

camp. These persons were living in temporary black-market stalls and huts without proper quarters, and on food spared by merchants in the other country engaging in the blackmarket trade.

They said they experienced difficulties in food because the KNU insurgents only supplied rice and pumpkin to the students and the other people. The insurgents wanted the students and the youths to be loyal to KNU and wanted them to join in the attacks against the camps of the Defense Forces. Measures were also taken to prevent them from fleeing the camps. Presently, although many students wanted to return to their parents, they did not because they fear they would be arrested on their return and also because they had no money for the fare back home. Hence they have continued to take refuge with the Karen insurgents.

The three of them, however, secretly crossed over to (Maw Lichai) area inside the other country on 2 October, sold their clothes, and made plans to return to Burma. When they arrived in Mae Sot village from (Maw Lichai), they found 135 people, including 6 women, at a monastery.

On 3 October, a so-called student leader, Maung Maung Kyaw, gave a speech. The people at Mae Sot monastery were supervised by someone called Peter and five members of his group. The students were prevented from, and warned not to visit Mae Sot so that they would not learn the truth. We, they said, learned about the true stand of the Defense Forces from a devotee visiting the monastery and felt encouraged. They left for Myawadi where they were looked after by the army camp and later sent to Pa-an.

They were well fed and taken care of by the frontline 44th Light Infantry Division headquarters and were sent safely home by a (?convoy) heading for Rangoon.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Offers To Open Talks With Rivals

Offer Likely To Be Rejected

BK1610081488 Hong Kong AFP in English 0744 GMT
16 Oct 88

[By Mervin Nambiar]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 16 (AFP)—An offer by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad to open peace talks will be spurned by his political rivals bent on the premier's ouster, analysts said Sunday.

They said former Trade Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah and his ally, Musa Hitam, were also unlikely to accept an invitation by Dr. Mahathir to join his New United Malays National Organisation (UMNO).

Diplomats said Dr. Mahathir's offer Saturday to open talks to reunite Malaysia's ethnic Malay majority reflected growing pressure on the premier to heal the rift that has split the ruling Malay elite.

"But I don't see progress while Dr. Mahathir clings to his New UMNO which Tengku Razaleigh says has no semblance to the original UMNO," an Asian diplomat said.

The New UMNO was formed after the original UMNO was ruled unlawful by the high court in February over a polls dispute between the Mahathir and Razaleigh camps.

Mr. Razaleigh and Mr. Musa say the new UMNO constitution readied for adoption at a general assembly on October 28 will keep Dr. Mahathir in power indefinitely through a balloting system that will give him a sizeable head start over challengers.

Mr. Razaleigh's aides say the former trade minister will continue to wage his campaign for revival of the original UMNO and its democratic traditions they call "the Spirit of '46" that led to independence from Britain in 1957.

Speaking in Muar town, 200 kilometres (125 miles) south of here, Saturday Mr. Razaleigh said he would not join the New UMNO because "the party is not accepted by the Malays."

"Even if I am reborn I will not join the party," the English-language daily THE STAR quoted Mr. Razaleigh as saying.

Mr. Razaleigh called for a congress of all Malay representatives to discuss the question of Malay unity, adding he did not think discussions between him and Dr. Mahathir would yield much.

Analysts said Dr. Mahathir has come under pressure from within his new UMNO to seek a reconciliation with his rivals after his National Front led by UMNO suffered defeat in a parliamentary by-election in Johore Baru town in August.

The defeat shocked UMNO's 12 partners in the National Front coalition, particularly the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA) which fears the split in ethnic Malay votes would doom its electoral prospects.

Mr. Razaleigh's hand could be further strengthened if his faction won a by-election for a seat in the Johore State Legislature, analysts said.

Voters in the small rural Parit Raja constituency are scheduled to go to the polls on Thursday.

Mr. Musa claimed in Hong Kong last week that Dr. Mahathir was planning snap polls to reassert his authority and would opt for emergency rule if he failed to win the general election.

Dr. Mahathir called Mr. Musa's claim "entirely baseless" Saturday describing it as "false, mischievous and designed to destabilise the country."

UMNO Officials Comment

*BK1610151788 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service
in Malay 1430 GMT 16 Oct 88*

[Text] The UMNO [United Malays National Organization] deputy president, Mr Ghafar Baba, has explained that the party's decision to open its doors to all Malays does not mean it is giving in to pressure from certain quarters. He said that the issue of pressure did not arise. The decision was made after listening to public views.

Mr Ghafar, who is also deputy prime minister, made the statement following a closed meeting with UMNO members from the Jasin Division, Melaka, this evening. He reiterated that the matter accorded top priority is Malay unity, which is not only the basis of their strength but is also in the nation's interests.

Meanwhile, UMNO Secretary General Datuk Mohamed Rahmat denied views that the UMNO's readiness to negotiate with several former leaders was merely a ploy. Datuk Mohamed made the denial to newsmen after opening a free medical care camp sponsored by the Rotary Club in Gelang Patah. He said that the negotiations offer was sincerely made after considering nationwide public opinion on Malay interests.

Last night, the Supreme Council made decisions which, among other things, invited Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah and former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam to hold negotiations with Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir and Mr Ghafar Baba.

Mahathir Says Musa Hitam Statements 'Baseless'

*BK1510132988 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television
Network 1 in Malay 1200 GMT 15 Oct 88*

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir, who is also the president of UMNO [United Malays National Organization], told reporters at the Putra World Trade Center today that statements made by Datuk Musa are totally baseless.

[Begin Mahathir recording] We regard the statements by Datuk Musa as totally baseless and we are very disappointed because the statements made by him will have an adverse effect, particularly on the investment climate and trade in the country. His claim that a snap election will be held within a year will create a year-long state of uncertainty among businessmen and this will not help in any way to improve the economic performance in our country. We are very unhappy over these baseless statements which can be considered as mischievous. They should have not been made by a person who is responsible toward his nation. They are totally baseless. The allegation that the authorities will deliberately create chaos through the setting up of a martial law government is likewise both

baseless and mischievous. These statements are aimed at subverting national stability, and causing concern among foreign and local investors, and also foreign tourists. The country's political and economic situation will also be destabilized as a result of these statements. We are taking a serious view of these deliberate statements. They are baseless and are designed to create unrest among the people. As we all know, the Malaysian Chinese Association has stated that it has no intention of excluding itself from Barisan Nasional [National Front] and statements suggesting such a thing have been made with the intention of destabilizing the political situation within the country. Ours is a democratic nation in which we can voice our opinions freely and no action will be taken. We are only disappointed that there are persons who do not place the nation's interests first but who have purposely given a distorted picture concerning our nation's stability and the investment climate within the country. [end recording]

Musa Hitam Comments

*BK1510133188 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television
Network 1 in Malay 1200 GMT 15 Oct 88*

[Text] In Johor, Datuk Musa Hitam has admitted making statements concerning three issues. According to a BERNAMA report, the issue of holding a snap election is included in the statements. The former deputy prime minister also said there is a great possibility that a state of emergency will be declared if Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir feels that his party is losing.

He also said that the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA] disagreed with the holding of a snap election because if such an decision is taken, the MCA will definitely lose.

He made the statement at the Foreign Correspondents Club in Hong Kong.

VOMD Sees Obstacles To Trade With PRC

*BK1410062388 (Clandestine) Voice of Malayan
Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 13 Oct 88*

["News report": "Chinese-Malaysian Trade Continues To Face Obstacles"]

[Text] For reasons widely known, our country and the PRC signed a bilateral trade agreement only on 1 April this year. Even though trade and industry circles in our country expressed hope that the Kuala Lumpur ruling regime would ease its travel restrictions to the PRC in line with the signing of the trade agreement to enable bilateral trade to proceed smoothly, their hope was never fulfilled. Speaking in Parliament last July on the continued ban of political gatherings, Prime Minister Mahathir, who is concurrently the home affairs minister, also spoke on the issue of promoting trade with the PRC as well as relations between peoples of the two countries. He adamantly said his government had no plans to change existing travel regulations to the PRC, in other words, he would not ease travel restrictions to that country.

In this connection, observers pointed out that as long as the ruling regime is still reluctant to remove restrictions for people to visit each other freely, bilateral trade relations will never make any progress. Once the trade agreement had been already signed, shipping and air services agreement between Malaysia and the PRC soon followed. Those who monitor trade relations between Malaysia and the PRC pointed out that only after the Kuala Lumpur ruling regime agreed to lift discriminatory regulations, including taxes imposed on goods imported from the PRC, could the bilateral trade agreement be officially signed in Beijing on 1 April. As soon as the agreement was signed, [words indistinct] provided more facilities to the exports of Malaysian goods. For instance, the tax imposed on Malaysia's main commodities, including rubber, palm oil, and cocoa has been reduced from 30 to 20 percent; tax on plywood from 17 to 12 percent; while tax on timber and [words indistinct] is also greatly reduced. The tax reduction is aimed not only at making Malaysian goods more competitive, but also at reducing Malaysia's trade deficit with the PRC.

In view of the excellent opportunity, many people in trade and industry circles did their best to promote trade relations with the PRC with a view to capturing that country's market. However, the Kuala Lumpur ruling authorities were reluctant to ease restrictions which shackle the people so the opportunity to expand trade was wasted.

Citizens in our country who wish to visit the PRC must obtain clearance from the Home Affairs Ministry as well as the Trade and Industry Ministry. According to statistics released by the authorities, between 1980 and May this year, the Kuala Lumpur ruling authorities had approved only 32,384 applications to do business with, seek medical treatment, or visit relatives in the PRC. The number of the approved applications is negligible compared with that of other ASEAN countries, except Brunei.

Our citizens have charged that it is not easy even for persons over 60 to obtain clearance from the authorities for medical treatment or family visits in the PRC. Trade and industry circles also charged that even after the signing of the trade agreement on 1 April, our country's businessmen still could not freely do business with or travel to the PRC at anytime as could their colleagues in neighboring countries. As in the past, these businessmen are only allowed to participate in trade fairs held in the provincial capitals of the PRC. They must also apply for clearance well in advance.

What is more disappointing is the fact that excellent trade opportunities are snatched up by businessmen from neighboring countries while our businessmen are still waiting for clearance.

Observers believe that Mahathir has no plans to ease travel restrictions to the PRC. This means that bilateral trade relations will never flourish and bilateral relations never improve.

Cambodia

SPK Version of SRV Pullout 'Communique' BK1610120188 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1113 GMT 16 Oct 88

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK Oct 16—The Ministry of Defence of the People's Republic of Kampuchea released here today a communique saying that foreign observers and mass media envoys are welcomed to witness the pullout of the Vietnamese Army volunteers from Kampuchea this year.

The communique reads:

"The People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on May 26, 1988 made a decision on the 7th pull-out of 50,000 Vietnamese Army volunteers together with the command of the Vietnamese volunteer army in Kampuchea this year.

"Since the command of the Vietnamese volunteer army and its adjutant units were pulled out in June this year, a majority [of the] remaining Vietnamese troops have subsequently repatriated."

"In furtherance of the above-mentioned decision, the Defence Ministries of the PRK and the SRV have an agreement the following points: [sentence as received]

From now to December this year, the rest of the 50,000 Vietnamese Army volunteers will continue to repatriate through land and water routes.

The PRK and the SRV welcome representatives from all countries, international organizations, news reporters and cameramen, and those who are interested in the Kampuchean problem to come to Kampuchea to witness the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea.

Thai Intrusions in Week Ending 1 October BK1210052388 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0424 GMT 12 October 88

[Text] Phnom Penh, 11 October (SPK)—During the week ending 1 October, Thai F-5's and L-19's made three flights over O Smach and Chan Kraham, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, between 2 and 4 km inside Cambodian territory.

On land, Thai artillery fired about 50 shells daily into some areas of Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, and Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Provinces.

At sea, Thai vessels intruded nine times into Cambodia's territorial waters between 7 and 19 nautical miles off Kaoh Tang, Kaoh Kong, and Poulo Wai islands.

Meanwhile, the Cambodian border guards, during their mopping-up operations, put out of action 217 intruders, including 63 killed, 58 captured, and 96 surrendered; and seized 151 assorted firearms together with a quantity of other war materiel.

VNA Group Arrives for 2-Week Working Visit

*BK1310113788 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1102 GMT 13 Oct 88*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 13—A group of the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY (VNA) led by Dang Kien, head of the foreign service department, arrived here this morning for a fortnight working visit.

The visit is made in furtherance of a cooperation agreement between the two news agencies for the 1988-90 period.

While here, the VNA officials will exchange experiences with the SPK leadership in the improvement of the information work and give lectures on journalism, especially news reporting for home and foreign readers.

Hun Sen Visits Koh Kong Province 8-10 October

*BK1310070588 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 12 Oct 88*

[Text] To mark our nation's traditional All-Souls Day, Comrade Hun Sen, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of foreign affairs, visited cadres, personnel, workers, and the Armed Forces in Koh Kong Province from 8-10 October.

At a get-together during the meeting to sum up the military achievements in Koh Kong Province, Comrade Hun Sen informed the participants about the development of the Cambodian revolution, the international and regional situation, and particularly the framework for the settlement of the Cambodian problem set up after the informal meeting in Jakarta. Comrade Hun Sen denounced the United Nations for accepting the credentials of the Pol Pot clique during the past years, pointing out that such an activity will only hinder the United Nations' role in the search for a solution to the Cambodian problem and runs counter to the present common trend that requires the expulsion of the Pol Pot clique from the United Nations and the trial of this criminal clique at the international tribunal.

Comrade Hun Sen welcomed all activities of the 12 Nobel Prize laureates and many other personages and international forums in demanding the expulsion of the Pol Pot clique from the United Nations.

Concerning his coming third meeting with Samdech Sihanouk, Comrade Hun Sen expressed optimism over the possibilities of reaching unanimity particularly on measures to prevent the Pol Pot clique from returning to power in Cambodia.

Speaking on the Cambodian-Thai relations, Comrade Hun Sen reiterated that we want to have good neighborly relations and, primarily, to turn the border between the two countries into a border of peace and friendship. Comrade Hun Sen expressed the hope that the latest developments of the new situation will contribute to the search for a reasonable solution to the Cambodian problem and, primarily, to reaching an agreement on the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, the prevention of the return to power of the Pol Pot clique, and the end to the provision of sanctuaries and aid to the opposition Cambodian forces, which is the first step toward resolving other problems.

Ney Pena Marks Party Paper's Third Anniversary

*BK1310093988 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Oct 88*

[Summary] Ney Pena, member of the Political Bureau of the KPRP Central Committee, on 12 October presided over a ceremony to mark the third founding anniversary of the party paper PRACHEACHON. Speaking on the occasion, Som Kimsuor, member of the party Central Committee and PRACHEACHON editor in chief, highlighted the paper's development in the past 3 years with 312 timely published issues. Citation certificates of the Council of Ministers were awarded to various outstanding units and individuals.

In his speech, Ney Pena called on all cadres and workers to show lively activities on the paper's pages and added "in ideology, journalists should fight vigorously by being sincere in telling the truth in the paper to be worthy of being the party's reporters in the new regime."

Meeting Sets UNICEF Cooperation for 1989-91

*BK1510070088 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 14 Oct 88*

[Text] On 11 and 12 October at the office of the Health Ministry, a meeting was held between the Health Ministry and UNICEF to review cooperation results from 1986 to 1988 and discuss the program for 1989 to 1991.

The 2-day meeting paid great attention to various reports on the cooperation and discussed past results of the bilateral cooperation and shortcomings due to various factors. The meeting also intensely discussed these shortcomings and set up a new cooperation program for 1989-91, focusing on primary hygiene, vaccination against six diseases for children, mother and child care, and prevention against epidemic diseases in localities.

Report on Son Sann's Address at United Nations

*BK1510045988 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic
Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Oct 88*

["Report" on the address by His Excellency Son Sann, prime minister of the CGDK, at the 43d Session of the UN General Assembly]

[Excerpt] On 5 October, His Excellency Son Sann, prime minister of the CGDK, addressed the 43d session of the

UN General Assembly. The main content of his address is as follows:

After expressing his warmest greetings, on behalf of the Cambodian people, the CGDK, and in his own name, to the president of the 43d UN General Assembly, and his heartiest thanks to the president of the 43d session of the UN General Assembly as well as to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, His Excellency Son Sann stated:

It is 10 years now, since the Vietnamese aggressor troops invaded and occupied Cambodia on 25 December 1978. Since the creation of the CGDK in 1982, the chairman of the DK, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has vigorously denounced the infernal acts committed by the Vietnamese aggressor troops to the detriment of the miserable Cambodian people.

His Excellency Son Sann said if Vietnam is not sincere about solving the Cambodian problem through dialogue with the CGDK and halting its delaying tactics [to delay the troop withdrawal from Cambodia], a political solution to the issue certainly cannot be found. To obstruct the political process of settling the Cambodian problem, Vietnam has used all manner of maneuvers, linking the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Cambodia with the question of preventing the return to power of the Khmer Rouge and the question of complete cessation of aid to CGDK forces.

He said the current situation in Cambodia is caused by the Vietnamese aggressor troops' invasion and occupation of the country, and our foremost wish, like the wish of the UN resolutions on the Cambodian issue, still remains the complete withdrawal of Vietnam's troops from Cambodia, including the officially recognized troops as well as those in disguise. As for other matters, they are Cambodia's purely internal affairs which should be solved by the Cambodian parties themselves. The settlement of the Cambodian problem is unequivocally specified in the resolutions annually adopted by the UN since 1979 which also prescribed the Cambodian people's right to self-determination and the organization of general and free elections without any pressure or coercion.

He said the very peaceful settlement of Cambodia's problem can be possible only on the following conditions:

1. The withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Cambodia should be made not only unilaterally by Vietnam itself but on the framework of a joint agreement reached through negotiations with other parties, under international control and within a specific timeframe.
2. The Phnom Penh and the DK regimes should be dissolved.
3. A provisional quadripartite government of national reconciliation should be formed.
4. An international control committee belonging to the United Nations or other international committees and other necessary measures should be established.

5. Truly free and general elections should be organized under international control.

His excellency added that peace in Cambodia should be in fact restored through genuine national reconciliation based on equality of all reconciled political parties and the respect for the basic freedom of humanity in accordance with a liberal democracy, not to isolate and not to eliminate anyone at all.

The provisional four-party government of national reconciliation is a national harmonious government in charge of organizing free and general elections under international control.

Following an agreement on the withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, an international conference, with participation of all countries concerned and the five member countries of the UN Security Council, as well as the UN secretary general, should be convened to adopt all necessary measures to guarantee the above-mentioned agreement and Cambodia's independence and neutrality, and to prevent the eventuality of the Vietnamese troops' return [to Cambodia] and the unlawful seizure of power by force by any of the Cambodian parties.

To normalize the situation and to restore peace, security, and justice in Cambodia, the full withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Cambodia is an absolutely necessary condition. However, to build up confidence, I would like to propose that the Vietnamese troop withdrawal should be implemented in the framework of an agreement and negotiations, and under international control. National reconciliation should be carried out by setting up a provisional quadripartite government. The national reconciliation government should be formed on a new basis because the CGDK cannot accept the communist Vietnamese regime in Phnom Penh as a foundation.

Afterward, His Excellency Son Sann expressed, on behalf of the Cambodian people, profound gratitude to his majesty the king of Thailand for his generosity toward the Cambodian refugees and to the Thai Government for authorizing the displaced Cambodian people to live in camps located along the border.

Along with this, his excellency also thanked all the friendly countries for their constant, valuable, and multifaceted assistance and support to the CGDK and the entire Cambodian people in their struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors for national liberation. [passage omitted]

Khieu Samphan Departs New York 11 October
BK1610021888 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] On 11 October, Khieu Samphan, vice president of the DK in charge of foreign affairs, who was attending the 43d session of the UN General Assembly, left New York and returned to the mother country.

During his stay in New York for nearly 4 weeks, Vice President Khieu Samphan had talks with several foreign ministers and chiefs of delegations from various countries. He exchanged views with those personalities on a number of issues of common interest.

Vice President Khieu Samphan briefed the foreign ministers and chiefs of delegations about the development of the Cambodian people's struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors, and outlined the Hanoi authorities' diplomatic gambit aimed at confusing international opinion and misleading people to accept their acts of aggression against and occupation of Cambodia once and for all.

Son Sann, prime minister of the CGDK and chief of the DK delegation attending the UN General Assembly, saw Vice President Khieu Samphan off at the airport along with (Yu Meng), deputy permanent representative of the PRC to the UN; Ambassador Thiounn Prasith, DK permanent representative to the UN; Ambassadors Chan Youran and Hing Un; as well as other DK mission staff and members of the DK delegation.

DK Army Seizes SRV Artillery Post in Samlot
BK1410013588 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian
2315 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] On 8 October, our National Army attacked and destroyed a Vietnamese artillery position west of O Rot Kroh, on Samlot battlefield [Battambang Province]. We killed four Vietnamese enemy soldiers, wounded four others, and destroyed some ammunition and war materiel. We seized 4 artillery pieces, including 2 122-mm canons, a 76.2-mm cannon, 120 122-mm shells, 150 76.2-mm shells, and some war materiel.

After our attack and control of this position, our National Army turned and fired these four heavy artillery pieces at a Vietnamese position at O Reang Khen and at the Vietnamese divisional command in Samlot District all day long. The shelling caused great confusion among the Vietnamese at the two positions.

