CAMBODIA

STATE OF CAMBODIA

Koh Kong Economy, ANS Ralliers [BANGKOK POST 4 Oct] ..................................................... 1

INDONESIA

Discussion With Malaysia on Palm Oil Strategy [BISNIS INDONESIA 13 Sep] ........................................... 2
Suharto Vows To Fight Corruption [KOMPAS 29 Sep] ................................................................. 2
Minister Sudomo: PPP Must Regain Influence [KOMPAS 9 Sep] ....................................................... 3
Home Affairs Minister Announces Development Budget [ANGKATAN BERSENJATA 11 Sep] ......................... 3
GOLKAR Leadership Wants More ‘Openness’ [PELITA 13 Sep] ............................................................ 4
Parliament Asks Protection for Stock Market Investors [KOMPAS 27 Sep] ............................................. 4
Strengthening of Ground Forces Projected [MERDEKA 5 Oct] ........................................................... 6
Nationalism Called Way To Block Communism [MERDEKA 1 Oct] ..................................................... 6
Transmigration To Focus on Quality of Life [ANGKATAN BERSENJATA 13 Sep] ...................................... 7
Central Sulawesi Seeks More Transmigrants [PELITA 11 Sep] ............................................................. 7
Java's Importance As Rice Producer [PELITA 12 Sep] ........................................................................... 8
Government Formulates National Food Supply Policy [ANGKATAN BERSENJATA 12 Sep] ................. 9
Irrigation Program for South Kalimantan [BISNIS INDONESIA 13 Sep] ................................................. 10

LAOS

Council of Ministers' Decree on Use of Forests, Forest Land [Vientiane radio] .................................... 11

MALAYSIA

Prime Minister Stresses Importance of Strong UMNO [UTUSAN MALAYSIA 19 Aug] .................. 12
MIC Assembly Predicted Decisive for Samy Vellu [UTUSAN MALAYSIA 19 Aug] .................... 12
Writer Appraises Mahathir’s Political Strategy [WATAN 28 Sep] ....................................................... 14

PHILIPPINES

Bataan NPA Commander Held [MANILA BULLETIN 7 Oct] .............................................................. 16

SINGAPORE

Drive for Trade With Sultanate Explained [Muscat TIMES OF OMAN 14 Sep] .................................... 17

THAILAND

Trat MP Dealings With Cambodia Trade, Friendship [THE NATION 10 Sep] ....................................... 18
‘Democratic Soldiers’ Issue Appeal on Cambodia Policy [BAN MUANG 19 Sep] ............................ 19
Priorities for 7th NESDB Plan May Shift [THE NATION 2 Sep] ....................................................... 20
NESDB Role Change, Priorities Discussed [THE NATION 29 Sep] .................................................. 20
Labor Leader Discusses State Enterprises, Privatization [SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN 25 Sep] .......... 21
VIETNAM

POLITICAL

Draft Law on Trade Unions [NHAN DAN 7 Sep] ......................................................... 24

MILITARY

General Discusses Pressing Needs of Standing Army 
[TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN Aug] .............................................................. 28
5th MR Policies Toward Troops Serving in Cambodia  
[TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN Sep] ............................................................. 32
Training Contingent of Good Officers Discussed  
[TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN Aug] ............................................................ 37
Radar Unit Changes, Improves Training [QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 18 Sep] ............. 41
Vinh Phu Improves Recruitment Process  
[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 29 Sep] ........................................................................ 42
Fuel Shortages Hamper Armor Training  
[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 19 Sep] ........................................................................ 43
Registration of Recruits, Reserves Requires Strict Execution  
[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 29 Sep] ........................................................................ 44
Communist Youth Unions Helping Demobilized Soldiers  
[SAIGON GIAI PHONG 22 Aug] ........................................................................ 45
Hanoi Youths Receive Military Training  
[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 11 Sep] ........................................................................ 45
Military Salary Policy Needs Changing  
[TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN Aug] ............................................................ 46

ECONOMIC

Opinion Expressed on Renovating Labor Management Model  
[NHAN DAN 28 Aug] ....................................................................................... 49
Hanoi Irradiation Center Under Construction  
[NHAN DAN CHU NHAT No 30] ........................................................................ 51

SOCIAL

Paying Income From Land Helps To Resolve Land Changes  
[SAIGON GIAI PHONG 22 Aug] ................................................................. 52
Vo Van Kiet Inspects Storm-Relief Work in Provinces  
[Hanoi radio] .................................................................................................. 54

BIOGRAPHIC

Information on Vietnamese Personalities ................................................................ 54
STATE OF CAMBODIA

Koh Kong Economy, ANS Ralliers
42000006B Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
4 Oct 89 p 6

[Excerpts] Whether the Khmer Rouge will eventually attack Koh Kong is still very much in the air but Phnom Penh officials told the BANGKOK POST recently that if they do, success would be difficult even though there are no longer any Vietnamese troops in the area.

"We can't tell whether or not the Khmer Rouge will attack Koh Kong but we can confirm that we have enough forces to defend it without much trouble. There have been no Vietnamese troops here since the past 18 months. We can very well stand on our feet," Ai Khan, deputy governor of Koh Kong, told the BANGKOK POST.

According to his intelligence units, Ai Khan said only two battalions of 150-strong Khmer Rouge guerrillas have sneaked around the Thai-Cambodian border, southeast of Bo Rai district of Trat. That is not enough to take over Koh Kong, he assured.

Besides the stepped-up attacks on Pailin, Si Sophon and some other areas close to their own strongholds, the Khmer Rouge would not be able to deal a heavy blow elsewhere but launch a "psychological offensive" to win support from the masses after the Vietnamese troops pullout from Cambodia, Ai Khan concluded.

Along the southern border strip, from areas opposite Bo Rai district downward, the situation has remained calm and Thai-Cambodian trade in Koh Kong smooth and intact from the war.

No less than eight to 10 million baht in cash is circulated hecticly in Koh Kong each day as products, such as cars, motorcycles and spare parts from Singapore, are channelled through this Cambodian province to Phnom Penh.

This is where the situation looks as though nothing has happened after the Vietnamese troops pullout though heavy fighting continues on around Pailin and Si Sophon, east of the border in the war-torn country, the deputy governor said.

"Arms supplies from China and the United States to the Khmer Rouge absolutely can't be made without passing through Thailand's border. That can't be run through Koh Kong because we block our canal passage to vessels from the outside and control all transportation routes around Koh Kong. Cambodian troops from Kampong Som are deployed along the canal," Ai Khan told the BANGKOK POST. [passage omitted]

Too Exhausted

In another development, while an estimates 120 Heng Samrin troops defected to Thai authorities last month, sources disclosed. Koh Kong officials unveiled a number of Sihanoukist National Army (ANS) troops who also surrendered to them.

Koh Kong officials claimed that the ANS troops had felt too exhausted and demoralised to continue to fight without Vietnamese troops but preferred to go back home.

Ai Khan, meanwhile, said 40 ANS rebels had defected to the Phnom Penh government in Koh Kong. However, only four of them were shown to the public—Kim Sang, 35, Cim Chhai, 43, In Pech, 25, and Phoung Thi, 25.

Kim Sang said he had served the ANS as second commander of the Sixth Division, which is led by Col Kien Vang, and had been deployed with the 626th Battalion which operates in areas opposite Thailand's northeastern province of Buri Ram.

"We had been ordered to operate somewhere near Koh Kong and we surrendered to Heng Samrin authorities on September 10. We had come down from somewhere opposite Aranyaprathet (Thailand's border district) and passed Khlong Yai district (in Thailand)," he said.

The defector said his troops had been supplied with Chinese and U.S. weapons with the latest delivery made on May 15. Each of them had been given 200 baht and some rice before being deployed near the Buri Ram border.

During his nine years as a rebel, Kim Sang had never fought Vietnamese troops but Khmer Rouge guerrillas.

"I never met Prince (Norodom) Sihanouk but Prince Ronnaridh at HQ 251 in Buri Ram," he said, adding that the ANS is an over 10,000-strong force but most of the troops did not feel like fighting anymore.

"A soldier's life in the jungle is so tough. Most of us were homedick. When Vietnamese troops left, we knew we would fight Heng Samrin or Khmer Rouge forces some day. We're tired of fighting against fellow countrymen.

"It's been too long and we don't know just when we'll see a silver lining of peace in our country and, importantly, just when we'll stop killing one another," Kim Sang told the BANGKOK POST.

He said the Koh Kong governor had promised him and his friends that the Phnom Penh government would send them home. The former 35-year-old ANS officer is a native of Battambang with some relatives there. [passage omitted]
Discussion With Malaysia on Palm Oil Strategy

900G0009D Jakarta BISNIS INDONESIA in Indonesian 13 Sep 89 p 4

[Text] Jakarta, BISNIS—Indonesia and Malaysia, in collaboration with other ASEAN nations, want to conduct a consolidation and improve cooperation in their strategy for capturing the world market for a number of products produced by all the countries, such as palm oil, tin, cacao, etc.

Vice President Sudharmono expressed this hope on Tuesday morning [12 September] at South Freedom Palace in Jakarta as he received a courtesy visit by Datuk Dr Lim Keng Yaik, Malaysian minister of primary industries.

"As fellow producers of a number of commodities, we must cooperate more closely in order to capture international markets," Datuk Lim said, quoting the vice president.

Escorted by Malaysian Ambassador Datuk Abdullah Zawawi, Datuk Lim discussed issues involving the two neighbor countries, primarily for the purpose of organizing a joint strategy for marketing exports of commodities produced by both nations. "Our discussions were not limited to the joint campaign on tropical timber," said Lim, who was accompanied by Indonesian Minister of Forestry Hasrul Harahap.

He was confident that if Indonesia and Malaysia, in collaboration with other ASEAN countries, extend their promotion cooperation to the world markets, we will be certain to get proper prices for our exports.

As an example, he noted that palm oil, produced primarily by Malaysia and Indonesia, has only 12 percent of the vegetable oil market, which is far less than the market volume of soybean oil produced by the industrialized countries, especially the United States.

Malaysia now produces 5.5 million tons of palm oil per year, while Indonesia produces 1.9 million tons annually.

Although palm oil is much better than soybean oil, he said, the price of palm oil is only about $300 per ton, whereas soybean oil can bring $450 a ton.

"Why is the palm oil price so low? Possibly because of lack of promotion due to our inadequate cooperation," said Lim, who called on Indonesia and other ASEAN countries to improve their cooperation.

"On the other hand, palm oil is very competitive on world markets," he emphasized.

Suharto Vows To Fight Corruption

900G0037A Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 29 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS—President Suharto stated that corruption is a subversive act. "The government's desire to eliminate corruption is clear and serious. Implementation is now the important thing," the head of state declared on Thursday [28 September] when he was visited at the State Palace by participants in a meeting on coordination of anticorruption efforts.

The head of state also instructed all officials involved in oversight and law enforcement to stand in the front lines in the fight against corruption. "All corruption must be eliminated. Corruption is not a violation merely of law but also of our sense of justice, morality, and fairness and hurts our national mentality," he said. "Because corruption can hinder comprehensive national development, we do not hesitate at all to declare that corruption is a criminal, subversive act."

Prevent Corruption

According to the head of state, recourse to legal action for the total elimination of corruption is a last resort. Prior to doing that, it is important to make every effort to prevent corruption through oversight and comprehensive improvement of government administration. Corruption can be prevented early by constant improvement of organization, administration, and personnel.

The president feels that seminars on P-4 [Guidelines on the Implementation of Pancasila], which essentially deal with self-control, are also a means, whether direct or indirect, for preventing corruption. "Corruption is actually a shortcut a person takes to enrich himself excessively without performing hard and honest work. Thus, corruption is contrary to the attitude needed for national development," he stated.

The attitude of the public itself is just as important, the president said. Elimination of corruption will move more smoothly if the public will develop social and moral sanctions against perpetrators, he said.

He warned that oversight and law enforcement personnel, above all, must be free of corruption. If not, they will be indecisive in their actions. "They will be struggling with their conscience," the head of state said.

The president also said he believed existing laws are strong enough for dealing with corruption. He also felt that the public fully supports actions to eliminate corruption. Our values give no place of respect to corruption.

Therefore, the head of state declared, specific action by all parties to eliminate corruption is now the important thing, primarily action by oversight and law enforcement officials.
Corrupts Government

At another point in his remarks, President Suharto said that the elimination of corruption is even more important to Indonesians because we are now preparing to enter the takeoff phase of national development. In view of the current growth of development, our great development responsibilities, and our hopes for the future, it is very clear that corruption must be eliminated.

He noted that in the cabinets of the development era there always have been ministers who deal with comprehensive administrative reform. Similarly, the determination to improve national discipline is emphasized in the Fifth Development Cabinet's Fivefold Program. Government administration is to lead the way in creating a clean and prestigious government.

"The GBHN [Broad Outline of State Policy] always emphasizes that a clean, prestigious government must be developed. Corrupt state administration, officials, and employees will sully the government's image and destroy its authority. A government that has lost its authority clearly cannot perform its duties well," President Suharto said.

Minister Sudomo: PPP Must Regain Influence

Sudomo repeatedly emphasized that the emergence of Ismail Hasan Metareum as the new PPP general chairman was absolutely not the result of a prior "green light" from the government. "I emphasize that there was definitely no such thing. No preferred name was indicated, whether by the home minister, the ABRI commander, the minister of defense and security, or by me as coordinating minister for politics and security," he declared.

He acknowledged that he has long known Metareum, actually since Sudomo was a second lieutenant. In December 1948, just prior to the "Second Clash," Sudomo was in Aceh to form a Navy unit. Student soldiers of the 2d Division were already there, and one of them was Ismail Hasan Metareum. "So I have known him for a long time," he said.

No 'Green Light'

Sudomo repeatedly emphasized that the emergence of Ismail Hasan Metareum as the new PPP general chairman was absolutely not the result of a prior "green light" from the government. "I emphasize that there was definitely no such thing. No preferred name was indicated, whether by the home minister, the ABRI commander, the minister of defense and security, or by me as coordinating minister for politics and security," he declared.

He acknowledged that he has long known Metareum, actually since Sudomo was a second lieutenant. In December 1948, just prior to the "Second Clash," Sudomo was in Aceh to form a Navy unit. Student soldiers of the 2d Division were already there, and one of them was Ismail Hasan Metareum. "So I have known him for a long time," he said.

Difficult Task

Sudomo admitted that the task assumed by Ismail Hasan Metareum, SH [Master of Laws], as the PPP [Central Executive Council] general chairman selected by the Second PPP Congress last week is a difficult one. "Everything depends on the general chairman for restoration of the party's image, as I just mentioned," said the coordinating minister for politics and security.

Nevertheless, he said, there are several clear criteria that can be used by the general chairman and the new PPP leadership for remaking their image. One of these is the elimination of every element that may have been brought into the party through its fusion with several other former Islamic parties.

Another is the stabilizing and maturing of the process of creating cadres, which has long been considered a weakness in all of the political parties. Then, there should be an effort to make the PPP to be a party on which the New Order can depend. This will be done by adhering to the principles of the 1945 Constitution and Pancasila.

In reply to a KOMPAS question about the possibility that people who are not of Metareum's faction may cause conflict, Sudomo stated that such a matter could be easily resolved.

"Basically they are one family. Thus, they clearly can straighten things out immediately. Simply use a family approach. Show respect to the former leaders by, for example, putting them on the party's advisory council," he said.

Home Affairs Minister Announces Development Budget

Engineer Piek Mulyadi, director general for regional development in the Department of Home Affairs, gave this information in setting the course for participants in the Group E regional development consultative meeting held in Kupang on Thursday [7 September]. Included were participants from Irian Jaya, Maluku and East Timor. The meeting was hosted by NTT.
Mulyadi explained that development investment for NTT during PELITA V was budgeted at 835.7 billion rupiahs or 0.3 per cent of total national investment with an average growth rate for investment of 20.47 per cent per year.

For similar investment in Maluku, 1.13 trillion rupiahs were budgeted or 0.47 per cent of total national investment, with an average growth rate for investment projected at 18.41 per cent per year.

While for Irian Jaya and East Timor, investment was budgeted at 2.88 trillion rupiahs or 1.21 per cent of total national investment, with an average investment growth rate of 35.54 per cent per year.

The regional development director general was concerned about the national investment growth rate which merely recorded an average growth rate of 13.46 per cent per year with total investment during PELITA V budgeted at 239.1 billion rupiahs.

In view of the unfavorable economic situation at this time, Director General Piek Mulyadi hoped the PEMDA's (regional governments) of the four provinces combined in the regional development consultative Group “E” would offer incentives to stimulate new investment as well as the expansion of the private sector.

In addition, the PEMDA’s, beginning now, had to try to mobilize revenue resources, make effective use of PBB [United Nations] revenue and payments for use of government services and facilities owned by the government as well as other regional revenue.

In the current development process, Piek Mulyadi said, the provinces had to be very serious about their responsibility in furthering development, for the implementation of each development activity definitely raised people’s expectations.

PELITA V, from which REPELITA VI [sixth 5-year development plan] is derived, must also take into account the operation and maintenance of what has been developed in the past 20 years to realize continuing development in the interest of the people. Director General Piek Mulyadi declared.

**GOLKAR Leadership Wants More ‘Openness’**

900G0010A Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 13 Sep 89 p 8

[Text] Yogayakarta, PELITA—We are determined that the GOLKAR program of Three Successes—success in consolidation, success in REPELITA V [Fifth 5-Year Development Program], and success in the 1992 general elections—will be implemented operationally. To accomplish this, GOLKAR leaders at all levels are asked to cultivate a spirit of openness, cooperation, and solidarity at every echelon of GOLKAR.

Sugeng Wijaya, fourth chairman of the GOLKAR DPP [Central Executive Committee], expressed this during the Refresher Course for GOLKAR Cadres of Yogayakarta Level I Region held recently at Sasono Wirotomo, Tegalrejo, Yogayakarta.

Sugeng Wijaya emphasized that GOLKAR’s future tasks will be difficult. Thus, each GOLKAR cadre must be made to realize that difficult tasks are glorious tasks.

These tasks have been assigned by the people and the nation, especially GOLKAR voters and supporters, in order that we should implement development in accordance with the Message of the People’s Suffering. This challenge grows in intensity daily, both qualitatively and quantitatively, in step with community dynamics and the successes of development.

Therefore, we must employ our potential through strong solidarity and sincere, unselfish enthusiasm, said Sugeng Wijaya. He declared that the “internal” target of the General Program is the stabilization of the presence, function, and role of GOLKAR as a sociopolitical organization oriented to functional work. The objective is to make GOLKAR mature, self-sufficient, well grounded, of high quality, and democratic.

**Opportunities**

Sultan Hamengku Buwono X, chairman of the GOLKAR DPD [Regional Executive Council] for Yogayakarta, said that GOLKAR cadres must try hard to win the next elections, while at the same time taking part in deliberating essential subjects for the GBHN [Broad Outline of State Policy] and future REPELITA’s. In this way, cadres will play a larger role and will earn public confidence and support.

The sultan also urged greater attention to creating a more healthy and open national political culture. Thus, upgrading is necessary, and more extensive opportunities must be given to GOLKAR cadres. Paku Alam VIII, governor of Yogayakarta, also spoke.

**Parliament Asks Protection for Stock Market Investors**

900G0036C Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 27 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS—The DPR [Parliament] has asked BAPEPAM [Capital Market Executive Board] to protect investors from being swindled in share manipulations on the stock market, particularly since many investors are still inexperienced. BAPEPAM must therefore act firmly in determining which firms should “go public.”

This insistent request was made at Senayan, Jakarta, on Tuesday [26 September] in an exchange of views between BAPEPAM and DPR Commission VII, chaired by Deputy Chairman Yahya Nasution (F-PDI [Indonesian Democratic Party Faction]).

Although not all the members of Commission VII were present, BAPEPAM Chairman Marzuki Usman was
deluged with questions. The queries ranged from the issue of agio (difference between the initial offering price of a stock and its nominal value), a question on indications that a number of firms are “tinkering with their books” before entering the stock market, and finally to a concern as to who will bear responsibility if a public firm goes bankrupt.

**Encourage Adventurism**

The DPR members acknowledged that BAPEPAM, and particularly Marzuki, has been successful in getting the Indonesian people excited about stocks. Although the capital market’s current speed of growth may give the impression of being a flash in the pan, it has proved to be a hopeful alternative source of funds. In fact, according to Marzuki, as of 21 September 71 firms had gone public, 49 stock issues had attracted 1.2 trillion rupiah from the public, and 21 bond issues and 1 security issue had netted 1.4 trillion rupiah.

The DPR sees this growth as revealing inadequate institutional and capital market mechanisms, particularly in responding to the leap in demand for stocks. The public is increasingly enticing companies that are pressed for funds, thus inevitably producing a lengthening queue of firms tempted into going public through BAPEPAM.

The question for people’s representatives in the DPR is how far BAPEPAM is really able to function as overseer of the public’s money. Most investors obsessed with stocks are inexperienced and do not understand the procedures of a stock exchange possessing a large element of speculation. This could have an alarming effect.

Concern was shared by both the DPR and BAPEPAM and was recorded in the summary of the meeting. “The possibility of getting funds relatively cheaply can encourage firms that want only to use the opportunity to get money from the public without considering losses that may be suffered by other parties,” the summary said, as read by Yahya Nasution.

A member of the F-KP [Golkar Faction] pointed out that a firm can be created merely for going public and getting money from the public, and the owner can then create a new company without giving any attention to the old one. Therefore, it was concluded in the meeting that issuers of stock should be required to report the conditions of their firms to the public through BAPEPAM every 3 months.

**Oversight Body**

The DPR members urged BAPEPAM to act decisively as an overseer and, if necessary, as a guarantor that issuers are healthy. “Don’t wait until issuers run away. There are, in fact, some who have done that, and nothing was done about it,” said Mrs Sis Hendarwati, who is also a deputy chairman of Commission VII.

Is BAPEPAM an overseer? That is what Marzuki and his staff want it to be. If it did not have to fuss over the details of lights and telephones for the running of the Jakarta Stock Exchange, BAPEPAM could act more broadly. But it should not be a guarantor, for that would cloud the role of underwriters who guarantee stock issues. Therefore, after a 15-minute debate, the commission changed the wording of the original characterization of BAPEPAM as a guarantor to “BAPEPAM endeavors to ensure that reports by stock issuers are true.”

“Investors must be protected. Similarly, confidence in the capital market must be assured, for if investors are disappointed it will take 10 years to bring them back,” Marzuki said. Thus, the important thing is to instruct underwriters, brokers, and stock exchange traders to truly protect the interests of the public.

The roles of institutions participating in the capital market was thoroughly queried by B.P. Mesakh of the F-KP, who said it is not clear who is responsible if something happens, such as collusion between an issuer and an underwriter.

“Issuers generally ask for a very high agio, from 7 to 10, or even 17, times the nominal price. Is that warranted? Can we have confidence in the health of issuers merely on the basis of reports of public accountants, since accountants usually are only ‘tailors’ who fill the orders of their clients. That’s even more true of appraisers, who only do as instructed by those who give them work,” Mesakh asserted.

The deputy secretary of F-KP emphasized, however, that people cannot deceive the public forever. At some moment, things will be revealed, but it will be alarming if there are many victims. Therefore, BAPEPAM (and the government) are asked to take immediate action to avoid widespread victimization.

**Improved Law**

In reply to DPR questions, Marzuki explained that the agio of an established firm is indeed high. Whether the agio goes up or down, he said, depends on the law of supply and demand. Thus, Marzuki declared, the government does not guarantee that the prices of stocks will always go up or that an issuer is certain to be profitable. That depends on the professionalism of its management.

“The important thing is oversight by the public and the mass media,” he said. It is therefore important that issuers give accurate information to the public. If an issuer falsifies information, he himself bears responsibility and can be prosecuted. Marzuki asked, therefore, that the Indonesian Accountants Association (IAI) improve the professionalism and discipline of its members.

The BAPEPAM chairman said that Law 15/1952 is still the legal basis for the operation of the capital market. It is thus not surprising that the market’s legal basis seems out of date and incompatible with the spirit of Article 33 of the 1945 Constitution. Therefore, in order to stimulate the capital market and attract firms, the government
several years ago relaxed a number of conditions for going public. This relaxation naturally needs to be balanced by clear and appropriate penalties for violations. Because these are not stipulated in the law, however, the law needs to be improved immediately, Marzuki said. In this way, investors and the public will be better protected.

Strengthening of Ground Forces Projected
900G0037B Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian
5 Oct 89 p 2

[Text] Jakarta, Wednesday [4 October], MERDEKA—Ground forces are to be further strengthened, because the Department of Defense and Security does not expect foreign military invasion by air or sea during the next 30 years.

F.M. Parapat, director general for general planning and budgeting of the Department of Defense and Security, revealed this in Jakarta on Wednesday in a meeting for exchange of views with DPR [Parliament] Commission 1, chaired by Sabar Kombino. Parapat said that the department bases its evaluation on international developments and Indonesia's own progress.

As a concrete example, Parapat cited the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan and the recent withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Cambodia. "There is no likelihood in the next 30 years that another country will mount a large-scale attack against Indonesia to seize its natural resources, for Indonesia now has nearly 180 million people, some of whom are capable thinkers," he stated.

Therefore, plans for ground force development have priority over air and sea force expansion because the nation's assets along all Indonesian coasts are great and must be secured for the sake of the welfare of the people.

In the meeting, he also explained the national defense and security posture over the next three decades. Capabilities during this period will be directed toward protecting national interests, particularly the continuation of national development in a secure, expeditious, and evenly distributed way.

Gradually
During the next three decades, national defense and security capabilities will be developed gradually from the ability to deal with two critical areas simultaneously by use of two ground-force battalions each to the ability to handle three critical areas with one ground-force brigade each.

Figures for the defense and security budget for fiscal 1990-91 are still a secret. He said, however, that any improvement in national defense and security capabilities must be consistent with duties assigned to ABRI and be based on the defense and security force system, which has a small ABRI as its nucleus.

The budget for the defense and security sector during the last 5 years has been an average of 2.5 percent of the GNP [gross national product], whereas the figure was 3.5 to 5 percent in Indonesia's neighbor countries. Members of Indonesia's armed forces amount to 0.15 percent of its population. In countries around Indonesia, the figure is more than 1 percent.

ABRI strength is now about 269,000 men, who are distributed among the branches as follows: Army, 206,000; Navy, 42,000; and Air Force, 21,000. If 10,000 men are added annually over the next 10 years, ABRI strength in the year 2000 will make up 0.17 percent of the estimated population of 216 million.

"That total appears relatively small, considering that POLRI [Indonesian Police] strength is to be doubled in the next 10 years," the director general said.

Police now number 170,000, or about one policeman for every 1,000 people. Ideally, one policeman should serve 500 citizens.

Nationalism Called Way To Block Communism
900G0036A Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian
1 Oct 89 p 1

[Text] Jakarta—Basic requirements for blocking the latent threat of the G-30-S/PKI [30 September Movement/Indonesian Communist Party] are the reinforcement of nationalistic feelings and the strengthening of the unity and integrity of the nation in the framework of maintaining a national dynamic stability.

An observer of social issues said this in Jakarta in an interview with MERDEKA in connection with the observation of Pancasila Day on 1 October.

By an intense feeling of nationalism, our nation will be strongly unified, and our solid national oneness will give no opportunity to communism to enter or play a role.

He warned that although the PKI has been eliminated from view, we must not forget that they are constantly trying to reemerge.

