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CONTENTS,

I- COMMUNIQUE ON CHINESE EXPANSIONISTS AND HEGEMONISTS' CRIMES
AGAINST VIETNAM IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS,

II- VIETNAM AND SOUTH EAST ASIA COUNTRIES,

- 1- Commentary on the 1st Anniversary of the Summit Conference of the Three Indochinese Countries (2/1983-2/1984).
- 2- Message of Greetings from Vietnamese Leaders to Kampuchean Leaders on the Occasion of the 5th Anniversary of Signing of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation (18 Feb, 1979 - 18 Feb, 1984) ,
- 3- Meeting of the Heads of the Planning Committee of the Three ~~Indo-~~chinese countries,
- 4- Thai Parliamentary Delegation's Visit to Vietnam,
- 5- General L.B. Murdani Commander of Indonesian Armed Forces Pays friendly Visit to Vietnam.

III- VIETNAM AND SOCIALIST FRATERNAL COUNTRIES,

- 1- Friendly Visit of Bulgarian Government Delegation to Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea,
- 2- Soviet Union Delegation from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs Visits Vietnam.

IV- SOUTHEAST ASIAN WOMEN'S SEMINAR,

V- NEWS IN BRIEF,

- 1- 1983 Report of the Vietnamese National Committee of UNESCO,
- 2- Kampuchean Foreign Minister Hun Sen Condemns the Presence of "Democratic Kampuchea" at the U.N.
- 3- U.S. Senator D. Edwards Calls for Investigation of U.S. Toxic Chemical "Agent Orange" used in Vietnam,
- 4- U.S. Defence Assistant Secretary Visits Vietnam,
- 5- Commentary on the U.S. Policy of Aggression in Lebanon,
- 6- Truong Chinh Receive Daniel Ortega Saavedra in Moscow,
- 7- Chinese Secret Radio "August the First" denounces Dang Xiao Ping,
- 8- Vietnamese-French Co-operation.

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I- COMMUNIQUE ON CHINESE EXPANSIONISTS AND HEGEMONISTS CRIMES AGAINST VIETNAM IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS,

Hanoi, VNA, Feb. 24 - The Commission for Investigation of Chinese Expansionists and Hegemonists War Crimes against Vietnam has made public a communique on the war crimes against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam committed by the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists in the five years since their defeated war of aggression in February 1979.

The communique reads in full as follows :

"Having sustained ignominious failure in their two wars of aggression, the Chinese reactionaries have since March 1979 increased their collusion with the U.S imperialists, rallied the reactionaries in their pay and drawn the ASEAN countries into a frantic and all-round war of sabotage against Vietnam in an attempt to bring about its collapse without having to wage a large-scale war. Meanwhile, they have continued to prepare for a new war of aggression.

From Beijing, Washington, Bangkok and other places, they have conducted a campaign of sabotage against Vietnam in all fields, military, political, ideological, economic and diplomatic, using brutal and perfidious manoeuvres. They have thus added new crimes to the long list of their intolerable crimes against the Vietnamese people.

1- Continuing preparations for an aggressive war stepping up the acts of armed provocation, and causing permanent tension at the Sino-Vietnamese border :

Beijing is permanently maintaining a regular force of more than 10 divisions close to the Vietnamese border with five army corps behind them armed with artillery, tanks, armoured cars, missiles and warplanes, in addition to the local armies and border police. Also in the border region, Beijing has concentrated many strategic intelligence organizations, commando and scout groups, pay war and economic sabotage organizations, and reactionary political groups.

There, Beijing has unremittingly built and consolidated its system of combat trenches and fortifications built and continually enlarged its military airports. Repaired and built new roads and railways for the daily transport of weapons, ammunition and food from the hinterland to the border area. It had increased reconnaissance by land and by air and technical reconnaissance in the past five years, 2,000 flights of Chinese aircraft violated the Vietnamese air space and nearly 1,500 chinese assaults and commandoes entered Vietnamese territory were detected. China has also staged many mock battles against Vietnam (over 12,000 flights of aircraft took combat manoeuvres near the Vietnam border in 1982 and 1983).

China has made nearly 7,500 armed provocations in various regions, some artillery shellings lasted many days using thousands of shells and some land incursions involved a battalion or regiment of Chinese troops. This has caused permanent tension along the border, and inflicted big losses in lives and property on the local population. Latest statistics show that in the past five years, nearly 1,000 persons were killed or injured and 100 captured by Chinese troops, thousands of houses were destroyed, and thousands of animals killed or taken away.

On the sea, Beijing has been working hard to build and strengthen its military base on Hainan island comprising airports, military ports and caves and submarine bases, on the Hoang Sa archipelago of Vietnam which it has illegally occupied since 1974, China has built a number of military installations. It has established a transport route linking Hainan with Hoang Sa and sent to this region a noticeable number of warships. On these islands, China has set up many centres of military intelligence and command bases for operation on the sea and in the coastal regions. China has held repeated military exercises in Tonkin gulf and around Hoang Sa and twice sent warships to sail from the North to the South into the Tonkin gulf and the Truong Sa region.

During the past five years, each day an average of more than 100 incursions were made by Chinese warships disguised as fishing boats deep into Vietnam's territorial waters from the Tonkin gulf to the gulf of Siam for reconnaissance and provocation purposes, thus interfering the Vietnamese people's transport and fishing operation on the sea. Especially, in March 1982 more than 50 Chinese armed vessels penetrated at one time into the central coast of Vietnam in Binh Tri Thien province and opened fire on Vietnamese ships. China has also lent a hand to that vessels in acts of disturbance, plunder and sabotage against Vietnam's economy on the groups of islands of Tho Chu, Phu Quoc, Kien Giang and Minh Hai.

On the Thai-Kampuchea and Lao - Chinese borders,

The Thai-Kampuchean and Lao-Chinese borders have been used by China as sanctuaries for the Polpot and Vang Pao remnants and other Kampuchean and Lao reactionary political organizations to undermine Kampuchea and Laos and also to sabotage Vietnam in many fields.

Alongside those activities, China has repeatedly threatened Vietnam with war, saying that "China would retaliate Vietnam militarily if Vietnam should attack democratic Kampuchea, most recently, Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, in his Feb. 1, 1984 visit to Guang Xi province in the company of several senior Chinese military officers, repeated Chinese fallacious charge that Vietnam was actively preparing armed provocations against China, and urged the Chinese army and people to stand combat ready. This is aimed at misleading the world people, covering China's anti-Vietnam acts, and at the same time, causing tension and intimidating Vietnam.

2- Carrying out a land nibbling war against Vietnam on the Northern border :

In the earlier years, the reactionaries in the Beijing ruling circles had forsaken their commitment to respect the historical border-line defined in the two border delineating conventions signed by the French government and the Qing dynasty of China in 1887 and 1895, using all means to legalize their occupation of 150 places of Vietnam annexed by the Man Qing dynasty, the Chiang Kai shek regime and the People's Republic of China itself before Feb. 1979.

It occupied during this war after its defeat in the Feb. 17, 1979 invasion of Vietnam, it had to pull out of Vietnam but still retains more than ten new places. In the past five years, China has annexed several new places of Vietnam, it nibbled at many hills and groups of hills of Vietnam on the borderline and step by step broadened the areas it had occupied. The following are typical cases :

- In October 1980 and May 1981 China used regiment sized troops supported by artillery and tanks to attack hill 1992 in Xin Man district, in Ha Tuyen province, Hills 1800A, 1800BN and 1688 in Vi Xuyen district also in Hatuyen, and the area of hill 400 in Cao Loc district, Lang Son province.