DK Army Attack on Battambang Reported
BK0910003488 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian
2315 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Our National Army fired two 107-mm rockets into Battambang provincial town on 2 October, killing and wounding a number of the Vietnamese enemies.

Following the attack, there was great panic in the town.

Laos

Delegation Leaves for Jakarta Conference
BK1510112388 Vientiane KPL in English
0918 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Vientiane, October 15 (OANA-KPL)—A delegation of the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs led by its deputy-minister, Soulivong Phasitthidet, on September 13 [date as received], left here for the conference of the coordination team work on the Kampuchean issue to be held in Jakarta of Indonesia on October 17-19.

The team work has been set up for the first time by the decision of the informal meeting held recently in Bogor of Indonesia. The conference will further consult on matters of seeking ways for the peaceful political solution to the Kampuchean issue.

Deputy Foreign Minister Speaks at UN Session
BK1510121088 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Souban Salitthilat, head of the LPDR delegation, delivered a speech at the 43d UN General Assembly session on the morning of 10 October. The major points of his speech are as follows:

The situation in Southeast Asia is evolving in line with the global trend of seeking to settle conflicts through meetings and negotiations. For this reason, following the PRK Government's statement on its national reconciliation policy, Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, and Prince Sihanouk held two important meetings in Paris. Moreover, Chairman Hun Sen, representing the PRK Government at the Jakarta informal meeting, put forth a seven-point proposal aimed at seeking a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

The LPDR highly appraised the success of the meeting and strongly supports the overall view presented at the meeting, which called for a political solution to the Cambodian problem so as to create a peaceful, sovereign, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia on the basis of national reconciliation, respect for the Cambodian people's right to self-determination, and withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteers from Cambodia together with the prevention of a return to power by the genocidal Pol Pot clique, the guarantee of an end to interference in Cambodia's internal affairs by foreign countries, and the end of military assistance to Khmer Rouge forces. To strengthen and expand the success of the Jakarta informal meeting, Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk agreed to hold another meeting in Paris at the end of 1988.

The LPDR praises the new initiatives of the Nonaligned Movement in holding a meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe, to discuss the Cambodian problem and appoint a special Nonaligned Movement committee.

The Lao Government has been adhering to the basic principle of settling conflicts between any two countries through meetings and negotiations. We firmly believe that based on the Principles of Bandung, ASEAN's Kuala Lumpur Declaration of 1971, and the Jakarta informal meeting in late July, the countries in this region will hold normal consultations so as to bring their attitudes closer to each other and increase mutual understanding for the purpose of turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, friendship, and cooperation in response to the just aspirations of the people in each country.

It is unfortunate that the Lao-Thai border dispute has not yet been settled in this way. The two rounds of talks that were held in Bangkok and Vientiane in March of this year have not yet yielded any concrete achievements. After the election of the new Thai Government, an exchange of visits between the two countries' delegations was made in a bid to create mutual understanding. We are of the opinion that the time has come for the two countries to resume talks as proposed earlier by the Lao side. The LPDR Government itself is always ready to take every action to achieve a quick, comprehensive settlement of the Lao-Thai border dispute.

Military Delegation Leaves for Thailand

*BK1710054988 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0500 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] A military delegation of the LPDR led by General Sisavat Keobounphan, chief of the LPA General Staff, left Vientiane this morning [17 October] for a 3-day official visit to the Kingdom of Thailand at the invitation of General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, Army commander and acting military supreme commander.

During the visit, Gen Sisavat Keobounphan will hold consultations with Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut and exchange views on relations between the two countries' armed forces. He will also pay a courtesy call on Chatchai Chunhawan, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, and visit a number of economic bases.

Accompanying Gen Sisavat Keobounphan during the visit to Thailand are Brigadier General Thonglai Kommasit, first deputy director of LPA General Political Department; Brig Gen Savai Sai-gnasena, chief of the Office of the National Defense Ministry; Brig Gen Bounnian Kham-ouan, deputy chief of the LPA General Logistics Department; Brig Gen Somlak Phommavong, assistant chief of the Office of the National Defense Ministry; Brig Gen Phonsai Chaleunsouk, Air Force commander; Colonel Sathian Kesonsi, assistant chief of LPA General Staff; Col Somboun Sisavat, assistant chief of LPA General Staff and head of the Joint Military Committee of the Lao side; Lieutenant Colonel (Phouvon Keobounlom), chief of the LPA General Technical Department; and Lt Col (Si Inthavong), chief of the Foreign Relations Department of the Ministry of National Defense, and other 17 assisting cadres.

Seeing the delegation off at Wattai Airport were Major General Choummali Sai-gnason, first deputy minister of the Ministry of National Defense; Maj Gen Osakan Thammatheva, deputy minister of the Ministry of National Defense and chief of the LPA General Political Department; and a number of senior military officers. Mrs Prathuang Rotphong, interim charge d'affaires of the Kingdom of Thailand to Laos, was also present at the airport.

Academics Team Returns From Thailand

*BK1410133688 Vientiane KPL in English
0919 GMT 14 Oct 88*

[Text] Vientiane, October 14 (KPL)—A team of Lao academics led by Hiam Phommachan, vice-president of the Lao Committee for Peace, Solidarity and Friendship With Other Nations, on October 12 returned home from Thailand. The purpose of the visit was to give lectures aiming at promoting and enhancing the Lao-Thai relations of good neighbours.

The Lao lecturers spoke in both Bangkok and the north-eastern Thailand town of Khon Kaen. Issues discussed by lecturers of both sides were the Lao-Thai traditional friendship relations, bilateral trade, agricultural technology, rural development, religion.

LPRP Delegation Departs for Phnom Penh

*BK1210104588 Vientiane KPL in English
0909 GMT 12 Oct 88*

[Text] Vientiane, October 12 (KPL)—Sisavat Keobounphan, political bureau member of the LPRP CC, secretary of the party committee, mayor of Vientiane Prefecture, and his delegation left here yesterday for the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

The delegation is to attend the first congress of the party committee of Phnom Penh due to be held on October 12.

FRG State Minister To Visit 15-18 October

*BK1310102288 Vientiane KPL in English
0901 GMT 13 Oct 88*

[“Press Release on FRG Minister for Foreign Affairs' Visit”—KPL headline]

[Text] Vientiane, October 13 (OANA-KPL)—The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has issued here a press release. It disclosed that in response to the invitation of the Government of the LPDR, a delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) led by Helmut Schafer, state minister for foreign affairs of the FRG, will pay an official cordial visit to the Lao PDR on October 15-18, 1988.

Philippines

Reportage on Agreement Reached on U.S. Bases

Aquino Makes Announcement

HK1710012788 Manila Far East Broadcasting
Company in English 2300 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] President Aquino announced that the Philippines and the United States have reached an agreement on the terms for the continued stay of the American bases in the Philippines until 1991. She said the bases agreement will be signed tomorrow at 3 pm in Washington by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. The president also said Mr Manglapus will make an announcement on the details after the signing of the agreement. The Philippines and the United States began the bases review in April this year, but the negotiations bogged down many times because of the Philippines' insistence on increased rental and the United States' refusal to agree on the amount demanded.

Aquino Awaits Manglapus' Report

HK1710084188 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0700 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] President Aquino stated that she would wait for the latest report from Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus before giving her views on the agreement reached concerning the maintenance of foreign military bases in the country for the next 2 years.

The president was asked whether she was satisfied with the result of negotiations on the review of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]- U.S. military bases treaty.

[Begin Aquino recording in English] I will wait until all the details are laid out and expressed by Secretary Manglapus. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus confirmed that the United States will pay \$480 million each year for the maintenance of Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base in the country until the year 1991. At a news conference held in Washington, D.C., the foreign affairs secretary also claimed that the United States will support a bond program that will help alleviate the country's debt repayment program.

The agreement reached at the end of the bases treaty review will be signed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz tomorrow.

Benigno on Bases Accord

HK1710084988 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0700 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Gabby Salcedo reports from Malacanang:

[Begin recording] [Salcedo] President Corazon Aquino has refused to comment on the signing of the Military

Bases Agreement review between the United States and the Philippines. We learned this from Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno. He said, however, that the president would give her official reaction in a radio-television broadcast after the agreement is signed in Washington. Here are additional reports from Secretary Benigno after the just-concluded meeting between the president and U.S. Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the U.S. Armed Forces.

[Benigno in English] Well, two things. First is your question—how many questions—on the report from Wahington about the impending signature of the United States-Philippines on the bases. Now, the president prefers not to answer these questions for the plain and simple reason that the agreement has yet to be signed. And she will only issue a comment, a formal statement, either on TV or a formal statement to you after the signing of the agreement. So first they announce in Washington, certainly by Secretary Manglapus on behalf of the Philippines after the signing, and (?rebound) over to Manila, where the president certainly will issue a statement. I understand that the agreement will be signed at 2:00 am after midnight, Manila time. So considering that we are in the lapse of [word indistinct] in the city of Manila at that particular time, we will not be able—there are no newspapers functioning, nor radio, nor the TV. So you have to be patient. Her statement on this matter will come after the signing of the agreement.

Now with regards to the 45-minute meeting with Admiral Crowe, I don't know exactly what Admiral Crowe told you. I understand that he didn't tell you very much except something in [word indistinct]. But since I cannot speak for him, I cannot mention, except in very general detail what he told the president in that 45-minute conversation. All I can say is that they took up three topics, the main topic being that of the communist insurgency, the second being that of the U.S. presidential elections, the third informal conversation on the art of governing a country.

Now on insurgency, the president started off the formal part of the conversation by saying that her government has made substantial headway in the fight against the communists and other insurgencies. Admiral Crowe said: From what I have gathered during my stay here, I agree with your assessment.

President Aquino explained that the headway in the fight against communist insurgency was largely because the military today is getting tremendous support from the civilian sector, which was not there before.

At this point, General de Villa was asked for his comment, and Gen de Villa said that things are looking good, and he agreed with the president that civilian support for the military had improved tremendously and is very much better now. [end recording]

Enrile Comments on Accord

HK1710092788 Manila Manila Broadcasting
Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Some members of Senate refrained from commenting on the scheduled signing of the Military Bases Agreement by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. One of them is Senator Leticia Shahani Ramos, chairperson of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

[Begin Shahani recording in English in progress] ...very minimal. What took place in Washington is something I do not know about. What is this debt swap that took place? What is the formula that goes with it? What are the soft components? How does that link up with the Philippine aid plan? I think it best and fair that we wait for Secretary Manglapus to make his report to the nation and to the Congress. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile raised the issue that the agreement to be signed by Shultz and Manglapus should be reviewed and ratified first by the Philippine Senate.

[Begin Enrile recording in English] As I was saying when I was asked the same question, that it is very difficult to react to something the details of which are unknown. Now there is one thing I would like to consider, and that is whether or not this agreement would require the approval of the Senate. This is an arguable point, that it should be subjected to the scrutiny of the Senate and approved by it, because of the provision now of the Constitution that all international treaties and agreements entered into by the Republic of the Philippines must be approved and ratified by the Senate. [end recording]

Enrile was also asked whether the agreement was already a treaty.

[Begin Enrile recording in English] Well, the Constitution talks of not only treaties, but agreements, international agreements. Now I am sure this cannot be considered less than an international agreement. There are rights and obligations emanating from it which would grant benefits and [word indistinct] the Republic of the Philippines. [end recording]

Senators Express 'Disappointment'

HK1710090788 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0700 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] The country's legislators expressed disappointment over the Philippines' failure to obtain its initial demands in exchange for maintenance of the U.S. bases for 2 more years.

The Partido ng Bayan [PNB—People's Party] strongly condemned the agreement reached between the Philippines and the United States. According to PNB spokesman Fidel Agcaoili, the provisions of the agreement constituted a sellout. He said that Manglapus should not have linked the maintenance of the bases in the country with the debt issue. The PNB reiterated its opposition to the maintenance of U.S. military bases in the country and demanded that the contents of the agreement be made public.

Meanwhile, Senator Ernesto Maceda and Vice President Salvador Laurel criticized Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus for signing the agreement without prior consultation with Congress. According to these two men, it would appear that only the views of Malacanang and the Department of Foreign Affairs were taken into consideration in the negotiations process as the Congress was not consulted.

Senators Ernesto Maceda and John Osmena both described the new agreement on compensation for retention of U.S. bases in the country until 1991 as a big disappointment.

[Begin recording in English] [Maceda] To me, this is a confirmation of the fact that it seems this administration is not ready to stand up to Washington. I had hoped that they were serious when they said that the \$1.2 billion was an irreducible minimum, but it seems that we are getting very much less. This disappointing compensation package strengthens the case of all of those who are against the renewal or extension of the treaty allowing U.S. military bases in the country.

[Osmena] We did not get what we wanted to, which is a \$1.2 billion package. And I think this is for lack of appreciation on the part of the United States government on the needs of the Philippines and how these needs are related to the security of the bases. [end recording]

In this connection, Senator Maceda speaks of the necessity to adopt Senate Resolution No 126 submitted by Senate majority floor leader Orly Mercado. The resolution states that the Aquino government should notify the U.S. of the Philippines' intention to terminate the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. bases agreement in 1991.

[Begin Maceda recording in English in progress] ...that the executive department serve formal notice pursuant to the present agreement of a 1-year notice to the U.S. Government so that we will not unnecessarily extend the treaty or present agreement, just in case there is no agreement for 1992 and beyond. [end recording]

Even though the compensation agreed upon is twice the amount the Philippines has received for the last 5 years, Senator Osmena said that it was time that the United States realizes that the amount they pay will ultimately benefit them too.

[Begin Osmena recording in English in progress] ...and also that such a compensation will benefit them, because if this country is plunged into a crisis of poverty and if the security of the bases is imperiled by the insurgency that is going to be fueled and is being fueled by poverty, then their bases will not be worth anything to them. So whatever assistance they give us in the form of compensation and used in our soil for their own strategic, global interests will rebound to their benefit as well. [end recording]

Both Maceda and Osmena concurred that the signing of the treaty was another case of the executive branch not consulting with the legislative branch.

[Begin recording in English] [Osmena] I will agree with some of my colleagues who are bewailing a lack of consultation. I think this has been a problem not only with the bases, but it has been a problem with the antinuclear bill in Congress—we never found out what they were thinking about. It is the problem with the barangay elections. It is a problem with a lot of irritants that are going on between the Senate and the executive department.

[Maceda] I had thought that there should have been some consultations with the Senate before this is finalized. Senator Shahani and I are members of the review panel but apparently, with Secretary Manglapus in Washington, the matter was decided exclusively between him and the president. [end recording]

Meanwhile, we have the views of Senator Aquilino Pimentel Jr:

[Begin Pimentel recording in English] That agreement is better than the existing military bases agreement. It does not, however, have any bearing on the future of the bases, whether the bases are to be removed or not. That is something not included in the present negotiations. [end recording]

Adm Crowe Comments on Agreement

*HK1710085188 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 1000 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] Admiral William J. Crowe, chief of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the agreement on the military bases would be of great advantage to the stability of the region. Crowe met with Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos earlier today. He also said the signing of the treaty would pave the way for further talks on the extension of U.S. bases in the country after 1991.

Reactions to Bases Accord

*HK1710032388 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE
in English 17 Oct 88 pp 1, 6*

[Reports from J. F. Fortuna, P. Lustre, and R. Bundang]

[Text] Various sectors polled by the GLOBE yesterday had mixed, mostly critical, reaction to reports that the Philippines and the United States have reached an agreement on the last years of the lease of American military bases in the Philippines.

Senate foreign relations committee chairman Leticia Ramos-Shahani said that the \$418-million cash component of the base compensation package was "short" of the original demand of \$1.2 billion.

However, she expressed satisfaction that an agreement has been concluded after months of negotiations and acrimonious debate.

Sen. Wigberto Tanada, the main sponsor of the bill banning nuclear weapons in the country, said that the most important issue in the negotiations is the nuclear issue, and not only compensation.

"It is not enough to provide sufficient compensation, but an assurance that the United States would respect the constitutional provision banning nuclear weapons," Tanada said.

"I don't think it is enough to compensate when the threats of nuclear destruction and derogation of national sovereignty are still there because of the presence of nuclear weapons in the country," he added.

At the House of Representatives, Rep. Gualberto Lumaig (LDP [Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino—Struggle of Philippine Democrats]-Ifugao) of the foreign relations committee said the Washington agreement was a "welcome news" because it would provide the country compensation higher than the \$180 million it has received annually since 1983.

"It is something encouraging," Lumaig said, adding that the question of extension or termination must be touched in the future.

Other reactions:

Assistant Minority Floor Leader Salvador Escudero III demanded full disclosure of all the components in the economic package agreed in Washington.

"For all we know, there might be some hidden agenda included in the deal or that some old items were included to the detriment of the country," Escudero said.

Like Senator Shahani, he also demanded that Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus report to the nation on the details of the agreement.

In Olongapo City, Mayor Richard Gordon belittled the impact on his constituents of the reported economic package agreed in Washington.

Gordon, whose city hosts America's largest U.S. naval base outside U.S. territory, said that past U.S. aid for the bases have not filtered down to the base communities.

"Records show that aid has not filtered down to the countryside and the Aquino government has violated agreements mandating that portions of the economic support fund should be allotted for socio-economic amelioration," Gordon said.

Cause-oriented organizations described the agreement in Washington as a "sell-out."

Fidel V. Agcaoili of the Partido ng Bayan said that Manglapus should not have agreed to link the issue of foreign debt to the bases.

Agcaoili said the two issues are entirely separate and linking them in the negotiations would weaken the Philippine position.

He also said that Manglapus should not have allowed the talks to be held in Washington for it considerably weakened the leverage of the Philippines.

Zenaida Uy of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan said that the announcement in Washington comes as "no surprise to the Filipino people."

It is most likely, she said, that U.S. State Secretary George Shultz and Assistant Secretary Michael Armacost may have warned President Aquino that the United States would withdraw political support if the bases agreement were not signed.

Bases Treaty Called 'Betrayal'

HK1710100588 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Cause-oriented groups criticized the scheduled signing by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement.

The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan [Bayan—New Nationalist Alliance] stated that the negotiations held in Manila were just a farce. Here is the view of Bayan official Ed Santualya:

[Begin recording] The regime is trying to make it appear that it upholds the nationalist interest of the nation, but this incident shows that the Aquino government is prepared to sell our independence for any price. [end recording]

On the other hand, the Kabataan Para sa Demokrasya and Nasyonalismo [Kadena—Youth for Democracy and Nationalism] likened Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus to Judas for selling the Philippines for 30 pieces of silver.

Here is Kadena Chairman Joel Adarna:

[Begin recording] When we look back on history, we see Judas's betrayal of Jesus Christ for 30 pieces of silver. If we look at what is happening now, the selling of our sovereignty and independence to the U.S. imperialists by the Aquino regime is a betrayal of the Philippine people. The Philippine people did not put the Aquino government in power to see themselves betrayed by the selling of our sovereignty and our independence. This is also a betrayal by Mr Manglapus. [end recording]

Deo Macalma of Mobile Unit 7 reporting for DZRH News.

Manglapus' Performance Viewed

HK1710051188 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 17 Oct 88 p 4

["Postcript" Column by Federico D. Pascual Jr: "Manglapus Did His Best"]

[Text] An agreement has been hammered out in Washington, DC, providing for \$282 million yearly for 1990 and 1991 (the last two remaining years of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. bases pact) in U.S. economic, military and development aid to the Philippines.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, which first reported this breakthrough, said the agreement will be signed Monday (Tuesday, Manila time). Late yesterday, Malacanang confirmed the report, although there was confusion as to the amount.

Poor Raul Manglapus. The rabidly anti-bases in our midst will now hound him as the man who sold the country down the river.

Let's be kind to our Foreign Secretary. Remember, he was alone out there tangling with them. It was not easy. But I'm sure he did his best.

We should not measure Manglapus' performance on the basis of how much he got. It's not all money. Rather, the entire Philippine effort must be assessed on the basis of what Manglapus and the rest of us were able to deliver.

The six-month bases talks actually provided the occasion for the ventilation of people's sentiments and arguments regarding the presence of foreign bases.

That airing, which was one massive national educational process (thanks to the press, and no thanks to the sleepy government media), was the one substantial high-light of the talks.

The tough bargaining exposed American intentions. That is another success of the whole exercise.

We were able to confirm once again, for instance, the duplicity that has characterized U.S. dealings with us. Take, for example, that \$10-billion carrot called a mini-Marshall Plan which Washington suddenly waved in the direction of Manila at the height of the negotiations.

As occupants of the Malacanang menagerie excitedly jumped about like rabbits, we in media offered some unsolicited advice:

First, the supposed \$10-billion aid plan is precisely that—just a plan. Until you've counted the cash and safely stashed it away, don't believe it, we warned.

Second, the plan is being floated to influence Philippine attitudes toward the bases.

Immediately came the solemn assurance from Washington and the U.S. embassy: No, the mini-Marshall Plan is not tied to the bases. America is giving the aid to you. Flips out of the goodness of our heart, to save democracy.

Mesmerized by the \$10-billion, Malacanang assured us (via Magtanong sa Pangulo [Ask the President]) that our American friends were sincere in their offer of aid and won't you please give them a chance.

But what is unfolding before us is the exact opposite of the American claim, the exact opposite of Malacanang's fervent prayer—that that \$10-billion carrot is not tied to the bases, that it springs from the altruistic heart of Uncle Sam.

