

DEMOCRATIC PLURALISM BY VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST STYLE

For the past fifteen years, the people of Vietnam have unceasingly fought for political liberation of Vietnam and many have lost their lives, imprisoned or tortured to crippled in the process. The Vietnamese Communists have long realized that giving people freedom is gambling away the Party's grip of power. It is this very obsession that has led to the disastrous economy and the broken up society of Vietnam today. The pressure from increasing internal resentment and the heat of upheavals in the Soviet Bloc have forced the regime to create a new tactic of persuasion in order to save them from similar fate of their Eastern communist allies. Their preparation for the 8th plenum of the Central Committee is clearly paving the way for the introduction of this new remedy.

The key point is to generate an image of democratic pluralism to inspire hope and sooth the people's anger, at the same time, to allure the world's cooperation and friendship. Their interpretation of this political concept is quite different from the normal understanding of democratic pluralism by the free world, and is just another euphemistic revision of the old Marxist-Leninist dogma.

By the free world's definition, in a nation of political democracy, every citizen, political parties and trends are equal under the law set by their own free will and choice. A democratic system, therefore, automatically embraces pluralism and can only maintain its existence in a pluralistic society, where people can participate freely and equally in all cultural, religious and economic activities. A government, though selected by a fair general election but fails to restrain itself from intervening in people's activities, will not be able to uphold democracy in the long run. And formal democracy justified only by election is not a pluralistic system.

The Vietnamese Communists propose a quite different format for what they call "Democratization" process.

They argue that democracy can be generated by limiting the Party role in the State business, and by activities of popular organizations under the umbrella "Fatherland Front".

This appearance of decentralizing power yields a

good sense of political liberation, yet the fact understated by the Vietnamese Communists but severely cripples democracy and pluralism is the Party itself the creator of the State, the Fatherland Front, and other so-called popular organizations. The State comprising the Council of Ministers and Parliaments is headed by core communist members. Popular organizations such as the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, the Conference of Vietnamese Workers, the Vietnam Peasants' Association, the Vietnam Women's Union... are all front organizations with their leaders being high ranking members of the Party Central Committee. Organizations under the "Fatherland Front" umbrella such as the Patriotic Catholics' Solidarity Committee or the United Buddhism Union are also headed by members appointed by the party. The Venerables of different political view such as Quang Do, Huyen Quang, Tue Si, Tri Sieu, or fathers Nguyen Kim Dien, Nguyen Van Thuan, Tran Dinh Thu...have been either killed, imprisoned or detained under guard at homes.

The communist statement from either the empowered figures such as Nguyen Van Linh, Do Muoi, or the labelled oppositionists are strikingly agreeable over the new format, with which the Party position is outside and above all of this democratization process - it has completed the democratic revolution in the name of the people and now stays above all to guide the building of socialism - And the complaints, if any, should be directed to the State and other popular organizations. The Party leading role seems forever reinforced with this move.

After forty years of ruling which leads to a complete devastation of the nation, the Vietnamese communists are still, in the name of "History" and "Revolution", to insist on maintaining the communist system and the Party's supreme role. They have enslaved themselves with the "Historical Materialism" dogma, the greed of power and forsaken the people's wish.

For this reason, the Vietnamese people regard any of Hanoi move as just political maneuvers in the interest of the Party, and their hope for freedom and happiness rest solely on their continuing effort to replace this regressive communist system.

HANOI NEW "GOOD GUY"

Hanoi is in the need to refurbish its image as it has many times in the past. The style adopted can vary depending on the situation at home and abroad. Therefore, it is not surprising to see a native Boris Yeltsin, all of a sudden being introduced in the mainstream of the party leadership, while the regime has been resisting and condemning all political reform occurring in other communist countries and has never stopped defending the dying ideology.

The new face is Tran Xuan Bach, a sixty two year old member of the politburo and head of the party disciplinary section.

It is impossible for Bach to criticize the party openly yet even has his criticism publicized on the international scale unless he has been chosen intentionally by Hanoi for a new spectacular move: the demonstration of Hanoi openness in accepting opposition, and the oppositionist is groomed for the new job to fashion a democratic change by the Vietnamese communist style.

From the end of 1989, the party leadership has paved the way for Linh's replacement who had been advertised as a typical reformer of Vietnam three years ago. The fruitless economic results after a prolonged application of Hanoi so called "doi moi" and the sudden Down-syndrome of the communist system has forced the party to seek for a new "joker" in its final game where the party must deal hard for its survival.

