

EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
PRESS AND INFORMATION SECTION

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No. 03  
25 May, 1986.

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## I/- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

### MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SOCIALIST EMULATION MOVEMENT.

Nineteen years have elapsed since the Fourth National Congress of Heroes and Emulation Fighters (1 January 1967) was held at a time when the anti-US resistance of our country had reached a new height in preparation for the general uprising and armed offensive at Tet of the Year Mau Than (1968).

The past 19 years witnessed innumerable difficulties and trials for the revolution in our country. At the same time this was also a period when our people and army fought the most heroic battles and won the greatest historic victories.

(1.6) We are now facing new difficulties and trials in the building of a new life. The revolution is a continuing battle to abolish the old and build the new and success can only be won through the courageous struggle and selfdenying labour of millions of people of successive generations.

Due to the heroic fight of our people we have won a great victory and achieved national liberation and reunification, and have taken our nation into a new era, that of independence and unification and advance to socialism.

(1.7)

Shortly after the restoration of peace we had to take up arms again to resist aggression by the Beijing expansionist hegemonists and their lackeys. We have fought courageously and inflicted severe defeats on them.

In the building of socialism on a national scale, a new and very difficult undertaking, our army and people have evinced high revolutionary heroism, carried out abreast production and defence tasks, engaged in a new emulation movement, and gained outstanding achievements which fully demonstrate their courage and creative abilities.

On the front of production and construction, our workers, farmers, craftsmen and intellectuals have enthusiastically emulated one another in work and thrift, cooperating closely with one another to overcome all difficulties, producing wealth for the country and defending the fruits of their labour, increasing work productivity, improving product quality, and reducing costs, turning out more and more goods and projects serving production and the people's life.

In recent years, the working class has constantly upheld its role as vanguard of the revolution, developed revolutionary heroism, overcome innumerable

difficulties and hardships to maintain and develop production. With the slogan "Hammer in one hand and gun in the other" workers and craftsmen have been very active in fulfilling both their production and combat duties. During the war of resistance against US aggression, tens of thousands of tons of equipment and machinery were moved to safe places and quickly reassembled. Accepting all privations, people worked with self-denial and imagination to meet in the time the needs of the battlefield. In particular, workers of the communications and transport service, in spite of continuous attacks by enemy aircraft, kept on repairing roads and bridges to ensure uninterrupted traffic in all circumstances, inspired by the proud watchword: "We shall advance in spite of all destruction by the enemy". Workers in South Vietnam continued to take the lead in the struggle against the American aggressors and their puppets for democratic rights and better living conditions, and after the liberation of the South, courageously strove to defend and preserve machinery and equipment from enemy sabotage and quickly put the factories back into operation.

Since liberation, the working class in the South has promoted an emulation movement for healing the wounds of war. In spite of difficulties piling up, many branches of industry have been restored and are developing. Industrial production growth rate has averaged 8.1% annually in the past 10 years: 6.7% for electricity, 11% for cement, 5.05% for timber, 5.65% for textiles. The communications network, heavily damaged during the war, has been quickly repaired as evidenced by the quick restoration of the trans-Vietnam railway. In response to the demands of agriculture, industry has supplied to the farmers more than 4,000 tractors and built many water-conservancy works which have expanded the irrigated area to more than one million hectares. Technical progress has been applied to agriculture, as in the supply of electricity, new machinery and equipment, new plant strains, more fertilizer, etc. Developing the innovative spirit and overcoming the shortage of materials, light industries and handicrafts have reorganized production and improved techniques. Many good-quality consumer commodities have been produced to meet part of the needs of the population.

On the construction sites, a stirring socialist emulation movement has also been unfolding. In particular, at the projects being built with Soviet assistance, Vietnamese and Soviet engineers and workers are engaged in socialist emulation with clearly-set targets. This has helped complete on

schedule many major projects and has added important material and technical bases to the socialist industrialization of our country.

It can be said that each construction project is an epic, each river, each locality where a new project is being undertaken, the scene of brilliant feats : for instance the water conservancy-hydroelectric project on the Da Fiver, the Tri An hydro-electric power plant, the Dau Tieng water conservancy project, the Pha Lai thermopower plant, the Bim Son and Hoang Thach cement works, the Bai Bang pulp and paper mill, the Pha Hung ship-repair yard, the Song Cong diesel-engine factory, the Vung Tau oil exploration enterprise, the Thang Long and Chuong Duong bridges... They are magnificent symbols of the fine relationship of our country with the Soviet Union and the other friendly countries. The Thang Long bridge, the largest rail-and-road bridge in our country and a symbol of Vietnamese - Soviet friendship, was opened to traffic on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism, 235 days ahead of schedule. The Chuong Duong bridge is a symbol of the self-reliance and creativeness of our working class. It was completed one year ahead of schedule.