American officials have started taking off their masks and warning that the U.S. would drag its feet on the promised \$10-billion aid if the two countries fail to hammer out a satisfactory agreement (meaning satisfactory to them).

And, right on cue, Japan, the American partner in this part of the world, followed through by saying that Japanese contribution to the \$10-billion pot will depend on the base compensation that the Philippines and the U.S. will agree on.

Imagine, our own leaders whetted our appetite. So gullible were they that they even formed a special group to study how we would use the \$10-billion windfall. Binilang na Kaagad ang mga sisiw [They have gone ahead and counted the chickens before they were hatched]!

With almost everybody now panting and salivating for that \$10-billion, how do we back out from the psychological trap into which our naivete had led us? Was that one of the reasons we finally agreed to the \$481-million?

With this valuable lesson, let's hope we can improve on our performance when the hard bargaining starts for the post-1991 bases scenario.

Newspaper Reports Manglapus' Talks in U.S.
HK1510085388 Quezon City MALAYA in English
15 Oct 88 pp 1, 2

[By Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, expected to arrive early next week, faces the tough problem of "selling" to the Filipinos the bases compensation package he is finalizing with American officials in Washington.

Filipinos are expecting the local panel in the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement review to get \$1.2 billion yearly for the use of the U.S. bases here, sources at the Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday said.

They said Manglapus will have his last meeting with U.S. officials today in Washington before he takes off for San Francisco. He is expected in Manila Tuesday or Wednesday.

The foreign office source said he could not be sure whether it is still U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Gaston Sigur, whom Manglapus is meeting today, or other officials in the State Department.

Manglapus met with Sigur Tuesday and Thursday this week.

The source said news from Manglapus's camp in Washington does not give any indication whether developments in the talks are good or bad.

One source said Manglapus was "upset" with the leaks that came out in Manila newspapers Tuesday.

Major Manila dailies reported Tuesday that Manglapus and U.S. officials have agreed on the "hard" or cash component of the bases compensation package amounting to "more than \$500 million but less than \$600 million a year" for the last two years of the RP-U.S. Military Bases Agreement.

The hard component consists of Economic Support Fund, Military Assistance Program and commodities like wheat, cotton, soybeans and Virginia tobacco.

The source also said Manglapus is still working out with Washington officials the "soft" or non-cash component which consists of debt relief, participation in US construction projects in other countries, higher garments quota and procurement of U.S. bases in other countries of commissary goods from the Philippines.

The source said the major problem in the non-cash component is "quantification."

President Aquino has confirmed the agreement on the cash component and the negotiations on the non-cash component of the bases compensation package.

Although Manglapus had denied having agreed to any amount with U.S. officials, diplomatic sources said there is no option left for the Philippines but to accept what the U.S. has said is its maximum offer.

The source close to the negotiations in Washington cited reasons why Manglapus thought it wise to accept the U.S. offer.

The source said when Manglapus talked with Democrat legislators, led by Rep. Stephen Solarz, he was made to realize that the Philippines would not get a better deal if Democrat presidential candidate Michael Dukakis wins on Nov. 8.

"Even those we thought were pro-Filipino U.S. legislators, like Solarz, said we were pricing ourselves out," the source said.

The source also said if no agreement is reached before the Nov. 8 elections, no allocation for the Philippines will be included in the 1989-1990 budget, which is being prepared now and will be submitted to the U.S. congress in January.

If no agreement is reached and therefore no allocation is made for the Philippines, in the U.S. budget, either of two things could happen after September 1989; The U.S. pays nothing or it could continue paying only \$180 million a year.

"Either way, the Philippines loses," the source said.

Thai Daily Interviews Salonga, Laurel on Bases
BK1510034988 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
15 Oct 88 p 1

[From The Chongkhadikit in Manila]

[Text] The Philippines Congress will not allow the military base agreement with the United States to be extended beyond its 1991 expiry date, Senate leader Jovito Salonga said in an exclusive interview yesterday.

He explained that any extension of the agreement will be "unconstitutional."

Senator Salonga quoted Section 25, Article 18 of the Philippines Constitution which states that foreign military bases will not be allowed "except under a treaty duly approved by the Senate and, when the Congress so required, is ratified by a majority of the votes cast by the people in a national referendum."

He said the Senate does not intend to have the military base agreement extended.

The review being conducted currently between the US and the Philippines on the treaty is only for the period up to 1991.

Senator Salonga said: "We are following the example of Thailand which has successfully asked the US to leave its (former) military bases."

He expressed the belief that with the termination of the military base treaty, [the] relationship between the Philippines and the US will be based on a more healthy basis for mutual benefit.

On the other hand, Vice President Salvador Laurel said in a separate interview that "for as long as the military bases are needed to support the interlocking requirements of national and regional security, we will favor a new base treaty with the US under certain conditions."

He named the conditions as:

—The treaty is temporary in character and will not last for more than 10 years and includes a gradual phase out programme.

—The treaty includes conditions most favourable to the Philippines.

—The treaty contains provisions for the joint use of the facilities and for equipping and modernising the Philippines armed forces.

— There must be no interference in the Philippines' internal affairs by the United States.

Vice President Laurel, who has broken his political ties with President Corazon Aquino, now heads the Opposition as chairman of the Union for National Action group comprised of elements opposed to the Aquino government.

Senator Salonga who leads the Liberal Party of which the late Senator Benigno Aquino was secretary general, said that his party was "supportive but not subservient to the Aquino administration."

He said the party "is aware of the shortcomings of the administration but will try to be supportive of the policies it considers good for the people and the country."

Senator Salonga said although Mrs Aquino's husband had been secretary general of the party, the President "had declined to join it because she wishes to be neutral."

The Senate today approved a proposal by President Aquino to postpone the "barangay (village) elections" from the originally scheduled November 14 to February 25 next year.

The new date is the anniversary of the "People Power Revolution" which brought Mrs Aquino to power in 1986.

He said one reason was a number of the barangay were under the control of the Communist Party of the Philippines at present. A period is needed to "clear them" for the elections.

Senate President Salonga praised the government and military for going out into the jungles and hills to fight the insurgency.

Sison Interviewed on U.S. Bases, Other Issues

HK1510073188 Quezon City NATIONAL MIDWEEK in English 12 Oct 88 pp 45-46

[Interview With alleged founder of Communist Party of the Philippines Jose Maria Sison by H. Buenviaje in Mainz, FRG, on 18 September]

[Text] **President Aquino has ordered the cancellation of your Philippine passport. This was after the military filed the charge of subversion against you. What do you think of the charge and the reported passport cancellation? What steps have you taken?**

The charge is baseless. It is based on sheer fabrication. How can I commit subversion when I am busy abroad doing research, writing and lecturing?

I have asked my lawyers both in the Philippines and in Holland to look into the veracity of the reports about the filing of the charge and the passport cancellation; and to inquire into and contest the basis of the charge against me and the cancellation of my passport.

Is it true that you have reassumed your position as chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP]?

I have consistently refused to answer such a question with a categorical yes or no. If I say yes, then I become a witness against myself in Philippine courts. If I say no, then the Philippine military will boast in their psywar campaign that I refuse to assume that position.

The burden of proof is on the part of my Philippine accusers. Unlike in Europe and many other places, the Communist Party is not legal in the Philippines.

Obviously, Philippine military authorities want you to return to the Philippines and fall right into their hands. Can they really effect this?

Philippine military authorities have never reconciled themselves to the fact that I am free abroad because the cases raised by the Marcos regime against me have been automatically wiped out by President Aquino's repeal of Marcos' Proclamation Nos 2045 and 2045-A.

My lawyers in the Philippines and in Holland will see to it that due process is followed regarding any charge against me and the issue of passport cancellation. They

will definitely seek to prevent the bloodthirsty military authorities from getting hold of me. I have enough legal resources as well as options to take.

What are you doing now?

I am very busy doing research, writing and lecturing. I am doing social research in collaboration with academic colleagues in a Dutch university. My next book project is on the social history of the Filipino people.

Alongside the report about the cancellation of your passport is the report about General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's offer to dismantle the material and technical supply station of the Soviet fleet in Cam Ranh Bah in exchange for the dismantling of the U.S. bases in the Philippines. Can you comment on this report?

The offer is welcome. It serves to expose and underscore the aggressive and hegemonistic character of the United States and its military bases, especially in the Pacific.

But it must be understood above all that the U.S. military bases in the Philippines must be dismantled because these violate Philippine sovereignty and territorial integrity; are actively being used to perpetuate the oppression and exploitation of the Filipino people; and bring the threat of nuclear annihilation to them.

These bases will eventually be dismantled by the Filipino people themselves and by a patriotic government unlike the pro-U.S. and reactionary Aquino regime.

The United States is hellbent on keeping its bases in the Philippines. The revolutionary movement has the best prospect of dismantling these bases, especially within the next decade.

Dismantling the U.S. military bases should not be made dependent on the agreement of foreign powers. And the U.S. bases should not be allowed to persist on the basis of the argument that the Soviet fleet has a station in Vietnam.

Will the Aquino government retain the U.S. military bases?

Based on all current signs, yes. The Aquino government is merely trying to up the compensation package, which is now redefined as bases-related aid, plus other old accounting items.

According to reliable information, there is agreement already to increase the bases-related aid from the level of U.S.\$180 million a year to \$360 million a year. In a semantical hocus-pocus, the compensation package will be made to appear far larger by adding other old accounting items to AID credit and grants (economic support fund) and military credit and grants (military component).

How will the U.S. and the Philippine Government go about retaining the U.S. military bases?

They will soon make a two-year or five-year agreement supplementary to the matrix agreement. The supplementary agreement will focus on the compensation package.

Most likely, there will be a proviso for the extension of the military bases by treaty. The fallback position of the conspirators is by an executive agreement, taking the guise of phasing the bases out but in fact extending the life of the bases.

The pro-Aquino coalition in the Senate can round up two-thirds vote to ratify the treaty. A referendum is subsequently to be held to make it appear that the people have approved the forging of their own chains.

It is the U.S. scheme that, in the referendum, the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [LDP—Struggle of Philippine Democrats] and the Union for National Action will provide the spectacle of a "great debate" and restrict the debate to one regarding the price for the retention of the bases. The reactionary mass media and the preprogrammed computers will deliver the "landslide" approval for the continuance of U.S. bases in the Philippines.

Under what conditions will the Philippine revolutionary movement resume negotiations with the Aquino government?

As I said before, the revolutionary movement would be greatly encouraged to consider negotiations on the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal and anti-fascist demands of the people if the Aquino government would only declare the dismantling of the U.S. military bases and agree to the meeting of the representatives of her government and the National Democratic Front in a safe venue abroad.

I am simply making a personal observation and estimate.

How will the revolutionary movement respond to the retention of the U.S. military bases?

The Philippine revolutionary movement will certainly condemn the Aquino regime and the coalition in support of the retention of U.S. military bases as big traitors; and shall gain the political leeway to undertake punitive actions against them commensurate with their treason.

The retention of the U.S. military bases will certainly further incite the people to armed revolution in the same way that the Parity Amendment and the unequal treaties with the United States stirred up the people in the second half of the 1940s.

When will you return to the Philippines?

I shall return to the Philippines in my own good time. My best advisers and I shall choose the optimum conditions for my return.

Definitely, I shall return long before the final offensive of the armed revolution. I am not bored by my stay abroad because I have plenty of work to do and I can communicate easily with the people at home.

Ban on Carrying Firearms Effective 15 October

HK1410022188 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] The ban on the carrying of firearms outside residences or places of business takes effect at midnight tonight [14 October]. It is the start of the 45-day election period of the barangay election as provided for under the Omnibus Election Code. The Commission on Elections, saying that the law governing the barangay poll on November 14 remains operative until an amendatory law is approved, issued en banc Resolution Number 2034 implementing the firearms ban. The resolution provides that the ban be in effect for 30 days before the November 24 barangay poll and for 15 days thereafter. The ban covers all persons in the country except cashiers and disbursing officers while in the performance of their duties and those who, by nature of their official duties, professions, businesses, or occupations, habitually carry large sums of money or valuables.

Ramos Says CAFGU Will Solve Insurgency

HK1410102588 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0700 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] The CAFGU [Citizen's Armed Forces Geographical Units] is a major factor in the resolution of the country's 20-year insurgency problem. This was stated by Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos in his defense of the creation of CAFGU. Ramos opposed Albay Representative Edcel Lagman's proposal to first conduct an experimental stage on the enforcement of the CAFGU. Lagman suggested that the CAFGU should be tried out in a certain place to determine its effectiveness.

Rally Protests Creation of Vigilante Groups

HK1710104388 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Let us hear the report of Jennifer Postigo of Mobile Unit 18:

[Begin recording] Mobile Unit No 18 is still in the city of Manila. We are presently monitoring a protest rally by members of the Association of Democratic Labor Organizations-KMU [Kilusang Mayo Uno—I May Movement] that has been going on since 1300 this afternoon at the Plaza Miranda. The protesters are voicing their opposition to the formation of vigilante groups, CAFGU's [Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Units] and civilian volunteer organizations, which, they claim, are terrorizing labor unions. The demonstrators are now in front of the Department of Labor and Employment and will move on to the U.S. Embassy, where they will continue their demonstration rally. [end recording]

Captive Officer Shot Dead in 'Escape' Attempt

HK1510034088 Hong Kong AFP in English 0339 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Manila, Oct 15 (AFP)—A leader of officers who have mounted coup attempts against the government was shot while trying to escape from a military stockade early Saturday and died from the wounds later, camp officials said.

Former Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Francisco Baula died in a military hospital after being shot in the back and the thigh when he tried to escape from Camp Crame, the country's paramilitary and police headquarters, Colonel Percival Adiong, camp commander said.

Col. Adiong said that according to a military police report, Mr. Baula had climbed to a catwalk on the perimeter of the camp stockade and was about to jump out of the jail.

"After warning shots were made and supplemented with verbal warnings, he refused to heed the soldiers and guards were forced to fire shots to stop him," Col. Adiong told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The cashiered officer had been captured along with two other coup plotters in a nightclub in the city's red-light district last October 2.

Col. Adiong said Mr. Baula had attempted to escape the day after he was captured by attempting to hide in an unused sentry box in the stockade, but that a guard had found him.

Col. Adiong said the attempted jailbreak was still under investigation but that there were no signs of any other similar escape attempts from other captured coup plotters.

Mr. Baula was one of the renegade soldiers who attacked the Air Force headquarters during a coup attempt against the government of President Corazon Aquino on August 28, 1987.

The attempted coup left 53 people dead and about 300 wounded.

Mr. Baula was scheduled to face court martial proceedings for mutiny and related charges.

The main coup leader, discharged colonel Gregorio Honasan, is still at large after escaping from a military prison ship last April.

Baula Death Investigated

HK1710024388 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] Renegade Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Francisco Baula Jr succumbed to complications of massive bleeding and cardiac arrest while undergoing surgery for

gunshot wounds at the Armed Forces Medical Center at the V. Luna Hospital, Quezon City, on October 15. This was the finding of the board of officers headed by Armed Forces of the Philippines' Inspector General Brigadier General Hermogenes Peralta Jr. The board was formed by Armed Forces Chief General Renato de Villa to look into the circumstances of Baula's killing. According to the report, Baula was one of the most trusted military officers of August 28 coup leader Gregorio Honasan. He was shot by jail guards while attempting to escape from his detention cell at Camp Crame early Saturday morning, using a makeshift ladder. The wounded Baula was immediately rushed to the military hospital, but surgeons there failed to save his life. Baula expired at 8:05 in the morning. The report said that after the surgeons closed Baula's abdomen while he was still hooked to the anesthesia machine, he incurred a massive cardiac arrest, coupled by loss of blood. Army spokesman Colonel Oscar Florendo said the surgeons extracted a single .45-caliber slug from Baula's liver and also said his spleen was damaged.

Deliberate Killing Denied

HK1710062388 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] The military has denied accusations that former Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Francisco Baula was deliberately killed last Friday. Baula was said to have attempted to escape from his cell in Camp Crame. According to Armed Forces Spokesman Oscar Florendo, initial investigations showed that no suspicious motives were found in connection with Baula's killing. He said Baula could not have been killed intentionally because no premeditated plot existed. However Baula's family said they will file murder charges against all the military officials and men involved in Baula's death.

Communist Rebel Leader Reportedly Arrested

HK1310143388 Hong Kong AFP in English 1405 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] Cebu, Philippines, Oct 13 (AFP)—Police arrested a communist insurgent leader in this central Philippine city Thursday.

Rose Mercado, described by the military as the deputy secretary of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) party committee for the central Philippines, was arrested along with two other women rebels at a house here, police said.

Mrs. Mercado, 28, was one of three regional representatives of the rebel coalition National Democratic Front (NDF) which held peace talks with the government in December 1986.

A second negotiator, Roman Catholic priest-turned-rebel Rustico Tan, was captured in Manila earlier this year, while the third, Jovito Plaza, was assassinated near Cebu.

Police Lieutenant Romeo Cordoba told reporters the raiding party found propaganda material and other documents during the raid.

The CPP's New People's Army has been waging a 19-year guerrilla war against the Manila government.

President Corazon Aquino has said the government broke the back of the insurgency with the arrests of five CPP Central Committee members earlier this year.

But the CPP founder, Jose Maria Sison, claims the rebels remain on target to seize power within the next decade.

Top Communist Escapes From Detention Cell
HK1210041988 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 12 Oct 88 p 20

[By Jun Velasco and C. Rabago]

[Text] Lingayen, Pangasinan—Francisco Pascual, number 10 in the hierarchy of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), escaped from his detention cell together with two other rebels at around 7:10 Thursday night.

Initial investigation showed that the three escaped by passing through a hole which they made on the ceiling and roofing of their cell in the compound of the Constabulary provincial headquarters.

Pascual, who was a member of the CPP-Central Committee, was arrested sometime last June 24 at Bonoan beach, Dagupan City.

Local police authorities were placed under red alert and were ordered to seal all possible escape routes by Col. Romeo Odi, Pangasinan PC commander.

Col. Odi believed Pascual is still within the vicinity of Lingayen. He said government efforts to recapture the rebels were bright.

Pascual and his two other unidentified companions timed their escape when the guards assigned to them were busy taking their supper, investigators said.

After Pascual was captured last June, his wife took over his position and assumed leadership of the CPP in central and northern Luzon.

Larrazabal's Kidnappers Said Killed in Bombing
HK1710111388 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television
Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 17 Oct 88

[From "GMA News" program]

[Text] The Cebu military made good a threat to bomb a communist rebel hideout in the region. A report from Cebu claimed that 20 rebels were killed when Air Force

fighter planes dropped bombs on Barangay Gaas in Ormoc, Leyte, where millionaire sugar planter Potenciano Larrazabal Sr was kept in captivity.

According to Brigadier General Jesus Hermosa, among those killed in the bombing were Larrazabal's kidnapers. The millionaire sugar planter was released last Saturday after his family paid a ransom of P5 million.

The bombing by the Air Force yesterday reportedly caused residents in the vicinity to evacuate to other areas. It is still not known whether civilians were wounded during the raid.

Military Ordered Not To Start Trouble in Sulu
HK1410105988 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan
in Tagalog 1000 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] in Malacanang, President Aquino today ordered the military in Sulu not to start trouble in the area as reports revealed that the MNLF has beefed up its forces. Southcom [Southern Command] Chief Major General Manuel Cacanando disclosed this to Malacanang newsmen after he had briefed the president on the Mindanao situation. Sel Baisa has the details:

[Begin recording] Cacanando clarified that the additional two battalions deployed to Sulu do not intend to fight, but to prevent a possible disturbance. He said the military will stop the plan of MNLF Chief Nur Misuari to fly their own flag and declare a provisional government in the region. This plan was discovered by the military through its reliable intelligence network. [end recording]

Thailand

Chatchai Comments on U.S. Trade Relations
BK1710033688 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
17 Oct 88 p 1

[Text] Qualified members from the Opposition will be invited to join a government committee to handle international trade, Prime Minister Chatchai Chunchawan told the BANGKOK POST in Phatthaya last night.

He said he had rejected a proposal made by Deputy Prime Minister Phong Sarasin because he wanted the trade committee to include members of opposition parties as well.

The committee, he said, will assist and coordinate with a 19-member panel of similar nature established by Parliament to study the U.S. Trade Bill.

The prime minister said he found another flaw in Mr Phong's proposed international trade committee plan—that there is no specific term for the committee members.

Besides, he said, the trade negotiator must not be the same person. [sentence as published] They must rotate.

Regarding Thai-U.S. trade relations, the prime minister said Thailand's trade relations with the U.S. have always been good and he said the Americans recently agreed to waive taxes on several items of Thai goods.

U.S. trade protectionism, he noted, is not aimed specifically at Thailand, but at all U.S. trading partners.

Columnist Supports Drug Patent Law
BK1410150988 Bangkok NAEON in Thai
10 Oct 88 p 2

[Article by Thiansawang entitled: "Drug Patent: A Domestic and a Foreign Reflection"]

[Text] The government has only a short time to solve the problem of intellectual property protection, on which the United States has exerted pressure from General Prem's government to Major General Chatchai's government. Considering it with a fair mind, we can see that all advanced countries have intellectual property protection laws. Thailand is a country moving toward NIC [newly industrialized country] status. It is also a civilized country, like those countries it trades with. Therefore, we should accept the code of conduct that is seen as a rule of practice, as in politics and trade, for coexistence in world society. As for intellectual property protection laws, sometimes we have to make compromises according to the situation. We should not just consider it an issue of losing our independence and sovereignty, for this is a misunderstanding. Sometimes, it is not correct to stubbornly think of something as an issue of losing face and to use this as grounds for an objection.

