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DEFENSE MINISTRY HOLDS MILITARY SCIENCE MEETING

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[Text] Recently the Ministry of National Defense held an all-army conference on military science work to discuss measures to implement the Central Military Party Committee's resolution on trends and tasks in military science work in the new stage and during the 1980-1985 period.

To enable the delegates to thoroughly understand the content of the resolution, Comrade Van Tien Dung elaborated on the task of developing Vietnam 's military science in the new era of the nation in accordance with the aprty's political and military lines. He expressed his views on fundamental problems which required thorough understanding in building Vietnam's military science and protecting the socialist Vietnamese fatherland as well as on problems regarding leadership, organization and methodical study in military science work.

The delegates studied the resolution and heatedly discussed a Defense Ministry report read by Gen Hoang Van Thai. The delegates affirmed that the achievements scored in military science work over the past 10 years have contributed to improving command work and to achieving victories in our people's wars for national liberation and defense. The delegates also analyzed the shortcomings and weaknesses and their causes and summed up the lessons drawn with a view to stepping up military science work in the future.

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QUAN DOI NHAN DAN HAILS MILITARY SCIENCE SECTOR

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[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 11 February editorial: "Develop Military Science"]

[Text] Military science is one element in the military strength of the country and contributes to the achievement of victories. It is a theoretical base for organizational work and military operations, for providing training to cadres and combatants and for improving the fighting strength of the armed forces.

Over the past few decades, especially since the first military science conference (held in September 1970), in the light of the party's political and military lines, the military science of Vietnam has made significant progress, duly contributing to the nation's great victory in its anti-U.S. national salvation struggle.

The military science sector has gradually built a system of theoretical documents for people's war, for all-people national defense and for building the people's armed forces. Through various revolutionary stages, the military science sector has tried to stay close to the reality of war and to various battlefields in order to make studies and provide timely services in accordance with requirements for leadership over combat activities. An organizational system of specialized military science agencies along with military science councils of various echelons and branches has been established throughout the entire armed forces. They have developed their efficiency in reviewing combat experiences and promoting the growth of military science.

Along with the glorious victory scored by our people in their anti-U.S. war, the military science sector has constantly developed and scored many encouraging and praiseworthy achievements, contributing to creating a combined strength for people's war.

At present, the struggle for national construction and defense requires us to continue to build our army into a powerful people's revolutionary army with an ever-higher degree of standardization and modernization--an army which must be combat ready and determined to fight for national defense while engaging in productive labor for economic and national construction and carrying out our national and international obligations.

The tasks of building the armed forces, strengthening national defense and defending the country require us to develop military science another step with a switch from military science dealing with armed uprisings and the liberation war to military science dealing with defending the socialist fatherland.

In order to meet the above requirements, the military science sector must always be aware of and must serve in the implementation of the party's revolutionary and military lines. It must keep itself abreast of the real situation of Vietnam and, at the same time, must plan the modernization of weapons and equipment to be carried out in the armed forces. Our military science sector must develop toward inheriting and improving our nation's precious legacy and experiences and simultaneously acquiring the quintessences of proletarian science in the world, especially the military science of the Soviet Union. It must strive to learn the advanced and modern experiences of the Soviet Army.

The application of the many experiences the military science sector has accumulated over the past few decades with its knowledge of modern science is necessary for it to develop rapidly and vigorously so as to deal promptly with new problems in theory and practice arising from our immediate and long-term military tasks.

Every echelon must involve itself further in the management of military science, intensively improve the planning task, skillfully combine reviewing activities with efforts to conduct research, closely combine military science plans with the armed forces' unit-building, training and combat plans, aim at specific targets and finish each research project quickly and completely and put it into use on schedule.

Regarding military science as a key and permanent task, party committees at all levels must base themselves on the resolution of the Central Military Party Committee to issue their own resolutions, providing guidance for steps to be taken by their subordinate units to carry out their military science task. Every commander must have a careful plan for organizing implementation. He must provide practical leadership and guidance in order to create conditions for the military science task to develop favorably.

The tasks of building and consolidating the system of military science agencies at all levels and perfecting the organizational structures of various essential apparatuses in order to ensure that they are good enough to perform their managerial and research functions must be carried out intensively. In addition, it is necessary to employ various suitable forms to attract the participation of large numbers of cadres and combatants.

A decisive factor is that we must strive to train and improve the contingent of military science cadres in all respects. They must have high qualities, must be sufficient in number and must be assigned in a rational manner so that they can involve themselves further in their assigned tasks and can accumulate experience. Not only must this contingent of cadres have good political qualities, master Marxism-Leninism, fully understand the party's line and viewpoints, and possess high revolutionary zeal, modern military knowledge and good professional skills, but they must also have a knowledge of scientific methods of research and know how to apply dialectic materialism- and historical materialism-related methods in studying various patterns of armed struggle and war as well as the interactions and dialectic relations between these patterns. It is absolutely necessary to avoid all manifestations of conservatism, subjectivism, empiricism, imitation and dogmatism because they are the ills which can create great obstacles to the process of making profound studies for the development of military science.

Social unity and cooperation are very important factors for stimulating the growth of military science. Among the military science agencies at all levels and of all sectors, it is necessary to have a clear-cut delineation of responsibilities and a plan for close coordination. Among military science cadres themselves, it is necessary to uphold the spirit of unity and coordination, to be modest in learning from each other's experiences and in joining with each other in carrying out research projects.

With the correct and creative line of the party, with the great military science potentials and the treasure of enriched war experiences and with the intelligence and creativity of command cadres and scientific research cadres, we will certainly be able to develop our strong points, overcome shortcomings and develop the results of the second all-army military science conference in order to build a revolutionary Vietnamese military science--a modern science with national character, a unique science with an appropriate international standing capable of effectively contributing to the struggle for national defense and construction as well as to the world's revolutionary undertaking.