"The reestablishment of strength has been an obsession of PKI remnants since their failures in the Madiun uprising of 1948 and attempted seizure of power in 1965," he declared.

According to the observer, who did not want to be identified, resistance to communist philosophy must be accompanied by deepened conviction regarding Pancasila ideology in the community at large. Thus, political education is needed, especially orientation on P-4 [Guidelines for Implementation of Pancasila] and national awareness.

Our success in implementing national development, which includes economic development, will be our biggest asset in resisting communist ideology. Our success
in fighting poverty and ignorance and in evenly distributing the benefits of economic development will eliminate any room for action by the Communists.

"Another important aspect of our efforts to block communism is intensive supervision of G-30-S/PKI detainees who have been returned to the community," he said.

He noted that there are factors that obstruct success in national development in the economic sector. Among them are corruption and misuse of position. Therefore, actions to eliminate corruption, smuggling, and irregularities must accompany economic development.

Bung Karno

With regard to the relationship of the late Bung Karno [President Sukarno], as founder of the nation, to the strengthening of nationalistic spirit, the observer said that Bung Karno must be put in true perspective as the father of Indonesia.

In connection with our efforts to prevent the resurgence of communist philosophy and in view of the latent danger of the G-30-S/PKI, the observer urged that Bung Karno not be held solely responsible for G-30-S/PKI.

"Putting the burden of responsibility for G-30-S/PKI on the shoulders of Bung Karno actually benefits the PKI, for the PKI can then wash its hands of any role in the uprising," he said.

He did not deny that there was weakness and error in Bung Karno's leadership of our nation, but as an ordinary man his mistakes and shortcomings were within natural limits.

Transmigration To Focus on Quality of Life

900G0009C Jakarta ANGKATAN BERSENJATA in Indonesian 13 Sep 89 p 3

[Text] Jakarta, ANGKATAN BERSENJATA—Going into the 2d year of REPELITA V [Fifth 5-Year Development Plan] in fiscal 1990-91, the Department of Transmigration will be focusing its programs on improving the quality of life of transmigrants. Only 55,000 families are slated for relocation from their native areas to new settlements during the fiscal year.

This was revealed by Minister of Transmigration Sugiaruto in a working meeting with DPR [Parliament] Commission IV on Tuesday [12 September].

The minister explained that of the total 55,000 families 16,431 are general transmigrants, 3,100 are local transmigrants, and the rest, or 38,569 families, are spontaneous.

He said the large number of spontaneous transmigrants is due to the growing enthusiasm of the people. Many of them are willing even to contribute to their travel expenses and the construction of their houses. This shows the high level of self-sufficiency among the prospective transmigrants, Minister Sugiaruto said.

Improve Quality

He went on to explain efforts that are to be made under the program especially for improving the quality of life of transmigrants. These efforts include comprehensive improvement of economic, social, and environmental conditions. Food crop cultivation methods are to be developed for people in the general transmigration category. Spontaneous transmigrants will be involved in the development of other sectors, such as estates, forestry, and industrial services.

Another matter that has not escaped the attention of the Department of Transmigration is the education and training of field personnel in order to expand the horizons of their knowledge and managerial capability. About 6,836 people are targeted under this effort. Improvement will also be made in coordination between sectors and government agencies concerned, which was a matter receiving the attention of Commission IV yesterday.

Empty Houses

In reply to a question about houses that were originally prepared for transmigrants but are now standing empty in a number of places, the minister explained that the houses can still be used, for damage has been light and rehabilitation of the houses will not be very expensive.

There are 2,254 empty houses in three provinces, namely West Kalimantan, Central Kalimantan, and Irian Jaya.

Another matter given constant attention in yesterday's meeting with DPR Commission IV was the handling of transmigrant processing certificates at the settlements. The minister admitted that there are still bureaucratic obstacles, mostly in the field. The problems generally are the result of differences in management at the various levels, thus making it difficult for agencies involved to participate in finalizing the certificates. The Department of Transmigration also faces the problem of field personnel who do not fulfill expectations.

To resolve this and to expedite transmigration, mutual understanding is needed between the sectors and related agencies, the minister said.

Central Sulawesi Seeks More Transmigrants

900G0011B Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 11 Sep 89 p 2

[Text] Jakarta, PELITA—The Central Sulawesi Regional Government wants the current capacity of the transmigration program in that area to be multiplied.

Intensification of the transmigration program should not be for farm transmigrants alone but should also include fisheries, animal husbandry, estates, and handicrafts, Central Sulawesi Governor A. Aziz Lamadjido, SH
[Master of Laws], told reporters following his call on Vice President Sudharmono, SH, at South Freedom Palace on Saturday [9 September].

He said that transmigrant manpower is much needed because there is still a great shortage of manpower for development of the estate, fishery, animal husbandry, handicraft, and farm sectors in Central Sulawesi.

There are now 200,000 transmigrants in the province, and the governor feels that they have enabled areas in Central Sulawesi to enjoy improved conditions.

He said the presence of the 200,000 transmigrants is uplifting to the region. The governor cited formerly unproductive areas that are now self-sufficient in rice.

"Since fish and meat are still in short supply, we will produce more by expanding transmigration," he declared.

He reported to the vice president on implementation of development programs, on regional conditions, and on obstacles that have been faced. One obstacle has been continued limitation in communications facilities and infrastructure, whether land, sea, air, or telecommunications. Little by little, however, these hindrances have been overcome, thus enabling fulfillment of hopes.

He also reported on the implementation of close supervision throughout Central Sulawesi.

Vice President Sudharmono expressed his hope that close supervision will be implemented seriously and will be oriented to the interests of the nation and the state. Similarly, he asked that the national program for increasing the output of nonoil commodities continue to be promoted.

In reply to a reporter's question, Governor A. Aziz Lamadjido said the vice president is planning to make a working visit to Central Sulawesi on 19 September.

In the afternoon, the vice president also was visited by the governor of North Sulawesi, C.J. Rantung.

Minister of Industry

During the morning, Vice President Sudharmono was visited by Minister of Industry Hartarto, who was accompanied by Junior Minister for Industry Tungki Ariwibowo.

Minister Hartarto told the press that he had reported to the vice president on the 282 factories to be inaugurated by President Suharto this year.

Hartarto said the output of these factories will be for export as well as for domestic needs. He also reported on the expansion of small industries in Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara, and in East Timor.

Tungki Ariwibowo reported on plans for an investment promotion to be conducted in Singapore next week. The purpose of the promotional activity is encouragement of capital investment among countries in the western region of the Pacific Basin.

The vice president said that investments originating in those countries should be further expanded.

The junior minister for industry said that medium-sized industries are the ones to be encouraged, so that they will expedite their investment decisions.

Java’s Importance As Rice Producer

900G0011C Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 12 Sep 89 p 3

[Text] Jakarta. PELITA—Minister of Agriculture Wardojo said that although farmland in Java continues to shrink the island continues to be the nation’s largest rice producing area.


In the meeting, which was chaired by Commission IV Chairman A.R. Rangkuti, the minister of agriculture was accompanied by Junior Minister for Agriculture Syarifuddin Baharsyah, Department of Agriculture Secretary-General Nusyirwan Zen, Director General for Fisheries R. Soeprapto, Director General for Food Crops Muin Pabinru, Director General for Animal Husbandry Soehadjji, and Director General for Estates Rachmat Soebypadja.

According to the minister of agriculture, the shrinking acreage of fertile farmland in Java is being caused primarily by changes from rice paddy use to settlements, industrial areas, nonrice farming, and other uses.

For that reason, he expressed his hope that fertile wet fields (rice paddies) in Java can be retained, because rice self-sufficiency is facing serious challenges.

"Also in this connection, sugarcane cultivation in Java is gradually being transferred from wet fields to dry fields," Wardojo said, adding that dry fields constitute great potential for the expansion of sugarcane cultivation.

Thus, he continued, the transfer of sugarcane from wet to dry fields is related both to efforts to maintain the rice self-sufficiency we have achieved since 1984 and to the attainment of self-sufficiency in sugar.

Wardojo said Indonesia is constantly endeavoring to reach self-sufficiency in sugar. Such efforts will also include the use of the sugar palm and the nipa palm as raw materials for sugar.
Government Formulates National Food Supply Policy

900G0009A Jakarta ANGKATAN BERSENJATA in Indonesian 12 Sep 89 p 3

[Text] Jakarta, ANGKATAN BERSENJATA—Minister of Cooperatives/KABULOG [Chief of Logistics Bureau] Bustanil Arfin said yesterday in the DPR [Parliament] that the government is now formulating a method for managing food supplies, thus providing for national food stocks in an ideal way.

Because of the rigid relationship between price and demand, according to experts, price fluctuations are increasing. In other words, greater supplies are needed to prevent price fluctuation. Thought is now being given to the ideal form and volume of food supplies. Will they be stored physically? That is very expensive. Or will it be better to lend food to other countries as a means of providing for our own food reserves?

Speaking at a meeting for exchange of views with DPR Commission VII, Bustanil Arfin said that through past cycles of drought we have gained experience as to when we need reserves. Such reserves could be in the form of money, as provided for in an agreement made recently in Jakarta with the O.P.E.J. (Islamic Conference Organization).

Use of this concept requires a consensus that our policy on self-sufficiency in rice is "self-sufficiency on trend." In other words, there are times when we export, and there are times when we ask for repayment (import). Farm production is not like an automobile plant, for example, where output can be adjusted in a short period of time.

According to Bustanil, who was accompanied by WAK-ABU LOG [Deputy Chief of Logistics Bureau] Sukriya Atmadja, the price of rice is the largest component in the inflation rate, although the rate has fallen over the last 20 years.

Farm output is still seasonal despite the extensive irrigation networks that have been built. Furthermore, food production is always surrounded by the uncertainties of weather and disease.

Loans Beneficial

He also said that since April Indonesia has lent 100,000 tons of rice to the Philippines because of that country's food problems, which resulted from the typhoons of the past. "This loan is beneficial to us, because our food stocks are now at 2.5 million tons. Based on projected stocks as of April 1990, our national stocks will be more than 1 million tons. The loan is for 3 years at an annual interest rate of 6 percent. By reducing national stocks with this loan, we are able to reduce the burden of high storage costs. Moreover, the quality of rice in storage deteriorates."

At this time, BULOG [Logistics Bureau] is still importing 370,000 tons of soybeans every year, and, because of damage to soybean meal at PT [Limited Company] Sarpindo, BULOG will be importing 106,000 tons of soybean meal during 1989-90. In addition, 1.5 million tons of flour must be imported to meet demand.

Farmers Hold 80 Percent

In addition, Wagiyono Ismangil, secretary-general of the Department of Cooperatives, who also accompanied the minister, said that only 80 percent of KUT [farm credit] delinquencies are by individual farmers, who number hundreds of thousands. These arrears are the consequence of their small land holdings, which average only 0.25 hectares. Most of their earnings are used to meet living costs, and they are unable to repay their KUT.

Judging by the amounts of the delinquencies on various types of credits to cooperatives, the cooperative credit program has been generally good except for this last year.

He illustrated the situation by presenting credit delinquencies as percentages of total credit: for food procurement in 1988-89, 2.62 percent; fertilizer procurement, 5.7 percent; KUT, 28.55 percent; TRI [smallholder sugarcane intensification] credit from 1987 to 1989, 2.27 percent; and nonprogram credit, 13.4 percent.

It should be noted that average delinquencies on credit used by KUD's [village unit cooperatives/cooperatives themselves are under 5 percent of total credit. Average delinquencies on credit to KUD's/cooperatives for use by their members are an average of 12.13 percent of contracted credits, except for TRI credits, which make up only an average of 2 percent.

Efforts to reduce KUD delinquencies on credits to banks include improvement of KUD planning capabilities so that the KUD's can selectively choose suitable activities for credit funding. The Department of Cooperatives and Bank Indonesia have established a credit scheme for credits to KUD's/cooperatives to cover nonprogram activities. Among these schemes is the setting of a 30 million rupiah ceiling for a cooperative and its members. A 75 million rupiah ceiling has been set for credit for a cooperative's working capital and a 75 million rupiah ceiling for investment credits. Facilities have also been established for KIK/KMKP [small investment credit/permanent working capital credit] and export credits to KUD's/cooperatives.

To afford liberty to KUD's/cooperatives in the use of investment credit of up to 75 million rupiah, the repayment period has been relaxed to 10 years, with a grace period of 4 years. For KIK, the period is 8 years, with a grace period of 4 years, and for KMKP the term is 5 years and the grace period 1 year.
Irrigation Program for South Kalimantan

10 INDONESIA

900G0008B Jakarta BISNIS INDONESIA in Indonesian 13 Sep 89 p 3

[Text] Banjarmasin (BISNIS)—The government will build an irrigation project valued at 453 billion rupiahs in Riam Kanan, South Kalimantan, to augment the artificially irrigated rice fields in Java, whose area is declining by 35,000 hectares each year, an official here said.

Yesterday [12 September] Martono, director of the BINA [development] Program of the Irrigation PU [public works] director general’s office, said this project would be capable of irrigating 25,900 hectares of rice fields during the rainy season and 18,550 hectares in the dry season.

Implementation of the project is divided into three phases. The first phase, he said, is the construction of a dam and an irrigation network covering 5,965 hectares. “The first phase is estimated to be completed in 1992.”

This irrigation project will use the flow of the Riam Kanan River and will be a reservoir of the Prince Mohammad Noor PLTA [hydroelectricity project], (better known as the Riam Kanan PLTA), located 12 km above where the project is to be located.

Declining

According to Martono, irrigation developed since REPELITA I [first 5-year development plan] added 1.2 million hectares of ricefields and increased water service through various rehabilitation programs.

“However, it is not an easy task to maintain this development because population is increasing at a relatively high rate. In addition, there is still a shortage of irrigated areas, principally in Java where the soil is relatively more fertile,” Martono said.

Former irrigated areas now used for purposes other than agriculture are being reduced by 35,000 hectares per year, he said.

South Kalimantan has a rather large potential for irrigated land. Besides the Riam Kanan, there are areas along the Negara River which are being studied now for possible development, Martono said.

Various projects have been constructed on former irrigated ricefields in Java whose functions have changed. “The prospects are greater for expanding irrigation outside Java,” he said.

M. Said, the South Kalimantan governor, when making the first announcement of the construction of the dam, said the South Kalimantan people have wanted this irrigation project for a long time.

According to the governor, two factors are of importance in constructing this irrigation project. First, the Prince Mohammad Noor PLTA was developed according to an original plan for an all-purpose dam. Second, this irrigation project is to be the starting point for developing artificially irrigated land so that farmers there can harvest crops twice a year, he said.

Martono, who spoke for the irrigation director general, said the development of the Barito River region had been studied since 1970.

The Riam Kanan irrigation project is part of this Barito River regional development program. A feasibility study was made by JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) only in 1978.

In 1983, based on the results of this feasibility study, the Japanese government decided to offer aid for development through the OECF (Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund), the agreement for which was signed in 1984.

The first development phase will cost 139 billion rupiahs, including 6 billion yen in aid. The project will be handled by five contractors, P.T. Adi Karya, Nindya Karya, Hutama Karya (BUMN) [State-owned company], PMA [foreign company] P.T. Silkar Nasional, which cooperates with Daewoo (a South Korean company), and a national private consortium, P.T. R.P. Soeparto Seto Agung.
On 5 October, the Council of Ministers issued a decree on the preservation and use of forests and forest land. The decree is divided into five parts.

The first part deals with the preservation of forests and forest land. It says: Forests and forest land within the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] is under the ownership of the national community, represented by the state, which is to carry out the task of conservation in a centralized, unified manner throughout the country. The state grants the right and responsibility to all Lao citizens to safeguard, preserve, restore, reforest, expand, and use forests and forest land in accordance with state laws and regulations so as to ensure that the number of trees in the forests will continue increasing every day.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is assigned responsibility for outlining strategies, plans, policies, and laws on forestry work, the logging industry, and environments, which are to be presented to the Council of Ministers for approval; for outlining detailed guidelines and regulations on the use of forests and forest land; for organizing supervision and inspection of the enforcement of said laws; for following and gathering information on the changes in forest resources in each period; for setting up and guiding the forest preservation network; for studying and authorizing the establishment of forest enterprises and wood and forest product processing factories; and for appointing heads of the forest services for Vientiane Municipality and Vientiane Province and heads of forest industrial enterprises under its supervision. The ministry also has the duty of coordinating with localities and services concerned in carrying out propaganda campaigns to teach every Lao citizen to love nature and develop a sense of responsibility for the preservation of forests in an efficient manner in accordance with state laws. It must coordinate and cooperate with foreign countries in the field of science and technology on forestry work and the environment, including the training of cadre for this work.

In its second part on granting of [the right to use] forests and forest land, the decree stipulates: The state grants an area of between 2 and 5 hectares of forest and forest land to each farming family for use, and between 100 and 500 hectares in their respective localities to each village and cooperative for preservation, restoration, and reforestation. The number of trees in the forest and forest land granted must be increased. The grantees have the right to use, (lease), or transfer the granted forests or forest land to other people in accordance with principles and regulations set up by the state. As for individuals and collective communities wanting to utilize abandoned land and deteriorating forest land for restoration and reforestation or for carrying out crop cultivation--livestock raising--forestry enterprises with their own capital, the state will promote and acknowledge their ownership provided that they strictly and correctly comply with the laws and regulations on forestry work. With regard to the third part on the use of forests and forest land, the decree says: In the event that the grantees want to modify the use of forests and forest land to serve other purposes, approval must be secured from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Enterprises that are permitted to exploit forests for timber must comply with existing laws and regulations. The forestry services of Vientiane Province and Vientiane Municipality are responsible for deciding whether to approve the requests of people who claim it is necessary for them to exploit forests under the ownership of their village or family for timber to use in building shelters.

The decree also spells out certain prohibition articles in forestry work and various regulations on forest exploitation.

In the fourth part on encroachment regulations, the decree says: Any collective communities or individuals who violate this decree will be reprimanded and fined while evidence seized will be confiscated. As for cases involving theft, the people arrested will be sent to court for legal action.

The fifth part deals with organizing the implementation of this decree. It says: The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is instructed to prepare detailed guidelines and regulations for implementation of this decree.
Prime Minister Stresses Importance of Strong UMNO
900G0013A Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 19 Aug 89 p 2

[Text] Muar, 18 Aug—Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today warned that Malays and other communal groups in the country will face problems if UMNO [United Malays National Organization] does not maintain its strength as the nucleus of the ruling National Front.

He also warned that Malays cannot be saved if UMNO breaks into three groups, seeing that UMNO has already split into two factions in some places.

"Therefore, UMNO must be strengthened in order for it to remain the nucleus of the National Front and the government and thereby protect the interests of Malays and other communal groups," he said as he opened a meeting here of UMNO delegates from the Pagoh Division.

The meeting was held at the Jubli Intan Hall. Also attending were Johor Chief Minister Tan Sri Haji Muhyiddin Mohd. Yasin, State Legislature Speaker Datuk Haji Yunos Sulaiman, and other local UMNO leaders.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir, who is also president of UMNO, expressed his hope that Malays will realize that no party but UMNO is able to function as the nucleus of the National Front.

In fact, he said, Malays should ensure that the party perpetuates its role as the backbone of the National Front government and thus protect the interests of UMNO and other communal groups.

With regard to the Spirit of '46, the prime minister said he was aware that there have been efforts to form another political coalition in which Malays would play only a small role.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said he was certain that the coalition made up of the Spirit of '46, PAS [Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party], and DAP [Democratic Action Party] will not be able to protect the interests of Malays if the coalition wins a majority in parliament and forms a government.

"We do not doubt that the coalition will win some seats, but the government it might form would be weak and could not protect the interests of Malays," he declared.

The prime minister regretted that certain groups have invited PAS and DAP to join them in Johor and thus have broken up the unity of Malays in the state, which has long been called a bulwark of UMNO strength.

He reminded Malays in Johor that if PAS gets a foothold in the state Malays will be divided because the party clearly brings false teachings, such as banning prayer with UMNO adherents in addition to other tenets not directly related to religion.

The president of UMNO said the growing number of UMNO members in Johor is a sign that the party is regaining the strength it had in the state before UMNO was declared illegal.

As for UMNO's acceptance of people who had formerly opposed it, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said that many of them have joined the party and that he hoped they will realize the great importance of their holding the views that most people in UMNO have.

MIC Assembly Predicted Decisive for Samy Vellu
900G0013B Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 19 Aug 89 p 3

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 18 Aug—Tomorrow and the next day will be important days for MIC [Malaysian Indian Congress] President Datuk Sri S. Samy Vellu.

During the next 2 days, he will have opportunity to evaluate his influence and strength in the MIC, which recently has been lashed by problems threatening his leadership.

Therefore, Datuk Sri Samy Vellu and his opponents are all awaiting the 37th General Assembly of the MIC, which begins tomorrow in Shah Alam.

Although there will be no election of leaders at this general assembly, there are certain signs that the gathering will be conducted in a “heated” atmosphere.

There have been a number of incidents in party meetings that have been interpreted as dissatisfaction among members with the leadership style of the party's president and with the matter of amendments to the party constitution.

Internal Problems

Since the middle of last year, the MIC has not tried to hide its internal problems. MIC Vice President M.G. Pandithan and 13 of his followers were dismissed. This was followed by the dismissal of seven other people, including two members of the Central Committee (JKP).

Prior to his dismissal, one member of the JKP, Dr N.G. Baskaran, challenged Datuk Sri Samy S. Vellu to run in the MIC presidential election scheduled for next year. Unfortunately, none of the dismissals for violating party discipline were effective.

Several disturbances have occurred in party-sponsored meetings, including meetings attended by Datuk Sri Samy. Among them were incidents at the MIC conferences in Johor and Negri Sembilan and a disturbance at the annual meeting of Maika Holdings.

In a war of words carried on by the leaders, Datuk Sri Samy openly warned two top party members, Deputy President S. Subramaniam and Vice President Datuk D. Pathmanaban, in connection with Pandithan's dismissal.
The leader of the party conducts his war of words through the press, using space in the TAMIL NESAN newspaper, which is controlled by his wife. Datuk Pathmanaban uses THINAMANI, and Datuk Subramaniam exercises influence over TAMIL OSAI.

Because of unresolved disputes, it is clear that the MIC is awash in problems, although the party's leader often denies it and declares that the MIC continues to be strong.

Nevertheless, Datuk Sri Samy is constantly being criticized, even from outside the party, on issues like the transfer of teachers in Tamil schools in Perak. As the MIC General Assembly approaches, a new issue has also arisen, the question of amendments to the party constitution.

Two amendments are to be presented for ratification by the approximately 1,000 delegates from 970 party branches throughout the country.

The first amendment is on membership. A person who resigns from the party and later wants to reestablish his membership will be required to submit an application through a branch, which will present it at the state level before final decision is made by the JKP.

Up to now, the constitution mentions only the case of request for membership by a person who formerly belonged to another party. Approval of this amendment is not expected to face any great problem.

The amendment that is expected to become a hot issue, however, is one on provisions for "election of the president."

The existing provision says only: "The president shall be selected by votes of members of branch committees once every 3 years."

The new provision says: "The president shall be selected by votes of members of branch committees and shall perform his duties for 3 years or until after the subsequent presidential election."

Party Unrest

According to Datuk Sri Samy, the purpose of the amendment is to make the election of the president consistent with the way in which elections are held for other party posts. Similar provisions already exist for election the deputy president, the three vice presidents, and the five members of the JKP.

The amendment is also claimed to be for the purpose of ensuring that the selection of the president, which must be done every 3 years, can be delayed for important reasons, such as general elections.

Some say this reason is acceptable, because when the country is facing general elections attention should be given to winning victories for BN [National Front] candidates rather than to dealing with unrest within the party.

Thus, they predict that passage of the amendment will not face serious problems, since Datuk Samy will have support by 80 percent of the delegates.

There is opposition to the amendment, however, among some people who feel such a provision will give power to the JKP to decide to hold the election of the president any time it pleases.

These people say that under the amendment the current president's term of office may last more than the designated 3 years before the JKP decides on a suitable date for an election.

3 Months' Notice

There are some who accuse Datuk Samy of wanting to hold office for life. His supporters deny this, saying that the presidential election will continue to be held every 3 years. In fact, Datuk Samy himself has repeatedly declared that he will not be president for life.

But those who oppose the amendment ask, "When will the election be held? After the amendment is passed, can it be guaranteed that the election of the president will be held next year, 2 years from now, or 4 years from now?"

The number two man in the party openly opposes the amendment. He asks why the issue should be raised now, since the current constitution has been in effect since 1973 without any problem.

Datuk Subramaniam said that on one occasion the term of a president even lasted for 4 years, although at that time a presidential election should have been held every year.

"Thus, the justification that has been offered is not logical, for the election of the president actually may be held after 3 months' notice to all the branches. There is no need to wait until the last moment of the president's term of office," he said.

Another reason for opposition to the amendment is that the MIC's method for electing officers is different from that used in other parties.

The president is elected by members of branch committees throughout the country.

Difference of Opinion

Other positions are determined in the general assembly by delegates selected by the branches. Branches with 200 to 250 members send one delegate, and branches with more than 550 [as published] members send two delegates.

Some opponents of Datuk Sri Samy think the president is afraid and is unwilling to hold a presidential election because he worries that, owing to recent problems and
differences of opinion with his deputy president and vice presidents, there are 22 branch committee members who may not give him full support.

Datuk Sri Samy reportedly wants to see truly strong support for himself before the presidential election is held.

Datuk Sri Samy denied this charge, however, and recently declared plainly that, since his term will expire on 26 December, he is willing to withdraw if members should so decide at the upcoming general assembly.

In view of these challenges, the assembly is certain to be a "heated" one. Will the delegates cause an uproar? Will they ask Datuk Sri Samy to withdraw. Will his position be stronger if the constitutional amendments are passed?

All of these questions will be answered in the next 2 days.

Writer Appraises Mahathir's Political Strategy
900G0031A Kuala Lumpur WATAN in Malay 28 Sep 89 p 8

[Text] I have been asked whether the next general elections will be held in November, since the annual budget will be presented to Parliament on 27 October, following the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting.

In my opinion, the dissolving of parliament will take place during the budget session that is to begin on 19 October and as soon as the budget is approved.

If not then, the elections may be held several days or a week afterwards. School vacation ends on Sunday, 3 December, and the elections could be held on Saturday, 2 December. For convenience, elections are usually held during school vacation.

There is no regulation, however, that says elections must be held during school vacation. They may be held at any time, whether December or January, as the prime minister may choose. He will then advise the paramount ruler to dissolve parliament.

I think the general elections can be held right away, for, according to the analysis of political observers, the results of several by-elections show that the National Front (BN) is still ahead.

Since the prime minister's successful heart surgery, the economy has improved and he has taken wise actions in UMNO and the BN. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir therefore has been able to enhance his image and his political status among the people.

Malaysia's sparkling success in the recent Asian Games demonstrated unity and was the pride of all communal groups.

This was followed by Dr Mahathir's achievements at the conference of leaders of nonaligned countries in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, where his role won recognition and praise. The Malaysian people were again proud of their prime minister.

Thus, many people are asking openly, "Is there anyone in the government or the opposition who would be better than Dr Mahathir as prime minister of the country?"

The same question may be in the minds of the people when they vote in the next general elections.

The Malaysian people will again be proud when Dr Mahathir chairs the 49th Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Kuala Lumpur from 18 to 24 October.

Opportunity

Will a clever politician take advantage of these increasingly encouraging conditions?