- China has broadened many areas it had occupied at the Huu Nghi Quan (Friendship Gate) in Lang Son, Xin Phonsung at marker posts 2 and 3 in Muong Khuong district, Hoang Lien Son province, Chu Phia and Ta Lung in Quang Ba district in Ha Tuyen province, etc. It renamed all these places with Chinese names and turned them into stronghold or groups of strongholds to form an offensive line along the border in service of future wars of aggression as well as the present multi-faceted war of sabotage against Vietnam.

On the sea : in the Tonkin gulf China tried to erase the border-line which had been clearly delineated in the documents signed by the French government and the Qing Dynasty of China. It broke the Sino-Vietnamese negotiation on the Tonkin gulf and taking advantage of this situation to openly carry out illegal prospections for oil and gas in the gulf including many areas belonging to Vietnamese territorial waters.

China continues to occupy the Hoang Sa archipelago of Vietnam and had not ceased to cover the Truong Sa Archipelago of Vietnam. It published the names of islands Besehes and Rokca in these archipelagoes under Chinese names arrogantly defined "four danger zones" cutting through the busy international air route from Thailand via Vietnam to many other countries, in an attempt to legalize its illegal occupation of Vietnam's Hoang Sa Archipelago.

It urged the International Aviation Organization to change its guidance system in the air space over the East sea, to give to China the chance of the flight control over the entire air space over the territorial waters of the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagoes which has always been under Vietnam's flight control. China has also announced the commissioning of the radio guidance system on the Lincolns island in the Hoang Sa Archipelago of Vietnam and demanded the monopoly of transmission on 101 radio frequencies in the East sea with the aim of gaining the de facto recognition of its sovereignty over the whole of the East sea.

3- China's policy of sabotage against Vietnam's economy :

China withdrew its aid and experts from Vietnam staged the "Hoa" (victimized residents) incident in 1978, implemented "three" policy (destroying all buildings and materials) during its aggressive wars against Vietnam in 1978 and 1979, and incited the "Hoa" reactionaries living in Vietnam to engage in economic sabotage in the South of Vietnam from 1975-1979.

Since 1979 :

The Chinese reactionaries, in close collaboration with the U.S. imperialists, have done everything in their power to sabotage Vietnam's internal economic relations, put pressure on a number of countries and international organizations to stop granting loans and aid to Vietnam including humanitarian aid, and used their lackeys who had wormed their way into the Vietnamese export and import service in collaboration with those in Thailand, Hong Kong, and Singapore to sabotage Vietnam's foreign Trade operations.

In the South of Vietnam, taking advantage of Vietnam's economic difficulties and mismanagements, Beijing has ordered its henchmen to burn warehouses, destroy machines and equipment in several factories disrupt communications and transport, engage in speculation and hoarding, cause price high, fake commodities and circulate counterfeit money, etc. Beijing has also organized smuggling rackets from Thailand and China and illicit markets on the sea to bring luxury goods to Vietnam and spirit away Vietnam's gold, precious stones, and other valuables to other countries, and also through these rackets to gather intelligence and carry out psychological warfare.

On the Sino-Vietnamese border area they carried out many wicked manoeuvres to damage Vietnam's economy : burning forests, breaking dams to divert streams, provoking disturbances to prevent crop cultivation and harvest, organizing "border markets" to smuggle counterfeit money and sell goods in short supply in return for gold, silver, medicinal herbs, food. China has also sent agents to buy "special goods" at high prices from the border population such as buffalo eyes and hoofs roots of anis trees etc, with the wicked design of killing the draught animals and destroying the precious medicinal plants of Vietnam.

4-Sabotage acts in the ideological, political, security fields and intimidation to seduction :

Through the wide mass media networks of China, the United States and client governments and at international forums Beijing has daily dished out a log of fabrications and lies to cover up their schemes and crimes against Vietnam and to mislead world opinion about the situation and policy of Vietnam. It has put out hundreds of counter revolutionary newspapers, bulletins pictorials, recording tapes, leaflets and posters in Vietnamese and circulated them among oversea Vietnamese and smuggled them by all ways and means to Vietnam together with depraved and reactionary literature. Along the Sino-Vietnamese border, the Chinese reactionaries have set up a high powered loud-speaker system to propagate their falsifications and slanders in Vietnamese and the languages of various ethnic groups living on this side of the border, they have brought into Vietnam more than 200 kinds of leaflets and used the mobile shops and markets to conduct psychological warfare and espionage .

The Chinese reactionary clique, in collusion with US imperialism has also conducted an intensive campaign to incite the reactionaries among the Vietnamese who had fled abroad to carry out anti-Vietnam activities in the countries where they are residing, and took every opportunity to send them back to Vietnam for the purpose of sabotage. Beijing has been using Hoang Van Hoan, Vietnamese defector, as a tool to rally reactionary groups for counter-revolutionary activities along the Sino-Vietnamese border and for sabotage activities inside Vietnam.

It has organized Vietnamese refugees in Thailand into armed groups with a view to sending them to South Vietnam and the central highlands, for sabotage activities. It has established the "Thailand central highland corridor" to supply arms and money to the Fulro remnants or sent the latter for military and political training before secretly introducing them back into the central highlands. In some Western countries, China has ordered a number of officers of the Saigon regime to rally the reactionary emigrants from Vietnam into armed units which would go into action when the occasion presents itself.

Inside Vietnam, the Chinese ruling circles continued to command the operations of their henchmen they have left behind, rallied the reactionaries among the former officers and functionaries of the old regimes, among the counter-revolutionaries under the religious cloak, the illicit traders among the "Hoa" and organized them into political organizations to carry out anti-government activities, persuade and organize illegal departures for abroad, to conduct espionage, sabotage the economy, disrupt security and public order, in anticipation of an opportunity to rebel or to serve as a "fifth column" in an eventual new war of aggression against Vietnam.

5- Striving to isolate Vietnam internationally and refusing to resume negotiation with Vietnam aimed at solving bilateral problems :

With the connivance of U.S. imperialism and other reactionary forces, the reactionary circles in the Chinese leadership have made all out efforts to slander and discredit Vietnam, and isolate it in the international arena, capitalizing on the issues of refugees, human rights and toxic chemicals, etc. They have launched anti-Vietnam campaigns to tarnish the fine image of Vietnam among the world people.

Building on the so-called "Kampuchean problem" Beijing has harped on the allegation that "Vietnam is trying to establish an Indochinese federation" to foment an anti-Vietnam sentiments among the Lao and Kampuchean peoples, thus using Indochinese to oppose Indochinese, and undermine the militant solidarity and close friendship and cooperation among the three Indochinese peoples. At the same time, it has used the "Kampuchean problem" to rally the imperialist and other reactionary forces to oppose Vietnam and the Soviet Union in this region and elsewhere. It has gone all out to cause confrontation, prevent the dialogue between Vietnam and the other two Indochinese countries and the ASEAN countries, and make South-east Asians oppose the Southeast Asians with a view to weakening both groups of the countries in this region in the interests of its long cherished desire of expansion and hegemony.