On the agricultural front, the collective farmers, with the whole-hearted assistance of the working class, have obtained important successes, continually increasing crop area, yields, and output. At the start of the anti-US resistance there were only a few hundred cooperatives in the North with yields of only five tonnes per hectare in a year. After a movement was started, aimed at obtaining five tonnes of rice and raising two pigs per hectare of cultivated land each year, co-operatives obtaining five tonnes and upward became common occurrences and consequently the contributions of the peasantry to the war of resistance also rose markedly.

Of late, the emulation movement in farming following the example of the Vu Thang cooperative and other advanced units such as Chau Giang and Binh Minh in the Red River delta, Dien Tho and Dien An in the coastal areas of Central Vietnam, Phu Loi Thuong, May 19, and Song Hau in the Mekong river delta, Quang Kim and Na Pan in the northern border provinces, Dien Binh and Cu Du in the Central Highlands... has brought out important potentials in manpower and land resources. Our farmers have practised intensive farming and multi-cropping, and combined agriculture with forestry, crop cultivation with livestock breeding ; they have applied technical advances to agriculture and the product-based contract system along with the renovation of the

mechanism of management in agriculture. From only 13.35 million tonnes annually in the 1976 - 80 plan, food output rose to 17 million tonnes in the 1981 - 85 period, an average increase of 5.05 per cent annually. So far, 24 provinces and cities have produced more than five tonnes of rice per hectare a year ; seven of them have obtained more than six tonnes. Tien Giang and Phu Khanh provinces have recorded 7 tonnes. Hai Phong city for the first time has reaped more than seven tonnes in two crops on its suburban rice-fields ; 45 districts and townships achieved more than 8 tonnes per hectare, and more than 600 cooperatives and production collectives chalked up from 9 to 10 tonnes. In one particular instance, one cooperative growing three crops per year reaped 20 tonnes on each hectare. Many cooperatives delivered to the State three tonnes per hectare. Vu Thang co-op in particular, the standard-bearer of the intensive-farming movement in the Red River delta, achieved 11 tonnes per hectare in two crops. It has reaped 42 good harvests in succession and is striving to bring in 12 tonnes of rice from each hectare of its low-lying ricefields.

Equally inspiring have been the successes achieved by other branches such as the marine-product, forestry, and water-conservancy departments. In particular, the marine-product department in recent years has repeatedly overfulfilled its annual programs and has reached the target of the five-year plan two years ahead of schedule.

In the military and security fields, during the war, units of the people's army, upholding the motto : "Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom", emulated one another in wiping out aggressors to win the titles of "Intrepid Fighter against the American Aggressors" and "Determined-to-Win Combatant". The emulation movement was well organized throughout the army. In the South, the Army quickly summed up its experiences in combat and highlighted revolutionary examples for the entire army to emulate. For instance, Army Hero Le Ma Luong voluntarily left school to go to the front, because, he said, "Only by saving the country first, can we later build it up".; Nguyen Viet Xuan, commander of an anti-aircraft battalion, gave his men this order, as enemy aircraft dive-bombed his unit : "Aim straight at them and open fire !" thus showing unflinching courage and resolve.

In the present fight against the expansionists our armed forces have developed the fine traditions of "Uncle Ho's soldiers", and displayed unshakable determination to fight and firmly defend the sacred borders of the country.

Deeply aware of the conditions of the country, our army endures all hardships, enthusiastically takes part in economic construction and practises thrift. Armymen are present at almost all key construction projects, evincing high discipline and efficiency.

In recent years, the emulation movement in the army has continued to receive close guidance at all echelons. Emulation contracts have been signed among army corps, armed services, military zones, military schools and offices. These contracts set concrete targets and are subject to close control. One of the reasons for the successes of the emulation movement in the army lies in the fact that the commands at various levels have directly taken in hand its guidance. This has helped develop initiatives and multiply good examples. Combat strength is increased and unity consolidated within each unit. That is a good experience of the army.

Among the People's Security Force, from the general movement "For the Security of the Homeland" there have sprung other emulation movements suited to different periods and with specific aims. Never shall we forget the examples of People's Security men operating along key arteries and on the hottest battlefields during the war of resistance. Under constant enemy bombing their motto was: "We shall not retreat an inch". In areas temporarily held by the US aggressors they waged against the enemy a silent struggle which was at once courageous, intelligent, and imaginative.

The whole People's Security Force is striving to put into practice the recommendations of Uncle Ho with very inspiring results. Recently, the movement against the consumption of alcoholic beverages, first initiated within the security force, has spread to all Party members and other cadres in Ho Chi Minh City and other cities and services.

(...)

Over the past twenty years the Government has awarded three Golden Star Orders to the People's Army and two Golden Star Orders to the People's Security Forces ; 1,225 units and 835 individual members of the People's Army have been honoured as Heroes ; the Security Forces have received the same title.