Some say that Dr Mahathir planned all of this. That could not be true, however, for he did not control all of these conditions.

As prime minister, he naturally hoped for a restoration of the economy and worked hard to that end, as did many of us. He is probably pleased with the resurgence of the economy from the recession of several years ago.

It cannot be denied, however, that Dr Mahathir is a strategist who is able to take advantage of beneficial conditions in the party with the hope that he will also be able to bring improvements to the country.

It is not wrong for him to use the old system if he wants to hold early parliamentary elections and then postpone elections for state legislatures.

It is the right of the government of each state in this country to decide when they will advise their sultan or governor on dissolving the state legislature in order to seek a new mandate.

The law also does not require each state to hold general elections at the same time as the parliamentary elections.

It may be useful to the BN to have parliamentary elections and secure control of the Central Government first.

Since all state governments are controlled by the BN and it is therefore certain they will all rule until August 1991, Dr Mahathir as leader of the BN may decide through consultation with BN state leaders on dates for elections for the respective state legislatures.

Observers and political analysts agree that there is a great probability that the BN under the leadership of Dr Mahathir will win enough seats to govern the Central Government again if general elections are held right away.
Nevertheless, many agree that Angkatan, under the leadership of Tengku Razaleh, may seize a majority of parliament seats from the BN in Kelantan and Terengganu.

Angkatan also may win several parliament seats in Kedah, one or two seats in Perlis and may take over the governments of Kelantan and Terengganu, as PAS [Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party] did once in the past.

If Malay unity is restored in Johor UMNO, that state may continue to be an UMNO bastion and safe for the BN.

Strategy

If this is true, it will be good political strategy for the BN to hold state legislature elections in Johor first and then from state to state, and oppose Angkatan in Kelantan and Terengganu at the very last.

Speaking to about 150 Spirit of '46 Leaders in Pulau Pinang a few days ago, Tengku Razaleh's senior man, Datuk Rais Yatim, said that the party's cooperation with DAP [Democratic Action Party] is so far unofficial.

Spirit of '46 leaders have talked only once with DAP leaders. Their relationship is good, and there are no problems, although matters have not been discussed in detail.

Datuk Rais said that in their talk DAP leaders acknowledged that the special rights of Malays are not subject to debate. In spite of that, many people still stamp DAP as anti-Malay.

He emphasized the importance of cooperation between the Spirit of '46 and DAP, since that party has the support of more Chinese than MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association].

The Spirit of '46 leader also said that party officials had 14 times held talks with PAS leaders Haji Fadzil Noor and Haji Subky Latif and that they had reached agreement with regard to the Islamic Community Unity Movement [Angkatan].

According to Datuk Rais, the agreement included a platform promoting the creation of democracy and acceptance of Islam as "al-din" [the religion].

The openness of the Spirit of '46 was welcomed by DAP leaders, who had no problem in working with the party as they had with UMNO and MCA.

Nevertheless, realizing the strong opposition of Chinese voters to the creation of an Islamic state as urged by PAS, DAP not only clearly indicated its opposition to the idea but also launched a vigorous campaign charging that MCA supports the Islamic state concept by its endorsement of the bill on administration of Islamic law (amended) in the Selangor State Legislature on 19 July.

Perhaps the MCA members of the Selangor Legislature made a mistake, as they admitted themselves. In that case, DAP should not make the mistake a basis for attacking MCA, especially since some people continue to feel that DAP is anti-Malay, as Datuk Rais pointed out.

Mislead

DAP leaders should remember that Dr Mahathir took bold, immediate steps to resolve that issue. By continuing to use the issue, DAP may be trying to mislead the public while hurting its own image. The same is not true of MCA, which successfully resolved the matter to the satisfaction of BN leaders.

Actually, UMNO itself is not in favor of the formation of an Islamic state. UMNO has supported Islam as the official religion of the country, as provided in the Constitution. Likewise, the party is committed to protecting Islamic teachings and values, as called for in the Constitution, which also demands respect for all other religions and guarantees to each person the liberty to follow and practice his own religion.

The division of Malays into PAS and UMNO when the Federation of Malaya was created was because UMNO was not in favor of an Islamic state, as PAS proposed. But PAS will not run away from its commitment to an Islamic state.

The results of several recent by-elections show clearly that DAP has lost some of its voters to MCA because of DAP's reported cooperation with PAS.

Voter support for DAP is expected to keep falling if it does not act decisively and stand at the side of UMNO, MCA, MIC, and other BN component parties in opposing the PAS call for creation of an Islamic state.

This is expected to be the most important issue in the next general elections, which are also being called a referendum on the Islamic state concept.

I, too, want a democratic, parliamentary government based on two parties, as provided in the Constitution. But I will not vote for Angkatan, in spite of PAS promises to keep the existing Constitution and respect the Rukunegara [Malaysian state ideology].
Balanga, Bataan—The top commander in Southern Bataan of the New People's Army was captured early the other day in a safehouse in Samal town.

Bataan provincial commander Lt. Col. Ramsey Ocampo identified him as Abner Hizarsa, also known in Bataan as Ricardo Silvestre, 37, married, of J. P. Rizal St., Makati, Metro Manila.

Also captured were Silvestre's three closein security men known by their aliases as "Ka Demy," "Ka Choy," and "Ka Ador," all of barangay Taga-ilog, Samal.

Ocampo said elements of the PC, Army, police and CAFGU under assistant provincial commander Major Ameto Tolentino were about to close in on the rebels' safehouse when they were met by gunfire.

Ocampo said the soldiers returned fire and advanced to the house, shouting to Silvestre and his men to surrender. Instead of giving up, the rebels engaged the soldiers in a five-minute firefight which resulted in the wounding of Pfc. Blendo Guinoo, a member of the 68th Infantry Battalion.

Taken by the soldiers from the house were collection letters addressed to 52 fishpond owners and a list of small fishermen paying P300,000 a month to the rebels.

Ocampo said Silvestre is one of the ten most wanted NPA leaders in Bataan. He was first arrested in May, 1977, and released by Camp Olivas authorities in 1978. He was again arrested in 1980 but escaped three days later.

Two weeks ago, Constabulary soldiers led by Capt. Sahiron Salem killed the highest-ranking NPA commander in Bataan, Crisostomo Ibarra, alias "Ka Siete," Ocampo said. (Cesar de la Torre).
Drive for Trade With Sultanate Explained

Schemes to boost Oman's export potential of a variety of products are being brought to the Sultanate by a mega mission of Singaporean businessmen next month.

Mr. Mushahid Ali, Charge D'Affaires and Chief of Mission at the Singapore Embassy in Riyadh, told the "Times" that his country was interested in trade-generating investment and in exploring the possibility of buying more from Oman and to see its exports pass through Singapore.

Mr. Ali, who was on a two-day visit to Muscat, said the Asia Pacific region accounted for nearly 21.3 per cent of all global trade and Singapore played a natural pivotal role in the area's trade.

The mission will comprise some 50 senior businessmen from the island, representing the leading 37 companies and high-level officials and will be in Oman from October 20 to 23.

"We would like to see Oman become our partner in trade and investment in all sectors. Trade relations with the Sultanate have risen dramatically and we want to see this trend continue. In fact, we will welcome Omani businessmen who want to use Singapore as their offshore business centre".

Substantial

Of all the AGCC countries, Oman-Singapore trade has been the most substantial with a 65.8 per cent increase registered during the first seven months of this year, compared with figures of the last year. "The volume in currency terms amounted to Singapore $138.8 million when compared with Singapore $135.9 million for all 1988."

The mission will be led by Mr. Ridzwan Dzaifir, Director-General of the Singapore Trade Development Board, an official agency on which both the private and public sectors are represented.

Mr. Marah Husayn Salim, Consul at the Singapore Consulate in Jeddah, who accompanied Mr. Ali to Muscat, said the main exports by Singapore to Oman included timber, electrical and electronic products, jewellery, machinery, paper products and other goods.

To facilitate trade with Oman and other countries in the region, a new Arab Business Centre was opened in May at the Singapore Manufacturers' Association's offices on the island.

Singapore was willing to assist Oman, in several sectors, including high-technology areas, ship-building, port management, telecommunications, construction, computer hardware and general services.

In fact, a major Singapore firm, Informatics has entered into a joint venture with an Omani firm to start a computer training school, Mr. Salim said.

One of the highlights of the mission's visit will be a seminar entitled "Singapore: Your International Trading Partner" on October 21 at the Oman Sheraton Hotel at which Omani businessmen will be presented with several proposals.
Japanese Fund Managers Said Interested in Stock Market

42000010C Bangkok THE NATION in English
14 Sep 89 p 22

[Text] Nippon Life Insurance and other Japanese fund managers have contacted the Securities Exchange of Thailand and showed interest in bringing in pension funds amounting to several billion U.S. dollars to invest in the Thai stock market.

Other foreign investors have also displayed a similar interest to build up their profile in the stock exchange, which yesterday set a new turnover record of Bt3 billion. An offshore fund registered at the Bermuda Triangle has set up an amount of U.S.$12.5 million to invest in Thailand. It is reported that CEF Investment Management Ltd., a member of the CIBC Group of Hong Kong, with Duncan Mount as managing director, intends to set aside U.S.$10 million of this fund, called CEF Fund, to buy stocks in the Thai stock exchange.

Analysts said if the Thai stock market continues to offer high yields, there will be more offshore funds flowing into the Thai market. Apart from offshore funds from Hong Kong, the United Kingdom and Singapore are interested in the Thai stock exchange, but those from Japan are planning seriously to move into the Thai market.

The Japanese pension funds from major insurance companies or other fund managers are now increasingly considering Thailand as a long-term investment base. "The Japanese funds will continue to flow into the Thai market, in so far as the Thai economy is proving to be strong, particularly with a double-digit growth," a well-informed source said.

The Thai stock market is extremely bullish with the massive turnover. It yesterday closed at 724.93, up 2.94 points from Tuesday's close. In the first hour of the session, the SET index climbed to 726.81, but profit-taking in the late session drove it down.

Padaeng Industry was the blue-chip, posting a strong turnover of Bt554 million with a gain of Bt80 a share to Bt1,986. Today it should break Bt2,000. Siam Cement was also active with a turnover of Bt199 million, of which Bt17 million represented bit lot trading. The securities edges up another Bt100 to Bt5,646.


The market capitalization of the Thai stock exchange has reached U.S.$19 billion, up 111 per cent over the end of 1988. Its P/E ratio has climbed to 24.21 times, up 101.25 per cent over the end of 1988.

Despite the strong surge, concern is growing that the stock market is built up on a fragile structure because of inadequate supply. SET officials are accelerating the process of listing, so that 25 new companies can enter the market before the end of November.

They are: Thai Teijin (with Bt100 million in capital), Suraphol Seafood (Bt60 million), Asia Hotel (Bt240 million), Phuket Yacht Club (Bt82 million), Thai Pineapple (Bt120 million), GSS Electronics (Bt60 million), Thai Wire Products (Bt40 million), Thai Metal Tank Industry (Bt50 million), Alucon (Bt20 million), Union Mosaic (Bt160 million), Royal Ceramic (Bt180 million), First City Investment (Bt250 million), Securities One (Bt40 million), Thon Buri Hospital (Bt75 million), Phoenix Pulping and Paper (Bt951.94 million), Man Khong Housing Estate (Bt120 million), Tropical Canning (Bt30 million), Thana Phum (Bt1 billion), Thai Asahi Glass (Bt175 million), Quality House (Bt32 million), Thai Sugar Terminal (Bt50 million), Matichon Publishing Group (Bt90 million), Thai Rung Textile (Bt300 million), Burungraj Hospital (Bt200 million) and Sanyo Universal (Bt100 million).

- SET yesterday approved a guidelines for companies to issue warrants in which the issuers are required to be listed firms for more than three years, maturities of warrants must be less than five years, the amount must not exceed 30 per cent of the capital fund and the exercise should be more than one months.

Bangkok Bank of Commerce and Star Block have applied to issue warrants in the stock exchange. But Star Block will not be eligible since it has been listed for three years.

Trat MP Dealings With Cambodia Trade, Friendship

42000010A Bangkok THE NATION in English
10 Sep 89 p 7

[Text] As a businessman-cum-politician, Thanit Traivudh has never given up on his hopes of improving Thai-Cambodian relations through cross-border trade although peace in the war-torn country is still far off.

Whatever the future holds for Cambodia, trade between the two countries has been growing steadily, though rather quietly, at the border and Thanit strongly believes there is still plenty of room for expansion.

Thanit, a first-time MP from the eastern border province for Trat who left the Prachachon Party for the Chat Thai Party, is in an ideal position to help implement the Chatichai administration's policy to turn the Indochinese battlefield into a marketplace.

Now he advocated clearing out the three Khmer resistance forces from the Thai border areas to facilitate international talks to settle the 11-year-old conflict in Cambodia, of which Thailand may serve as a coordinator.

Japanese Fund Managers Said Interested in Stock Market

42000010C Bangkok THE NATION in English
14 Sep 89 p 22

[Text] Nippon Life Insurance and other Japanese fund managers have contacted the Securities Exchange of Thailand and showed interest in bringing in pension funds amounting to several billion U.S. dollars to invest in the Thai stock market.

Other foreign investors have also displayed a similar interest to build up their profile in the stock exchange, which yesterday set a new turnover record of Bt3 billion. An offshore fund registered at the Bermuda Triangle has set up an amount of U.S.$12.5 million to invest in Thailand. It is reported that CEF Investment Management Ltd., a member of the CIBC Group of Hong Kong, with Duncan Mount as managing director, intends to set aside U.S.$10 million of this fund, called CEF Fund, to buy stocks in the Thai stock exchange.

Analysts said if the Thai stock market continues to offer high yields, there will be more offshore funds flowing into the Thai market. Apart from offshore funds from Hong Kong, the United Kingdom and Singapore are interested in the Thai stock exchange, but those from Japan are planning seriously to move into the Thai market.

The Japanese pension funds from major insurance companies or other fund managers are now increasingly considering Thailand as a long-term investment base. "The Japanese funds will continue to flow into the Thai market, in so far as the Thai economy is proving to be strong, particularly with a double-digit growth," a well-informed source said.

The Thai stock market is extremely bullish with the massive turnover. It yesterday closed at 724.93, up 2.94 points from Tuesday's close. In the first hour of the session, the SET index climbed to 726.81, but profit-taking in the late session drove it down.

Padaeng Industry was the blue-chip, posting a strong turnover of Bt554 million with a gain of Bt80 a share to Bt1,986. Today it should break Bt2,000. Siam Cement was also active with a turnover of Bt199 million, of which Bt17 million represented bit lot trading. The securities edges up another Bt100 to Bt5,646.


The market capitalization of the Thai stock exchange has reached U.S.$19 billion, up 111 per cent over the end of 1988. Its P/E ratio has climbed to 24.21 times, up 101.25 per cent over the end of 1988.

Despite the strong surge, concern is growing that the stock market is built up on a fragile structure because of inadequate supply. SET officials are accelerating the process of listing, so that 25 new companies can enter the market before the end of November.

They are: Thai Teijin (with Bt100 million in capital), Suraphol Seafood (Bt60 million), Asia Hotel (Bt240 million), Phuket Yacht Club (Bt82 million), Thai Pineapple (Bt120 million), GSS Electronics (Bt60 million), Thai Wire Products (Bt40 million), Thai Metal Tank Industry (Bt50 million), Alucon (Bt20 million), Union Mosaic (Bt160 million), Royal Ceramic (Bt180 million), First City Investment (Bt250 million), Securities One (Bt40 million), Thon Buri Hospital (Bt75 million), Phoenix Pulping and Paper (Bt951.94 million), Man Khong Housing Estate (Bt120 million), Tropical Canning (Bt30 million), Thana Phum (Bt1 billion), Thai Asahi Glass (Bt175 million), Quality House (Bt32 million), Thai Sugar Terminal (Bt50 million), Matichon Publishing Group (Bt90 million), Thai Rung Textile (Bt300 million), Burungraj Hospital (Bt200 million) and Sanyo Universal (Bt100 million).

- SET yesterday approved a guidelines for companies to issue warrants in which the issuers are required to be listed firms for more than three years, maturities of warrants must be less than five years, the amount must not exceed 30 per cent of the capital fund and the exercise should be more than one months.

Bangkok Bank of Commerce and Star Block have applied to issue warrants in the stock exchange. But Star Block will not be eligible since it has been listed for three years.

Trat MP Dealings With Cambodia Trade, Friendship

42000010A Bangkok THE NATION in English
10 Sep 89 p 7

[Text] As a businessman-cum-politician, Thanit Traivudh has never given up on his hopes of improving Thai-Cambodian relations through cross-border trade although peace in the war-torn country is still far off.

Whatever the future holds for Cambodia, trade between the two countries has been growing steadily, though rather quietly, at the border and Thanit strongly believes there is still plenty of room for expansion.

Thanit, a first-time MP from the eastern border province for Trat who left the Prachachon Party for the Chat Thai Party, is in an ideal position to help implement the Chatichai administration's policy to turn the Indochinese battlefield into a marketplace.

Now he advocated clearing out the three Khmer resistance forces from the Thai border areas to facilitate international talks to settle the 11-year-old conflict in Cambodia, of which Thailand may serve as a coordinator.
His trip to Phnom Penh in January was successful in getting the He Samring/Hun Sen administration to release 20 Thai fishermen arrested for allegedly fishing in the Cambodian waters. Next in March he organized a trip to Cambodia's border province of Koh Kong; about 200 people, including MP's, reporters and Trat businessmen, joined him in a pha pa Buddhist religious ceremony. This time he secured the release of nearly 300 Thai fishermen and gems miners from Cambodian jails.

Thanit's contributions to promoting Thai-Cambodian trade also resulted in the opening and growth of border trade between Trat's Klong Yai district and Koh Kong. Now he is working on the abolition of bans on the export of some strategic goods to Cambodia.

Thanit is seeking Commerce Ministry approval for Thai traders to import logs from Cambodia without having to open letters of credit. He has proposed that shipments of Thai exports to Cambodia be made at the Sattahip port instead of sending the goods to Singapore for re-export to the Indochinese country.

He told THE NATION last week that Thailand would be in the most advantageous position if the Thai government minimizes restrictions and allows Thai businessmen to trade directly with their Cambodian counterparts under normal trade conditions.

Thai consumer products are popular in Cambodia. About 50 per cent of the goods on sale in most Cambodian urban areas are produced in Thailand, but mostly sold to Cambodia through indirect transactions in which Japanese, Taiwanese and Singaporeans serve as middlemen. Thai traders so far are reaping only marginal benefits from the trade because of restrictions.

However, Thanit noted that the opening of border trade between Klong Yai district and Koh Kong in recent months has noticeably improved the business in Trat and nearby provinces.

Before entering national politics, Thanit, a five-time mayor of Trat's Muang district, had already made a fortune in oil, ice, seafood and sawmill operating businesses.

With his extensive business experience and connections with several leading "comrades" of Koh Kong, makes him a natural promoter of the border trade.

One of Thanit's close friends in Koh Kong is Governor Rung Phromkesorn, whom he had worked with when Rung took refuge in Klong Yai during the rule of the Pol Pot-led Khmer Rouge regime in Cambodia (1975-1978). Rung returned to Koh Kong after the Khmer Route was overthrown in early 1979 by the invading Vietnamese forces. In 1983 Thanit was appointed sole distributor of marine products caught by the Cambodians in Koh Kong.

Besides marine products, Thanit was also the first Thai businessman allowed by the Phnom Penh administration to import logs from Cambodia. It appears that he is the only Thai with such a logging deal in hand.

The first shipment of Khmer logs imported by Thanit arrived in Trat in March and the contract was renewed almost immediately for delivery of about 100,000 cubic metres of hardwood to Thanit's Por Phaiboon sawmill. This solve Thanit's problem at the sawmill, while others face a great deal of difficulty in security timber supply because of the nation-wide logging ban in Thailand since January.

Thanit's latest business venture with Cambodia was the export of locally-assembled Mitsubishi Lancer Champ II sedans to Cambodia. The first shipment of 30 cars was shipped last month and Thanit expects the sale in that country to each at least 100 vehicles a month in the near future as the price of the car is comparable to that of second-hand cars from Singapore and Japan.

But life has not always been rosy for Thanit. His rivals have nick-named him "Mafia Boss of Koh Kong". They also accuse him of smuggling Vietnamese refugees into Thailand, trading of counterfeit products and supporting large-scale plantation of marijuana in Cambodia.

Thanit, however, has denied the accusations as groundless, saying he need not go into illegal activities because he already has more than enough for a bachelor like him.

'Democratic Soldiers' Issue Appeal on Cambodia Policy

42070002 Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 19 Sep 89 pp 1, 19

[Summary] On 18 September the Democratic Soldiers Movement issued an appeal for neutrality in the Cambodian civil war, saying that the participants are fighting on Thai territory following the failure of the Paris conference and that the fighting "is growing to the point where it will be a serious danger to Thailand if Thailand does not immediately change its policies." The Democratic Soldiers outlined such a policy more than 10 years ago.

The two ways to solve the Cambodia problem are: 1) for Thailand to exercise a policy of strict neutrality; and 2) for the warring Cambodians to withdraw from Thai territory. The Democratic Soldiers cite Prime Ministerial Order No 66/23 as it applies to "People's War" and neutrality: "The government and people of Thailand as well as foreigners residing in Thailand are to exercise strict neutrality in the civil war in Cambodia pursuant to the provisions of international law on civil war." The appeal cited specifically the 1949 Geneva Convention on the rights and duties of neutral countries and their citizens as they apply to land, shore, seaports and airspace.
The appeal called on all parties to the war in Cambodia to withdraw from Battambang and Phibun Songkhram [sic] provinces, which are Thai territory, according to the 1941 Tokyo Treaty between Thailand and France.

Priorities for 7th NESDB Plan May Shift
42000010D Bangkok THE NATION in English
2 Sep 89 pp 1, 2

[Text] For the first time in 28 years the national economic and social development plan will de-emphasize growth and stress instead income distribution as the priority objective in national development, the chairman of the country's planning agency said yesterday.

Dr Amnuay Viravan said the Seventh National Economic and Social Development Plan (1992-1996) will lay out guidelines to "create opportunity for everyone," particularly in education.

Equal distribution of income does not mean giving money away, he said, but creating opportunity and restoring the quality of life, which has been affected by industrialization and urbanization.

Amnuay was speaking at a seminar organized by the Human Resources Institute of Thammasat University of "Population and Economic Development", held at the Asia Pattaya Hotel.

The chairman said that the Seventh Plan will place primary importance on income distribution rather than economic stability and growth, representing a radical departure from conventional development objectives.

Development efforts during the Sixth Plan have resulted in increasing urban concentration which reduces the "quality of life". Investment policy under the plan is too rigid, and does not reflect the different capabilities of each region, he said.

Infrastructure development is too concentrated in Bangkok, which areas with infrastructure totalled 6.8 millions square metres in 1986, compared to 1 million sq metres in the Central Region and 580,000 sq metres in the Northeast. The growth impetus from the Sixth Plan, however, will be left untouched until its period expires in 1991, Amnuay said.

Dr Supachai Panichpakdi, chairman of the subcommittee on planning macroeconomic models, said the Seventh Plan's scope would be broad for the sake of simplicity, unlike the Sixth Plan, parts of which were too detailed and impractical.

He said that by making income distribution the top objective in the plan, various sub-committee members have been forced to change the way they think about development. But no one has objected, he added.

The sub-committee chairman said that education is the key to a better distribution of income. Past plans have only emphasized education from the secondary level up, but equal opportunity in primary education would allow for greater mobility.

In particular, poor children should be given financial support for their schooling. "[They] should not be expected to eat steak at 15-16 years old if they ate fermented fish when they were young," Supachai commented.

He also suggested that the private sector should be given incentives to set up a fund to support food programmes for poor children.

The questions of the rigidity of the educational system and biases in favour of degrees were also raised. Supachai cited the general belief that the cleverest people should study medicine, stating that these sort of preconceived notions do not mean students will maximize their contribution to society.

On the economic front, the chairman said that a relentless push for growth would only lead to excessive inflation and trade deficits. "We should create stability in the distribution of income, so that the country is sheltered from external pressures, such as the formation of the European Community's Single Market, foreign interest rates and the exchange movements."

Supachai said the success in reducing the population growth rate from 2.8 per cent 30 years ago to 1.5 per cent will result in the burden being shifted from having to take care of children to taking care of elderly people.

Dr Mantana Panniramai, of Thammasat University's Faculty of Economics, said population will become a key factor in the Seventh Plan. The expenditure patterns of individuals will change so that spending on food will decline in relation to total wealth. The increase in the working population younger than 35 years old will grow faster than those over 35 during the period 1985-2005.

Manpower training and technology will play an increasing role in development, the economist pointed out.

NESDB Role Change, Priorities Discussed
42000012A Bangkok THE NATION in English
29 Sep 89 p 3

[Text] The Seventh Economic and Social Development Plan (1992-96) will transform the country's think-tank agency from "a stern supervisor" to "an easy-going helmsman", a senior planning agency official said yesterday.

Bitter attacks by civil servants, who have accused the agency of meddling in their internal affairs, will also be partly responsible for the agency's transformation.

Phayab Phayormyont, director of the Human Resource Planning Division of the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB), said
that the seventh plan's shift in focus from economic stabilization to equitable profit sharing has caused NESDB to change its own priorities.

Phayab was talking to leading technocrats and university lecturers at the Ministry of University Affairs' annual seminar.

NESDB will view the country's economic and social development from a different perspective, the agency's director said. Economic prosperity and social development will be given equal importance and will form the cornerstone of the overall development strategy.

Human resources and industry must be developed together to avoid social strife. In contrast with previous economic development plans, the seventh plan will serve as a broad framework in which ministries and related agencies will have room to work out implementation procedures on their own.

Having learned that "top-down" method of planning, adhered to over the past 20 years, and the "bottom-up" thinking method, used over the past two years, do not work, NESDB has decided to sound out public and private sector opinions at a Joint Public-Private Sectors Consultative Committee meeting before further developing its strategy.

Moreover, it plans to hold a brain-storming session during which media representatives will be invited to air their ideas—both pro and con.

It is hoped that the plan will help bridge a gaping hole that exists between the rich and the poor in addition to providing some balance between rural and urban dwellers.

During the waning years of the current (sixth) plan, shortages of skilled workers and inadequate infrastructure facilities appear unavoidable. Meanwhile, the cost of imported machinery and manufacturing expertise continues to climb, Phayab noted.

Questionnaires returned by 500 companies promoted by the Board of Investment, showed that demand for unskilled workers who have finished six years of compulsory education, constituted only 65 per cent of demand for labour, compared with 85 per cent a few years ago.

The companies said they were seeking additional secondary graduates, who are expected to perform complicated jobs, while 75 per cent of people entering the labour market each year have just completed level 6.

Thailand's bleak record in education is also of major concern to the agency. Enrollment in secondary schools in Thailand is low compared with other Asian countries. By the end of 1991, the Ministry of Education wants to boost the rate from the present 45 per cent to 50 per cent, 10 per cent less than was projected earlier.

However, the agency remains optimistic that the old demand and supply mechanism will work, luring more students into secondary school education.

This NESDB, however, balks at the idea of extending the compulsory education period from 6 to 9 years. Young people regardless of their family background should be given a fair chance in education.

Defending the government's huge spending on universities, Phayab said that some of the arguments concerning the role of public and private investment in producing graduate students are misleading. He argued that a large portion of the government budget for research and development is included in the total spending for universities, while none of the privately-run institutions set aside funds for academic research.

