

EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
PRESS AND INFORMATION SECTION  

---

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

---

No. 02  
25 March, 1986.

CONTENTS

	Page
I/- VIETNAM AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION :	
- Chairman Pham Van Dong's Address at CMEA Meeting.	1
- Vietnam Economic and Technical Cooperation in CMEA.	2
II/- SOME ASPECTS OF VIETNAM ECONOMY :	
- Food Production in Vietnam.	3
- Oil and Gas Exploration.	7
- Achievements in Public Health Service.	8
III/- VIETNAM AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS :	
- Memorandum on China's Hostile Policy Vis-a-vis Vietnam.	9
- Letter of Vietnam Foreign Minister to Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries.	14
- Vietnam Foreign Ministry Spokesman's Statement on the So-Called "8-Point Proposal" Put Forth in Beijing.	15
IV/- NEWS IN BRIEF :	
- China's 1985 War Crimes Against Vietnam.	16
- Czechoslovakia Support Vietnam.	17
- Vietnam and USSR Cooperation in Personnel Training.	17.

CHAIRMAN PHAM VAN DONG'S ADDRESS AT CMEA MEETING  
ON COOPERATION IN PLANNING

(Excerpts from the address delivered by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong at the opening of the 37th session of the Committee for Cooperation in Planning of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance held in Hanoi January 1986.)

" This session of the CMEA Committee for Cooperation in Planning, which is convened in Vietnam, is an event of great significance as imperialism and other reactionary forces are deploying very perfidious designs against this part of the world. Vietnam once the theatre of a most bitter struggle between the forces of peace, national independence, democracy and social progress and imperialist and other reactionary forces, is today standing beside the peoples of Laos and Kampuchea, and closely uniting with the Soviet Union, the entire socialist community and all peace-loving and progressive forces in this region in a persistent struggle to defeat the "Asia-Pacific strategy" of US-led imperialism, and to pave the way for building this region into a peaceful and secure zone of Asia, and first of all to make it a region of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation.

The countries members of the CMEA and its offices - of which the Committee for Cooperation in Planning plays a role of special importance - have set a model of the new-type cooperative relations among socialist countries by implementing the resolution of the Economic Summit Conference to help Vietnam, Cuba and Mongolia step up their economic development and gradually catch up with the level of economic development in the CMEA countries in Europe.

To the countries in the Non-Aligned Movement, the Third World countries, and others which are beset with difficulties from all sides, this exemplary relationship is strongly encouraging them to choose for themselves their own way for development and to strive for the establishment of a new world economic order.

The Communist Party, the Government and the people of Vietnam sincerely thanks the fraternal socialist countries, first of all the great Soviet Union, for having decided to increase their assistance to and cooperation with Vietnam in the next five years, a period of special significance for our Party in the implementation of our socio-economic development strategy.

We hope that during your stay in Vietnam, you will have the opportunity to have first-hand knowledge of our country's great potentials in natural resources and workforce in order to define the most appropriate orientations and forms to broaden the scale of your economic cooperation with Vietnam to enhance your help in solving our most fundamental socio-economic tasks in the first stage of the transition period to socialism laid down by our Fifth Party Congress. These consist in focusing efforts on boosting agricultural production and consumer goods industries, building a number of vital heavy industries and other material and technical bases of socialism, stabilizing and step by step improving the people's life, and striving to develop the economy in all fields as practical deeds to greet the 6th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam".

#### VIETNAM SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION IN THE CMEA.

##### Important economic and technical tasks

In recent years, scientific institutes and offices in Vietnam have been authorized to take part in some projects of the Comprehensive Program for Scientific and Technical Progress already adopted by the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), especially in the biological technology, new materials and technology and electronisation.

This has been decided in the light of the results of the key scientific and technical projects in the 1981-85 period and the various strategic scientific and technological protection programs undertaken in the recent past.

