SHAANXI NATURAL POPULATION GROWTH RATE MEETING

HK091508 Xian Shaanxi Provincial Service in Mandarin 0500 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Text] From 2 to 7 April, the provincial planned parenthood committee held a meeting in Xian of the chairmen of all prefectural and city planned parenthood committees. The meeting demand that the natural population growth rate throughout the province be kept below 10 per 1,000 this year.

Zeng Shenda, secretary of the provincial CPC committee; and Lin Jizhou, vice governor, attended the meeting and spoke. In their speeches, they stressed: Planned parenthood work is an important matter. It is necessary to do well in firmly grasping it and to make achievements. We must correctly and completely understand the spirit [words indistinct] documents of the central authorities. We must prevent one-sidedness and a slack mood. We must make planned parenthood work subordinate to and serve the general aim and general task of the whole party's work. In work, we must lay stress on the policies and must prevent resorting to coercion and commandism and must prevent demanding uniformity in everything. We must publicize the policies on planned parenthood and must do meticulous ideological work so that we can convince people by reasoning. Mianxian County has made achievements in planned parenthood work. On the basis of investigation and study, they were able to deal with each case on its merits and to give specific guidance, thus keeping closer ties between the party and the masses. The central authorities have attached importance to their experiences. All prefectures, cities, and counties must learn from and popularize the experiences of Mianxian County. We must work out programs for giving specific guidance before the end of this year.

In their speeches, Zeng Shenda and Lin Jizhou pointed out: To further do a good job in planned parenthood work, it is essential to have a relatively stable planned parenthood work force. The planned parenthood departments can only strengthen it and not weaken it. Experiences in work must not be disregarded. We must strive to make new achievements and to create new experiences.

CSO: 4005/533

NORTHWEST REGION

GANSU DISCIPLINE INSPECTION WORK CONFERENCE CONCLUDES

HK110839 Lanzhou Gansu Provincial Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 10 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The provincial conference on discipline inspection work concluded in Lanzhou today. The conference relayed the spirit of the work conference held by the Central Discipline Inspection Commission, inspected and summed up the work done by party organizations at all levels in our province to carry out discipline inspection, discussed and formulated the specific measures for further straightening out party style and enforcing party discipline, put forward the task of effecting a turn for the better in party style in this year's party rectification drive, and set demands.

Comrade (Wang Zhanchang), secretary of the provincial discipline inspection commission, made a report at the conference in which he pointed out: The discipline inspection work of our province this year is focused on doing a good job of examining how the unhealthy tendencies in building and distributing houses and living quarters have been checked, on continuing to eliminate and deal with unhealthy tendencies in the recruitment of workers, students, and cadres and in the transference of the registration of households from rural to urban areas, on checking the unhealthy tendency to violate financial and economic discipline and the economic policy, and on resolutely investigating serious cases of seeking personal gains by capitalizing on one's power and bureaucratic practices.

A responsible comrade of the provincial CPC committee spoke at the conference, calling on the leading cadres of party committees at all levels and of the discipline inspection commissions to take the lead and to play an exemplary role in observing party discipline and party regulations.

CSO: 4005/533

NORTHWEST REGION

BRIEFS

TREES PLANTED ALONG HIGHWAY--More than 40,000 armymen and people of all nationalities in Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region planted over 90,000 trees in the 97th km section of the Baotou-Lanzhou Highway within the boundaries of Ningxia on 4 April. This section of the highway is a seriously alkaline-saline, low-lying area where numerous cubic meters of earthwork must be removed when trees are planted. In addition, over a long period of time the highway departments and the communes and brigades along the highway have wrangled with each other over the question of funds for purchasing saplings and on questions concerning the management and protection of trees. As a result, the question of greening this section of the highway has remained unsolved for 5 years. Since mid-March, Li Xuezhi, a leading comrade of the Ningxia regional party committee, has conducted investigation and study along this section of the highway and decided to completely green it this year by using the method of integrating the state with the communes and brigades, adopting the contract system, and assigning specified persons to manage and protect trees. Li Xuezhi, Hei Boli, (Liu Xueji), and other leading comrades of Ningxia participated in the tree-planting activities on 4 April. [Text] [OW051417 Beijing Domestic Service in Mandarin 1000 GMT 4 Apr 84]

CSO: 4005/533

PAPER VIEWS REAGAN'S CHINA VISIT

HK230154 Hong Kong HONG KONG STANDARD in English 23 Apr 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Reagan's Tasks in Forbidden City"]

[Text] The Reagan presidency is founded on grand spectacles. The China visit will be redolent with the pomp and regal occasion which Louis XIV would have envied.

