

EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
Press and Information Section

12 Victoria Rd., London W8. Tel. 01-937 1912

No. 1
1 January 1985

HAPPY NEW YEAR

CONTENTS

I- 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE VIETNAM PEOPLE'S ARMY

- * The VPA through Forty Years of Fighting and Building
- * Excerpt from the Speech of General Van Tien Dung, Minister of Defence at the Meeting Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Founding of the VPA.

II- FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION

- * Delegations of the Supreme Soviet, the Hungarian Party and State and the Polish Parliament Visit Vietnam.
- * Economic Cooperation Between Vietnam and C.M.E.A. Countries.
- * Cooperation - Vietnam - Europe.

III- CHINESE CRIMES AGAINST VIETNAM NORTHERN BORDER PROVINCES
IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1984

- * Ha Tuyen People and Armed Forces' Courageous Struggle Against Chinese Aggressors hailed.
- * S.R.V's Cease-fire Proposal in the Sino-Vietnamese Border on the Occasion of the Lunar New Year.

IV- P.R.K. FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS SWEDEN AND FRANCE

- * Chairperson of the French Emergency Aid for Kampuchean Children Visits Kampuchea.
- * US Congressmen and Veterans Visit Kampuchea.
- * TASS Condemns Thailand's Policy on Indochina.
- * Felicitations to Kampuchean Armed Forces and Vietnamese Volunteer Forces in Kampuchea.

V- ON THE OCCASION OF THE 6TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

- * Achievements in Education.

I- FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE VIETNAM PEOPLE'S ARMY

- The Vietnam People's Army through Forty Years of Fighting and Building

(General Hoang Phuoc, Head of the Institute of Military History
of Vietnam)

In our people's struggle to achieve national democratic revolution and in the subsequent struggle for socialist revolution, the People's Army is a part of the revolutionary armed forces used to carry out armed struggle under the leadership of the Communist Party and the great President Ho Chi Minh.

During the revolutionary tempest of the years 1930-31, from the worker-peasant insurrectional forces of the Soviet-Nghe Tinh was born the "Red Guard". It was the first bud of the revolutionary armed forces, of the revolutionary army in Vietnam. By the end of 1939 Vietnamese revolution changed its strategic orientation, regarded national liberation as its central task, and made active preparations for the armed insurrection to seize power. Many concentrated armed organizations came into being such as the Bac Son guerilla detachment, the guerilla units of Nam Ky. The Bac Son guerilla detachment changed into the National Salvation Army. Units of the National Salvation Army were gradually set up in a number of resistance bases. On 22 December 1944, following President Ho Chi Minh's instructions the Armed Propaganda Brigade for the liberation of Vietnam was founded. With 34 men and 34 rudimentary rifles, it was the first regular unit of the Vietnamese people's armed forces; and fought side by side with district armed detachments and village semi-armed self-defence units. Right after its foundation, on 24 and 25 December 1944 the Armed Propaganda Brigade for Liberation wiped out the Phai Khat and Na Ngan posts, killed and took prisoner all the enemy troops and captured all their weapons. This victory opened up the Vietnam People's Army tradition of wiping out the enemy and winning success from the first battle.

On 15 May 1945, as the anti-Japanese movement of struggle reached its high tide, in conformity with the Resolution of the Bac Ky revolutionary military Conference held from 15 to 20 April 1945, the various armed detachments merged into one and the Vietnam Liberation Army was founded. After the founding of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam it was renamed "Ve Quoc Doan", National Defence Army. It was later called National Army and in 1950 became the Vietnam People's Army.

Shortly after the victory of the August Revolution, the French colonialists staged a comeback in Vietnam. Relying on their superiority in men and modern equipment the French colonialists thought that they were able to wipe out in no time the revolutionary army which was young, small and badly equipped and had little experience in fighting. They thought they were able to smash the Vietnamese people's will to fight for Independence and Freedom. But the longer it fought, the weaker the French Expeditionary corps became. Though small and weak at the beginning, the Vietnam People's Army was fighting while building itself, and the longer it fought the stronger it became, and in the end it wiped out the French fortified entrenched camp at Dien Bien Phu, killing, wounding and taking prisoners all the 16,200 troops garrisoned there shooting down 62 planes and capturing all the enemy's weapons and military equipments. Admitting defeat, the French Government had to sign the Geneva Agreements and withdraw their troops from North Vietnam, and leave the Vietnamese people in both zones to hold free general elections and realize independence and national unification.

The war of aggression by the French had hardly ended when the U.S. imperialists jumped into sabotage the implementation of the Geneva Agreements, in an attempt to

occupy South Vietnam and turn it into a neo-colonialist colony. Having failed to attain their objective by economic means, the US imperialists resorted to the use of force with their strategy of "special war", then of local war and of "Vietnamization of the war". Relying on their colossal economic and military potentialities, the US imperialists mobilized to the maximum their military strength and wealth in an attempt to strangle the resistance of the South Vietnamese people and to "bomb the North into the Stone Age". All the frenetic and brutal schemes and actions of the US imperialists were defeated. The Vietnamese armed forces, together with their compatriots through the length and breadth of the country sustained untold hardships, fought with courage and intelligence and finally won a glorious victory over the aggressors and their henchmen of all kinds. Vietnam enjoys complete independence and freedom, the people in the North and South are reunited.

