

EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
PRESS AND INFORMATION SECTION

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I. ON CPVN'S 5th CONGRESS

1) The 5th National Representative Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam

The 5th Congress of the CPVN opened in Hanoi on March 27 and ended successfully on March 31, 1982.

1033 delegates from 51 party organisations of provincial and city levels or directly under the party central committee, representing more than 1.5 million full members of the Party attended the Congress. Among them, there are 119 delegates from 27 ethnic minority nationalities in the Northern and Southwestern border provinces, more than 40 per cent are from different economic branches, including those as managers, scientists, technicians and workers, 79 delegates are labour or army heroes or heroines and model workers, more than one third of them have university or higher qualifications. The oldest delegate is 80 years old and the youngest 25.

The Congress unanimously adopted the Central Committee's reports and the Congress Resolutions which lay down the strategic tasks for the construction of Socialism and the defence of the Fatherland, the economic and social general direction, tasks and major aims for the period of 5 years (1981-1985) and the 80's, the general lines for the Party development and amendments to the Party Rules.

The Congress has elected the new Central Committee, the political Bureau and other organs of the Party.

Below is the List of the Polibureau :

General Secretary : Le Duan

Full members of the Political Bureau :

- 1- Le Duan
- 2- Truong Chinh
- 3- Pham Van Dong
- 4- Pham Hung
- 5- Le Duc Tho

- 6- Van Tien Dung
- 7- Vo Chi Cong
- 8- Chu Huy Man
- 9- To Huu
- 10- Vo Van Kiet
- 11- Do Muoi
- 12- Le Duc Anh
- 13- Nguyen Duc Tam

Alternate Members :

- 1- Nguyen Co Thach
- 2- Dong Si Nguyen.

2) Nguyen Khac Vien on the Party :

THE PATH I FOLLOWED

The 5th Congress of the Communist Party of Viet Nam is at the end of this month. We asked Dr. Nguyen Khac Vien for his reflections and thoughts on this occasion.

- My work gives me frequent opportunities to meet foreign visitors. some of whose conversations take a very animated turn.

In fact problems like the presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchia, our present policies towards China or ASEAN are no longer that difficult to explain but when it came to economic and social problems, things are a lot more complicated. In such cases, I have always been in favour of dialogue, even questions of a personal nature. One day someone asked me : "You are the son of a Mandarin, educated at bourgeois university. How is it that you become a member of the Communist Party ?"

"It is true. My father was a top Mandarin of Ministerial level. All through my childhood I studied at French schools, I took my degree in Paris and I lived in France for 26 years. My cultural background is therefore completely French, that is to say bourgeois, in the original meaning of the word which has no pejorative connotations. Naturally the awakening of my political consciousness was a long process. To cut a long story short, this is what happened. I never had to go without food but

while growing up I bitterly resented the humiliation of being colonized, of having "lost my native land" as we say in Vietnamese. I was obsessed with the question of reconquering this lost land. Then I began my medical studies in Hanoi and in the hospitals I saw at first hand the utter misery of our people. Hence the second question : how to establish a society in which such terrible misery no longer exists ? In France, I made many french and other Foreign friends. The third question was how to reconcile the fight for my own country with the feelings which linked me to people of goodwill the world over. In studying medicine, I had been initiated into scientific methods. So the fourth question was for my political and social involvement to follow the spirit and method of science. In joining the communist party I found the answer to my questions.

- So you find the way by reading Marxist works?

- It wasn't as simple as that. My awareness came about after long years of action, coupled with real experience as well as theoretical study and reflection.

- Now that the fight for national liberation is behind you and the country surrounded by difficulties, is practically in an impasse, do you still maintain your conviction ?

- I am perhaps as well placed as anyone to judge the difficulties which you mention as I travel extensively within the country, meet people from all walks of life and have to cope with such difficulties in my own family. I believe however, that in spite of the pressures and attacks from outside our country will make it. This is hardly an easy matter for many other third world countries.

- Nevertheless, the Washington-Beijing alliance is a force to be reckoned with. But Vietnam has a strong army.

- Not just that. An army is strong only to the extent to which its rear forces, i.e., the political and social regime, are strong. I think our regime is strong enough to resist any storms.

- Even so there are many people who complain and protest ?

