

Editorial

WHAT IS THE VIETCONG INTENTION BEHIND THE TRIAL OF THE RESISTANCE FIGHTERS?

On Dec. 1st, the Vietcong administration set up a tribunal in Saigon to try '18 armed counter-revolutionaries of the National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam.' A nineteenth member attracted the attention of public opinion for his absence: according to the Viet Cong, he would have died in Southern Laos. But he was still brought out for a 'posthumous trial.' He was the leader of the NUFROLIV. He was President Hoang Co Minh.

Details concerning the background leading to that trial have caused considerable surprise, confusion, and doubt among foreign observers. In this special issue, 'The Vietnamese Resistance' will deal with these details and will bring out the plain truth for the interest of our readers. But, in the first place, we have to pose ourselves this question: 'Why did the Viet Cong set up this trial and, in particular, why did they have to stage a posthumous trial of President Hoang Co Minh who is still living?'

For several years, the Viet Cong have seen clearly that the resistance of the people, far from being passive and without direction, has grown into a systematic and well-organized opposition. The ever-expanding resistance bases in the country have, without much fanfare, served to guide the people quietly into a line of struggle which aims at 'inflicting the maximum of overall damages to the regime while carefully conserving the forces of the struggle.' Thanks to that strategy, the resistance movement has managed to develop, and to avoid destruction as was the case with the many isolated armed resistance groups that sprang up spontaneously during the previous phase of the people's resistance. However, because of this strategy which sought, relentlessly but quietly, to proselytize the people from the grassroots up, public opinion at large did not see clearly, and did not have a just appreciation of the real strength of the resistance. The Viet Cong knew better, because they are the target for the attacks by the resistance, and because they have seen the demoralization of their troops.

In order to deal with the resistance, they have resorted to campaigns of terror. For several years, they have had clashes with the resistance, and a number of resistance fighters have been captured, subjected to tortures or outright murder without any public announcement being made. This time, these acts of violence committed against the people were publicly brought out in an 'open' trial in order to serve the same purpose of terror. This campaign of terror was also deemed necessary to create pressures, forcing the people into expanding their labor to help shore up the regime. Public opinion at large only saw the outlaw signs of efforts at 'improving the economy' by the Nguyen Van Linh clique without realizing that, in conjunction with that same policy, the Viet Cong regime had also stepped up a campaign of terror to further stifle the resistance of the people. The trial of the priests at the 'Congregation of the Mother Condempnatrix' last summer was the first sign of this new campaign of terror that had gone almost unnoticed by world public opinion. In addition to their purpose of terrorizing the people, the Viet Cong also wanted to use the trial to publicly accuse the resistance fighters as 'servants of foreigners,' thereby distorting the just cause of the Resistance. At the same time, with the trumped-up charges against the defendants, they also wanted to seek some justification for their continued occupation of Laos and Kampuchea. At the same time, through these charges, they hoped they could create pressures in the world public opinion against those Vietnamese refugees trying to carry out their task of national liberation.

Finally, with their blatantly deceitful trick of announcing the death of President Hoang Co Minh, the Viet Cong hoped to create an atmosphere of despair among the people in the country, particularly to create a situation of confusion that would help the Viet Cong security apparatus in their task of collecting and verifying information concerning the resistance forces. The main purpose of the trial was domestic: it was an attempt to deal a serious blow to the resistance movement inside the country. Only people who had to live in a closed society and were constantly subjected to anxieties and doubts could see through this intention of the Viet Cong. When the news of 'the death of President Hoang Co Minh' was beamed back into Vietnam, the international media would have done exactly what the Viet Cong expected of them: they would have spread a lie by the Viet Cong and have, unwittingly, created the false impression that the news was confirmed.

That is why NUFROLIV has strongly affirmed that President Hoang Co Minh is still safe. And the Front has not given any further comment that would only help the Viet Cong obtaining more information about the personnel and organization of the Resistance.