He further noted that a survey conducted by the office showed that the private sector was increasingly worried that university graduates lack business ethics and discipline.

Those surveyed asserted that punctuality, honesty, responsibility and the ability to cooperate are as equally important as intelligence.

Education will be examined for its abilities of helping the population to cope with rapid changes in daily life caused by industrial and economic development.

Phayab said NESDB wants parallel development between the education and economic systems in order to satisfy broader community needs.

**Labor Leader Discusses State Enterprises, Privatization**

42070003 Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai 25 Sep 89 pp 66, 67

[Interview with State Enterprise Workers’ Union Secretary General Ekachai Ekhankamon; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN] Discuss the labor crisis in state enterprises over the past year.

[Ekhankamon] [passage omitted] The way I see things, government policy and labor in the state enterprises are in rather serious conflict in that the government is trying to promote investment and attract foreign capitalists to come in and invest in Thailand while at the same time the government is greatly accelerating production of goods for export. So the government is doing everything it can to boost production and privatize state enterprises to the greatest extent possible.

[SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN] What is likely to lead to the transformation of state enterprises?

[Ekhankamon] Right now, I can see many state enterprises with problems. We can talk about the waterworks, telephones, the Port Authority, Thai International Airways. As for these big outfits, even though there has been...
promotion of the state enterprises with efforts underway to sell them to the private sector, the private sector makes me think that the state enterprise unions cannot go along with this; we would be in conflict with each other.

With the government running things in policy matters, if the administration of the state enterprises is not consistent with government policy, they can just change the enterprise administration. But not by playing favorites. I really find it disgusting when they do that. They shouldn't just try to privatize if things are being run badly. They really should do things step by step, and there are a lot of steps left in which the government could make changes.

[SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN] How sincere is the government in solving state enterprise problems?

[Ekhankamon] The way I see it, the government is solving the state enterprise problem only in the short term. When something comes up, the government acts precipitously. For example, with the Thai International problem, they tried to put its stock on the stock market. When a fuss was made over that, the government backed off for a while. There should be plans for this kind of thing and they should be long term. This ought to be the policy of the whole government, so that the Social Action Party [SAP] does not say one thing and Thai Nation [TNP] another. Thai International saw right away that the Finance Ministry, especially Pramuan in the TNP, was trying to get the stock onto the stock market. However, SAP controls Thai International and they didn't agree. You can see that even the government parties are not in agreement over this. Were it government policy, then you wouldn't have these disagreements. The government is in a rather tough situation, trying to run things with so many parties and factions. That's part of it.

In fact, the state enterprise unions have met with the Prime Minister many times. He says that it is a matter of policy to try to solve labor problems by involving all three sectors: the state, management, and labor. But in fact, in actual practice the government acts unilaterally. Sometimes the other two sides are not involved. So when problems arise, there are misunderstandings if we can't get the three sectors to meet for discussions, as the government claims is done in Australia, where they solve problems by bringing all three sides in for discussions at which time understandings are reached. That's not what happened with the Port Authority, where the government said it would have the private sector run Laem Chabang. At the same time, labor and management thought that port operations there would be taken care of by the Port Authority of Thailand [PAT] from the beginning. That means that for nearly 30 years, the PAT has been running various projects; even the land expropriation was paid for by PAT.

Then along came the Chatchai government, which has told us that it will try to persuade the private sector to invest heavily and encourage it to run things. Isn't this going to cause conflicts? Because with [PAT] running things from the beginning and then with the change in government, the private sector is brought in. I would say for sure that the labor unions are not going to like that at all.

[SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN] How satisfied are you with the way the state has been solving problems?

[Ekhankamon] As far as labor is concerned, we feel that we are still pretty dissatisfied. The more we see the TNP government, the more definite the policy of industrial investment promotion becomes. Given this situation, there will be fewer state enterprises run as such. This is especially so given that in the National Economic and Social Development Board's 6th Plan, they say that they will try to privatize 41 state enterprises. We can clearly see that the government's policy is to try to give the private sector a larger role. That is a lot worse than the previous government.

But if you look at things in general for the labor movement, it looks pretty good in terms of income and government concern for our welfare. For instance, the government is trying to come out with a social security law to create security for workers so that they will have guaranteed incomes. It is also the government's intention to change the law on short-term unemployment. This shows us that the government is improving things in the labor area. [passage omitted]

[SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN] What do you see as coming out of privatization?

[Ekhankamon] In general, the public sees that it ought to be a good thing in the short run. Let me just say that at this time one thing that is holding prices steady is that the state enterprises—the railways, the Bangkok Metropolitan Mass Transit Authority, or other state enterprise service sectors like electricity—are still being sold to the public. Most of the nation's people are poor. This is important. If this is all handed over to the private sector, I definitely think that in the long term, when they can form a monopoly they will set the prices for their services. This is a real threat. We have examples galore of this overseas with those countries we dream about joining as NICs. People get those high incomes, selling more goods etc. Even now in Taiwan people with good incomes cannot buy a place to live because prices are so high. Just through the roof. Even with incomes 4 to 5 times as much as ours, the Taiwanese and Koreans' housing prices are so high that they almost can't buy. It is like that here, too. Striving mightily as we are to become a NIC, which could happen in the next 2 to 3 years, is really frightening. I think it is going to be really hard for the middle class and the poor to have a place to live. That is one of the bad things about our becoming a NIC. Looked at from the standpoint only of production for export, it is very dangerous if we encourage our country to be an agro-industrial country. This will also hurt us.
Police Leadership Announces National Anti-Crime Priorities

[Editorial Report] The 3 October Bangkok MATICHON published on page 1 a 2,000-word report on Thai National Police Department operational priorities. Newly-appointed Metropolitan Police Commander Lt General Winit Chareonsiri and Police Director General Sawaeng Thirasawat gave statements to the press.

Police Commander Winit stated that enforcement efforts will concentrate on the following: 1) crimes against life and property, with emphasis on curtailing racketeering, criminal gang activities, and illegal weapons; 2) traffic problems, illegal parking, and street excavation; 3) public service and community relations; 4) crackdowns on vice dens, gambling, brothels, and forced prostitution; and 5) increased police efficiency and welfare.

Police General Sawaeng told the press that his priorities were: 1) community relations; 2) crime reduction; and 3) furthering the cause of justice.
Draft Law on Trade Unions

902E0032A Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
7 Sep 89 p 3

[Text] To manifest the role of the trade unions in building socialism and defending the fatherland, implementing the concept of "using the people as the source," and guaranteeing the socialist democratic rights of the laborers with the aim of promoting economic, cultural, and social development;

To enable the trade units to perform their functions and carry out their tasks;

Based on articles 10, 32, 83, 86, and 106 of the constitution of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam;

This law stipulates the rights and obligations of the trade unions.

Chapter I

General Stipulations

Article 1: The role, functions, and tasks of the trade unions:

1. The trade unions are the largest mass organizations of the working class and are formed by Vietnamese laborers (hereafter called laborers) based on the Vietnam Trade Union Statute. They are the laborers' socialist schools and schools of economic management and state management. They are an important element in the political system of Vietnamese society. They are a motive force in developing socialist democracy and building socialism in our country.

2. The trade unions represent and protect the rights and legitimate interests of the laborers. They educate the laborers concerning their role as masters of the country, concerning their responsibilities in building socialism and defending the fatherland, and concerning disciplined and technical labor with high productivity and high quality with the aim being to expand the socialist commodity economy, look after the health and the material and spiritual lives of the laborers, and build an ever stronger Vietnamese working class.

3. The trade unions participate in state activities. They participate in managing the economy and society and in implementing the control rights based on the stipulations in this law.

Article 2: Right to establish trade unions:

1. The state guarantees the laborers' right to form and join a trade union based on the Vietnam Trade Union Statute.

It is not necessary to obtain permission to form a trade union subordinate to the system of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions. But this must be reported to the administrative and economic organizations concerned so that activities can be coordinated.

2. Trade unions at all echelons must be organized based on the Vietnam Trade Union Statute, and they have the status of juristic entities.

3. Vietnamese laborers working abroad have the right to form a trade union based on the agreement between the government of Vietnam and the local government.

Foreign laborers working in Vietnam have the right to form their own trade union in accord with Vietnamese law.

4. If a labor association joins the Vietnamese Federation of Trade Unions or is sponsored by a trade union, that trade union represents the rights and legal interests of that association.

Article 3: Principles concerning the relationship between the trade unions and the administrative and economic organizations:

1. In engaging in some activity, trade unions must obey the constitution and the laws. They must correctly manifest the desires, will power, and interests of the laborers and, at the same time, guarantee the common interests of all of society.

The state organizations must respect the organizational interests and rights of the trade unions based on the law. They must enable the trade unions to become self-reliant in carrying on both internal and external activities.

2. With respect to certain issues, this law gives the trade unions the right to contribute ideas to the administrative and state economic organizations. In such cases, the agencies and organizations concerned must study the ideas of the trade unions before making a decision.

With respect to certain issues, this law stipulates that debates must be held and that there must be unanimity between the trade unions and the organizations concerned. In such cases, the parties concerned must discuss the issues together in order to reach an agreement before making a decision. In cases in which they cannot reach an agreement, the matter must be submitted to an arbitration organization that has the power to resolve the matter.

3. In private economic organizations and enterprises with foreign investment, the trade unions will represent the laborers in negotiations with the managers or owners of the enterprises on issues related to the rights and legitimate interests of the laborers. They will contribute ideas to the managers or owners concerning obeying the laws of the state.

Chapter II

Rights and Obligations of Trade Unions

Article 4: Trade union participation in building state organizations:
1. The trade unions must educate the laborers so that they exercise their democratic rights in electing people to the various-echelon state organizations. During elections, the trade unions must organize the laborers and recommend candidates who will represent the will power and wishes of the laborers.

2. The trade unions must recommend to the state organizations those people who have the qualifications to be trained and become economic management and state management cadres.

Before appointing economic management cadres at the various echelons, the organizations with jurisdiction must study the ideas of the same-echelon trade union executive committee in accord with the stipulations of the Council of Ministers.

Article 5: Trade union participation in formulating laws:

1. The Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions has the power to submit draft laws to the National Assembly and to the Council of State. It can submit motions to the Council of Ministers on draft laws and legal documents concerned with the rights and interests of the laborers.

2. The trade unions must participate with the state organizations in formulating draft laws directly related to the rights, obligations, and interests of the laborers. They must organize and mobilize the laborers to contribute ideas on formulating legal documents when people's ideas are sought.

3. The trade unions must contribute to educating the laborers on the laws and motivating each person to obey the laws.

Article 6: Trade union participation in formulating and implementing economic and social development plans:

1. The trade unions must contribute ideas to the state organizations and state-operated economic organizations in formulating economic strategies and policies, designing management mechanisms, and formulating economic and social development plans.

The administrative and state economic organizations must create favorable conditions to enable same-echelon trade unions to participate effectively in formulating the above draft laws.

2. The trade unions must coordinate things with the administrative organizations and other organizations concerned in organizing labor emulation movements, manifesting the creative potential of the laborers, stimulating scientific and technical advances, and renovating the management organizations in order to have high productivity, good quality, and good results and successfully fulfill the socioeconomic plans formulated.

The trade unions must submit motions to the organizations with jurisdiction concerning rewarding those collectives and laborers who score achievements during the emulation movements.

Article 7: Trade union representatives must attend conferences and participate on the councils of the administrative and state economic organizations:

1. The president of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions has the right to attend conferences of the Council of Ministers. The presidents of the various-echelon trade unions will be invited to attend the meetings of the same-echelon administrative and state economic organizations when socioeconomic issues and other issues related to the obligations and interests of the laborers are being discussed. When attending these meetings, the trade union representatives must reflect the aspirations of the laborers and submit necessary motions.

2. Sector trade unions, local trade unions, and trade unions in state economic organizations must send representatives to participate on advisory councils of the same-echelon administrative and economic organizations.

3. Whenever a trade union makes a request, the administrative or economic organization concerned must send a representative to attend the meeting in order to discuss the problems raised by the laborers or trade unions.

Article 8: Trade union participation in providing jobs and wages and in implementing the social policies with respect to laborers:

1. The trade unions must contribute ideas to the administrative agencies and other organizations concerned on formulating plans to employ laborers and provide laborers with jobs.

When there are draft laws on rearranging the organizations and this rearrangement will greatly reduce the number of work positions, the administrative or economic organizations must discuss things with the trade unions. They must discuss providing jobs and guaranteeing the rights of the laborers based on the law.

2. The trade unions must participate with the state organizations in formulating labor and wage policies and measures and other social policies directly related to the interests of the laborers.

Before making a decision on the above policies and measures, the Council of Ministers must hold a debate and carefully examine the motions submitted by the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions.

Article 9: The trade unions must protect the laborers and improve working conditions:

1. The trade unions must participate with the state organizations in formulating technical and safety standards and in formulating policies and measures to protect the laborers. They must also participate in formulating plans to improve working conditions and protect the environment.

The trade unions must educate the laborers so that they obey the labor protection regulations.
2. The trade unions have the right to make inspections to ensure that the labor protection laws are being carried out. Whenever they discover a work place that poses a danger to the life of the laborers, the trade unions have the right to submit a motion to the authorities asking them to temporarily shut down operations there and immediately implement measures to maintain labor safety.

3. The trade unions must appoint representatives to participate in making on-the-spot inspections and preparing records on labor accidents. They must also submit motions to the state organizations asking them to prosecute those responsible for the labor accident.

4. The Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions must coordinate things with the state organizations concerned in organizing scientific and technical studies on labor safety and suggest programs to make use of the scientific and technical advances in protecting laborers and improving working conditions.

Article 10: The trade unions must give attention to providing social insurance for laborers:

1. Together with the state organizations and organizations concerned, the trade unions must formulate policies and laws on social insurance and carry out their responsibilities in providing social insurance to the laborers in accord with the laws.

2. The trade unions must expand and manage the rest homes and organize rest periods and trips for the laborers.

Article 11: The trade unions must give attention to raising the professional standards of the laborers and improving their cultural lives. They must also participate in formulating and implementing a housing policy for laborers.

1. Together with the organizations concerned, the trade unions must take steps to raise the professional standards of the laborers and increase their cultural and scientific and technical knowledge.

2. The trade unions must submit ideas to the administrative organizations on investing in and formulating plans to build housing and on formulating policies and distributing housing to the laborers. They must give attention to the cultural lives and recreational activities of the laborers.

3. In conjunction with the organizations concerned, the trade unions must mobilize the laborers to implement population planning and build the new cultural family.

Article 12: The trade unions must examine the implementation of the labor laws and labor policies:

1. The trade unions must examine the implementation of the laws concerning the rights of the trade unions and labor collectives, jobs, wages, and labor protection, the distribution of housing, and other issues related to the interests of the laborers. When inspecting things, the trade unions have the right to ask the people in charge of the enterprises, agencies, and organizations to answer the questions posed. They also have the right to propose that violators be prosecuted.

2. The state organizations with jurisdiction must examine the motions made by the trade unions and notify the trade unions of the results. If a matter cannot be resolved, the reasons must be stated clearly.

The trade unions must monitor the handling of the complaints and accusations of the laborers and take steps to ensure that these are handled in accord with the law.

Chapter III

Rights and Obligations of Primary Level Trade Unions

Article 13: Primary level trade unions:

Primary level trade unions (hereafter called trade unions) are established at production, business, and service units and at organizations based on the stipulations contained in the Vietnam Trade Union Statute. Through their executive committee, they represent the laborers in the unit and work to protect their legitimate rights and interests.

Even laborers who are not trade union members have the right to ask the trade union executive committee to represent and protect them in court and before the organizations concerned.

Item I

Trade Unions in the State Enterprises (Including National Defense Enterprises)

Article 14: The trade unions must implement the ownership rights of the labor collectives in the enterprises:

1. The trade unions must contribute ideas to the enterprise directors and enterprise councils in preparing issues to be raised at the congress of workers and civil servants.

2. Together with the enterprise director, the trade union executive committee must formulate and sign collective contracts and ensure that the decisions of the congress of workers and civil servants are implemented.

3. The trade union executive committees must recommend people for election to the enterprise council and participate with the enterprise council in implementing the ownership rights of the labor collectives and manifesting the role of the worker control boards.

Article 15: Trade union participation in enterprise management:

1. The trade union executive committees must contribute ideas to the directors in managing the enterprises, implementing profit-and-loss accounting, ensuring that
production and business activities achieve results, and maintaining the all-round expansion of the enterprises.

2. Together with the directors, the trade union executive committees must organize socialist emulation movements and mobilize the laborers to fulfill the enterprise plans.

3. The trade unions must participate in resolving labor disputes based on the laws.

4. The trade union executive committees must participate in organizing votes of confidence or election of enterprise management cadres. They must contribute ideas on promoting, rewarding, and disciplining enterprise management cadres.

Article 16: Trade union participation in implementing the labor laws and policies:

1. The trade union executive committees must contribute ideas to the directors regarding the implementation of the labor, wage, and bonus policies and laws and the implementation of other labor measures in the enterprises.

2. Before making decisions on the following matters, the director must discuss things with the trade union executive committee in order to have unanimity:
   a. Standards and targets to whom housing is to be distributed.
   b. The names of people who have been given annual raises.
   c. Enforcement of discipline to the point of dismissing laborers or canceling a labor contract.

   In cases in which unanimity cannot be reached, the matter must be submitted to the arbitration council for examination and resolution. The decision of this council is final. The arbitration council is composed of a representative from the local administration, who serves as council chairman, and representatives from the same-echelon labor federation, the enterprise director, and representatives from the enterprise trade union. The Council of Ministers will stipulate the operating statutes of the arbitration councils.

Item II

Trade Unions in the Administrative Organizations

Article 17: 1. The trade unions must contribute ideas to the heads of the organizations on improving the work, improving organization, improving work methods, and implementing the labor, wage, promotion, bonus, and discipline policies for cadres, workers, and civil servants. Together with the heads of the organizations, they must look after the material and spiritual lives of the cadres, workers, and civil servants.

2. Together with the heads of the organizations, the trade union executive committees must organize worker and civil servant congresses and elect worker control boards in accord with the provisions of the law.

3. Labor disputes in the administrative organizations must be resolved in accord with the provisions of Paragraph 2, Article 16, of this law.

Item III

Trade Unions in the Small Industry and Handicrafts Cooperatives

Article 18: 1. The trade union executive committees must coordinate things with the cooperative management boards to implement the ownership rights of the cooperative members in accord with the cooperative's statutes. They must mobilize people to implement the resolution of the cooperative member congresses and the regulations of the cooperative.

2. In conjunction with the management boards, the trade union executive committees must organize socialist emulation movements in the cooperatives with the aim of fulfilling the production and business plans.

3. The trade union executive committees must contribute ideas to the management boards on implementing the resolutions of the cooperative member congresses, managing the cooperatives, and implementing the policies and laws on labor and other spheres.

4. Whenever there is a labor dispute, if the trade union executive committee and the cooperative management board cannot resolve the dispute, the matter must be presented at a cooperative member congress for examination and resolution.

Item IV

Trade Unions in Joint Venture Enterprises and Private Vietnamese Enterprises

Article 19: Trade unions in joint venture enterprises:

1. The trade unions must educate and mobilize the laborers to fulfill the tasks and protect the interests of the laborers, of the various parties concerned, and of the state.

2. The trade union executive committees must contribute ideas to the enterprise directors (or management councils) concerning managing the enterprises and obeying the business and labor laws and submit motions on solving the problems related to the interests of the laborers.

3. When discussing and resolving problems related to the interests of the laborers, the enterprise directors must invite representatives from the trade union executive committee to attend.

4. Whenever there is a labor dispute, the trade union executive committee must negotiate with the enterprise director or management council. If the matter cannot be
resolved, it must be submitted to the arbitration council based on the provisions in Paragraph 2, Article 16, of this law.

Article 20: Trade unions in private enterprises:
1. The trade unions must educate and mobilize the laborers to fulfill the tasks and protect the interests of the laborers, of the businessmen, and of the state.
2. The trade union executive committees must represent the laborers in negotiating and signing collective labor contracts with the enterprise director or owner and solve the problems that arise in carrying out the labor contracts.
3. The trade union executive committees must give ideas to the enterprise directors or owners concerning obeying the commercial production and labor laws.
4. Labor disputes that arise in private enterprises must be resolved in accord with the provisions in Paragraph 4, Article 19, of this law.

Item V

Trade Unions in Enterprises With Foreign Investment Capital

Article 21: 1. The trade unions must educate and mobilize the laborers to fulfill the tasks and protect the interests of the laborers, of the investors, and of the state.
2. The trade union executive committees must represent the laborers in signing collective labor contracts with the enterprise directors (or directors general) based on the laws on foreign investment in Vietnam. They must solve the problems that arise in the process of carrying out the labor contracts.
3. The trade union executive committees must give ideas to the enterprise directors or directors general on obeying the laws on foreign investment in Vietnam and the labor laws.
4. The trade union executive committees must represent the laborers (including foreign laborers if they make a request) in protecting the rights and legitimate interests of the laborers during negotiations with the enterprise director or director general.

Whenever there is a labor dispute, the trade union executive committee must negotiate with the director or director general. If the two sides can't reach an agreement, the local labor service must resolve the issue.

Chapter IV

Guarantees for Trade Union Activities

Article 22: Trade union cadres:
1. The agency heads, enterprise directors, and cooperative management boards are responsible for creating favorable conditions to enable the trade union cadres to carry on activities.
2. When primary level trade union cadres stop working full time in this capacity, the agency heads and enterprise directors must assign them suitable work and pay them wages according to the policies and procedures.
3. The executive committee must approve the job transfer, dismissal, or cancellation of a labor contract in the case of people who are members of the trade union executive committee. In the case of the chairman of the trade union executive committee, this must be approved by the trade union executive committee at the next higher echelon.

Article 23: Providing the means for trade union activities:

The various-echelon authorities, the heads of the organizations, and the enterprise directors are responsible for providing the same-echelon trade union with an office and the means necessary to carry on trade union activities.

Article 24: Trade union finances:

The various-echelon authorities, enterprises, and organizations must set aside some money for the trade union funds in accord with the stipulations of the Council of Ministers.

Article 25: Trade union assets:

The assets of the trade unions include buildings, scientific research installations, arts and letters and sports projects, rest homes, means of communications, trade union funds (including foreign currency funds), and other lawful assets. These assets belong to the trade unions and are socialist property. They are recognized and protected by the law.

Chapter V

Implementation Clauses

Article 26: This law replaces the Trade Union Law of 5 November 1957.

Article 27: The Council of Ministers will stipulate the details on the implementation of this law after discussing it with the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions.

MILITARY

General Discusses Pressing Needs of Standing Army

902E00414 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Aug 89 pp 19-25

[Article by Maj Gen Tran Trac, Rear Services General Department]

[Text] The regular troops are the activist forces of the people's armed forces in a war of liberation and in
solidifying national defense and defending the fatherland. A special characteristic of the standing army is that its main task is to fight and train. This is a special type of labor that requires, intelligence, physical power, and blood. No other labor sector or profession in society (regardless of how heavy the work) requires as much blood, physical energy, or intelligence from its workers as does the army. The realities of the past 45 years have shown that tens of thousands of young soldiers and officers have been killed on the battlefield. Tens of thousands of people will bear the scars of war until they die, because they fought for national independence and freedom. The daily press has published stories about officers who went through all three periods of resistance. Many of these men have died between the ages of 57 and 62. The reason why these military officers died at a younger age than other targets has to do with the special nature of military labor. Many people are ill with such diseases as cancer, cardiovascular disease, liver disease caused by malaria, gastrointestinal diseases, and so on.

In view of this, we must implement policies toward the military that are in accord with the objective realities and that will serve as levers in building and consolidating an all-people's national defense, increasing the combat strength of the armed forces, and building a modern army with a rational number of well-trained and experienced men.

The party and state and the people have always been concerned about and looked after the troops. Many of the past policies toward the army and military rear encouraged cadres and soldiers to be loyal to the revolution, to fight bravely, and to be prepared to make sacrifices and devote themselves to serving in the military. But today, the difficulties of the national economy, the complex changes concerning prices, wages, and currency, and the ineffectiveness of the new economic management mechanism have all had a profound effect on the lives of the troops and the military rear. It can be said that today's soldiers do not get enough to eat, and they have not been provided with durable clothing. Housing is limited or very simple, and there is a lack of medical care. But at the same time, the military tasks and operations of the soldiers have developed. The tasks require great physical strength and put greater psychological strain on the troops.

On Policies To Provide Adequate Food for the Troops

Previously, in order to ensure that the troops had enough to eat, they were supplied with materials in kind (only 10–15 percent of their wages were paid in cash for the purchase of sundry items) and in accord with the saying "privates first, higher ranks second." Even though an infantry private earned only 0.68 dong a day, that was enough to buy three meals, which provided about 3,000 calories. During the past 4 years, because of the changes in the mechanism and formulas, especially the price, wage, and currency changes, skyrocketing inflation, the tight money situation, and so on, even though the wages of the soldiers have been increased many times, their standard of living has still declined.

During the past 2 years, the party and state have promulgated almost 70 important documents (resolutions, directives, and decisions of the Central Committee and Council of Ministers, inter-ministry circulars and guidelines of the ministries and sectors, and so on) with the aim of stabilizing the lives of the troops. But because the new economic management mechanism has not been applied in accord with each type of labor, many of the elements have not been implemented fully and many problems and obstacles have arisen. The policy of eliminating state subsidies is correct and so the state has stopped compensating losses. But there are no specific regulations to enable the ministries and commercial sectors to implement formulas to supply things to the military. Even after Council of Ministers Decision No 163 and inter-ministry circulars were issued to provide guidelines for fulfilling the material needs of the troops, the implementation of this encountered many difficulties. When receiving goods, either the goods were delivered late or the quality was poor, which was the case throughout 1988. Even though it never reached the point where the troops did not have anything to eat, there were times when things were uncertain and rations were scanty and of poor quality. For example, infantry soldiers are supposed to receive 2,800 calories a day. But because of the lack of money, they are provided with only 70–80 percent of this amount. Thus, they are taking in only 2,300–2,400 calories a day. As a result, the physical strength of the troops is declining.

Today, the one-price policy has created favorable conditions for improving the lives of the troops. Soldiers have complete control over the cash, they can maintain amounts, and they have the right to choose the types of food they want. However, the key problem is that the finance sector and the banks are providing only a minimum amount of cash, and the troops have to purchase goods at commercial prices.

Previously, the troops needed only 15 percent of their wages paid in cash in order to buy sundry goods. But today, to ensure adequate amounts of food, 50–60 percent of their total wage (except for rice) must be paid in cash so that they can obtain food on the spot.

Recently, many localities paid the units their wages on a quarterly, half-year, or yearly basis. As a result, the troops were always passive. At times they suffered serious shortages while at others there were false surpluses. The units engaged in field operations experienced many difficulties. Tens of thousands of soldiers transferred to another unit or left the service, and students leaving school did not have money to buy things. In some main-force corps (quân đoàn), during a quarter the troops ran up bills of hundreds of millions of dong because they were not paid cash to pay for the items. Also, because only a small amount of cash was issued,
the plan to discharge soldiers was delayed, and many troops who would have been discharged had to be supported at great cost.