- That's true. Many people, for one reason or another are not happy. They would like some policies and some people in charge to be changed but I have never noticed any political opposition I mean anyone who thinks that a party other than the communist party would do better. If it were to come about that the country would be an American or Chinese colony once more and society would collapse.

- So you think that the communist party is infallible ?

- The problem is not whether a party is infallible and never makes mistakes. The problem is whether a party can recognise its mistakes and put them right. In 1956 , our Party publicly admitted its mistakes with regard to agrarian reform. Since the end of 1979 many adjustments have been made especially to the economic policy laid down by the 4th congress.

- If you had your life over again, what would you do ?

- Next year I'll be 70. From the moment I became aware of what had to be done my life has been dedicated to the party and the communist ideal. If I were 20 once again, I certainly wouldn't choose a different path from the one I've followed and which led me to the Communist Party".

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II. SRV FOREIGN MINISTER'S RECENT VISIT TO EUROPE AND ASIA

1) Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach answers VNA's Interview

Hanoi VNA April 30 - The following is an interview of Vietnam news Agency with Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach who has just returned from a visit to several countries in Europe and Asia :

Question : Would you tell us about the result of your visit to the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic, India and some countries in Northern and Western Europe and about the prospects of the relations of cooperation between Vietnam and these countries ?

Answer : I can say that my visit has yielded good results. I went to the Soviet Union and the GDR in order to exchange with the leading officials of the foreign ministries of these two fraternal socialist countries views on bilateral relations and a number of important international questions with a view to enhancing our all-round cooperation and international collaboration in the spirit of the Vietnam - USSR and Vietnam - GDR Treaties of friendship and cooperation. The Soviet and GDR comrades highly appraised the result of the Fifth Congress of our Party and the principled foreign policy of our Party and State. They highly appraised the results of our diplomatic activities and considered my visit to some countries in Northern and Western Europe and India as an important contribution to the common struggle of the socialist countries for peace and the reduction of world tension.

My visit to India which took place only a few months after the visit to Vietnam by Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao shows that the relations between India and Vietnam holds an important position in the external relations of the two countries. After our relations with the other countries in the Council for Mutual Assistance (CMEA) , our multiform cooperation

with India has a special importance for us and is developing satisfactorily on a firm and lasting basis. The Vietnam-India cooperation is an important factor for peace in Asia and Southeast Asia as well as for the development of the non-aligned movement. It is also an example of the south - south cooperation.

I have visited France, Sweden, Belgium and the Federal Republic of Germany where I discussed with the leaders of these countries and the European Economic Community questions relating to the promotion of understanding and lasting cooperation between these countries and our country and to peace and stability in Southeast Asia. The North and West European countries, first of all France and Sweden hold an important position in the relations between our country and the West. Many North and West European countries I have visited as well as the European Economic Community as a whole agreed to have regular exchanges of views with us on long-term cooperation in the economic, cultural, scientific and technical fields.

Question : How do you appraise the result of your visit with regard to the situation in Southeast Asia ?

Answer : The Soviet Union and the GDR fully share our assessment of the situation in Southeast Asia. They warmly support the diplomatic initiatives of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea solving questions of southeast Asia. India is deeply concerned with the situation in southeast Asia. India fully agrees with us on the fundamental cause of the tense situation prevailing in this region and supports the revival of the Kampuchean people. Like us, through dialogues among the countries concerned the Northern and Western European countries are all concerned with peace and stability in

this region. During our official talks as well as in our cordial conversations and meeting with the press, I have made clear the following three main points in the situation in Southeast Asia :

1- Experience in the past three years shows that the Indochinese countries are victims of China's hegemonistic policy. Like the ASEAN countries , they want peace and stability in Southeast Asia. Only China doesn't. It has played up the ASEAN countries against the Indochinese countries. It is the only country to foster Maoist forces for interfering in the internal affairs of Southeast ASIAN contries. That is why, the fundamental question now is to put an end to China's expansionist and hegemonist policy in Southeast Asia.

2- Experience in the past three years shows that the confrontation policy can neither weaken and subdue the three Indochinese countries nor solve the problems in Southeast Asia. Instead, it can only undermine peace and stability in this region. Harmony and cooperation between the Asean and Indochinese countries without foreign interference is the only policy guaranteeing peace and stability in this region.