In the sphere of science and technology, education, medical care, culture, information, sports... our intellectuals have made important contributions to the building and defence of the socialist homeland, to improving the cultural standard of the population, and the gradual elimination of backward habits and customs. Conscious of the difficulties facing the country they have

willingly accepted hardships and engaged in efforts to apply scientific and technological advances to production. In the past they joined the high tide of resistance of the entire people to US aggression, served combat and production, helped generate a healthy mass movement in art and literature inspired by the resolve to "Drown the explosion of enemy bombs with our songs" ; they have helped propagate the line and policies of the Party and Government, denounce the schemes and acts of the enemy, and win ever greater support from our friends across the world.

Throughout the war of resistance, without interruption the Voice of Vietnam radio broadcast news of our victories to the whole world. In dangerous war-time conditions, teachers and students wearing protective plaited-straw helmets continued to hold classes after their schools had been evacuated to rural or mountain areas. Education continued to progress with the watchword "Teach Well and Study Well" following the examples of Bac Ly and Cam Binh schools.

In public health, the movement called "patriotic observance of hygiene" movement and the watchword "a good doctor must be like a tender mother" were promoted. Many districts accomplished an excellent job in health care, contributing to changing the face of the countryside. Many district hospitals and village infirmaries won the complete confidence and trust of the population.

In recent years, though difficulties have remained in both working and living conditions, our intellectuals have continued to uphold the virtues and qualities of the new, socialist intelligentsia. They have worked in depth and devised methods of work which are as economical as they are effective in serving combat, production and life. In the educational service in particular, there has been a great effort to link the school to social realities and to emphasize ethical as well as vocational education.

In the distribution and circulation of goods, during the resistance against US aggression, many units and individuals set brilliant examples of courage and devotion, braving enemy bombs and shells to work at the battlefield, along the lines of communications at the grassroots to serve combat and production. At present, although many difficulties remain there have appeared in this field good examples of socialist transformation, of the renovation of management, of better control of the sources of commodities and of expansion of the socialist trade network to serve the masses.

Regrettably, due to our shortcoming, the situation remains complicated. The experiences of advanced units remain to be summed up and should be more broadly applied.

(...)

On the whole, our record in combat, production and life shows that the political line and the major goals and policies of our Party are correct.

Facts also show that once the line and policies have been determined, it is necessary to organize a widespread and vigorous movement among the masses for them to exercise their right as collective masters.

The advanced units, heroes and outstanding workers have set lively examples. These guide the masses in their daily actions and educate them in revolutionary ethics. They concretize the line and policies of the Party and help organize the implementation of these policies in more and more practical way. These examples have been set in the course of the patriotic socialist emulation movement. In their turn, they will raise the emulation movement to an even higher level and bring even better results. This is a very valuable experience.

#### FOOD GRAIN COLLECTION IN 1985.

A conference was held in Tien Giang province from 17 to 20 March 1986 by the Food Ministry to review food problems in 1985 and discuss the draft regulations on the renovation of food-grain management and trading.

Food grain collection in 1985, which included the collection of agricultural tax and water-conservation fees, and the purchase of food grain by the State against cash payments, showed an increase of 1.65% from 1984 and was roughly equal to the planned target.

Of the 40 provinces and cities in the country 20 were self-sufficient in food grain.

However, food grain production was not yet stable ; the rate of development was not yet self-sufficient in food. In 20 provinces, per capita food availability was only about 200 kilograms per year. Although food production ranked uppermost in the national economy, proper investments were not made, especially in water conservation, fertilizer, insecticide, draught force, fuel, etc. The policy on the purchase by the State of food grain from the farmers has not yet provided the proper incentives.

The conference proposed a number of measures aimed at renovating the



mechanism for food grain management : they include the renovation of planning, of the policies on food grain distribution and circulation, of the organization of food grain trading, etc.

#### **AQUATIC PRODUCTS IN HO CHI MINH CITY :**

##### **TARGETS FOR THE YEAR 2000**

Ho Chi Minh City boasts favourable conditions for developing the production of aquatic products, both through fishing and aquiculture. The southern coast of our country has many estuaries and great reserves of marine animals : more than one million tons of fish and shrimp, half of which can be exploited each year. There are 250 species of shrimp, and the annual catch may be as high as 50,000 tons. Inland, there are 20,000 hectares of river and canal surface and 8,000 hectares of pond surface in the outer districts of the city. Hence the great attention paid by the city administration to the exploitation of aquatic resources.

Early this year, steps have been taken toward elaborating a comprehensive plan for the period extending to the year 2000. The main orientation is to boost exports to secure foreign-exchange earnings and achieve self-financing and accumulation of capital. Production and trading will be carried out in a comprehensive fashion in a circuit comprising catching, raising, collection, purchase, processing, transport, circulation and distribution. Fishing will go hand in hand with breeding in all three sectors of the economy. State, collective and family, with special emphasis on the last. Business association will be promoted.

##### **Targets :**

- Annual output (catching and raising) is expected to be 60,300 tons by

1990, an increase of 275% over 1985 ; and 147,500 tons by the year 2000, 6.7 times the 1985 figure.

- Aquatic-food availability for each city inhabitant, which was 13.4 kilos in 1985, will be boosted to 17 kilos by 1990 and 22 kilos by 2000.

