

EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
Press and Information Section

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# I- 4TH PLENUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM,

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam held its 4th Plenum from 18 to 24 June 1983 to discuss "urgent ideological and organisational problems in order to ensure success in the fulfilment of the present economic and social tasks".

The plenum pointed out that after the Party's 5th Congress, despite the protracted and multifaceted war of sabotage waged by our enemies, despite economic difficulties and dislocation, our people have made a lot of positive gains and new achievements. The country is going forward based on a firm foundation. The plenum not only laid emphasis on the new achievements, but also reaffirmed the correctness of the lines worked out by the Party's 4th & 5th Congresses and the 3rd plenum of the Central Committee. The plenum analysed in depth the difficulties and weaknesses in the economic, social, ideological and organisational fields, and worked out measures to solve the problems in order to lead the country to a new stage of positive development.

The plenum stressed that the Vietnamese people are in a complicated, fierce and difficult struggle between the two roads, socialism and capitalism. This struggle is even fiercer because of the Chinese expansionists in collusion with the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces are frenziedly attacking our country. They are feverishly carrying out a **multi-faceted** war of sabotage against Vietnam by villainous means, as well as preparing to carry out their plan of annexing the three Indochinese countries. Our Party, people and armed forces are determined to defeat the multi-faceted war of sabotage of the enemy, to strengthen the work of ensuring political security, and to maintain firmly public order and safety.

To guarantee the triumph of socialism, the state of the dictatorship of the proletariat must bring into full play the right to collective mastery of the working people. It must carry out at the same time the three revolutions, combine strongly socialist transformation and construction, exploit the best capability of the labour force, the land, the material and technical bases. It must successfully implement the socio-economic programme, and prepare the conditions for advancing towards socialist construction vigorously.

The main important task is to reestablish order in the field of distribution and circulation, to stabilize the living conditions of workers, cadres and armed forces. The State must control production, distribution and circulation. It must decide the control of goods and money, apply the policy of distribution according to the value of work performed.

In all sectors and regions, it is essential to carry out correctly and strictly the principle of democratic centralism in social and economic management and to increase a sense of responsibility and discipline. The Party members, cadres and government officials including senior cadres from central to the provincial and municipal levels, must preserve the revolutionary dignity and morality, must set a good example in work and daily life. They must overcome right-wing thought and a lack of vigilance, bureaucratic ways, the lack of discipline and organisation.

To ensure the success of the present social and economic tasks, it is necessary to increase political education in the Party, State offices, mass organisations and working people to exercise strictly criticism and self-criticism at all levels and sectors, to bring into full play the right to collective mastery of the working people, to speed up the mass revolutionary movement and realise completely the measures put forward by the plenum to fulfil every task successfully.

In the closing speech of the plenum, the Secretary General of the Party, Le Duan urged the whole Party "from the central committee to the grassroots, to unite completely and determine to change the social and economic situation, to achieve ever great success in the cause of national defence and construction of the socialist Fatherland."

## II- COMMUNIQUE OF THE SEVENTH CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF LAOS, KAMPUCHEA AND VIETNAM (July, 19-20, 1983),

The Seventh Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was held in Phnom Penh (Kampuchea) on July 19th and 20th, 1983.

1- In review of the struggle of the three Indochinese peoples during the past six months, the Conference noted with satisfaction the favourable developments towards national reconstruction and defence of each of the Indochinese peoples. These favourable developments are contributing to the cause of peace, friendship and co-operation in Southeast Asia. The peoples of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam, standing side by side in close co-operation with the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, and in solidarity with the non-aligned nations and other friends all over the world, have overcome the acute difficulties in their recent history. In the light of the Indochinese Summit Conference held in February 1983, they continue advancing steadily. The conference rejoiced particularly at the great successes achieved by the People's Republic of Kampuchea in all fields, economic, military, political and diplomatic successively frustrating the perfidious manoeuvres of the expansionist, imperialist and reactionary forces, who want to reverse the process of the rebirth of the Kampuchean people. As the People's Republic of Kampuchea has been strengthened and stabilized, her international prestige has been enhanced with every passing day. The people of the world who love peace and justice clearly realize that the People's Republic of Kampuchea is the only authentic and legitimate representative of the Kampuchean people. The so-called "Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea" is nothing but a mask which is used to gloss over the genocidal Pol Pot clique, which has been condemned by the Kampuchean people and by the whole of humanity. It cannot do anything to change the situation in Kampuchea.