The issue of intellectual property protection laws is worth studying and understanding for both its positive and negative points. However, in the past, information on this issue has always been negative. We should try to consider intellectual protection laws in another dimension so we can use this information as the basis for correct considerations, which is better than just judging who is right and who is wrong.

There are three kinds of laws granting protection for inventors to prevent copying and counterfeiting. They are the patent law, copyright law, and trademark law. Among the three laws, the patent law has the greatest effect on national development and gives the shortest protection period.

Thailand has had a patent law since 1979, but it does not cover drugs. As the world situation changes due to increased competition, the call for enacting a drug patent law increases. Let us talk about the benefits of a patent law to see who stands to benefit from it.

The first group is "the people."

When people are ill, they have to depend on medicine, both medicine produced locally and in other countries. The medicine that would be protected by a drug patent

law is medicine that has been researched and tested to make sure it will not have a negative impact. This is to protect the reputation of the drug producers who have to manufacture good-quality, standardized drugs. A drug patent law would in turn guarantee that consumers get good-quality medicine and that there are no copies of the drug.

The next group that stands to benefit is the "government."

This group is responsible for finding sources of quality drugs for the people. Therefore, the government should promote investment in the pharmaceutical industry to meet the people's demands. Sometimes new drug products have to come from multinational pharmaceutical companies. The government should create and maintain the investment atmosphere by inviting those multinational companies to invest in the country and by enacting protection laws for them. Multinational companies have substantially slowed down their investment in Thailand and have turned to countries with protection laws—such as South Korea, Taiwan, and Japan—thereby affecting our country's economic and technological development.

The third group is "local pharmaceutical companies."

This group maintains the largest drug market share. It is a small group, but one that has largely opposed the drug patent issue. This group is likely to benefit the most from drug patent protection because after the patent protection period is over, this group will be able to produce a drug for sale without investing in research since someone has already researched and produced the drug and it is trusted in the market.

Then, there is "the group of multinational pharmaceutical companies"

This group needs drug patents to protect their inventions and will use the benefits from the protection to invest in the research and development of new drug products. This is a driving force in bringing new products to the market.

The last group is the "Thai researchers." There are many Thai researchers who are not inferior to foreign researchers. But, they cannot disclose or pass on their technology because there is no protection law. They are afraid that their work will be copied if disclosed. When researchers invent new products, they have to live in other countries that have a protection law in order to seek justice for their research. This has caused a brain-drain and standstill in technology transfer, which delays national development. If Thai researchers succeed in their inventions, the value of the sale of their inventions throughout the world could be worth more than the total value of the drug products on the market. Everything mentioned above is a positive effect of a drug patent law. Is it true, as some people say, that a drug patent law will cause higher drug prices? In fact, there are more than 5,000

types of medicine for sale in our country's market. The people and pharmacists can select old medicines and do not necessarily use new products. If new products are expensive, no matter how good they are, the people will still use old products since there are choices. If drugs are expensive and there are no buyers, the products will not exist. If the government enacts a drug patent law, it can set up fair drug prices. Charges that a drug patent law will have an impact on pharmaceutical producers in the country are also not true. Only 4 percent of the total drug products in our country are still under patent protection. The others are beyond the patent protection period. This period is very short. After a period of less than 5 years, producers in the country can produce a drug for sale.

The issue of a drug patent law is an issue that concerns international laws, politics, and trade because drugs are related to human lives. Therefore, the setting up of any attitude or policy must be carefully considered, taking into account the interests of all sides as much as possible. Concern for the prestige of one's own country is a good thing. But, narrow-minded concern will not bring progress to national development. Don't forget that world change is neverending. If we cannot catch up with the world and the situation, Thailand will be branded as an underdeveloped country. Are we are going to become a NIC.?

Paper Reports on Arrest of Americans in Laos

*BK1510153988 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai
12 Oct 88 p 6*

[Text] It is reported that an American couple, Mr James Koff, 40, and Mrs Donna Long, 32, who are members of an association searching for MIA's in Vietnam, traveled to Thailand under the guise of tourists. They hired a boat at Khong Chiam District of Ubon Ratchathani Province on the Mekong River to float plastic bags containing U.S., Vietnamese, Soviet, Lao, and Thai currency bearing a message offering a reward to anyone who could locate an American prisoner of war in Laos. They were also making a videotape of what they were doing. They were arrested by Lao guerrilla militiamen on espionage charges on 3 October and were sent by the Lao authorities to Vientiane. The fate of the couple is not known. It is reported, however, that the Lao Government has demanded a fine for their release.

According to a report from our correspondent on 11 October, before they were arrested by the Lao authorities, James Koff and Donna Long stayed at the Pathum Rat Hotel in Ubon Ratchathani Province. They told officials that Koff was a teacher and Long a freelance writer. They said they had come to visit the area where the Mekong and Mun Rivers meet, at Khong Chiam District. They were taken to Mai Sisamphan village after their arrest.

After learning of the incident, Ubon Ratchathani Governor Sub-Lieutenant Danai Ketsiri contacted the Lao authorities to seek the release of the couple. The talks

seemed likely to be successful, but were halted after Lao villagers discovered the plastic bags containing various currencies and the message offering a reward of \$2.4 million or about 60 million baht. The Lao side feared the two Americans might be spies and refused to release them. The U.S. consul general in Udon Thani Province, Mrs Margaret [McMillion], tried to contact the Lao authorities to help the couple, but without success. Laos demanded a fine in return for their release.

Our correspondent reported that James Koff and Donna Long are not man and wife; they are just friends. The woman was once an AP reporter, but had resigned. The couple are still detained at Mai Sisamphan Village, and have not been sent to Vientiane. Lao soldiers took the couple to a prison in Pakse District of Champassak Province, pending investigations by high-ranking officials from Vientiane. Our correspondent was informed by merchants doing business along the border that the fine for the release of the couple could be very high if contact is made through relatives or American officials as the two people have been charged with spying.

Police Lieutenant Colonel Phen Kanthanyakit, Chief Police Inspector of Khong Chiam District, told our reporter that it is not true that Laos sent officials to contact the Thai authorities, demanding fines for the return of the two Americans. If there was any contact, he and Khong Chiam District headman Nopphadon Sarikabut would know about it. However, up to now there has been no contact with Lao representatives.

Police Lt Col Phen went on to say that if the two Americans had told us of their intentions, such an incident would not have happened. He said he is willing to provide assistance and advice as he and the Khong Chiam District headman have been working in the district for a long time, and are acquainted with local Lao authorities. Two days ago a group of three to four westerners, believed to be members of the same association, traveled to the area in a grey van. They did not contact officials, but walked around the Araya Restaurant along the Mekong River. They gave envelopes containing \$1 each to villagers and children. After receiving the report, he sent police officials to observe the situation. However, when the westerners saw the officials, they drove away. He said that he has no right to prevent or arrest them because giving money is not against the law and the U.S dollars are real money that can be cashed into Thai currency.

Pol Lt Col Phen disclosed that at 1000 on 11 October, the U.S. Consul in Udon Thani Province phoned him to seek further information on the two Americans arrested in Laos and also sent a letter to thank him for his initial help. He said, however, that the two Americans did not act properly because they did not inform the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok of their moves. Even the U.S. consul in Udon Thani Province did not know what they were doing here.

Out correspondent also reported that the fisherman who sailed the boat for the two Americans to float money in the Mekong River has been identified as Luam Chupsing, of Ban Dankao of Khong Chiam District. After the incident, he was called in for investigations by Pol Lt Col Phen, and was fined for 1,000 baht for illegally leaving the country. Luam disclosed that while he was beside the river, the American couple contacted him about hiring his boat. He was paid 1,500 baht to take the two Americans for a ride along the Mekong River bank from Ban Dankao, past the Mekong River Operation Unit's station and the Araya Restaurant, to the area where the Mekong and Mun Rivers meet. During the ride, the two Americans placed money contained in plastic bags into the river and shot videotape. He was then forced to sail his boat to the Lao side in the area of Mai Sisamphan village. There were about four or five children playing along the bank. The two Americans were filming until he the two Americans were arrested by the Lao guerrilla militiamen. He was later freed.

Concerning this issue, Deputy Director General of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department Pratyathawi Thawethikun said that he had already checked with the Political Affairs Department about the matter and was told that they had not received any official report. He learned of the arrest of the two Americans from the press. The arrest took place in Lao territory. According to practice, the U.S. Embassy in Thailand has to take responsibility for its own people. We can do nothing because the Foreign Ministry has not yet been contacted by the U.S. Embassy for help.

Pratyathawi said that it is difficult to prevent the recurrence of such incidents because if the Americans come into the country as tourists, we cannot prevent them from entering. Moreover, they also did not give any clues as to what they would be doing. If we had known, we would have warned them that what they were planning was not correct; we might even have banned them from entering, as in the case of Lt Col "Bo" Gritz who sneaked into Laos.

Chatchai Rejects Border Development Proposal
BK1710032588 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
17 Oct 88 p 3

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan yesterday rejected a Laotian proposal for the joint development of Ban Romklao.

Maj-Gen Chatchai said Ban Romklao, the scene of a bitter conflict between Laotian and Thai forces last year, is in Phitsanulok province and that the proposal from Vientiane is not acceptable.

In an approach to the Foreign Ministry, Laos proposed joint development of the 80-square-kilometre remote border tract.

Returning to issues in Bangkok, Maj-Gen Chatchai said he would support Deputy Interior Minister Santi Chaiwirattana in the no-confidence motion scheduled for October 20 before he leaves for Indonesia the same day.

Chat Thai MPs would vote for the Social Action Party minister, he said. "There'll be no problem and Khun [Mister] Santi will certainly survive."

In an apparent reference to Mr Santi's artesian well controversy, the premier was quoted as saying democracy had come this far and should not be set back with the possible downfall of a minister in a no-confidence vote.

In another development, the Government will throw a dinner party for the 357 coalition and Opposition MPs at the Ambassador Hotel on October 17.

Preview To Talks With Lao Military Delegation
BK1610013488 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
16 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] Thailand and Laos will not discuss politics during the three-day visit of Laotian Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Sisavat Keobounphan starting tomorrow [17 October], Deputy Supreme Commander Gen Phat Akhanitbut said yesterday.

But he said general issues such as cooperation and development of both armed forces would be discussed.

The Foreign Ministry is handling politics and the military would talk mainly about assistance, he said.

Spokesman of the Supreme Command Lt-Gen [Lieutenant General] Narudon Detpradiyut said Gen Sisavat's visit will strengthen relations between the armed forces of the two countries and topics such as the general situation will be on the agenda.

During the Laotian Army Chief's stay, the armed forces will stage northeast classical dance shows to boost relations and create a better atmosphere since the shows will be in the northeast dialect similar to the Laotian language.

ASEAN Dilemma on Cambodia Issue Viewed
BK1310002588 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
13 Oct 88 p 4
[Editorial: "ASEAN Dilemma on Khmer Vote"]

[Text] The current debate at the United Nations over the reference to the Khmer Rouge in the ASEAN-backed resolution on Kampuchea is crucial to the organisation's attention to ensure continued international support for its position on Kampuchea.

For the first time since the international community started supporting the resolution, an attempt is being made to condemn the Khmer Rouge's behaviour prior to their ouster from power—a move that has caused a split between major supporters of the resolution.

China opposes the wording, which calls for the non-return to the "universally-condemned practices and policies of a recent past," and prefers the description of "unacceptable" while the US finds the wording sufficient but has said it may not support the resolution if condemnation of the Khmer Rouge is watered down any further.

ASEAN, therefore, is faced with a most difficult task and its options are limited. It needs to satisfy international abhorrence and desire for the United Nations to condemn the Khmer Rouge while at the same time ensure that the international community does not forget that the primary cause of the Kampuchean conflict is the illegal occupation by Vietnam.

Although a decision to include condemnation of the Khmer Rouge in this year's resolution will most certainly mean substantial support from Western nations, ASEAN runs the risk of losing Chinese support. The condemnation would also benefit Vietnam which has been trying for years to deflect international attention from its occupation of Kampuchea and pass on responsibility for the conflict onto the Khmer Rouge. At the same time, however, ASEAN runs the risk of losing credibility if the wording is watered down whereby making criticism inconsequential. China should realise ASEAN's predicament.

Although the condemnation of the Khmer Rouge is indeed a new element in this year's resolution, the primary target of ASEAN and international condemnation continues to be Vietnam's occupation. This will not change as long as Vietnam continues to occupy the war-torn country. It would be more detrimental to ASEAN and China if support for the resolution drops particularly after all the hard work over the past nine years in maintaining the momentum and increasing the vote.

ASEAN has said that a lasting solution to the Kampuchean problem does not end simply with a Vietnamese withdrawal but with a political solution that ensures lasting peace and a non-aligned Kampuchea in which Kampuchean can exercise their right of self-determination. ASEAN does not seek to exclude completely the Khmer Rouge but has adopted the realistic approach that Democratic Kampuchea play a part, although not a dominant role, in the new government with the other three factions. For these reasons it is hoped that China will support the current move in the United Nations to ensure that the world continues to send a clear signal that it wants Vietnamese troops to leave Kampuchea.

Talks Held With SRV Vice Foreign Minister
BK1510012088 Bangkok THE NATION in English
15 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] Thailand and Vietnam yesterday held talks on the Kampuchean conflict but failed to narrow their differences prior to a working group meeting with the four Khmer factions and other ASEAN countries.

M.R. Thep Thewakun, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's Political Affairs Department, told a press conference that he discussed various aspects of the Kampuchean conflict with the Vietnamese delegates, led by Vice Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co, in an effort to find common positions on the issue.

Thep, who headed the Thai side, described the meeting as fruitful although the two parties still have different views on Kampuchea including schedule of the Vietnamese troop withdrawals, the national reconciliation policy, the future government of Kampuchea, as well as an international conference on Kampuchea.

He declined to give details on the discussion saying that the outcome of yesterday's meeting will be further discussed in a working group meeting next Monday in Jakarta.

Senior officials from ASEAN, Vietnam and Laos will join representatives from the four Khmer factions in a meeting to recommend whether there should be another informal meeting.

Commenting on the upcoming Sino-Soviet summit, Thep said both Moscow and Beijing have expressed their willingness to see the Kampuchean conflict resolved. "The summit talks might have some impacts on the effort to end the Kampuchean conflict resolved." "The summit talks might have some impacts on the effort to end the Kampuchean conflict," he said.

Thep said he did not know if the two superpowers have already struck any agreement on how to solve the ten-year-old problem. But Beijing has shown a positive attitude by agreeing to exchange visits of senior officials.

Thep and his delegation will on Monday leave for Jakarta for the working group meeting on Kampuchea. The talks are expected to last three days.

Two Burmese Student Leaders Arrested in Bangkok
BK1510022088 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
15 Oct 88 p 1

[Excerpt] Special branch police arrested two Burmese student leaders at Thammasat University on Thursday [13 October], an authoritative source said yesterday.

The arrests were seen as a toughening of government policy against anti-Rangoon activities by illegal Burmese immigrants in Thailand, the source said.

Win Moe and Aung Naing, both secretaries to the All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU), were arrested one day before they were to take part in a rally at Ramkhamhaeng University to commemorate the October 14, 1973 student uprising.

The rally was organised by Ramkhamhaeng's Satchatham party members.

The two Burmese were initially charged with illegal entry, said the source.

They might be further charged with activities against the Burmese Government, the source said.

The two Burmese were brought to Bangkok from a Karen camp opposite Mae Sot District of Tak on Monday with the help of a retired army general, the source said.

The two student leaders, along with some 20 other Burmese, also participated in a panel discussion on the situation in Burma at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand last Wednesday.

The source said eight of the Burmese are staying in Thailand illegally.

Security officials are closely watching the movements of Burmese students and civilians in Thailand.

The source added that Thai authorities are concerned that their movements may jeopardise Thai-Burmese relations and may be interpreted by Rangoon as a sign the Thai Government is giving them tacit support.

The source said Win Moe and Aung Naing will be prosecuted for illegal entry, fined and deported. [passage omitted]

Daily Views Burmese Student Struggle
BK1510025688 Bangkok THE NATION in English
15 Oct 88 p 8

[Editorial: "Burmese Students Face a Precarious Future"]

[Text] The struggle for freedom and democracy in Burma between the military regime in Rangoon and various dissident groups entered a new stage this week with the registration of the 16th political party and the Karen rebels' seizure of a government outpost near the Thai-Burmese border in which 50 dissident students reportedly took part.

The number of dissidents, mostly students, fleeing arrest in Rangoon and other cities to join minority rebels along the border has now exceeded 5,000. Arms training of some of these dissidents by their ethnic minority hosts is now under way in several border camps. A military spokesman recently said the dissidents are potential armed insurgents and they will be treated as such.

Most of these dissidents hope to win democracy by overthrowing the military regime in an armed struggle. They believe that the newly-introduced multi-party system as well as the promise of general elections is only part of the military regime's tactics of holding on to power indefinitely.

Many of their co-protesters in the recent uprising, who are dissident politicians who have not gone underground, have formed political parties although many of them still doubt that the promise of general elections will be fulfilled by the military regime in good faith. So far, all the 16 parties have not committed themselves to participating in the general elections.

With the introduction of a multi-party system and a promise of general elections, the military regime has divided the forces behind the recent anti-government uprising. The students at the border no longer see eye to eye with dissident politicians who have formed political parties in Rangoon. And the politicians are divided among themselves—into at least 16 parties so far.

With such divisiveness, the opposition parties have virtually no chance of winning enough votes to defeat the National Unity Party in case the general elections are held soon. (The National Unity Party—a new name of the dreaded ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party—has not registered as a new party.)

By registering their parties, dissident politicians have practically accepted the military regime's legitimacy in leading political reforms, regardless of whether they will boycott or participate in the general elections.

The students at the border now have no better choice but to rely more on their ethnic minority hosts and, perhaps, learn the hard fact of jungle life—that nothing comes easy. And their accommodation as well as arms training is not free. By taking part in the recent attack on the government border outpost, the students have been dragged into the protracted struggle for political autonomy of ethnic states, which has little or nothing to do with their own concern for restoration of democracy in Burma.

'Restraint' Urged in Presenting Foreign News
BK1310035388 Bangkok THE NATION in English
13 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] The Foreign Ministry yesterday urged both government and privately-owned TV stations to exercise restraint in presenting foreign news that does not conform to Thai national interests.

The request was contained in a letter issued by the Foreign Ministry signed by Pratyathawi Tawethikun, deputy director-general of the Information Department.

The letter asked for cooperation from TV stations which broadcast satellite news about foreign countries such as Burma and Afghanistan.

Pratyathawi pointed out some Thai translations of satellite news broadcasts were incorrect and could cause misunderstandings between Thailand and friendly countries.

He called on TV stations to make enquiries to the ministry if there are doubts in their translations. [sentence as published]

Chawalit Signs Military Reshuffle Order

*BK1610015488 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
16 Oct 88 p 2*

[Text] Acting Supreme Commander Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut has signed an order reshuffling a number of officers in the Supreme Command and the Air Force.

Transferred by the order are:

—Air Marshal Suwit Chantharapraait, attached to the Royal Thai Air Force [RTAF], to Air Force Assistant Commander-in-Chief, replacing ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Wira Kitchathon who resigned to take over the chairmanship of Thai Airways International;

—Maj-Gen [Major General] Sombun Narksin, officer attached to the Office of the Supreme Commander, to the Supreme Command;

—Maj-Gen Chatchaloem Lekhawanitthamphithak, attached to the Royal Thai Army, to Office of the Army Commander-in-Chief;

—Maj-Gen Anuwat Thapkhai, attached to the Office of the Supreme Commander, to the Supreme Command;

—Maj-Gen Phon Rotphonphichan, attached to the Office of the Supreme Commander, to the Supreme Command;

—Air Vice Marshal [AVM] Pramot Wirutmasen, attached to the Office of the Supreme Commander, to the Supreme Command;

—AVM Chumphon Rumrattana, attached to the RTAF, to the Supreme Command;

—RTAF specialist Group Captain Dusit Chamroenroei, to the RTAF; and

—Group Captain Banchong Chantrachot and Group Captain Prakhon Wichitramut to become RTAF specialists.

Vietnam

'Joint Communique' Issued on Troop Withdrawal

*BK1610050588 Hanoi VNA in English
0439 GMT 16 Oct 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 16—The Defence Ministries of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea today issue the following joint communique: [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese at 1115 GMT on 16 October, in a similar report on the communique, renders the first paragraph as follows: "Today, 16 October, the SRV Ministry of National Defense issued a communique on the withdrawal of Vietnamese Army Volunteers from Cambodia. The communique said:"]

In furtherance of the agreement between the Governments of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea made public on May 26, 1988 on the withdrawal of 50,000 troops and the Command of the Vietnamese volunteer army from Kampuchea in 1988;

Subsequent to the withdrawal of the command of the Vietnamese volunteer army, of various units of the command, construction, supply and technical forces during June and of a number of their units during July, August and September 1988;

The Defence Ministries of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea have agreed that:

—The remaining units will be withdrawn monthly from now to the end of 1988, and the last contingent of the 50,000 volunteers to be withdrawn in 1988 will be repatriated by land and water during the month of December;

—The Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea welcome representatives of any countries, international organisations and reporters of news and press agencies, radio and television, and all others concerned about the Kampuchea issue who wish to come and observe the withdrawal in December 1988.