The five priorities of the CMEA Comprehensive Programme are all the point branches in the scientific and technological revolution in our time. On the other hand, in the view of Vietnamese specialists, even in the present conditions of Vietnam, some achievements of biological technology, electronics and new materials and technology could be applied to settle the urgent problems of food, energy, materials, consumer goods and health care. For instance, we can take advantage of our diversified tropical climate and achievements in the biological technology to create plant seeds and animal breeds with high productivity and high resistance to pest. We can exploit our rich potentials in biological materials for the food processing and preservation industry to meet the increased demand of home consumption and export.

We are able to manufacture some special metal products and metal ceramics from the available mineral resources and through advanced metallurgy technologies to replace part of the imported metals. With their big and qualified personnel, the various scientific and technological services can apply the latest achievements in electronics and informations to economic and social management provided we have a good organization and adequate investments. In this way, we can increase the quantity and quality of production and participate in some domains of international distribution of work and find a worthy place in the world market.

Even in the field of atomic energy, on the basis of the projections for long-term energy-fuel balance, our specialists have proposed many projects to prepare for the use of atomic energy at the end of this century. More important still, by participating in the Comprehensive Program and with the help from other CMEA member countries, Vietnamese scientists and specialists will have the opportunity to have access to the latest advances of modern sciences and technology. In order to gradually bridge the technological gap between Vietnam and the developed countries.

#### FOOD PRODUCTION IN VIETNAM

With little arable land and a still fast growing population (of over 60 million) Vietnam is striving to boost food production by means of intensive farming with crop rotation and multiplication and irrigation as the main measures.

The country lies in an area with a tropical climate propitious to agricultural production. Almost all agricultural lands in Vietnam can bear more than one crop in a year. The soil can lend itself to the cultivation of plants suited to tropical, semitropical and temperate climates, with short-term as well as long-term growth period. Cattle breeding can be developed allsidedly.

Wet rice, the main food plant, can give three crops a year : Winter-Spring, Summer-Autumn, and Autumn crops.

1/ The Winter-Spring crop : This is the first crop in the year. It is

so called because it is sown in November-December and can be harvested in June the next year.

This crop is grown on more than 1,700,000 hectares : over 1,000,000 ha in provinces north of the Hai Van Pass and 700,000 in Southern provinces.

The Hai Van Pass, a rather high mountain range separating the southern part of Binh Tri Thien province from the northern part of Quang Nam - Da Nang province, stops the southward drive of the north-east monsoon and creates a clear difference in climate between the two zones. (North and South) in Winter, exerting a certain influence on Winter-Spring cultivation in these two areas.

In acreage, the Winter-Spring crop ranks second in the year after the Autumn crop. But it has the highest yield : 3.52 tons per ha in 1984-1985, three times more than in 1939.

Over the past five years (1981-1985) the Winter-Spring crop's yield has increased visibly : 2.47 tons per ha in 1981, 2.79 tons in 1982, 3.13 tons in 1983, 3.35 tons in 1984, and 3.52 tons in 1985.

Each year in the recent five-year plan (1981-1985) rice yield averaged 3.04 tons per ha, up by 0.74 ton per ha in comparison with the yearly average in the five-year plan of 1976-1980.

Nine provinces in the key rice-growing areas of the Mekong River delta obtained an average of 4.44 tons per ha on 460,000 ha, the highest in comparison with other areas.

Six provinces and cities in the Red River delta recorded an average of 3.74 tons per ha on 502,000 ha, second after the Mekong delta.

Four central coastal provinces raised the average yield of the Winter-Spring rice crop from 2.23 tons per ha in 1976-1980 to 3.48 tons per ha in 1985. Three highland provinces have made steady progress in intensive rice farming, bringing the yield of the Winter-Spring crop from 1.72 tons per ha in 1980 to 3.46 tons per ha in 1985...

Every province has at least one district with high-yield rice. Eighty five districts of 22 provinces and cities have obtained high yield. Hong Ngu and Cai Be districts, respectively in Dong Thap and Tien Giang provinces, got 6 tons per ha upward, 17 districts obtained each more than 5 tons per ha, and 66 other districts, 4 tons per ha in the Winter-Spring crop.