The decision taken by the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam regarding the annual withdrawal of volunteers of the Vietnamese army and their two partial withdrawals carried out in 1982 and 1983 demonstrate simultaneously the growth and consolidation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, and the constant

policy of Vietnam in respect of the independence and the right to self-determination of the Kampuchean people. This is also a demonstration of the good-will of the three Indochinese countries not only in words but also in deeds. The just position and acts of good-will of the three Indochinese countries have enjoyed a warm welcome among a broad section of world public opinion. Only the Chinese ruling circles, American imperialists and the reactionaries among the Thai leadership have opposed this policy and want to perpetuate tension in Southeast Asia and have poisoned the political atmosphere in the world to the prejudice of international peace and security.

2- On the occasion of the sixth Anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation between the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Conference warmly hailed the great victories of Laos-Vietnam friendship in the cause of socialist construction and national defence of each country. The Conference was of the opinion that the Laos-Vietnam Treaty was a major contribution to the consolidation and strengthening of the special friendship and militant solidarity between the three Indochinese peoples, and represents an important factor for peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

3- The Conference was informed of a number of diplomatic activities undertaken recently by the three Indochinese countries following the Extraordinary Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the three countries on April 12, 1983; It highly appreciated the results of the visit to the Republic of the Philippines by Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and the constructive attitude of the Philippines in regard to the proposal for dialogue between the ASEAN and the Indochinese countries in order to restore peace and stability in Southeast Asia. It noted the positive results of talks between the Foreign Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Kingdom of Thailand on June 9, 1983. The Conference welcomed the foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship and co-operation of the Australian Labour Government and the great efforts employed by Foreign Minister Bill Hayden with a view to reestablishing peace and stability in Southeast Asia. The Conference also welcomed the personal efforts of the United Nations Secretary General to stimulate dialogue among the countries of the region and to relax tension in Southeast Asia.

4- The Conference unanimously acknowledged that the hostile policy of Chinese leaders towards the three Indochinese countries has not changed yet. Once again, the Conference severely condemned this policy pursued by the Chinese leaders who in collusion with the American imperialists and other reactionary forces frantically oppose the three Indochinese countries, and feverishly wage the type of multi-faceted war of sabotage in the latter by perfidious and pernicious manoeuvres. At the same time, they continue their plans for the subjugation of the three Indochinese countries. The Conference categorically rejected the big-nation chauvinism of the Chinese leaders when they raised their five-point proposition on the Kampuchean question published on March 1, 1983. The Conference condemned China's demand for the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteers from Kampuchea while China arrogates to herself a right to freely oppose the independence and security of the three Indochinese countries politically, economically and militarily. These acts of China constitute the fundamental cause of the present tension and instability in South East Asia. The People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam carried out the annual withdrawal of volunteers from the Vietnamese army and explicitly declared that all volunteers from the Vietnamese army would be withdrawn from Kampuchea after the threat by reactionaries in the Chinese ruling circles was removed. World opinion demands that China put an end to all threats in order to permit the total withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteers from Kampuchea.

Now as in the past, the three Indochinese countries have attached great importance to the traditional relations of solidarity and friendship with the Chinese people. They make constant efforts to reestablish relations of friendship and good neighbourliness with China on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence. They consider that these relations make an important contribution to peace and stability in South East Asia.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic and the People's Republic of Kampuchea fully supported the proposition advanced by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam that the Vietnam-China talks to settle all problems in bilateral relations be resumed. In the immediate future, it will be necessary to arrange consultations between the two countries at any level and in any place in preparation for the resumption of these talks. The two parties to take the propositions put forward by each side a basis for talks.

The Conference fully supported the proposition of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam regarding the urgent measures needed to reduce tension along the Vietnamo-Chinese border. The proposition met no response from the Chinese party.