Perestroika, Renovation, Openness, Democratization, Pluralism are terms, not concepts, all acceptable to the Vietnamese Communist Party by its own definition and argument based on Marxism-Leninism. And no move to fabricate these concepts cannot be created by Hanoi leadership to mislead the world and safeguard its totalitarian power. A puppet on the political strings being blown up as a hero to serve the party purpose then simply languished forgotten or callously thrown into the garbage can when deemed useless is nothing uncommon in the communist system. The human commodity is totally at the party disposal. Even Lenin, the Founding Father of Soviet communism, still cannot escape this fate of a lemon peel, how could his posterity.

What surprising is some people in the free world, after countless shows of spectacular manoeuvre from communist leaders, still fall for the inevitable trap. During the Paris Peace Agreement Conference more than 20 years ago, the CPV has introduced Le Duc Tho

as a liberal leader compared with Le Duan. After its invasion of South Vietnam in 1975, Le Duan conveniently reappeared as the liberal one in contrast with Truong Chinh, a conservative hard-liner as introduction by Hanoi high-ranking circle. When Le Duan passed away four years ago and Linh was chosen to lead the party, the CPV has done everything to paint Linh's glory image as a promising reformer of Vietnam including condemning Le Duc Tho as an extremist who resisted Linh's reform policy. Ironically, Linh has been the one that has openly defended Marxism, condemned pluralism and Bach is the only hope for Vietnam, as Hanoi hints it.

The indoctrinated Vietnamese Communists cannot face the painful truth that communism does not work and do not try to solve the problem at root; they instead look for short term remedy with which, there is always a different scape goat to bear the blame and provide contrast to boost the new face.

Tran Xuan Bach is currently wearing the party radical reformer hat and according to "sources closed to the party", he might be forced to make a self-criticism during an upcoming meeting of the decisionmaking Central Committee. One point noteworthy is according to the source, Bach has openly challenged the party monopoly of power since December, 1998, but Hanoi only publicized its accusation of Bach on February 9, 1990 - three days after the Soviet Communist Party voted to change article 6 of its constitution which guaranteed the party supreme role. And in its accusation, Hanoi even compared Bach with Boris Yeltsin of Soviet whose popularity has extended beyond his own people.

While Hanoi is standing firm toward any political concession, Bach in the way Hanoi portrays him is likely to win over the world sympathy and supports. This is Hanoi urgent goal as it found itself more and more isolated from the world, including its communist allies. But its more important and ultimate goal to convince the Vietnamese people of a genuine change via the reformist Bach is however, not that easily attainable. In the Vietnamese eyes, a communist member of such high ranking and holding prominent responsibility within the politburo can hardly make any changes in the people's interest, especially he who has been promoted by the party.

The only reason, Bach is introduced under the appropriate cover of a "good communist" is to play a conciliatory role between rival factions within the party and to break the world isolation.

VIETNAM 15 YEARS AFTER: A MISERABLE ACCOUNT

Public condemnation * Freedom deprivation * One of the five poorest countries on earth * Boat people * On what basis that UNESCO has chosen to honor Ho Chi Minh as the world's celebrity for 1990?

INTRODUCTION: Fifteen years after Vietnam entirely fell into the Vietnamese communists' hands, UNESCO has announced Ho Chi Minh as its choice of this year's world celebrity upon Ho's centennial birthday. A French journalist, often visited Vietnam, wrote a commentary on UNESCO's decision on the weekly *Le Figaro* of March 2nd, 1990 which is presented here in English.

In Hanoi, people talked about the embalmed body of Ho Chi Minh disintegrating in the Soviet built chilly tombs. I myself have seen it with my own eyes that if the facial part still resembled Ho's, thanks to the pinky orange light shedding from the ceiling lamp which gave the manikin a rosy shade, the rest in his familiar uniform has unusually collapsed. The gossip in Hanoi said it was the embalmer's intention, and wittily added, to fulfill Ho's wish to be cremated according to his testament.

Returning to ashes or not, this figure deifying by the Vietnamese communists - One must witness the way Ho's disciples worship him in that chilly temple of Siberian style and at other places and occasions to be able to comprehend this deification - will live to be 100 by next May if he did not die easily on the Red River's side September 3, 1969.

And upon this occasion, UNESCO has followed its clever tradition to accept, in its 24th conference, a proposal by the Vietnamese communists backed by the Soviet's bloc members within UNESCO to celebrate gloriously this *saint's* birthday.