Five hundred and ninety four cooperatives and production collectives in 25 provinces and cities have obtained high yields in the Winter-Spring crop. Xuan Phuong cooperative in Xuan Thuy district, Ha Nam Ninh province, harvested 8.3 tons per ha, 18 cooperatives brought in from 7 to 7.79 tons per ha, 16 cooperatives from 6-7 tons per ha...

An important factor for quickly increasing rice output in Vietnam is to bring about homogenous productivity in different localities, areas and cooperatives. The Winter-Spring crop has brought concrete results in meeting that demand.

In the 1984-1985 Winter-Spring crop, Vietnam reaped more than 6.2 million tons of rice, 2.5 million tons over the average output in 1976-1980. This figure earned the Winter-Spring crop second place after the Autumn crop, and more than double the output of the Summer-Autumn crop in the whole country.

In Vietnam, the shift from the unstable Summer crop to the Winter-Spring crop is by no means a technical change. It is actually a revolution in the restructuring of foodcrops. Vietnam agronomists often called it "Green Revolution" in the early 1970s. The long-term old rice strains grown in Winter have been replaced by high-yielding short-term varieties suitable for both Winter and Spring.

In northern Vietnam alone, more than 60 percent of the areas planted in February have higher yields than the remaining 40 percent of acreage planted in Winter (in December of the previous year).

Besides strains, another important factor is irrigation. Ninety five per cent of the rice acreage in Vietnam is being irrigated according to plan.

Farmers and other people concerned with rice farming in Vietnam are patting high hopes in the rapid and steady development of the Winter-Spring crop.

2 - The Summer-Autumn crop : This crop is grown in the months of Summer and Autumn. It covers more than 850,000 ha, half of acreage of the Winter-Spring crop and more than one-fourth of the acreage of the Autumn crop.

In the past, the Summer-Autumn crop was grown only in a number of localities with suitable conditions and was regarded as the main crop. Since 1976, the localities from the central province of Nghe Tinh southward have extended the acreage of this crop combined with intensive farming, making it

one of the three main crops in the year. In 1985 per hectare yield reached nearly 3.4 tons, second only to that of the Winter-Spring crop, but one ton more than that of the Autumn crop.

In the 1985 Summer-Autumn crop, four central coastal provinces harvested 3.84 tons per ha on 134,000 ha compared to 3.42 tons of the Winter-Spring crop which was grown on more than 173,000 ha. Nine provinces in the Mekong River delta are growing more and more Summer-Autumn rice, 582,000 ha in 1985 or 122,000 ha more than the Winter-Spring rice acreage. Per-hectare yield in the area reached 3.56 tons, 0.88 ton lower than the Winter-Spring crop. In Ben Tre province, it was planted on 32,000 ha yielding 3.91 tons per ha. Cuu Long province grew 84,000 ha yielding 3.84 tons per ha. Phu Khanh province yielded 4.4 tons per ha, nearly 0.1 ton more than the Winter-Spring crop.

Prospects for further expansion of the Summer-Autumn rice acreage are great since most localities are extending irrigation works and using higher-yield short-term rice strains which will enable gradual replacement of the unstable Autumn rice.

3 - Autumn crop : The name is not very appropriate since it refers neither to the planting nor harvesting season. To the popular understanding, this only means the main crop of the year.

At present, the Autumn crop occupies a little more than three million hectares of which 1.3 million hectares are in the North and about 1.9 million hectares are in the South.

The cropping season differs from the North to the South. In the North, the planting season starts in July and harvest begins in October. In the South, the harvesting season begins later, usually in December and may last until January of the next. The yield of the Autumn crop is lower than that of the Winter-Spring and Summer-Autumn crops, usually not more than 2.5 tons per ha, chiefly due to the frequency of storms and rains and also to still deficient irrigation.

In the South, the long-cycle low-yield rice grown in this season called "Floating rice" covers more than 300,000 ha.

At present, the Autumn crop has the largest acreage, followed by the Winter-Spring crop and the Summer-Autumn crop. The Winter-Spring crop has the highest productivity followed by the Summer-Autumn crop and the Autumn crop.