5- The Conference noted the opinion of the ASEAN countries who desire to promote dialogues without precondition with the Indochinese countries in order to settle the differences existing between the two groups. However, while the Indochinese countries put forward numerous constructive propositions and initiatives favouring the debate between the two parties, it is regrettable that the ASEAN countries rejected all of them the most recent example was that the ASEAN countries did not respond to the peace initiatives and gestures of good-will by the Indochinese countries, and particularly the annual withdrawal of volunteers of the Vietnamese army from Kampuchea. On the contrary, they advanced the absurd new demands, particularly the demand that Vietnam withdraw its troops 30 km from the Thai-Kampuchean border line as a precondition for dialogue. It is obvious that by this gesture, made under pressure of the Chinese leaders and American imperialists, the ASEAN countries have produced deadlock on all ways leading to dialogue.

The Conference categorically denied the libellous allegations made by China, the U.S. and reactionary elements in the ASEAN countries that Vietnam sent Vietnamese nationals into Kampuchea in order to alter the demographic composition of Kampuchea. This is a pure propaganda distortion to cover up the exposure of their slanders, which accuse Vietnam of aggression and the occupation of Kampuchea, in face of the reality of the annual withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteers from Kampuchea. The experience of the past 40 years and particularly of the past four years proves that all attempts to weaken and divide the Indochinese peoples will prove illusory, and all attempts to weaken the reputation of their countries are certain to be heavily defeated.

The three Indochinese countries also recognize that there exist differences between them and the ASEAN countries, including the so-called Kampuchean question, which in fact is nothing but the product of the policy of aggression and intervention by the Chinese expansionism. In consequence, the three Indochinese countries renew their propositions as follow :

A- Begin the dialogues with out preconditions, between the two groups of countries of Indochina and of ASEAN. The People's Republic of Kampuchea reaffirms her position of good-will that she is ready to stay out of the dialogue so that the question of her participation does not constitute an obstacle to the opening of a dialogue between the two groups of countries. All the formulas concerning the composition of the participants as well as the agenda of these dialogues will be seriously considered through constructive consultations.

The three Indochinese countries have noted with satisfaction that the two groups of countries in South East Asia, those of the ASEAN and those of Indochina, either within or without the Non-Aligned Movement have accepted the resolutions of the 7th Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned countries on the situation in South East Asia. The three Indochinese countries have also proposed to take the resolutions of the 7th Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned countries as the basis for dialogue between the ASEAN countries and the Indochinese countries. The three Indochinese countries are also disposed to study the proposition of the ASEAN countries about a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality (ZOPFAN) as a basis for discussion between them and the ASEAN countries with a view to establishing in South East Asia a zone of peace and stability. However they have reiterated their categorical rejection of the erroneous resolutions of the United Nations and of the so-called International Conference of the United Nations on Kampuchea, because these resolutions recognized the Pol Pot clique, who have been denounced by world opinion and also these resolutions were aimed at reimposing the genocidal regime on Kampuchean which is now being rebirth.

The chance of peace in South East Asia rests in the hands of the governments of the Indochinese countries and the ASEAN countries, who represent the two principal groups of countries in this region. That is why, the Conference has made an urgent appeal to the ASEAN countries that



in the common interests of the peoples of South East Asia, they will join the Indochinese countries and spare no effort to reduce tension between the two groups of countries, and will engage in the road of dialogue, bilateral or multilateral, to strengthen mutual comprehension and settle progressively the differences between the two groups of countries.

The three Indochinese countries also appeal to the governments of all countries in the world to contribute to the reduction of tension in South East Asia and to encourage dialogue in this part of the world, in the interests of the noble cause of peace in South East Asia and in the world.

B- The three Indochinese countries reaffirm the position of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on the annual withdrawal of the volunteers of the Vietnamese Army from Kampuchea, which depends on the state of security and stability in Kampuchea, especially the security and stability along the Thai-Kampuchean border. The volunteers of the Vietnamese Army will be totally withdrawn immediately after China has put an end to their threats. The three Indochinese countries welcome all efforts of the ASEAN countries which are aimed at ending the Chinese threats, so that the volunteers of the Vietnamese Army can withdraw from Kampuchea.