Hanoi Notes Soviet, French Remarks on Cambodia

*BK1610142488 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 16 Oct 88*

[Text] According to AFP, on the second day of their talks in Paris, Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze and his French counterpart Dumas noted effective developments in the search for a solution on Cambodia, thus helping to ease tension in the region.

The Soviet Union and France held that the third meeting next month in Paris between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk will vigorously intensify efforts to seek a solution to the Cambodian conflict.

Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Vasilyev stressed that the world community would absolutely not allow the Khmer Rouge to return to power in Cambodia.

U.S. Opposition to Khmer Rouge Cited

*BK1610142888 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 14 Oct 88*

[Text] After the meeting between Prince Sihanouk and U.S. President Reagan, the U.S. side stressed an acceptable solution which comprises measures aimed at preventing the Khmer Rouge from returning to power in Cambodia.

The Voice of America reported that during his meeting with Prince Sihanouk, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz expressed his support for the establishment of a coalition government after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops. He said: We should neither let the Khmer Rouge elements control the coalition government nor allow them to return to power in Cambodia.

Talks in Bangkok Prepare for Jakarta Meeting

BK1510151588 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] On 14 October in Bangkok, Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co, met Political Director Thep Thewakun and some other high-ranking officials of Thai Foreign Ministry.

Attending the meeting, on the Vietnamese side, were assistant to the foreign minister Dang Nghiem Hoanh and Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand Le Mai.

The two sides exchanged views on preparations for the next working group meeting in Jakarta among the various Cambodian sides and those countries concerned which participated in the Jakarta informal meeting [JIM].

The exchange of views took place in a constructive and friendly atmosphere. Both sides agreed that the working group should discuss and take specific steps to implement the conclusions of the JIM and carry on the dialogue process in order to reach a political solution to Cambodia.

Both sides thought that there had been more mutual understanding and believed that the exchange of views would positively contribute to the results of the meeting of the coming working group.

Vietnam Socialist Party Disbanded After 42 Years

BK1610040188 Hanoi VNA in English
1532 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 15—The Vietnam Socialist Party today declares that it has terminated its activities after 42 years of existence. In a statement read at the farewell meeting held at the party's office here, the secretary general, Nguyen Xien, said that the founding of the Socialist Party on July 22, 1946 was aimed at rallying the patriotic and progressive intellectuals trained before the August Revolution in 1945. It has played an active role in broadening the national united front for the defence and consolidation of the young revolutionary power and defeating the scheme of the imperialists and their henchmen to divide the Vietnamese intellectuals at that time.

Nowadays, the statement said, there remain very few intellectuals belonging to the pre-revolution generation and those who are members of the Socialist Party are

already very advanced in age. Therefore, at its final congress held on July 21 and 22, 1988 the party issued a resolution declaring the termination of its activities.

In his speech on the occasion, Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, highly praised the Socialist Party's contributions to the success of the national people's democratic revolution and the present, initial stage of socialist construction in Vietnam, especially in the building of the Constitution; development of culture, science, and techniques; and in the education and training of the new contingent of intellectuals of the country.

Trade Union Congress Opening Reported

Do Muoi on Union Activities

BK1410035588 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] The Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions Secretariat and the Council of Ministers Standing Committee met in Hanoi on 11 October to exchange views, evaluate the workers movement and trade unions' activities in the past, and discuss the relations between trade unions and state organs in preparation for the Sixth National Trade Union Congress.

Comrade Duong Xuan An provided a roundup report on the outcome of trade union congresses at levels from provinces down to the grass roots. It was reported that this time the trade union congresses at various levels had been held in a truly democratic and open spirit in accordance with the watchword: trade union congresses at any levels must tackle the tasks belonging to their own levels. That is why most of the petitions made by workers and civil servants at the trade union congresses held by various provinces, cities, sectors, and 31,000 grass-roots trade unions have been solved locally.

Addressing the meeting, Chairman Do Muoi expressed hope that trade unions will regularly and promptly reflect to responsible state organs the feelings and aspirations of their workers and civil servants in production and everyday life in order to help the government achieve better results in its economic, cultural, and social management. Mass media organs must promptly disseminate information on activities of the workers movement. As for specific petitions made by trade unions, the Council of Ministers will study them carefully and include them in the work schedules of itself as well as of various ministries so as to tackle them one by one in a practical manner.

News Conference Held in Hanoi

BK1510045288 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] The Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions [VCTU] held a news conference in Hanoi this morning on Vietnam's sixth trade union congress. Comrade Duong Xuan An, general secretary of the VCTU, presided over the news conference.

Attending were representatives of various press agencies and radio and television stations at the central level and in Hanoi. Also present at the news conference were a large number of Hanoi-based correspondents of various foreign press agencies.

Comrade Duong Xuan An pointed out the purpose and significance of the sixth VCTU congress and answered many questions raised by local and foreign newsmen.

As has already been announced, the sixth VCTU congress will open on 17 October 1988 with the participation of 839 delegates.

Foreign Delegations Arrive

*BK1610030488 Hanoi VNA in English 1518 GMT
15 Oct 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 15—Twenty foreign delegations have arrived to attend the Sixth National Congress of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions due to open here next Monday.

They are of the Central Council of Trade Unions of the Soviet Union, the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions, the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU), the National Union of Angolan Workers (UNTA), the Central Council of the Afghan Trade Unions (CCATU), the All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions, the Centre for Cuban Workers (CCW), the Central Council of Hungarian Trade Unions (CCHTU), the Mongolian General Council of Trade Unions (MGCTU), the Sandinist Congress of Workers (SCW), of Nicaragua, the International Trade Union Unity Committee of Australia, the French General Confederation of Labour (CGT), the Trade Unions of the Philippines and Allied Services (TUPAS), the National Association of Trade Unions (NATU), the National Congress of Workers (NCW-KATIPUNAN) of the Philippines, the May 1st Movement Labor Center, the National Congress of Thai Labour (NCT), the Free Labour Congress of Thailand (FLCT), the Thai Trade Union Congress (TTUC), and the National Workers' Center of Thailand (NWCT).

Further on Foreign Delegations

*BK1710093588 Hanoi VNA in English
0720 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 17—Nine more foreign delegations arrived here on October 15 and 16 for the 6th congress of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions [VFTU].

They are from the World Federation of Trade Unions led by General Secretary Ibrahim Zakaria; the Laos Federation of Trade Unions; the Central Council of Trade Unions of Albania; the Central Council of Trade Unions of Bulgaria; the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions; the Italian Confederation of Trade Unions; the

Central Council of Trade Unions of Romania; the Central Council of Trade Unions of Czechoslovakia; and the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea.

So far, 29 foreign delegations have arrived here to attend the 6th Congress of the VFTU.

Congress Opens; Nguyen Van Linh Speaks

*BK1710114388 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] The Sixth National Trade Union Congress of Vietnam opened in Hanoi on Monday [17 October]. Present at the congress were 839 delegates representing about 4 million trade unionists of more than 300,000 [as heard] trade union organizations throughout the country. Also present at the congress were Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV; Pham Van Dong and Le Duc Tho, advisers to the party Central Committee; Vo Chi Cong, president of the State Council; Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly; and many other senior leaders.

Foreign delegations include the World Federation of Trade Union; the Soviet Central Council of Trade Unions; the Lao Federation of Trade Unions; the Kampuchean Trade Union Federation; the trade union organizations of Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Albania, Romania, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Yugoslavia, France, Italy, Japan, Australia, Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Angola, South Africa, India, the Philippines, Thailand, and Indonesia and many others.

In his opening speech, President of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions Pham The Duyet said: At this congress, representatives of the working class and the working people will send to the party and state their opinions and aspirations in an open, constructive, and responsible spirit.

Mr Pham The Duyet said:

[Begin Nguyen The Duyet recording in Vietnamese fading into English translation] The working class, laboring people, and trade union organizations in the whole country assign the congress with heavy and glorious tasks. Realizing this responsibility, each of us has to concentrate our mind, efforts, and in a spirit of renovation, let us work with a sense of responsibility, real democracy for the cause of the working class, laboring people, and trade union organizations. [end recording]

Next, Mr Duong Xuan An, secretary general of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions, delivered a report on the situation and tasks of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions. He said: In the coming years, the federation will have the task of encouraging workers and laborers to apply themselves to the

new mechanism of economic management, do production, practice thrift, and to develop trade unions in economic establishments outside the state sector.

Regarding the external affairs of Vietnam trade unions in the years to come, Mr Duong Xuan An said: The Vietnam Trade Union Federation will strengthen coordination of actions with international trade unions in the struggle for peace, democracy, development, and social progress. The Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions will continue to widen ties with the laborer movements and trade union organizations of Laos, Kampuchea, the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, the World Federation of Trade Unions, and trade union organizations of all other countries.

In the afternoon session, Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh made a speech. He said: In the recent past, although the socioeconomic situation of Vietnam is full of difficulties, the Vietnamese working class and people still maintain their revolutionary tradition and their loyalty to the party and state.

The party general secretary pointed out:

[Begin Nguyen Van Linh recording in Vietnamese fading into English translation] The contingent of workers rallied in the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions are playing a very important role in the national economy and in many other domains in society. They constitute the main force called upon to create step by step the deep changes in our country. About 4 million workers, employees, and trade union members of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions have been and will be a reliable mainstay of our party and state.

On this occasion, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, I would like to praise the working class, the manual and brain workers of our country for their great and worthy contributions to the cause of building and defending the homeland. [end recording]

General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh end also affirmed that the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions should renew its contents and methods of activity, renew its organization, and expand its sphere of activities. He stressed that [words indistinct] trade union organizations is not only a task of the working class and the laboring people of Vietnam but also the responsibility of the party and state.

Also at the session on Monday afternoon, many foreign delegates expressed their greetings to the sixth national trade union congress, considering it an important event of the Vietnamese working people.

Further on Congress Opening

*BK1710052588 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] The Sixth Congress of Vietnamese Trade Union was solemnly opened this morning, 17 October, at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi, with the participation of 839 delegates representing workers, civil servants, and laboring people throughout the country.

Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh; Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State; Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly, attended and participated in the presidium. Comrades Pham Van Dong and Le Duc Tho, advisers to the party Central Committee, were also on hand. In attendance were also nearly 40 trade union and workers delegations from various countries around the world.

Following the opening speech by Comrade Pham The Duyet, chairman of the Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions [VCTU], Comrade General Secretary Duong Xuan An presented a report on the status and tasks of the VCTU Executive Committee. The report assessed the workers and civil servants movement and the VCTU's activities over the past 5 years and pointed out the orientation and tasks of the workers and civil servants movement and trade unions' activities in the national renovation process and in strengthening solidarity and the unity of action with the world's laboring people and workers movement.

Delegation Visits UK To Discuss Refugee Problems

*BK1410161588 Hanoi VNA in English
1506 GMT 14 Oct 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA/OANA October 14—A Vietnamese delegation led by Vu Khoan, assistant to the foreign minister, paid a working visit to London from October 10-12 at the invitation of the British Foreign Office.

The delegation was received by Tim Eggar, deputy foreign secretary, with whom it discussed issues of mutual concern.

It held a second round of talks with a delegation of the British Government and the Hong Kong administration led by McLaren, assistant deputy foreign secretary. The two sides discussed ways of solving problems arising from the entry of Vietnamese boat people into Hong Kong after June 16, 1988. The discussions took place in a friendly and constructive atmosphere.

The two sides welcomed the progress made in preventing illegal departures following the first round of talks held in Hanoi on August 3-4 and recognized the importance of the Orderly Departure Programme. The two sides called on other countries to receive more Vietnamese boat people entering Hong Kong after June 16, 1988. The two sides agreed on the phased repatriation of

Vietnamese in Hong Kong who had earlier sent their applications with the consent in principle of the British side to provide financial aid and the participation of the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. The two sides reaffirmed their intention to maintain close relations with a view to implementing the agreements already reached.

State Council Leader Speaks at VFF Congress
BK1410122988 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 13 Oct 88

["Talk of the Week" feature]

[Summary from poor reception] "The congress of the Fatherland Front of Ho Chi Minh City was held late last September in the spirit of all for a democratic, stable life for the people. It was one of the active preparations for the Vietnam Fatherland Front national congress, which will be convened early next November.

"The words renovation and democracy were often mentioned in congress reports. They were also the subject of talks, exchanges, and debate outside the congress. This alone points to the fact that democracy and renovation have become an urgent demand of people from all walks of life in Vietnam.

"Vice President of the State Council Nguyen Huu Tho came and spoke to the congress. Though his speech was short, it received a great deal of applause since it dealt with democracy and other problems of great concern. After criticizing the [words indistinct] way of working of the city's Fatherland Front, Nguyen Huu Tho called for a harder struggle against conservatism, bureaucracy, inertia, and other social negative phenomena. He pointed out: This struggle, though unlike the previous struggle against the enemy, will be fierce one. He said further: I think that whether this congress is successful or not depends on your courage to struggle in the coming days. Democracy cannot be restored by patronage but by struggle. As an organization rallying masses, the VFF in its localities at this time has exerted its influence on certain circles."

Over the past 13 years, since the liberation of Ho Chi Minh City, more than 5,500 intellectuals, including hundreds of professors and those with doctorates and masters, have joined the CPV. The party's spirit of renovation has a great impact on them and in the congress forum they have called for a more active role of the city's Fatherland Front, and better conditions for their life, work, creation, and contributions.

Also present at the congress were delegations of Overseas Vietnamese organizations. Bui Van Nam Son, head of the delegation of the Association of Vietnamese in the FRG, said: The policy of renovation at present is the decisive turning of strategic importance. There have

appeared conditions for the setting up of a united and solidarity front among the 2 million Overseas Vietnamese. This is what the VFF has to pay attention to.

Agreement on Australian Satellite Stations
BK1610031088 Hanoi VNA in English
1522 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 15—A contract to develop and broaden Vietnam's international telecommunications system through INTELSAT has been signed here between the Vietnam General Department of Posts and Telecommunications and the Overseas Telecommunications Commission (OTC) of Australia.

The document signed by Dang Van Than, director of the General Department, and Peter Shore, general director of OTC, stipulates that the two sides will invest 15 million Australian dollars in two new INTELSAT standard satellite-earth stations and associated equipment in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City in 1988-1989.

The deal extends the relationship which OTC has previously established with Vietnam through the construction last year of a satellite earth station named VISTA in Ho Chi Minh City.

With the construction of these stations and the existing Intersputnik satellite earth stations, Vietnam will be able to broaden its telecommunications link with the world, thus meeting the needs of diplomatic and commercial offices, and particularly of overseas Vietnamese.

During its stay in Vietnam, the Australian delegation was received by Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers Dong Sy Nguyen who welcomed the effective cooperation between OTC and the General Department on the basis of mutual benefit.

NHAN DAN Editor at Conference in New York
BK1710093988 Hanoi VNA in English
0723 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 17—Thanh Tin, deputy editor-in-chief of NHAN DAN, attended the round-table conference of journalists from French-speaking countries recently held at the UN Headquarters in New York.

After the conference, Thanh Tin visited the CBS Television Corporation and the editorial board of THE NEW YORK TIMES at the invitation of his American colleagues.

Situation of Vietnamese Workers in Ukraine
BK1410134788 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0015 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Interview with Xuan Ba, Vietnamese-language paper TIEN PHONG correspondent, who recently visited Kharkov, by Moscow Radio broadcaster Irina; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Irina] Brother Xuan Ba, did you have any ideas about the situation of the Vietnamese youth in the Soviet Union before your departure for Kharkov?

[Xuan Ba] I have a niece who is a high school graduate. A year ago she adamantly asked her parents for permission to join a group of Vietnamese going to the Soviet Union under a labor cooperation program. At that time I asked her why she wanted to go. Smilingly, she replied: Uncle, I want to travel to improve my knowledge. On the day she left, I chatted with some of her girlfriends who were gathering at the air terminal. One of the girls told me: As my family is poor, I want to go earn some money to save for my future. Nga, my niece, interrupted saying: Not only money but also a profession, uncle.

Recently, to my great surprise, I learned that she had written to her parents, firmly asking for their permission to come home. Her letter reads roughly as follows: Daddy and Mommy, I am very sad. Job availability here is intermittent while income is low. Travel to visit friends is difficult. I feel that my life would have been much better had I not left.

My official trip to the Soviet Union is now nearing completion. From what I have personally heard and seen at a number of places in Kharkov City, I would like to elaborate on my niece's complaints. A seemingly prevalent problem at various factories such as the electrochemical, ball-bearing, thread spinning, and leather shoes factories in Kharkov, is that their production tools are obsolete and break down frequently. It should be pointed out here that a cadre at a leather shoe factory told me that the same old production chain that is turning out various types of shoes has been doing so since Lenin's time. Even worse, production organization is not good. Many times workers have to stay home because of equipment breakdowns or because of the shortage of raw material, thus leading to low labor productivity. Vietnamese workers' income is evidently low. That is why they are not very enthusiastic. [passage omitted]

[Irina] During our working tour in Kharkov, we attended an interesting Soviet-Vietnam congress. The congress

was organized at the club of an electric motors manufacturing factory. [passage omitted]

[Irina] I took another look at the clock. Time seemed to fly very quickly. Before saying good-bye to Xuan Ba, I asked him the same question that other friends had already answered at the above-mentioned congress: What do you think about the future trend of development of our labor cooperation? Is it going upward or downward?

[Xuan Ba] Your question is very interesting but I think it is difficult to answer. Anyway, the situation of Vietnamese workers going to the Soviet Union under the labor cooperation program is bad, very bad. In my opinion, all of the Vietnamese workers I have met in the Soviet Union are highly respectable individuals. Most of them are hard-working, love their work, and enjoy job security and earning some money. Of course there have been cases of a worm spoiling the whole apple. However, at almost all the places I have visited, our brothers and sisters have maintained their good quality and followed the work style that many Soviet foremen have painstakingly taught them. This is something very valuable for them.

However, as I have already said, the situation is deteriorating. It is very difficult to solve the problem, yet this does not mean that we cannot do it. If the responsible Soviet and Vietnamese organs do not consider this problem as something that needs to be solved immediately, then the consequences will be unpredictable and will seriously affect the friendship and economic cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

I want to be more specific. I wonder if it is a good idea to work out new protocols to amend those unreasonable clauses of the treaty [of friendship and cooperation] that were signed in 1981 and that have become very outdated. This means that everything is within our reach. By this I mean within the reach of the responsible organs of the two countries. [passage omitted]



Daily Report

Annex

East Asia

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FBIS-EAS-88-014A
Friday
22 January 1988

East Asia

ANNEX

FBIS-EAS-88-014

CONTENTS

22 January 1988

Japan

Abe Comments on Taxes, Sanctions, U.S. Ties [THE JAPAN TIMES 20 Jan]	1
Government Drops Plan To Request GATT Panel [THE JAPAN TIMES 21 Jan]	1
MITI, Importers 'Squabble' Over Iranian Oil [THE JAPAN TIMES 21 Jan]	2
Trading Firm Barbers for Soviet Union [THE JAPAN TIMES 21 Jan]	2
Defense Plan To Give Ground Forces Priority [THE DAILY YOMIURI 20 Jan]	3
Police Reveal Red Army Struggle Plans [THE JAPAN TIMES 20 Jan]	3
Rocket Bombs Fired at Narita Airport [MAINICHI DAILY NEWS 20 Jan]	3

South Korea

ROK President Chon To Meet Nakasone in Feb [THE DAILY YOMIURI 14 Jan]	4
---	---

Japan

Abe Comments on Taxes, Sanctions, U.S. Ties

OW212317 Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES
in English 20 Jan 88 p 1—FOR OFFICIAL USE
ONLY

[By staff writer Shinji Ito]

[Text] Liberal-Democratic Party Secretary General Shintaro Abe suggested Monday that the government carry out income tax cuts before introducing a new indirect tax scheme, instead of the Finance Ministry plan to implement both changes at the same time.

If government tax revenues increase much more than estimated in national budgets as a result of unexpectedly higher economic growth in coming years, it will be able to do so, he argued.

His remarks were apparently aimed at helping minimize objections by voters to the indirect tax and increasing its chances of clearing the Diet, party sources said.

Speaking at the Japan National Press Club, Abe called tax reform "the biggest political task of the LDP" this year.

"This will be our third attempt (at drastic tax reform), and we want to realize it by all means. If we can't do it this time, we won't be able to do it until the 21st century," he added.

Abe said the new system will be much simpler than so-called sales tax bills that were aborted last spring. The new indirect tax proposal "must be a tax levied on a wide range of goods and services, with a small tax rate, at least in the beginning," he said.

Opposition arguments that the indirect tax system will mean a heavier burden on low-income people can be countered by the proposed cut in income and inheritance taxes and by streamlining the complicated commodity tax system, he claimed.

He admitted, however, that the indirect tax on goods and services will result in consumer price hikes.

Referring to foreign policy issues, Abe said Japan should reinforce collaboration with foreign countries in fighting international terrorism, and "must produce some measures in response to the formal request by South Korea" that sanctions be imposed against North Korea for its alleged bombing Nov. 29 of Korean Air Flight 858.

On Japan-U.S. agricultural and other disputes, Abe criticized both the U.S. Congress and Japanese farmers for their hardline positions.