More than just a junket, it will be, for Reagan, a re-election publicity blitz which no ordinary television 30 second sloganeering and image dusting can give. Instead of an idle Allentown steel mill as background, Reagan will have the silhouette of the Great Wall (touted by the Americans as the only man-made structure visible to the naked eye from space) as part of the set as he plays the role of the great communicator-entertainer-statesman-idol.

Ever since Richard Nixon, every American president has used China either as a pivot for his foreign policy, a prop for his flagging popularity or a pet testimony to his pragmatism. For, after all, China is communist, and yet the United States can overlook this little heresy in forging an unspoken alliance of the times to check Soviet "hegemony."

But the difference between Reagan and his predecessors is that the incumbent president has not been soft on communism, not "betrayed" Taiwan, and can still call on China with such courtliness and flamboyance, proving against "a friend can agree to disagree." [sentence as published] The Chinese are duly impressed, if by nothing else but the presidential gall which the Reagan retinue has rightly designated as style. Elsewhere it may be considered cheek.

Bare the diplomatic protocol, the president and his Chinese hosts dislike one another. But for show, for which Reagan is game if not keen, the formal veneer must be kept and this discord buried lest both appear gauche before the stage lights of the world.

Away from the media mob, when all those viva [word indistinct] personalities are ushered from the chamber, the smiles will vanish and the talks grow plangent. For the truth is the 3 1/2-year presidency of Reagan has retarded Sino-U.S. relationship which no banquet toast can redress.

Since China is counting on a Reagan second term, it will lavish the laurels on the president, hoping a little help from a reluctant friend can bring surprises, as the fortune cookies say.

But there will be a time when even the most [word indistinct] Chinese leaders may have to ask probing questions on the direction of the ties between the most powerful Western nation and the world's most populous country. For, despite the self-delusion in Beijing, the ideological contentions, the potential rivalries, especially over Taiwan, and the trade disagreements will arise when the feast is over and the morning after sobers the addled mind.

Bound to one another, not by sentimentality, but by hard reality (a mutual wish to contain the Soviet Union), the two powers will one day confront one another unless their differences are addressed.

As much as he can serve himself, Reagan has to serve Sino-U.S. ties and leave a sound legacy for his successor. The president, whatever his ample merits, does not understand China and its needs. This lapse has blinded him to what China is and what it will be--a world power in its own right and a society which is totally unlike (but not incompatible with) the affluent U.S.

The president must grasp, as Nixon did, that China is more than a picturesque postcard. The tourist Reagan must become the historian Reagan, for it has been the habit of Americans to simplify or caricaturise modern China whose past and present have no parallel anywhere.

Reagan must see the Taiwan dispute as the family quarrel among the Chinese people and that only through peace and patience can the nation become whole again. Arms sales to Taiwan--legal to the U.S. under a congressional treaty which violates the spirit of the Shanghai Communique of 1972 and the Normalisation of Relations Treaty of 1979--are anathematic to friendship between Beijing and Washington.

The Chinese are now beginning to see (but not excuse) the special bond between the U.S. and Taiwan. This link should not be extended to mean a de facto encouragement of Taiwanese secession. But so long as weapons flow into Taiwan and as U.S. maintains furtive recognition of a second China, the reunification of the nation will be all the more remote and the chances for a renewed civil war all the greater.

If Reagan is a man of peace and a friend of China, he must realise hope in East Asia hinges on solving the problems and overcoming the past rancour--Taiwan and China, South and North Korea, a treaty between the Soviet Union and Japan--by gradual adjustment, compromise and accommodation.

The furious arming of Taiwan and the tension on the Korean Peninsula (which China can help resolve) are dangerous. By ignoring Chinese pleas for a consistent American Asian policy, one which does not shift from presidency to presidency to the whims of U.S. domestic politics, Reagan is, in fact, goading the nations into anger and...perhaps...warfare.

China has already vowed--not to appease Americans but to soothe the Taiwanese--that it would not use force to reclaim Taiwan, and this pledge alone should be enough for Reagan who himself has often asked his compatriots and allies to have faith in his presidency and his control of the arms race.

There are no sacred guarantees in the world. But the absence of trust will harm, not enhance detente.

As Ronald and Nancy Reagan pay homage to China, the president should remember this is not only a campaign publicity godsend but an opportunity to leave his distinct mark to a long and arduous Sino-U.S. odyssey towards peace--in the region, in the world.