In talking about meals, we must also discuss a very important element, that is, grain. At a time when the grain sector has switched to commercial operations, the Ministry of Finance has stipulated that part of the paddy tax must be reserved to provide rice for the armed forces. This correct decision has set the minds of the troops at ease in consolidating reserve quantities and providing daily meals at stable prices (500 dong per kg). But recently, at a number of units along the northern border, the grain reserves have dwindled, and some units are in danger of running out of grain. The main reason is again the mechanism. This is the responsibility of the Central Grain Corporation. For example, since the beginning of February 1989, the General Grain Corporation of the Central Echelon has not hired the Ministry of Communications and Transportation to transport rice to these points in the border provinces, because the Ministry of Finance has refused to compensate it for the losses it may have sustained through the circulation costs for the grain sector. On 30 January 1989, the Central Agricultural Development Bank stipulated that the local grain sectors were to sell rice to the targets (including the army) for cash only. Without cash, the troops could not buy rice and so they had to dig into their reserves. On certain occasions, the Rear Services General Department had to use its own means to transport 3,000 tons of rice to the front.

Another thing is that the people have reserved the good paddy to pay their taxes and so why is the paddy supplied to the troops usually very bad, stale, moist, and moldy? The paddy is often mixed with rice husks and grains of sand. In order to ensure that the quality of the rice supplied to the troops is equal to that supplied to other targets, the state should sell rice at a unified price and sell rice to the army using checks. Each period (perhaps every 6 months), the finance sector and the Central Echelon must submit a resolution to enable the army to restore the food ration of the troops based on Regulation No 42/NDA, which was promulgated by the Council of Ministers in 1956. Specifically, each infantryman must be provided with a daily ration of 60 grams of meat, 40 grams of fish, 30 grams of legumes, sesame, and peanuts, 500 grams of fresh vegetables, 33 grams of fish sauce, 30 grams of salt, and 0.5 grams of seasoning powder. That will provide them with 3,100 calories a day for combat and training.

On Policies To Provide Military Equipment

Some people and a number of members of the National Assembly are unhappy with the uniforms worn by the cadres and soldiers. Few armies in the world wear such simple clothing as ours.

Today's situation in providing military equipment can be summarized by saying that quality is poor, there is too much complexity concerning types, and costs are too high.

Subjectively, the quartermaster sector does not have a strategy for equipping the army and lacks plans for approving quotas. The styles are not in accord with the weather, terrain, or special training and combat conditions. During the past 15 years, there have been only two major changes in uniform styles (K74 and K82), but things are still not unified. Also, the storage of military equipment is a weak element throughout the military.

Along with this, troop uniforms have not yet been standardized. Some are still provided by the state mechanism of previous years and so many things are not in harmony, and there are no clear policies. For many years, the army has not received adequate commodity norms and has had to obtain things from many different sources and production installations. For example, in 1988, the army received only 67 percent of the cloth allocated, and of this, 50-70 percent were type B products. Even lesser quantities of other items such as socks, canvas, dyestuffs, and so on were received. Thus, military uniforms are poor in quality and come in a variety of colors. Each year, the soldiers are issued two uniforms (three for those at the front), but they are soon in tatters. Some places have issued additional clothing from the reserve sources but have still not been able to issue enough. The troops are also owed leather shoes, rubber sandals, raincoats, socks, knapsacks, and so on, or the life of these items has had to be extended.

On the other hand, for many years now, because the policies toward national defense industry producers have been inferior as compared with those toward exporters and producers of civilian-use goods, the sectors, state enterprises, and cooperatives have not wanted to do work on contract for the army. But the Ministry of Light Industry has assigned too many enterprises the task of producing national defense goods. There are seven or eight state enterprises that make clothes for the troops. The “division of responsibilities” has led to national defense production being dispersed, quality is poor, there are too many styles, prices are confused, and supply is duplicated at the end of the year.
Today, there is a large variety of commodities at the markets. The Ministry of Light Industry can supply goods to satisfy the needs (in terms of both quality and quantity and on time) of the army. However, the main obstacle continues to be the lack of budget funds. Little money has been allotted for military equipment, and the funds are not provided regularly or in a stable way.

The Rear Service General Department must submit a proposal to the state to provide military equipment during the new stage, with the initial target being to satisfy the requirements concerning quality, durability, and uniform style. The uniforms issued the troops must meet the standards just like those issued to troops in other countries. This is not too much to ask. Our country has the ability to do this. The key is to determine a mechanism to review thoroughly the measures for monetarizing the military equipment standards. In order economize, it is essential to maintain quality and ensure proper standards, types, and durability.

The Problem of Housing for Troops and National Defense Land

During the 1960s and 1970s, a large percentage of the troops had to live in the homes of the local people. During the past 10 years, because of the great effort made to build barracks, the troops no longer have to live with civilians. But today, a striking thing about the housing of the troops is that the housing is poor and cramped. Most military barracks are level-4 buildings, temporary sheds, and even buildings with dirt or bamboo walls and thatch roofs. The quality of the buildings is poor and the styles are outdated. At the same time, the annual budget for making repairs is only about 20 percent of what is needed. At many of the camps with military hospitals, military academies and schools, and so on, the housing is crumbling. In particular, since the promulgation of the arable land law and the implementation of the "contract 10" policy in agriculture, many localities have demanded that the land used by the military be turned over to them. In some places, the people have held demonstrations in front of the military camps and seized land and fields. As a result, the troops lack land to engage in productive labor, and they lack training fields. This has strained military-civilian relations and weakened order and security.

The Rear Service General Department should ask the state to implement the following policies and measures to provide housing for the troops and manage the national defense land:

a. Standardize the housing system for the troop targets (including soldiers). There must be policies to invest money and supply materials to build housing, make repairs, and improve the camps. As for officers and national defense personnel who live on base, there must be housing standards just as there are for state cadres and civil servants, and things must be planned rationally in order to make it easier to house families when necessary.

b. After the General Staff makes a decision on where it will base a military unit, the Council of Ministers should issue a directive to the local authorities responsible for handling legal procedures on land use and management (housing, schools, firing ranges, training fields, airports, storehouses, and ports) and ensure that each regiment has 2-3 hectares of land for productive labor. There must be a policy to waive the payment of compensation for arable land and land taxes on land used for military purposes.

c. There must be housing distribution and population registration measures for families of military cadres (particularly in the cities, towns, and industrial zones) just as there are for state cadres, workers, and civil servants. Every year, the state should reserve a percentage of the houses built using state investment funds for use by military personnel. The houses should be distributed based on positions and wage levels equivalent to those in the civilian sector. Management of the military family collective zones should be transferred to the localities, and differences between the population centers (territories) and military family zones must be eliminated. The collection of rent, electricity and water fees, and other social welfare fees must be done in a unified way just like in any other population center.

d. Over the long term, a housing allowance should be included in the wages of officers, professional servicemen, and national defense personnel. If the state provides them with housing, they should pay a monthly rent based on the area and quality of the housing. In the rural and mountainous areas, officers can accumulate this money in order to build a house without having to apply Police 47 as at present.

The Ministry of National Defense should study and re-examine the housing distributed to the cadres, stipulate area standards for each target, and stipulate how much rent must be paid. If the area exceeds the standard, either the state must recover part of the area or increase the rent. This will ensure fairness and democracy in life.

A Number of Pressing Problems Concerning Troop Health Policies

The military medical sector is facing great challenges in looking after the health of the troops.

Even though the party, state, and people are concerned about this, many specific policies are still caught between the ministries and state sectors (Ministry of Public Health) and the needs of the troops. The military hospitals, medical units, and clinics are in a state of decline (buildings, equipment, medicines, and so on). Many soldiers stationed along the borders, on the islands, in Cambodia and Laos, and in the Central Highlands during and after the war are suffering from malaria, beri beri, mental disorders, and various terminal diseases. Many wounded soldiers still bear the scars of war. For many years, the minimum needs for drugs and medical equipment have not been satisfied. Even though the state has reserved a portion of its foreign currency to enable...
the military to import a number of medicines, chemicals, medicine to treat malaria, and medical implements, this has not satisfied the needs.

In accord with regulating the strategy to defend the fatherland, reduce the size of the military, and reorganize the standing army, in the coming period the military medical sector must be solidified and reorganized. On one hand, a system of hospitals and treatment units must be planned, and on the other hand, the quality of the examinations, treatment, and rehabilitation must be improved, techniques must be developed, and modern medicine must be coordinated closely with traditional medicine. At the same time, along with reducing the size of the military, the military hospitals must reduce the number of beds, but much attention must be given to a number of targets such as retired cadres, wounded soldiers, the families of war heroes, and the families of officers who need to be examined and treated at zonal military hospitals.

The leading problem today in the policy on looking after the health of and treating the wounded and sick soldiers is to stop the decline and overcome the backwardness at the military hospitals. Immediately, the state should set aside some foreign currency to enable the military to import modern equipment (from the world public health aid given us). In the coming period, each year, 20-30 percent of the outdated and ineffective pieces of equipment must be renovated. The zonal military hospitals managed by the military regions and branches of service must be equipped just like provincial (or key district) general hospitals. Some of the imported medicines and anti-malaria drugs must be reserved for prevention and treatment. We hope that the Ministry of Public Health will reserve budget funds and aid for the military and supply good medicines for the soldiers.

A problem that is linked to the Ministry of Labor and the Ministry of War Invalids and Social Welfare is the problem of soldiers seriously wounded in combat who have been treated and stabilized but who are disabled and cannot return to their unit or family. More than 2,000 such soldiers remain at the hospitals and convalescent hospitals. The war invalids and social welfare sector should look after these invalids in accord with their functions and the policies of the state.

Finally, a very timely problem is that of allowances for noncommissioned officers and soldiers and the wages of military cadres in general and of lower-ranking officers, professional servicemen, and national defense employees in particular:

At the beginning of the 1960s, soldiers received an allowance of only 5 dong. But at that time, a bowl of noodle soup cost only 3 hao [1 hao equals 0.1 dong], and 1 kg of uncooked rice cost 4 hao. (In short, the 5 dong could buy 15 bowls of soup or more than 12 kg of rice.) Today, the soldiers are paid an allowance of 3,500-4,000 dong, but that will buy only 4 bowls of soup or 4-5 kg of rice. The value of the soldiers' allowance has clearly declined by a factor of at least 3 or 4.

Because the allowance is small and cannot satisfy the minimum needs of daily life, many soldiers have begun engaging in negative activities, that is, they lie in order to obtain a family allowance, they sell clothes, and they steal things.

The wages paid company-grade officers and national defense workers and personnel are not the equivalent of other targets who are paid wages. Specifically, incomes are low while expenses are high. Almost all of the men in this age group have one or two small children, their parents are old, and they do not own a house or they still live with their parents. Their expenses for food, clothing, tuition for their children, and medicines for their elderly parents are rather large. If they live in a rural area, their wives face great hardships in production based on the "contract 10" policy and do not have their husbands to help them. About 60-65 percent of their monthly salary, which is about 35-40 dong, is spent for food. As for the rest, it must be spent for other daily necessities and so there is nothing left to help or aid the rear area. This explains why many young officers, professional servicemen, and national defense personnel are unhappy in their work. This has also made it difficult to develop the talents and intelligence of the ranks of activist cadres for the future. In view of this, there must be correct policies concerning allowances for soldiers and noncommissioned officers, and the wages of the officers must be recalculated so that they are paid a suitable wage.

In summary, the lives of the troops are filled with difficulties, and many things have not been stabilized. The party and state must give attention to and look after the troops through a series of policies on the armed forces. The people are very concerned about the lives of their sons. The socioeconomic situation and the national defense tasks in the new period have undergone changes, but the policies on building the army, consolidating national defense, and defending the fatherland have not changed or been revised accordingly.

Also, the leadership and command echelons and the military rear service sector still have many shortcomings and weaknesses concerning a spirit of responsibility toward the lives of the soldiers, particularly in managing things, educating the men, and organizing living conditions. Many negative phenomena have occurred, and these things have harmed the economy and the lives and combat strength of the troops. Thus, a new effort must be made to provide rear services, and the key elements must be maintained: acceptance, management, distribution, production, creation of sources, and the building of ranks of rear service cadres who have good qualities and excellent skills and who are devoted to serving the troops.

5th MR Policies Toward Troops Serving in Cambodia 902E0047A Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Sep 89 pp 56-62, 40

[Article by Lt Gen Nguyen Huy Chuong]

[Text] Along with carrying on combat readiness training to defend the fatherland and build socialism, the troops...
and people in Military Region 5 are carrying out their international obligation to help Cambodia.

In order to fulfill this political task well, the party committee and military region command have constantly given attention to all aspects: military training, political and ideological education, party building, socialist construction, and combat guidance. Along with these tasks, the military region has constantly implemented policies for the troops and military rear in accord with its position and importance.

The practices of the past years show that if the policies are not suitable or if the implementation of the policies is not effective, the integrated strength cannot be created to mobilize men and organize successful combat, and the international tasks in the complex and difficult circumstances cannot be fulfilled.

We know that after the successful liberation of the fatherland in 1975, the country was generally at peace. The troops and people continued to carry out the two strategic tasks, in which building the economy and constructing the country were the leading tasks. During that period, many of our cadres and soldiers in general and in Military Region 5 in particular had to serve along the borders and on the islands of the fatherland and carry out their international obligations in Cambodia. Many of our cadres and soldiers have been fighting for many years, and so they have not been able to give much attention to stabilizing the rear area or stabilizing things for their families. Many men have served the military for 30-40 years. Their material and spiritual lives are very difficult, and their family life has been very limited. As a result, they have fretted and thought about things.

Thus, it is essential that the sectors, echelons, and localities in the military region clearly recognize the fact that implementing the policies toward the military and military rear is a very important problem. This is a political problem that must be solved in an objective and scientific manner. It must not be handled in an arbitrary way. And it cannot simply be thought that this is a social policy of providing help to a number of families.

Given the country’s present problems, many of the complex problems of economic and social life cannot yet be solved. But this is no excuse to slight implementing the policies. On the contrary, the party committee echelons, authorities, mass organizations, and people in the localities in the military region must give attention to leading, guiding, and organizing the implementation of the policies toward the military and military rear in an even better way. This will manifest the wonderful traditions of our people with the aim of solidifying and strengthening political and ideological unity among the people, strengthen military-civilian solidarity, contribute to encouraging the front and solidifying the rear, and encourage the cadres and soldiers in the military region to fulfill their international obligations and defend the fatherland.

Implementing the policies toward the military and military rear is not the task of the military alone. This is the responsibility of all echelons, sectors, local mass organizations, and people. The party committee echelons and authorities must provide firm leadership and close guidance, and there must be close coordination between the military organizations and mass organizations.

Based on the guiding ideas presented above, Military Region 5 has concentrated on carrying out the following tasks:

1. Bringing back the bodies of war dead and burying them in cemeteries for war heroes.

As of January 1989, the military region had brought back all the bodies of the soldiers killed in action in Cambodia and is now in the process of turning them over to the provinces. Two-thirds of the bodies have already been turned over. As for the rest, the military region is turning over the bodies in accord with the stipulations of the joint department of the Ministry of National Defense and Ministry of War Invalids and Social Welfare.

To date, the military region has carried on five campaigns to turn over the bodies of war heroes. These campaigns have had the close cooperation of the party committee echelons, authorities, mass organizations, and military region organizations. The localities have organized solemn ceremonies to receive the bodies. Those present at these ceremonies have included representatives of the party committee echelons, various echelon local authorities, and representatives of the services, committees, sectors, and mass organizations in the provinces and districts to which the military region has turned over bodies of war heroes.

These ceremonies have shown the lofty international spirit of the people and of the Vietnamese volunteer forces. One manifestation of this is that many of the fatherland’s outstanding youths have died in fraternal Cambodia. This spirit has also been manifested by the great sacrifices made by the fathers and mothers and the wives and other relatives of these war heroes. But besides the pain felt at the loss of these heroes, there is also pride in fulfilling our glorious obligation and a spirit of responsibility in carrying out the policies of the party and state with respect to the wounded soldiers and families of war dead. The localities have organized things carefully, welcomed and comforted the families, offered incense, provided materials during the festivals, and carried on other necessary ideological and organizational work at the primary level.

The military region has given special attention to conducting inspections and ensuring that the campaigns to turn over bodies to the localities are carried out correctly with respect to the identities of the war heroes. To date,
no major mistakes have been made. Nothing has been done that would give the people cause for complaint.

But in turning over the bodies of war heroes to the localities, there are still problems that need attention. One such matter is that of war dead who belonged to units outside the military region. Even though they belonged to other units, their families want their bodies returned to their native region. Their viewpoint is that the locality sees the soldiers off when they leave to fulfill their obligation and welcomes them home and helps them find a job once they have fulfilled their obligation. If they are killed, they should be brought back for burial. There are also those who feel that the localities in which the soldiers are killed fulfilling their lofty obligations to the fatherland should be responsible for organizing the burial, reporting this to the families, and carrying out the policies toward the families of war heroes. The military region is studying these ideas and submitting proposals to higher echelons in order to resolve this matter in a satisfactory and unified manner nationwide.

2. Looking after the wounded and ill soldiers.

The military region has organized Group 979 to look after the military region's soldiers who were wounded or fell ill while fulfilling the international tasks in Cambodia. The unit is responsible for the treatment and convalescence of these soldiers.

After a period of time, the military region will examine their health and determine the degree of their handicap in order to implement timely policies in accord with each target.

In the past years, Group 979 has looked after 7,941 wounded and ill soldiers. After a period of treatment and recuperation, the military region transferred 382 of these soldiers back to their former units. Also, 320 were transferred to another sector, 60 were sent back to their former organizations, 2,480 were placed on retirement based on the measures for ill soldiers, 3,450 were demobilized and discharged, 288 ¼ type wounded soldiers were transferred to the provincial war invalids and social welfare services, and 125 were transferred to another region. At present, there are only 194 wounded soldiers in the military region, of whom only three are seriously wounded. In general, the cases have been handled in accord with the policies and in a reasonable and compassionate manner.

The military region also formed Group 556 to receive soldiers who have fulfilled their international obligation in order to provide them with additional training and give them physical examinations. The group carries out the administrative procedures and handles policies and procedures for those who have been demobilized so that they can return to their localities and continue to engage in productive labor and participate in the reserve forces.

In March 1985, implementing the order of the ministry, the military region withdrew Corps [binh doan] 52, and in December 1988 the military region organized the second withdrawal, which involved the withdrawal of two infantry divisions and a number of regiments. Each province in the military region organized a reception group consisting of representatives of the echelons, sectors, and mass organizations in the province. Each group was headed by the deputy provincial chairman. The provinces organized welcome-home celebrations and took presents and means to the front to welcome home the sons of the province. Nghia Binh Province mobilized hundreds of vehicles. Command organizations, including cadres from the Public Security Service, the Communications and Transportation Service, and the provincial Military Command, selected good vehicles and excellent drivers to go to Stung Treng Province in Cambodia to bring home the cadres and soldiers. On behalf of the military and people throughout the country, the military and people of Gia Lai-Kon Tum Province organized meetings to greet the fatherland's sons who were returning after fulfilling their international obligations.

When welcoming soldiers home, the provinces have arranged for them to rest in the province 10-15 days. During this period, the agencies, mass organizations, and people in the province have visited them and given them presents. After that, the provinces have carried out various procedures, such as giving the men physical examinations. Those who were still weak have been sent to hospitals for treatment. Every paper and measure has been examined carefully and promptly before discharging the soldiers and returning them to their localities.

As for those cadres who have fulfilled their international obligations and are eligible for retirement, the military region has concentrated on handling things in accord with the stipulations of higher echelons. With respect to those facing serious difficulties, the military region has made plans to provide additional aid.

Arrangements have been made to send those men no longer needed by the military to engage in international cooperative labor. As for those cadres still on active duty, the military region is striving to help them stabilize living conditions so that they can continue to serve in the military.

3. Improving the living conditions of the families of wounded soldiers and war dead.

Reality in Military Region 5 during the past few years has shown that the targets of the policy are quite numerous while economic and social life is still filled with difficulties. Many of the state's measures aimed at providing aid to wounded soldiers and the families of war dead do not do enough. The money for transferring people is not provided in a timely manner or only a very small amount is given. Prices fluctuate constantly and skyrocket. It is becoming more and more difficult to carry out the policies on the military rear. Even though
the state has supplemented and revised the policies, this has not satisfied the minimum needs of the lives of the policy targets.

Facing this situation, together with the party committee echelons and local authorities, the military region is actively discussing matters and providing guidance in looking after the lives of the families of wounded soldiers and war dead. Finance is responding to the expenditures, and the banks are giving priority to providing cash. A convenient distribution network is being organized for the policy targets.

Since the Ministry of National Defense and the Ministry of War Invalids and Social Welfare issued Circular 15 on paying for things not included in the central budget, providing assistance, and issuing grain purchase and regulation logbooks, the provinces in the military region have promptly implemented Circular 13 of the Party Central Committee on regulating and selling grain according to the guided price. Each month, Quang Nam-Danang Province has paid approximately 100 million dong to subsidize prices. It has provided assistance worth hundreds of millions of dong to almost 7,000 families covered by the policy. Thuan Hai, Nghia Binh, and Quang Nam-Danang provinces have issued enough grain purchase coupons to the families of war dead. In Thuan Hai, since 1986, the Provincial People’s Committee has fixed the amount of rice provided to the policy targets at 12 kg of rice a month per person based on a stable retail price. The province has also subsidized grain prices for cadres and state workers and civil servants. In Nghia Binh Province, every year the localities have spent tens of millions of dong to provide aid and provided more than 4,000 tons of grain. The agricultural cooperatives have provided more than 4,500 tons of grain for the families of wounded soldiers and war dead in the rural areas. In Lam Dong, the Provincial People’s Committee has used the supply price to provide the families of wounded soldiers and war dead with 1,400 cubic meters of wood, 600 tons of cement, 700,000 bricks, 1,500 roofs, and 100 tons of iron. Don Duong District has sold 12 kg of rice per month at the supply price to the elderly members of the families of war dead.

Since the product contract system was implemented in agriculture, the majority of the cooperatives and production collectives have given priority to the families of war dead and seriously wounded soldiers using a variety of ways. They have, for example, given these families good land near their homes, provided them with investment capital, supplied them with fertilizer, insecticides, and fuel, and mobilized people to help create favorable production conditions so that they can exceed the contracts. In the provinces in the Central Highlands and areas without fields or in areas with policy families without labor strength, the localities have given priority to providing land, gardens, and seed and sent laborers to help with the planting. Some places have turned over orchards already planted in fruit trees and gardens planted in industrial crops to families to tend and harvest.

4. Looking after the war dead and categories 1 and 2 wounded soldiers:

The party committee echelons, authorities, and mass organizations in the localities are very concerned, and they have implemented many measures using a variety of forms to look after and educate the children so that they become new socialist people and good citizens worthy of the achievements scored by their fathers and older brothers. This is the responsibility of the entire party and all the people toward those who have sacrificed their lives for the revolution. This is also being done to help compensate these children for the losses they have suffered, particularly those children who have lost both their mother and their father.

Besides giving priority to these people in enrolling students, giving scholarships, and paying school tuition to help them with their education, Thuan Hai, Nghia Binh, and Gia Lai-Kon Tum provinces have organized schools to raise and educate the children of war dead from the time they are small children until they grow up.

In Thuan Hai, since 1981, the Education Service and the War Invalids and Social Welfare Service have organized classes for the children of war dead through Grade 4 so that they can graduate from general middle school and enable those with talent to go on to college or a vocational middle school. To date, 128 pupils have graduated from general middle school, and more than 25 percent have gone on to college. Thirty have gone to study abroad. The rest have received training at vocational middle schools or gone to work at a state organization. A number of districts such as Tuy Phong and Bac Binh have used local budget funds to help the children of war dead who failed the college entrance examinations and implemented plans to provide them with additional training to attend college on a probationary status. The purpose of this is to create a long-term source of cadres for the localities.

The mass movement to look after the wounded soldiers and families of war dead has been carried on well in the provinces in the military region. The implementation of the military rear policies has not relied solely on the measures and policies of the state but also on the stipulations of the localities. Whatever the conditions, it is essential to rely on the help of the people and the efforts of the families of the wounded soldiers and war heroes.

Thus, together with the party committee echelons and local authorities, the military region has organized and launched a mass movement to look after the families of wounded soldiers and war dead. This movement has taken many different forms. There is, for example, the friendship orchard movement, the friendship housing movement, the social welfare fund movement, the movement to protect the children of war dead, and so on. These movements have penetrated deeply into many localities. The movement to look after the parents and assist the children of war dead is one of the best examples. In Quang Nam-Danang Province, in recent
VIETNAM

36

years, 5,570 women have helped raise 5,982 orphans. A total of 5,626 sets of clothes and 100 bicycles have been purchased for these children, and 1,000 mothers and fathers of war dead who lack manpower have been given aid. The women of Nghe An have helped raise 1,283 children of war dead. The “friendship rice and chickens” movement has collected 200 tons of rice and 4 million dong to help the families of war dead. The Phu Khanh Women’s Association has provided the families of wounded soldiers and war dead with 2,348 tons of rice and 3 tons of uncooked rice.

The friendship housing movement is progressing well. Based on still incomplete statistics, to date the provinces in the military region have build 1,458 friendship houses for the families of war dead, seriously wounded soldiers, and military heroes. The expenses have been paid in part by the localities. The rest have come from contributions from the people.

5. Rewarding the cadres and soldiers who have fulfilled their international obligations.

During the 10 years that the military has been fulfilling its international obligations, the Council of State has designated 12 of the military region’s units as heroic units. Today, the military region has proposed that higher echelons consider designating 21 units and 2 individuals as heroes.

During the past 10 years, 433 units and 843 cadres and soldiers have been designated as Resolved to Win units and soldiers, and 437 units and 3,579 individuals have been awarded military medals and medals for meritorious service. Cambodia has given almost all of the cadres and soldiers who have fulfilled their international obligations and returned home the Fatherland Defense Medal and friendship medals and insignias.

Along with giving awards to those units and individuals who have scored outstanding achievements in combat and work, the units in the military region have given much attention to prosecuting those cadres and soldiers who have violated discipline, such as shirking their duties, failing to carry out the orders, and in particular, violating mass discipline when carrying out their international obligations. During the past 10 years, the military region has imposed harsh sentences on those cadres and soldiers who have committed violations against the people of Cambodia. Some of the violations have been so serious that they have had to be tried by the Military Region Military Court, which has imposed harsh sentences.

In guiding the implementation of the policies on the military and military rear during the past period, the Military Region 5 party committee and command have exhibited various shortcomings and weaknesses. They have not provided constant leadership and guidance or coordinated things closely with the party committee echelons and local authorities. They have not studied the special characteristics and specific situation of each locality in order to discuss guidelines for guiding things in harmony with the provinces and helping the localities implement the military rear policies.

When implementing policies, there have been times when the policies have not been adequately publicized so that the cadres can grasp the measures and standards and control things themselves. The units send the cadres back and forth many times, which has caused trouble and resentment. In some places, for years, no steps have been taken to visit those cadres on leave or who have retired, with the result that these cadres have been neglected. Little attention has been given to informing people about the military rear policies or training people who have been in combat and returned to the locality so that they can serve as the activists in building the locality and implementing the military rear policies.