- By the year 2000 the total value of exports of aquatic products will be about 460 million dollars each year. Each worker in this branch of activity will bring in 8,000 dollars.

#### OIL EXPLOITATION ON VIETNAM'S CONTINENTAL SHELF

The Vung Tau - Con Dao special sector, one of the forty administrative units of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, is becoming a major industrial centre in the country thanks to the expansion of off-shore oil exploitation.

Lying some 100km east of Ho Chi Minh City, Vung Tau is a small and picturesque sea-side resort known as Cape Saint Jacquen under the French colonial rule. During the US-puppet time, a number of high-rise hotels and luxurious bungalows were built there to serve businessmen, US officers and men, and high-ranking functionaries of Saigon administration. The town lived entirely on profits made from the services it provided including prostitution.

Changes have taken place in the area since the liberation of South Vietnam in 1975. With material and technical assistance from the Soviet Union, an oil industry is taking shape in the special sector. An agreement was signed in 1980 between Vietnam and the USSR on cooperation in the survey and exploitation of oil and gas. One year later, in 1981, the VIETSOVPETRO Joint Enterprise was set up. Since then many wells have been sunk and oil hit in the process.

An on-shore production and service complex has been installed on a ground the size of an airfield. There lie huge piles of steel pipes and ferro-concrete units for the assembly of off-shore oil rigs and lines. Powerful cranes are operated by Vietnamese drivers. Wharves hundreds of metres long hem in a white sandy beach stretching over a few miles.

Visitors are amazed at these changes when learning that just a few years ago the whole area was but mangrove swamp.

Not far from the complex stand several five-storied buildings including mess-halls, clubs, kindergartens, schools and flats for oilmen and their families. Farther north, office buildings of the Vung Tau - Con Dao special

sector and modern hotels, newly built or under construction, are going up amidst rows of coconut palms.

About 70 nautical miles southeast of Vung Tau, the drill ship "Mirchink" is making exploratory drills. The ship, named after an outstanding Soviet geologist, is 150 metres long and 24 metres wide. A 70-metre-high drilling rig installed on the ship can sink wells at any depth on Vietnam's continental shelf. When the ship stays stationary at high sea, no anchor needs be cast. With up-to-date equipment, "Mirchink" can monitor all data including effects of waves, wind and other changes of weather so as to regulate, with the help of its computers, the rotating speed of the propellers when drilling and identify its coordinates and those of the oil wells it has sunk.

Further south, the "Ekhabi" mobile drilling rig is in full operation. When the rig is to be moved, its three 134.4-metre-high steel legs are raised and the whole platform rests on the surface of the water, looking like an aircraftcarrier with three tall steel towers shooting skywards.

The first stationary oil rigs have been commissioned. Thousands of tons of equipment, sent to Vietnam by the Soviet Union, have been assembled at on-shore establishments and lifted onto the platforms by powerful cranes. The bases of the first oil rig were entirely assembled by Soviet engineers and technicians.

The assembly of the second was done partly by Vietnamese workers with the help and guidance of Soviet specialists, and the third entirely by Vietnamese technicians and engineers.

Said Y. Ardanov, Director General of VIETSOVPETRO, at a recent meeting marking the enterprise's fifth anniversary: "We Soviet experts here are very happy to note that many Vietnamese engineers and workers are very quick to acquire modern techniques. With their intelligence and industrious and creative labour they will go very far in this respect".

At the enterprise, Vietnamese oilmen are enjoying a great advantage: Soviet specialists, working with self-abnegation, help them so that before long they can master the techniques of oil survey and exploitation. This is a fine manifestation of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

In May 1985, visiting the "Ekhabi" to watch the burn-off after it had struck oil, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong likened oil to a "Sleeping Beauty" who after a million-year slumber has been waken up by Soviet and Vietnamese "princes".

Today, the Oil Fairy is giving Vietnam high hopes as the country embarks on tapping crude oil on an industrial basis. A petro-chemical industry is taking shape in the Vung Tau - Con Dao special sector, with an initial output estimated at several million tons a year by the end of this decade.

## II/- VIETNAM AND HER FOREIGN RELATIONS.

### COMMUNIQUE ON VIETNAM NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATION'S VISIT TO LAOS.

A communique was issued in Vientiane on March 21 at the end of the official friendship visit to Laos of a delegation of the National Assembly of Vietnam led by its Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho. Excerpts :

" The two sides reaffirm the good will of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the People's Republic of Kampuchea for a peaceful solution to the Kampuchean question and for lasting peace in Southeast Asia, as expounded in the joint communiques of the 10th, 11th and 12th conferences of the Foreign Ministers of the three Indochinese countries.

" The two sides warmly welcome the splendid success of the 27th congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, considering it an important historic event, a new turning-point in the glorious history of the Soviet Party and State and a vigorous encouragement to the world revolutionary and peace forces.

