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ANTICOMMUNIST RESISTANCE MOVEMENT DESCRIBED

Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS in French No 935, 29 Nov 82 p 12

[Article by Philippe Marcovici: "Vietnam: Ten Thousand Fighters for Freedom"]

[Text] The resistance is organizing and is finding growing support among a population that is being starved, exploited and enslaved by the new communist masters of Hanoi.

Col Pham van Lieu, a former South Vietnamese marine, is a realist. He knows that his already white hair will turn even whiter before he sees his country liberated and he knows that a hard fight lies ahead of him. But Col Pham van Lieu is also an idealist and doesn't doubt for an instant the final outcome, which for him is clear: giving "freedom, justice and dignity" back to the Vietnamese people. Today he is coordinating the operations of the South Vietnamese Liberation Front abroad.

Col Pham van Lieu, back from the Vietnamese underground and in Paris for only a short stay, paints a dark picture of his country, which has been under the communist yoke for more than 7 years. No, he told us, the rehabilitation camps have not been eliminated; they have simply been moved ... right after the Sino-Vietnamese conflict. Thus the camps which used to be on the Chinese border, in the regions of Lang Son, Cao Bang and Lao Kay, have today erected their barbed-wire fences at Than Hua and Ninh Binh, in the former Annam. According to Col Pham van Lieu, there are still about 400,000 people in these camps and in many others scattered throughout the country. Vietnamese die in them every day from sickness, hunger or exhaustion, when they aren't executed following an attempt to escape. Men and women are sometimes released from these death camps, like Gen Nguyen van Vy or the former governor of the central bank, Le Quang Uyen, quite recently. A few weeks later and on one pretext or another, most of them find their way back to the camps.

In 1981, Vietnamese authorities called for volunteers to work in the USSR. Some South Vietnamese, in order to escape slow death in the "new economic zones" or starvation, which is a threat everywhere else, responded to that call.

The Prisoners of the Gas Pipeline

But it was very quickly learned in South Vietnam that the work was in Siberia, on the gas pipeline, under inhuman conditions for men and women accustomed to

Youth union, women's union and trade union organizations should carry out education in the law in combination with education on other laws involving their organizations such as educating youths in the laws concerning their ethics, rights and obligations; women's union members in the laws concerning marriage and family life and their responsibility as mothers toward their children; and trade union members in the law concerning labor and other systems to which they are entitled, and so forth.

When commending a certain person for a good job in production or business, we should not forget to make sure that his job has been carried out in accordance with the law. Some units, upon hearing initial reports, were thought to have obtained good economic results in production. However, after careful study, they were found to have caused harm to the state and the people several times greater than the benefits just because they had failed to perform their work in accordance with the law.

To ensure that the law is respected, in addition to propaganda and educational work, it is necessary to have the coercion of the state. Although coercion is not a fundamental measures, it is an absolutely indispensable task for the state. Coercive punishment must be based on justice and correctness. In bringing criminals to court, it is necessary to combine coercive measure with educational and persuasive measures so as to make it possible for them to acknowledge and correct their mistakes so that other persons can use this as a preventive lesson.

Our people are now living in an area of great revolutionary development. The struggle between the two paths is taking place sharply and decisively at the same time as opposition and sabotage activities by the enemy. Therefore, we must quickly introduce the law into our daily life in order to create a new society and a new type of man with a life of happiness, equality and justice against all manifestations of hostility in the country and abroad.

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a tropical climate. So there were no more volunteers. That's when thoughts turned to political prisoners, several thousand of whom were "shipped" to Siberia.

The current, really tragic situation of South Vietnam fully justifies the fight being waged by the United Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam, led by Vice Admiral Hoang Co Minh. More than 10,000 well-armed men have now been deployed, mainly in three regions of South Vietnam: in the hills between Bien Hoa and Dalat, in the high plateaus between Kontum and Pleiku, and in the mountains between Qui Nhon (on the coast) and the high plateaus. Other pockets of resistance are being organized along the Cambodian border and in the forests of the Can Tho region, in the far south of the peninsula. The resistance recently launched several attacks on North Vietnamese positions, in particular on the depots of Tay Ninh, halfway between Saigon and the Cambodian border and on the Suon Nghe road in the province of Long Thanh, 100 km from the former capital. However, according to Col Pham van Lieu, it is not a question of the resistance launching into a real war against North Vietnamese troops. The Front does not yet have the resources for this and perhaps does not wish to do so. At present, the main goal is to unify the command of the various resistance groups and to prove to the population that the resistance is a reality and that they can therefore join it and find in it the hope of a future liberation. This is why the resistance fighters are satisfied for the time being to camp on the former "hunting grounds" of the communist resistance forces during the time of the American war--impregnable areas where the North Vietnamese are today encountering the same obstacles as the GI's of yesterday.