In any case, some of the truth has been brought out: the Viet Cong finally had to admit publicly that there is organized resistance in Vietnam, and that they are ready to bring the trial the resistance fighters, even posthumously. But then, what can the people expect of their so-called 'policy of reconciliation'? To deal with such a brutal regime, there is only one way left for the Vietnamese people: to overthrow the regime and to build in its wake a free and democratic Viet Nam.

News from Vietnam

RESISTANCE IN CUU LONG

Youth training on mobilization techniques

In the broadcast program on October 23rd, 1987 The Vietnamese Resistance Radio reported that during the months of August and September, The Cuu Long Province ARC has



An Armed Resistance Unit in action

An independent resistance group joins up with NUFRONLIV

During the same period, the Cuu Long province ARC welcomed an independent resistance group that came into contact with the ARC, and later decided to join up with NUFRONLIV. The above mentioned resistance group, named 'Thanh Nien Viet Nam Cuu Nuoc' (The Vietnamese youth for national salvation) had operated in the Tra Vinh area for some time before joining NUFRONLIV.

Once extensively covered by the world media, Vietnam has been neglected by news agencies since the 1975 communist takeover; as a consequence, the public both inside and outside the country hardly knows what has actually happened to the Vietnamese people except for speculations based on Hanoi's propaganda.

To offset the Viet Cong's suppression of information, the National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam has established in 1983 the Vietnamese Resistance Radio to inform the Vietnamese populace of the world and to bring news from within to outside world.

Broadcasting eight hours daily on the 30m and 40m wavebands (13.3 Mhz and 7.4 Mhz), the VRR has effectively mobilized the populace into concerted resistance activities against the Hanoi regime.

Following are some excerpts from VRR daily news program.

stepped up information activities in the districts of Tam Binh, Tra On, and Vinh Liem. NUFRONLIV cadres have organised 4 training courses on mobilization techniques for young men and women in these districts. The courses also included technics on how to sabotage Vietcong' troops morale, how to spread information about the resistance and also the use of small arms. During the campaign, the Cuu Long ARC unit has disseminated 4000 information leaflets.

RESISTANCE IN QUANG DA

Vietcong security agents ambushed in Thien Phuoc District.

On september 10th, the Quang Da ARU ambushed a group of Vietcong security agents at the Thien Phuoc district. After a brief engagement, the Vietcongs broke and ran, leaving behind two killed, and two wounded. One of the wounded later died even though the care of the ARU medic,

the other one was release but chose to stay with the ARU instead of going back to the Vietcong.

RESISTANCE IN SAIGON

Vietcong tried to stop resistance document circulation in Saigon.

Documents and leaflets of NUFRONLIV have wild circulation among people in Saigon lately eventhought special instructions have been handed down from the Vietcong security commisionary there to Security agents to crackdown on the people circulating these document. Their vain action only made people looking even more for these documents which are known to be very popular specially among the Vietcong Party ranks and files in Saigon. The most seeked for documents are the book "Our National Heroes" and the "Resistance popular songs" booklet.

Following are abreviations being used in this news brief:

ARF	The Armed Resistance Forces.
ARU	The Armed Resistance Units
ARVN	The Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam.
CPV	Communist Party of Viet Nam.
GD/ILA	The General Directorate of In-Land Affairs.
GD/OA	The General Directorate of Overseas Affairs.
NRC	The National Resistance Council.
NUFRONLIV	The National United Front for the Liberation of Viet Nam.
RAC	The Resistance and Administration Committees.
RVN	The Republic of Viet Nam (formerly South Viet Nam).
VC	Viet Cong (Vietnamese communist).
VRR	Vietnamese Resistance Radio.

THE STRATEGY OF THE RESISTANCE STRUGGLE AND THE REACTION OF THE VIET CONG.