It has left no stones unturned to cause a split or weaken the relation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union and the Socialist community. It has blatantly demanded the Soviet Union to cease its support to Vietnam as a precondition for normalizing the Sino-Soviet relations.

After their invasion of Vietnam in Feb. 1979, in face of Vietnam's serious stance and goodwill, the Chinese authorities were compelled to sit down and talk with Vietnam to settle the problems of bilateral relations. But, with their hostile policy and big-nation attitude, the Beijing rulers imposed its arrogant conditions, seeking with hegemonism and refused to discuss any questions raised by the Vietnamese side. In March 1980, they unilaterally suspended the negotiation. Since then, although the Vietnamese side has time and again proposed resumption of the negotiation in which proposals made by both sides would serve as basis for discussions. The Beijing authorities have protested in their obstinacy by putting forth their preconditions. In fact, they are scheming to maintain tension in the relation between the two countries in furtherance of their expansionist and hegemonist design.

The multi-faceted war of sabotage conducted by the Chinese rulers against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam over the past five years has caused great losses and difficulties to the Vietnamese people. It adds to the Beijing rulers' long list of crimes against the Vietnamese people in

air-struggle for national independence, sovereignty, reunification and territorial integrity from the days of its resistance against the French colonialists and the U.S. imperialists to its total victory in the patriotic war for national independence and reunification and up to the present task of national construction. Having failed in their subtle and underhand moves, the Chinese rulers brazenly waged two wars of aggression. Failing again in their invasion, they started a kind of multi-faceted war of sabotage and pushed ahead the preparations for a new war of aggression for a new war of aggression.

The hostile policy towards Vietnam has unmasked the counter-revolutionary nature and big-nation expansionist and hegemonist ambition of the reactionary circles in the Chinese leadership. They are stubbornly blocking the ambition to place Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos under their control, considering the three Indochinese countries to be targets of their invasion and annexation and Vietnam to be the prime target in their expansion towards Southeast Asia. Over the past few years, due to their setbacks and difficulties at home and at large the Chinese reactionaries have had to speak about peace. They have reverted friends and foes, improved their relations with many countries while remaining adamant in their hostile policy towards Vietnam and the other two Indochinese countries. The more setbacks they sustain, the more hostile their policy has become and the more perfidious and wicked moves they have employed.

The reactionary circles in the Chinese leadership are the dangerous and direct enemy of the Vietnamese people and a brutal international reactionary force who are destabilizing the national independence, peace and stability in Indochina and Southeast Asia as a whole.

The Vietnamese people, just emerging from a long and extremely arduous war of resistance for national independence with still many wounds of war on their body, have no dearer desire than to live in peace to rebuild their homeland and their life. But never will they permit any enemies to weaken, subjugate and annex their country. With their own strength and with the strong support and approval of the progressive people throughout the world, the Vietnamese people have repeatedly thwarted all hostile plots and moves of the reactionary circles in the Chinese leadership, firmly defending their national independence, and taking national construction forward, thus actively contributing to the defence of national independence, peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world as a whole. The Vietnamese people will firmly persist in their will, sharpen their vigilance, and stand ready to fight and defeat all hostile acts of the Chinese reactionaries.

The Vietnamese people earnestly call on the world people to continue their support to Vietnam, resolutely stay the criminal hand of the reactionary forces in the Chinese leadership, prevent them from rejecting and blatantly trampling upon the fundamental principles of ethic and international law, condemn and prevent their aggressive crimes, genocidal crimes, war crimes, and crimes against peace and friendship among nations, and make them respond to the legitimate aspirations of the people of Vietnam, of the Indochinese peoples and the Chinese people and the longing of all nations in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world for peace, stability.

The Vietnamese people who harbour no enmity with the Chinese people, have always treasured and remained true to the friendship and mutual support and assistance between the peoples of Vietnam and China, never have they provoked China, a neighbouring country much greater than their own. The Vietnamese people call on the Chinese people, in their own genuine interests and/sake of the friendship between the nations and of peace and morality to resolutely protest against and stay the wicked calculations of the reactionary forces in the Chinese leadership.

/for

Justice and peace will win./.

II- VIETNAM AND SOUTHEAST ASIA,

- 1- Excerpt from the Commentary of NHAN DAN Newspaper on the Occasion of the 1st Anniversary of the Summit Conference of the Three Indochinese Countries held in Vientiane, February 1983.

"The special relationship between Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea turns into unbreakable and invincible strength. Over the past year", the Paper noted, "the peoples of the three Indochinese countries have overcome many difficulties and hardships, firmly countering the many-sided war of sabotage conducted by the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists in connivance with the US imperialists and other reactionary forces and defeating many plots and acts of division, blockade and provocation by the enemies. Today, in collusion with the US imperialists and other reactionary forces, the Chinese expansionists are still conducting a many-sided war of sabotage against the revolutionary cause of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, preparing for invasion and annexation of these countries, inciting confrontation between the Indochinese countries and the ASEAN countries and undermining peace and stability in South-East Asia. Such a situation requires the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea to further enhance their solidarity and all-round cooperation not only between themselves but also with the Soviet Union and other countries in the Socialist community with non-aligned countries and all peace loving and the progressive people throughout the world".

- 2- Message of Greetings from Vietnamese Leaders to Kampuchean Leaders on the Occasion of the 5th Anniversary of the Signing of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation (18 Feb, 1979 - 18 Feb. 1984), ,

On 17th February 1984, Comrades Le Duan, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, Truong Chinh, President of the Council of State, Pham Van Dong, Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam sent a message of greetings to comrades Heng Samrin, General Secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, President of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, Chad Xir, President of the National Assembly and Chan Xi, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. The full text reads as follows :

"On the occasion of the 5th Anniversary of ^{/the/} signing of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea we would like to convey to you, and through you to the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, National Assembly, Council of State and Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and all fraternal Kampuchean people the profound sentiments and warmest greetings.

Following the great victory of the 7th January 1979, the signing of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation between our two countries on 18th, February, 1979 had a historical significance, marking a new period of steady development of the close friendship and the special

relations between Vietnam and Kampuchea. This is the result of the traditional friendship and militant solidarity between the two peoples which have been forged and time-tested in the long struggle in the same trenches against the colonialists, imperialists and the Beijing hegemonists and expansionists for independence and freedom of each country.

IN the past five years, the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between Vietnam and Kampuchea has become a driving force strongly strengthening the close, all-round cooperation between our two countries on political, economic, cultural, scientific and technical and other fields. Together with the great effort of the people of each country, the all-round cooperation between Vietnam and Kampuchea as well as between Vietnam-Kampuchea-Laos is a fundamental factor helping the two peoples of our countries to overcome many difficulties and defeat every dark scheme of the Beijing hegemonists and expansionists and their puppets, gain great victory in the cause of building and defending the fatherland of each country, actively contribute to the cause of peace, stability in Southeast Asia and in the world over.

Being encouraged by the rapid development of the solidarity and friendship between the peoples of the two countries, the Vietnam Communist Party, Government and its people will spare no effort to scrupulously implement the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation between Vietnam and Kampuchea and the principles of the statement of the Summit Conference of Vietnam-Kampuchea and Laos held in Vientiane February, 1983 aiming at ~~consolidating and strengthening~~ the exemplary brilliant, faithful and special relations between our two countries and between Vietnam-Kampuchea-Laos.