But the Autumn crop accounts for the largest portion of the output, followed by the Winter-Spring crop and the Summer-Autumn crop.

In the 4th five-year plan (1986-90) for agricultural development, no major change in that order is anticipated, but productivity of each crop is expected to rise. For instance, in the current Winter-Spring crop rice output is expected to reach four tons per ha, nearly 0.5 ton more than the same crop last year, with a total output exceeding 7.1 million tons, nearly one million tons over the corresponding crop last year.

#### CONSTRUCTION OF AN OIL-REFINING AND PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX.

Under the terms of a 1975 protocol signed by the Vietnamese and Soviet Governments, the Soviet Union is helping Vietnam make a feasibility study on the construction of an oil-refining and petrochemical complex in Tuy Ha, Long Thanh district, Dong Nai province, close to the oil and gas exploitation centre of Vung Tau. Oil and gas from the latter will be brought to the complex by means of hundreds of kilometres of pipeline. Residential quarters for workers and technicians will be built near the Long Thanh district centre. The oil refinery will comprise 16 shops making up two chains of production, each with a capacity of a million tons of crude oil per year. They will turn out petrol for motor-car, fuel for aircraft, kerosene, diesel oil, lubricants...

The petrochemical works will comprise nine shops turning out such products as detergents, plastic materials...

The support part will include a thermopower plant, an engineering plant, warehouses, roads, wharves...

#### OIL AND GAS EXPLOITATION IN VIETNAM, THE BACH HO BLOCK.

One of the oil-and-gas blocks on the continental shelf of south Vietnam has been named Bach Ho (White Tiger). Exploration was carried out there as early as 1981 by Soviet experts following the setting up of the Vietnam-Soviet joint enterprise for oil and gas exploitation. In May 1984, a Soviet



drill ship struck oil, and Bach Ho became the first oil and gas deposit to be exploited on Vietnam's continental shelf.

The first fixed drill platforms have been set up there. They are true steel islands resting on piles driven into the sea bed. On these islands are drilling-rigs, power plants, control centres, warehouses, helicopter landing pats... On each of them nearly one hundred personnel live, work and resting rooms equipped with all necessary comforts.

The first platform base was assembled by Soviet engineers and workers. Half of the second was put together by Vietnamese technicians. From the third onward, all work has been undertaken by Vietnamese personnel.

At present, a large number of Vietnamese engineers and workers are working round the clock on the No.1 drilling platform. The oil gushing up is stored in a tanker and processed into commercial crude. In future, following the completion of a pipeline, it will be brought to the oil-refining and petrochemical complex now under construction.

#### ACHIEVEMENTS IN PUBLIC HEALTH OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

In 1981-1985, notable achievements have been recorded in public health work. In town and countryside, environmental protection and hygiene, sanitation, nutrition, epidemic prevention and control have been the object of wide-ranging measures. Sanitary and anti-epidemic facilities have been built in 90 districts and 2,000 communes and urban wards. Injectable and oral vaccines against six diseases (tuberculosis, poliomyelitis, measles, diphtheria, tetanus, and whooping cough) have been administered to all children under one year of age in 166 districts in 20 provinces and cities, as/reduced compared with five years ago. Special attention has been given to the fight against malaria. Over the past five years, refresher courses have been followed by nearly 4,000 cadres, doctors, and assistant doctors specializing in this work. Each year, the provinces have been supplied with 500-600 tons of DDT, 5,000 - 6,000 sprayers, 100 million anti-malarial tablets and other chemicals and equipment. The Institute of Malariology and Parasitology periodically sends teams of cadres to the grass-roots to perfect preventive measures. Fifty research projects are being undertaken, aimed at the eradication of malaria. Due to those measures, the plasmodic index in the southern provinces, which was 11.78% in 1976, has been reduced to 3.29% in 1985 (the malarial incidence

/ a first step, cholera and plague incidence has been visibly /

is 3%), while the morbidity rate is only 1% in the northern provinces.