C- The Conference has studied the state of security along the border between Kampuchea and Thailand and reiterated its point of view that all propositions which are aimed at eliminating the tension along the Thai-Kampuchean border must be based on the principle of guaranteeing equal security for both parties. It expressed full support for the constructive propositions on this question put forward by the People's Republic of Kampuchea in the communique of the Extraordinary Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam of 12 April 1983 and declared its readiness to study the proposition of Thailand, which concerns the situation and security along the Thai-Kampuchean border. The Conference was of the opinion that urgent measures should be applied without delay, in order to prevent the danger from escalating towards a major conflict and in order to progressively create mutual confidence, measures should be put forward during the talks held on 9 June 1983 in Bangkok between the Foreign Minister of Vietnam and his Thai counterpart.

D- Recently, the Thai authorities have once more sought to use the problem of Kampuchean refugees for their own benefit, thus violating the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, and aggravating the tension along the Thai-Kampuchean border.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam completely support the idea put forward by the People's Republic of Kampuchea that the Red Cross of Kampuchea and the Red Cross of Thailand should study together, either directly or by means of an intermediary, their respective propositions about the humanitarian problem of the Kampuchean refugees along the Thai-Kampuchean border, on the basis of mutual respect for the independence, sovereignty and security of Kampuchea and Thailand.

E- The three Indochinese countries resolutely support the peoples of the world in their struggle for the defence of peace, national independence, and social progress, in the face of the aggressive policy of imperialism and international reaction. The three Indochinese countries reaffirm once more the declarations of the Parties and Governments of the three countries warmly approving the initiatives of the Soviet Union and the other member-countries of the Warsaw Pact, especially the Joint Declaration of 28 June 1983 at the Summit Meeting of the member-countries of the Warsaw Pact which demonstrated the firm, responsible and noble position and the good-will of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries in the struggle for peace and the reduction of international tension.

The three Indochinese countries warmly hail the success of the World Congress of Prague of June 1983, considering it a very important contribution to the struggle of the peoples against nuclear war, for peace and life on this planet. The three Indochinese countries pledge themselves to do everything possible to contribute to the common cause of the peace of humanity.

### III- VNA'S INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN MINISTER,

Question 1 : The 7th Conference of the Foreign Ministers of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam appraised developments in the struggle of the three countries over the past six months. What, in your opinion, were the most significant events in that period .

Answer : In the past six months, many significant events have taken place in the struggle in Southeast Asia, but the two significant events were :

Firstly, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam decided on the partial withdrawal of Vietnamese Army Volunteers. This was an extremely important decision. It testified to the rebirth of the Kampuchean people and the growth of the Kampuchean revolutionary forces. It proved the selfless policy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, of respecting the independence and sovereignty of Kampuchea and was an accurate blow to the main scheme of the Chinese reactionaries, the U.S. imperialists and the ASEAN reactionaries in slanderously charging Vietnam with occupying Kampuchea militarily.

This unilateral partial troop pull-out demonstrated the good-will of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and demanded an appropriate response from China and the ASEAN countries.

Secondly, the bitter setbacks of the Pol Pot gang and of the so-called "Tripartite Coalition Government" at the 7th Non-Aligned Summit Conference and in the Kampuchean-Thai border areas as well as the rotening and division among the Kampuchean reactionaries proved that the Pol Pot gang and his accomplices can by no means reverse the Kampuchean situation.

These two events were of tremendous significance because the demand raised all along the past four years by China, the U.S. imperialists and reactionaries in the ruling circles of the ASEAN countries for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea. was actually aimed at enabling them to bring the Pol Pot gang and their accomplices back to Kampuchea. These two events marked a serious failure of these dark schemes.

Question 2 : The ASEAN countries spoke of a political solution to the Kampuchean issue. What is our stance of this question ?

Answer : In the view of the ASEAN countries, a political solution to the Kampuchean issue would only require that Vietnam withdraw its troops from Kampuchea and respect the right to self-determination of the Kampuchean people. They want Vietnam to pull out all its troops from Kampuchea while China, in collusion with the United States and the ASEAN countries, is allowed to freely continue its threat of aggression and freely interfere in the internal affairs of Kampuchea. Under the sign-board of the self-determination right of the Kampuchean people they plot to bring back the genocidal Pol Pot-Sihanouk-Son San clique to rule over the Kampuchean people, completely against the Kampuchean people's desire.