As for the party committee echelons, authorities, mass organizations, and local people, through reviewing the wounded soldiers and social welfare work and the military rear activities, the provinces have seen that they have not fulfilled their responsibilities. They have not given adequate attention to providing leadership and guidance. Some places that have contracted things to functional organizations have not inspected things carefully. The professional organizations have focused on handling distribution and have given little attention to organizing mass movements to carry out things. A number of localities, party committee echelons, and primary level authorities have not fulfilled their responsibilities in organizing things and conducting inspections. Standards have been lowered, funds and aid money have been embezzled, and the policy targets have been treated in an authoritarian and overbearing manner. The aid funds are too small, and no measures to provide aid at the village and subward levels have been implemented, with the result that the families have to make many trips back and forth. Sometimes, the cost of making the trips exceeds the amount of the aid received. Thus, many of the targets do not come to receive the aid, particularly in the mountainous areas and other remote areas.

In implementing the contract mechanism, many cooperatives have failed to consider the measures aimed at giving priority to the wounded soldiers and families of war dead, who need help. As a result, many of these families have not been provided their full quota, given waivers, or sold grain. As a result, their lives are very difficult.

Many of the cadres and soldiers who served in Cambodia are in poor health and suffer from malaria. But in a number of places, the party committee echelons and local authorities have not given any attention to providing them with suitable work.

Providing jobs to people in the cities and towns has proven to be very difficult. Most of their former employers do not want them back. Registering the population has also been very difficult and caused much trouble.

In guiding the implementation of the policies on the military and military rear during the past period, the Military Region 5 party committee and command have exhibited various shortcomings and weaknesses. They have not provided constant leadership and guidance or coordinated things closely with the party committee echelons and local authorities. They have not studied the special characteristics and specific situation of each locality in order to discuss guidelines for guiding things in harmony with the provinces and helping the localities implement the military rear policies.

When implementing policies, there have been times when the policies have not been adequately publicized so that the cadres can grasp the measures and standards and control things themselves. The units send the cadres back and forth many times, which has caused trouble and resentment. In some places, for years, no steps have been taken to visit those cadres on leave or who have retired, with the result that these cadres have been neglected. Little attention has been given to informing people about the military rear policies or training people who have been in combat and returned to the locality so that they can serve as the activists in building the locality and implementing the military rear policies.

As for the party committee echelons, authorities, mass organizations, and local people, through reviewing the wounded soldiers and social welfare work and the military rear activities, the provinces have seen that they have not fulfilled their responsibilities. They have not given adequate attention to providing leadership and guidance. Some places that have contracted things to functional organizations have not inspected things carefully. The professional organizations have focused on handling distribution and have given little attention to organizing mass movements to carry out things. A number of localities, party committee echelons, and primary level authorities have not fulfilled their responsibilities in organizing things and conducting inspections. Standards have been lowered, funds and aid money have been embezzled, and the policy targets have been treated in an authoritarian and overbearing manner. The aid funds are too small, and no measures to provide aid at the village and subward levels have been implemented, with the result that the families have to make many trips back and forth. Sometimes, the cost of making the trips exceeds the amount of the aid received. Thus, many of the targets do not come to receive the aid, particularly in the mountainous areas and other remote areas.

In implementing the contract mechanism, many cooperatives have failed to consider the measures aimed at giving priority to the wounded soldiers and families of war dead, who need help. As a result, many of these families have not been provided their full quota, given waivers, or sold grain. As a result, their lives are very difficult.

Many of the cadres and soldiers who served in Cambodia are in poor health and suffer from malaria. But in a number of places, the party committee echelons and local authorities have not given any attention to providing them with suitable work.

Providing jobs to people in the cities and towns has proven to be very difficult. Most of their former employers do not want them back. Registering the population has also been very difficult and caused much trouble.
As for giving priority to the children of war dead and seriously wounded soldiers, although directives have been issued to provide guidance, in organizing things, the organizations concerned have not determined their responsibilities clearly. They have not coordinated things closely in order to have specific measures to help these children attend school regularly. As a result, little has been achieved. In the past few years, only 4.2 percent of the children of war dead who took the college entrance examinations have been admitted into a college.

Many places have failed to carry out the preference measures and have continued to charge tuition and other school fees. As a result, a number of these children have not been able to attend school. In the provinces in the Central Highlands, few of the school-age children of minority group war dead have been able to attend school.

Because of this, we propose that the party and state soon revise the policies toward the military and military rear in accord with the present situation. We know that given our country's present difficult situation, the policies toward the military and military rear cannot ask for more than is possible. But they must provide the minimum in order to help these families improve their lives. This must be made law so that the localities will have a basis for implementing the policies in a strict and uniform manner. We should not allow each locality to do things its own way, as is the case at present. Actually, they are relying on the local party committee echelons, authorities, and mass organizations to make the decisions.

As for those soldiers who have fulfilled their international obligation and returned home, their term of service should be extended so that the military region can provide them with occupational training before they are discharged. This will create favorable conditions in productive labor when they return home and provide them with a good standard of living.

The local party committee echelons and authorities must regard implementing the policies toward the military and military rear as a matter of conscience and as one of their responsibilities. This is a political attitude and a standard of political awareness for cadres in recognizing and carrying out the two strategic tasks in the localities.

**Training Contingent of Good Officers Discussed**

902E0045A Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnames Aug 89 pp 26-33

[Article by Lt Gen Nguyen Trong Hop, Cadre Department, Political General Department]

[Text] For almost 50 years, under the leadership of the party and President Ho, because of having correct policies, the entire party and all the people have been concerned with building the army just as if it were their own flesh and blood. The Vietnam People's Army has overcome many difficulties and made great sacrifices for the revolution. In this long and very difficult and fierce struggle, the party has scored results in training and building a rank of officers and commanders who are loyal to the revolutionary line of the party, to our socialist fatherland, and to the people, who have high combat will power and practical capabilities in warfare, who can work as activists for the army, and who have made notable contributions to liberating the nation, defending the fatherland, and fulfilling the international tasks. They are a valuable asset of the nation that must be maintained and exploited even more.

However, since the revolution entered the new stage, we have not had a complete social policy toward the army. Many of the policies are no longer suitable. They have "grown cold" and have not kept pace with the developing situation. The policies do not manifest social justice or correctly reflect the "special labor" characteristics of the army.

Today, a debate is needed to answer the following questions: Why aren't the ranks of officers closely concerned with building the army? Why in society and in the army is there little interest in the lives of the troops? These questions must be analyzed scientifically in order to reach a correct conclusion, create a unified viewpoint, and form a basis for carrying on ideological and organizational work and formulating suitable policies.

After having experienced decades of warfare, everyone longs for a peaceful life. That includes the ranks of officers. In the situation in which the country is generally at peace, a large percentage of the officers have to carry out tasks at the front. Their salary, which is their only source of income, is not enough to generate new combat strength and support their families. The lives of more than 70 percent of the cadres working at the front are very difficult. Since the day the country was unified, many of the officers have not had a chance to be reunited with their families. The situation in which the "roof leaks and the children are stupid" is rather widespread. Statistics compiled by one district show that 47 of the 120 juvenile delinquents were children of cadres. That is a great loss for the next generation. Many of the officers who have completed their military service and entered civilian life cannot find jobs. But there are no insurance policies. What is worrisome is that with respect to social psychology, few youths want to become officers.

The question that arises is: Who will become the activist forces in defending our socialist Vietnamese fatherland in the coming decades? This is a concern of many officers about which the entire party, the entire army, and all of society must think. This is particularly necessary in a situation in which we are developing a multifaceted economy, the state is implementing an open-door economic policy, there is broad economic circulation, and world information spreads quickly. Besides the cool breezes that are nourishing the new production, there are also poisonous winds that are polluting the social environment and making things more complex. Many vague manifestations concerning
The enemy, a lack of confidence in socialism, and indifference toward defending the fatherland have appeared and are expanding. With respect to vigilance concerning the plots and stratagems of the enemy, some people think that these things are being exaggerated. They think that this is a period of reconciliation and dialogue.

The resolution of the Sixth Congress affirmed that building and defending our socialist fatherland are two strategic tasks closely related to each other. This is the law of existence and development of our nation throughout its 4,000 year history. The resolution of the 6th Plenum of the Party Central Committee pointed out that "vigilance must be heightened, the national defense and security tasks put forth by the Sixth Congress and the resolutions of the Politburo must be carried out actively, the enemy's multi-faceted war of destruction must be defeated, self-sufficiency in every situation must be maintained in order to defend the fatherland, maintain political security, order, and social safety, and our international obligations with respect to the Lao and Cambodian revolutions must be fulfilled well. The army must be built up politically, ideologically, and organizationally, with the key being to 'be organized and have correct policies in order to train and build excellent ranks of officers and soldiers and excellent ranks of specialists and technicians.'"

In order to build ranks of officers and soldiers who can fulfill the requirements and carry out the tasks of the new period, this must be part of the party's and state's general plan to build ranks of cadres. Also, this must be part of implementing all the social policies. This is a problem that concerns the strategic viewpoint of soldiers in defending the fatherland both now and over the long term. The most important thing is that cadres must be prepared for the year 2000 and beyond. Complete preparations must be made, from formulating plans to selecting, training, and deploying people. In this article, I would like to discuss a number of key points in the social policies concerning training and building the ranks of officers.

First of all, it must be remembered that the work of the army is a special type of work. The army operates in tense and difficult situations involving the expenditure of much manpower and a willingness to make sacrifices. Officers of each rank must be the right age and have suitable health. The officer corps is shaped like a pyramid. In this process, the ranks of officers form two groups. One is composed of those who plan to make the army their career (approximately 20 percent); the other is composed of those who will serve for only a short time (mainly company-level cadres) and who will then leave the army to work in an economic sector or social organization (approximately 80 percent). These cadres are the activists of the ranks of reserve officers. They must be managed closely so that they will be prepared to return to active duty if war breaks out. The ranks of officers must regularly have new sources of training. At the same time, those cadres who are too old to serve in the ranks or who have reached retirement age must be discharged. This is a special basic characteristic of the ranks of officers that is different from other labor sectors. This is a very difficult problem and also a major concern of officers because of "having to leave halfway." But this is a requirement, because only in this way can we have a strong rank of reserve officers. This is the only way to reduce the number of men, improve the quality of the regular troops, and keep the size of the army in line with the country's economy. The social policies regarding officers must start from this special characteristic and aim at promoting the development of the entire rank of officers and ensuring that the officers can serve for a long time and keep their minds focused on developing the army. Those officers who serve for only a limited time or who have reached retirement age must be looked after well. Those who can still work must be provided jobs. Or there must be suitable insurance measures. Only in this way will it be possible to attract outstanding and talented youths to reinforce the ranks of officers. This is a task of both the army and of all of society.

Based on the requirements and on our research, policies concerning officers must be handled in accord with the following guidelines:

**Officers on Active Duty**

There must be plans to train, deploy, and use the right people for the right job and exploit the talents of each person serving the military. As for the social policies, it must be ensured that officers from company level on up receive sufficient wages to create new combat strength and support one to two children. The policies must manifest social fairness and correctly reflect the special labor nature of the army. Today, people in society do not have a correct concept of the work of the military. They think that this is just like other work and even regard military work as administrative work. Some people look only at a small number of officers working in the rear and fail to see that the main task of the army is to fight and that its basic tasks are carried out on the battlefield. Also, those working in the rear must stay in close contact with those at the front and provide direct support for the front. They must also be rotated to the front. Today, the country is at peace, but the great majority of the officers must serve along the borders and on the islands (today's "hot spots") face to face with the enemy. They must endure hardships and difficulties. More than 80 percent of the officers have to live in "celibacy" far from their families. Thus, attention must be given to the rear area, especially in implementing the contract mechanism. The absence of the head of the house and main laborer creates many problems for the families of officers. We welcome the Council of Ministers' recent decision to waive hospital fees for the families of soldiers. The policies implemented must be in accord with the new mechanism, such as waiving or reducing the agricultural tax, tuition, and so on for families of soldiers.

Only if "there is peace" can people "be content with their occupation." But because of the nature of the
army's tasks, most officers must live far from their families. Even though a number of people have relatively stable positions, they must still be prepared to go anywhere the fatherland needs them. Thus, there must be a system of equal treatment. On the other hand, we cannot be mechanical in our thinking, that is, that officers will always have to be far from home. When the situation permits, we must take steps to enable the officers to lead a stable life near their families and enable them to look after their children. That is a legitimate hope. There must be a system of rotation for those who have been far from home for a long time and who have had to live in very difficult conditions. However, rotation can be carried out only in the most difficult areas and for the targets facing the greatest problems. For example, there are a large number of troops who need to be rotated, but the number of cadres in the rear is limited and so most have had to spend many years at the front. Also, we feel that if a unit is stationed in a locality, the officers should be regarded as members of society in that locality. Areas should be zoned for the families of military personnel (or they should be issued land or provided with housing in population centers). The families of officers should be given help in finding jobs and in educating their children. They should be registered in the population registrar and enjoy various rights just like other civilians.

**Officers Discharged From the Military**

Almost all company grade officers and a large number of majors who are below the age of 40 and who have served in the military 10-15 years but who have not reached retirement age will leave military service. After they have been discharged, the state agencies and economic and social organizations must give priority to providing these people with vocational training and providing them with work or have definite insurance measures so that they can build a new life and move forward during the second half of their lives. The policies must contribute actively to solving the rather difficult problems facing youths and relieving the worries of their parents, wives, and other family members. People who have not been at ease at home have chosen the military as a profession and volunteered for officer training. Many difficulties have arisen in recent years. Social life has had a profound effect on the selection of military personnel and outstanding youths for officer training. This is still a serious problem at lower echelons, and if the social policies are not renovated soon, the path of service of officers will lead to a dead end, and that will increase the number of "military units without work." This is the responsibility of the various organizations and social policies and cannot be blamed on the men. This is also a problem that concerns the leaders in the military and party. The resolution of the 6th Plenum of the Party Central Committee clearly stated that "in the job creation policy, priority must be given to ex-military personnel." "There must be appropriate measures to enable discharged officers to build a new life." In the next few years, as a result of the reorganization taking place, there will be a rather large number of these cadres. Over the long term, after the situation has stabilized, the number will decline. In a number of the industrialized countries, 6 months before officers are discharged, they are given job leads in sectors outside the military. That is because their countries lack laborers (jobs are waiting for people instead of people waiting for jobs). In the past few years, the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee has reserved a number of norms for the military to enable officers to switch to international cooperative labor. But this is still an "emergency" measure.

In order to contribute to solving this problem, in formulating plans to train officers, the military must have an all-round viewpoint that will satisfy the requirements of the military and that is closely related to the social economy. In training commanders and political cadres, a 4-year program must be supported. These men must be provided with a basic education that is equivalent to that provided at a civilian college. During the first 2 years, they must concentrate on taking basic college-level science courses just as at civilian colleges. During the next 2 years, they can concentrate on military subjects (which matches the time that civilians spend majoring in economic and social subjects). Legally, the officer military academies are subordinate to the system of state colleges. As far as standards are concerned, the officers receive basic and all-round training. Those who have military talents and the capacity to grow will continue to serve in the military for many years. Those who are unable to serve in the military for a long time will, when discharged, have a basic knowledge. After only a short period of additional training, they will be able to find work in an economic or social sector. This will provide jobs and solve the problems discussed above.

**Officers Who Have Reached Retirement Age**

Almost all of these are cadres who participated in the August Revolution and the resistance against France. Some even participated in the resistance against America. These are leading cadres who represent the army. The great majority of these cadres joined the army voluntarily. Their great hope was to smash the enemy, regain freedom and independence for the fatherland, and then return to civilian life. Few thought that they would serve in the military for 40 years, and few thought that they would become field-grade officers or generals. But history has recorded that our nation has had to carry on three consecutive wars. Many of the cadres mentioned above fell on the battlefield. Most of those who survived chose the military life and spent their life building the army and fighting. In the next several years, many of these cadres will retire and turn over the work to the next generation of cadres. It can be said that this is a major point of transition between generations in the military and that this marks the end of an historical stage. Because they have had to fight and work continuously, few of these cadres have been able to solidify the rear area. After they retire, many of these people will experience difficulties in daily life. "When you eat the fruit, don't forget who planted it" and "when you take a drink of water, remember the source." Those are Vietnamese
principles. Even though our country continues to experience great difficulties, we must look after these retired cadres, ensure their spiritual happiness, and reduce the difficulties for them in daily life. Besides the existing general policies, based on the contributions made by these cadres, particularly those who participated in the August Revolution and the resistance against France, the state must establish a fund to ensure that their standard of living does not decline too much after they retire. Looking after these cadres well means that we have thought about the long-term task of the army.

**Basic and Immediate Sources of Officers**

In defending the fatherland, particularly in preparing for the year 2000 and beyond, building basic and immediate sources of officers is a very important problem. Today, people at every echelon in the army are concerned about basic sources, which is a very difficult problem. For many years now, the army has focused much attention on this problem, but it has still not managed to overcome the long-term difficulties or find effective solutions to fundamentally solve the problems. The number of officers trained each year is only about 70 percent of the planned norm. In particular, there are even greater problems in finding people to take command and political cadre training. What needs to be given attention is that quality is low. Quality is declining. Men do not volunteer and have no interest in studying. The dropout rate during training is high (20 percent). In the past, becoming a pilot was the dream of many youths. But now, many difficulties have been encountered in selecting and training people. When they go to perform their duties, their minds are not focused on their work.

This is a very worrisome problem, because these cadres who will hold leadership positions in the army in the year 2000 and beyond must be trained now. About 300-600,000 youths reach military age each year here, and several hundred thousand men undergo military training. Only several thousand are needed for officer training, but we still can’t find enough recruits. The key problem is that we do not have a comprehensive policy regarding the ranks of officers. This is also a movement of life having the nature of a law. Youths look at the military path taken by their fathers with both respect and concern because it is their turn to be selected.

Today, each youth has the right to select his own profession and the path most suitable for him. Everyone thinks that the phrase “everything for duty and honor” is correct. Of all the vocations in society, the military path is the path that requires people to make sacrifices, undergo difficulties, and go beyond ordinary labor. Naturally, in this process of being tempered, many people have fulfilled glorious tasks. But today, the thinking of youths is very different from when the “entire country was on the path of national salvation.” Unless we see this objective existence in order to make basic changes in ideological and policy work, it will be impossible for us to attract outstanding youths to serve in the army. The reality is that “civilians don’t want to be soldiers, and soldiers don’t want to be officers.” There are close ties among the ranks of high-level cadres. Many of these people have children. Even though they have spent their lives fighting and building the army, many of them do not want their children to make a career in the military. A number of cadres have tried to educate their children and get them to follow in their footsteps, but the number of youths who have accepted this path is small. Many of those who have decided to become officers have selected specialized technical fields that are closely related to vocations in social life. This is the reality.

Thus, readying sources of officers is a problem that must be solved throughout society. The army must be built up by ranks of officers who are models of and who bear the good marks of social life. The army must be a school, and the officer corps must be highly attractive. Becoming an officer must be the aspiration and dream of youths. Those youths who enter the ranks of officers must be looked after well and trained in all respects so that they can manifest their talents and contribute to building and defending the fatherland. On the other hand, the party and state organizations and all of society must instill a sense of patriotism in the youths and children. This process must start from when they are still in school.

They must be taught a correct viewpoint, that is, that serving as an officer is an honor and an important direction of struggle for their future. At the same time, a concept of defending the fatherland must be instilled throughout society and in each family so that people will encourage their children to study to become officers. Reality shows that doing a good job just in the units is not enough. A Letter from home or a visit from home is not enough. Without the active influence of the rear area, a soldier’s resolve to become an officer will waiver.

Along with political and ideological education, basic changes must be made in the social policies concerning the military. First of all, only if the the policies concerning officers maintains their spiritual and material lives and provides them with a social position that corresponds to the tasks will it be possible to make great changes.

Along with preparing basic sources, attention must be given to preparing the immediate sources, particularly leading cadres at the operations and strategic levels. Continuous and stable succession must be maintained between the cadre echelons in all stages. It is the immediate sources that will provide people for leading positions at the ministerial, military region, corps [quan doan], and divisional levels. It is these people who will become the provincial commanders, heads of scientific research organizations, and military schools and academies during the 1990s. Most of these cadres will be appointed to command positions during the period 1991-1995.

The present group of command cadres have gone through the August Revolution and fought the French, the Americans, and the expansionists. Today, most of them are old and in poor health. The great majority of these cadres will turn over their positions to the next
generation during the period 1991-1995. Because of this, an urgent task is to train those who will succeed them, formulate correct plans, and ensure proper succession. Most of the cadres who will succeed them joined the military during the mass movement of 1963-1965 when the "entire country rose up to fight the Americans." Most of these cadres are now 40-50 years old. Only a few are below the age of 40. These people have been trained and tested in command and leadership positions from the primary level on up. They have better culture and have received better basic training. These cadres do not have as much experience as their predecessors, but they are still a very valuable asset of the party and army.

Thus, each senior cadre must give attention to training his successor. This must be regarded as a responsibility and also as a standard by which to determine whether these cadres have undergone renovation. Doing this is good preparation for the transfer between generations. This is more than simply transferring positions. The key problem is that those who have gone before must summarize the experiences concerning lines, principles, and policies in military construction and combat. This includes the lessons on victories and defeats and the challenges that they have faced. This must be done so that those who follow them can learn from these experiences and make creative use of them in their positions. It is essential that highly experienced cadres summarize things and systematize the lines and policies in building the army. The younger cadres must be trained so that they understand the historical mission of their generation. They must continue to study and grow so that they can carry out the revolutionary tasks without having an inferiority complex and without becoming subjective or self-satisfied. They must know how to apply the experiences of their predecessors in a creative way in keeping with today's life.

Clearly, along with renovating ideological and organizational work, there must be a basic renovation of the social policies toward the military. Today's policies have become a political problem. This concerns a strategic viewpoint toward man. This is an important motive force that can contribute to building excellent ranks of officers and soldiers. These policies must be systematized and turned into state law. We can no longer appeal to general "kindheartedness." Naturally, the policies toward the military must be placed within the framework of the country's economy. But the important thing is to ensure "social fairness." On the other hand, in the face of the great difficulties facing our country, the military cannot be passive or stand by idly. It must manifest a spirit of dynamism, creativity, and self-reliance. Along with the policies on the officer corps, formulating policies on national defense workers and civil servants, professional servicemen, and noncommissioned officers and privates must be promoted in order to ensure synchronization in implementation.

Radar Unit Changes, Improves Training

902E0034A Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 18 Sep 89 p 2

[Article by Nguyen Huu Mao]

[Text] Upon conclusion of the phase I training for 1989, Phu Dong Radar Group was rated by upper echelons as a good training unit, placing second among the units of Air Defense Group B61. These results were due to the renovated training in Phu Dong Group this year that maintained close contact with the aerial management mission and the actual situation in every aspect of the unit. Especially, in supervision ideology and organizational methods, training delved into the central issues and correctly discovered the weak points and segments requiring urgent resolution.

Lt. Col. Tran NAm Cuan, the group commander, stated that the training quality and standards of combat watch and aerial management still have the following weak points: a number of elements in the combat shifts of both cadres and soldiers still lack a grasp of and skill in their official responsibilities; regulations in the operation of machinery and equipment for spotting and reporting targets are still confusing; and coordination between the radar station and echelon command posts is often still "awry." These weak links have objective causes dictated by the special combat mission characteristics of radar troops; continuous and constant combat watches intertwined with training; troop locations over a broad a scattered area; many of the "outpost" stations located in extremely laborious and difficult terrain, etc. However, unit leaders and commanders have confirmed the need for subjective effort to overcome, struggle and advance.

First of all, for components in the combat shifts to firmly grasp and properly achieve individual responsibilities, the group commander has classified each subject to find the causes and to formulate methods for bolstering and raising standards. For example, when a number of radar post and station command cadres receive school training, they "specialize" in one or two kinds of equipment but upon return to their unit, use another kind, resulting in unfamiliarity and difficulty. If the command cadres themselves lack a firm grasp, what about training for the men? So, the group recently concentrated on advanced training for these cadres, enabling them to overcome their limitations and to advance in achieving their responsibility in mastering the equipment. Similarly with the others, inspections or reviews of training or combat watch experience clarified the causes for deficiency. Where is it due to a concept of responsibility? where due to capabilities and standards; where due to technical conditions? etc. The group command cadres allowed us to listen to a session for reviewing experience and finding the causes of discrepancies in the loss of air targets, consisting of individuals directly "involved," not just the command cadres from various echelons. Extremely frank statements were made. Actually, the causes were not due to communications as had been long thought but because the radar operators were still weak.
had no firm grasp of antenna movements, were unfamiliar with ground waves so failed to promptly spot strange waves, etc. From these realities, the group command and staff cadres promptly adjusted and supplemented training subjects and times for greater consistency. Since the beginning of phase 2 training, significant progress has been made in overcoming this weakness, many participants have not only properly fulfilled their responsibilities but have also tried and worked in the jobs of others such as members of the command post watch, and besides ensuring good communications, can also operate the generator when network power outages occur.

In operating regulations, the use of machinery and equipment to spot and report targets by operators is still weak, and according to Major Nguyen Huu Hao, deputy group commander, there are two reasons: one is that the men are becoming complacent because “It’s peacetime,” and the second is that the quality of cross training has declined. To overcome the first reason, maintenance of strict discipline must be taught. The second is more difficult because the reality is that cross training is conducted in the non-commissioned officer schools or training units of upper echelons with many students, little equipment, not much time for true study, etc. Therefore, when radar operators, trackers and radio operators finish school and return to their combat unit, many are still confused and time must be taken in familiarity training before they can fulfill their mission.

Phu Dong Group has two methods for resolving this contradiction: to save time by turning on the combat watch radio so old cadres, technicians and radar operators can accompany a number of the new operators. If radar personnel are unable to handle the mission, they are resolutely transferred to another job, while simultaneously selecting and training others to replace them. Recently the group held its own training class to train more than 10 soldiers as radio operators and trackers of good quality, in only half the time required in school.

Another weak link is the joint training between radar posts and stations and command posts at various levels because the units in Phu Dong Group had little training during phase 1. Major Dinh Trong Cau, deputy group commander in charge of training, stated that the figures are significant: 18 instances of single-echelon joint training, 13 of dual-echelon joint training, 6 of tri-echelon joint training, 26 of group command post joint training, etc. However, the quality and results of joint training—a key step in transmittal of target reports to upper echelon command posts—are still weak due to communications. At the same time, although joint training is conducted constantly, there is no emphasis on reviewing experience. Therefore, beginning phase 2 training, the group held a conference to review experience in communications and liaison, improve watch procedures, emphasize the training of radio operators, trackers, flight markers, etc., to shorten “standby” time and to urgently overcome losses in contact when reporting targets. Joint training sessions are now more thoroughly prepared and after each time, experience is reviewed for strong and weak points for specifically pointing them out to each echelon, detachment and watch shift member. Thanks to promptly seeking out weak points and clarifying the causes and methods of urgent and timely solution, since beginning phase 2 training, clear progress has been made in the quality of training in Phu Dong Radar Group. Two-thirds of the group’s radar posts have achieved a good rating with no longer any posts that are weak in training and combat readiness.

With this experience, beginning the phase 2 training, that is during the first days of September, Phu Dong Group has conducted combat shift training seminars to initiate plans for a “sprint” of effort aimed at successfully completing the 1989 training mission.

**Vinh Phu Improves Recruitment Process**

902E0054B Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 29 Sep 89 p 2

[Article by Bui Thanh Long]

[Text] At the beginning of 1989, the Vinh Phu Province Military Command coordinated with the Youth Union in launching a movement of “Volunteer youths completing their mission in the ranks.” There were many arguments that once there was a Military Draft Law, a “volunteer” mobilization would be required. However, confronted with the reality that annually in Vinh Phu, a proportion (although not large) of military personnel are violating discipline and returning to the local area or evading the mission, administrative echelons, mass organizations and the people consider propaganda and education among the youth these days as a task that cannot be neglected concerning the obligation of protecting the fatherland.