Minus that, he is just a politician. With that vision and that purpose in his pursuit of truly historic dimensions, Reagan is a statesman. Such an accomplishment should not elude a man who, throughout his political life, has hankered for a lofty place in the annals of the presidential chronicle and not just another soon-to-be-forgotten name alongside the Taylors, the Jacksons, the Grants, the Hardings and the Hoovers.

CSO: 4000/328

HONG KONG MEDIA ON CHINA

BRITISH 'SOURCE' CITED ON HOWE TALKS IN PRC

HK180116 Hong Kong HONG KONG STANDARD in English 18 Apr 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] The British Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, is expected to raise a number of unresolved issues concerning Hong Kong's future when he meets China's top man, Mr Deng Xiaoping in Beijing this morning.

A British source said the Foreign Secretary attaches great importance to the meeting, which could provide a new impetus to the search for an early settlement.

The British visitor was invited to meet Mr Deng after his discussions with the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr Wu Xueqian, on Monday. But a close source to Sir Geoffrey said the meeting would not cover wideranging issues due to his tight schedule.

Today's meeting is so important to the British team that the Foreign Secretary held an urgent working session among all British officials after a banquet last night to review their latest situation and make full preparations for the meeting with Mr Deng.

Mr Deng, 80, who now rarely meets foreign visitors, is paying increased attention to what he regards as the historic task of reuniting China with Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao.

The source said it is impossible to evaluate the effectiveness of this visit so far until after the meeting with Mr Deng. The source did not know whether there will be a statement after that meeting. However, it did confirm that Sir Geoffrey would make a statement at a press conference on Friday in Hong Kong.

"Several substantial points remain to be resolved," the source said. "There exists several problems."

The British diplomatic party yesterday held more than three hours of discussions on the Hong Kong question with Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang and the Director of Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, Mr Ji Pengfei.

After the afternoon meeting between Sir Geoffrey and Mr Zhao, which lasted more than an hour, a Chinese spokesman, Mr Qi Huaiyuan, quoted Mr Zhao as saying that "the resolution of the Hong Kong issue could move the present friendly Sino-British relations to a new stage."

"So long as the two sides are sincere and work with a spirit of mutual trust it is highly possible to reach an early and satisfactory solution to the issue of Hong Kong," Mr Zhao was quoted as saying.

He also said that since the second phase of talks started last July, there has been great progress.

The source said the Foreign Secretary told Mr Zhao of his aspiration to have an early and satisfactory agreement on the question of Hong Kong.

It said their 75-minute talk was devoted to the Hong Kong question while some time was spent on bilateral relations, nuclear and economic development in China and possible British contribution.

Minutes before the British party arrived at 10 a.m. at the Great Hall of the People, Mr Ji was bombarded by questions from waiting newsmen.

One reporter asked him whether China would announce her policy on Hong Kong in September as having been stated repeatedly by Chinese leaders in the past few months. Mr Ji said he did not know and no decision has yet been made on that.

Mr Wu has told foreign pressmen on a number of occasions in the past that if no agreement is reached before September, China would unilaterally announce her plans for the colony.

Asked if the outlines of an agreement might be discussed at the annual session of the National People's Congress, which opens on May 15, Mr Ji said: "If there is progress at the talks, we will discuss the Hong Kong issue at the NPC."

On whether an agreement will be available for debate in the British Parliament, Mr Ji said it is a matter for the British. "If there is no progress at the talks, how can we have such an agreement for debate?" he said.

After the two-hour meeting, Mr Qi said both sides "exchanged views in depth on the issue of Hong Kong in a friendly atmosphere."

Mr Qi quoted Mr Ji as saying that the question could be solved properly and satisfactorily "so long as the two sides take to heart the overall interest, and adhere to the spirit of mutual respect and trust."

"It will be of great significance for the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong, for the friendly relations between China and Britain and also for the whole international community if China and Britain solved the question left over by 100 years of history through friendly consultations."

The British source also said the meeting with Mr Ji, which focused on the Hong Kong question, is very substantial and involved a number of important events

At 3 p.m. the two foreign ministers officially signed the establishment of a Chinese consulate in Manchester and a British consulate in Shanghai. Sir Goeffrey and Mr Wu toasted after the brief and simple ceremony held at the Diaoyutai state guesthouse.