After many decades of fighting to wrest back independence and reunification, more than anybody else the Vietnamese people desire to build their country in peace and freedom, to live in solidarity and friendship with all nations in the world. However, the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists attempted to drag Vietnam into the orbit of Beijing, in the service of their selfish and reactionary interests. Having failed to achieve their aim, by proxy of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary genocidal gang, they started the war of aggression on the Southwestern frontiers and directly carried out the war of aggression against Vietnam from the Northern frontier of our country. But they had to suffer ignominious defeat in face of the telling counterblows of the Vietnamese army and people.

The Vietnamese people's history of struggle to seize power, to drive back the aggressors and to defend the Homeland is a process of close co-ordination between the political struggle and armed insurrection and revolutionary war. The Vietnamese People's Army has, together with other armed organizations, carried out brilliantly its functions, making an active contribution to the people's revolutionary cause, and at the same time fulfilling its noble international obligations towards fraternal Laos and Kampuchea. All the aggressors of our country have miscalculated our army's fighting strength, growth and maturity. They thought that to wipe out our army was an easy job. But the facts have proved quite the opposite. The Vietnam People's Army has an invincible strength which has been demonstrated by the real victories it scored in its fight against the professional armies of aggression from Japan, France, the US and the Beijing expansionists. President Ho Chi Minh pointed out: "Our army has an invincible strength because it is a people's army built led and educated by our Party". (1)

Indeed, the Party's correct revolutionary line, its correct and creative military line have helped the army to correctly sort out the enemy in every stage of the revolution, to tell our friends from the enemy, to make a distinction between the imperialist aggressors and the working people and progressive personalities even in that imperialist country, and to understand the revolutionary tasks and functions of the armed forces in general and the army in particular. The Party has educated the army in the spirit of patriotism, love of socialism, loyalty to the people's revolutionary cause under the leadership of the Party. The Party has also pointed out the principles governing the building of the revolutionary army, the most fundamental of which is political and ideological education. The Party's line of people's war has forced all armies of aggression against our country//a nation which has been ever more fully organized and equipped, but not an army. That line is based on the offensive thought regarded as the fundamental operational thought. It consists in fighting the enemy everywhere and on ever large scale, following a jigsaw pattern, spreading within the enemy forces, compelling them to scatter to cope with our forces and to hold the ground, thus becoming most vulnerable and unable to bring into full play their superiority in number and equipment. Our guerilla

// to confront the whole nation through the length and breadth of the country/

warfare which is developed everywhere creates a state of insecurity for the enemy, and enables our regular forces to have adequate time to concentrate for training and fighting purposes. Thus our regular forces have grown up and become more concentrated in order to step up regular warfare and coordinate closely guerillar warfare and conventional warfare. The organization of the armed forces with the three categories of forces, namely the self-defence militia, the regional troops, and the regular troops, is a law governing their formation and development from a low level to a high level and conducted in a balanced manner. It is the line of the building of our armed forces, which make up the main-stay for the whole people to fight the enemy. In this way our regular forces can fulfil successfully their function of wiping out the enemy, they can afford a source of recruits and enjoy the support of the armed organizations and their training aimed at raising their fighting capabilities after each phase of troops recruitment is not impeded.

Fulfilling at the same time its double task of fighting and building itself, our army not only can enhance its operational level but also solve the problem of material and technical equipment, and this is also a principle governing the growth of our forces in the course of fighting.

Acting upon the line of the Party, the population of all ethnics in Vietnam has made a great contribution to the building of the army. Our army is really formed "by the people" and it is for this reason that it can fight "for the people". That is why from early on the relationship between the army and the people is a fish-and-water relationship, a flesh-and-blood relationship. It is a source of inspiration and encouragement for the army. That is why our army is always ready to make sacrifices for the people, to give assistance to the people and to maintain close contacts with the people. It is the fountainhead of the strength of our army.

In the course of its growth the Vietnam People's Army has enjoyed the disinterested and efficacious assistance of the peoples and armies of the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries. The militant solidarity and alliance with the Lao People's Army and the Kampuchean People's Army is a most important factor for increasing the fighting strength of the armed forces of the three Indochinese countries and for creating conditions for them to learn from one another.

If our army has increasingly grown up in number and quality, it is thanks to the Party's direct, absolute and all-sided leadership. The Party organizations within the army have been constantly consolidated and have increasingly brought into full play their leading role. The Party work and political work have been constantly conducted with a view to helping the army preserve the working class nature, develop the fine revolutionary traditions, namely "to be loyal to the Party and devoted to the people, to be ready to fight and to make sacrifices for the independence and freedom of the Homeland and for socialism, to strive to fulfil any task, overcome any difficulty and defeat any enemy". The growth of our army is also linked with the care and solicitude given by President Ho Chi Minh, which no cadre and soldier will ever forget.