On the congressional reaction to the Toshiba Machine Co. scandal, he said Congress is "close to being eccentric." He was apparently referring to the widely televised hammer assault last year by legislators on a Toshiba cassette player on the Capitol Hill lawn.

He also said burnings of portraits of U.S. President Ronald Reagan by Japanese farmers "are not something to be praised."

"The eye-for-an-eye approach will only escalate the tension," he warned.

Government Drops Plan To Request GATT Panel

OW220609 Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES
in English 21 Jan 88 p 1—FOR OFFICIAL USE
ONLY

[By staff writer Hisane Masaki]

[Text] Japan has dropped its plan to request the establishment of a panel under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) next month to discuss U.S. trade sanctions over a semiconductor dispute, a government source disclosed Wednesday.

The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told THE JAPAN TIMES that the request for a panel would not be made at a GATT council meeting scheduled to be held in Geneva on Feb.

The U.S. slapped \$300 million in punitive tariffs on certain Japanese electronics products in April last year for Tokyo's alleged violations of the 1986 chip agreement.

Under the accord, Japan pledged to stop dumping—selling below production costs—chips in third countries and to give greater market access here to foreign chip makers.

Of the \$300 million in punitive tariffs, \$135 million were lifted in September last year after the U.S. found that Japanese dumping of chips had ceased.

Because the bilateral talks over the dispute were stalled, the ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) had decided to file a request for establishing the GATT panel—Japan's first such request in the 40-year history of the Geneva-based international body—at the council meeting slated for next month.

But MITI abandoned the plan at the last minute because of strong opposition from the Foreign Ministry, which fears that the appeal by Japan might add fuel to anti-Japan sentiment in the U.S. Congress over bilateral trade, the source said.



Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-88-014
Friday
22 January 1988

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-88-014

CONTENTS

22 January 1988

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Reaction to Alleged North Korean Air Bombing	1
UN Resolution Proposed	1
DPRK Visits Discouraged	1
Reopens Investigation Case [THE KOREA TIMES]	1
Government Comments on Cambodian Peace Talks	2
U.S. Requests Confirmation of Violation	2
Kuwaiti Finance Minister Arrives 21 January [Kuwait KUNA]	2
Agreement Reached on Olympics Broadcasting	3
Takeshita Expresses Wish To Visit Britain	3
Bank of Japan To Allow Lower Interest Rate	4
Socialists 'Flexible' on Defense Forces	4

Mongolia

Balhaajab Speaks at USSR Treaty Anniversary	4
Namsray Meets Soviet Friendship Delegation	5
Cooperation Protocol Signed	5
UNEN Views Gorbachev's LIAOWANG Interview	5
Mongolian Version of Gorbachev Book Published	5
Briefs	6
USSR Economic Cooperation	6

North Korea

Daily Warns South of Possible 'Retaliation' [NODONG SINMUN 22 Jan]	6
South National Assembly 'War Fever' Viewed	7
KCNA Cites TASS Article on 'Smear Campaign'	7
Embassy in Havana Holds News Conference	7
End To 'Team Spirit' Exercise Urged	8
Daily on U.S., Japan Military Exercises	9
Daily Criticizes Formation of Olympic Guards [NODONG SINMUN 21 Jan]	9
Ethiopia Decides Not To Attend Seoul Olympics	10
Cuban Sportsmen Support Decision on Olympics	11
Pyongyang Celebrates Ceausescu Birthday	11
Yugoslavia Spokesman Supports Reunification	12
Theory on Grand Concord in South Refuted [NODONG SINMUN 18 Jan]	12
Paper Condemns South's 'Torture Policy'	14
Chongnyon Threatened by Japanese 'Hooligans'	14

South Korea

U.S. To Allow Northerners To Visit Relatives [THE KOREA TIMES 22 Jan]	14
North Said To Abduct Many Foreign Women [THE KOREA TIMES 21 Jan]	15
Businesses Seek Commercial Ties With PRC [THE KOREA HERALD 22 Jan]	15
Government Ends Ban on Import of Bloc Music [THE KOREA TIMES 22 Jan]	16
Assembly Focuses on Beef Imports, Trade [THE KOREA TIMES 21 Jan]	17
Discusses Pak Chong-chol Case [THE KOREA HERALD 22 Jan]	17
Chon Speaks on Reunification, Reconciliation	19
Addresses Counterespionage Council [THE KOREA TIMES 22 Jan]	19
RDP Leaders Disagree on Opposition Merger [THE KOREA TIMES 21 Jan]	19

RDP, PPD Relationship 'Further Soured' [THE KOREA TIMES 22 Jan]	20
Rival Parties at Odds Over Scandal Cover-up [THE KOREA TIMES 22 Jan]	20
Kim Tae-chung Attacks RDP Constituency Plan [THE KOREA HERALD 21 Jan]	21
Kim Tae-chung Considering PPD Convention	21
DJP To Screen Candidates for Elections [THE KOREA HERALD 21 Jan]	22
Home Affairs Ministry Gives New Year's Policy [THE KOREA HERALD 21 Jan]	22
Chon Orders Crackdown on Stockpiling Goods [THE KOREA TIMES 21 Jan]	23
Government Seeks Support Measures for Farmers [THE KOREA TIMES 22 Jan]	23
Decision To Abolish Artistic Censorship Laws [THE KOREA TIMES 21 Jan]	23

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Cambodia

Hun Sen-Sihanouk Second Round of Talks End	24
Sihanouk Proposes Interim Government [KYODO]	24
Future of Khmer Rouge Discussed [Paris LE MONDE 22 Jan]	24
Hun Sen Proposes Withdrawal Period [AFP]	25
Hun Sen Holds News Conference About Talks [VNA]	25
Koy Buntha Sends Greeting to Lao Counterpart	26
Hun Sen Receives UNHCR Commissioner	26
Chea Sim Receives Greetings From GDR Front	27
4,377 Returnees Report to Authorities	27
Briefs	27
Bulgarian Delegation Arrives	27
GDR Association Visits	27
Dry Season Rice Cultivation	27
Returnees in Kompong Chhnang	28

Indonesia

PNG Premier Comments Before Departure	28
Second Sihanouk-Hun Sen Meeting Previewed	28
Space Agency To Launch Two Rockets in March	29

Laos

More Thai Attacks Reported in Boten 21 January	29
Follow-up Reports	29
Bolikhamsai Rally Denounces Thai 'Attacks'	29
Thailand Said Insincere in Pursuing Talks	30
Paper Alleges Government Sanctions Drug Trade [BANGKOK POST 22 Jan]	31
Phoun Sipaseut Receives New UN Representative	32
Greetings, Activities Honoring LPA Day	32
Military Attaches' Greetings	32
Senior Officers Lay Wreaths	32
SRV's Le Duc Anh Sends Greetings [KPL]	33
Choummali Sai-gnason Address	33
Editorial Praises LPA	33
Rice Production Falls Short of Target	34
Briefs	35
Trade Delegation to Hanoi	35
French Drought Relief Aid	35
Red Army Day Function	35

Philippines

Aquino Says Property To Fall Under Land Bill	35
Vows Reform Success [AFP]	35
Farmers Mark 'Mendiola Massacre' Anniversary [AFP]	36
Suit Filed Against Government	37

AFP Views Land Reform Legislation Delay	37
Aquino Appoints Vice Chief of Staff, PC Chief	38
Ileto Discusses Resignation With Reporters	38
Ramos Vows To Defend Aquino Government [AFP]	38
Promises Stability	39
Communists Term Ramos Approach 'Militaristic' [AFP]	39
Poll Returns Destroyed in Cotabato Fire	40
Cavite City Hall Under Tight Security	40
Coalition Candidates Said Leading Nationwide [MALAYA 21 Jan]	40
Salonga Comments on Aquino Relatives' Defeat	41
Laurels Headed for 'Humiliating Defeat' THE MANILA CHRONICLE 21 Jan]	41
Comelec To Decide on Delayed Polls Soon	42
Aquino To Reorganize Administration Parties	42

Thailand

Rangers Killed in Laotian Border Ambush [THE NATION 22 Jan]	42
Laos Accused of Forcing Hmong Across Border [BANGKOK POST 22 Jan]	43
Interior Minister Tours Refugee Camp	43
Administration Center Being Scaled Down [MATICHON 17 Jan]	44
Indonesian Technology Minister Calls on Prem	44
Columnist on State's Sigur Cambodia Statement [SIAM RAIT 20 Jan]	44

Vietnam

Hanoi Cites ASEAN Reaction to U.S. Statement	45
U.S. Agrees on Plan To Resettle Amerasians [AFP]	45
Report on Hun Sen's News Conference	46
Foreign Ministry Briefing	47
Proceedings of Journalists Conference	47
Nguyen Van Linh Address	47
Nguyen Van Linh Meets Journalists	49
AFP Reports on Meeting [AFP]	50
Conference Closes 21 January	51
Article on Alleged U.S. Postwar Plan	51
First Installment [NHAN DAN 1 Dec]	51
Second Installment [NHAN DAN 2 Dec]	53
Third Installment [NHAN DAN 3 Dec]	56

Japan

Reaction to Alleged North Korean Air Bombing

UN Resolution Proposed

OW221223 Tokyo KYODO in English 1210 GMT
22 Jan 88

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—Japan and the United States will hold emergency consultations next week on a United Nations Security Council resolution condemning North Korea for its alleged bombing of a Korean Air (KAL) plane with 115 people on Board last November, Foreign Ministry sources said Friday.

The sources said Herbert Okun, deputy U.S. representative to the United Nations, will arrive in Tokyo Monday for talks with Foreign Ministry officials the next day on the timing for presenting such a resolution and its contents.

The United States has already announced retaliatory measures against North Korea and Japan is expected to follow suit Tuesday.

South Korea announced last week that two North Korean agents planted a bomb aboard the KAL plane on instructions from Kim Chong-Il, son of North Korean President Kim Il-sung.

The plane disappeared near the Thai-Burmese border November 29 en route from Baghdad to Seoul.

The sources said the United States has already started drawing up a resolution against North Korea.

The resolution is expected to severely denounce North Korea and call on other nations to cooperate in preventing the recurrence of extremist activities and in making this year's Seoul Olympics a success, the sources said.

South Korea plans to present a resolution against North Korea at an Executive Meeting in Montreal, Canada, next month, of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) with cooperation from Japan and the United States, they added.

DPRK Visits Discouraged

OW221353 Tokyo KYODO in English 1221 GMT
22 Jan 88

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—The Japanese Government has been urging Japanese planning to visit North Korea to reconsider their visits since last Friday when South Korea said North Korean agents blew up a Korean Air (KAL) plane, Foreign Ministry sources said Friday.

The sources said the step is being taken to forestall possible accidents involving Japanese visitors to North Korea which was blamed for committing the terrorist act.

About 2,000 Japanese annually visit North Korea despite the absence of diplomatic relations between the two countries. [passage omitted]

Reopens Investigation Case

SK200146 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
20 Jan 88 p 3

[By KOREA TIMES correspondent Chong Hun: "Missing Japanese Couples May be Held in North Korea"]

[Text] Tokyo—The Japanese security agency has started re-investigating the disappearance of three Japanese couples 10 years ago, suspecting that they might have been kidnapped to North Korea.

Japan's new approach to the long-forgotten disappearance case of the couples was prompted by the confession of Ms. Kim Hyon-hui who carried out the bombing of a KAL jetliner with 115 people aboard.

Ms. Kim, who posed as a Japanese by a false name of Mayumi Hachiya, revealed to the Korean investigation authorities that she had stayed with a Japanese woman for two years from 1983 to become familiar with Japanese customs and manners and to improve her ability to speak Japanese while being trained as a special operative in North Korea.

The Japanese police agency plans to have the North Korean operative Kims check the photographs of the three missing women, dispatching its investigators to Seoul within this week at the earliest.

The family members of the missing couples have asked the police authorities to help search for the missing women, showing a great interest in the police move.

Three couples disappeared in the summer of 1978 while strolling on beaches on Japan's western coast.

The Japanese police authorities suspected that they might have been forcibly taken to North Korea, considering that the police found North Korean-made articles in another abortive kidnapping attempt of a couple in the summer of 1978.

The pair who were nearly kidnapped said those who tried to abduct them had spoken Korean in the rough North Korean accent.

The disappearance of the three couples has since remained a mystery, although the police agency strongly suspect the abductions as having been carried out by North Korean agents in view of various circumstantial evidence.

According to the Japanese police agency, Chimura and his fiancée Fukie Hamamoto, both aged 23 then, disappeared on the Aoi beach in Obama, Fukui Prefecture July 7, 1978. The couple disappeared after they dined in a nearby restaurant at about 8:50 p.m. on the same day.

Kaoru Haskie, a 20-year-old junior at the law department of Juo University, and his steady girlfriend Yukiko Okuto, 22, were also reported missing in Kasiwajaki in Niigata Prefecture at around 5 p.m. July 31, 1978.

The third case occurred also on the western coast on Aug. 2, 1978.

Hyuichi Ichigawa, 24, a salaried man, and his love Miss Masmoto disappeared on the Fukiake beach in the Kagoshima Prefecture on the night of Aug. 2.

The couple, police said, had been listed as missing ever since they left their houses, saying that they were about to go to the beach.

Police found only the sedan of Ichigawa abandoned on the beach.

On the Dagaoka beach on Aug. 15, 1972, a pair of young people reported they were nearly kidnapped by a band of four men.

The couple reported to the police that the foursome spoke Korean in the rough North Korean accent.

Police later picked up on the scene some articles which the police thought belonged to the four men. The belongings were determined as having been made in North Korea.

The Japanese police authorities considered Unhye from whom the North Korean agent Kim confessed to having learned Japanese might be Fukie Hamamoto.

The police reasoned that a Chinese character of her name is pronounced "hye" in Korean.

Government Comments on Cambodian Peace Talks

*OW221227 Tokyo KYODO in English 1154 GMT
22 Jan 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—The Japanese Government sees as positive a second round of Kampuchean peace talks in suburban Paris which discussed a timetable for a Vietnamese troop pullout from Kampuchea, government sources said Friday.

The sources said the Paris talks between Prince Norodom Sihanouk, leader of a tripartite resistance coalition, and Hun Sen, prime minister of the Vietnam-backed government in Phnom Penh, clarified points at issue on the path toward a political settlement of the conflict.

The sources also said the government welcomes the announcement of the next round of talks to be held in the North Korean capital, Pyongyang, in late April.

The sources said Japan will continue to support Sihanouk's efforts to end the nine-year-old conflict in Kampuchea.

U.S. Requests Confirmation of Violation

*OW220453 Tokyo KYODO in English 0337 GMT
22 Jan 88*

[Text] Washington, Jan. 22 KYODO—The United States has requested Japan to confirm a suspicion that a Japanese fishing fleet may have violated the U.S. 200-mile economic zone in the Bering Sea off Alaska last week, the State Department said Thursday.

The United States Government made the request because an aerial videotape indicated a possible territorial violation, department officials said.

The U.S. Coast Guard authorities have started an investigation of the incident, while asking for a Japanese Government probe via the Japanese Embassy here, the officials said.

Meanwhile, the Japanese Embassy here said the tape, taken by officials of an association of trawler operators in Alaska, identified the radio communication registration numbers of five of the seven fishing boats suspected of illegally entering the U.S. economic waters.

Kuwaiti Finance Minister Arrives 21 January

*LD201134 Kuwait KUNA in English 0814 GMT
20 Jan 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan 20 (KUNA)—Kuwait's Finance Minister Jasim al-Kharafi flew into Tokyo's Narita International Airport early Wednesday morning to be welcomed by Kuwaiti and Japanese officials.

Kuwaiti Ambassador to Japan 'Abd al-Mushin Salim al-Harun, Japanese Ambassador at large (Nishi Miya) and First Secretary of the Kuwaiti Embassy (Faisal al-Malafi) were at hand at six a.m. at the airport to welcome Al-Kharafi and a high-powered delegation on their first visit to Japan.

The minister was accompanied by the Kuwaiti General Investment Corporation Council members Muhamad al-Adasani, Ya'qub al-Humaydi and Fahd al-Bahr as well as delegated member of the corporation and Fahd al-Bahr as well as delegated member of the corporation Doctor Fahd al-Rashid, deputy director Fu'ad Ja'far and assistant director Nasir al-Sabah of the Kuwaiti Investment Office in London and director of the Office of the Finance Ministry's under-secretary Muhammad al-Murshid.

While in Tokyo until Friday, Al-Kharafi will meet with Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and other officials and top business leaders.

The Kuwaiti minister arrived here from Australia, where he made a four-day tour, during which he met with his Australian counterpart Paul Keating in Canberra and inspected Kuwaiti investment projects in Perth, Melbourne and Sidney.

In the meeting with Keating, Al-Kharafi has exchanged views on Kuwaiti-Australian economic relations, particularly with regards to Kuwaiti investments there and the Australian Government's attitude toward foreign investments in Australia, a Kuwaiti delegation source told KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY here.

He said that during the meeting, talks also focused on increasing of economic cooperation as well as ways and means of developing exchanges between the two countries.

In addition to reviewing the conditions of Kuwaiti investment projects in the country, Al-Kharafi and his delegation discussed with local ministers in the three major Australian cities other matters related to development projects and natural resources, the source added.

Agreement Reached on Olympics Broadcasting
*OW211441 Tokyo KYODO in English 1220 GMT
21 Jan 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 21 KYODO—Japan and South Korea agreed to cooperate in the live broadcasting of the opening and closing ceremonies of the Seoul Olympic games utilizing the high-definition television (HDTV) system, officials of the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry said Thursday.

The agreement came during a one-hour meeting held here between South Korean Communications Minister O Myong and his Japanese counterpart Masaaki Nakayama, the officials said.

During the talks, Japan requested South Korea's cooperation to make possible live broadcasting of the opening and closing ceremonies of the Olympic Games on the HDTV system, officials said. South Korea agreed.

The live broadcasting of the olympics is to be made via a satellite of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (Instelsat) and will be shown on "street television sets" to be set up at some 50 places throughout Japan, they added.

The two countries agreed to work out the details at the working level.

They also reached an agreement on technical cooperation in developing an integrated service digital network (ISDN), the officials said.

Takeshita Expresses Wish To Visit Britain
*OW211217 Tokyo KYODO in English 1206 GMT
21 Jan 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita Thursday expressed his strong wish to visit Britain to exchange views with its leaders on various matters including bilateral trade issues, according to a high-ranking official.

Takeshita made the remark at a meeting with International Trade and Industry Minister Hajime Tamura, who returned Thursday afternoon from a five-day trip to Britain and West Germany.

Tamura conveyed a message from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher expressing a desire to meet the Japanese prime Minister "as soon as possible" prior to the economic summit of seven Western industrial nations at Toronto June 19-21.

Tamura told a press conference after his return here Thatcher wanted to see increased direct investment by Japan in her country. Thatcher cited the example of an automobile plant established by Nissan Motor Co. in Britain, which had a favorable effect on the regional economy.

A total of 72 Japanese firms have factories in Britain, which created about 18,000 jobs, while there are only 12 British companies producing in Japan, MITI officials said.

Tamura quoted Thatcher as also stressing the importance of stabilizing the U.S. dollar, which she said has dropped enough to reflect fundamentals of the U.S. economy.

The British prime minister, Tamura said, also urged Japan to reduce its huge trade surplus, which she said stemmed mainly from Japan's swollen saving and could fan protectionist sentiment in the U.S. Congress.

During the 30-minute meeting, Thatcher called for Japan's further efforts to resolve trade disputes with Britain over taxation of whiskey and other liquors, Tamura said.

Tamura visited Britain and West Germany to pave the way for a trip to Europe by Takeshita.

Tamura did not say which European countries Takeshita plans to visit and when.

Bank of Japan To Allow Lower Interest Rate
OW220427 Tokyo KYODO in English 0346 GMT
22 Jan 88

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—The Bank of Japan (BOJ) will allow short-term interest rates to decline in order to make credit easier and help expand the economy against a background of weakening inflationary pressure, BOJ chief Satoshi Sumita said Friday.

“Demand for funds has peaked out since the turn of the year, resulting in lower short-term interest rates,” Sumita told a meeting of cabinet ministers concerned with economic affairs.

“In order to maintain the easy credit undertone, we will tolerate lower interest rates,” he added.

Sumita predicted the nation's basic money supply, a bellwether of inflation, will grow at a high annual rate of around 12 percent in the first quarter of 1988.

“We will keep a close watch on the money supply trend,” he said, “even though commodity prices remain stable.”

Socialists 'Flexible' on Defense Forces
OW211251 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT
21 Jan 88

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 21 KYODO—The Japan Socialist Party adopted a flexible attitude toward the Self-Defense Forces by merely saying it opposes buildup of the SDF in its action program for 1988 announced Thursday.

Japan's top opposition party also called for disarmament.

The program said the party will strengthen movement against military bases, militarism and nuclear weapons.

Slogans of previous JSP action programs were “Anti-Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, Anti-Self-Defense Forces, and anti-military bases.”

Political analysts said the party, which maintains that the SDF are unconstitutional, adopted the flexible attitude because it wants to form a coalition with No. 2 opposition Komeito, which acknowledges the SDF.

The JSP advocates unarmed and nonaligned neutrality for Japan.

The party will seek abolition of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty and establish a policy aimed at conclusion of a treaty of peace and friendship between the two countries, the program said.

The JSP frankly recognizes the outcome of the presidential election in South Korea in December and will adopt a new approach to that country in order to realize a visit by its leader Takako Doi to South Korea, it said.