HONG KONG MEDIA ON CHINA

REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO HOWE STATEMENT ON FUTURE

Hong Kong Personages React

HK210154 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 21 Apr 84 pp 1, 8

[Article by "Our Political Desk": "Lifting the Veil--Howe Gets a Calm, Cautious Response"]

[Text] Hong Kong has reacted calmly to the announcement that Britain will relinquish sovereignty over the territory to China after 1997.

And the Foreign Secretary's forecast of "a high degree of autonomy" for the territory in the post-British era was greeted with cautious optimism.

Many heaved a sigh of relief that the heavy veil of confidentiality had at last been lifted, albeit partially, so that the direction in which the talks are heading has become clearer.

If there was agreement on one point it was the fact that Hong Kong people can now focus their thoughts on making their views known and to try and seek the best possible agreement for the future in the light of the British withdrawal.

In marked contrast to the more belligerent mood of former times, not one of the many people interviewed would describe the British position as a sellout.

Perhaps, as one observer noted, Hong Kong people have in recent months become more pragmatic and increasingly they have resigned themselves to the realities of a diminishing British role.

A Legislative Councillor, Mr Allen Lee, said: "I do not think Sir Geoffrey made a gloomy statement and it should not come as a shock to Hong Kong people."

After all, much of what Sir Geoffrey announced yesterday was in fact a confirmation of what Chinese leaders have been saying for a long time, he added.

Sir Geoffrey had said Hong Kong required a "high degree of autonomy" to preserve continuity after 1997, including autonomy in "administration, the making of laws, the maintenance of Hong Kong's own familiar system of justice and responsibility for public order in the territory."

All these issues had been covered in the 12-point plan put forward by Chinese leaders, Mr Lee said.

"I would speculate, therefore, that in saying these things, Sir Geoffrey has the blessing of China." Mr Lee said now Hong Kong people had been told categorically that the British intend to withdraw, they should concentrate their efforts on securing the best possible agreement for the future.

In a call for Hong Kong people to speak out plainly about their wishes, Mr Lee said:

"It is our battle--it is our future."

He noted that while Sr Geoffrey had repeatedly stressed that the future proposals for Hong Kong would be formalised in an internationally binding agreement, it was not [word indistinct] what kind of safeguards would be built into the agreement.

Now that the British position had been clearly stated, Mr Lee said he would not be surprised if another debate on the 1997 issue was called in the Legislative Council.

Another Legislative Councillor, Mr Stephen Cheong, also noted that there was now sufficient information available for a second debate.

Mr Cheong said he was relieved the element of uncertainty had now been removed.

"I am encouraged, in the sense that at last we have been told in no uncertain terms that sovereignty will be returned to China and we now know the general direction of the talks."

He welcomed Sir Geoffrey's pledge that the existing freedoms would be maintained after sovereignty reverts to China and noted that if the final agreement embodied all these principles, it would be "a start towards reviving confidence in Hong Kong."

Mr John Swaine, who has gone on record as saying that a continued British presence is essential for the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong, said yesterday Sir Geoffrey's announcement was clearly not what he has wanted to hear.

There are now two options for Hong Kong people.

"Either you pack up and leave or else you have 13 years to try and fashion the best possible agreement within the framework of an autonomous territory within Chinese sovereignty," said Mr Swaine, who is a Legislative Councillor.

Certainly the announcement of a British withdrawal after the lease on 92 per cent of the territory runs out was not unexpected.

"Previously it was difficult to focus on issues because you started with a big 'if' and you had to preface every thought with, 'if the British withdraw.'

"Hong Kong people can now start being more vocal in terms of making their views known..."

Asked if he considered the British withdrawal a sellout, Mr Swaine replied: "I would rather not put a label on it."

He was disappointed that there seemed to be no better guarantee of Hong Kong's future beyond the fact that both sides would eventually sit down and sign an agreement.

In the final analysis, the only guarantees that the two signatories will uphold the agreement rests on just two factors.

These are the wish of both countries to protect their international reputations and the fact that it would be in the interest of China's economic goals to ensure that Hong Kong remains prosperous and stable.

"It is taking a lot on trust," noted Mr Swaine.

Therefore he considered it vital that in the absence of a continued British presence after 1997, there should be a statement of British commitment to the three million Hong Kong people who were either born here or who hold naturalisation papers.

"Britain must make an unequivocal statement that these people will retain their British status and continue to have the right of British protection whatever the ultimate agreement may be," Mr Swaine said.

A spokesman for the Hong Kong Observers, Mr Yu Pun-hoi, said he welcomed the fact that Sir Geoffrey had confirmed much of what had previously been mere speculation and in doing so had succeeded in removing a great deal of uncertainty.