At present, in face of the two strategic tasks, namely the building of socialism and the defence of the socialist Homeland, the Vietnam People's Army, with the experience acquired in the course of the last 40 years, is making great efforts to step up its building and modernization in order to raise its level in all fields, to stand combat ready and to energetically give telling blows in retaliation for all acts of aggression against its beloved country, and to fulfil the tasks of economic construction assigned by the State. If in the past our army, a nascent army which fought in hard conditions and endured many privations, was able to grow up and fulfil its tasks, at present in the conjuncture where our country is independent and where there exists the bloc of solidarity between the countries in the socialist community, and the bloc of special alliance between Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, the Vietnamese People's Army will doubtless bring into full play its fine traditions, and fulfil their duty towards the Homeland towards the people, and will be worthy of the confidence of the Party and Uncle Ho's solicitude.

(1) Ho Chi Minh : "For Independence and Freedom, For Socialism" in Vietnamese Su That Publishing House, Hanoi 1970, P.270.

- Excerpt from General Van Tien Dung's Speech at Meeting
Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Foundation of
the People's Army of Vietnam.

Hanoi, VNA, 22 December 1984 - "... The Vietnamese Army's 40-year history of struggle and growth is closely linked with the history of more than half a century in the extremely hard and heroic struggle for national independence and socialism carried out by the Vietnamese people under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, founded and forged by the late President Ho Chi Minh.

... The People's Army of Vietnam is the army of the people, formed by people and in the service of people, and will remain so forever. Our Army's might originated from an endless potential of the working people, masters of the country under the leadership of our Party, and from the glorious millenary national tradition in the struggle against foreign invasion, the values inherited and developed by our Party. This is the might of a new regime, People's Democratic and then Socialist, which has been progressively built in our country. This is also the might of the unanimous unity in combat and of friendship particularly between the three peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea on Indochinese peninsula. This might is also resulted from the support and assistance of the fraternal socialist countries, first of all the Soviet people and Army, and from the development of the three revolutionary currents of the new epoch.

Thanks to these forces, the People's Army of Vietnam together with its people have defeated many powerful and brutal aggressors endowed with enormous economic and military potential such as the Japanese fascism, French colonialism, American imperialism and the Chinese hegemonists and expansionists. It has fulfilled its sacred national obligations as well as its noble international ones in relation to the revolution of the two fraternal peoples of Laos and Kampuchea.

We sincerely thank the parties, the peoples and armies of the USSR and of other fraternal socialist countries for their precious and valuable support and assistance, full of international sentiments, given to the long struggle of the Vietnamese people and army.

We would like to express our profound gratitude to the parties, peoples and armies of Laos and Kampuchea who have always stood side by side with the Vietnamese people and army in their struggle against our common enemies and with whom we are closely linked by lasting and extremely lucid and faithful solidarity and friendship.

We are very grateful to the Kampuchean and Lao mothers who have dedicated their love and care to the Vietnamese volunteer troops, considering them as their own sons.

We would like to thank all friends on five continents, who have encouraged and supported the people and army of Vietnam in their just struggle over the past decades."

"The world situation becomes extremely tense and complicated due to the arms race, including the gradual space militarization - that the adventurist and bellicose forces in the US are frenziedly carrying out with the hope to change the strategic military balance to their advantage. The United States is going ahead with the deployment of the medium range missiles in West Europe, consolidating NATO, strengthening its alliance with Japan and South Korean reactionary forces. They have further colluded with the Chinese expansionists, preparing for the establishment of a military alliance in Asia and the Pacific. They have carried out counter-attacks, provoked hot points in many regions - the Caribbean, Middle East, South East Asia. Their objective is to oppose the Soviet Union the socialist countries from eastern and western flanks, and counter the three revolutionary currents and peace forces the world over.

Together with the people the world over, the Vietnamese people strongly condemn the dangerous acts committed by the U.S. imperialists, and are determined to hinder the bellicose hand of the imperialists and international reactionaries. We whole-heartedly support the declarations made by Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and President of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. These declarations expressed the principled, consistent position and goodwill and the full responsibility of the USSR towards human destiny and world peace. We fully support all necessary measures taken by the USSR and other socialist countries with the determination not to permit the bellicose forces to gain military superiority.

We strongly condemn the US invasion and occupation of Grenada, its intervention in Nicaragua, El Salvador and other countries all over the world, and its threat to the Republic of Cuba. We energetically support the struggle of the people the world over for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

South East Asia lies in one of the hottest areas in the struggle between the revolutionary and counter-revolutionary forces, between peace and war. The three Indochinese countries, at present, face the wicked schemes of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists and the US imperialists.

But history has proved that no aggressive forces can annex the three Indochinese countries. The present revolutionary forces are stronger than ever. History has begun a new page. The peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea are the real masters of their own countries. They are united more closely than ever and are

determined to firmly defend their independence and freedom regained at cost of blood from generation to generation.

In recent years, both strategy and tactics undertaken by China towards the three Indochinese countries remain unchanged. Therefore Vietnam has enjoyed only a very fragile peace, because of the increasing serious acts of sabotage and aggression of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists in collusion with the US imperialists and other reactionary forces. Vietnam must continue to carry out effectively the two strategic tasks put forward by the 5th Party's Congress : to build successfully socialism and to defend solidly the socialist fatherland.