3- Experience in the past three years also shows that to support the Polpot clique only plays into the hand of China's hegemonist policy of using the pro- Beijing reactionaries to interfere in the internal affairs of the Southeast Asian countries and sabotage peace and stability in the region. It cannot reverse the process of revival of the Kampuchean people. To support the Kampuchean people's revival and oppose all attempts to restore the PolPot gang and other agents of Beijing is a decisive factor for peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

More and more people among the authorities and public opinion in the Northern and Western European countries have, to various extents, better understood the situation in southeast Asia and sympathized with the stand of Vietnam and the other Indochinese countries.

Question : How do you view the attitude of the people in the countries you visited with our people ?

Answer : In recent years, the Chinese expansionists in collusion with the US imperialists and the other reactionary forces have whipped up a noisy propaganda campaign of slanders and distortions aimed at denigrating our country and lowering our prestige on the international arena. But I could see during my visit that public opinion anywhere has high regards for our people. Not only the people and newspapers but many leaders in North and West European countries praised our people's glorious history and heroism, and our country's spirit of independence and sovereignty. Our people's bravery, self-devotion and industriousness have won sympathy from broad opinion in the world. Many persons who participated in the wide protest movement in Western Europe against US aggression in Vietnam and are holding important social positions themselves belonging to the "Vietnam generation". We were deeply moved when visiting the room of a Swede decorated entirely with souvenirs from Vietnam. The public in the countries I visited is also well aware that our foreign policy is one of peace, friendship and cooperation with all other peoples.

2) Nhan Dan : Vietnam's just position and goodwill

Hanoi VNA May 1st. - The success of Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's most recent visits to a number of European and Asian countries is proof of Vietnam's correct foreign policy, says Nhan Dan in its commentary today.

"His visits to the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic", the paper says, "are new contributions to strengthening the solidarity and international cooperation among the fraternal socialist countries in the interests of each of them and of world peace and international security. During his stay in France, Sweden, Belgium and the Federal Republic of Germany, the Vietnamese messenger had frank discussions with representatives of the host countries on international matters of mutual concern, including the situation in Southeast Asia.

Nhan Dan continues :

"Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's successful visits bear vivid expression to the correct Foreign policy of the Socialist republic of Vietnam, a consistent and just policy, which was re-affirmed at the recent Fifth congress of the Communist party of Vietnam. The Vietnamese State has ceaselessly tightened its solidarity , cooperation and friendship with the fraternal socialist community and its long-standing friendship in the non-aligned movement and, on the other hand , stands for establishing and broadening normal friendly relations with all other countries irrespective of their political and social systems and on the basis of respect for one another's independence and sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit.

Vietnam's correct diplomacy has won increasing sympathy and support from the world public in spite of the distortions and disruptive moves by the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists, the US imperialists and other reactionary forces. Over the last six years or so, 20 more countries have established diplomatic relations with Vietnam, bringing the total number of such countries on all continents to 110.

Nguyen Co Thach's visits have helped other countries of different social systems understand the situation in Southeast Asia more clearly and feel more sympathetic to our position vis-a-vis the other Indochinese countries. On the other hand, they help more clearly expound Beijing's expansionist and hegemonist policy as the root-cause of the present tension in Southeast Asia, and point to the correct way to restore peace and stability in this region, namely to support the Kampuchean people's revival, oppose all interferences in the internal affairs of the people's republic of Kampuchea, and promote the dialogue and cooperation between the Asean and Indochinese countries.

"All attempts by Beijing and other reactionary forces at distorting the significance and undermining the success of Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's visits are doomed to failure" the Paper says in conclusion.

3. Beijing galled by Vietnam's diplomatic success

Hanoi VNA April 28 - Beijing was jaundiced by Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's recent tour of France and other European countries, remarks Nhan Dan today.

Beijing's mouthpieces distorted the aim of the visits and pressure was brought to bear on the host government, the paper recalls.

The Paper continues :

" Xinhua said that the Vietnamese foreign Minister gained little out of the tour. Had this been true Beijing's propaganda apparatus would not have kicked up such a row. Radio Beijing alone devoted as many as 17 items on this event.