However, Mr Yu made the point that reading into what the Foreign Secretary had said about maintaining Hong Kong's present system for 50 years, it would seem Sir Geoffrey was hinting that the international agreement on the territory's future would only be in force for 50 years.

"Was he implying that after 50 years, Hong Kong would revert to a totalitarian system?"

"If this is the case, then we would consider it most unacceptable because if there is to be any change from a state of autonomy, the initiative must come from Hong Kong people. This should not be a matter that is left to China's discretion," Mr Yu said.

He was also disappointed that Sir Geoffrey had only made a fleeting reference to the development towards a more representative government in the 13 years remaining before the handover of power.

"I had hoped for a much clearer indication of how the British Government could facilitate the democratisation process," he said.

The executive director of Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, Mr Jimmy McGregor, said Sir Geoffrey's statement, though neither new nor surprising, was reassuring and helpful.

He said Sir Geoffrey's stress on autonomy for Hong Kong showed Britain was pressing strongly for concrete details in the agreement with China, especially with the 50-year guarantee.

"I think the area where there still is no agreement must be in regard to the detail which the British Government wants to see in the agreement and the guarantee.

"Perhaps China is reluctant to commit herself so specifically.

"The British Government seems to me to be adopting a pragmatic and sensible approach," he said.

Mr McGregor said Sir Geoffrey's statement about the intention to ensure a separate identity for Hong Kong in external commercial relations was very important.

"I think that America, the EEC, Japan, Australia and other countries will feel sympathetic towards that intention and therefore we are likely to achieve that," he said.

"It seems to me that the two sides are quite close to agreement because both are proceeding with goodwill.

"I feel that a statement may probably be issued on an interim basis before the end of June so that Hong Kong and the British parliament can discuss and be consulted on this issue before the final agreement is signed later in the year."

He said it would not be possible to have an international guarantee on the agreement on Hong Kong's future.

"There is no question of China being asked to permit some other countries or the United Nations to be involved in monitoring or to be involved in any kind of agreement over Chinese territory."

Mr McGregor noted both sides had proceeded from an initial tough position towards a compromise.

"It seems to me Britain conceded sovereignty and administration and China has therefore introduced a 50-year guarantee in order to provide the kind of assurance which continued British administration might have provided.

"I believe Hong Kong has a chance to develop the system now which could be successful.

"Later on, it'll depend on China's willingness not to interfere..."

A member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Mr Ho Sai-chu, said he was delighted to see Britain accept the reality and concede sovereignty of Hong Kong beyond 1997.

Another CPPCC member, Professor Ma Meng, described Sir Geoffrey's statement as "realistic and enlightening."

He said: "This was the kind of a statement that most people in Hong Kong were waiting for."

Professor Peter Harris, of the Hong Kong University's Department of Political Science, said Sir Geoffrey's statement had minimised any chance of accident along the way and sounded continuity of Hong Kong's system in such way that there will be no difference between 1996 and 1997.

The Foreign Secretary's reference to an effective autonomy, which was tantamount to making Hong Kong an independent state of China, might be hard to accept for China.

"The problem is sovereignty which means absolute power," he said.

But Professor Harris added that China might be happy not to exercise full sovereignty over Hong Kong.

The vice-chairman of the Hong Kong Belongers' Association, Mr Sze Chusian, said Sir Geoffrey had painted a very rosy future for Hong Kong.

He said there was no need to worry about an agreement not being honoured in the future.

All the important points would be enshrined in the agreement signed as an international treaty between the two nations. "Even if there are changes of governments in these two countries, the treaty will still be respected," he said.

"I think this is the most we can ask for."

The former Director of Home Affairs, Mr John Walden, said he was not happy at all with Sir Geoffrey's statement.

He said Sir Geoffrey was just confirming what had already been said by Chinese officials in the beginning.

"And he was confirming that British negotiators have not scored any major political point," he said.

Mr Walden said he was worried that there would be no formal consultation of Hong Kong's people's views on the 1997 question.

"I am most disappointed that Sir Geoffrey didn't say exactly how consultations are going to be done."

The chairman of the Heung Yee Kuk, Mr Lau Wong-fat, said Sir Geoffrey had to make some guarantees to restore the confidence of investors rather than just repeat what Chinese leaders had said.

Mr Lau said it was now obvious that the two parties had reached an agreement on board principles and were now getting down to details.

The director of the Christian Industrial Committee, Mr Lau Chin-shek, said Sir Geoffrey's statement was a bit disappointing because it did not include any concrete details from the talks.