To raise the quality of youth enlistment, as many recruiting drives in Vinh Phu show, the Military Draft Council has properly achieved its role as a staff for the party committee echelons and local administrations, and boldly contracted the responsibility to village and subward echelons for selecting, examining and ensuring the quality of each specific individual, and ensuring sufficient norms precisely in accordance with the law and policy. When necessary, the Military Draft Council also sends cadres to the primary level to inspect and resolve obstacles with reason and feeling. The village level must maintain a specific grasp of each individual (age, family environment, political quality, health, etc.). District and provincial echelons must classify the quality of each local area (quantity, age groups, welfare policy recipients, etc.). The province has closely coordinated with public health agencies in establishing a group specializing in military draft physical examinations in each locality, contributing along with the local areas in reducing the standby enlistment physical ratio and the standby induction ratio. Since 1987, everyone called up in 20 percent of the villages in the province have had sufficient standards such as in the districts of Thanh
Ho, Yen Lap, Vinh Yen, Tam Dao, etc. A number of villages have conducted recruiting mobilization drives achieving 100 percent of the assigned norms such as: Thuong Cuu, Dai An, Dong Linh, Yen Luat and Thanh Ninh of Thanh Hoa District, Minh Luong of Doan Hung District, Minh Coi and Dong Luong of Song Thao District, etc. Last year, Vinh Phu delivered recruits to troops primarily meeting standards A1 and A2, achieved equality in norms and plans regarding the local areas, and eliminated the situation of villages with strong programs shouldering the load for weak villages. The issuance of induction orders is presently unified throughout the province within a period of 1 day. Recruit delivery and receipt have also been renovated with a guideline of, “Speed, orderliness, accuracy and safety” by meeting them in the village and delivering them in the district, reducing expenses in gasoline and vehicles, and alleviating the aggravation of families with relatives departing to fulfill their military obligations. A typical example is Tam Dan District which turned over 1,000 men in only 2 hours.

Through our investigation of recruitment in Vinh Phu, we learned that based on the actual local capabilities, the province met the norms for the entire year during the first recruiting drive while still ensuring quantity and quality.

Fuel Shortages Hamper Armor Training
902E0055A Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 19 Sep 89 p 2

[Article by Pham Minh Chau: “Tank Group H02 Focuses on Training in Practical Themes with Emphasis on Cadres and Vehicle Crews”]

[Text] During the recent phase I training, the training atmosphere of Group H02 was not as lively as during previous years according to an opinion expressed by the chief of staff, Major Do Thanh Long, while conversing with us on the unit’s training situation. Also from the characteristics of its own situation, the group’s command designated a training guideline during phase one of focusing on practical themes in the training with emphasis on cadres and vehicle crews.

Before beginning phase I training, the standards of the group’s cadre ranks and technical personnel were not uniform. Many young cadres were fresh out of school with no experience in training organization, and technical standards and capabilities in implementing vehicle combat command movements were still extremely limited. From this real situation, group command confirmed the necessity for a step in training cadres and technical personnel before conducting training for the troops. Thus, for cadres from the company to the vehicle commander level, the group set two requirements for achievement in training classes before the phase I training and during the training process: to both raise the technical and tactical standards of one’s own echelon, and to improve the technical and tactical skills of lower echelons in order to serve as an instructor in troop and unit training. With the central training issue during phase one of the entire unit achieving individual technical skills in tanks and firmly grasping the tactical forms of each vehicle and tank company during combat, and with the requirements set forth for cadre training, Group H02 organized drills for 100 percent of the cadres from battalion to platoon level and the agency staff assistants. Upon conclusion of each training subject, the group inspected both theory and practice through a form of questions and answers, with inspection results all achieving good ratings and meeting 100 percent of requirements. Especially during drills, in subjects being taught the men, the group gave extreme attention to drilling cadres in training organization and methods. Here, the group concentrated on advanced training for a number of new cadres in the traditional training methods of the unit. These were the training methods that coordinate theory and practice right in the vehicle and on the training field, achieving study of the new and review of the old, with constant orientation toward the themes of each subject until reaching the final objective of perfecting the combat capabilities of a vehicle crew. That is to say, to skillfully study each subject and to know how to apply each study theme to combat reality. While organizing training, the group did not pursue completion of stipulated hours in training but, depending on the training quality of each subject, adjusted the time, and every subject studied was firmly grasped. Regarding the training theme, the group also focused on the most important themes and any theme in which the standards of the troops were the weakest, including themes not included in the stipulated program but considered necessary. For example, because of no training in changing and installing batteries in the vehicles, the troops were extremely confused and unable to meet vehicle departure times when combat orders were received. From this actual situation, the group studied each action from carrying batteries from the maintenance building to their placement and installation in the stipulated position. After a study to rationalize the actions of each man and the joint actions of the vehicle crew, the group organized training for all cadres from the company level down and for the men. The results were that after training was held, the time spent in vehicle battery installation was reduced from 1 hour to 20 minutes. Moreover, the group also trained troops in stacking ammunition in trucks, and in transferring ammunition from trucks to the tanks. Also due to the group’s study and rationalization of actions and stacking for convenient and safe transfer to tanks, the time spent in stacking ammunition was reduced by a third. Primarily thanks to such supplemental training themes, each vehicle crew’s combat readiness capabilities were increased and combat readiness time was reduced.

Due to the objective presented of focusing on the training of cadres and vehicle crews with effective themes, the training was divided into different classes, with only two or three students participating in the study of some subjects. For example, driver practice for the PT76 vehicle had only three students. Supplementary
long-distance training for DM2 vehicle drivers had only two men, and four men participated in the 3C lesson. The organization of classes by individual subject consistent with the specialty of each recipient type avoided a situation of superficial and generalized themes without depth. This study method also allowed the cadres and men to concentrate on more study, and to achieve good results although the period of training was not great. Generally speaking, the training quality of technical subjects was better than those involving tactics. The technical standards of each individual were better when coordinating with the entire crew. The cause of the problem was that due to fuel restrictions, time spent in vehicle operations for full crew training was too little and tactical study was conducted without the use of vehicles so only symbolic terrain study was held, and consequently, training results were limited.

From results attained in the training of Tank Group H02, we recognized a renovation in organization methods, consistent with a technical unit and under conditions of an incomplete complement. On the basis of these organization methods, if the group were able to fully ensure the amount of fuel stipulated by the tank and armor command, surely results would be still higher. At the present time, the fuel supplied to Group H02 is only about half the amount stipulated by the branch. Therefore, whatever the reason for this shortage, we suggest that the supervisory agencies of Q Corps [binh doan] be responsible for resolving this problem for Group H02.

Registration of Recruits, Reserves Requires Strict Execution

902E0055B Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 29 Sep 89 p 2

[Article by Colonel Nguyen Xuan Cac]

[Text] Registration of individuals ready for induction and reserve military personnel has been conducted in the northern provinces since the beginning of the sixties, and in the southern provinces since liberation, and on a nationwide basis since the advent of the new Military Draft Law in 1981.

Despite such a long period of time, this work has still failed to produce the required results: there is an incomplete grasp of quantity and a loose grasp of quality, management lacks firmness, etc.

Within the legal system of our country, regulations on this work are not lacking. The military draft laws of 1960 and 1981 both had sections stipulating military draft registration. After each law, the Council of Ministers (previously the Council of Government) issued a decree promulgating a military draft registration statute (Resolution 217/CP in 1961 and Resolution 48/HDBT in 1983), and agencies and professions have had documents for guiding and organizing training for district and village levels, organized models and tours for the study and exchange of experience, etc.

Only upon review of state laws, decrees, and resolutions as noted above is it possible to recognize that compliance is not strict: people's committees at all levels are not firmly supervising military draft registration, with the majority giving military agencies a blank check; local military agencies have failed to organize thorough achievement, at some locations and during some periods operating in a negligent and cursory manner; military units have not completely or accurately compiled records for discharged military personnel; local administrative agencies have not properly implemented systems for registering and managing individuals ready for induction or reserve military personnel, especially when these individuals transfer their residence, leave for school, long-term assignment or labor in foreign countries, etc.

Because there is no firm grasp of the quantity or quality of those prepared for induction and reserve military personnel, the quality of induction calls cannot be improved and quality norms are commonly contracted to primary level units. In some locations and at some times, equality is not ensured and youths in sectors and trades are not called to augment the technical specialties of the army in accordance with the request of the Ministry of Defense, and the appointment and deployment of reserve military personnel is not done by military speciality and does not answer the requirements of a war to protect the fatherland during the present period.

To overcome the "lax" situation above, it is necessary first of all to give all concerned echelons and sectors the correct realization that proper achievement of military draft registration is strict compliance with the military draft law; "living and working in accordance with the constitution and the law," and a theme of examining completion of the annual missions of the local area and local military agencies.

When army units discharge personnel, they must completely and accurately compile the stipulated records and papers, especially and specifically noting the military specialty of each man. Regiments must conduct detailed inspections before arrangements are made for military personnel to return home.

Local district military agencies and village military cadres, based on the rosters of youths they have called up for enlistment during each drive and each year, must make preparations for timely and complete registration upon their discharge.

The nationwide census conducted at 0000 on 1 April 1989 was a good occasion for village and district military agencies to firmly coordinate with census agencies in attaining a roster of individuals prepared for induction and reserve military personnel in order to conduct military draft registration as well as to reexamine available forces. Many local military agencies actively served as a staff for local party committee and administrative echelons in coordinating this work with the census committees. Regrettably, not a few locations missed this
good opportunity for effectively ascertaining and managing the source of inductees and mobilized reserves.

Communist Youth Unions Helping Demobilized Soldiers

902E0028A Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 22 Aug 89 pp 1, 2

[Article by Dao Van Su]

[Text] Assisting demobilized troops completing their international obligations and about to return home in studying for a trade and finding jobs, the Communist Youth Unions of the 1st, 5th, and 11th Precincts have conducted effective actions. In the 1st Precinct, many youth union members have agreed to distribute credit lottery tickets to collect more than a half million dong in commissions for the creation of a fund to assist their brother in learning a trade. With this fund, the 1st Precinct Youth Union will issue five trade study subsidies monthly to those with the greatest difficulties, each worth 50,000 dong. Besides that, the 1st Precinct has also encouraged a number of units to give priority in accepting 20 demobilized soldiers for jobs. The 5th Precinct coordinated with the precinct's occupational training center to accept soldiers for trade studies free of charge, while simultaneously issuing 10 subsidies to those with difficulties but with aspirations for studying a trade in a different location, each worth 50,000 dong. The 11th Precinct has coordinated with many enterprises and business facilities producing export leather and rubber shoes within the precinct, to possibly provide employment for 300 men.

Subward 15 of Tan Binh Ward presently has about 300 youths who have completed their military obligations. Subward 15 is an agricultural subward but also has many factories and enterprises, so nearly all these men have been introduced to stable jobs in two areas: agricultural and industrial production. The Export Cannery, Monosodium Glutamate, Rubber, Chemicals, Dau Tuong An, and Dau Tan Binh plants constantly give priority to those needing training prior to preparations for the induction drive at the beginning of 1990. This assisted the subwards in preliminary classification of youths for health reasons, family conditions, political quality, etc., and reduced lost effort in future enlistment physicals. Because the training formula is concentrated in the ward with berthing and messing at home, the ward joined the subwards in direct visits to the families of training participants to announce and clarify the objectives and requirements of the training phase. Many families participated in actively encouraging their sons to strictly comply with training discipline. During the days of training, we noted that joining in class management by training instructors were also members of the ward military command and subward military cadres. Many subwards arranged to lead the youths to and from the training daily. This was a great and enthusiastic effort by the military agencies of Hai Ba Trung Ward and subwards in the ward. We learned that in a number of otherwards, training was not organized at the ward level but was assigned to the subwards. Thus, the management by subward cadres was lax (some subwards had only four or five youths participating in the training), and training themes were reduced and even erroneous so results were not high and everyone engaged in the training felt the formalism and wasted time. Participating in an inspection of results after a week of training, we saw that nearly all the youths had a grasp of the basic knowledge. In the subjects and techniques of using infantry weapons and throwing hand grenades, nearly all attained a good rating. In tactics and close order drill, the entire class met requirements. The subject of politics was not inspected.

Without Good Management, Training Is Ineffective

The substance of training for 17-year-old youths is aimed at “filling in the blanks” in general military knowledge for those not fully completing their general middle school education. Therefore, the training participants are mostly street youths without jobs in state agencies or employed in many different trades to make a daily living. Because these youths are rarely propagandaized and educated in laws regarding military obligations or citizen’s responsibilities, organization of discipline is usually limited.

With a firm grasp of this characteristic, the Hai Ba Trung Ward military agency had a full understanding from the very preparation of training organization: emphasizing training management organization, maintaining strict discipline, and firmly coordinating with subward cadres to strengthen management, motivation, and education. The ward clearly confirmed that without management, training is ineffective. The military agency cadres went down to the subwards for a firm grasp of the roster of 17-year-old youths, and to join the subwards in selecting those needing training prior to preparations for the induction drive at the beginning of 1990. This assisted the subwards in preliminary classification of youths for health reasons, family conditions, political quality, etc., and reduced lost effort in future enlistment physicals. Because the training formula is concentrated in the ward with berthing and messing at home, the ward joined the subwards in direct visits to the families of training participants to announce and clarify the objectives and requirements of the training phase. Many families participated in actively encouraging their sons to strictly comply with training discipline. During the days of training, we noted that joining in class management by training instructors were also members of the ward military command and subward military cadres. Many subwards arranged to lead the youths to and from the training daily. This was a great and enthusiastic effort by the military agencies of Hai Ba Trung Ward and subwards in the ward. We learned that in a number of otherwards, training was not organized at the ward level but was assigned to the subwards. Thus, the management by subward cadres was lax (some subwards had only four or five youths participating in the training), and training themes were reduced and even erroneous so results were not high and everyone engaged in the training felt the formalism and wasted time. Participating in an inspection of results after a week of training, we saw that nearly all the youths had a grasp of the basic knowledge. In the subjects and techniques of using infantry weapons and throwing hand grenades, nearly all attained a good rating. In tactics and close order drill, the entire class met requirements. The subject of politics was not inspected.
In concluding this training phase, Lt. Col. Pham Chan, Commander of the Hai Ba Trung Ward Military Command, observed, "Although training results are not yet high, they have been assisted in grasping the basic themes of general military knowledge. Last year, when a number of the trainees were inducted into units at the front, all of them made efforts to achieve good results."

When Subwards Lack Funding Autonomy, Training Encounters Difficulties

Funding for this training phase is conducted in accordance with the principle of the state and the people working together. Actually, the ward level is concerned with organizing instruction and lesson preparation while the matter of ensuring subsistence standards is the responsibility of the subward level. Seeking understanding, we noted that the subwards set the daily subsistence standards at different levels: 3,000, 2,000, and 1,000 dong. Some subwards issue these allowances immediately upon entering training; and some are resolved to follow "policy" with some men completing their training and still not in receipt of their allowances. The problem is not due to the different economic conditions of each subward but primarily due to the difference in concept. Some subwards have determined beforehand to issue each youth 1,000 dong per day, but the subward chairman has still been perplexed about "whether these youths, upon completion of training, will be useful in maintaining subward order and security. Should we issue this money at this time and receive nothing in return?" These doubts prove that the chairman does not fully understand the objectives and requirements of training 17-year-old youths. However, after the training, subwards can organize a number of these youths to participate in the self-defense and people's security forces, enabling them to gradually become familiar with social activities of an organized nature, and to develop the dynamism and spirit of responsibility of the youth.

Despite such "difficulties," the number of youths on the recent training roster of Hai Ba Trung Ward all strictly complied with training discipline. This is a victory for the motivation and education work. If only the simple economic benefits are calculated, 17-year-old youths (with daily wages of 5,000 to 7,000 dong) will not take off work to train. But, just because of this, subward levels should not fail to give attention to providing specific material compensation to motivate the men.

Military Salary Policy Needs Changing

Despite the different salary recipients. There are usually three primary recipients: the armed forces, production labor, and professional administration, with the armed forces usually receiving a higher priority because it is a special type of labor. In countries that have established a modern regular standing army, there is usually a policy of preferential treatment for military personnel, first of all officers, that is higher than other labor recipients. This is expressed in the basic salary along with other types of allowances such as longevity pay, combat allowances, etc. The army's pay scales are separate, do not resemble those of production and increasingly are never located within the pay scales of professional administration.

The principle of classification by recipient is similar and the higher or lower army salaries of each country can differ. This is dependent upon production labor output and effectiveness, the national income, and especially the source of national budget receipts collected from the national income and the policy regarding the army of each country.

Besides its general nature, our army is one that has been engaged in combat continuously for several decades. Nearly all the officers have devoted their entire life, from youth to loss of labor strength, to the fight to liberate the people and protect the fatherland. They have had few conditions for establishing a foundation for a relatively normal and stable family like other labor subjects. Therefore, when they leave the army to rest, these officers encounter a great many difficulties in building a life in their few remaining years. Most of the young officer forces continuing the profession will leave the ranks while of labor age and full of energy, but still have insufficient training and combat requirements. When leaving the army, these officers will either have no jobs or must work in a new and unsuitable field of labor to acquire the minimum income necessary for life.

In reality, there is still no clear policy in our country on salaries for the army. The salaries of the armed forces are in common with the pay scales of professional administration, and lower than a number of basic production wage levels. During the past several years, the salary system has not been strictly implemented; production wages in many soft locations have been much higher than hard locations, and in comparison with the salaries of the armed forces, much higher.

Since September 1985, although officer salaries have received a 20 percent increase in preferential allowances; if the average current (June 1989) officer salaries are compared, the increase is 7,140 dong per month; but still not enough to compensate for food rations (due to the requirements of armed labor). At the lowest subsistence level of rear area units, additional funds must be disbursed for sufficient rations. The compensatory funds provided for sufficient rations for one officer average monthly to about 10,000 dong (depending on area prices). The salary remainder is lower than the wage level of similar administrative cadres.
All countries in the world have a compensation system to ensure proper rations for their army. The German Democratic Republic provides more compensation for winter vegetables that are more expensive than summer vegetables or ensures that officers and professional personnel can eat without losing money.

Clearly, our policy on army officer salaries is truly consistent. Despite Resolution 02 NG-TW on 30 July 1987 of the Political Bureau and the Resolution of the Sixth Party Plenum (Sixth Session) touching upon this subject, “Supply sufficient standards in kind...ensure realistic salaries and revise and supplement a number of policies,” many obstacles are still being encountered in implementation. One of the greatest obstacles is that leading and responsible agencies of the central government still have no unified or consistent viewpoint. To this time, in a few responsible state agencies, opinions on policies regarding the salaries of the armed forces contain some expressions of incomplete observation. Only the immediate is perceived and not the long-term aspects of the mission to build the armed forces and their effect on the undertaking to protect the fatherland.

The army salary structures of socialist countries differ from those of capitalist countries. The basic army salary of socialist countries consists of the two factors of position and rank. Usually, the position salary accounts for about 60 percent of the basic salary. In the army salaries of many capitalist countries (including the previous Saigon puppet army), there is only one factor, that of rank. The salary is increased in accordance with longevity and despite the lack of a position factor, ranks actually correspond to each assigned position.

Our army, since it acquired a rank system, has also implemented a pay scale consisting of the one factor of rank. During the past several years, each time the state has raised salaries, the Ministry of National Defense has also suggested plans on army salaries to the state consisting of a policy of preferential treatment approximately the same as a number of other countries and a change in the pay tables. However, each time the pay tables are changed, the general salary fund of the entire nation far exceeds the total budget; and therefore, it was September 1985 before a 20 percent preferential treatment allowance was implemented in the “soft portion” of salaries.

The salaries of our army presently have and are beset with many unresolved shortcomings. The officer wage scale using the single factor of rank contains many contradictions and complications. Ranks promotions require sufficient longevity; in mid-tenure, an officer may be appointed to a higher position but still lack the years necessary for “possible” promotion. Thus, the officer receives no increase in pay. Conversely, officers in lower positions but with longevity are promoted to a higher rank and suddenly receive an increase in pay. Consequently, there have been occurrences of five or six positions lower or higher than each other in which cadres of the same rank receive the same salary. In some locations of complex and difficult assignments and labor, the salary is lower than those with administrative and simple labor. This violates the basic principle of salaries distributed in accordance with labor.

In the socialist countries, a rise in position is accompanied simultaneously with a promotion in rank (if there is a table of organization and equipment). In our country, the principle of also increasing the salary when an elevation in position occurs is only applied to civil servants. Staff assistants appointed to bureau chiefs naturally receive a bureau chief salary, and even direct elevations to department and ministry chief immediately receive the salary of the new position. In the army, this principle is not applied because it is necessary to follow rank; in not a few cases, officers have 1 or 2 years over the longevity required but are still not promoted because the rank is “too crowded.”

Besides the shortcoming of salary following only the rank factor, there also exists the problem of preferential treatment through various types of allowances (the soft portion of salaries). Countries implementing a policy of preferential treatment for the army first of all express it in the basic salary aimed at providing such treatment to officers while in the ranks and when they have reached retirement age. The basic salary is high and upon retirement, in accordance with stipulated ratios, officers still receive a high income. Our country stipulates an officer pay scale following that of professional administration with a 20 percent preferential treatment allowance (in the soft portion) which upon departure from the service is considered finished. When our army officers, who have gone through three resistance wars and fought all their lives to liberate the people and protect the fatherland while making army service their profession, become old, they no longer receive preferential treatment. Consequently, failure to apply this 20 percent allowance to the basic salary is inconsistent with and denies the principles of distribution in accordance with labor and preferential treatment for military labor.

Stipulation of a longevity allowance is to encourage youths into long-term service in the ranks with the purpose of raising the combat strength of the armed forces. Therefore, the Soviet army stipulates a longevity allowance reaching a possible 40 percent. The armies of capitalist countries include longevity in the basic salary. Every 2 or 3 years in the officer ranks, the basic salary is raised. In the U.S. army, an officer with a low rank but high longevity receives a higher salary than one with a high rank but little longevity. A captain with 14 years service receives a monthly salary of $1,778.70; but a major with 8 years service receives only $1,625.40.

During 1960, we stipulated a maximum 25 percent longevity allowance for officers in the army. At that time, surely the agency establishing this policy did not suspect that officers would have to remain in the ranks for more than 40 years.
Also as a principle of distribution in accordance with labor, economic and administrative sectors of the state are extremely strict in its application. If the labor is special, there is a special allowance. To attract additional laborers to remote and uninhabited regions, there is a highland allowance. Vehicle drivers in dangerous mountainous regions receive a hazardous duty allowance. A number of state sectors not engaged in a combat mission also have longevity like the armed forces when necessary to accumulate experience. When staff reduction is necessary, layoffs and payments of 75 percent of the salary for sometimes up to 12 months are used. Meanwhile, the state only allows the army to enjoy a few systems which, although nothing special and not much greater than on the outside, are still regarded by a few responsible agencies as excessive. Perhaps the responsible agencies of the central government believe that studying and designating policy for the armed forces is outside their responsibility. This produces conflict between the two missions of production and production protection; and building and protecting the fatherland.

To overcome the present shortcomings, wage policy concerning the army must be renovated.

Renovation is necessary but not simplified and arbitrary renovation. The policy itself is an extremely complete issue that cannot be separated from the present economic and financial situation of the country which presently has many difficulties. It is also impossible not to examine the relationship between different types of labor in society without setting forth excessive requirements for this or that type of labor. Conversely, sole reliance upon the difficulties to prolong the present inequitable situation and failure to change the backward policies will not create a good social relationship regarding the mission of building the armed forces or that of consolidating national defense and protecting the fatherland in both the immediate and long-term aspects.

The limited budget prevents a change in all the policies and it is necessary to gradually concentrate on the issues. The army itself must resolutely reduce its staff, rationally adjust its organization, etc. to subsequently adjust policy with the purpose of not increasing its radio of the national defense budget.

The issue of army salaries has been under study for a few years but no unified conclusions have been reached. The principal plans suggested for improving salary policy are as follows:

**Officer Salaries**

1. Plan: The basic salary would have the two factors of rank and position but either rank or position could be primary (about 60 and 40 percent); and each time a promotion or appointment occurs, a promotion would have an increase in the rank pay portion, and appointment to a higher position would have a change in the position salary portion.

2. Plan: The basic salary would have only the single factor of rank, but contain a position allowance (soft portion) in the rank; the wage level would rise in accordance with longevity but be limited (to two levels) or unlimited (like a number of western countries still having position allowances).

3. Plan: The salary would have only one factor, not rank but position, with rank only an allowance (soft).

Of the three plans above, each has an argument.

Plan 1 expresses both the labor nature (position salary) and the army characteristic and is at the same time closely connected with position (rank salary); when one of the two factors changes, a change in salary is easier. However, the weakness of this plan is that to pay wages in accordance with position, it is necessary to immediately study the position and to classify the organization. The more detailed the classification of organization, the more scientific becomes the payment of salaries, but this is a complex task requiring expenditure of much effort. On the other hand, because the basic salary consists of the integral factors of position and rank salaries, even if position were primary (60 percent), the salary of army officers would not equal that of similar positions in civilian life, especially under conditions in which the basic salary portion of the officer is not designated much higher than other types of labor.

Plan 2 has advantages in that because the officer wage scale established in 1958 was recently improved along with the salary system throughout the country, no structural upheaval would occur. On the present foundation, there would be changes only in the salary level. However, its weakness is that the labor nature expressed in the position for which the officer is not fully reflected (still light). If implemented as in the experience of western country armies, even if no positions exist, ranks must be arranged in accordance with position. When ranks and positions depend upon each other, many grade levels are necessary to take care of an officer's accumulated experience. Achievement of this plan under the conditions presented would also relatively completely reflect the principle of distribution in accordance with labor and maintain the present rank salary tradition. This is also consistent with one of the projected plans for civil servant pay scales in which the basic salary is designated on a basis of the grade attained and with a position allowance.

Plan 3 with only a position factor as a basis has many more weaknesses. Although it reflects the labor nature, it cannot fully express the characteristics and traditions of the armed forces in general and especially of our country.

One of the conditions for implementing the plans above is the need to develop the designation of job titles and the analysis of position organization and tables, and rank tables.
Military Professional Salaries

Military professionals are closely connected with officers. They perform an officer's mission but due to restraints in the organization table officer ratio, cannot be counted as officers. However, a long-term irrationality is that salaries of military professionals still completely follow the wage scales of civil servants. Therefore, if officer salaries are increased, it is necessary at the same time to change the pay scales of the military professional. This would simultaneously reflect the different labor standards and effectiveness of the military professional (high, middle and basic level), and complexity of the job, and encourage them to accumulate experience and raise their skills in the use of the modern arms and technical equipment of the army.

National Defense Civil Servant Salaries

Besides the two recipients above, there is also a basic position similar to professional administrative and economic labor held by the national defense civil servant. The salary of the national defense civil servant should remain a system of salaries that must rely on the general pay scales. However, due to the characteristics and requirements of building the armed forces, it is also necessary to apply a kind of special national defense allowance.