" The two sides acclaim and value highly the achievements and constant growth of the fraternal socialist countries and the close solidarity among them, especially the all-round achievements of the Soviet Union. They support the reasonable and sensible approach taken by the Soviet Union at the Soviet - US summit and the measures taken by the Soviet Union and the other member countries of the Warsaw Treaty aimed at stopping the arms race, especially the statement of January 15, 1986 by comrade M.S. Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU, on an over-all program to completely eliminate nuclear weapons by the year 2000.

" The two sides affirm their solidarity with and resolute support for the struggle of the nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America and of the countries in the Non-Aligned Movement against imperialism, colonialism, apartheid and Zionism for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress, and for a new world economic order. They reaffirm their determination to do their best to contribute to the success of the conference of the foreign ministers of the

Non-Aligned countries to be held in New Delhi in April, 1986, and the 8th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement to be held in Harare in August, 1986.

"The two sides express their satisfaction at the fine success of the official friendship visit of the delegation of the SRV National Assembly to the LPDR, considering it a new step in the development of the relations between the Vietnamese National Assembly and the Lao Supreme People's Council, and an important contribution to consolidating and developing the great friendship, loyal and pure militant solidarity and comprehensive cooperation between the people of Vietnam and Laos."

VIETNAM HAS GIVEN KAMPUCHEA MORAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT  
AND EVEN ITS BLOOD.

"Vietnam has given Kampuchea moral and material support and even its blood", said Chan Ven, Secretary General of the State Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and President of the Kampuchea - Vietnam Friendship Association, in an interview with Vietnam News Agency's correspondent in Phnom Penh.

Occasion was the 7th anniversary of the signing of the Vietnam - Kampuchea Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation (Feb. 18).

He said : "Over the 56 years since the Indochinese Communist Party came into being, reactionary forces have sought all means to destroy the strategic alliance between Kampuchea and Vietnam. The French colonialists and then the US imperialists left no stone unturned to sow division among the three Indochinese countries. The Beijing expansionists now are even more sinister in their scheme to destroy the Kampuchea-Vietnam-Laos strategic alliance, especially the alliance between Kampuchea and Vietnam, to conquer our three countries and use them as springboard for expansion toward Southeast Asia.

"But their schemes and acts have been foiled one after another, and will be completely defeated. Vietnam has given timely support to Kampuchea and saved it from the genocidal disaster, and then helped it in its revival and in the defence of its revolutionary gains.

"Vietnam has always supported the Kampuchean revolution. It has sent its army volunteers to help the Kampuchean people topple the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Now it is sending experts and technicians to help Kampuchea in its rebirth.

To consolidate and promote the special Kampuchea-Vietnam relationship,

on the basis of complete equality and respect for the independence and sovereignty and territorial integrity of each country, and to constantly strengthen militant solidarity and mutual assistance in all fields, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and Vietnam signed a Treaty of Border Delimitation on Dec. 27, 1986, to build a traditional, peaceful and friendly border between the two countries.

" History over the past decades of crucial trials has proved that any aggressor who invaded Vietnam also invaded Kampuchea and Laos. Whenever there was aggression, the peoples of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos always supported one another in the fight against their common enemy and shared with one another the joy of victory as well as hardships.

" Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos can win success only when they unite closely. They suffered defeats whenever they were divided, as Kampuchea was under the Pol Pot regime.

" On the occasion of the 7th anniversary of the signing of the Kampuchea - Vietnam Treaty of Peace Friendship and Cooperation, we note with joy that over the recent past, the special solidarity and all-round cooperation between our two countries have daily been enhanced. Through many trials, we have realized the value of the lesson of close Kampuchea-Vietnam unity. As comrade Heng Samrin, General Secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, stressed at a meeting on the occasion of the 7th anniversary of the Victory of January 7, 1979, "The two most fundamental lessons and also the two main factors are national unity and international solidarity, first of all unity between Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos."

#### FRUITFUL VIETNAM - USSR COOPERATION.

The Treaty of Friendship and All-round Cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union signed on November 3, 1978 is a fundamental document to regulate all aspects of the cooperation between the two countries.

The signing of this treaty has generated a new and powerful impetus for strengthening and broadening the all-round relationship between the two Parties, countries and nations.

In recent years, with Soviet assistance, Vietnam has been able to build for itself no small a productive force. More than 200 production projects of different kinds have gone into operation or are under construction.

In the South, the operation of the Joint Vietnam - USSR Petroleum Venture at the continental shelf has opened new prospects for the Vietnam - USSR cooperation. Construction is picking up pace at the 400,000 KW - Tri An hydro-electric power plant, a system of transmission lines and transformer stations, the Hanoi - Ho Chi Minh multi-channel telecommunication line, etc.

Bilateral trade relations are also broadening. The Soviet Union is the biggest trade partner of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

In the four years of the last five-year plan, the value of the commodities exchanges between the two countries totalled 4.3 billion roubles. In 1982, for the first time it surpassed the one billion mark. In 1984 it reached 1.3 billion roubles, up 11 per cent compared with 1983.