He said Sir Geoffrey had stressed consultation with Hong Kong people but had failed to provide the necessary information for debate.

"The talks have apparently reached the final stage and confidentiality should now be lifted," he said.

"Hong Kong people should have their say in the forming of the mini-constitution and any amendment on it should have the consensus of Hong Kong people."

A spokesman for the office of Hong Kong and Macao Anglican Church's communications department, Mrs Alice Chong Yuk Tak-fun, said the office was glad to know the maintenance of Hong Kong's prosperity and stability was the primary concern of both governments.

Mrs Chong said the office believed mutual effort to work for an international binding agreement was the correct direction to restore our confidence.

She said the Hong Kong Government should respond appropriately to make people ready for future autonomy by moving gradually towards a more representative government and by promoting public education.

"And Hong Kong people should take public responsibility and gradually give up some of our materialistic and extravagant lifestyle," she said.

A lecturer on government and public administration at the Chinese University, Mr Andrew Wong, said the statement had fallen far short of his expectations.

He said Sir Geoffrey should sum up the results of the 12 rounds of talks to allow Hong Kong people to know what has been going on.

"It is evident that both sides have reached agreement on the board principles and are now working on the loose ends and details.

"I could not see why they (both governments) did not put it in draft form to include all agreed principles--it would be a boost of confidence," he said.

Mr Wong said the statement nevertheless made known some of the points concerning the principles previously revealed by Chinese officials.

Mr Wong suggested that the British Government was seen to be conceding the administration of Hong Kong after 1997 for more autonomy and democracy.

The chairman of Meeting Point, Mr Lau Nai-keung, described the statement as "very welcoming and very positive."

But he was quick to add that a lot of local people would like to hear more details.

A Central and Western District Board member, Mr Vincent Ko, said Sir Geoffrey had failed to ease the minds of those people who had deep worries about the future because he had said the two governments were still some way from an agreement.

He also said local people would not be surprised to hear that it would be unrealistic for a continued British administration in Hong Kong after 1997.

Local people have gradually come to accept that sovereignty should return to China.

One thing new in his statement, he said, was that the Hong Kong Government will be developed on increasingly representative lines.

A Wanchai District Board member, Mr Chu Wing-kee, said "empty words" would no longer pacify the anxiety of most of the local population.

"What we want are more details on the negotiations," Mr Chu said.

An Urban Councillor, Mr Pao Ping-wing, described Sir Geoffrey's statement as a "summary" of what local people had already heard through various channels.

Mr Pao said he was disappointed to hear so little from Sir Geoffrey about the future administration of Hong Kong.

Demonstrators Meet

HK210206 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 21 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] Dozens of demonstrators gathered outside the Government Secretariat as Sir Geoffrey Howe told the press of the latest position on the Sino-British talks over Hong Kong's future.

The protesters, who include Tin Shui Wai residents and an anti-communist organisation led by Mr Chow Hing-chuen, waved banners and chanted slogans as Sir Geoffrey and his party emerged from the press conference.

Among them were children wearing conical hats--symbolising the death of Hong Kong if communist China takes over.

Paper Analyzes Statement

HK230122 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 23 Apr 84 p 5

[Article by David Chen: "Now It's Time To Get Down to Specifics"]

[Text] Sir Geoffrey Howe's Good Friday press conference points to the distinct possibility that an agreement on Hong Kong's future will be reached, even if only initialled, before the September deadline laid down by the Chinese.

Attention should now be focused on "specifics" of the agreement which will provide the groundwork for a post-1997 self-governed Hong Kong administration under Chinese sovereignty.

This is the view of several analysts who suggest a late June or early July date for the initialling of the agreement.

The House of Commons will still have adequate time to debate the issue before it goes into summer recess in late July.

The talks will continue, perhaps in the third phase, for the finalisation and signing of a pact by the end of the year.

This new timetable, different from one that envisages an agreement by the middle of next month, has emerged following the Foreign Secretary's visit to Peking during which he is said to have impressed upon the Chinese some very real difficulties facing the British side in arriving at an early agreement.

Analysts noted that from Sir Geoffrey's statement and his answers to members of the press last week, Britain has agreed to many of the positions stated by the Chinese in the past year.

And the Chinese side may also have given ground to a number of points raised by the British.

Sir Geoffrey's definitive statement that it would be unrealistic to think of an agreement that would provide for a post-1997 British administration puts to rest all earlier suggestions of some kind of a British presence or link with Hong Kong after the New Territories lease expires.