The party will oppose construction of new nuclear power plant in Japan and call for development of alternative energy resources, the program said.

Mongolia

Balhaajab Speaks at USSR Treaty Anniversary
OW200759 Ulaanbaatar Montsame in Russian
1530 GMT 15 Jan 88

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 15 Jan (MONTSAME)—The MPR Ministry of Foreign Affairs today held a friendly meeting on the occasion of the 42d anniversary of the signing of the MPR-USSR treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance and the second anniversary of the historical program of freeing the planet from nuclear arms by the end of the present century proposed by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Mangalyn Dugersuren, MPR Foreign Minister, opened the meeting. T. Balhaajab, secretary of the MPRP Central Committee, and K.Ye. Fomichenko, USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, also spoke at the meeting.

In his speech, T. Balhaajab noted with satisfaction that the MPR-USSR relations of fraternal friendship and comprehensive cooperation, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, have steadfastly developed and deepened, in complete accordance with the goals and ideals of our treaty of alliance. Every year, they acquire increasingly dynamic and comprehensive character, and their creative potential becomes increasingly apparent. Reality convincingly attests to this fact.

The regular meetings of the leaders of the two countries—Comrades J. Batmonh and M.S. Gorbachev—which give new impetus to the further development and deepening of the comprehensive cooperation of our countries and to its increasing efficiency, open new landmarks and broad prospects for Mongolian-Soviet relations.

The MPR-USSR treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance, which embodies the peaceful policy of our parties and governments, loyally serves the strengthening of peace and security in Asia and the whole world.

He further said that in the 2 years since the Soviet nuclear disarmament program was proclaimed much has been done toward delivering mankind from the horrors of war, thanks to the tireless struggle and goal-oriented activities of the Soviet state.

To achieve the goals of genuine disarmament, our present world has moved along an uneasy road from Geneva and Reykjavik to Washington. [Words indistinct] at the summit level and the signing of the treaty on

the elimination of intermediate and shorter-range missiles represent a convincing victory of reason and the new political thinking and a historical step marking the beginning of real disarmament.

This classical breakthrough in international affairs, achieved in the year of the glorious 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, is an important landmark on the path of implementating the Soviet program of stage-by-stage elimination of nuclear arms in the world.

The Washington talks clearly demonstrate the favorable prospects for radical reduction of nuclear and other kinds of arms.

We, Mongolian communists, and all Mongolian people are deeply convinced that significant steps toward a 50-percent reduction in USSR and U.S. strategic offensive arms will undoubtedly be made in 1988, and that the ABM Treaty will strictly be observed.

In connection with the publication of the Mongolian translation of the famous book by Mikhail Sergeevich Gorbachev, "The Restructuring and New Thinking for Our Country and the Whole World", Comrade T. Balhaajab emphasized that Mongolian communists see it as a valuable and creative work on the rejuvenation and perfection of socialism and the advancement of the radical program of struggle for the transition of mankind to a nuclear- and violence-free 21st century.

Present at the friendly meeting were L. Rinchin and C. Tumendelger, chiefs of MPRP Central Committee departments; D. Tshilgaan, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Federation of Mongolian Peace and Friendship Organizations; other officials; as well as diplomatic workers of the USSR Embassy.

Namsray Meets Soviet Friendship Delegation

*OW200841 Ulaanbaatar Montsame in Russian
1523 GMT 15 Jan 88*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 15 Jan (MONTSAME)—T. Namsray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the MPRP Central Committee, who is also chairman of the MSFA [Mongolian-Soviet Friendship Association] Central Council, today received the delegation headed by S.S. Kurdyukov, RSFSR minister of construction materials industry and first deputy chairman of the Central Board of the Soviet-Mongolian Friendship Society. The delegation is visiting Mongolia at the invitation of the Federation of Mongolian Peace and Friendship Organizations (FMPFO) and the MSFA Central Council.

Present at the meeting were T. Balhaajab, secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the MSFA Central Council; D. Saarl, administrator of affairs of the MPR Council of Ministers and deputy chairman of the MSFA Central Council; D. Tshilgaan, chairman of the FMPFO Executive Committee, and

other officials, as well as V.I. Filippov, minister counselor of the USSR Embassy in the MPR, and A.A. Kochetkov, counselor of the USSR Embassy in the MPR and representative of the USSF [Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries] in the MPR.

Cooperation Protocol Signed

*OW200817 Ulaanbaatar Montsame in Russian
1526 GMT 15 Jan 88*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 15 Jan (MONTSAME)—A protocol on cooperation between the Federation of Mongolian Peace and Friendship Organizations [FMPFO], Mongolian-Soviet Friendship Association (MSFA), USSF [Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries], and Soviet-Mongolian Friendship Society (SMFS) for 1988 was signed here [no date given]. The protocol was signed by T. Balhaajab, secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the MSFA Central Council, and S.S. Kurdyukov, RSFSR minister of construction materials industry and first deputy chairman of the SMFS Central Board.

Present at the ceremony were T. Namsray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the MPRP Central committee, who is also chairman of the MSFA Central Council; D. Saarl, administrator of affairs of the MPR Council of Ministers and Deputy Chairman of the MSFA Central Council; D. Tshilgaan, chairman of the FMPFO, and other officials, as well as V.I. Filippov, minister counselor of the USSR Embassy in the MPR, and A.A. Kochetkov, counselor of the USSR Embassy in the MPR and representative of the USSF in the MPR.

UNEN Views Gorbachev's LIAOWANG Interview

*OW200905 Ulaanbaatar Montsame in Russian
1430 GMT 18 Jan 88*

[From the 18 January press review]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 18 Jan (MONTSAME)—An UNEN signed commentary emphasizes the fact that comrade M.S. Gorbachev was the first Soviet leader to answer questions from a PRC magazine and that the PRC organ was the first one to ask a Soviet leader to do so. This leads one to believe that (?in future) the relations between the two countries will broaden and develop in the interest of socialism and peace.

Mongolian Version of Gorbachev Book Published

*OW200721 Ulaanbaatar Montsame in Russian
1544 GMT 15 Jan 88*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 15 Jan (MONTSAME)—The MPR State Publishing House has published a Mongolian translation of the book by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, "The Restructuring and New Thinking for Our Country and the Whole World". This fact is seen in our country as an

important social and political event which attests to the deep interest of the Mongolian working people in the Leninist Party's contemporary policy and in the experience in revolutionary restructuring of the fraternal country, bound with the destiny of the MPR by the common cause of construction and perfection of the new society.

Gorbachev's work deals with the most diverse aspects of the decisive process of rejuvenation of Soviet society since April 1985 and with the meaning of the new political thinking on international relations in this era of nuclear missiles. It undoubtedly [words indistinct] its clear and frank answers to the numerous questions concerning the development of socialism, which agitate them. A MONTSAME observer notes that the topicality and value of the Soviet leader's book, which fully embraces the dialectics of today, lie in these very facts.

The observer expresses confidence that the book "The Restructuring and New Thinking" will become the subject of thoughtful study by the Mongolian working people, for whom—as Comrade Jambyn Batmonh noted—the restructuring in the Soviet Union serves as a guidance.

Briefs

USSR Economic Cooperation

Mongolian-Soviet trade and economic turnover in the first 9 months of 1987 reached R1.2 billion. A number of contracts were signed with the Soviet foreign trade association Selkhozpromexport [Agricultural Industrial Export] according to which several enterprises will be built in the MPR, including a grain elevator in Suhbaatar and a tractor repair plant in Darhan. Equipment, machinery, and materials will be supplied and qualified specialists will be sent to the MPR by the trade association. [Summary] [*Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0905 GMT 14 Jan 88 OW*]

North Korea

Daily Warns South of Possible 'Retaliation'

SK221304 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
2150 GMT 21 Jan 88

[NODONG SINMUN 22 Jan commentary: "The Puppets Must Not Run Wild Recklessly"]

[Text] The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group of military gangsters are kicking up a large-scale anti-Republic commotion against us in connection with the passenger plane incident. At 19 January's main session of the National Assembly, the puppet prime minister and the puppet minister of national defense babbled about military punishment or the reinforcement of responsive capability.

Meanwhile, the puppets are almost daily arranging anti-communist rallies and other functions across South Korea and are viciously inspiring a sense of confrontation in the hearts of the people. This graphically shows that the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique, while getting involved in unprecedented anticommunist frenzies by using all of South Korea as their stage, are inspiring mistrust and antagonism within the nation, are inciting confrontation between fellow countrymen, and are rushing more rapidly along the road toward aggravating tension and toward an adventure of war.

The commotion for anticommunist confrontation is being kicked up in South Korea with the criminal purpose of smoothly playing the games of transferring power, of holding the National Assembly elections, and of unilaterally holding the Olympics after diverting the people's attention elsewhere. This is also designed to provide an excuse for strengthening military equipment and maneuvers to provoke a new war, following the U.S. imperialists' strategy of invading Korea.

The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique placed all of the puppet forces on alert status and are frantically conducting provocative war exercises, while making such belligerent remarks as readiness for 1- to 3-day operations and complete combat readiness. It obviously implies that it, together with the U.S. imperialists, will conduct the "Team Spirit" war exercise, a test nuclear war, on a larger scale and is attempting to bring in the U.S. imperialists' forces of aggression on a large scale and to deploy them in and around South Korea under the pretext of guaranteeing security for the Olympics.

Because of the puppets' frantic commotion to smear the Republic and their provocative military action, the situation in the country is being aggravated rapidly and is becoming extremely tense in which the fuse to war may be ignited even by a roar of a gun. This acute situation on the Korean peninsula, where the danger of war looms heavily, arouses deep concern not only among all of the Korean people but also among the world's progressive peoples.

From the beginning of the year, we advanced the proposal for convening a North-South joint conference and other patriotic plans and proposals for peace and peaceful reunification and are making sincere efforts to open a new phase for [words indistinct] and for alleviating tension this year.

From the very beginning of the new year, the puppets viciously kicked up a commotion for anticommunist confrontation, deliberately aggravated relations between the North and the South, and even adhered to the policy of military adventure. This is a vicious challenge to our efforts for peace and reunification. This obviously implies that they will not even hesitate to ignite a fuse to a war of northward invasion. This also graphically shows that the South Korean military gangsters are national traitors and warmongers who oppose reunification and

peace. However, the maneuvers for anticommunist confrontation and war that the puppets are kicking up together with the U.S. imperialists will only result in digging their own graves with their own hands.

The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique must immediately stop their commotion to smear the Republic and must stop getting involved in a dangerous military adventure—that is leading the situation to the brink of war—without delay. We will keenly watch every move of the rascals with high awareness.

If the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique evokes a military provocation despite our repeated warnings, we will respond to it with due retaliation. The South Korean people will in no way tolerate the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique of military gangsters, which is inspiring confrontation among the fellow countrymen, aggravating tension, and rushing along the road toward war. The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique must not run wild recklessly.

South National Assembly 'War Fever' Viewed

*SK220513 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0443 GMT 22 Jan 88*

[Text] Pyongyang January 22 (KCNA)—MINJU CHO-SON Friday lambastes the South Korean puppets for turning the forum of the "plenary session of the National Assembly" into a demagogic stage for inciting North-South confrontation and war fever.

Recalling that the "prime minister" cried for "reinforcement of retaliatory capability", "sanction" and the like, preposterously carping on us, on January 19, and the "defence minister" madly prattled that the puppet army is "fully ready" to make an "immediate military retaliation against the North" if it is "ordered", the paper says in a signed commentary:

This is hysterics of those bereft of reason.

The puppets revealed this time their intention to ignite a war against the North. It is more dangerous that such war outcries were burst out from no other place than the official "National Assembly session". This indicates that they have no slightest willing to ease tension and preserve peace.

The puppets try to aggravate the situation and lead it to the brink of war in an attempt to prevent the influence of the proposal for convocation of a North-South joint conference upon the South Korean people and prepare an excuse to provoke a war in case they fail to tide over their internal crisis.

We are watching the moves of the puppets and will make strong reprisals if they venture a military provocation at any cost.

The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group must not act recklessly.

KCNA Cites TASS Article on 'Smear Campaign'

*SK220443 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0428 GMT 22 Jan 88*

[Text] Moscow January 20 (KCNA)—TASS on January 20 made public an analyst's article denouncing the South Korean puppet clique's anti-DPRK smear campaign.

Noting that recently the South Korean puppet clique clamoured about so-called "steps of sanction", while launching another provocative smear campaign against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, TASS said:

We cannot but say that the campaign is intentional and scrupulously planned in view of time. It is to divert elsewhere the attention from the new peace initiative of the DPRK for removing confrontation between the North and the South and achieving national reconciliation and relaxation of tensions on the Korean peninsula. And there is another important factor. Obviously, the South Korean rulers are going not to accept the North-South cohosting proposal of the Olympic games, intentionally raising criticism of the DPRK.

TASS pointed out:

At the moment when the North's peaceful and constructive proposals would open a road of solving the Korean question which had matured long ago, Seoul is launching a provocative and hostile campaign against the DPRK. This proves that the South Korean bosses have no idea of dialogue or peace but want confrontation and aggravation of tensions on the Korean peninsula.

Embassy in Havana Holds News Conference

*SK221000 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
0400 GMT 22 Jan 88*

[Text] A news conference was held on 19 January at our country's embassy in Cuba in connection with the fact that the South Korean puppets, after announcing the so-called result of their investigation into the passenger plane incident, are viciously kicking off commotions to smear the Republic. Our country's charge d'affaires ad interim spoke at the conference.

Noting that the South Korean puppets, after announcing the so-called result of their investigation into the incident concerning the disappearance of the passenger plane, are viciously slandering the Republic, linking this incident to us, the charge d'affaires ad interim denounced the smear commotions as something false. Noting that the passenger plane incident has nothing to do with us, but is a drama written and staged by the puppet clique, which is seeking to extend the military dictatorship and is seeking the perpetual division of the

country, he demanded that the maneuvers to smear the Republic be stopped immediately.
Cuba Group Expresses Support
SK220447 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0431 GMT 22 Jan 88

[Text] Havana January 20 (KCNA)—The Cuban Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification on January 18 made public a statement in support of the KCNA statement denouncing the South Korean puppets' anti-DPRK smear campaign in connection with the missing KAL incident.

The statement said:

The new scheme of the enemy to mislead public opinion by shifting the responsibility for the missing KAL incident to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is evoking strongest protest from all the progressive people of the world.

It is only the imperialists that can commit such terrorism as making their people fall poor victims to provocation against the just cause of Korea which is defending its most basic inalienable right to reunification.

Denouncing the imperialists and their stooges for launching a new smear campaign concerning the missing KAL incident, the statement affirmed militant support to the Korean people's struggle for the complete independence of the whole of Korea.

End To 'Team Spirit' Exercise Urged

SK211630 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1150 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Commentary by station commentator Kim Kyong-pok: "Large-scale Military Exercise Should be Discontinued"]

[Text] On 18 January, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique reportedly adopted a plan to revoke their decision to halt [chungji] the "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise.

As is known, toward the end of last year the U.S. imperialists, babbling as if they were not going to stage the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise this year in South Korea, advertised it as if it were a measure aimed at reducing the increasing U.S. defense budget. Their revoking the decision to halt the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise this time, however, has unambiguously demonstrated that their clamor about halting the exercise was a ruse designed to induce many countries to participate in the Seoul Olympics, trying to conjure up an impression that they were not going to aggravate tension on the Korean peninsula with the 24th Olympics approaching.

This has laid bare in full view the craftiness, wicked treacherousness, and viciousness of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets who do not hesitate doing such despicable things as deceiving the people of the world in pursuit of their criminal goals.

As is widely known, the "Team Spirit" war exercise, conducted as a production of the U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression toward Korea and Asia, is an all-embracing preliminary war and nuclear test war aimed at mounting a preemptive strike at the northern half of the Republic. This war exercise, which has been conducted in South Korea year after year since 1976 escalating to its current scale, has been conducted adventurously in recent years with the participation of 200,000 troops, vast enough to wage a full-scale war, as well as using modern war equipment, including nuclear weapons.

Also, regarding the substance of this war exercise, it consists of offensive operations simulating a northward invasion. In particular, in last year's war exercise even the notorious F-4 aircraft, which bosses, including the U.S. President, would reportedly use for airborne command of a nuclear attack in the event of a full-scale war, was mobilized.

The "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is an extremely adventurous war exercise which leads the situation on the Korean peninsula further toward the brink of war and gravely jeopardizes peace and security in the world.

Precisely because of this, all the Korean people and the broad range of the people in the world have strongly demanded that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise be halted.

While claiming that they are somewhat concerned about easing tension on the Korean peninsula and deceiving public opinion as if they were going to halt the "Team Spirit" military exercise, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets revoked their decision to halt the exercise the day following the deadline for application to participate in the Olympics. This is an intolerable mockery and challenge to the people at home and abroad.

It is apparent to everyone that a perforce conducting of the "Team Spirit-88" war exercise will further aggravate the situation in our country and lay grave obstacles to the path toward national reunification.

As is already known, we have recently proposed to the South side discussion of such issues as discontinuing large-scale military exercises, including "Team Spirit," within this year; arranging multinational disarmament talks; cohosting the 24th Olympics by the North and South regardless of the deadline set for the application for the Olympics; and ceasing to hurl abuses and slanders at each other by holding a North-South joint conference.

Also, we have proposed to the United States the signing of a peace agreement with us and opening of a new chapter in Korean-U.S. relations [chomi kwangye] after sweeping away the unsatisfactory past.

This is a clear expression of the peace-loving effort of our party and the government of the Republic determined to put the situation in our country, which is rushing toward perpetual division and toward the brink of war, on a track leading to detente and peaceful reunification and make this a year of new phase for national reconciliation and unity.

This notwithstanding, the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique are about to conduct the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise at any cost. This shows that they are not concerned about guaranteeing the relaxation of tension and peace on the Korean peninsula and that they are only pursuing the perpetual division of Korea and aggressive war.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are the hypocrites of peace [as heard] and wicked warmongers. The babbling about terrorism or something else by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique is nothing but an excuse to cover up their bellicose nature and to justify their maneuvers to conduct the "Team Spirit" war exercise.

Whatever sophistry they may employ, they can never justify their criminal maneuvers. Their maneuvers as such will only result in arousing still greater denunciation and rejection from among the world's peace-loving people who hope for relaxation of tension and peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique should see squarely the trend of the times, judiciously act, and immediately abandon their wicked plot to conduct the criminal "Team Spirit" joint military exercise.

Daily on U.S., Japan Military Exercises
SK220531 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0458 GMT 22 Jan 88

[Text] Pyongyang January 22 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the fact that a joint commanding post exercise of the Japan "Self-Defence Forces" and U.S. forces codenamed "Yamazakura 13" started on January 19 in Hokkaido.

In a signed commentary the paper says the joint exercise which reportedly lasts till January 30 is the biggest one in scale among "Yamazakura" exercises which have been held twice a year since 1982. The commentary says:

The military exercise this time shows that although the United States is talking about "detente" and "peace" in word, it, in actuality, is making preparations as ever for a new war of aggression and Japan is deeply partaking of the U.S. imperialists' execution of global strategy.

At talks held between the U.S. defence secretary and the director of the Japanese Defence Agency in Washington, synchronizing with the "Yamazakura" exercise, an agreement was reached on a series of problems including the strengthening of technical cooperation between the United States and Japan in the joint development of conventional weapons and the joint study of stockpiling U.S. forces equipment in advance in Japan for "emergency".

This revealed the U.S.-toeing stance of the Japanese reactionaries scheming to step up arms race and war preparations as a cat's-paw of the United States.

The spearhead of the attack of the U.S. and Japanese aggressive forces is directed against Korea at the moment. The "Yamazakura 13" exercise now being held in Hokkaido is not an exception. This is proved by the fact that in Hokkaido whose climatic and geographical conditions are similar to those of Korea, the exercise is participated in by commanding officers of the U.S. Army unit stationed in Hawaii, a unit waiting for war in Korea.

The joint U.S.-Japan military exercise is followed by the joint U.S.-South Korea military exercise and, through this, U.S.-Japan-South Korea military integration is being stepped up and the three-way operational command system strengthened under the command of the U.S. imperialists.

The military exercise of the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese reactionaries is a challenge to the peoples of Asia and the rest of the world who desire detente and peace.

Daily Criticizes Formation of Olympic Guards
SK220930 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2152 GMT 20 Jan 88

[NODONG SINMUN 21 January commentary: "Repressive Bayonet-Wielding on the Pretext of Olympics"]

[Text] The puppets announced recently that they will organize about 60,000 joint military-police guards who will take exclusive charge of guarding the Olympics.

As is known, the puppets began to drastically increase the repressive forces last year on the so-called pretext of guarding the 1988 Olympics. The puppets recently formed the so-called Olympic headquarters which supervises many existing Olympic guard units and decided to organize the guards, composed of the additional puppet army and puppet police, to take exclusive charge of the Olympics. This is a situation which we should not idly overlook.

Meanwhile, the puppets, together with the U.S. imperialist masters, dragged new ammunition into South Korea on a large scale on the pretext of the safety of the Olympics and conspired to stage the "Team Spirit" war exercise on a larger scale, deploying the U.S. Pacific Fleet in the seas off South Korea.

The U.S. military leaders openly babbled that the United States will mobilize not only ground forces but also various manpower and material resources of the Navy and the Air Force to ensure the success of the Olympics.