In the years of 1981-84, the Soviet Union supplied Vietnam with oil products, ferrous metals, cotton, leries and consumer goods.

Reality has shown the allround benefits of Vietnam - USSR economic and trade cooperation. The vast and stable Soviet market for Vietnam's exports has created the possibility to broaden further the bilateral trade relations and strengthen the external economic relations of Vietnam and the Soviet Union, as well as steady conditions for Vietnam to broaden production, increasing work productivity and on this basis developing the national economy, stabilizing and raising the material life of the people, and building a large-scale foreign trade.

Cooperation in the growing of vegetables in Vietnam to supply the Soviet Union occupies an important place in the Vietnam - USSR trade relations. In January 1985, the two sides signed an inter-governmental treaty providing for a broad program of cooperation in this field from now to 1990.

Under the program, with technical assistance from the Soviet Union, Vietnam will set up agro-industrial complexes for the production of vegetables, build and enlarge a series of canneries, refrigerator factories and packing material factories.

Another important direction is the cooperation in raising the efficiency and prolonging the life of Soviet technical means through the building of a system of technical repair workshops in Vietnam. A network of tractor, lorry, and farm machinery repair workshops are being urgently built with Soviet equipment and technical assistance.

At present, the planning and foreign trade agencies of the two countries are in cooperation in the 1986-90 period.

In the elaboration of this program, the two sides base themselves on the resolution of the economic summit of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance held in Moscow in June 1984. The keynote of this program is to develop bilateral relations along the priorities in the "Long-term Program of Economic and Technological Cooperation between the Soviet Union and Vietnam" signed on Oct. 31, 1983 in Hanoi. More particularly, the two sides will concentrate on the cooperation in the domains of agriculture, energy, metallurgy, machine building, chemical industry and petrochemistry, transport and communications, geological survey, etc.

#### VIETNAM - GDR ECONOMIC RELATIONS PROMOTED.

The people of Vietnam and the German Democratic Republic note with great satisfaction that over the three decades since the establishment of the Vietnam-GDR economic and trade relations on March 2, 1956 the friendly ties and economic relations between the two countries have constantly developed.

With funds and loans from the GDR, Vietnam has built many economic and cultural projects. More than one hundred small repair workshops built with GDR assistance are making their effect felt more and more clearly. Thousands of scientific and technical cadres and technicians of different branches trained in the GDR are a precious asset for Vietnam in the building of socialism. The German Democratic Republic has supplied Vietnam with valuable materials, machinery, spare parts and consumer goods. In the 1986-90 period, the two countries will increase the value of goods exchange by more than 20 per cent compared with the last five-year plan, and broaden the range of commodities to be exchanged.

The GDR will continue intensive investment in the projects already installed in Vietnam. The two countries will step up cooperation in the production of industrial plants such as rubber, coffee, pepper and coconut in Vietnam, in the production in Vietnam of goods with materials supplied by the GDR, especially in light industry. The two countries will also cooperate in geological survey in Vietnamese territory.

#### VIETNAMESE - CZECHOSLOVAK COOPERATION.

The goods exchange between Vietnam and Czechoslovakia will reach 460 million roubles in the 1986-90 period. A new trade agreement provides that Czechoslovakia will export to Vietnam engineering products, materials for electronic products,



spare parts for trucks and tractors, and textile products, and import from Vietnam canned fruits and vegetables, rubber, tin, coffee, tea, groundnuts and handicraft articles.

Every year tailoring enterprises of Vietnam make some 5 million shirts to fill orders from the "Triola" and "Zornica" companies of Czechoslovakia.

Czechoslovakia will provide more investments in expanding rubber and coffee plantation in South Vietnam and cooperate with Vietnam in locating major bauxite mines in the country.

There are 30,000 Vietnamese students and workers now studying or working in Czechoslovakia.

### 30 YEARS OF VIETNAM - POLAND ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

On 7 February 1956, the first agreement on goods exchange and payment between Vietnam and Poland was signed, marking the opening of economic and commercial relations between the two countries.

With Poland's capital and credit, Vietnam has built more than 100 industrial and cultural projects of various sizes including such important ones as the Gia Lam Locomotive Repair Works, the Cam Pha Coal Grading Plant, the Ha Long Shipyard, the Van Diem Sugar Mill, the Thinh Liet Prefab Concrete Works, the Linh Nam Silicate Brick Works, etc. The projects built with Poland's aid have had good effects on the economic, social and cultural life of our people. For several years Polish experts have worked there selflessly, imparting valuable experience to Vietnamese engineers and workers. Besides, the Party, Government and people of Poland have also helped us train many cadres, technicians and workers for various economic branches.

In the domain of commerce, the value of goods exchanged between the two countries has gone up year after year. By 1985, it had increased 25 times compared with 1956, and twice in 1981-1985 compared with the previous five-year plan.

