

and spoke of the warm friendship between China and Korea. Zhao said that before his departure from China, senior Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping asked him to tell Kim that Deng was in very good health. But due to his advanced age, Deng could not see Kim in Korea, Zhao added. . . (Xinhua in English 1528 gmt 24 Apr 89)

## THAI DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO VIETNAM

(a) VNA in English 1513 gmt 25 Apr 89

*Text of report (FE/0436 i)*

Praphat Limpaphan, [the] Deputy Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, arrived in Ho Chi Minh City on 24th April on an official visit to Vietnam. He was accompanied by senior officials of the Foreign Ministry, the Supreme Command, the Interior Ministry and the National Security Council of Thailand. The Thai guests were met at Tan Son Nhat airport by [the] Vice-Foreign Minister, Tran Quang Co and, [the] director of the Ho Chi Minh City external affairs service, Vu Hac Bong.

Vice-Minister Praphat Limpaphan conferred with Vice-Minister Tran Quang Co on bilateral ties and issues of mutual concern. They agreed to the need to promote the co-operation between the two countries in economic development.

While in Ho Chi Minh City, Vice-Minister Praphat Limpaphan called on the people's committee of Ho Chi Minh City. He and the other Thai guests were received and feted by Nguyen Vinh Nghiep, acting chairman of the committee.

On this occasion, the Thai side handed over to Vietnam through the UN High Commissioner for Refugees three Vietnamese who had illegally left the country by boat and who have voluntarily applied for repatriation.

The Vietnamese side also handed over to Thailand the former Thai embassy compound in Ho Chi Minh City and the two vice-ministers signed the hand-over document.

This afternoon, Vice-Minister Praphat Limpaphan departed Ho Chi Minh City for Bangkok.

(b) Bangkok home service 1300 gmt 25 Apr 89

*Text of report*

Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan, who visited the SRV on 24th-25th April, has returned to Bangkok. Speaking to reporters at Bangkok international airport this afternoon [25th April], Praphat said his meeting with the Vietnamese Vice Foreign Minister, Tran Quang Co, was a success. Co assured him that Vietnam will definitely withdraw all its troops from Cambodia before 1st October and said that Vietnam cannot accept any responsibility for problems in Cambodia arising from foreign support for any Cambodian faction.

Praphat said he informed his Vietnamese counterpart that Thailand will use its former embassy in Ho Chi Minh, or Saigon, which Vietnam returned to Thailand during his visit, as its consulate only after completion of the Vietnamese withdrawal from Cambodia and an agreement has been reached acceptable to all parties. The consulate will protect

Thai businessmen in Vietnam and Thai people in Vietnamese custody, such as fishermen, and will serve as an office for promoting investment and tourism between Thailand and Vietnam.

Praphat said he handed over three Vietnamese refugees, who volunteered to return home, to the Vietnamese authorities. In his discussions with his Vietnamese counterpart, he proposed that Vietnam not prevent Vietnamese who went abroad from returning home. About 15,000 Vietnamese refugees are now in Thai camps. He asked Vietnam to speed up its efforts to make refugees understand its position and repatriate them. He said following the refugee meetings in Kuala Lumpur and Geneva, Thailand will separate Vietnamese who do not qualify for refugee status and will ask Vietnam to repatriate these people. Thailand also asked Vietnam to accept 300 Vietnamese minors as a special case. The Vietnamese official agreed to accept these minors and asked Thailand to co-ordinate the matter with the UN High Commissioner for refugees. The Vietnamese was also informed about involvement of Vietnamese officials in refugee smuggling rackets.

Praphat concluded that the Vietnamese and Lao refugee problem must be solved as soon as possible.

## THAI PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION IN PRK

(a) Phnom Penh home service 0430 gmt 25 Apr 89

*Text of report*

Comrade Gen Tie Banh, member of the Party Central Committee, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers, National Defence Minister, and Chairman of the Cambodian-Thai Economic Co-operation Committee, granted an audience to a Thai parliamentary delegation led by Phiraphan Phalusuk, vice-chairman of the house foreign affairs committee, and Vice-Chairman of the Prachakorn Thai Party, at the Council of Ministers office on 22nd April.

Speaking on the occasion, Comrade Tie Banh welcomed the Thai parliamentary delegation's visit which contributed to promoting the policy launched by Chatchai Chunhawan, the Thai Prime Minister of turning Indochina from a battlefield into a marketplace. The comrade also recalled the time-honoured traditions and customs linking the Thai and Cambodian peoples and pointed out the multifaceted achievements gained by the Cambodian revolution over the past 10 years, especially the remarkable development of the KPRAF People's Revolutionary Armed Forces, including the regular, regional and militia forces, which are capable of fully assuming the task of defending the motherland in place of the repatriated Vietnamese volunteer troops.

In his reply, Phiraphan Phalusuk expressed high esteem for the progress made by the Cambodian revolution during the past 10 years. He said that what he had witnessed contradicted the malicious propaganda conducted by the Cambodian opposition and a number of countries in the West. He added that the Thai people heartily welcomed Hun Sen's visit to Thailand, which constituted a significant political event in the search for peace, to which both the Cambodian and Thai peoples aspire.