On this important and solemn Anniversary, we would like to express our most sincere and deepest thanks to the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, the National Assembly, the Council of State, the Council of Ministers and the Kampuchean people **for** their fraternal help and support constantly extended to the Vietnamese revolution.

We wish the Kampuchean people, under the clear-sighted leadership of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea **achieve** greater victory in the cause of ~~defending and constructing~~ a Kampuchea of peace, independence, democracy, sovereignty and territorial integrity and gradually advancing to socialism".

3- Opening of the Conference of Heads of Planning Committees of the Three Indochinese Countries,

The Conference of the Heads of Planning Committees of Vietnam, Laos, Kampuchea opened on 5 Feb. in Ho Chi Minh City.

The participants were Vo Van Kiet, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Chairman of the State Planning Committee; Hoang Quy, Member of the Central Committee of the C.P.V, Minister, first Vice-Chairman of the above Committee; Saly VongkhamSao, Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Laos, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, President of the State Planning Committee of Laos; Chea Soth, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Planning Ministers.

In his opening speech, Vo Van Kiet pointed out the necessity for the promotion of the many-sided cooperation between the three countries, of which the economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation played extremely important roles.

He emphasised this long-term cooperation between the three peoples in the Indochinese peninsular, and considered it as a natural and objective outcome of the socio-economic coordination of these three countries, cooperation which survived all political fluctuations.

"Our three peoples take due account of the necessity to establish cooperative economic and cultural relations in order to exploit all the latent potential thoroughly to seize every opportunity to fill in all the gaps in each country.

This is the most effective means to assure the rapid advance and steady advance towards socialism of the three countries. The coordination of planning between the three countries is aimed at giving an impulse to the rational development of the national economy of each country and at consolidating the fighting alliance, the special solidarity and to cooperation many-sided enduring among our three countries.

At this conference, the planning ministers have presented their reports on the achievements of the 1983 plan and the 1984 plan for each country and the coordination among the three countries in this field.

4- Thai Parliamentary Delegation Visits Vietnam,

The Parliamentary 24-member delegation from the Commission for Foreign Relations of Thailand, representing all major political parties, led by the President of the Commission Kriangsak Chomanan, ex-Premier of the Thai Government paid a friendly visit to Vietnam which had taken place in response to the invitation of the President of the National Assembly of Vietnam.

During their stay in Vietnam from January 18 to 25, the delegation paid homage to President Ho Chi Minh, and visited his residence and office. They visited the Exhibition of Economic and Technical Achievements, the construction site of hydro-electric power station in Hoa Binh, Ho Chi Minh City and other economic and cultural establishments.

They had talks with the Commission for Foreign Relations of the National Assembly of Vietnam and exchanged views on parliamentary activities, on the situation in each country and on problems of common interest. They had discussions with the State Planning Commission, the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the Ministry of Fisheries on the possibilities and prospects for cooperation between the two countries.

Nghiem Xuan Yem, Vice-President of the National Assembly gave a reception in honour of the Thai guest. Kriangsak Chomanan; Ambassador of Thailand to Vietnam, Monteri Jalichandra and his wife, and member of the delegation accepted the invitation on behalf of the Thai delegation.

In a cordial and friendly atmosphere, Nghiem Xuan Yem, Kriangsak Chomanan drank to the development of friendly relations between Vietnam

and Thailand in the interests of the two peoples, and to peace and stability in the region.

The delegation was received by Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the National Assembly; Pham Van Dong, President of the Council of Ministers and Nguyen Co Thach, Foreign Minister who had friendly talks with them.

Kriangsak Chomanan and his fellow-delegates expressed their wish to develop friendly relations and cooperation between Thailand and Vietnam. The Vietnamese leaders warmly welcomed the visit of the Thai delegation and hoped that this visit contribute to the development of friendship and cooperation between the two peoples in the interest of peace and stability in South East Asia and the rest of the world.

- 5- General L.B. Murdani, Commander-in-chief of Indonesian Armed Forces Paid Friendly Visit to Vietnam,
- Reception in honour of Indonesian guests,

General Van Tien Dung on February 13 offered in Hanoi a solemn reception in honour of the Indonesian military delegation led by General L.B. Murdani.

Also present at the reception were Pudjio Prasetyov, Indonesian Ambassador and Colonel Bantu Hardjijo, military attache of the Indonesian Embassy in Hanoi.

In his speech, after praising the courageous struggle of the peoples and armed forces of Vietnam and that of Indonesia against the colonialists and fascists for their national independence, General Van Tien Dung put emphasis on the constant foreign policy of the SRVN that is to develop friendly relations and cooperation with all countries, particularly with the neighbouring countries on the basis of mutual respect of independence and sovereignty, non-interference in each other internal affairs, and mutual benefit in conformity with the Bangdoug spirit, the principles and objectives of the Non-Aligned movement. He affirmed that Vietnam is determined to build a modern regular army capable of defending its country and to unite with the peoples of Laos and Kampuchea to cope with menaces imposed by Beijing, thus contributing to the defence of independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the three Indochinese countries.

General Van Tien Dung highly valued the present visit to Vietnam by the Indonesian guests, and was convinced that the visit would actively contribute to the consolidation of friendship and good-neighbourly relations between the peoples and armed forces of the two countries in the interests of peace and stability in the region and the world over.

In reply, after appreciating the courageous struggle of the people and armed forces of Vietnam, General L.B. Murdani emphasized :

"Today, our countries are sovereign. It is necessary for us to defend our sovereignty, build our economies and improve the living standards of our peoples, we hold that the roots of the successful realization of these objectives stem from the internal stability and peace in the region".

He expressed his conviction that in the interests of peace and stability in the region, the relations between peoples and armed forces of Vietnam and Indonesia will develop with every passing day./.

- Chairman Pham Van Dong Receives Indonesian Guests,

Chairman of the Council of Minister Pham Van Dong received, in the afternoon of 15 Feb. at the Presidential Palace, General Murdani, Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces of the Republic of Indonesia and other members of the Indonesian military delegation who paid a friendly visit to Vietnam.

Also present at the reception were : General Van Tien Dung, Minister of National Defence, General Tran Van Quang, Vice-Minister of National Defence, Ha Van Lau, Vice-Foreign Minister, Trinh Xuan Lang, Vietnamese Ambassador to Indonesia.

Indonesian Ambassador Pudjio Prasetyo and Colonel Dontu Hardjijo, Indonesian Military Attache were also present at the reception.

Chairman Pham Van Dong warmly welcome General Murdani and other Indonesian generals. He wished the Indonesian people many successes in the construction of a prosperous country and the Indonesian armed forces a constant growth. He hoped that the peoples and the armed forces of the two countries will do their best to contribute to the development of their friendship and cooperation.

On this occasion, Chairman Pham Van Dong asked General L.B. Murdani to convey his best regards and the respect of the Vietnamese people to President Suharto.

General L.B. Murdani conveyed to Chairman Pham Van Dong the greetings of President Suharto. He spoke of his good impressions during the friendly visit to Vietnam and thanked the people and the armed forces of Vietnam for their warm welcome.

He highly appreciated the growth of the Vietnamese armed forces and stated that the Vietnamese and Indonesian peoples and their armed forces will consolidate the development of friendship between the two countries.