In the 1986-1990 period, the two countries expect to increase the value of goods exchanged 60 per cent compared with the last five years and will enlarge the range of exchange. Poland will continue to extend long-term loans to Vietnam for new industrial projects and will provide in-depth investment for the completed projects. The two countries will step up cooperation, with Poland supplying Vietnam with materials and equipment and Vietnam providing Poland with industrial crops like rubber, coffee and tea.

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of economic and commercial relations between Vietnam and Poland, the Vietnamese people express their sincere and deep gratitude to the fraternal Party, Government and people of Poland. We are confident that the economic and commercial relations as well as cooperation in many other fields between the two countries will be further consolidated and developed day after day.

### III/- OTHER NEWS :

#### KAMPUCHEAN REVOLUTION IS ADVANCING STEADILY.

The Kampuchean revolution has entered the new stage with the first five-year (1986-90) program for socio-economic restoration and development along the line charted by the fifth PRPK congress. The latter called for sustained efforts to achieve economic restoration, reorganize production and build a socialist culture and education. Endeavours must focus on creating major socio-economic changes by 1990 to take the revolution further forward.

Kampuchea's national economy must be built step by step in accordance with the country's conditions. To this end, we must establish socialist relations of production and a new, strong and dynamic productive force. The strong points of Kampuchea's national economy including agriculture, forestry and fishery must be brought into full play with four economic spearheads : food, rubber, timber and aquatic products. At the same time, steps should be taken to boost industry, commodity industry and the production of export goods.

The main targets set by Kampuchea's five-year program for socio-economic restoration and development can be summed up as follows :

- To achieve a 7% rise in annual food production and procure 305 kg of food grain per capita a year.
- To restore 50,000 ha of rubber and produce 50,000 tons of dried latex, to exploit 200,000 cubic metres of timber, catch 130,000 tons of fish and shrimp, and expand the area under jute to 15,000 ha.
- To generate 300 million Kwh by 1990.
- To restore and upgrade existing motor, water and railways..
- To redistribute the country's work-force to meet the requirements of economic development and national defence.
- To stabilize and improve the people's material and cultural life on the basis of developing production.

Promoting the spirit of self-reliance, the Kampuchean people will do their best to fulfill the task of economic restoration. However, we deem it necessary to enhance our economic and technical cooperation with Vietnam, the Soviet Union and other countries in the socialist community to bring into full play our strong points to build the material and technical foundations of socialism in Kampuchea.

The traditional strategic alliance among Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos is a demand conforming to the laws of evolution and an indispensable factor of great importance for the stability and development of the Kampuchean revolution. The Kampuchean Party and State have always paid due attention to strengthening this alliance by opposing all manifestations of narrow-minded nationalism, opportunism and all actions detrimental to the time-honoured friendship among the three Indochinese peoples and resolutely foiling all divisive schemes and acts of the enemy aimed at weakening the revolutionary movement in the three countries.

The People's Republic of Kampuchea, right after its foundation, made clear its foreign policy of peace, independence and friendship, and it has enjoyed the warm approval and support of the socialist countries, the revolutionary movements and the peace and justice-loving people throughout the world.

The People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea has always upheld the banner of genuine patriotism and proletarian internationalism, closely combining the interests of the Kampuchean revolution with those of the world revolution. The principles of the PRPK's international line and foreign policy are to constantly strengthen Kampuchea's solidarity and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism in the interests of the socialist community and the international communist and workers' movement.

Together with Vietnam and Laos, the People's Republic of Kampuchea has been doing its utmost to accelerate the trend for dialogue now prevailing in Southeast Asia aimed at turning the region into one of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation, thus actively contributing to the world people's struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

The peace initiative put forward by the Indochinese ministerial conferences have demonstrated the correct and goodwill stance of Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos. The recent decision made by the PRK and the SRV to withdraw all Vietnamese army volunteers from Kampuchea by 1990 and the PRK's willingness to hold talks with Khmer opposition groups or individuals on the basis of eliminating the genocidal

Pol Pot clique have enjoyed warm welcome and approval from justice-loving forces all over the world.

We must make the PRPK a strong Marxist-Leninist Party, considering this task a decisive factor for the successful implementation of the above said tasks.

#### SOLIDARITY WITH HEROIC NICARAGUA.

In his televised address on March 16 President Ronald Reagan again made a virulent attack on the Nicaraguan people, saying that the "Nicaraguan cancer" is expanding and would pose a "deadly threat" to the security of the United States and the whole of America if Washington "should not react immediately". This is a new campaign of distortion and intimidation undertaken by the Washington administration against the Nicaraguan revolution and the national liberation movement in Central America, the Caribbean and Latin America. In fact, Mr. Reagan is paving the way for deeper US intervention in an aggression against Nicaragua and other countries in Central America.

Together with the Latin American people and the entire progressive mankind, the Vietnamese people firmly support the heroic Nicaraguan people in their just struggle.

#### SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

Heedless of the UN resolutions and the world public, the South African racists are still illegally occupying Namibia, using this country as a spring-board to make in-roads on territories of Angola and other front-line countries. Pretoria's policy of intervention and expansionism constitutes a threat to the national independence and territorial integrity of all countries in Southern Africa.