Our stance on a political solution to the Kampuchean issue is that China and other reactionary forces must end their threat and interference in Kampuchea and, on this basis, all the Vietnamese Army Volunteers will withdraw from Kampuchea. Everybody knows that the Kampuchean people's most ardent aspiration is the right to live and an end to the genocidal Pol Pot regime under any guise, including Sihanouk's so-called "Coalition Government". The question of government of the Kampuchean people comes under the sovereign right of the People's Republic of Kampuchea : Nobody can interfere in it. The criminal Pol Pot gang and its accomplices, Sihanouk and Son Sann, have been condemned by the People's Republic of Kampuchea. Their place is not in a coalition government in Phnom Penh. Their fate must be the same as that of the fascist Hitler and his accomplices, that is, to end up in a Nuremberg type jail.

Question 3 : What do you think about China and ASEAN's demand for neutralizing Kampuchea ?

Answer : Everybody knows that Kampuchea has been for the past 30 years victim of aggression and intervention by the imperialists and Beijing expansionists. Never has Kampuchea threatened any ASEAN countries or served as a base for aggression and intervention against them. On the contrary, some of the ASEAN countries, especially Thailand, have joined in aggressions and interventions against the territory of this country, and have been used to oppose Kampuchea over the past

30 years. Justice demands the neutralization of these countries, not of the victim of these aggressions and interventions. Nonetheless the three Indochinese countries are ready to discuss the establishment of a peaceful, neutral and free region in Southeast Asia.

Question 4 : Has there been change in China's policy towards the three Indochinese countries ?

Answer : China's policy towards the three Indochinese countries has not changed a bit. China still continues its policy of aggression and intervention against the three Indochinese countries to realize its expansionist and hegemonist aims. To this end, in the past four years, China has used the Pol Pot gang as its tool and played off the ASEAN countries against the Indochinese countries to camouflage its expansionist and hegemonistic aims. Although China's policy towards Indochina has not changed, the situation in Southeast Asia has changed. In 1979, China was able to temporarily deceive some sections of public opinion by claiming that the presence of the Vietnamese armed forces in Kampuchea was the main threat in Southeast Asia. But today, broad sections of public opinion has seen that the real menace to Southeast Asia lies in the expansionist and hegemonist policy of China. In 1979, China dreamt of using its military pressure, economic blockade and acts of subversion coupled with a multi-form war of sabotage to subdue the three Indochinese countries and reverse the situation in Kampuchea. Today, after the darkest period. The situation in Kampuchea is obviously irreversible while Laos and Vietnam stand firm and are advancing.

Question 5 : the Joint Communiqué of the three Foreign Ministers said : "the fundamental cause of the strained situation in Southeast Asia is China's acts against the independence and security of the three Indochinese countries. The communiqué also said that the destiny of peace in Southeast Asia lays in the hands of the governments of the Indochinese and ASEAN countries, is there any contradictions between these two points ?

Answer : Everybody has seen more and more clearly that the long-term and fundamental threat lies in China's expansionist and hegemonist policy towards Southeast Asia but whether or not China

could realize its policy depends on whether or not it would succeed in playing off the ASEAN countries against the Indochinese countries, if the ASEAN countries could early see through China's policy and, in their own interests, refuse to take China's line in opposing the Indochinese countries, but instead cooperate with the latter in building peace and stability in Southeast Asia, China surely will fail in its policy.

Question 6 : Please, comrade Minister, comment on Thailand's demand that Vietnam withdraw its volunteer troops 30 kilometres from the Thai-Kampuchean border as a condition for the Thai Foreign Minister's visit to Hanoi ?