It would not be easy to understand the facts around the recent trial in Saigon without a clear understanding of the strategy of the Vietnamese Resistance. The trial was an attempt of

the Viet Cong to deal, domestically, with the resistance of the people inside the country. This essay will try to analyze some aspects of the strategy of the resistance struggle and the real aims behind the reactions of the Viet Cong:

The Vietnamese resistance is carrying out a **LIBERATION STRUGGLE**, aiming at putting an end to the continuing situation of war in Indochina. It does not intend to continue a war that, for all practical purposes, has ended in 1975. The main characteristic of the **LIBERATION STRUGGLE** is that it relies primarily on the strength of the people, while the purely military aspect is relegated to a secondary role. The question is: how to mobilize the strength of the people? The people living under an oppressive regime may have different reactions: from passive resistance to active and total resistance. These reactions, if well coordinated and channeled into the definite and sole purpose to overthrowing the regime, will constitute the strength of the resistance and will crystallized into different forms. The Vietnamese Resistance has been mobilizing the people, and coordinating and directing their multi-faceted reactions against the regime that is oppressing them. It is called mass motivation and mobilization. And this effort can only be successful with the support of the people. This support does exist in Vietnam, because the people have realized that they have no future and that they cannot hope to survive as long as the country remains under the domination of the Viet Cong.

Before 1975, the Viet Cong also hoped to incite the people in South Vietnam to rise up and overthrow the Saigon government, but they failed to move the people to do so. The people were then fed up with the war, and were full of criticisms for the Saigon government. But they also did not like the Communist regime, and they did not listen to the Vietcong propaganda. Hence, The Viet Cong had failed in their attempt to call for popular uprisings, and had to resort again to conventional war, using the strategy of war of movements and the firepower of the North Vietnamese regular troops to openly invade and take over South Vietnam.

The change in mass psychology after 1975 has allowed the Vietnamese Resistance to conduct a liberation struggle through mass motivation and mobilization. This strategy has led to the buildup of a resistance infrastructure widely spread among the masses. It is the people themselves who, when they carry out acts of active resistance, even when these are not armed, violent acts, are Resistance fighters. This is a realization of the slogan 'Each Family Is A Resistance Base' that NUFRONLIV has been proclaiming. When that spirit of struggle has spread, when the whole people have been motivated to resist, the Viet Cong

will not be able to afford 60 million security agents to control 60 million people.

When that time comes, what are the Viet Cong going to have to do to counter that situation?

They are going to have to try to let off steam of anger of the populace with economic promises and at the same time to terrorize them with political repression. The trial of Resistance fighters was an illustration of the Vietcong politics of terror.

After being trained on the strategy of mass motivation and mobilization - how to turn the people's resentment into concrete, well-organized and well-directed actions - the resistance fighters are assigned to return to work in their own localities where their family relationships, their familiarity with their neighborhood, and their connections at their places of employment will help them build up a local resistance network. More than live ammunition, their words of mouth will be their main arms for the struggle. They will have to devise their own way for a system of communications and liaison among themselves. They will have to solve the problems of the struggle in their own localities with the most efficient and concrete means available to them. These means will be far from perfect because of the tight control of information, and the many barriers to communications and assembly between the people in a closed Communist society.

The Viet Cong have tried to deal with the people's struggle by creating confusion among the people through their attempts to disrupt communications in the Resistance.

The Viet Cong have tried to cover up the existence of the Vietnamese Resistance. They have tried to ignore, and to keep silent about the activities of the Resistance. They have used the tactic of isolating each region and trying to neutralize the Resistance in one region after another. That tactic consists in seeking out and killing resistance fighters in one region and terrorizing the local people into non-cooperation with the Resistance while keeping the other regions in complete ignorance of these anti-Resistance operations. But these localized campaigns of terror became no longer effective when the Vietnamese Resistance continued to spread far and wide. Therefore, the Viet Cong had to make public their campaigns of terror and to make the announcement that they have succeeded in destroying the leadership of the Resistance, including the top leader. This, they wanted everybody to know, or rather, to believe that 'the Resistance has been disbanded and their leader has been killed.'

The Viet Cong hoped that, by so doing, they would be able to destroy the spirit of resistance among the people, that is those who have not yet been contacted by the Resistance. At the same time, they expected that those who have joined with the Resistance but who were confused by the news due to difficulties of communications would try to make contacts among themselves in order to ascertain the truth, and that would create a situation favorable for the Communist security apparatus to crack down on the Resistance. That is the dark and bloody plot behind the stage of the recent trial where the journalists only saw that they thought to be an example of 'the lenient policy' of Nguyen Van Linh.

