

MEMO: Memo File - BARKER
DATE: April 8, 1986
FROM: POC:bg
RE: Soviet Political Position

After the Vietnam war, the Soviet Union signed a pact for allegiance with the newly founded Vietnamese-Communist government. This action caused an insurgent reaction by Vietnamese officials who had previously been loyal to Chinese-Communist partyline. It caused an instant and deadly border conflict between Vietnam and China, as well as a new type of refugee who was fleeing Vietnam - namely Chinese and Vietnamese boat people loyal to the Chinese form of communist doctrine.

The Viet Cong armies of General Gaip were disbanded, and Cadres such as Hoang's were forced to review their political status and rethink their nationalist communist viewpoints. The occupation and invasion of Cambodia became a seasonal occurrence as the Soviet Union pushed to make its presence in Indochina a long term form of expansionism.

The United States had felt beaten in Indochina and had made it perfectly clear that Indochina was something that it wished to forget, like a very bad nightmare. This action by the United States allowed the Soviets a free hand in shaping Indochina into whatever it pleased.

The port of Cam Ron Bay became the first Soviet naval installation in Asia and the Soviets today occupy Vietnam with approximately 100,000 troops, several air installations, and a

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puppet army of Vietnamese and Laotian regulars. POWs became an excellent source of intelligence information, and a KGB training encampment was set up across the railroad tracks from Yen Bai, prison camp northwest of Hanoi. With India, Afghanistan, and Burma under Soviet insurgent control and Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia occupied by soviet military advisors, only Thailand stands today in way of Soviet domination of the far and near east. With all of Indochina under Soviet control, China's policies of self-determined nationalist communism would soon fall. Either China would have to turn to the Soviets or the west in order to insure its existence. However, either way, Chinese nationalistic policies would be forced to change. This shift in Chinese doctrine could only benefit the Soviet Union. If China went to the west, the Soviets realized that this shift would have to be slow and late in coming, as the leaders of the communist party in China would not allow a great step toward their enemies and long time political adversaries. If the Chinese shift^{ed} politically toward the Soviets, they would be swallowed up by Soviet-Communist party policy, as have every other nationalistic communist country in the world today. Either way, the Soviet Union wins another battle in its long standing drive for worldwide domination.

The potential release of American POWs from Vietnam would focus attention on the expansion of Soviet domination of Indochina, and possibly cause the Soviet Union to lose its ^{newly} ~~newly~~ acquired naval installations in Indochina. Also, the shadowy attack on

air stations such as Clark in the Phillippines by the insurgent uprising of the NPA would be in jeopardy, and the fall of Marcos would have all been for nothing as far as the Soviet Union would be concerned. For these reasons, the possibility of soviet intervention concerning the destruction of our plans to release American POWs and coup the puppet regime in Hanoi would be of paramount importance to the Soviet Union.

With the problems of Poland, Angola, and Nicaragua, and the war in Afghanistan, the Soviet Union cannot afford and is not prepared to fight a lengthy insurgent uprising in Vietnam.