- General L.B. Murdani's Reception,

Before leaving Hanoi for a visit to some military units in the South, General L.B. Murdani in the evening of 15 Feb. held a solemn reception.

Present at the reception were General Van Tien Dung, Minister of National Defense; General Tran Van Quang, Vice-Minister of National Defense; General Le Quang Hoa, Vice-Minister of National Defense, Inspector General of the V.P.A.; Ha Van Lau, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs; General Phung The Tai, Deputy Chief of the General Staff; Colonel Vu Xuan Vinh, Head of the Department for External Liaisons of the Ministry of National Defense and other high-ranking officers of the V.P.A.

After the reception the V.P.A. Group of Singers and Dancers performed an artistic programme in honour of the Indonesian guests.

- Activities of General L.B. Murdani in Vietnam,

+ General L.B. Murdani and other members of the Indonesian delegation on 15 Feb. visited the 1st Military Region, the province of Langson and the Chi Lang Group of Divisions.

General Dam Quang Trung, Commander-in-chief of the 1st Military Region; Be Chi Lang, Chairman of the People's Committee of Lang Son province, the representative of the provincial military command and the commander of the Chi Lang Group of Divisions warmly welcome the Indonesian guests.

After being informed of the victory of the people and armed forces of Vietnam over the Chinese aggressors in February 1979 and the battles in the provincial capital of Lang Son, General L.B. Murdani and members of his delegation visited two units at the Northern borders. General L.B. Murdani thanked the officers and men of the 1st Military region, the people of Lang Son province for their warm welcome. After having admired the growth of the Vietnam People's Army, the Indonesian General said :

"I am convinced that between our two countries, there will be no conflict. Some countries say that the danger for South East Asia comes from Vietnam but the armed forces and the peoples of Indonesia do not believe so".

+ General L.D. Murdani and other generals of the Army of the Indonesian Republic left Hanoi on 16 February to visit the 7th Military zone and Ho Chi Minh city.

Present at the farewell party on the Vietnamese side were General Van Tien Dung, Defence Minister, General Le Quang Hoa, Deputy Defence Minister and Inspector General of the People's Army of Vietnam; Ha Van Lau, Deputy Foreign Minister; Trinh Xuan Lang, Ambassador of the S.R.V to Indonesia, General Phung The Tai, Deputy Commander-in-Chief, and a number of high-ranking officers of the People's Army of Vietnam.

The Indonesian Ambassador to Vietnam Padjio Prasetyo and Colonel Bantu Hardjijo, military attache, also attended the party.

In the morning of 16 February, the Indonesian delegation visited the airforce Division Thanh Long, a hero-unit of the People's Armed Forces of Vietnam.

- In the 7th Military Region, the guests were warmly welcome by General Nguyen Minh Chau, the Commander, and the Deputy Commanders of the region as well as by the authorities of the city. They then visited the Marine Command of Ho Chi Minh City.

In the evening, a solemn reception was held by the High Command of the 7th Military region in honour of the Indonesian delegation. On this occasion, General L.D. Murdani expressed his emotion and gratitude to the warm and friendly welcome provided by the Vietnamese people and army during his presence in Vietnam. From Lang Son to

Ho Chi Minh city, he said : "This evening, we shall be leaving your country with the joy of having been able to understand the territory, the people and the army of Vietnam, our close friends. And it is much more than we have expected. We hope that the friendly relationship between the two peoples and two armies of Vietnam and Indonesia will be strengthened".

- Also on 16 February, the Indonesian guests were cordially received by Vietnam's Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach. Also present were General Tran Van Quang, Deputy Defence Minister, and Trinh Xuan Lang, S.R.V. Ambassador to Indonesia.

III- VIETNAM AND SOCIALIST FRATERNAL COUNTRIES,

1- Friendly Visit of Bulgarian Government Delegation to the Three Indochinese Countries,

At the invitation of the Governments of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the People's Democratic Republic of Laos, a delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria led by Comrade Crison Filipov, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of Bulgaria, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria visited Vietnam from January 16th to 19th, Kampuchea from January 19th to 20th and Laos from January 20th to 21st, 1984.

In Vietnam, the delegation laid wreaths and paid homage at Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum. The delegation was received by comrade Truong Chinh, member of the Political Bureau, President of the Council of State.

In Kampuchea, the delegation was received by comrade Heng Samrin, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party, President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. On January 19th, 1984, at Phnom Penh, the two sides signed the Minutes of the talks between the two Chairmen of the Councils of Ministers of Kampuchea and Bulgaria, the Agreement of the Bulgarian non-refund technical and scientific aid to Kampuchea in the two years of 1984-1985, the agreement on medical non-refund aid and the agreement on the cooperation of the forestry industry.

In Laos, the delegation was received by Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolution Party, Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Comrade Souphanouvong, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party and Chairman of the Council of State. Comrades Kayson Phomvihane and Grisa Filitov signed the Minutes of their talks. Representatives of the ministries concerned signed their Minutes aimed at furthering friendly relations and cooperation between Laos and Bulgaria.

- Excerpt from Vietnam-Bulgaria Joint Communiqué,

At the invitation of Comrade Phan Van Dong, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, a delegation from the Government of Bulgaria

led by Comrade Grisa Filipov, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Bulgaria, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, paid an official friendship visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam from January 16th to 19th, 1984.

... The talks between the two delegations were held in an atmosphere of friendship and total agreement on all issues discussed.

The Vietnamese delegation informed its counter part of the fulfilment of the Resolutions of the Fifth Communist Party Congress and of the 3rd, 4th and 5th Plenums of the Central Committee in carrying out the tasks of socialist construction and the struggle against the many-sided war of sabotage waged by the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists.

The Bulgarian delegation, on its part, informed the Vietnamese delegation of the efforts and achievements of the Bulgarian people in carrying out the Resolutions of the 12th Communist Party Congress aimed at furthering the building of advanced socialism in Bulgaria.

The two sides have signed a long-term Programme on the broadening and increasing of Technical scientific and economic cooperation between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Bulgaria covering the years up to 1990 and the period thereafter and the Agreement resulting from the talks between the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Chairman of the Council of Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Agreement on co-operation for the production and the processing rubber and the Agreement on cooperation for the production of coffee in Vietnam.

... The heads of the two delegations emphasized that the fraternal friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other member states of the socialist community has great significance for the two countries. The leaders reaffirmed the determination of the SRV and the PRB to continue contributing to the consolidation of the coherence of the fraternal socialist countries and the coordination of activities in the frame-work of the socialist community and the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance.

... The two sides welcomed the great achievements of the Kampuchean people in the five years of national rebirth since the foundation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and reaffirmed their support for the Kampuchean people in their effort to build a new society and to defend the fruits of their revolution. The two sides reiterated their unswerving stance that the government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea is the sole legitimate representative of Kampuchea is currently taking every decision on every issue concerning that country and must have its legitimate place at the United Nations and at other international organisations.

The two delegations reaffirmed their fraternal solidarity with the People's Democratic Republic of Laos in the cause of socialist construction and national defence in Laos.

Comrade G. Filipov expressed his sincere gratitude for the warm fraternal welcome extended to him and his delegation and cordial

invited Comrade Pham Van Dong to pay an official visit to Bulgaria. Comrade Pham Van Dong expressed his thanks and heartily accepted the invitation.