Of the 1 million soldiers who comprised the South Vietnamese Army, 400,000 have been captured or killed and 200,000 have fled the country in the odyssey of the boat people. Thus there are still about 400,000 former soldiers whom the Front hopes to rally to its cause. Arming them would not be a real problem, since the South Vietnamese Army buried many weapons caches before surrendering. As for munitions, they are smuggled in through Cambodia and Laos and with the help of corruption, it is the North Vietnamese Army itself which supplies the guerrillas, at the price of 1 piastre per cartridge! Moreover, there are hundreds of soldiers in the army of occupation in Cambodia who are deserting with arms and ammunition.

No, Col Pham van Lieu has no illusions and he knows that his country will not be liberated tomorrow. But he is Vietnamese, with everything that implies: a passion for living, a passion for freedom, a passion for dignity. His people have proved too often in history that they could sacrifice their blood and suffering for a cause which they knew was just. Col Pham van Lieu and all those thousands of Vietnamese, who are resisting and rejecting the slavery that others are trying to impose on them, are fighting in the mountains and in the forests rather than surrender. In Vietnam, people have gotten into the habit of dying with dignity.

11915

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

'ENEMY LEAFLETS' IN BORDER AREAS DESTROYED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Nov 82 p 2

[Article by Vi Van Thang: "The Fate of Enemy Leaflets"]

[Text] The day had not yet begun, but Mrs Seo Hon was already up to cook rice for her husband and son to go to their upland field for work. As she reached the staircase, she saw pieces of paper the size of a hand scattered across the yard and garden. She picked up a sheet and hurriedly ran back up to her house while calling her son, "Sao Ly, come see what this paper means. Lots of them! Lots of them! Don't know who brought them here or when. Both the yard and garden are full!" Sao Ly threw aside his cotton-filled blanket, briskly got up, took the piece of paper from his mother's hand, then walked to the kitchen stove to read it. "Oh!" Sao Ly said in a strained voice, "this is again those Chinese guys' trick of disseminating psywar leaflets! That explains why during the night I heard the 'boop, boop' of their mortar fire, similar to the dampened sound of hand grenades exploding underwater. Cadres of our village military unit said that the muffled sound is caused by bullets loaded with leaflets. Well, I'm going to do away with this one."

As he finished speaking, Seo Ly tore the propaganda leaflet into small pieces and threw them into the kitchen fire.

Mrs Seo Hoa asked, "Son, what does the leaflet say?"

Seo Ly looked at his mother, "Mom, have you ignored what the cadres told us?"

"No one can disregard these recommendations. But it is proper for us to read the leaflet and to know what it says."

"If we read it, we have more or less fallen into the enemy trap. The enemy never speaks well of us, never loves us, and never displays sincerity toward us. Do you agree with me, Mom?"

After following the discussion between his wife and son about the enemy propaganda leaflet, Mr Seo Lam got up and said in a loud voice, "Burn it, burn it up, right away!" Mrs Seo Hoa laughed, "Well, to do that please go down and pick up the leaflets. There are quite a few of them, I think we can use these leaflets to cook our meals for a couple of days."

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2 RUE ANCELE 72 - 75001 PARIS - TEL 749.12.32

Vietnam: dix mille combattants pour la liberté

La résistance s'organise et trouve un appui croissant dans une population affamée, exploitée et asservie par les nouveaux maîtres communistes venus de Hanoi

Le colonel Pham van Lieu, un ancien des Marines sud-vietnamiens, est un réaliste. Il sait que ses cheveux déjà blancs blanchiront plus encore avant qu'il ne voit la libération de son pays et il sait que de rudes combats l'attendent encore. Mais, le colonel Pham van Lieu est aussi un idéaliste, pas un instant il ne doute de l'issue finale qui pour lui est claire: rendre au peuple vietnamien « la liberté, la justice et la dignité ». Aujourd'hui, il coordonne les activités du Front de libération du Sud-Vietnam à l'étranger.