This is nothing equivocal about the foreign policy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam which advocates solidarity and all-sided cooperation with the Soviet Union in the interests of Vietnam's in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world. Vietnam is for friendly normal relations with all countries, China included. The political report made to the Fifth congress of the Communist Party points out : " We stand for establishing and broadening normal relations in the state, economic, cultural and scientific and technological fields with all countries, irrespective of political or social system, on the basis of mutual respect for independence and sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit.

The same report makes clear that Vietnam's diplomatic effort is to strive to secure favourable international conditions and great and many-sided international aid for the building and defence of the country thereby helping ensure the successful performance of the historic tasks laid down by this Congress.

Beijing has claimed that Vietnam's solidarity and cooperation with the Soviet Union was a bid for big-nation hegemony. Now it brands in the same way Vietnam's effort to broader normal relations with Western and Northern Europe. At the same time it keeps rejecting all Vietnam's well-meaning proposals for normal relations with China.

The paper goes on :

" What Beijing really wants is to continue to isolate Vietnam so that it may weaken and annex it. For this purpose it leaves not a stone unturned to discourage countries which wish to entertain normal relations with Vietnam. At the same time Beijing is colluding more and more with the imperialist chieftain to sabotage revolution in Indochina".

"Beijing will fail in its effort to isolate Vietnam" the Paper stresses.

III. QUARTERLY REVIEW OF CHINESE CRIMES

Hanoi VNA April 5 - The Commission for Investigation of Chinese Expansionists and Hegemonists War Crimes against Vietnam today issued the following communication :

In the first three months of this year the Chinese reactionaries, with US assistance and encouragement, continued their war of sabotage against Vietnam, using big forces from many directions. Their schemes and acts were varied in form and perfidious, criminal in nature.

On the northern border, after refuting the proposal of the foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to cease fire during Tet, the Chinese reactionaries massed many more battalions close to the Vietnamese districts of Trang Dinh An, Cao Loc (Lang Son), Phong Tho (Lai Chau), Muong Khuong (Hoang Lien Son), Trung Khanh (Cao Bang), and Dong Van (Ha Tuyen) allegedly to protect Chinese farmers at work. They also sent more troops and supplies to points they were illegally occupying in Vietnam. The aggressors dug trenches and built bunkers with the aim of grabbing more land in violation of Vietnam's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity while actively preparing for an eventual large-scale aggression. Chinese troops made 29 (two nine) intrusions into the districts of Muong Khuong (Hoang Lien Son), Meo Vac and Dong Van (Ha Tuyen), and Mong Cai (Quang Ninh), killing people and looting. On February 6, Chinese troops attacked Nheu Sang hamlet, Ta Chai of May Hamlet, and Nan Xin hamlet in Xin Man district (Ha Tuyen), taking away six horses and wounding a civilian. On February 11, a group of Chinese soldiers intruded into Y Ty village of Bat Xat district (Hoang Lien Son). They killed a district official and took away four buffaloes. On the same day, Chinese troops intruded Can Lau Hamlet, Ngai Thau village, Bat Xat district (Hoang Lien Son). They shot dead a man named Lung A Sinh and took away a transistor radio and many other things. Chinese forces also fired, on 43 (four three) occasions, at hamlets and villages in Muong Khuong district (Hoang Lien Son), Xin Man, Vi Xuyen, Meo Vac and Quan Ba districts (Ha Tuyen), Dinh Lap and Van Lang districts (Lang Son), and Trung Khanh district (Cao Bang). Most serious was the firing

of 500 (Five Hundred) 82 mortar rounds on a stretch from peak 1388 to the north of the district town of Muong Khuong. Meanwhile Chinese aircraft made thousands of single sorties close to the Vietnamese airspace. Many times they entered Vietnam from three to five kilometres, over Trang Kinh district (Lang Son), Vi Xuyen District (Ha Tuyen), Trung Khanh district (Cao Bang), Hoang Mo and Binh Kieu districts (Quang Ninh) .

The United States also joined the Chinese reactionaries by flying dozens of spy planes off the coast from Nghe Tinh to Phu Khanh provinces.

In the last three months, thousands of chinese armed boats intruded into Vietnamese waters from Quang Ninh to Quang Nam - Da Nang province. In particular, from March 2 to 9, 1982, the chinese side sent more than 40 armed vessels deep into Vietnamese waters off Binh Tri Thien and

Quang Nam - Da Nang provinces. The local people and armed forces damaged three vessels and captured another together with a number of chinese intruders and weapons and other equipment. along with these provocative activities of Chinese boats, many vessels of the United States and its lackeys operated off the Vietnamese coast and around The Chu island.