On the other hand, the Viet Cong also realized that NUFRONLIV maintains connections with the overseas communities of Vietnamese refugees. They hoped that the confusion thus created would force the overseas branch of NUFRONLIV to react their claims. They hoped that this reaction would serve to compliment whatever information that they were still looking for so that they could start a crack-down on the Resistance inside the country.

Since they were incapable of destroying the Resistance infrastructure that had become deeply rooted in the masses, the Viet Cong had attempted to deal a blow to the morale of the Resistance forces, an to create a restive and confused situation inside the country that would help them search out and destroy the infrastructure of the Resistance. The strongest announcement that they expected could lead to such a confusion would be the claim that President Hoang Co Minh would have been killed, and the whole leadership destroyed. This is a plain lie, and public opinion will know it for what it is in the days to come. In the meantime, the Viet Cong public security services have started brutal search operations inside the country, taking advantage of this situation of confusion. And they are hoping that, by the time everybody becomes convinced that the President is still safe and that the Resistance leadership remains as active as ever, they would have achieved at least certain results in their drive against the Vietnamese Resistance, then they wouldn't care if they were unmasked as plain liars.

Before 1975, the Viet Cong had 300,000 regular troops in South Vietnam which they blatantly denied in the face of the whole world. Similarly, this time, they also shamelessly held on to their lies, without worrying about the condemnation of the world public opinion. After 1975, in spite of being condemned for their deceptions and their invasion of South Vietnam, the Viet Cong had nevertheless achieved a 'fait accompli'. They are now hoping for another 'fait accompli' as far as the Vietnamese Resistance is concerned.

Certain people believed that a public appearance by President Hoang Co Minh would be enough to give the lie to the Viet Cong claim. But the true purpose behind the recent trial was much more wicked than just an attempt at disseminating disinformation. And therefore, this is not just a question of 'who is the liar.' The Viet Cong are now carrying out an intensive campaign inside the country to search out the leaders of the Resistance, to make their lie become the truth. Any ill-considered reaction by NUFRONLIV could lead to harmful results to the Vietnamese Resistance. And while a public appearance by President Hoang Co Minh would be a strong denial to the lie of the Viet Cong as far as the overseas Vietnamese communities are concerned, the news of such an appearance may not reach far and wide enough inside the country.

The foreign correspondents can help speak up the truth. But is there any way the truth from the outside can filter in and reach the whole Vietnamese people, from North to South? The fact is the Vietnamese Resistance had become active for several years before its existence became known to the foreign media, or before it was reported about. And this fact means that, in the final analysis, the Vietnamese people will have to rely on themselves. That is what the Vietnamese Resistance has been doing with their Resistance Radio, however limited a means it is for the dissemination of true information. But at least the Vietnamese Resistance has been able to score one point, and that is that the resistance of the Vietnamese people can no longer be denied by the Viet Cong who are now finally unmasked as brutal, murderous rulers and inveterate liars....

And, in the long run, it will be seen that the Vietnamese people, ever brave and inventive, will be able to stave off all wicked blows of the Viet Cong and to turn their aspirations into a reality: the liberation of Vietnam from the yoke of the Communists, and the building of a free, independent, and democratic Vietnam in the community of the civilized world. ●

AN ENDLESS WAR OR A NEW LIBERATION STRUGGLE ?



From the way the Viet Cong announced news concerning the recent trial of the resistance fighters, it is noticed that they have frequently stressed one point: that 'the Vietnamese resistance movement is only a

military attempt by a group of South Vietnamese soldiers that have gone into exile and that now want to return to fight against the current regime.' What is the real aim of the Viet Cong behind this proposition?