Since April, the Beijing reactionaries have taken a further dangerous step in their military escalation against Vietnam. They have launched cruel bombardments against the six border provinces of North Vietnam, sent a large number of their regular armed forces to attack a number of Vietnamese heights, carried out land-nibbling operations at the border together with a multifaceted war of sabotage against the entire Vietnam. Their dark design is to nibble Vietnamese land to expand their territory, to decimate Vietnamese forces in order to press Vietnam into a permanent defensive position, to divert Vietnam's efforts from concentrating on national construction, and at the same time create favourable conditions for a large-scale war against Vietnam. Chinese acts of sabotage against Vietnam are closely linked with Chinese and their henchmen's acts of sabotage, subversion and land-nibbling in Kampuchea and Laos.

We reaffirm that Vietnam loves peace and needs peace, to reconstruct the country after many years of war. We always cherish the friendship with the Chinese people and want to establish normal and neighbourly relationship with the People's Republic of China on the principles of peaceful coexistence, non-violation of independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in each others' internal affairs and doing no harm to other countries. We advocate a peaceful solution to all problems between countries, a political dialogue between the Indochinese and ASEAN countries, to turn South-East Asia into a zone of peace and stability.

The whole world knows the price that the Vietnamese people had to pay for their independence and freedom. So, the Vietnamese people will defend their independence and freedom at all cost. The 5th Congress of the CPVN pointed out clearly that while "concentrating first and foremost on the socialist construction, we must not neglect the task of consolidating national defence".

We are determined to counter all acts of aggression from anywhere, to defend solidly national independence, and peace for the building of socialism.

We resolutely punish all acts of military escalation of the Chinese troops, under the form of a border-encroachment war, frustrate their attempts to intrude deeply into our territory and smash their multifaceted war of sabotage. We are ready to crush their large-scale war of aggression and to honour our international obligations towards the Lao and Kampuchean brothers.

Our people's armed forces must be the core in "the defence of the whole people" and in the people's war for the defence of the country and must fulfil their tasks of economic construction.

Forty years of activities in revolutionary war have trained our armed forces stronger than ever. As affirmed by comrade Le Duan, Secretary General of the CPVN : this is a "people's invincible army, one of the decisive factors guaranteeing the eternity of the country, the everlasting independence and freedom for our people".

All our forces are determined to carry out strictly the teaching of our respected President Ho Chi Minh : "Our army is loyal to the country, Party and people, ready to fight and sacrifice for independence, freedom of the country and socialism, ready to accomplish all tasks, overcome all difficulties, defeat all enemies".

Vietnam will forever remain a solid outpost of socialism in South East Asia. Our army will always be a heroic army of a heroic people.

II- FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION

- Official Visit to Vietnam of the Delegation of the Supreme Soviet

At the invitation of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam the delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR led by Vladimir Dolzikh, Deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, alternate member of the Politburo, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the USSR, paid an official and friendly visit to Vietnam from 12 to 17 November 1984.

During its stay in Vietnam the delegation laid a wreath and paid tribute at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, visited the residence and bureau of President Ho Chi Minh.

Le Duan, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and Truong Chinh, member of the Politburo of the C.C. of the C.P.V, President of the Council of State of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam had cordial talks with the delegation. The delegation was warmly received by the Vietnamese people and has visited some economic and cultural centres in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh city, the Hoa Binh hydro-electric project which is being under construction with the technical assistance of the Soviet Union, the Vung Tau - Con Dao special region and the joint Vietnam-Soviet oil and gas exploration and exploitation enterprise.

The delegation of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam had talks with the delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR in an atmosphere of friendship, solidarity and identity of views.

On 17 November 1984 the two sides issued the joint communique as follows :

"... The two sides hold that the main cause for the tense situation in South East Asia is the fact that the imperialist and hegemonist forces unceasingly intervene in the internal affairs of the countries in the region, violating sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Indochinese countries.

The Soviet side wholly supports the peace-loving foreign policy, constructive proposals of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, wholly supports the efforts of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in carrying out the dialogue between the ASEAN and Indochinese countries, with a view to turn South East Asia into a zone of peace, stability and cooperation".

"The Vietnamese delegation expresses the total support of the National Assembly and the people of Vietnam for the peace-loving foreign policy of the Soviet Union and the peace initiatives put forward by esteemed comrade K. Chernenko, Secretary General of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, with a view to better the international situation, prevent the danger of a nuclear war, open a realistic road towards solving the tense international questions,

lessening the level of military confrontation and tense situation in the world.

The Vietnamese side declares that the proposals put forward by the Soviet Union at the 39th session of the U.N. General Assembly with a view to stop the race of nuclear and other weapons in the outer space, and to use the outer space only for peaceful purposes, in the interests of mankind are a new manifestation of the concern of the Soviet Union for the cause of defending peace and security of all nations. The Vietnamese side also stresses that it is a matter of urgency for the General Assembly to discuss the proposal put forth by the USSR "to prohibit state's terrorism as well as all acts of sabotage against another state in order to ensure the normal relations between states in the world".

- Delegation of the Party and State of the
People's Republic of Hungary Pays Official Visit to Vietnam

At the invitation of the Communist Party Central Committee of Vietnam and the Council of State of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, a Delegation of the Party and State of the People's Republic of Hungary led by Cr. Losonczy Pal, member of the Politburo of the Hungarian Workers' Socialist Party and President of the Presidential Council of the People's Republic of Hungary, paid an official and friendly visit to the S.R.V. from 19 to 23 November 1984.