And while Sir Geoffrey repeatedly stressed the message of continuity, he also spoke of developing government structure here on representative lines in preparation for the change of sovereignty.

In other words, even though he later stressed that during the 13 years the administration of Hong Kong would still be the responsibility of the British. Britain is working for the hand over of the territory. And it is during this transitional period that China and Britain will be maintaining the closest contact to ensure that the Hong Kong that comes under Chinese sovereignty will still be a stable and prosperous one.

The issue of increasing representation, which received a very poor response both here and in Britain when it was first raised many months ago, is now almost a stated policy.

And it seems that on this point Britain has scored. China, which through its media has scoffed at the idea of universal representation and advocated, instead, the choice of administrators through consultation, appears to have acquiesced on this point though it remains to be seen just to what extent Peking would like to see representation on the territory's administrative and consultative bodies, analysts said.

These analysts also spotted a difference in the choice of words in Sir Geoffrey's Good Friday statement with what he told parliament of month ago on the issue of autonomy for Hong Kong.

In his Commons speech, he spoke of reaching an agreement which would assure "genuine continuity and autonomy" for Hong Kong.

In his Good Friday statement, he spoke of "a high degree of autonomy" for Hong Kong.

The difference in the choice of words could mean that both sides have not reached full accord on the kind of self-rule for Hong Kong.

One analyst said it could indicate that China would like to have a say in a certain aspect of this self-rule.

China has been speaking of a special administrative zone for Hong Kong.

As a lawyer pointed out on television on Friday evening, there is a difference between full autonomy and the government of a special administrative zone. The special administrative zone is given less autonomy.

The National People's Congress has to pass laws on how to govern special zones from time to time, whereas this does not seem to apply to China's other autonomous regions.

[Phrase indistinct], this analysis remains only a conjecture and the full story may not be known until the veil of confidentiality is fully lifted.

The British appear to have won some concessions.

No longer, it seems, do the Chinese threaten to impose the September deadline, provided some kind of an agreement can be worked out, even if not signed, before then.

Sir Geoffrey himself has spoken of reaching an accord "as soon as we sensibly can" and has said there is "a manifest interest in concluding the negotiations sooner than later."

It appears too that the so-called "statement in principle," or "agreement in principle" or even "preliminary agreement" which would spell out basics but not details of a workable post-1997 Hong Kong administration may now give way to a more detailed agreement that incorporates, as Sir Geoffrey put it, many of the "components" that will ensure the continuity of stability and prosperity and the way of life in Hong Kong.

This means that while both sides are agreed on the principle elements of the negotiations--including sovereignty and administration issues--and are ready to draft the "preliminary agreement," such a draft may no longer suffice.

Hence the mid-next month date for the conclusion of a "statement in principle," as earlier suggested, is no longer feasible.

It has also been noted that while Sir Geoffrey's statement and press conference last week was most comprehensive and the questions-and-answers session quite exhaustive, he went no further than the limits of his parliamentary statement a month ago except on two points--there will be no British administration after 1997 and the agreement will be internationally binding.

Earlier suggestions that he would lift the veil of confidentiality at the press conference have proved groundless.

The main concern now for Hong Kong people, as for the Chinese and British sides, will be to examine the many components that will be incorporated in a future Hong Kong administration.

These include matters pertaining to the form of administration, the making of laws, the maintenance of Hong Kong's own familiar system of justice and responsibility for public order in the territory, the assurance of existing freedoms, the management of Hong Kong's own public finances and the maintenance of Hong Kong's extensive and direct economic relationships with the rest of the world.

Sir Geoffrey and his party have left Hong Kong for South Korea and Japan and in a few days the governor, Sir Edward Youde, will once again travel north for the 13th round of the talks.

For Hong Kong people, much has been decided. Now they are expected to pay more attention to devising a form of administrative structure that will enable them to govern themselves when the time comes.

CSO: 4000/328

LOCAL REPRESENTATION IN UK-PRC TALKS VIEWED

HK180144 Hong Kong HONG KONG STANDARD in English 18 Apr 84 p 3

[Text] Britain will not object to the participation of a Hong Kong people's representative in the Sino-British talks, senior nominated Executive Council member, Sir Sze-yuan Chung, said yesterday.

He was replying to a delegation from the "I Love a Free Hong Kong Campaign Committee" which presented a petition to UMELCO [Unofficial Members of the Executive and Legislative Councils].

The group proposes that Hong Kong people be given the right to take part in the current negotiations on the colony's future.

The representatives also presented three copies of questionnaires on the 1997 issue conducted by the committee.