In addition to armed provocations and intrusions at the northern border areas and in the airspace and the territorial seas of Vietnam, the Chinese reactionaries frenziedly pushed up spying and psychological warfare. In the last three months, many Chinese commandoes intruding into Vietnamese territory were captured in Muong Khuong (Hoang Lien Son), Mong Cai (Quang Ninh) and Dong Van (Ha Tuyen). The Chinese side is sending many of the Hoa people who had fled Vietnam back into the border areas of Lai Chau, Cao Bang and Ha Tuyen provinces to build reactionary bases.

The Beijing authorities caused a dozen incidents of psychological warfare, using a system of loud speakers along the Sino-Vietnamese border and distributing leaflets by propaganda shells or by drop to distort the domestic and foreign policies of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

The Chinese reactionaries' armed provocative activities along the northern border areas and on the sea have disrupted the Vietnamese people's production and other normal activities, and caused instability in the border provinces. Moreover, in the early days of Jan. 1982, Chinese troops set fire to the forests of Bat Xat (Hoang Lien Son), causing heavy damage to the local population.

The commission for investigation of Chinese Expansionists and Hegemonists' War Crimes in Vietnam energetically denounces before public opinion at home and in the world the criminal schemes and acts of the reactionaries in the Beijing ruling circle in collusion with the US imperialists. At the same time, the Commission calls on the forces of peace, democracy and progress in the world including the Chinese people to firmly demand that the Chinese authorities stop their hostile reactionary policy against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

IV. VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN REJECTS US SLANDER

"In his reports to the US Congress in late March US Secretary of State A. Haig again charged Vietnam with using Soviet - made chemical poisons in Laos and Kampuchea.

It is still remembered that in September 1981 the US Secretary of State himself and all the mouthpieces of the US Government launched a campaign concerning the so-called use of chemical poisons in Afghanistan and Southeast Asia. The campaign was designed to oppose the Soviet Union, Vietnam, Laos and the People's Republic of Kampuchea. But facts have shown that this was merely a fabrication. Progressive public opinion and many scientists, including american scientist have pointed out that evidence produced by the US Government was groundless. On March 15, the Pugwash conference in Geneva attended by scientists from 31 (One Three) countries affirmed that there was no concrete proof of the use of chemical poisons as alleged by the US Government. Even health experts in a so-called UN "investigation team" returning from southeast Asia and South Asia in November 1981, and February 1982 also concluded that there was no fact to back the US claim about the use of chemical poisons in Kampuchea and Afghanistan. A number of persons in this team even denounced the US for pressuring them into producing false evidence to suit the US allegations.

The US government's intention in this smear campaign about the Soviet Union and Vietnam is to divert public attention from its scheme of stepping up the arms race and the mass production of chemical and bacteriological weapons, delay negotiations for a treaty banning production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and obstruct disarmament talks.

By concocting the story about the use of Soviet - made toxic chemicals in Afghanistan, Laos and Kampuchea, the US Government also seeks to whitewash its crimes against the three Indochinese peoples. All people of conscience can still remember that the US imperialists conducted a long-term, large-scale

chemical war against the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea for more than ten years. They sprayed hundreds of thousands of tonnes of toxic chemicals, killing hundreds of thousands of people, distroying hunddreds of thousands of hectares of crop land, with disastrous consequences to the environment, to many generations of Vietmanese, and to tens of thousands of Americans who fought in Indochina. Mankind will keep record of the US aggressors' crimes.

By conducting the biggest chemical war in mankind's history, and by trying to repeat this war with modern means and on a larger scale, the United States has seriously violated the 1925 Geneva Convention. The US Government, therefore, is not qualified to speak about justice at all.

The Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam once again completely rejects the US slander, and demands that the US government end its collusion with the reactionary Chinese ruling circle in vilifying Vietnam and the other Indochinese countries".