They want to distort the true nature and the real strength of the Vietnamese resistance consisted only of a group of 200 men, that these men were intercepted after they crossed into Laos in their attempt to infiltrate from Thailand into Vietnam, that, after 23 clashes, the group had been destroyed. The picture that the Viet Cong want people to get was that of 'an armed military force that was brought back into Vietnam from overseas,' ect. One does not have to be a military expert to realize that, if these resistance fighters were really professional soldiers, they would not be so inexperienced as to let themselves be ambushed repeatedly for as many as 23 times. One of the main features of guerilla warfare is the ability to move around and to hold the initiative in the attack; the guerillas would attack whenever necessary and would immediately disperse after the battle. If the resistance fighters were only capable of staging guerilla warfare - and they have proved that their capability is not just limited to guerilla warfare - they would never fall into such passivity and let themselves be destroyed after 23 clashes!

But this is not as important as another contradiction in the news disseminated by the Viet Cong. If it were true that these fighters were returning exiled soldiers, then how could they be accused of being 'leaders of the Resistance and Administrative Committees (RAC) in Lam Dong province,' Lam Dong being a province in Central Vietnam?

The organization of the RAC committees is a basic tenet in the liberation strategy of the National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam. These committees, formed from the village and hamlet level to the district and provincial levels, constitute the infrastructure of the Vietnamese Resistance. These committees are not military units but are bases from which to mobilize and to motivate the masses against the Viet Cong and to attack them on all fronts, especially the political and economic fronts. The picture of 'an armed army' as summoned up was particularly misleading and did not conform to the image of a resistance cadre working among the masses with the means that are available on the spot.

The Vietnamese people are carrying out 'a liberation struggle' to put an end to the present situation of war in Indochina. The Vietnamese people are not waging a war, particularly they are not trying to continue to fight a war that, for all practical purpose, has ended in 1975. There are basic differences between the two terms 'liberation struggle' and 'war'. In a liberation struggle, the main force that is relied on is the force of the masses, of the people themselves, and the weapons in that struggle are anything that can be used by the people to weaken the ruling apparatus of the Viet Cong. A war can be waged with a professional army, equipped with all the paraphernalia to destroy the opposing armed forces. A liberation struggle cannot be conducted solely with an armed force, and it is even un-

conceivable without popular support. The Viet Cong themselves had hoped that they could call on the people to rise up and overthrow the Saigon regime before 1975. They failed because they had no support from the people and had to revert to the strategy of war of movements by bringing nearly 20 regular divisions from the North into the South to take over Saigon by force.

Today, the Vietnamese resistance is a liberation struggle and this strategy will be successful because we have the support of the people. The people themselves are attacking the Viet Cong on all fronts and are wrecking all reform programs of the Viet Cong. The people themselves are not cooperating with the production policy of the Viet Cong and are creating havoc in the economy because they are limiting their productivity to a level that is just enough to assure their own survival, weakening in the process the governing apparatus of the Viet Cong. In the same spirit, the people themselves have quietly set up resistance bases from which to attack the Viet Cong and to further demoralize their troops. Viet Cong troops are seeing enemy

everywhere, they are constantly on the defensive, expecting blows coming at them any time, from any direction, blows that are dealt to them, in fact, by the most peaceful and innocent people.

The Vietnamese people, when they carry out this strategy of struggle to overthrow the regime of the Viet Cong, have in fact picked up a strategy that their founding fathers have used successfully during the almost five thousand years of their history. This is also the most appropriate way, although is it not the quickest way to achieve that objective of national liberation. When the people inside the country have started the struggle, the Vietnamese living overseas have the duty to give help and to participate. The Vietnamese resistance is a product of the people and has grown through people's support. It is not a militaristic adventure by a group of armed men. ●

GLASNOST OR TERRORISM?



Something is happening that doesn't seem to be logical to their frame of mind.

For the last few weeks, some naive people outside of Vietnam may find themselves a little confused about what they learned of the Vietcong regime.

has left people thinking. And then, five months later, there was the trial of the resistance fighters. Evidently, there was something wrong in the theory that 'even the Viet Cong had become more moderate.'

The fact is that the Viet Cong have applied a sophisticated policy running on two tracks that might have seemed to be in conflict with each other. One track may be called 'economic relaxation' and the other 'political terror.'