The campaign for family planning and the protection of the health of mothers and infants have recorded good progress. At present, in the whole country, three million women are using IUDs, and each year 300,000 people are putting family planning into practice. The population growth rate, 3.2% in 1976, had been reduced to 2.2% by 1984. In 1985, it has gone down to below 1.7% in many provinces : Thai Binh, Hai Phong, Ha Bac, Quang Nam - Da Nang...

Traditional medicine has been studied and promoted. At the grassroots, the health-care network is served by nearly 6,000 traditional practitioners, 1,500 specialist doctors and physicians. The treatment of and caring for patients at their homes are being gradually carried out.

The National health-care network has treated 50 million patients (in-patients, outpatients, and relapsers). Each year, more than 7,000 doctors, pharmacists, assistant doctors and nurses graduate from medical schools.

At present, there are over 18,000 doctors and 6,000 pharmacists throughout the country ; assistant doctors serve in 80% of the health stations at rural-commune and urban-ward level ; on an average each district has eight doctors.

In the coming five years, the watchword for our health-care work is to lay continued emphasis on preventive medicine and step up international cooperation. Its two central tasks are : care for initial health, and upgrading of work in all fields. In 1986-88, injectable and oral vaccines will be administered to 8% of the children with a view to fighting all bacterial diseases dangerous to initial health in Vietnam. Malarial incidence will have been lowered to 0.5% in the North and 1.5% in the South by 1990.

#### MEMORANDUM

OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

ON CHINA'S HOSTILE POLICY VIS A VIS VIETNAM.

In recent days, the Chinese Authorities repeatedly resorted to their familiar arguments in justification of their policy of hostility and aggression vis a vis Vietnam aimed at sparking off confrontation between the ASEAN states

and Vietnam, undermining peace and stability in South East Asia and furthering their hegemonistic ambitions within the region. However the Chinese Administration cannot deny their criminal course.

1/ The Chinese Authorities insist that the deterioration of Sino - Vietnamese relations stems from Vietnam, aggression against Kampuchea and provocations against China. The truth is that ever since the early seventies China had taken advantage of the Vietnamese people's resistance war to enter into collusion with the United States, bargain with the latter at the expense of the former and reach an agreement on a solution that was supposed to help the United States withdraw their troops while maintaining their puppet administration in South Vietnam in return for the withdrawal of American forces from Taiwan. In January 1974, with the assent of the United States, China seized the Hoang Sa (paracels) archipelago then under the control of the Saigon puppet forces on the other hand in the course of 1974 they staged 174 armed provocations along the border between the two countries.

The total victory of the Vietnamese revolution in 1975 wrecked the bargaining process between China and the United States from 1975 to 1978. China on the one hand intensified its military pressure and its acts of provocation along the northern border of Vietnam : 294 cases in 1975, 812 in 1976, 873 in 1977 and 2,175 in 1978.

On the other along the southwestern border of Vietnam it made use of the subservient Pol Pot clique turning Kampuchea into a stepping stone from where to attack Vietnam immediately following the liberation of the South.

This two pronged strategy having been defeated on February 17, 1979 the Chinese authorities deployed six hundred thousand troops in a blatant / large-scale war of waging a multifaceted war of sabotage against Vietnam. With the evil purpose of undermining the latter's peacetime reconstruction China constantly maintains large military forces 15 to 20 division strong close to the Sino-Vietnamese border carrying out tens of thousands of armed provocations, regularly conducting fierce destructive shellings against numerous areas in the six northernmost Vietnamese provinces as well as many campaigns of encroachment upon the Vietnamese territory, most serious of all being the encroachment of the cluster of heights in the Vi Xuyen area, Ha Tuyen province carried out in April 1984 and 1985. For the sole approximate 10 sqkm of the Vi Xuyen area the Chinese side fired nearly one million shells since the beginning of 1986. They have kept up their intense shellings not even during the Tet (new year) festivities.