The Hungarian guests were received by Le Duan, Secretary General of the C.P.V Central Committee. A delegation of the Party and State of the S.R.V. led by Truong Chinh, Member of the Politburo of the C.P.V. Central Committee and President of the Council of State of the S.R.V, held talks with the Hungarian delegation on bilateral relations and international issues of mutual concern. In a joint statement, the two sides agreed that the increased tension in the international relations was created by the policy of the extremist imperialists and other reactionary forces who wanted to regain military superiority. It was agreed that the danger of nuclear holocaust to mankind would be lessened if the NATO member-states genuinely respond to the peaceful initiatives put forward by the Warsaw Pact. The two sides paid special attention to issues concerning security in Asia. They were of the opinion that the main cause of the tense situation in Southeast Asia was the hostile policies pursued by the imperialists and other reactionary forces against the Indochinese countries. They held that it was necessary to solve differences among countries in Southeast Asia through dialogue between the Indochinese and ASEAN countries on the basis of equality, mutual respect for each other's legitimate security interests and non-interference from outside.

On 21 November, a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between S.R.V. and P.R.H. was signed by Truong Chinh, Politburo member of the CPVN and President of the Council of State of the S.R.V and Losonczy Pal, Politburo member of the HWSP and President of the Presidential Council of the P.R.H.

- Parliamentary Delegation from the People's Republic of Poland
Visits Vietnam

At the invitation of the National Assembly of the S.R.V., a Parliamentary delegation from the People's Republic of Poland led by Zbigniew Gertych, First Deputy Chairman of the Parliament, paid a friendly visit to Vietnam from 20 to 26 November 1984.

The Polish delegation was warmly received by Le Duan, Secretary General of the C.P.V Central Committee, and Truong Chinh, Politburo member of the C.P.V. Central Committee and President of the Council of State of the S.R.V.

In discussions with the delegation from the S.R.V National Assembly led by its Chairman Mr. Nguyen Huu Tho, the Polish side reaffirmed its unswerving solidarity with the Vietnamese people in their cause of socialist building and national defence against the schemes and hostile acts carried out by the imperialists and other international reactionary forces, and its whole-hearted support for the efforts of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in order to carry out dialogue between the Indochinese and ASEAN countries with a view to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability and cooperation.

- Economic Cooperation Between Vietnam and CMEA Countries

In implementation of the resolution adopted at the high-level economic conference of CMEA countries and aimed at gradually bringing about an equilibrium in the levels of economic development of the member countries, the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance has passed a decision on measures aimed at boosting the development and raising the efficiency of the economy of Vietnam.

At present, enterprises built with assistance from CMEA countries produce 100% of our tin, sulphuric acid, superphosphates and coffee; 82% of metal-cutting machines; 89% of coal; 35% of electricity...

Cooperation in light industry will gradually develop, in wood processing in particular.

Proposals have been made by Vietnam concerning multilateral cooperation for the building of enterprises turning out textiles, footwear, rubber ware, and sporting equipment... to be exported to CMEA countries.

- Vietnam-Europe Cooperation

* Working meetings between the Vietnamese delegation and that of the Swedish Agency for International Development on the agreements of Vietnam-Sweden economic cooperation for 1985-1987 and 1985-1990 took place in Hanoi from 1st to 6th December 1984.

According to the agreements, Sweden will continue to help Vietnam in the paper and paper paste industry, forestry, health service, electricity, communications and transports etc...

* The Hanoi University inaugurated a laboratory built with the assistance of Holland on December 11. The laboratory comprises 10 experimental rooms for organic and analytical chemistry and pharmacy. It is equipped by the Organization of International Cooperation of the Dutch High Schools and the University of Amsterdam.

* The ceremony of signing an agreement on Hanoi spinning mill equipped by the UNIMATEX with assistance from the F.R. Germany, the Republic of Italy and the Kingdom of Belgium took place in Hanoi at the end of November 1984.

Dr. Ceert-Nihrich Anrens, Ambassador of the F.R.G; Mr. Massetti, Ambassador of the Republic of Italy; Mr. S. Rodiano, the Charge d'Affairs of the Kingdom of Belgium to Vietnam and Mr. Clemens Broer, General Director of the UNIMATEX attended the ceremony.

With the capacity of 3,386 tonnes per year, this spinning mill of 100,000 bobbins up to now has produced 6,000 tonnes of fibre of high quality.

III- CHINESE CRIMES AGAINST VIETNAM NORTHERN BORDER PROVINCES

IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1984

- Chinese Crimes Against Vietnam's Northern Border

Provinces

Hanoi, VNA, Dec. 24 - The reactionaries within the Beijing ruling circles, in November and December stepped up their land-grabbing and shelling on Vietnam's northern border provinces, says a communique released here recently by the Vietnam Commission for Investigation of Chinese expansionists and hegemonists war crimes against Vietnam.

The communique continues : they massed eight more infantry divisions besides nearly twenty (20) divisions already stationed along the Sino-Vietnamese border, especially close to areas opposite to Ha Tuyen province. They deployed more than 560 fighter and bomber planes at various air fields near the border. Chinese aircraft intruded from five to ten kilometres deep inside Vietnamese airspace over Sin Man and Dong Van districts of Ha Tuyen province on Nov. 30 and Dec. 10.