Since December of 1986, that is, since the 6th Party Congress of the Viet Cong, people have expected, and then have seen their expectations realized, the first signs of reform of the Vietcong government. Nguyen Van Linh appeared on the political state and, equipped with more sophisticated propaganda techniques, managed to make naive observers believe that he really was a 'young', 'progressive' leader, given to 'openness', to 'realism', and, above all, that he was more 'moderate' than his predecessors. Proof was the open sessions of self criticism of the cadres and party members, the promises of economic reforms the calls for foreign investment, the efforts to encourage tourism. This is all very reassuring. And the term 'glasnost' began to be applied to Nguyen Van Linh and his so-called new policy.

In the economic field, the Viet Cong carried out a number of management reforms and decreed some measures of economic freedom in order to rationalize their production and distribution system. At the same time, they relaxed their economic controls so that the people could have more room in making their individual decisions concerning their production and trades. The Viet Cong called this policy a policy of reforms to improve the standard of living but in reality this is only a policy of controlled relaxation so as not to break the neck of the hen that has been laying golden eggs. The purpose of that policy is to trick the people to increase production and thereby to help the party consolidate its governing apparatus.

But then the trial of the Congregation of the Mother Condematrix, one of the most popular Roman Catholic congregation,

Outside the country, this policy of 'economic relaxation' consists in renewed efforts to encourage financial help from the Vietnamese refugees and the free countries. In the tightly controlled economic of the Viet Cong, these resources will not be

used to raise the standard of living of the people, but only to shore up the regime. Past experiences of 'economic cooperation' between the free countries and the communist countries would help understand the real intention of the Hanoi government behind their so-called policy of openness.

In the political field, the Viet Cong have started to carry out a policy of widespread terror to prevent and to annihilate all opposition attempts inside the country. Before, the resistance fighters, after their capture, would be publicly executed, at the market place, or in the middle of the village, in plain view of everybody, in order to sow terror in the mind of the local people. But then the Viet Cong would, at the same time, absolutely deny any news that would indicate the existence of the Resistance, so that the people in a neighboring village would not know that an execution of resistance fighters had taken place in the next village. But then the activities of the Vietnamese Resistance had spread, from one village to another, and from one province to another and, as a result, the Viet Cong had to resort to widespread terror. As part of that plan, the Viet Cong recently brought to trial a number of resistance fighters, in the hope that the people everywhere would believe that 'the resistance had been destroyed,' that 'the resistance leader had been killed,' that 'even the dead men would be tried posthumously'. Before, violence was localized - targeted against separated individuals opposed to the regime. Violence has now come out into the open - is widely publicized - and has now become the weapon of generalized terror.

The Viet Cong want the people to face only two alternatives: they can either submit to the party, and will be rewarded with some meager freedoms in the economic field for their own survival, or if they choose to oppose the party they may follow the fate of the resistance fighters that were tried recently. Let the dead not die in peace. And the two tracks of 'economic relaxation' and 'political terror' would be mutually complementary to stifle opposition and to force the people to go along with the regime.

This is not a new invention by Nguyen Van Linh. The Vietnamese people have seen similar policies of 'sticks and carrots.' What is more sophisticated, and more wicked, of Linh was that he has had given out seemingly 'lenient' sentences to the defendants to encourage defections from among the ranks of the Resistance. While in reality, other resistance fighters have been tortured and murdered in the dark, away from the flashlights of the foreign correspondents. Linh is not a crazy man. He is absolutely cool-headed in carrying out his plan to consolidate his party rule. The cool-headedness of a monster that can give you goose pimples...

VIET CONG DENOUNCE THAILAND AND THE U.S. FOR ALLEGED SUPPORT TO NUFRONLIV



After having the Communist Laos radio broadcast the news of the destruction of the resistance forces led by the National United Front for the Liberation of Viet-

nam, the Viet Cong have publicized the false argument that 'the Vietnamese Resistance is the servant of foreigners.' This is not surprising to international observers, because the Viet Cong often resorted to similar arguments to put the blame on other countries for whatever difficulties they encountered inside the country. But this time, the Viet Cong really have escalated their attacks when they publicly denounced the alleged involvement of the Thai and the U.S. intelligence services in the matter.