V. VIET NAM ON MALVINAS CRISIS

1- Vietnamese Foreign Ministry Spokesman's Statement on Malvinas Issue

" In many sessions, the U.N. General Assembly has adopted resolutions on de-colonization of the Malvinas Archipelago, many Conferences of Non-Aligned countries, especially the 5th summit conference in Colombo and the 6th summit conference in Havana, have affirmed Argentina's sovereignty over this Archipelago.

However, Britain, a Permanent Member of the Security Council, in spite of Argentina's repeated protests and the demand of equitable and just opinion in the world, has stubbornly prolonged its illegal occupation of the Malvinas.

After the Republic of Argentina exercised its sovereignty over these islands, Britain sent a big naval force bound for this Archipelago, occupied South Georgia Island, arrogantly set up a total exclusion zone that extends a 200 - mile radius of the Malvinas islands while feverishly preparing for new military adventures against Argentina in an attempt to compel this country to give up its sovereignty over the islands. These colonialist acts of Britain which have the support of the United States have caused a dangerous situation threatening peace and security in the region and further aggravating world tension. The Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam once again declares Vietnam's stand of recognizing Argentina's sovereignty over the Malvinas Archipelago as stated in the resolutions of the non-Aligned summit conferences in Colombo and Havana, and demands that Britain implement the resolutions of the United Nations on de-colonization of the Malvinas and stop at once all its military schemes and acts against Argentina".

2- Viet Nam Protests British Aggressive Acts Against Argentina

According to Foreign News Reports, Britain has since April 30, 1982 sent its air and naval forces to repeatedly attack many points at Argentine forces on the Malvinas Archipelago and tried to land its troops there. This act of military escalation was taken by Britain right after the U.S. had openly declared its support for and its readiness to give aid to Britain and proclaimed "sanctions" against Argentina.

These are brazen acts of armed aggression against the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Argentina seriously threatening peace and security in Southern Atlantic and increasing world tension. These acts of military adventure have laid bare the colonialist and bellicose nature of the British authorities and their outdated policy of using force to compel Argentina to give up its sovereignty over Malvinas and to restore the colonial status of the Archipelago.

By supporting Britain against Argentina, the Reagan Administration has appeared in its true colour as an imperialist warmonger who has taken advantage of any opportunity to increase its interference and cause tension, in the interests of the U.S. imperialists against independence and sovereignty of other nations and international peace and security.

Together with progressive public opinion in Latin America and the rest of the world, the people and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam severely condemn the bellicose and aggressive acts of the British authorities and the complicity of the U.S. against Argentina. We demand that Britain and the U.S. cease at once those acts and respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Argentina.

Ha Noi, May 4, 1982

VI. VIET NAM - SOVIET COOPERATION IN JOB TRAINING

Hanoi, VNA May 5 : Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation in the form of Soviet help in training of qualified Vietnamese workers is effective and has fine prospects, said L. Kostin, First Vice-Chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Labour and Social Questions. He was interviewed by TASS on the occasion of the first Anniversary of the signing of the Treaty between the two governments on sending Vietnamese citizens for job training and work in the Soviet Union.

Kostin continued :

"At Vietnam's proposal, Vietnamese workers are mainly sent to work in the machine construction, chemical and textile industries as well as irrigation and soil improvement establishments.

All Soviet regulations regarding labour wages and bonuses are also applied to the Vietnamese workers in the Soviet Union. Besides, they enjoy a number of privileges. For instance, unlike Soviet-Apprentices they receive the full wage of first grade workers. Like Soviet citizens, they are entitled to annual paid leaves. In addition, they are given a 15-day leave each year for theoretical studies. After three years working in the Soviet Union, the Vietnamese workers may return to their homeland on vacation with most of the travel fare defrayed by the Soviet Government. In addition to Soviet holidays, they have two more holidays on the Vietnamese National Day and the traditional Vietnamese New Year Festival. Though they are not members of the Soviet Trade Unions, the Vietnamese are given residence at rest homes and sanatoria and receive free medical care and social insurance allowances like their Soviet colleagues. The greater part of them have been sent to the south European part of the Soviet Union where the food and climate better suit them.

Ko tin said that almost all the 7,000 Vietnamese workers in the Soviet Union have been assigned to work in joint Soviet-Vietnam production teams.