Hanoi, January 19th- 1984.

2- The Soviet Ministry for Foreign Affairs' Delegation
Pays a Visit to Vietnam.

A delegation of the Soviet Ministry for Foreign Affairs led by Vice-Minister M.S. Karitsa visited Vietnam from 9th Feb. to 12th, 1984 at the invitation of the Vietnamese Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

While in Vietnam the delegation was received by Nguyen Co Thach Foreign Minister. Minister Nguyen Co Thach expressed his satisfaction with the vigorous development of the friendship and comprehensive cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union and reaffirmed the full support of the Communist Party and the people of Vietnam for the Soviet Union's Foreign policy and its peace initiatives for safeguarding world peace and warding off the danger of the nuclear war policies of imperialists.

Talks were held between the Soviet Foreign Ministry's delegation and the delegation of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry led by Vo Dong Giang, Minister dispatched to the Foreign Ministry. The two sides discussed international issues of common concern and the strengthening of friendship and cooperations between the two countries and between the two ministries in particular. Vice-Minister M.S. Karitsa expressed his full support for the recent Joint Communiqué of the Indochinese Foreign Ministers' Conference.

IV-

South East Asian Women's Seminar

**"FOR PEACE AND THE DEVELOPMENT AND WELL-BEING OF WOMEN
AND CHILDREN"**

A Seminar of Southeast Asian Women "for Peace, and the Development and well-being of Women and Children" was opened on 14 January 1984 in Hanoi,

Organized jointly by the Women's International Democratic Federation (WIDF) and the Vietnamese Women's Union, the Seminar received delegations from WIDF, Kampuchea, Laos, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and the Economic and Social Committee for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP). Also present at the Seminar were delegates from UNICEF, UNESCO, World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations' Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

The WIDF delegation, headed by Mrs. Ingor Hivela, President of the Finnish Women's Democratic League, included Mrs. Surjeet Kaur, WIDF Secretary; Mrs. Khenmedekho, Vice-President of the Mongolian Women's Committee; Mrs. Sylvia Harding, Executive member of the Australian Women's Union; and Mrs. Maria Christoforeva, Representative of the Soviet Women's Committee. The Kampuchean delegation was led by Mrs. Mien Xan An, President of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Women's Association, and the delegation from Laos was led by Mrs. Khampheang Boupha, President of the Lao Patriot Women's Association. The Indonesian delegation comprised two members, Mrs. Sumaryati Pudjo Prasetyo, wife of the Indonesian Ambassador to Vietnam, and Mrs. Siti-Aminan Humaram. The Philippine delegation consisted of Mrs. Ninerva Laudico, President of the Philippine Women's Civil Assembly (National Council of Women) and Mrs. Aida Dizon, Secretary for External Affairs of the New Women's Association of the Philippines. The Thai delegation consisted of Mrs. Khunying Kanitha Wichiencharoen, President of the Association for the Promotion of Women's Status and President of Thailand's Emergency Relief Fund for Women and Children in distress; Mrs. Niramorn Prudtatorn, journalist from the Siam-Rath Journal; Mrs. Teerarat Karnjanauksorn, Director of studies, teacher and researcher at the University of Chulalongkorn, Institute of Social Research; Mrs. Chirati Tingsabath, teacher at the University of Kasetsart; Mrs. Boonnee Tulkieree, Director of the Department of Christian Women of Thailand's Christian Church, President of the Conference of Christian Women in Asia, and Mrs. Patama Wichiehhat, Social militant. The Indian delegation consisted of Mrs. Ram Dalarisinha, Minister of State for Commerce, and Mrs. Gouri Ganguly, Executive member of the National Federation of Indian Women. And the Vietnamese delegation was headed by Mrs. Nguyen Thi Dinh, President of the Vietnamese Women's Union, and among others were Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh and Mrs. Ngo Ba Thanh, Vice-President of the Union.

In her speech of welcome, Mrs. Nguyen Thi Dinh, President of the Vietnamese Women's Union, said :

"It is a great honour for our Union to cosponsor this Seminar which gives the women of the countries in the region an opportunity to meet each other in a climate of friendship and of mutual understanding to exchange

experiences in the work of campaigning among women in the spirit of peace, development and equality, the objectives of our "Decade of Women".

"Our sincere aspiration is to develop friendly relations with all women in the world and above all with the women of neighbouring countries. In this spirit, we are persevering in our sustained efforts for solidarity, co-operation and friendship with women and women's organization in the area in order to contribute to the transformation of Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability and prosperity.

"All of us have common interest in building our respective countries in peace, and in ensuring the equality and welfare of women and children. We are convinced that by means of this Seminar, we shall launch more appropriate and positive activities to promote mutual understanding. The Vietnamese Women's Union will spare no efforts to extend our friendship and we hope that this meeting will be a break-through in this sense".

On behalf of the WIDF, Mrs. Ingor Hivelae indicated that all problems raised at the Seminar had dealt with the promotion of co-operation between women's organization and other governmental social organizations in order to realize the programme of actions of "the Decade of Women". This Seminar in Hanoi could offer a valuable contribution to these preparations. It constitutes an event of burning significance as we are going to the U.N meeting for Asia and the Pacific, which will be held in Tokyo towards the end of next March.

At this moment, on all continents, women from different social systems, political opinions and religious faiths have actively worked in broad movements of struggle for peace. This identity of view has shown itself at the International Conference of Women held in October 1981".

SEMINAR PRESS COMMUNIQUE

The Seminar of Women of South East Asia "for Peace, development, and the well-being of women and children" held under the auspices of the Vietnamese Women's Union and the Women's International Democratic Federation took place on 14 and 15 January in Hanoi, in an atmosphere of goodwill and mutual understanding. Twenty nine delegates from twelve countries, holding different religious convictions, political and social ideologies gathered together in a very friendly and open-minded meeting to exchange experiences

on the role and the position of women in social development and on the ways to strengthen cooperation between women and their organisations with a view to realizing the programme of action of the "Decade of Women" defined by the United Nations.

The seminar began with the warm greetings of Mrs. Nguyen Thi Dinh, President of the Vietnamese Women's Union who wished wholeheartedly that, in the name of the happiness and the bright future of our families and children, the seminar would initiate measures and new forms of activity for mutual understanding and fruitful cooperation.

The speech of Mrs. Nguyen Thi Dinh was applauded by the delegates of the Philippines and Thailand. They congratulated those who convened the seminar for giving women an opportunity for better understanding each other. Some delegates later expressed a wish that such meetings should be organized even monthly in order to develop the friendly co-operation.

Mrs. Ingor Hivelae, Member of the Finnish Parliament, leader of the delegation of the Women's International Democratic Federation opened the seminar discussion. With an important speech, she emphasized the close connections between the three mottoes of the "Decade of Women". She said: "women cannot achieve equality if there is no development and there can be no development if there is no peace". She referred to the brilliant success that the WIDF has achieved since its foundation in 1945 in its many-sided activities to defend the right of mankind to live in peace.

Mrs. Daw Aye, representative of the ESCAP Office for Social Development said that the "Decade of Women" has been marked by many measures designed to improve the social position of women. Many new laws had been adopted to give women their rights and to give them the opportunity to achieve in equality. But in several countries, inequality between men and women always pose acute questions for society and for development. The solution to these problems demands even greater efforts by the women themselves. Women and the social organisations must participate more actively and precisely co-ordinate their activities in the struggle for their rights, for peace and social progress. The appeal of Mrs. Daw Aye received the approval of the Indian, Thai, Philippine and other delegates.