Why Thailand, why the U.S., and why this time?

Every year for the last nine years the General Assembly of the United Nations has voted to condemn the Viet Cong regime for their invasion and continued occupation of Kampuchea. The Viet Cong regime has also been condemned by many democratic countries in the world, and they have been isolated both diplomatically and politically. The Viet Cong have repeatedly proposed 'to withdraw their troops from Kampuchea within the framework of a general political solution.' But all the countries concerned with the situation in Kampuchea knew too well that the few cases of so-called Viet Cong troop withdrawals effected in Kampuchea and more than 50,000 troops in Laos. At the same time, the Viet Cong continued to move ahead with their colonization policy by bringing in vietnamese civilians to live in those two countries.

However, within Southeast Asia, the Viet Cong have been able to capitalize on a number of differences of the view of certain members of ASEAN. In fact, they have tried to drive a wedge between the positions of certain member countries. Concerning Thailand, the Hanoi government has tried to portray it as a country that does not want peace and therefore is not to be trusted in any search for a peaceful solution for Southeast Asia. The Viet Cong, who are the real invaders, have instead accused Thailand, the country that is threatened by war,

of being the instigator of the war, although it is known by the whole world that Viet Cong troops are fomenting troubles at the border between Thailand, Kampuchea and Laos.

An ASEAN Summit Meeting was held in mid-December in Manila, the Philippines. Kampuchea was certainly high on the agenda. The trial of the resistance fighters staged in early December, and the strong accusations against Thailand for alleged involvement, were aimed at creating division within the ranks of ASEAN and at preempting any resolutions that would not be to their advantage.

At the same time, the Viet Cong also tried to exploit the differing positions of the ASEAN member countries concerning the problem of the U.S. military bases in the Philippines. While they did not mention the presence of the Russians at Cam Ranh Bay and Danang, the Viet Cong attempted to portray the U.S. as a warlike, aggressive country. (1) By openly criticizing the U.S., the Viet Cong attempted to depict the U.S. as a destabilizing factor for the Southeast Asian region. But, in bringing up these accusations at this time, during the trial of the resistance fighters, the Viet Cong also aimed to help Gorbachev during the recent US-Soviet Summit Meeting.

During a meeting between President Reagan and Gorbachev, for the eventuality in which the Kampuchea issue is

brought up. The Soviet side needed a way to defuse the issue and that was provided by the Viet Cong: It is the hostile policy of the U.S. vis-a vis Indochina that led to the introduction of 'volunteers' Vietcong forces to carry out their international duty in Kampuchea.

The loudly publicized gradual troop withdrawal of the Viet Cong from Kampuchea became a joke. Most of the international observers from 25 countries invited to witness the situation in Kampuchea had refused to come because they could not believe the goodwill of the Viet Cong in looking for a solution to the Cambodian issue. The subsequent show trial of the resistance fighters in Saigon equally failed to achieve its objectives. It remains clear to everybody that it is the Viet Cong who really run the show in all three Indochinese countries. ●

(1) This has been well coordinated with the recent campaign of terrors mounted by the Filipino Communists aimed at the U.S. military bases in the Philippines. This is not surprising, since we knew that the Viet Cong have contributed aid to the Communist rebels in the Philippines.

CAN FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS BECOME INSTRUMENTS OF TERROR FOR THE VIET CONG?



In order to stifle domestic opposition, the Viet Cong regime has applied the policy of food rationing, a peculiar invention of the Communist regime. This is a policy of political control

through the distribution of food and rations to each family based on a list of persons considered to be 'good citizens.' The people have to buy these food and rations at prices stipulated by the governments. What is inhuman in this policy is that the people have to purchase the products that they themselves have produced and that the government has levied from them and sold back to them, if they meet all the criteria to be considered as good citizens.

But despite the imposition of this satanic policy, the people have continued to resist quietly. And they have resisted by limiting their productivity, by economic sabotage, by destroying from within the administrative machinery of the regime. And, from overseas, the Vietnamese people have continued to struggle by helping the resistance fighters inside the country, or by returning and joining the ranks of resistance fighters in the country.