Together with more than 40 incursions by Chinese troops into various areas, the Chinese fired almost 100,000 artillery, mortar and rocket rounds on many hamlets, killing or wounding more than 40 civilians, destroying 70 houses and hundreds of hectares of subsidiary crops, industrial crops, orchards and forests.

In Ha Tuyen province, Chinese troops fired more than 70,000 artillery, mortar and rocket rounds and made 20 intrusions, killing or wounding 21 civilians, destroying many houses, and taking away many buffaloes, cows, chickens and pigs of the local people.

From Nov. 1 to Nov. 4, they fired more than 1,400 artillery and mortar rounds on a number of populated areas in Vi Xuyen district.

On Nov. 21, more than 10,000 artillery and mortar rounds were fired on Phung Do and Phung Tien villages, Vi Xuyen district, destroying 20 houses, 30 tonnes of foodstuff, killing one civilian and wounding two others.

On Nov. 27 and 28, they opened artillery fire on the above-mentioned two villages and Ha Giang town, destroying 10 tonnes of foodstuff killing or wounding 11 civilians, mostly old people, women and children.

In the first half of December, they unleashed 30,000 artillery and mortar shells into Vi Xuyen district.

On Dec. 16, a Chinese group made a surprise attack on Quan Ba district, killing one civilian, taking away two others and looting the local population.

In Cao Bang province, Chinese troops fired more than 10,000 artillery and mortar shells and made eight intrusions into Hai Lang, Trung Khanh and Ha Quang districts, killing or wounding seven persons, destroying many hectares of crops and precious wood forests. On Nov. 17, dozens of Chinese militiamen intruded into the areas of the markerpost 107, Van An village, Ha Quang district, felling trees and taking away the timber. On Nov. 23, Chinese troops fired many rounds of 12.7mm machine gun on the Vietnamese working in the fields in Phong Nam village, Trung Khanh district, killing one person. On Dec. 6, a Chinese platoon intruded into Thai Duc village, Ha Lang district.

In Lang Son province, Chinese troops fired more than 10,000 artillery and mortar rounds, and made 10 intrusions into Trang Dinh, Van Lang and Loc Binh districts, killing or wounding six civilians and destroying dozens of hectares of tobacco and anise forest. On Nov. 10, about 30 Chinese troops intruded 500 metres deep into Chi Ma village, Loc Binh district, killing a number of domestic animals, on December 5, Chinese troops fired hundreds of 82mm mortar rounds, and at the same time, sent a Chinese squad to Tan Minh village, Trang Dinh district, killing or wounding six civilians.

- Ha Tuyen People and Armed Forces' Courageous Battle Against Chinese Aggressors

In an article hailing the recent battle of the Ha Tuyen people and armed forces against the Chinese aggressors, Nhan Dan newspaper issued on Dec. 11 said: "the real, cruel and barbarous nature of the Dang Xiao-Ping clique has been exposed more clearly before the ethnic peoples in the border region. Ha Tuyen's people and armed forces with high vigilance and the spirit of determination to win drove the Chinese aggressors out of three heights which they had occupied illegally. They also repulsed the enemy on other heights to defend the sacred border of their Motherland.

"We never want our people and the Chinese people to shed their blood for the adventurous acts of Chinese expansionism and hegemonism. We always treasure the friendship with the Chinese people and desire the normalization of relations with China in the interests of the two peoples. But our people and armed forces with the iron spirit of "Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom" are determined to fight and duly punish the Chinese aggressors when they dare to launch a war of aggression, land-grabbings on the border or multifaceted war against our country. We resolutely defend our socialist country", concluded the paper.

- S.R.V's Cease-fire Proposal in the Sino-Vietnamese Border On the Occasion of the Lunar New Year

"On the 35th Anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of China and on the occasion of the traditional Lunar New Year Festival of the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples, and proceeding from the consistent stand of treasuring the traditional friendship between the two peoples and the aspiration for the restoration of the good neighbourly relations between the two countries, the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam proposes that Vietnam and China should stop all armed activities and other hostile activities, and cease fire along the common border area from 00.00 (zero) hour (Hanoi time) namely 01.00 (one) hour (Beijing time) on January 16, 1985 to 00.00 (zero) hour (Hanoi time) namely 01.00 (one) hour (Beijing time) on February 26, 1985 to let the Vietnamese and Chinese people in the border areas enjoy their new year festivals.

"This constructive proposal conforms to the sentiments and aspirations of the peoples of Vietnam and China, helps relax the tension in the Sino-Vietnamese border area, and creates favourable atmosphere for settling problems relating to the relations between the two countries.

"As in the past, the Vietnamese side will strictly implement the above said proposal and hopes that the Chinese side will positively respond to it".

Also on this occasion, the representative of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry's Department for China informed the Chinese Embassy representative of the Vietnamese government's decision to return to the Chinese government four Chinese fishermen drifted to the Vietnamese waters in an accident and 67 other Chinese who had illegally intruded into the Vietnamese waters for fishing, so that they may rejoin their families on the Lunar New Year.

The return will take place on January 16, 1985 at the Huu Nghi (Friendship) gate in the Northern border province of Lang Son.

Hanoi, 3 January 1985.