Le colonel Pham van Lieu, de passage à Paris et de retour des maquis du Vietnam, dresse un sombre tableau de son pays depuis plus de sept ans sous la botte communiste. Non, nous dit-il, les camps de rééducation n'ont pas été supprimés, ils ont tout simplement été déplacés... au lendemain du conflit sino-vietnamien. Ainsi, les camps

implantés à la frontière chinoise, dans les régions de Lang Son, de Cao Bang ou de Lao Kay ont aujourd'hui dressé leurs barbelés à Than Hua et à Ninh Binh, dans l'ancien Annam. Selon le colonel Pham van Lieu, il resterait encore environ 400 000 personnes dans ces camps et dans de nombreux autres répartis sur l'ensemble du territoire. Des Vietnamiens y meurent chaque jour, de maladie, de faim, d'épuisement quand ils ne sont pas exécutés au lendemain d'une tentative de fuite. Parfois, des hommes et des femmes sont libérés de ces mouiroirs, comme le général Nguyen van Vy ou l'ancien gouverneur de la banque centrale, Lê Quang Uyen, tout récemment. Quelques semaines plus tard et sous un prétexte ou un autre, la plupart retrouve le chemin des camps.

En 1981, les autorités vietnamiennes ont fait appel à des volontaires au travail en URSS. Certains Sud-

Vietnamiens, pour échapper à la mort lente dans les « nouvelles zones économiques » ou à la famine qui menace partout ailleurs, ont répondu favorablement à cet appel.

Les prisonniers du gazoduc

Très vite on a pourtant su, au Sud-Vietnam, qu'il s'agissait de travail en Sibérie, sur le gazoduc, dans des conditions inhumaines pour des hommes et des femmes habitués à un climat tropical. Il n'y eut donc plus de volontaires. C'est alors qu'on pensa aux prisonniers politiques dont plusieurs milliers ont été « expédiés » en Sibérie.

La situation réellement dramatique que connaît le Sud-Vietnam justifie pleinement le combat que mène le Front uni de libération du Sud-Vietnam, présidé par le vice-amiral Hoang Co Minh. Actuellement, plus de 10 000 hommes bien armés se sont implantés essentiellement dans trois régions du Sud-Vietnam.

Dans les collines entre Bien Hoa et Dalat, sur les Hauts Plateaux entre Kontum et Pleiku et dans les montagnes entre Qui Nhon (sur la côte) et les Hauts Plateaux. D'autres poches de résistance s'organisent, à la frontière cambodgienne et dans les forêts de la région de Can Tho, tout au sud de la péninsule. La Résistance a récemment lancé plusieurs attaques contre des positions nord-vietnamiennes, notamment sur les entrepôts de Tay Ninh, à mi-chemin entre Saigon et la frontière cambodgienne et sur la route de Suon Nghe, dans la province de Long Thanh, à 100 km de l'ancienne capitale. Toutefois, selon le colonel Pham van Lieu, il ne s'agit pas pour la Résistance de se lancer dans une véritable guerre contre les troupes nord-vietnamiennes. Le Front n'en a pas encore les moyens et peut-être ne le souhaite-t-il pas. Actuellement, l'objectif essentiel est d'unifier le commandement des différents

maquis et de prouver à la population que la Résistance est une réalité et qu'elle peut donc s'y rallier et y trouver l'espoir d'une libération future. C'est pourquoi, les Résistants se contentent pour l'heure de camper sur les anciennes « terres de chasse » des maquis communistes du temps de la guerre américaine.

Terres inexpugnables où les Nord-Vietnamiens trouvent aujourd'hui les mêmes difficultés que les GI's hier.

Du million de soldats qui formaient l'armée sud-vietnamienne, 400 000 ont été capturés ou tués, 200 000 ont fui le pays dans l'odyssée des Boat-People. Il reste donc environ 400 000 anciens militaires que le Front espère rallier à sa cause. Les armer ne serait pas un problème réel, l'armée sud-vietnamienne ayant enterré de nombreux stocks, avant de capituler. Pour ce qui est des munitions, il en arrive en contrebande par

le Cambodge et le Laos et, la corruption aidant, c'est l'armée nord-vietnamienne, elle-même, qui fournit les guerilleros au prix d'une piastre la cartouche ! Pour le reste, il y a les centaines de soldats de l'armée d'occupation au Cambodge, qui désertent avec armes et bagages.

Non, le colonel Pham van Lieu ne se fait pas d'illusions et il sait que la libération de son pays n'est pas pour demain. Mais il est vietnamien, avec tout ce que cela veut dire. Rage de vivre, rage de liberté, rage de dignité. Son peuple, trop souvent dans l'Histoire, a prouvé qu'il savait donner son sang et sa souffrance pour une cause qu'il avait juste alors, lui et tous les milliers de Vietnamiens qui résistent et refusent l'esclavage que l'on prétend leur imposer, se battent dans les montagnes et dans les forêts plutôt que de se rendre. Au Vietnam, on a pris l'habitude de mourir debout.

Philippe MARCOVICI