Mrs. Ham Dulari Sinha, Indian Minister of State for Commerce stressed the important role of women in society and remarked that despite the great success of the "Decade of Women" there is still much to do.

Mrs. Sylvia Harding, in the name of the Australian women, protested against alarming international situation which threatened the existence of mankind. She appealed all the women to use their efforts to urge the nuclear powers to conclude a treaty on the non-use of nuclear arms newly deployed in Europe and the prohibition of weapons of mass-extinction.

Mrs. Mien Xam An, President of the Association of Revolutionary Women of Kampuchea, gave a report on the successes of women in her country in the political, social and economic fields over a short period of time (five years), and emphasized that all citizens, men and women of Kampuchea chose voluntarily the present road of development, the road that leads to the equal participation of women in social affairs that brings well-being to children, the irreversible road which women will defend and keep.

Mrs. Khampheng Boupha, President of the Association of Lao Patriotic Women spoke of the struggle, full of difficulties of the Lao women against economic backwardness, poverty and illiteracy.

The delegate of Kampuchea and Laos stressed the friendly and co-operative relations that exist between the three Indochinese countries which were formed and forged in struggle and which nothing can destroy. They expressed the desire to develop friendship and cooperation with women of all countries in South East Asia.

The Mongolian delegate voiced an appeal for peace and stability in South East Asia and proposed the signing of a Treaty of reciprocal non-aggression and non-use of force in relations between countries of Asia and the Pacific.

All delegates had frankly exchanged their experiences and opinions through lively discussions on the main theme, the aspiration for peace. They all agreed that it is necessary to organize such meetings regularly so that women from different political systems and social ideologies could join their efforts in the struggle for peace, stability and cooperation in South East Asia, and for world peace, thus assuring a happy future for all our children.

All the delegates unanimously expressed their gratitude to the warm hospitality of the Vietnam Women's Union. All the delegates highly valued the experience of the Vietnamese Women's Union, an organization which has done its best to encourage women to stand shoulder to shoulder with men in the struggle for independence and to work for ^{the} well-being and the happiness of the children despite the shower of bombs and shells of the war.

All the delegates congratulated the initiative put forth by the Women's International Democratic Federation and the Vietnamese Women's Union who had organized this seminar and stated that this was really a good start. Women had to put forth concrete measures to strengthen the solidarity and the cooperation for peace, development, well-being of women and children in Southeast Asia and the world over.

PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE RESULTS OF THE SEMINAR

After two working days, the Seminar of South East Asian Women "For Peace, Development and well-being of Women and Children" successfully concluded on January 15 in Hanoi.

The delegates unanimously adopted a press communique.

A Press Conference was then held to introduce the results of the Seminar.

Answering the questions raised by reporters, Mrs. Ingor Hivelae, head of WIDF delegation, Chairwoman of the Seminar, together with delegates from Thailand, Philippines, India, Australia expressed their deep impressions about the Seminar and their stay in Vietnam. They also reaffirmed that after returning home they would actively carry out activities in keeping with the objectives put forth in the Seminar in order to promote the friendly relations and cooperation between women in the region, contributing to the safeguarding of peace, friendship and cooperation in Southeast Asia. Some delegates promised that after going back to their countries, they would actively persuade their governments to recognize the government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, considering this as an positive action to help stabilize South East Asia./.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

PHAM VAN DONG RECEIVED WOMEN DELEGATES,

On January 15th, 1984, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong received in Hanoi the international delegates who attended the Seminar on Southeast Asian women for "peace, development and well-being of women and children".

In a cordial and friendly atmosphere Chairman Pham Van Dong welcomed all delegates and highly appreciated the great successes of the Seminar. "the Seminar", he emphasized, "had dealt with the hottest and most important issues of the present times such as the safeguarding of peace and well-being of mankind including that of women and children. This seminar was a positive development in the friendly relations and cooperation among women in Southeast Asian region".

Chairman Pham Van Dong highly appreciated the role, position and great contributions of women in the building of their respective countries and in the defense of world peace. He expressed his hope that women from Southeast Asian countries and those all over the world would be worthier to their lofty position particularly in the defense of peace against the arms race, and in the warding off the danger of nuclear war which has been imposed by the bellicose imperialist forces. He wishes all delegates to carry out new activities to encourage millions of women all over the world to stand up and be masters of their destinies, to participate in the struggle for the defense of peace. He also reaffirmed that the Vietnamese women and people were determined to actively take part in that struggle.

In the name of all delegates, Mrs. Inger Hivelae, head of the IDWF delegation expressed the solidarity and friendship with the people and women of Vietnam. She promised that after returning home all delegates would actively contribute not only to the common struggle of the entire mankind for peace but also to the friendship, cooperation and mutual understanding between women and their organisations in Southeast Asia.

Mrs. Ram D. Shiha, Minister of State of India solemnly convey to Chairman Pham Van Dong and the Vietnamese people the best regards of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and the Indian people. She made clear that the government and people of India have followed with great interests the situation in Southeast Asia and wanted this region to be a zone of peace, cooperation and stability. She expressed the solidarity of the Indian people with the Vietnamese people and wished the Vietnamese people greater successes in building their country. Chairman Pham Van Dong sincerely thanked the Indian people and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for their warm feelings toward the Vietnamese people and also conveyed to the Prime Minister his friendly compliments.

Delegates from Thailand, the Philippines, Australia and Kampuchea expressed their kind words about the Sseminar, and their aspiration to develop friendship and cooperation between peoples and women of Southeast Asian countries./.

V- NEWS IN BRIEF :

* Activities of Vietnam's National Committee of UNESCO,

Last year, Vietnamese National Committee of UNESCO recorded a registered many remarkable successes, under the international plan, in the development of scientific, technical, cultural and educational cooperation.

This has been noted in a report which recapitulates the works accomplished in 1983 by the above Committee during a conference held on 19 January 1984 under the Presidency of Minister Vo Dong Giang, the President of the aforesaid Committee.

During the past year, says the report, the Committee has achieved part of its programme of cooperation on the Scientifico-technical plan with UNESCO : the establishment of specialists in various disciplines (ecology, hydrology, geology, energy scientific information, oceanograph etc.). The Committee started work of restoring cultural monuments in Hue with assistance of UNESCO as part of its task.

For education, the Committee has led activities for the implementation of the birth control programme, the training of teachers of infant schools, professional education, the teaching of management and planning in education. In 1983, a Vietnamese, Vuong Kiem Toan, was awarded by UNESCO the international prize "Krupskaia" for his great efforts in the liquidation of analphadetisme.

Looking over the passed years since her admission to UNESCO, says the report, Vietnam, a socialist country, belonging to the Third World and playing a special role in rallying the forces in the struggle for the progressive points of view, has made an important contribution to the development of UNESCO.

2- Hun Sen Condemns the Presence of "Democratic Kampuchea" Representatives at the United Nations,

The presence of these ignoble creatures will constitute a contempt for millions of innocent victims of Kampuchea, will lower the prestige of the Conference and will only serve the interests of the bloody henchmen of expansionists, hegemonists and imperialists, thus wrote Kampuchean Foreign Minister Hun Sen in a message addressed to President of the Commission on Human Rights, of which the 4th Conference is taking place in Geneva at the beginning of February.