IV- KAMPUCHEA'S FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS SWEDEN AND FRANCE

At the invitation of the Swedish government and the Swedish Committee for Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos, a delegation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea led by Hun Sen, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Foreign Minister paid a six-day visit to Sweden from November 14th to 20th 1984.

During his stay in Sweden, Mr. Hun Sen held talks with Swedish Foreign Minister Lennart Boström. The two sides exchanged points of view on the situation in Southeast Asia in general, and that of Kampuchea in particular and other matters of mutual concern.

Swedish opinion paid much attention to this visit. Swedish newspapers put the delegation's activities on their front page and published many articles on the rebirth of Kampuchea. On this occasion, some mass organization put forward a proposal that the Swedish government should vote for the abolition of the so-called "Democratic Kampuchea" representative at the U.N. Many Swedish political figures and social activists proposed that the government should recognize the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea led by President Heng Samrin.

Before leaving Sweden for France, Mr. Hun Sen said at a press conference : "We are satisfied with the outcome of the visit which we considered important and useful. The visit made good contribution to the strengthening of existing relations between the two peoples and bettering the understanding between the two governments".

*
* *
*

At the invitation of the French Parliamentary Research Group on Kampuchea and the Association for the Development of Relations with Kampuchea, Mr. Hun Sen also paid a visit to France from November 23 to December 2, 1984.

During his stay in France, Mr. Hun Sen had talks with the Chairman of the External Relations Committee of France's National Assembly and members of the Executive Committee of the Association of the Development of Relations with Kampuchea, the French Communist Party and other French MP, professors, lawyers and journalists, and with Kampuchean residents in Paris. These meetings which took place in the atmosphere of cordiality, friendship and mutual understanding, contributed to the strengthening of the Franco-Kampuchean relations.

In the evening of Nov. 29, 1984 the Embassy of the SRVN organized a cordial reception in Paris in honour of the P.R.K. delegation led by Mr. Hun Sen, PRK Foreign Minister.

*
*

On Dec. 7, on arrival at Phnom Penh after his visit to Sweden and France, Mr. Hun Sen told Kampuchean reporters that this diplomatic success coincided with the military victory in chasing out the remnants of the Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionaries along the Kampuchean-Thai border have heartened the Kampuchean combatants and people.

Mr. Hun Sen said that the elimination of the Pol Pot clique politically and militarily becomes the common objective of Kampuchea, France and Sweden. Both France and Sweden have condemned the Pol Pot genocidal regime and opposed any scheme aimed at bringing Pol Pot back to Kampuchea. Many French political figures confirmed that French government with whatever political tendency, could not accept the Pol Pot clique. Moreover, they subscribed to the lenient policy of the Kampuchean Party and Government towards those who desert the Pol Pot rank.

Mr. Hun Sen said that these visits created more favourable conditions for further strengthening the solidarity between the peoples of Sweden, France and Kampuchea, enhancing the mutual understanding between the government of the PRK and that of Sweden and France.

- A Delegation of France's Emergency Aid Organization
for Kampuchean Children Visits Kampuchea

At the end of November 1984, Mrs. D. Cheyson, Chairperson of the French Organization of the Emergency Aid for Kampuchean children paid a visit to Kampuchea at the invitation of the Kampuchean Red Cross.

Mrs. D. Cheyson was warmly received by Mrs. Hun Sen, the wife of the Kampuchean Foreign Minister, Phet Phirun, Chairperson of the Kampuchean Red Cross and others.

During her visit in Kampuchea, Mrs. D. Cheyson had talks with the leaders of the Kampuchean government and Party and mass organizations. She visited orphan camps, kindergartens in Phnom Penh, medical establishments and the museum of the Pol Pot genocidal crimes.

In an interview with the Kampuchean News Agency, Mrs. D. Cheyson said that by witnessing the vivid proofs, she understood more clearly the barbarous crimes committed by the Pol Pot regime against the Kampuchean people. After this tragedy, the Kampuchean people are reviving. Throughout the country, women and men are working very hard and gaining considerable achievements. As far as the assistance for Kampuchea was concerned, she said that her organization of Emergency Aid for Kampuchean children had its staff in Phnom Penh since Jan. 1984. The Organization has helped training the Kampuchean medical officials and will expand its activities of training medical agents for Kampuchea.

- U.S. Congressmen Visit Indochina

A U.S. Congressional delegation led by Gillepsie V. Montgomery, Democrat Congressman and Chairman of the Veteran Committee of the Congress visited Vietnam from Dec. 9 to 12. The delegation includes 6 congressmen, - 2 Democrats, 4 Republicans - and two official from the U.S. Department of State and one from the Defence Ministry.

On Dec. 10, the delegation was received by Pham Van Dong, Chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Previously, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach received the delegation and had talks on the issues of mutual concerns.

The delegation visited Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh city.

The above U.S congressional delegation arrived in Phnom Penh on December 12 for a visit to the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

During its stay in Kampuchea, the delegation was received by Hun Sen, member of the Kampuchean National Assembly, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Foreign Minister. The two sides had discussions on the possibilities of seeking the US missing in action and the settlement of the problems in South East Asia.