Worthy of note is that while the whole progressive mankind is strongly condemning the apartheid regime in South Africa, Washington regards it as one of its "closest allies". It goes without saying that the US imperialists and the South African racists are straining the situation in this region.

Together with all progressive forces in Africa and the world as a whole, the Vietnamese people affirm their militant solidarity with and strong support for the South African people's just struggle under the leadership of the African

National Congress (ANC) to abolish the apartheid regime and exercise their rights to life and democracy. We resolutely demand that the Pretoria administration immediately set free Nelson Mandela and other South African patriots now still under its illegal detention and put an end to its policy of intervention and aggression against nations in Southern Africa.

#### US AGGRESSIVE ACT AGAINST LIBYA CONDEMNED.

On March 25 aircraft of the US Navy blatantly encroached upon the air space of Libya over the Gulf of Sidra and fired at a suburban area of the town of Sidra.

This is a deliberate act of armed provocation aimed at creating an excuse for the US to commit military aggression against Libya.

Washington is blindly pursuing a new military adventure against Libya, making the situation in the region extremely tense and explosive. Under the label of "fighting terrorism", the United States is carrying out its policy of State terrorism, seriously threatening the security, independence and sovereignty of Libya.

The Libyan people are not alone. The whole progressive mankind is on their side, firmly protesting against the US imperialists. Peace and justice-loving people in the world, including the American people, will surely stay the criminal hands of the Reagan administration, and not allow the recurrence of "the Gulf of Tonkin incident" which might lend to a second Vietnam in the Mediterranean.

#### WEINBERGER BRINGS WAR TO THAILAND.

"The military cooperation between Washington and Bangkok is increasing to the dangerous point of re-opening US military bases in Thailand. The annual military exercises undertaken jointly since 1982 by US and Thai troops under the code-name "Cobra Gold" are, as admitted by the Pentagon, aimed at raising the fighting capacity of US armed forces in Southeast Asia, thus deteriorating the already complicated and tense situation in this region.

"Heedless of the aspiration of the Thai people and the growing trend for peace and stability in Southeast Asia, the rightists in the Bangkok ruling

circles are playing an active role in preparing for a US comeback to Southeast Asia and once more turning Thailand into a US military base, a springboard of aggression and expansion in the Asia-Pacific strategy of the United States".

"This dangerous policy of Bangkok is directly threatening the fundamental national interests of Thailand itself".

#### THE MOTIVE BEHIND BANGKOK'S SLANDERS.

In his statement of January 25, Prasong Soonsiri, General Secretary of the National Security Council of Thailand, claimed that the "main obstacle" to the repatriation of the Kampuchean refugees from Thailand is Vietnam and that "Vietnam is wishing for a massive exodus of Khmers from their own country in order to facilitate the settlement of Vietnamese in Kampuchea." He even talked about 700,000 Vietnamese having settled in Kampuchea.

This tall talk is nothing but an attempt to dodge the constructive well-intentioned proposal put forth in the communique of the 12th Indochinese Foreign Ministers' conference held in Vientiane recently. The communique pointed out that "the Indochinese countries wish for and are ready to hold talks with Thailand to solve substantial questions concerning mutual relations based on peaceful coexistence". The communique further said that "the People's Republic of Kampuchea is ready to negotiate with Thailand on the repatriation of the Kampuchean refugees in Thailand. In the mean time, it is necessary that the refugee camps be moved far from the Thai-Kampuchean border and placed under the complete control of humanitarian organizations, that the Khmer reactionary forces not (not) be allowed to control these camps and use them for political or military purposes, and that all armed elements be taken out of these camps".

The Thai authorities, instead of positively responding to the Indochinese countries' goodwill, have continued using the Khmer refugee problem to oppose the People's Republic of Kampuchea, and to accord training and logistic bases for the Khmer reactionaries in their attempt to oppose the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

**THEY ARE NOT QUALIFIED TO SPEAK OF HUMAN RIGHTS.**

The US State Department has submitted to the US Congress a report on "the violations of human rights in Vietnam". This old theme was hurriedly seized upon by some circles in Western Europe.

The Vietnamese people firmly reject the gross slanders by the US administration and its accomplices, considering them a new manifestation of hostility towards Vietnam. These slanders are aimed at evading the US government's responsibility for what it has done to the people in Vietnam and in other parts of the world including in the United States itself.

Those who have committed horrendous crimes in Vietnam, those who have invaded independent Grenada, those who have backed and abetted the Zionists to annex territories and slaughter Palestinians and other Arab people, those who are joining the Chinese expansionists in feeding and commanding the genocidal Polpotists and other Khmer reactionaries to prevent the national revival of the Kampuchean people, have no right to speak of, still less, moralize on human rights.

By whipping up a new slander campaign against Vietnam, the US and other reactionary forces are going against the prevailing trend in the world which is to build up mutual understanding, trust and cooperation among nations.