One of the copies will be handed to the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, who is due to arrive here today from Beijing.

Mr Chung also told the delegation that the British Government was fully aware of the freedom enjoyed by Hong Kong people at present.

He said there was still a chance for local people to express their views before any agreement was reached with China.

"You can also express your views at that time," Mr Chung said.

"I believe both the British and Chinese governments hope to maintain the stability and prosperity of Hong Kong after 1997."

"Hope is one thing. Whether it will be realised is another," he said.

But he urged the group to have confidence in the future of Hong Kong.

A spokesman for the committee, Mr Chan Koon-wah, said their survey on Hong Kong people's opinions about the future was conducted on April 8 and completed on April 14 this year.

A total of 10,000 questionnaire forms were issued and 5,640 were returned.

Eight questions were asked in the form.

The survey revealed that a majority of those interviewed (98.23 per cent) are in favour of a free democratic system, while 95.18 per cent feel that any Sino-British agreement should be endorsed by a referendum before being finalised.

Others demand that Hong Kong's ordinances be formulated by a legislative body elected by Hong Kong people in future (91.72 per cent) and immediate suspension of the Sino-British negotiations to await the complete unification of China so that the Hong Kong issue could be negotiated between a unified Chinese Government and the British Government (89.20 per cent).

Interviewees were also asked about their degree of confidence in the negotiations, what they would do if freedom and prosperity cannot be maintained in future and the best way to carry out "Hong Kong people ruling Hong Kong."

CSO: 4000/328

'NATIONALISTS' DISMISS PRC'S 'PLEDGE' ON RIGHTS

HK230050 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 23 Apr 84 pp 1, 5

[Article by Terry Cheng: "Pledge to Taipei People 'A Trick'"]

[Excerpt] Peking's pledge to give Taiwanese in Hong Kong the same rights as others in the territory after 1997 was yesterday dismissed by nationalists here as a "united front trick."

Mr Ji Pengfei, director of China's Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, outlined a three-point policy plan when he met 14 visiting Hong Kong urban councillors and district board members on Friday in Peking:

Nationalist people and organisations will have the same legal rights and protections as other people in Hong Kong after 1997.

The relationship between Hong Kong and Taiwan will remain unchanged. The policy regarding economic and cultural relations and the movement of people between the two places will be unaffected.

The policy also calls for cooperation in maintaining Hong Kong's prosperity and stability after 1997.

Mr Leung Wing-sun, president of Chu Hai College and a Taiwan legislator, said Mr Ji's offer was a united front trick which tried to divide the pro-nationalist people in Hong Kong.

He believes Taiwan representatives will have to leave and their offices be closed down after 1997.

"If they stay behind, they will be risking their lives."

Mr Leung said the existing relations between Taiwan and Hong Kong would not continue as Taipei had made it clear it will not have contacts with the communists.

But he admitted it was difficult to predict the future as there might be many changes in the coming 13 years.

He said it was the policy of Taipei to maintain Hong Kong's prosperity and stability.

"We are civilised people--we will not cause trouble. We just want to urge people to speak up for their own good."

Mr Chan Koon-wah, secretary-general of the committee for the "I Love a Free Hong Kong" campaign, also believes Taiwanese will have to get out.

"They cannot operate in the way they are operating now. They will be subject to the laws of the future administration which will be enacted according to the wishes of the communists."

He said Taiwan would not have direct contact with Hong Kong, which in his view will be in the hands of Peking.

Mr Chan said Taiwan had always helped promote the stability and prosperity of Hong Kong, but it did this only for the five million Chinese here--not for the communists.

An official Taiwan source here, who asked to remain anonymous, took a stronger stand and said Taiwanese forces should not quit Hong Kong.

"We should not give up the base and our traditional influence if we are given the chance."

But he also believes there will be no direct contact between the two places.

"The contacts may have to go through a third party."

He said there were still 13 years to go and Taipei had yet to formulate measures to cope with the future.

Taiwan's official mouthpiece, THE HONG KONG TIMES, yesterday reported Mr Ji's remarks with comment.

It said the remarks were intended to allay fears on the 1997 issue but were part of a united front effort against the nationalists.

The paper quoted local observers as saying Mr Ji's pledge was based on the premise that Taiwan forces had to "observe the local laws."

And Mr Ji's call on the nationalists here to contribute towards China's resumption of sovereignty and to Hong Kong's stability and prosperity was intended to confine, divide and threaten the "free people" and should be noted "with alertness," the paper said.