With the peculiar position of Viet Nam, extending along the South Seas coast, the Viet Cong have been unable to intercept all the supply routes from overseas. And if more than a million have fled, then many have also returned, bringing with them the means of struggle that is lacking inside the country.

The Viet Cong have been unable to stifle domestic opposition by their policy of food rationing and by their attempts to search out and destroy the resistance bases. Therefore, they



have resorted to a policy of terror. That is why they have decided to make public their capture and murder of the resistance fighters in accordance to their motto of 'killing one man in order to threaten thousands others.' That was the significance of the recent show trial of the resistance fighters in Saigon. But, with the same trial, the Viet Cong also aimed at the overseas Vietnamese, by accusing them as servants of foreigners, and by indicating ambiguously that, among those captured, there are those who have foreign citizenship.

In reality, the Viet Cong do not have any evidence to support their accusations. But nevertheless they still made public these accusations. To what purpose?

Their purpose was to exert pressures with the foreign governments so that these governments, they hoped, would create difficulties to those Vietnamese refugees who wished to carry out their duties toward their native country. In other words, they wanted the democratic governments to do what they themselves were unable to do.

With that in mind, it is not surprising to learn that the defendants have been brought to trial in Saigon only a few days after they were turned over from the Laotian Communists to the Vietnamese Communists, on November 27. The period for judiciary examination was surprisingly short. But it must also be noted that the Viet Cong have only brought to trial 18 of the total of 77 people they said had been captured in Southern Laos. The others were said to be still in the hands of the Laos Communists. Or have they really been turned over to the Viet Cong? But this is not as important as the ambiguous disclosure that many of the remaining prisoners have foreign citizenship. This may be an attempt to test the world public opinion and, depending on the development of the situation, they may launch new propaganda campaigns, and create new accusations and new pressures.

What new developments do they expect?

They are monitoring the effects of the pro-Communist elements, or the 'useful idiots', on the world public opinion, after they have accused the resistance fighters as a 'group of returning exiled soldiers,' after they have accused them of being simple 'terrorists,' after they have 'the forced collection of money,' and 'the military training conducted in public parks' etc. In short, after their campaign of propaganda and distortions, the Viet Cong are hoping that a number of countries may create difficulties to those Vietnamese refugees who wish to carry out their duties of national salvation.

What is laughable is that the Viet Cong have carried out their scheme in the wrong place and at the wrong time. The democratic governments are the civilized institutions in countries where true freedoms exist. These governments will not turn themselves into instruments for the Viet Cong's campaign of terror - as the Laotian government has done. The Viet Cong have accused these governments of 'giving encouragement' to the boat people in order to cover up their terror tactics that caused the people to flee. This time, the Viet Cong have really deflect the conscience of the civilized world, and no government in the world will be willing to perform a wicked act for the wicked clique in Hanoi. ●

The National United Front for the Liberation of Viet Nam (NUFRONLIV) was formed in 1980 by the Vietnamese people, inside Viet Nam and abroad to liberate their country from the viet cong, and to build a free and democratic nation. Under the leadership of President HOANG CO MINH, the National Resistance Council directs the three branches of NUFRONLIV, the General Directorate of In-land Affairs, the General Directorate of Overseas Affairs, and the Armed Resistance Forces in mobilizing the Vietnamese people in every way and by every means to overthrow the viet cong. Throughout the country, from North to South, the General Directorate of In-land Affairs has developed resistance network, in which mobilization activities are carried out under the protection of the Armed Resistance Forces. Directed by the General Directorate of Overseas Affairs, NUFRONLIV chapters have been formed and are active around the world wherever Vietnamese are resettled.

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To present background information on Vietnamese liberation struggle, "THE VIETNAMESE RESISTANCE" is published monthly by the overseas Directorate of Information, and sent to a selected readership. Also available are publications in Danish, French, German, Japanese, etc., and "KHANG CHIEN", the most widely read monthly tabloid among the Vietnamese overseas.

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