Answer : Thailand's demand that Vietnam withdraw its troops 30 kilometres from the Kampuchean-Thai border reflects the four-year old scheme of China in collusion with the United States. This scheme consists in creating sanctuaries on Thai territory for the Pol Pot clique and helping them establish the so-called "liberated" areas along the common border inside Kampuchean territory. For this purpose, the Pol Pot clique have over the past four years used military forces to grab lands of Kampuchea. For its part, Thailand has misused the humanitarian aspect of the refugee question and requested the establishment of so-called "refugee security zones" controlled by the United Nations in Siem Reap and Battambang province as bases for the Pol Pot clique. Thailand also took **advantage of** famine in Kampuchea in 1979-1980 to demand the opening of relief-transportation corridors from Thailand into Kampuchean territories also with the aim of building bases for Pol Pot. However, all these attempts have failed and at present Thailand is again raising this demand in hopes of achieving what it could not in the past four years in spite of all manoeuvres. What is strange is that the ASEAN countries said they wanted to solve differences through negotiations, but they persist in talking with those parties which are not directly concerned, instead of with the Indochinese countries which are directly concerned.

Question 7 : After four years of confrontation, has there been any new development that brings the two groups of countries, ASEAN and Indochinese closer together ?

Answer : There have appeared some developments that bring the two groups of countries closer together. So far, the Indochinese countries have always stated their willingness to put an end to the confrontation and start dialogue between the two groups. In the past, the ASEAN countries took China's line in opposing the Indochinese nations, at present, the trend for negotiation in the ASEAN countries has pushed back the trend of confrontation. Now as before the three Indochinese countries are of the view that the two groups of countries in Southeast Asia should negotiate in the spirit of equality, respect for each other's interests, non-imposition and mutual agreement. In the past, the ASEAN states wanted to impose the erroneous resolutions of the United Nations on the Indochinese countries in spite of the latter's protest. At present, the ASEAN countries have begun to see that dialogue is necessary and all solutions must be agreed upon by both sides.

Question 8 : Has the three Foreign Ministers' Conference envisage a most practical step which is feasible and needs to be started now... to steer the two groups of countries onto the road of peacefully solving problems in Southeast Asia ?

Answer : China, the United States and other reactionary forces are doing everything possible to sabotage a peaceful solution to Southeast Asia's problems. That is why, there are many obstacles and difficulties on the way towards a peaceful solution of Southeast Asian problems. The most practical step which is feasible and needs to be undertaken immediately is to ease tension and begin dialogue between the two groups of countries./

#### IV- AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S FRIENDLY VISIT TO VIETNAM,

- The new Australian Government is pursuing a policy of independence, peace, friendship and cooperation with all countries, improving relations and restoring aid programme to Vietnam: encouraging dialogues among countries in the region in order to find a satisfactory solution acceptable to all parties: carrying out the principle of peaceful co-existence between countries in South East Asia. This policy is a positive factor for peace and stability in the region.

The Vietnamese people welcome not only the foreign policy of the new Australian government but also its goodwill towards Vietnam. Foreign Minister Bill Hayden's visit to Vietnam in this specific timing, despite opposition and pressure by several countries, has proved that the Australian Labour Government has an independent policy.

- During his visit (June 29 - July 1, 1983), the Vietnamese and Australian sides expressed their respective points of views on several international and regional issues of mutual interests. There were differences but the two sides agreed to put them aside and succeeded in reaching some common basic understandings.

The Vietnamese side did not raise the question of restoring Australian aid to Vietnam. Because Vietnam considered this question belongs to Australia's sovereignty and it will be decided by Australia without outside interference. With or without aid, the Vietnamese people are grateful to the Australian people and government. Because they considered that the most valuable aid for them is the support and sympathy of the Australian people and government to their struggle for independence and freedom.

The Australian side pointed out that under the Labour government, Australia wants to do everything in its power to contribute to peace and good relationship among nations in South East Asia and the world over. Australia has always given support to the Vietnamese people in their struggle for independence and freedom. Mr. Bill Hayden himself expressed his desire to work for the strengthening of relations between Australia and Vietnam for the sake of peace, stability in South East Asia. This policy is in the interest of both Vietnamese and Australian peoples.



On bilateral relations, the two sides have agreed to exchange delegations between the two foreign ministries and other delegations between the two countries in the fields of art, culture, scientific research, books, periodicals and other printing matters to cooperate on the research of the consequences of the Orange Agent, to seek for Australians missing in action during the American war, to set up research teams on economic cooperation and on potentiality to increase commercial relations. The two sides had also reached principles to solve the problem of assets and scholarship.