The representatives of so-called "Democratic Kampuchea" added Mr. Hun Sen, are none other than the executioners of the genocidal regime which massacred over 3 millions of their fellow-countrymen and have been severely condemned for their crimes by these Kampucheans who survived and by people devoted to peace-and-justice.

During the past five years, under the correct and clear-sighted leadership of the Party and Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the Kampuchean people have shown enthusiasm and determination in their national reconstruction. The power of the State has been recognised and consolidated from top to the bottom. A great number educational establishments, hospitals and state institutions of all kinds have been set up to meet pressing needs of the people.

The Minister concluded :

The Kampuchean people strongly condemn the presence of the representatives of these criminals at this Conference as well as at other international forums and consider that all resolutions concerning Kampuchea passed by the said Conference or similarly constituted international bodies to be illegal and illegitimate conclusions and a gross interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea and a violation of its rights to self-determination.

3- U.S. Senator D. Edwards Calls for the Establishment of an International Committee to Investigate the Consequences of the Use of the Toxic Chemical "Agent Orange" that was used by the U.S army during the war of aggression in Vietnam,

Recently, the Senator for California Mr. D. Edwards, who has just returned from Vietnam, has made an appeal for the establishment of an International Committee to investigate the consequences of the use of the toxic chemical "Agent Orange" that was used by the U.S army during the war of aggression in Vietnam.

Senator D. Edwards said that with his own eyes, he had witnessed the consequences of the crimes committed by the United State against the Vietnamese people. There were a great number of Vietnamese people who suffered cancer, and a lot of Vietnamese children have been born deformed as a result of the U.S toxic chemical "Agent Orange" used in Vietnam.

4- U.S. Defense Delegation Pays a Visit to Vietnam,

A U.S delegation led by Richard Armitage, Assistant Defense Secretary paid a visit to Vietnam from February 19 to 22, 1984 for discussions of American Missing in Action (MIA) in Vietnam.

Richard Armitage was accompanied by Mrs. Mills Griffiths, Executive Director of the National League of families of American POWs, Richard Childress of National Security Adviser to President, Lyall Brecken and Colonel Jean Sauvageot, officials of the Asian and Pacific Bureau of State Department.

The governments of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the United States are convinced that the problem of American missing in action (MIA) in Vietnam is a humanitarian one and it will be solved by the two parties in cooperation and goodwill.

During the visit, the delegation held talks with the Vietnamese delegation headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Hoang Anh Tuan. The Vietnamese side informed the U.S. side the latest news relating to some U.S. soldiers who died during the Vietnam war. The U.S. side welcomed the news and expressed its gratitude to the Vietnamese government and people for their humanitarian policy and good-will attitude. Both sides have agreed to resume the meeting between the experts from two countries on American missing in action.

5- Excerpt from the Commentary of Nhan Dan on the U.S. Policy of Aggression in Lebanon,

The situation in Lebanon becomes more serious. Facing the situation in which the struggle of the Lebanese patriotic forces is strongly developing and the Gemayel Administration is on the brink of collapse, the U.S. imperialists have increased new acts of war. President Reagan declared to keep his commitments to support the Gemayel Administration and continue to maintain the U.S. marines in Lebanon. The Reagan Administration have sent more carriers and warships to the off-shore waters of Lebanon and the U.S. marines directly fired on many positions of the Lebanon patriotic forces and the densely populated areas in Beirut. The spokesman of the U.S. Defence Department declared to carry out the so-called "new policy" that give their field commanders more rights to act without asking permission in advance. The White House has also stubbornly threatened "to punish Syria". At the same time the Reagan Administration have put pressure on the Israeli army to combine their actions with American marines.

It is clear that the main reason for the serious situation in Lebanon is the U.S. policy of aggression and intervention. Who has turned on the green light for and pressurized Israel to carry out the aggression against Lebanon? Who has sent the U.S. marines to Beirut and dozens of war-ships to the off-shore of Lebanon? It is the Reagan Administration. What does Washington want? The Reagan Administration has a very dangerous scheme - that is to use the Israeli army and the U.S. marines as backbone to set up a puppet regime in Lebanon and use it to destroy the patriotic and progressive forces in this country, the P.L.C. forces and to transform Lebanon into the U.S. base against Syria and other's progressive Arab countries to force these countries to accept the Reagan solution, thus establishing the U.S. neo-colony in the region.

... The U.S. acts of intervention and aggression have caused the situation in Lebanon and the whole region more dangerous. The Reagan Administration has to bear full responsibilities for the consequences of their blind acts. Together with the world people, we resolutely condemn the policy and the aggressive acts of the Reagan Administration in Lebanon. We entirely support the Lebanese National Patriotic Front in demanding the U.S. imperialists to stop their aggressive and intervention acts of war, to withdraw immediately the U.S. marines from Beirut, the U.S. fleet from the off-shore waters of Lebanon and the Israeli armed forces from Lebanon. Independence and sovereignty of Lebanon must

be respected, the Lebanese affairs must be settled by the Lebanese themselves without foreign interference and in the spirit of genuine national reconciliation. We are resolutely supporting the just struggle of the Syrian people, of the Palestinian people under the leadership of P.L.O and other Arab peoples against the U.S. imperialists and Israelies for a genuine peace based on the respect of the national rights of the Palestinian people including the right to establish an independent state for themselves, and of the independence, sovereignty of Syria and all Arab states.

6- Truong Chinh receives Daniel Ortega Saavedra in Moscow,

Vietnam resolutely demands that the American imperialists put an end to all schemes and acts of aggression against Nicaragua, other Latin American countries and withdraw immediately and totally their aggressive forces from Grenada.

This is what Truong Chinh, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the C.P.V., President of the State Council of Vietnam said during his meeting on 15 February in Moscow with Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Commander of the revolution, members of the leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (S.N.L.F), President of the Council for national reconstruction of Nicaragua.

President Truong Chinh reaffirmed the full support of the Communist Party, the government and the people of Vietnam for the just struggle of the Nicaraguan brother people.

For his part, Daniel Ortega Saavedra informed the Vietnamese leader of the successes achieved by his people in national production and construction as well as in the struggle against the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen.

The meeting took place in a cordial atmosphere and full of militant solidarity and fraternal friendship.

7- On the occasion of the 5th Anniversary of the Chinese aggression against Vietnam (17/2/1979 - 17/2/1984) the Chinese secret radio "August first" had a commentary saying that the aggression against Vietnam waged five years ago was the implementation of the instruction of the Chinese Central Committee's boss Dang Xiao Ping. The Chinese side suffered thousands of Chinese soldiers died. The aggression against Vietnam five years ago as well as that against India and the Soviet Union before that have exposed the hegemonist and expansionist nature of the Beijing authorities' strategy against its neighbours.

8- Vietnamese-French Cooperation,

A Minutes of the 4th Session of the Joint Vietnamese-French cooperation Committee in the Cultural, scientific and technical fields was signed in Hanoi.

The two parties reviewed the cooperation between the two countries during the years of 1982 and 1983. They defined the orientations of the cooperation for the two coming years and agreed on several preferential projects.

THE END.