Before leaving Kampuchea, the head of the American delegation said in an interview with SEK : "Our visit to Kampuchea is very successful. The first congressional delegation's visit from the United States for many years constitutes a thaw in the relations between the two countries and we shall have further discussions which could bring about real rapprochement between our two countries".

- Representatives of US Veteran Organization Visit Vietnam and Kampuchea

A delegation of US Veteran Organization paid a visit to Vietnam from Nov. 25 to Dec. 10.

The delegation held discussions with Vietnam Committee for the research of American personnel missing in action and the National Committee for Investigating US chemical consequences in Vietnam.

On Dec. 1, the delegation was received by Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach.

The above U.S Veteran delegation also visited Kampuchea from Dec. 10.

On Dec. 11, it was received by Foreign Minister Hun Sen.

- TASS Criticizes Thailand's Policy Towards Indochina

In a commentary of 11 December 1984, the Soviet Agency TASS condemned Thailand's provocations against the three Indochinese countries :

"Under pressure of imperialist and reactionary forces, the ruling circles in Bangkok have continued to create further tension in their relations with the Indochinese countries and constantly carried out acts of provocation against these countries. From the Thai soil, the Pol Pot remnants and other Khmer reactionaries

have unceasingly made incursions into Kampuchea's territory in order to carry out sabotage activities. Thailand's planes and ships have often violated the airspace and territorial waters of the P.R.K. On the other hand, the Thai troops have encroached on Laos' territory, an independent and sovereign country.

Thailand's policy of confrontation towards its Indochinese neighbours is at the expense of its traditional relations while its support for the Pol Potists has engendered bloody conflicts along the Thai-Kampuchean border.

- Kampuchean Defense Minister Sent Congratulations
to the PRK's Armed Forces and Vietnamese Volunteers

VNA, December 7 - The Kampuchean Defense Minister Mr. Bou Thong has sent a message of congratulations to the units of the Kampuchean armed forces and Vietnamese volunteers who achieved a brilliant victory on the Khmer reactionaries in early 1985.

In his message, reported by SIK, Minister Bou Thong wishes the Kampuchean armed forces and Vietnamese volunteers greater successes, the cooperation and militant solidarity between the two countries be strengthened.

V- ON THE OCCASION OF THE 6TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA : ACHIEVEMENTS IN EDUCATION

Since 1979, starting from scratch, with only some thousands of survived people having primary-level of education upward, the Kampuchean Education Service has been quickly restored and developed and has obtained excellent results. At present, 90% of school-age children are going to school. The system of 1st-level (primary) schools (from the 1st to the 4th forms) has extended to all rural communes and city wards: 2nd-level (junior secondary) schools (from the 5th to the 7th forms) exist in almost all district centres and provincial capitals and in almost every ward of the capital Phnom Penh.

There were 33,546 classes of the first (primary) level with 1,504,840 pupils and 36,520 teachers, a twofold increase over the first school year after liberation (1979), 207 schools of the 2nd level with 3,089 classes, 145,730 pupils and 4,494 teachers, twice as many as in 1982-1983 and 30 times as many as in 1979-80: 13 schools of the 3rd (senior secondary) level with 148 classes, 7,334 pupils and 278 teachers, twice as many as in the last school year and 27 times as many as in 1979-80.

The kindergarten, a new educational activity, has experienced considerable development, though still in the experimental period. In the last school year, the country boasted 598 kindergartens with 1,262 classes, 35,495 pupils and 1,394 nurses, a fourfold increase over 1979-80.

The anti-illiteracy and complementary (adult) education movements have also obtained considerable achievements. By now, of the 1,025,800 people to be freed from illiteracy, 685,541 have learnt to read and to write (66.83%). In 271 work units 541 communes, 18 city wards and 23 rural districts, illiteracy have been eradicated. In the whole country, 20 full-time and 90 part-time complementary-education schools have been organized. The total number of learners is 252,856 in the first level: 16,881 in the second level and 1,516 in the third level.

//117 evening schools and 7 study-and-work schools//

Tens of thousands of teachers have been trained or sent to refresher courses. One pedagogical college, one central college for refresher training, six regional teacher-training colleges, and 20 provincial teacher-training schools have been organized. Other colleges and technical schools have trained hundreds of specialists for various branches of activity and are training thousands more. Thousands of students have been sent to the socialist countries for further studies.

The Kampuchean Ministry of Education has compiled and printed 108 textbooks for various levels and disciplines, totalling 10,350,602 copies.

The revolutionary power at all levels, the local parents' organizations, the bonzes, and people of all walks of life in the whole country have contributed more than 100 million riel (Kampuchean currency) to the building of schools and making of school furniture.

Educationists, teachers and pupils have actively participated in the three nation-wide revolutionary movements : to fight the enemy and to call on Khmer rouge remnants to return to their families and the revolution; to produce and improve living conditions; and to build up the revolutionary forces.

Kampuchea is striving to turn the 1984-85 school year into a landmark in the mass education movement, the aim being to fulfill the targets of the second three-year anti-illiteracy plan : literacy for 100% of cadres, public employees, workers, members of the armed forces and the youth; and 80% of the people at large.

The national rebirth in Kampuchea has been considered in the whole world as nothing short of miraculous. These great achievements in education have proved the powerful vitality of the young People's Republic and of its people, now becoming masters of their own destiny./.