- The President of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Pham Van Dong, asked Mr. Hayden to convey his letter to the Australian Prime Minister, Mr. Richard Hawke.

The Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Mr. Nguyen Co Thach, has accepted Mr. Hayden's invitation to visit Australia at the end of 1983.

The two sides are satisfied with the result of the visit which had helped both countries to further mutual understanding, to reach some common basic agreements, to improve relations between the two countries and to contribute to peace and stability in South East Asia.

#### V- THE VOICE OF VIETNAM'S COMMENTARY ON THE SLANDER OF CHINA, U.S. AND ASEAN ABOUT VIETNAMESE RESIDENTS IN KAMPUCHEA,

As everybody knows, a number of Vietnamese have lived in Kampuchea over a long time. They were victims of the Lon Nol and Pol Pot regimes. At the behest of the U.S. imperialists and Chinese reactionaries both regimes brazenly violated international laws and human rights, ordered the arrest and detention of Vietnamese/created difficulties for them and carried out many massacres. /residents

After January 7th, 1979, those Vietnamese residents who survived the Lon Nol and Pol Pot regimes were allowed by the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea to return to Kampuchea to continue their normal life, in conformity with the law of the country and following the time-honoured tradition of friendship between the Vietnamese residents and the Kampuchean people. There are far fewer

Vietnamese residents than Chinese residents who have returned to Kampuchea.

The new slander campaign comes after the failure of a series of schemes of Beijing and Washington to destroy the Kampuchean revolution and set up a world-wide front to oppose Vietnam and divide the Vietnamese and Kampuchean peoples. Today a rapid rebirth is taking place in Kampuchea while the so-called tripartite coalition of Kampuchea propped up by Beijing is becoming more and more isolated and is getting weaker in every aspect.

Following the withdrawal of the Cuu Long Group of Divisions of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Kampuchea which has been welcomed by world public opinion, the trend for regional dialogue is also being strengthened. The Beijing reactionaries and the U.S. imperialists hastened to drum up a new vilification campaign against Kampuchea and against Vietnam in order to keep the Kampuchean issue alive and to create tension in the region by stirring up hostility towards Vietnam and other Indochinese countries.

Over the past 4 years, China and the U.S. have issued one slander after another against Vietnam. For instance, they have charged Vietnam with trying to form an Indochinese Federation, with causing wide-spread famine in Kampuchea, with using toxic chemicals in Kampuchea and diverting international aid intended for the Kampuchean people, with invading Thai territory and so on.

The situation in Kampuchea can not be reversed whatever lies the enemy of the Kampuchean and Vietnamese people may spread. Public opinion and time are on the side of the people of Kampuchea and Indochina as a whole./.

VI- NEWS IN BRIEF,

- The "Morning Sydney Tribune" said in its recent issue that the Coalition Government of the Democratic of Kampuchea supported by Thailand and China is but the monster.

- An American journalist Mr. Daniel Snyder who just visited Kampuchea praised the rebirth of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

In an article carried by the Indian Weekly "New Wave", Daniel Snyder said the stability and rebirth in Kampuchea have been achieved through great efforts made by the Kampuchean people and the situation in Kampuchea is irreversible.

- After a month of harvesting the winter-spring crop, Vietnamese peasants in Southern Vietnam have brought in 1,6 million tons of rice from an area of 394.000 ha, 31.000 ha more than the last crop. The average is 4 tons per ha up 340 kg. In Northern Vietnam 17 among 20 provinces reaped a bumper Winter-Spring rice crop, the best since 1976 output per ha increased by 100 to 450 kg compared with the same crop last year. Many provinces in the Red River delta such as Ha Nam Ninh, Hai Hung, Ha Son Binh, Hanoi and Hai Phong reached as much as 3,2 tons per ha, up by 1,6% over last year. Thai binh takes the lead in rice field, reaching 3,7 tons per ha. After harvesting the peasants through out the country are now concentrating their efforts in soil preparations for the Autumn rice crop. This is one of the two main rice crops in Vietnam.

THE END