/aggression against Vietnam. Since then they have been /

Did they let the population in the Vietnamese border regions welcome the new year in peace and cheerfulness more sinister even in 1985 ? They intentionally chose flood time to float thousands of mines into a number of streams flowing from China into Vietnam. Such criminal acts of the Chinese Administration have caused many human and material losses to the population of the six northernmost provinces of Vietnam.

2/ Having experienced thirty years of most bitter war against imperialist aggression the Vietnamese people cherish peace more than anyone else and would never, of their own initiative, provoke a new war especially so with China, a large nation and immediate neighbour, for the past several years. While opposing the hostile policy of the Chinese Administration, the Vietnamese side has constantly demonstrated its good will, putting forth on several occasions concrete proposals aimed at easing tension along the border between the two countries and thus facilitating the normalization of their relation.

In the very first session of the first round of talks between the two countries in Hanoi in April 1979 the Vietnamese side set forth a three point proposal where in the first part enunciates urgent measures to ensure peace and stability in the border regions of both countries namely refraining from concentrating troops close to the border, disengaging the armed forces of each side, ceasing all war provocations and all forms of hostile activities, establishing a demilitarized zone and setting up a joint commission in order to supervise and control the application of these measures. Later on the Vietnamese side tabled a (draft agreement) whereby both sides would commit themselves not to undertake military hostilities whether on land, in the air or on the sea... From 1980 to the present, on the occasion of the traditional new year festivities of both peoples and from 1982, on the occasion of their respective national days, the Vietnamese side has regularly taken the initiative to propose to China that both sides should cease all military hostilities before and after the holidays in order to allow the population of the border regions to enjoy an atmosphere of peace and to pave the way for a relaxation of tension along the border between the two countries. It is regrettable however that the Chinese side should persist in evading these constructive, fair and reasonable Vietnamese proposals by resorting to fallacious contentions. In their words, "provided that the Vietnamese side put an end to its armed provocations against China, tension will ease down along the border". If so however then why their continued reluctance to sit down, discuss and reach an agreement with the Vietnamese side on effective measures to control the actions of both sides, why do they not put forward concrete proposals for

discussion with the Vietnamese side but only persist in putting the blame on the latter ? According to the Chinese side again a political atmosphere suitable for negotiations between the two countries does not yet exist as long as the obstacle of the Kampuchean question has not been removed it will not be possible to negotiate on the normalization of relations between Vietnam and China. It is widely known that between China and the United States, Taiwan remains an outstanding problem which to this day China views as an obstacle. But since 1955 both countries have been holding talks. At present the Taiwan problem remains unsolved but China still tries to further improve its relations with the United States. These facts point to the absolute fallacy of the Chinese contentions which are aimed at covering their new criminal schemes and acts against Vietnam.

As a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council if China really desires peace and the improvement of its relations with neighbouring countries let it put an immediate end to the policy of hostility and aggression against Vietnam and join Vietnam in talks on the settlement of outstanding problems in their mutual relations first and foremost on ways to ensure tranquillity along their common border and thus create favourable conditions for the normalization of relations between the two countries. Vietnam is open to concrete proposals from the Chinese side considering them a basis for discussion. At the same time it welcomes every initiative taken by other countries aimed at contributing to the relaxation of tension along the Sino-Vietnamese border.

3/ Over the past seven years the Chinese Authorities have always used the so-called Kampuchean question to serve their hegemonistic and expansionist policy. They have used that question as their main card in colluding with imperialist and reactionary forces to oppose the revolution of the three Indochinese countries and as their main instrument to perpetrate the state of confrontation in South East Asia, pitting the ASEAN countries against the Indochinese countries, maintaining the remnant Pol Pot forces in an attempt to reimpose the genocidal regime on Kampuchea.

In order to justify their position in opposing the Kampuchean people the Chinese Authorities continually argue that they have no vested national interest in Kampuchea, that they do not object to dialogues aimed at finding a political solution and wish to settle in a fair and rational manner the Kampuchean question... Be it so then why in the face of the strong demand for the removal of the genocidal Pol Pot clique should China keep on breathing life into them, encouraging them to oppose Vietnam for "another hundred

years", and why should they object to every proposal put forth by the three Indochinese countries on dialogues between the Indochinese and the ASEAN groups of countries and prevent contacts among Kampucheans aimed at achieving national reconciliation?