VIET NAM AND SOVIET UNION STRENGTHEN LABOUR COOPERATION

Hanoi, VNA April 8 : "The Agreement on Labour Cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union signed a year ago has effectively contributed to Vietnam's construction", remarked Minister of Labour, Dao Thien Thi, in an article on the significance and result of labour cooperation between the two countries.

"The Soviet Union" Dao Thien Thi wrote, "has helped Vietnam train scientists, technicians, economic managers with university and higher qualifications and skilled workers specializing in various economic and technical branches. The Soviet Union has sent tens of thousands of experts to Vietnam to help build economic, cultural, scientific and technical establishments, and train and improve the skills of Vietnamese cadres and workers on the job. The Soviet Union has also provided accommodation and education, at Soviet universities, colleges, institutes and vocational schools, to hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese students, post-graduates, research^aers and workers, who, together with those trained in the other fraternal socialist countries and at home, have been serving as nuclei of various branches of Vietnam's national economy. The Soviet Union and Vietnam have over the past year broadened their cooperation in a new form-bilateral labour cooperation.

The Soviet Union has undertaken to help Vietnam train and improve the professional skills of Vietnamese workers at Soviet factories in such branches and jobs as desired by the Vietnamese side with a view to accelerating Vietnam's Socialist Industrialization.

Under the study and work system, Vietnamese workers will in a period of five to six years receive vocational training and improve their professional skills as well as their general knowledge and secure for themselves the industrial working style. In the process, they will also contribute to communist construction in the Soviet Union.

Vietnamese workers enjoy the same rights and interests as their Soviet colleagues in the same jobs with regard to wages, social welfare and insurance and other rights. The Soviet offices and factories employing Vietnamese apprentices will ensure their material, cultural and spiritual welfare such as accommodation, clothing and other facilities, and create a necessary sentimental environment for them to work, study and live as comfortably as at home.

This cooperation will help improve the professional skills of a large number of Vietnamese workers and broaden the range of trades and professions as required by Vietnam's Socialist construction.

In the first year of implementing this cooperation agreement, several thousand young Vietnamese, male and female, were signed on as apprentices in dozens of jobs at Soviet factories. Wherever they learn and work, at engineering factories, coal mines, chemical plants, textile factories, etc. in the provinces of Astrakhan, Volgograd, Donets, Kemerovo, Rostov and Krasnodar... they have received warm and fraternal welcome.

This year, the Soviet Union and Vietnam will further strengthen their labour cooperation with increases in the numbers of jobs and learners. A number of Soviet factories will experiment on the method of training of technicians and workers for a complete factory.

VII- KAMPUCHEAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OPPOSES UN RESOLUTION

Hanoi, VNA, April 13 : The Foreign Ministry of the people's Republic of Kampuchea yesterday issued a statement rejecting the resolution E.C.M 4 1982/12 (E.C.M 4 1982/12) adopted by the UN human rights Committee in Geneva recently, SPK reports.

The Resolution, the Statement points out, constitutes a new, blatant interference in the internal affairs of the people's Republic of Kampuchea.

The statement continues :

In fact, with this resolution, the conference shut its eyes to reality in Kampuchea and helped the genocidal criminals and their accomplices to cover up their monstrous crimes against the Kampuchean people. The conference also pretended concern for the destiny of this victimized people. And the authors of the resolution tried to prevent the rebirth of a country of whose population three millions were massacred by the blood-thirsty PolPot-Iengsary-Khieu Samphan regime. The conference betrayed the confidence of all peace and justice-loving people by deviating from its objectives and principles and serving as a propaganda tool for the criminals of genocide shamelessly backed by reactionary, expansionist and imperialist forces."

VIII. THAI ARMED PROVOCATIONS AGAINST KAMPUCHEA

Hanoi, VNA April 28 : From April 16 to 20 Thailand conducted ten reconnaissance flights over Kampuchea, SPK reports.

The planes circles over the provincial town of Koh Kong and an area west of Konrient located at ten kilometres from the frontier.

On the sea, Thai armed vessels made 134 (one three four) incursions into Kampuchean waters.

Meanwhile, Thai artillery made eight bombardments against the Preah Vihear Region causing one dead and two wounded among the civilian population.

Sixteen artillery shellings were recorded in Siem Reap, Batambang region, and in the Pursat-Kong Kong region hundreds of shells were fired on the areas west of Smatdeng and in the vicinity of hills 336 and 172.