All facts show that with the support of the U.S. imperialists, the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique is attempting to hold the Olympics under the state of practical martial law in which the repressive forces rampage amid the terror of powder-reeking war. This is an open challenge and mockery against the Olympic movement, which assumes peace and friendship as its ideal.

What is even more vicious is that the puppets are slandering us while increasing the repressive forces and raving about provocations and terrorism by the North. This is a preposterous obstinacy put forth by the South Korean military hooligans to justify their maneuvers to increase the repressive forces.

As has been known, we advanced a proposal for cohosting the Olympics to resolve the issue of holding the 24th Olympics favorably for the peace of the nation and the cause of reunification and made sincere efforts to realize the proposal. Does this proposal seem to the South Korean military hooligans to be a provocation and terrorist act?

As for terrorist acts and provocation, the South Korean puppet clique itself commits them daily. The ringleaders who are bringing the danger of the Olympics are none other than the South Korean puppet clique. Challenging the unanimous demand of the people who are opposed to extension of the military rule, the South Korean military fascist clique connected traitor No Tae-u's victory in the presidential election through fraud and deception, thus facing new resistance of the people.

The people are preparing a mass resistance struggle, strengthening their resolution to continue their fight until the military dictatorship is eliminated. Because the puppets are abusing the Olympics for instigating the North-South confrontation and intensifying the repression of the people, the people's indignation has further increased.

Stressing that our people [all Korean people] do not exist for the sake of the Olympics, and that only when the nation exists can the Olympics be held, the South Korean people said that they absolutely will not allow the Olympics to be used for impure political aims. That the puppets increased the repressive forces while raving about nonexistent armed provocation and terrorism by someone else is a maneuver to suppress with guns and

bayonets the democratic forces who oppose the extension of military rule. This proceeds from the criminal aim to hold the Olympics at any cost even if South Korea is immersed in a sea of blood.

The Olympics to be held in Seoul are bringing a whirlwind of suppression and the dark clouds of war to the South Korean people and our fellow countrymen. However, the puppets are increasing the repressive forces and intensifying the repression of the people on the pretext of the Olympics. They, together with the U.S. imperialists, are also increasing the armed forces, thus attempting to aggravate the situation on the Korean peninsula. Their act will only result in denunciation at home and abroad.

The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique is attempting to jump into a fire with fireballs in hand.

Ethiopia Decides Not To Attend Seoul Olympics
SK220910 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2200 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Text] On 19 January the Ethiopian Olympic Committee published a statement concerning Ethiopia's decision not to participate in the 1988 Olympics.

The statement pointed out:

Ethiopia persistently opposed South Korea's plan to unilaterally host the Olympics when the Korean people are pursuing peace talks to put an end to the artificial division.

Ethiopia is making active efforts to promote global peace and respects all initiatives for the success of such efforts, paying special attention to these initiatives.

The Ethiopian Olympic Committee firmly believes in the role of the Olympic games in strengthening peace and friendship among the peoples of the world. The proposal of the DPRK to cohost the 24th Olympics is supported by all peace-loving people of the world.

Ethiopia will not be indifferent to any act that runs counter to the ideals of the Olympics or that is harmful to the unity of the people and to the dignity and equality of mankind.

The statement also noted that Ethiopia strongly opposes South Korea's unilateral hosting of the Olympics, because Korea's division would be further deepened if the Olympics are hosted unilaterally by South Korea at a time when the Korean people are struggling for national reunification.

The statement then stressed:

Ethiopia wants peace instead of war, unity instead of division, and mutual respect and cooperation instead of confrontation. Thus, Ethiopia supports the Korean people's struggle for the peaceful reunification of the nation.

If the Olympics are held only in the South of divided Korea, they would exercise negative influence over the Korean people's struggle for peaceful reunification, would prolong Korea's division, and would further aggravate confrontation between the North and the South.

The statement pointed out that many international conferences in the past expressed support for the DPRK's plan for cohosting the Olympics and discussed the issue of working out measures to implement this plan. The statement then expressed regret that the plan to cohost the Olympics, which enjoys the unanimous support of the peace-loving people of the world, has not been realized.

The statement noted:

Ethiopia has decided not to participate in the 24th Olympics because South Korea's unilateral hosting of the Olympics would exercise negative influence over the Korean people's struggle for national reunification. However, if the games are held in Pyongyang and Seoul, realizing the DPRK's plan to cohost the Olympics, Ethiopia will participate in the Olympics.

Cuban Sportsmen Support Decision on Olympics
SK220904 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2200 GMT 21JAN 88

[Text] According to a report in the 18 January edition of the Cuban paper GRANMA, Cuban sportsmen, at a general meeting, supported the decision of the Cuban Olympic Committee not to participate in the 1988 Olympics and sent a letter to Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Council of Ministers and premier of the cabinet of the Republic of Cuba.

The letter pointed out:

Holding a general meeting, our sportsmen, who were selected from across the nation, tenaciously support the decision of our government and Olympic Committee not to participate in the 1988 Olympics as long as the present situation continues.

The efforts made by Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz for cohosting the Olympics and for the just solution of this question inspire the Cuban sportsmen so that they continuously prepare themselves for victory in the games wherever in the world they may be held.

We will realize sound and spotless sports games by strengthening the efforts to foster skill and might and will give boundless honor to the fatherland. Medals cannot make us discard our principles. Fatherland or death! We will win the victory.

Pyongyang Celebrates Ceausescu Birthday
SK220527 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0451 GMT 22 Jan 88

[Text] Pyongyang January 22 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang meeting celebrating the 70th birthday of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the Romanian Socialist Republic, was held on January 21 at the February 8 House of Culture.

Hyon Sun-kwon, secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, made a speech at the meeting.

He noted that Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu took part in the revolution in his early years, devotedly struggled for national independence and the liberation of the country and has since made a great contribution to the cause of promoting the wellbeing and happiness of the people and achieving the development and prosperity of the country. For his exploits performed for the country and people, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu enjoys the support and the deep respect of the Romanian Communists and people as a faithful son of the Romanian people and an outstanding social and political activist with skillful organizing capacity and tested leadership ability, he pointed out, and continued:

We wish the fraternal Romanian people greater success in their endeavours for implementing the decisions of the 13th congress of the party.

Aureliu Ioan Lazar, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Romanian Embassy in Pyongyang, spoke next.

He pointed out the particular intimacy forged between the respected leader of the Romanian people Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu and the great leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Il-song and stressed that repeated meetings and talks between the two leaders made shine the annals of the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the two parties, the two countries and the two peoples.

He said:

The Romanian people are sincerely rejoiced over the great achievements made by the Korean people in the struggle for carrying out the decisions of the sixth congress of the party and for the complete victory of socialism under the tested leadership of the great leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau, and secretary, of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Attending the meeting were Kim Pong-ul, minister of Labour Administration and chairman of the Korea-Romania Friendship Association, Han Si-hae, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, and other personages concerned.

Yugoslavia Spokesman Supports Reunification
SK220439 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0425 GMT 22 Jan 88

[Text] Pyongyang January 22 (KCNA)—Aleksandar Stanic, a spokesman for the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia, on January 14 held a press conference and expressed support to the Korean people's cause of national reunification.

Noting that Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in his new year address advanced a proposal for convening a North-South joint conference attended by persons in authority of both sides and representatives of all the political parties and social organisations and people of all social standings, the spokesman stressed:

Yugoslavia supports the Korean people's struggle for achieving national reunification through negotiations.

Theory on Grand Concord in South Refuted
SK220045 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2148 GMT 17 Jan 88

[NODONG SINMUN 18 January commentary: "What Is Grand National Reconciliation Aimed At?"]

[Text] Along with the propaganda commotion over the so-called grand national reconciliation, a series of unusual moves has been manifested in South Korea. Traitor No Tae-u came out with the theory on grand national reconciliation as soon as he faked his victory in the presidential election late last year. Since then traitor No Tae-u has taken every opportunity, such as so-called get-togethers, press interviews, and his New Year's message, to talk about this theory. He contends that power should be changed and that the Olympic games should be successfully held by achieving grand national reconciliation.

Meanwhile, No Tae-u has stretched his hand to the opposition parties and off-stage forces of all walks of life and has even formed the Council to Promote Democratic Reconciliation, clamoring that his new government will be an all-people coalition government, a coalition cabinet, rather than an exclusive government of the DJP.

Contacts between Chon Tu-hwan, the present ruler, and the presidents of opposition parties, and with so-called President-elect No Tae-u are taking place under the pretext of discussing the question of grand reconciliation. This is a reality that the South Korean people, who

have fought against extending the military rule and shedding blood, cannot idly look at and a situation that urges everyone to awaken himself.

By their terms the puppets mean that the military dictatorial group, the democratic forces, and the popular masses can live together harmoniously within the fence of grand reconciliation in South Korea. There could be no more deceptive jargon than this.

The reason a jackal enters a sheep's fold is not to protect it, but to gratify hunger by swallowing it. By the same reasoning, the No Tae-u ring is extending its sinister hand to the opposition parties and off-stage forces of all walks of life, talking about coexistence within the fence of grand reconciliation. This is also fully comprehended in view of the background of the situation in which the puppets have come out with the theory of grand reconciliation.

As has been known, traitor No Tae-u concocted his victory in the presidential election by mobilizing all public power and funding, deception and swindling, but from that moment, encountered powerful new resistance from the South Korean people.

The popular masses have claimed that the election returns are null and void, maintaining that the victory of traitor No Tae-u, who was attacked and rejected everywhere during the election campaign, was fabricated by deception and swindling, and have cried for the overthrow the military dictatorship, contending that the assumption of power of traitor No Tae-u, who emerged from the same poisonous roots as traitor Chon Tu-hwan, is precisely the extension of the military dictatorship. Mass struggles have erupted in Seoul, Kwangju, and other places. The opposition parties have risen in protest and off-stage democratic organizations have turned out in struggle. The people have found it difficult to hold back their indignation, asking if many people's imprisonment, the loss of students' lives, and the tear gas suffered by many residents' only resulted in the victory of the military hooligan. Also they have stated that they would drive out No Tae-u like Marcos, who was banished to the United States after perpetrating corruption and fraud.

This situation has greatly jeopardized traitor No Tae-u himself—who was able to cook up only 30% of support from the voters, even though he resorted to fraud and deception—the group of South Korean military hooligans who tried to prolong the military rule by transferring power to another military hooligan, and their U.S. masters.

They judged that if the situation was left intact, the eruption of another June resistance would be inevitable and thus, the drama of replacing rulers, the parliamentary elections, and the Olympic games would be aborted.

They came out with the theory of grand national reconciliation to turn this situation to their favor. The background of this situation gives clear answer to the reactionary nature of the argument over grand reconciliation.

This is designed to limit the opposition parties and all other antigovernment forces within a fence called grand national reconciliation and to chain them to prevent them from rising in struggle, thereby forcing them to accept the results of the election and smoothly staging the drama of transferring power. This is also designed to gain superiority in the National Assembly elections, based on the power they will gain by buying time, and to hold the Olympics as scheduled. The puppets are babbling about a coalition government or a coalition cabinet while talking about grand reconciliation. This is a cunning trick to obtain a lion's share—and stabilization of the military regime—by giving some low-level positions to the opposition parties.

The puppets babble about grand national reconciliation in an attempt to harshly suppress, with guns and bayonets, the act of opponent forces rising in the struggle, saying that their struggle hinders grand reconciliation. In other words, the theory of grand reconciliation is the biggest machination ever designed to hoodwink the democratic forces, pretending to give something to them, and to maintain and strengthen the military fascist dictatorship, and is another slogan that advocates the bloody suppression of the people.

This is not the first time that the puppets have tried to defuse the dangerous political situation with the two-faced tactics of appeasement and suppression. To prevent the storms in Manila in the Philippines, which removed the pro-U.S. dictatorial Marcos regime, from affecting South Korea, the puppets, by floating the idea of compromise between the ruling and opposition parties, escaped the crisis by cajoling the opposition parties and by suppressing the democratic forces. Last year, with the 29 June declaration, while seducing the people with the promise of democratization yet brutally suffocating forces that oppose the dictatorial rule with tear gas canisters, they fabricated the military gangster's election by staging the deceptive drama of an election. As they did in the past, the puppets are taking a big gamble.

Of course, grand national reconciliation is not No Tae-u's creation. Like the strategy of compromise between the ruling and opposition parties and the 29 June declaration, the theory of grand national reconciliation was devised by the United States. This is proven by the fact that as soon as traitor No Tae-u talked about the theory of greater harmony, the U.S. leaders, while saying that reconciliation and compromise with the three major candidates in the election are important, supported reconciliation and compromise. It is no secret that the United States dispatched South Korean affairs experts of its Congress and Administration to South Korea and

instructed its ambassador in Seoul to contact opposition figures and put pressure on them to accept the results of the election and join the great national reconciliation.

The United States is again ridiculing the destinies of the South Korean people to seek stability in the pro-U.S. military dictatorship. While babbling about compromise and promises in public, the U.S. imperialists and the puppets once again extended the pro-U.S. military dictatorship behind the scenes. This time, they are playing the game of grand reconciliation. This shows that they enjoy shameful machinations. However, the South Korean situation will not be as they want it.

As is known, South Korea is under the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule, a place where national and class-oriented absurdities are acute. In such a colonial and fascist society where exploitation is rampant, there can in no way be grand reconciliation between the ruling gang, which has enriched itself by suppressing and exploiting the people, and the people who are suppressed and exploited by the rascals. Moreover, the South Korean ruling group consists of military gangsters, while those whom, it said, it will reconcile with are democratic forces who declared divorce from the military dictators. Like water and fire are incompatible, the dictatorial forces and the democratic forces cannot live together.

It is a stark reality that approximately 12 million South Korean people, far more than a half the people who voted, opposed the extension of the military rule by traitor No Tae-u in the presidential election held late last year. It is unthinkable that the people who threw stones at rascal No Tae-u even at harsh gunpoint by the military fascist group and did not vote for him, would reconcile with the puppets by taking the cunning bait of great harmony. The game of great harmony by the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u ring cannot not be ruptured.

Under U.S. manipulation, the South Korean puppets, even while babbling about great harmony in public, are ordering, behind the scenes, suppression of the democratic forces. Numerous people who opposed the military dictatorship and the politics of torture were subjected to volleys of tear gas canisters early this year. The tree of dictatorship, which grows from the root of dictatorship, cannot flower with democratization. The South Korean democratic forces must harbor no illusion about the puppets' theory of grand reconciliation, but vigorously struggle against fascism and for democracy and the reunification of the fatherland under the slogan of anti-Americanism and independence. Democratization lies in the persistent struggle against the U.S. imperialists and their running dogs with united efforts.

The puppets are stretching out their illicit hands of greater harmony mainly toward the opposition parties. The South Korean opposition parties must see the cunning nature of the military gangsters, who made the 29 June declaration and who paved the way for extending

the military rule through fraud in the direct election, from the smile they display while babbling about grand reconciliation, and must awaken themselves to the bloody hue from their illicit hands. If the opposition parties keep to the road of compromise, failing to draw a lesson from their past when they were deceived by the 29 June declaration, this will mean betraying the people who voted for them and shunning their supporters. It will be a just choice under the current situation for the opposition parties to rise in the struggle together with the people of broad strata. The South Korean puppet clique must immediately stop playing the deceptive game of grand reconciliation and must resign from office as requested by the people.

Paper Condemns South's 'Torture Policy'
SK220547 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0508 GMT 22 Jan 88

[Text] Pyongyang January 22 (KCNA)—The South Korean fascist clique recently arrested Myong No-hon, a boy 16 years old, on charges of being a murderer and brutally tortured him into critical conditions.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN says:

The torture of this boy which was timed to coincide with the first anniversary of the torture-death of Pak Chongchol, a student of Seoul University, again brought to light the vampirish nature of the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group, touching off a wave of indignation among the people.

The torture, a habitual method applied by the fascist clique to make guiltless people criminals, is becoming all the more rampant. The fact that the boy gave himself up to the false confession that he killed a stranger girl student, well shows to what harsh torture he has been put.

Now he is standing between life and death, still unconscious in a hospital.

However, the puppet police headquarters chief had the face to talk about "guarantee of the victim's rights and interests" and "self-control in unreasonable investigation."

Torture policy can be ended only when the dictatorial politics of such military fascist group as the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group is terminated and the democratization of socio-political life realized in South Korea.

Chongnyon Threatened by Japanese 'Hooligans'
SK220519 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0447 GMT 22 Jan 88

[Text] Pyongyang January 22 (KCNA)—Provocations against Koreans in Japan by Japanese hooligans are continuously taking place, according to a KNS report from Tokyo.

Provocations have become frequent since the South Korean puppet clique made public so-called "results of investigation" into the missing KAL incident which was reported towards the end of November last year and meanly shifted the responsibility for the "incident" to the DPRK.

In Fukui Prefecture, 6 threatening telephone calls were made by hooligans on January 16 to the prefectural headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and the main office of the Korean Credit Association in Fukui. They said in Japanese "We will kill all Koreans".

That day a stone was thrown to smash the front windowpane of the second floor of the main office of the Korean Credit Association.

The Chongnyon headquarters in Saitama was raided again on January 20.

At around zero hours that morning Japanese ruffians hurled stones at the building of the headquarters to smash over 10 windowpanes.

Earlier, a propaganda car of the headquarters was destroyed by them.

Japanese hooligans broke windowpanes of the Saitama No. 1 Korean primary and middle school.

The prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon strongly demanded that steps were taken against anti-Chongnyon provocations by Japanese hooligans.

South Korea

U.S. To Allow Northerners To Visit Relatives
SK220227 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
22 Jan 88 p 1

[Text] Los Angeles [YONHAP]—Korean-Americans, who hold either U.S. citizenship or the status of permanent residents, will be allowed to invite their direct family members living in North Korea if it is for family reunion.

A responsible official at the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service let on the fact in a meeting on the matter of illegal immigrants Tuesday.

He said North Korea was not a nation with which the United States maintain diplomatic relations. However, Korean Americans can invite their direct family members in North Korea, saying that relevant U.S. authorities will grant visas out of humanitarian concern.

Visas can be obtained at U.S. consular offices in Tokyo or Beijing.

However, the U.S. official made it clear that visa applicants should report in person before the consular offices, indicating that it would be impossible without cooperation from North Korean authorities.

North Said To Abduct Many Foreign Women
SK210159 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
21 Jan 88 p 3

[By KOREA TIMES Correspondent Chong Hon]

[Text] Tokyo—Film director Sin Sang-ok and his actress wife Choe Eun-hi have revealed that there are many foreign women whom North Korea abducted for training its special operatives in foreign languages.

In a recent interview with TBS-TV of Japan, the couple let on the fact that they came across a Chinese woman while staying in Pyongyang, who said she was kidnaped from Macao.

She was living in a special apartment quarter along the upper stream of the Taedong River in Pyongyang.

The Chinese woman, according to the TBS-TV interview with the couple, was engaged in teaching Chinese to North Korea's special operatives, being trained apparently for special operations against South Korea.

The couple, who was kidnapped to North Korea, made a successful flight back to the West via Vienna while working on film business on a special favor they won from Kim Chong-il, heir-apparent to his father Kim Il-song, who has ruled North Korea for the past four decades. They younger Kim is reportedly a film bug.

In a night broadcast, the couple played a tape recording of the junior Kim saying "As Sin was a famous film director in South Korea....," suggesting he kidnapped him.

The couple is now living in the United States.

Businesses Seek Commercial Ties With PRC
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[By staff reporter Pak Hang-hwan: "Trade Wind Blows Strong Toward China"]

[Text] The "China wind" blowing over Korea's economic front is prompting domestic businesses to seek out private commercial links with the Communist country.

Seoul's open commercial wooing of Beijing, cherished yet untouchable just one year ago, began with President-elect No Tae-u's remark early this month that he hopes the two countries will open trade offices in each other's capital after the Seoul Olympics in September.

Since then, Korean firms have been caught up in pursuit of business ties with the pro-Pyongyang country with huge economic potential.

It is no secret that Korea and China trade via Hong Kong, although neither government openly acknowledges it.

Indirect trade between the two countries reportedly surpassed \$1 billion in 1987.

"The '88 Seoul Olympics will be a landmark in the process of firming up the commercial ties with China, which will send a large delegation to the Olympiad," an analyst here said.

"We need to prepare for such developments," he noted.

In a press conference Jan. 4, Ku Cha-kyong, chairman of the Federation of Korean Industries (FKI), triggered the China wind by saying, "We, the business leaders, will activate a Korea-China trade consultative body under the FKI wing in February or March to push for exchange of capital, technology and industrial goods with the Communist country."

His remarks won a quick response from Korea's business community.

After the press conference, many businessmen expressed their willingness to join the proposed consultative body.

Korean traders see China as a growing market for industrial goods as they seek to reduce dependence on the United States and Japan.

China views Korea as a reservoir of capital and expertise. The northern coastal provinces of China traditionally traded with Korea but have attracted relatively little investment from Hong Kong and the West, the analyst said.

The potential for the two countries to expand their commercial links is great. Koreans' fever for China is a "matter of course," he said.

The proposed FKI consultative body will exchange China-related business information between domestic businesses.

It will be a "trade window" with China.

FKI officials will contact the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce to learn more about the Chinese trading system.

The Korea Foreign Trade Association (KFTA) will upgrade its Trade Monitoring Committee to cover more Chinese affairs.