Beijing is wont to say that the key to the settlement of the Kampuchean question is a public commitment by Vietnam to withdraw the totality of its forces from Kampuchea to be proved by concrete deeds. But after Vietnam stated that it would pull out all its forces from Kampuchea by 1990 and indicated the possibility of an earlier withdrawal in the context of a political solution. The Beijing authorities changed their tune, demanding from Vietnam "an immediate and unconditional withdrawal" while they themselves retain the right to support the genocidal Pol Pot clique, opposing the revival of the Kampuchean people, jeopardizing Vietnam's security and perpetrating the state of instability in South East Asia.

With the goodwill shown by the three Indochinese countries, the trend towards dialogue is gaining momentum in the region, several ASEAN countries are working towards dialogue between the two groups of countries. The fact that Vietnam, representing the Indochinese countries, and Indonesia, representing the ASEAN countries, have organized working group meetings marks a new step forward the trend towards dialogue between the two groups of countries. At present no one but Beijing and the genocidal Pol Pot clique are still bent on opposing dialogue.

Obviously, Beijing's deeds are completely contrary to their words, going counter to the common trend in the world and in the countries of the region towards dialogue aimed at finding a solution for the Kampuchean question.

Vietnam and China are neighbouring countries, whose peoples share an age-old tradition of friendship. The Government and people of Vietnam consistently hold dear this traditional friendship and have done their utmost in striving for an early restoration of normal relations between the two countries. The responsibility for the deterioration of the Sino-Vietnamese relations and the present continued tension along the Sino-Vietnamese border rests entirely with the Chinese side.

LETTER OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES.

On 24th March 1986 Mr. Nguyen Co Thach, Foreign Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam sent a letter to the Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned countries. Following are the excerpts of the letter.:

" 1/ In 25 years of its existence and development, the Non-Aligned Movement has undergone many difficulties and trials, increasingly consolidated its unity to oppose all schemes of division and affirmed its ever important role in the struggle for peace, national independence and development.

2/ In the protracted struggle for national independence against colonialism and imperialism, the Vietnamese as well as the Lao and Kampuchean peoples have received strong support and assistance from the Non-Aligned Movement. In the struggle of the Kampuchean people against the Pol Pot Genocidal clique, the Movement has applied a constructive and suitable approach. The 6th Havana Non-Aligned Summit in 1979 and the 7th New Delhi Summit in 1983 decided to keep the Kampuchean seat vacant. The 7th Summit Conference approved a Resolution demanding all foreign troops pull out from South East Asia and on the promotion of dialogue in search for a solution to the South East Asian issues including the Kampuchean one. The Resolution of the 1983 New Delhi Summit Conference on South East Asia have been accepted by both groups of countries - the ASEAN and the Indochinese.

3/ These correct resolutions of the Movement have contributed to the promotion of dialogue between the two groups of countries - the Indochinese and ASEAN which have begun through the dialogue between Vietnam and Indonesia representing each group. Bilateral talks have also started between Vietnam, Malaysia and Laos. The general trend has vigorously developed in the direction in search for a political solution to the Kampuchean issue and the establishment of peace and security in South East Asia.

4/ Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea hold that the maintenance of the Resolutions of the 6th, 7th Summits on the vacant seat of Kampuchea and the Resolution of the 7th Summit Conference on South East Asia and Kampuchea will lead the 8th Summit Conference away from disputed issues which may divide the Movement and enable the 8th Summit Conference to concentrate on big and more urgent issues of the Movement aimed at maintaining its unity and unanimity and contributing to the success of the Conference.

The three Indochinese countries have tirelessly made all efforts to promote dialogue in search for a settlement to the South East Asian and Kampuchean issues. The three Indochinese countries are resolved to oppose any scheme of causing confrontation, damaging the trend for dialogue between countries in the region and contaminating the atmosphere of the 8th Non-Aligned Summit Conference."

**STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE VIETNAM FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN.**

Hanoi, VNA. March 19th 1986 - A spokesman for the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry issued the following statement on the March 17 "8-Point proposal" for a political solution to the Kampuchean issue put forth in Beijing :

" Everybody knows that this is a familiar farce directed by Beijing aimed at slandering Vietnam, blocking the trend of dialogue which is developing vigorously in South East Asia, sticking to the genocidal Pol Pot clique and staving off the complete disintegration of the so-called "Tripartite Coalition Government" of the Khmer reactionaries.

The Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam once again reaffirms :

1 - Vietnam recognizes only the People's Republic of Kampuchea as the sole genuine and legitimate representative of the Kampuchean people.

2 - The internal affairs of Kampuchea must be settled by the Kampuchean people themselves. As for the genocidal Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionaries who have committed crimes against the Kampuchean people, their fate will be decided by the Kampuchean people. The Socialist Republic of Vietnam fully supports the correct stance of the People's Republic of Kampuchea./.



News In Brief :

CHINA'S 1985 WAR CRIMES AGAINST VIETNAM.

"In 1985, the reactionaries within the Chinese ruling circles continued with their hostile policy towards the Socialist Republic of Vietnam through more and more perfidious schemes and tricks and through the combination of their multi-faceted war of sabotage with the border-nibbling war, committing many new crimes against the Vietnamese people:

- On many occasions Chinese troops of battalion or regiment size, covered by artillery, mounted attacks in an attempt to seize a number of Vietnamese areas in Vi Xuyen district (Ha Tuyen province) and Ha Lang district (Cao Bang province). In the district of Vi Xuyen alone, Chinese troops conducted 150 land-grabbing attacks last year.

- Chinese gunners fired more than one million rounds of artillery, mortar, rocket and other fire arms on many places in the Vietnamese northern border region, some of which lie from 10 to 20 km inside Vietnam. The district of Vi Xuyen (Ha Tuyen province) alone was subjected to 20 shellings with more than 800,000 artillery and mortar rounds, some of the shellings lasted 10 days.

- Most recently and barbarously, during the flood season the Chinese expansionists dropped mines into rivers flowing to Vietnam from China in order to kill civilians and disrupt the Vietnamese people's peaceful labour. Since May 1985, Chinese mines exploded on more than 100 occasions in the provinces of Ha Tuyen, Vinh Phu, Ha Son Binh, Ha Nam Ninh, Thai Binh and Hai Hung, and the suburbs of Hanoi and Haiphong, watered by the Lo (Clear) and Red Rivers, killing more than 30 people and wounding 60 others.

- All these moves and schemes of the reactionaries in the Beijing ruling circles in 1985 have shown all the more clearly that their hostile policy toward Vietnam has not changed a bit, but instead has become more perfidious.

CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT REAFFIRMS SUPPORT TO INDOCHINESE COUNTRIES.

---

HANOI VNA March 20. The Czechoslovak Party, Government and people affirm their full support for the revolutionary cause of the Indochinese peoples, particularly the positive and principled foreign policy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam aimed at building peace, stability and good neighbourliness in South East Asia "said Czechoslovak president Gustav Husak in prague yesterday.

After receiving credentials of Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Phu Soai, president Gustav Husak expressed his satisfaction at the strong development of the friendship and all-round cooperation between the two parties and countries.

He said : "We highly value the successes obtained by the Vietnamese people under the clear-sighted leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam. We shall do our best to push up the successful implementation of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the two countries in the coming period"./.

VIETNAM AND USSR COOPERATE IN PERSONNEL TRAINING.

---

HANOI VNA March 20 - A cooperation agreement on training Vietnamese cadres in economic management in the 1986-1990 period has been signed in Moscow between Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

Signatories were Nguyen Van Tran, director of the Vietnamese Institute of Economic Management Research, and G.A. Yagodin, minister of the USSR Higher and Secondary Specialized Education./.

---