Non-Commissioned Officer, Soldier Allowances

The army differs from the public security force in that the soldier is a citizen fulfilling his duty. Every citizen, in accordance with the Constitution, has a responsibility to participate and serve in the army for a short time. Non-commissioned officers and soldiers should not fall within the purview of a salary but under a system of ensuring the subsistence level and a number of essential items consistent with the labor nature of each recipient in the armed forces, and with the economic situation and the national budget. However, the state must also reexamine the rations and standards of supply for non-commissioned officers and soldiers for conformity with the new situation.

ECONOMIC

Opinion Expressed on Renovating Labor Management Model

902E0009A Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 Aug 89 p 3

[Article by Che Viet Tan]

[Text] To create jobs to allow a low but relatively stable standard of living is being a major question for the labor force in the countryside and in cities and towns in Vietnam. The source of labor normally grows more quickly than the source of jobs. The labor force consisting of people being not yet employed, people being regularly unemployed, and people holding jobs in an irregular manner is demanding the right measures to resolve the problem.

In 70 years (1920-1990) our country's population increases fourfold. In 1921 the population was 15.6 million; in April 1989, it was 64.4 million; and it will be 67 million by 1990. In the years from 1955 to 1980, the average annual population increase was 3.1 percent; in 1981-1985, the fact that the annual increase was always more than 3 percent showed the peak of the "labor explosion."

Our country's economic structure in many past decades proved itself ineffective, with labor productivity being very low, and did not show enough annual growth to ensure jobs for an increasing labor force.

Since the 6th Party Congress the party and state have adopted many policies aimed at gradually stabilizing the socioeconomic situation and creating favorable conditions for all working people to have jobs and to work with greater productivity and efficiency.

In the first 6 months of 1989, the socioeconomic situation arrived at a turning point and then followed a positive direction: Grain production continued to increase, with improvement in the supply of grain; there were more goods on the market, with the people's purchasing activities getting better; the rate of increase of prices slowed down and inflation decreased, with the purchasing power of money for the first time being restored; the economy was strongly switching to business accounting. The progress that was made was very important and proved the correctness of the renovation guidelines set forth by the party and state, but the results obtained were only initial ones and far from very steady. Although the quick steps taken to abolish the management mechanism based on bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies and to make the inflationary fever subside brought about results, there also appeared new and tough socioeconomic difficulties. One of these difficulties was the fact that hundreds of thousands of people in the state-operated sector either were unemployed or had only occasional jobs and that millions of working people demanded jobs.

We are facing urgent and basic problems that should be dealt with in terms of social labor and require a new labor management model. As this model currently is in the stage of being shaped up, we should think about what to do in order to determine its shape so as to make it fit in accordance with the development logic.

A new economic structure must be able to properly feed the annually increasing population and to provide the working people with jobs. This is a matter that is both urgent and long-term and should be taken into consideration in the population-increase strategy. The latter must satisfy two needs: to reduce the rate of population increase to a rational level, to avoid the consequences of an aging population in the future; to reproduce generations of intelligent and healthy Vietnamese and at the
same time to create possibilities for economic development allowing a better life and a solution for the job problem.

In the next 15 years there will be 23 million youths entering the labor age and 7 million people exiting from it. With the same level of technical equipment as it exists today, to provide jobs alone requires an investment of about 20-21 billion rubles. Naturally we cannot stop at the present level of technical equipment; therefore, the capital to be invested must be greater. The question being raised is that we must choose a socioeconomic strategy which abolishes open lateral investment aimed at self-sufficiency in accordance with the views of the material-resources economy and the old industrialization strategy and switches to development of a commodity economy with a new industrialization strategy, leading to new investment and labor structures, including a change of the investment formula, so as to use more labor and to create favorable conditions for improving technology, raising labor productivity, and creating more jobs for the working population at the same time, as well as to change the direction of the country's development in the coming decades.

To thoroughly understand the policy on an economic structure of many components, to fully use all production capabilities.

This is a policy of long-term strategic significance reflecting democracy in economic matters and ensuring free business in compliance with the law for everybody. To eliminate prejudices, discriminatory and wrong treatment, and various forms of monopoly, and to create wholesome competition under socialism. The working people have the right to work in any economic component and are treated with equality by the law.

The state-operated economy holds a leading role in accordance with a new concept that determines socioeconomic activities, but it does not necessarily occupy a large segment as the old concept has long required; and it is necessary to reorganize the state-operated economic sector through economic measures in order to have a more effective state-operated economic structure. As for the sectors and occupations that would be best and most advantageous for cooperatives and private citizens to handle, it is necessary to create favorable conditions for this cooperative and individual economic sector to develop. For the time being, labor must also be redistributed, with a part of the state-operated labor force being transferred to other economic components at the time of reorganization of the state-operated economic structure. Agricultural labor must be used on the basis of having an additional winter crop in the north, expanding crop-growing in the south, growing additional crops in order to fully use sources of labor in the countryside, and redistributing labor organizations on the basis of specialization. As a thorough understanding of the views on the commodity economy in connection with food and grain production, afforestation, forestry, fishery, and so on, we must move a part of the agricultural labor, use the agricultural productive labor only to ensure raising the volume of commodity production with high crop-growing techniques and labor productivity, and move another part to the industries specialized in processing agricultural products, services, and small industry and handicrafts. We gradually build many technical service centers to serve agricultural production.

As we go in this direction, we will be able to mobilize the people's potential capabilities for developing the economy, creating jobs, reducing the investment burden in the budget, and changing the way we have been investing in capital construction. With these new concepts, we need to study again the way labor has been organized in our country. We do not limit this study of organization of labor in the state-operated economic sector, but we must instead study it in society as a whole and within the commodity economy of many components, with organization of labor conforming to the development needs of all economic components.

To attach importance to the working people as a factor.

To attach importance to the working people as a factor is expressed in these aspects:

The working people have the right to be the master of their own working power and are free to work, to carry on their occupation, and to fulfill their labor obligations in full compliance with the law and with their working power being compensated for at its full value.

To change the way we consider and resolve the question of wages and social policies and to ensure unity and harmony among economic and social policies. It is necessary to change the concepts of wages and labor compensation, which are to be considered a factor in the production process rather than a factor having to do with social policies, nor a tool of redistribution of national income. Wages and labor compensation as prices of the working power must be calculated at its full value, and the tendency to average them must be overcome.

In the countryside, along with applying various forms of contracting and bidding, we must encourage and adopt a policy to ensure that farmer households can get rich legally.

It is necessary to have a set of new social policies that do not totally rely on subsidies obtained from the state budget. These policies must make sure that the working people in all economic components have the responsibility for making contributions based on the income earned from their work.

All working people have the right to demand a job and must consider working their duty. In order to resolve this matter, we must change our concept of the work and the way to resolve the work by diversifying it on the basis of improving capabilities and attracting labor from all economic components. We must develop service activities, provide training, introduce people to new jobs, and provide guidance in organizing production and business.
so as to allow the working people to take their own initiative and to find it convenient to learn a skill, to change their occupation, to find a job, or to be self-employed.

To resolve the unemployment problem must be closely linked with carrying out three economic programs, particularly developing the rural economy to include forests and the sea and expanding foreign economic relations to include expanding and raising the effectiveness of the labor cooperation relations with other countries. In the coming years, we must combine resolving the job problem first at the local level with redistributing the population and labor on the basis of territorial division and mainly through economic policies, and create a favorable environment for attracting people and labor.

The Vietnamese labor force is abundant: There will be 46 million working people by the year 2000 compared to 34 million in 1989. Although an immediate difficulty has to do with providing people with jobs, this labor abundance is an advantage for us to develop the country and to properly participate in the international economic life.

Today, with the development of industries and new technical progress, the countries in the world are witnessing a trend: Industrialization will be a global achievement in the 21st century.

In this trend, there will be countries capable of keeping up with the era and countries lagging behind because of a lack of a correct socioeconomic development strategy and mostly because of their failure to develop the strength of their own labor force.

In the new era it is necessary to have a new industrialization strategy based on new industries, but to have only manual labor and cheap wages will not be sufficient. In the next 10 years, this advantage naturally will not totally disappear, but we Vietnamese must visualize early the trend of the era; and if we want to develop Vietnam's labor strength, we will need a technical labor force trained in the new industries and a body of intellectuals capable of mastering the technical progress that is related to the new era's industrialization.

This is a question that needs to be recognized now so as to be raised correctly for the purpose of improving the quality of the general education system and training cadres and skilled workers in accordance with the country's socioeconomic development strategy.

Hanoi Irradiation Center Under Construction

902E0031A Hanoi NHAN DAN CHU NHAT in Vietnamese No 30, 3 Sep 89 p 6

[Article by Dinh Ngoc Lan, National Atomic Energy Institute]
with dosages below 1 million rads produce no toxins at all and have entirely no ill effects on the consumer. The dosages we normally use in irradiating food amount to only a few tens or hundreds of thousands of rads, much lower than that maximum dose.

To this time, 35 countries in the world have officially permitted the sale of 40 kinds of food preserved by the irradiation method. Recently in our country, according to a suggestion of the National Nuclear Energy Institute, after consulting the opinions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry and the Institute of Nutrition, the Ministry of Public health agreed to issue a formal decree initially permitting the sale of seven types of food preserved by irradiation: western potatoes, onions, garlic, powdered spices, and various kinds of dried beans, cereals, and marine products. For other types of food, permission during subsequent years will depend on continuing conditions. Therefore, our country is the 36th in the world to officially permit the sale of irradiated food. The General Department of Standards, Measurements and Quality of the State Science and Technology Commission is carrying out the necessary procedures for our country to officially participate in the Code of Irradiated Food Standards, accepted by more than 120 countries in the world. The establishment of rules and regulations on irradiated food is a subject of great concern to international organizations and countries in the world, considering it a necessary step in expanding commercialization of irradiated food on both the domestic and international markets.

Despite the nuclear power plant accident at Chernobyl, the irradiation technique to preserve grain and food is still receiving increasing development incentive in the world. Prosperous countries like Holland, France, the United States, Japan, etc., are using gamma rays to kill salmonella bacteria in frozen and refrigerated food imported from Southeast Asia, to kill worm eggs and larvae in meat, raise the level of food sanitation, and in effect raise the quality of life. Developing countries are applying the food irradiation technique primarily to reduce losses after harvest, to conserve a large volume of grain and food, and possibly to sustain the lives of an additional millions of people. At the present time, more and more countries are prohibiting the use of chemicals to preserve food and grain due to the belief that chemicals have the ability to cause cancer, and consequently, irradiation is presently the only replacement for chemicals.

Besides preservation of grain and food, the irradiation technique can also be used to disinfect medical instruments, sterilize one-time hypodermic needles to prevent the spread of AIDS, induce radioactive mutations for the creation of new crop varieties, vulcanize rubber, polymerize and improve the properties of various types of materials, etc. To raise the economic effectiveness of irradiation equipment, it is necessary to diversify irradiated goods, and convert irradiation equipment into a multifunction installation capable of use in many objectives.

The Hanoi Irradiation Center is the initial facility marking the beginning of irradiation technology development in our country.

SOCIAL

Payee Income From Land Helps To Resolve Land Changes

902E0016A Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG
in Vietnamese 22 Aug 89 p 3

[Article by Thanh Ha-Nguyen Duc]

[Text] The agricultural reform policy in the past has suggested the share of payment coming from land income. However, in reality, few production collectives or agricultural cooperatives have made such payment, and if they have, they have done so reluctantly. On 3 June 1989, the Rural Affairs Subcommittee of the Municipal CPV Committee held a meeting attended by secretaries and chairmen of rural districts and border precincts, as well as by directors of the departments and sectors concerned, to discuss the ways to resolve land changes. The meeting affirmed that in order to stabilize early the troubled situation resulting from land changes in rural areas, to pay income from land must be considered an important measure.

Why did the land changes in Binh My, Tan Thanh Dong, Hoa Phu, and so on get stabilized?

At the end of last year, when the land changes in the rural villages and border subwards and precincts became very serious, in Binh My Village of Cu Chi District, where the land changes had taken place early and in the fiercest manner in the district, a number of farmers succeeded in resolving the matter relatively nicely by negotiating a one-time payment of income. On the basis of this solution made on its own initiative and combined with the central and municipal directives and resolutions providing guidance for resolving land changes, Binh My Village proposed the following position for positively resolving such changes in different localities: As for land that was legally inherited prior to the liberation, its direct tillers can return to the old land and the area of land to be used will be contracted on the basis of the size of their family (at the average rate of 11 cao/person), with total area ranging from 20 to 50 cao; a one-time income payment will be made to them for the rest of their land. As to those who have land but do not directly till this land that either they bought or was left by parents or grandparents before the liberation, we should persuade them to “share with others rice and clothes” or give them a one-time income payment. As for the various cases of land bought after the liberation, specific considerations are as follows: If the land was bought for production, the portion of excess land will be returned to its owners for cultivation to generate income; if the land was bought for the purpose of selling, the land will not be returned, nor income payment made. As for the cases of land that was seized and tilled by others in the past, now its owners can
either return to this old land and till it or get a one-time income payment. The amount of this one-time income payment is determined and accepted among farmers themselves, but the administration also sets a relative price frame serving as a basis for farmers to rely on to determine the amount of payment in specific cases. Agricultural cooperatives affirm the deals in written contracts between two sides.

As Binh My Village’s one-time income payment policy received favorable response from its farmers, the land changes there were quickly stabilized and, as a result, most farmers have been working smoothly since the end of 1988. The way of making one-time income payment as it was first adopted in Binh My Village has spread to many other localities in the district. Tan Thinh Dong and Hoa Phu Villages not only have done what Binh My did but also have taken the “initiative” to supplement the action: In addition to the accepted principles, including a price frame as suggested by the administration as in the case of Binh My, the villages also recognize and pay for the labor involved in opening, improving, and keeping the cultivated areas of public land, which was not recognized by Binh My; the administration now confirms the payment of income and the payment for labor involved in opening new land (in Binh My agricultural cooperatives now confirm this), and contracts are considered legal evidence to be used later for registration and for issuance of certificates recognizing the right to use the land concerned. Most disputes were resolved by farmers themselves. They drafted documents certifying the giving and accepting of land and went to the authorities to have them legalized. As a result, the council in charge of resolving land problems has found itself much less busy and the land changes have now been stabilized. For the time being, in the two villages there remain just a few disputes among different clans and between farmers and Tan Trung State Farm, which the authority of the village does not reach. In the past, Phu Hoa Dong Village used to refuse making income payments, and land disputes had been very serious and, in many cases, seemingly unsolvable. But after the meeting on 3 June 1988, Phu Hoa Dong has begun making income payments and paying for labor involved in opening new land in the cases of cultivated areas of land of legal origin. As a result, within a short time, the village has been able to resolve 40 disputes, and its farmers 60 cases. The obstacles have been overcome for the first time.

Land Disputes Remain Serious Elsewhere

In other villages like Trung An, Tan Thong Hoi, Phuoc Vinh An, and so on, although the administration has been able to resolve a number of cases, serious land disputes (open or hidden) continue to take place. Trung An still has 60 lawsuits pending in the office of its people’s committee; Tan Thong Hoi, 80; Phuoc Vinh An, 8, excluding hundreds of cases of dispute that have been “resolved” by the parties involved (without any lawsuits being brought before the court) or still continue because solutions proposed by the administration have been considered unsatisfactory. The way the above-mentioned localities dealt with land disputes was based on official documents: Decision 13 of the Council of Ministers, Directive 128 of the Municipal People’s Committee, and Plan 14 of Cu Chi District People’s Committee. But because these documents do not truly reflect the real situation and the feelings and aspirations of farmers in the areas where the disputed land is located, some villages suggested making income payments and paying for labor involved in opening new land, but payment would be made in very low percentages—6-7 percent—and would last for periods ranging from 1 to 3 years. As they actually went into action, the administrations of these villages again turned to persuasion and coercion by advancing the “share with others rice and clothes” argument; as a result, some cases remained pending although repeated efforts had been made to resolve them. Farmers would in front of the authorities accept their solution, but after they got home, they would refuse to carry it out. Tan Thong Hoi Village tried for 8 times to resolve the problem involving Mrs Nguyen Thi Sau’s 2.5 hectares of land, which had been given to 5 of those households having done much for the resolution and being poor to till, but its efforts brought about no results.

Why did many localities fail to firmly and honestly make land income payments and to pay for labor involved in opening new land so as to properly resolve the land changes and to quickly stabilize the latter as Binh My, Tan Thanh Dong, and Hoa Phu have done? There were many reasons, perhaps, but as we sought the opinion of those who had to monitor these problems, we found a reason which should be considered the fault of the basic level: Because their perception and vision were limited or because they had to protect their own interests and those of their families and clans, some key leading cadres at the basic level deliberately went against the legitimate needs of farmers and rejected this morally-satisfactory and reasonable solution.

A Few Things To Be Learned

Land in the South in general and in the rural districts, including Cu Chi, in particular, has gone through periods of disturbances. Therefore, if we wanted to properly resolve any land changes, we should first of all determine their origin; the cases in which there was no legal basis to confirm the question of ownership should be brought to the people who would discuss them in a democratic manner and whose opinion would be obtained. Land, according to our land laws which say it is owned by all the people and managed by the state, used to be the properties of individuals. Therefore, if a dispute took place over the portion of land that still belongs to the people having the right to legally use it, whatever solution that still denies farmers the compensation for the labor they have expended on it would not possibly bring about satisfactory results. In other words, if compensation were not made fully and honestly, disputes could hardly stop, even though we might use encouragement, persuasion, or coercion. Land disputes are economic matters. To share
VIIIETNAM

Information on Vietnamese Personalities

54 | VIETNAM

rice and clothes is a social matter. The two matters cannot be resolved interchangeably or at one's convenience. However, when we say that farmers are private owners, we must know that our farmers also have love and devotion for their fellow villagers and neighbors and are ready to share with others rice and clothes when fairness and reason are respected. There were many very bitter and lasting disputes in which when the question of labor involved in opening new land was raised, obstacles were overcome. For example, in the cases of Mr Nguyen Van Bon in Trung An Village, Mr Huynh Van Bang in Tan Thanh Dong Village, Mr Nguyen Van Ray in Tan An Hoi Village, and so on, who had acted very strongly and had vowed that they would "rather die than give up land," when the other sides finally agreed to pay for the labor involved in opening new land and admitted their fault, they readily gave up the land and even refused to accept the labor compensation.

When we reviewed the land changes in Cu Chi District and the way it resolved them, although the review was far from very profound, we were able to confirm this fact: To pay land income fully and honestly is an important measure in the efforts to resolve land disputes in the countryside, reflects social justice and moral feelings among farmers, and certainly receives the agreement of the latter. It is regrettable that the experience of Binh My, Tan Thanh Dong, and Hoa: Phu Villages has not yet been reviewed for drawing conclusions from it and for wide dissemination.

Vo Van Kiet Inspects Storm-Relief Work in Provinces

BK1710061989 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 15 Oct 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] On the morning of 15 October, after working with the leadership of Nghe Tinh Province and learning about the damage situation, Comrade Vo Van Kiet personally directed the financial, banking, national defense, communication and transportation, home trade, and supply sectors to urgently bring in materials and goods with which to help the local people quickly and effectively overcome the consequences of Typhoons Nos. 7 and 9. As an immediate step, the Ministry of Home Trade and the Ministry of Communication and Transportation were instructed to supply the people with oil paper and corrugated irons for reroofing houses, warehouses, and schools. For its part, the Ministry of Public Health was ordered to send in right away about 100 cases of medicines, mainly post-typhoon epidemic prophylactics.

Earlier, while on the way to Nghe Tinh, Comrade Vo Van Kiet had stopped over in Thanh Hoa Province and worked with the local leadership. After hearing reports on the damage situation and the province's efforts to overcome the consequences of recent typhoons, he urged the province to urgently help people in the affected areas quickly stabilize production and living conditions.

Vo Viet Cong [VOX CHIS COONG]

Chairman of the Council of State; on 3 Sep 89 he headed a delegation to the Nonaligned Summit in Belgrade. (NHAN DAN 5 Sep 89 p 1)
Pham Dinh Di [PHAMJ DINHF ZI]
Member of the CPV Central Committee; *secretary of the party committee, Ha Tuyen Province. He was interviewed about militia strength in his province. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 7 Jul 89 p 2)

Nguyen Diep [NGUYEENX ZIEEPJ] *Maj General
*Commander of the Signal Branch. Recently he announced the beginning of construction of communication lines between Hanoi and Da Nang. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 9 May 89 p 1)

Bui Dai [BUIF DAIJ] *Maj General
Director of the 108th Military Hospital. He wrote an article suggesting changes in military hospital and among medical cadres. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 19 Jul 89 p 2)

Do Cao Dang [DOOX CAO DANGS] deceased
Member of the CPV; acting editor-in-chief of the journal NGUOI LAM BAO; former associate editor of the newspaper TIEN PHONG. Born on 31 Dec 1930 in Vinh Phu Province, he died on 30 May 89. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 2 Jun 89 p 4)

Pham The Duyet [PHAMJ THEES ZUYETTJ]
Secretary of the CPV Central Committee; secretary of the CPV Committee, Hanoi municipality; on 4 Sep 89 he welcomed a Cambodian State delegation visiting Vietnam. (NHAN DAN 5 Sep 89 p 4)

Trinh Hong Duong [TRINHJ HOONGF ZUWOWNG]
*Deputy Chief Justice of the Supreme People's Court; on 8 Sep 89, he introduced the Regulations on Civil Court Rulings to the press. (HANOI MOI 9 Sep 89 p 1)

Nguyen De [NGUYEENX DEEF] *Lt General
*Commander of the 9th MR; on 11 Sep 89 he bade farewell to a Cambodian delegation visiting Vietnam. (NHAN DAN 12 Sep 89 p 4)

Dang Ngoc Giao [DAWNGJ NGOCJ GIAO] *Maj General
*Director of the Rear Services Institute. On 16 Jun 89, he attended a meeting to celebrate the 38th anniversary of the Cambodian Armed forces. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 19 Jun 89 p 1)

Hong Ha [HOONF HAF]
Member of the CPV Central Committee; chef de cabinet of the CPV Central Committee (Chanh van phong Trung Uong). On 4 Sep 89 he was present to welcome Cambodian General Secretary Heng Samrin in Hanoi. (HANOI MOI 5 Sep 89 p 1)
Hoang Ky [HOANGF KYF] *Colonel
Commander of the Ha Nam Ninh Military Command. He was interviewed in the cited source about management of reserve troops. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 9 Jun 89 p 2)

Dinh Van Lap [DINH VAWN LAAPJ], MA
First vice minister of energy; editor-in-chief of TAP CHI NANG LUONG; his name is at the masthead of the cited source. (TAP CHI NANG LUONG No 7, Jul 89, inside front cover)

Nguyen Van Linh [NGUYEENX VAWN LINH]
General secretary of the CPV Central Committee; on 4 Sep 89, he welcomed a State of Cambodia delegation visiting Vietnam. (NHAN DAN 5 Sep 89 p 1)

Chu Manh [CHU MANHJ]
Vice minister of agriculture; on 21 Jun 89 he attended a press conference held by the cited source. (NONG NGHIEP VIETNAM 29 Jun 89 p 2)

Tran Man [TRAANF MAANX]
*Deputy director of Railway General Department; his article on the railway branch’s renovation in serving customers was published in the cited source. (GIAO THONG VAN TAI 26 Aug 89 p 8)

Do Muoi [DOOF MUWOWIF]
Member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee; chairman of the Council of Ministers; on 4 Sep 89 he welcomed a State of Cambodia delegation visiting Vietnam. (NHAN DAN 5 Sep 89 p 1)

Dam Nguy [DAWF NGUYJ] Lt General
*Commander of the 1st MR. He talked about strengthening self-defense forces at a national conference on 1-3 Jul 89. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 7 Jul 89 p 2)

Dinh Van Niem [DINH VAWN NIEEMJ]
*Assistant to Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong; on 10 Sep 89 he accompanied the chairman on a visit to Iraq. (NHAN DAN 12 Sep 89 p 1)

Nguyen Dy Nien [NGUYEENX DY NIEEN]
Vice minister of foreign affairs; he was present at Hanoi Airport to welcome a Cambodian delegation visiting Vietnam. (NHAN DAN 5 Sep 89 p 1)

Nguyen Thanh Quang [NGUYEENX THANHF QUANG]
Vice chairman of the People’s Committee, Phu Yen Province; recently he was interviewed by NONG NGHIEP. (NONG NGHIEP 31 Aug 89 p 1)

Nguyen Ha Phan [NGUYEENX HAF PHAN]
Chairman of the People’s Committee, Hau Giang Province; on 11 Sep 89, he bade farewell to a Cambodian delegation visiting Vietnam. (NHAN DAN 12 Sep 89 p 4)

Dinh Gia Phong [DINH GIA PHONG]
*Director of General Education Department, Ministry of Education; his article on the level of importance of grade I, level I in education was published in the cited source. (GIAO VIEN NHAN DAN No 23, 24, 25, 26, Jun 89 p 3)

Nguyen Huu Quang [NGUYEENX HUWUX QUANG]
Vice minister of forestry. Recently he met with FAO and UNDP representatives. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 4 May 89 p 4)

Phan Su [PHAN SU]
*Deputy director of Hanoi’s Party Organization Department; his article on the role of party organizations was published in the cited source. (HANOI MOI 25 Aug 89 p 2)

Bui Van Suong [BUIF VAWN SUWOWNGS]
Vice minister of communication and transportation; on 12 Jul 89 he was in a meeting with officials of his ministry to discuss the maintenance of Ben Thuy bridge. (GIAO THONG VAN TAI 20 Jul 89 p 2)

Nguyen Dinh Tam [NGUYEENX DINHF TAAM]
*Public security chief of Dong Da Ward in Hanoi; recently he was interviewed by GIAO VIEN NHAN DAN. (GIAO VIEN NHAN DAN 7 Aug 89 p 5)

Huynh Tieng [HUYNHF TIEENGS]
*SRV ambassador to Yugoslavia; on 3 Sep 89, he welcomed Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong visiting Belgrade. (NHAN DAN 5 Sep 89 p 1)

Nguyen Ngoc Tran [NGUYEENX NGOJC TRAAN]
Vice chairman of the State Science and Technology Commission; recently he signed a document on cooperation between Vietnam and ACCT (an intergovernmental organization for cultural and technical cooperation). (NHAN DAN 12 Sep 89 p 1)

Dao Duy Tung [DAOF ZUY TUNGF]
Member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee; secretary of the CPV Central Committee; on
4 Sep 89, he welcomed a State of Cambodia delegation visiting Vietnam. (NHAN DAN 5 Sep 89 p 1)

Pham Chi Tu [PHAMJ CHIS TUW]
*Director of the Public Security Service, Hai Hung Province. He was recently appointed to a committee dealing with security matters. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 4 Jun 89 p 2)

Vu Ba Tuoc [VUX BAS TUWOWCS] Colonel
Director of the Transportation Department. He was interviewed on guidelines for improvements in military training. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 16 Jun 89 p 2)

Nguyen Chi Vu [NGUYEENX CHIS VU]
Alternate member of the CPV Central Committee; *chairman of the CPV Central Committee temporary committee on co-ops and non-state industrial production units. On 25 Jun 89 he met with members of the National Assembly. (SANG TAO 7 Jul 89 p 1)

Tran Luu Vy [TRAANF LUWU VIJ]
Standing deputy secretary of the CPV Committee, Hanoi Municipality; on 25 Aug 89 he inspected schools in Dong Da and Hoan Kiem wards in Hanoi. (HANOI MOI 28 Aug 89 p 1)