Reason? According to supporters of this unthinkable idea, Ho Chi Minh has contributed to UNESCO's realization of its goals and knowledge of Vietnam: Ho Chi Minh is the symbol of self-determination and national liberation, has cooperated with other people in their struggles for peace, independence, democracy and progress; has contributed to the development of the Vietnamese culture, education, and art, and symbolized Vietnamese aspiration.

It does not surprise anyone when the queer decision above got the majority vote. From the past 40 years, the world has naively letting Ho Chi Minh and his successors to mislead. Regardless hundreds of people have been dragged to death or tortured and killed in those nightmarish concentration camps; regardless hundreds of thousand of people have lost their lives in the blue water of the Pacific Ocean. (By the time I finish this article, I know there had been a fragile boat full of people sunk into the deep sea, there had been women raped in front of their husband and children).

DAVID AND GOLIATH.

At the beginning, the picture of David with rubber sandals in Ho Chi Minh, defeating the disgusting Goliath of French colonist then American imperialist made a big impression to the world. Yes, it is quite impossible not to be impressed by a guy with a catapult courageously fighting the pilot of a B-52 full of mankind's ferocious nature. Yet, since Goliath's withdrawal, who must be hold responsible for the sufferings in Vietnam?

Peace, democracy, social evolution, national independence... Fifteen years after winning over the South, who, in the name of Ho Chi Minh, still chains and tortures

prisoners regardless of the Geneva and Paris Agreements? Who, in the name of Ho Chi Minh, still arrests and imprisons several more each day, the men and women for having their thoughts in difference with those of this *Great Men's* followers? Who has reaped off the Vietnamese the most fundamental freedom such as election, travelling, going abroad, private ownership, writing, reading, consecration, educating children according to the parent's wish? Who has forbidden the Catholic youths from attending university? Who has turned Vietnam into one of the five poorest nations in the world with the average GNP of just \$US 160?

Who has pushed the Vietnamese people into selling blood to make a living? Who has caused this people's lives after the war without a day of peace? Who has forced hundreds of thousand of people migrating to miasmal areas disguised as the *New Economic Zone*? And finally, on Ho Chi Minh's Vietnam, who is pushing people to risk their lives and family's on the slim boats in their desperate search for freedom and happiness after 35 years of communist rule up North and 15 years in South Vietnam, after two millions have fled the country and one million have died in the deep sea? (By the time I finish this article, I know...)

And, there is still one more question: is there any people on earth would like to have what has been and still is the fate of Vietnam since Ho's euphemism has been written all over the country "*Nothing is more precious than freedom and independence*".

And, there is this question for just UNESCO: How many more "Father of the Nation", "Great Helmsman", "The Carpath's Genius" get the same honor before being thrown into the history's trash can?

By Michel Tauriac

A New Marshall Plan for Indochina? - An Empty Illusion

A few who are concerned with the situation of Indochina and especially the hopeless maneuvers of the Vietnamese communists to escape from their quandary have framed a hypothesis: "What if the United States comes up with a bait to reconstruct and redevelop Indochina similar to the Marshall Plan for Europe after the Second World War? Perhaps the Vietnamese communists will change and the sufferings of the people in Indochina will be greatly alleviated." However, a detailed analysis of the situation of the United States at the present time and at the end of the Second World War, with respect to Indochina and Europe, will point out how chimerical such a speculation is.

In the aftermath of WWII, while the Soviet Union was taking advantage of the devastation of Europe to consolidate its own power, the United States already had a plan to help in the reconstruction of free European countries during the period 1948 to 1951. At that time, President Truman appointed General George C. Marshall Secretary of State and directed him to carry out this plan, which was named after him. Parallel to the reconstruction effort, the Allied Forces also took up the task of defending Western Europe from the threatening red hordes of their erstwhile partner, the Soviet Union; North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was thus born.

The United States, which is economically capitalistic and politically democratic, has a longstanding belief that a free market economy will result in a more democratic political system and vice versa; democracy will lead to a more viable economic structure. Based on this theory, the Marshall Plan carried out a program not only of economic aid, but also to help Western Europe develop a free market system which would discourage any form of totalitarian government interfering with political economy. Furthermore, the United States required a prosperous Europe for trade and commerce.

In 1947, when the Marshall Plan was being contemplated, the Gross National Product (GNP) of the United States reached 235 Billion Dollars (1,400 Billion Dollars in terms of today's values), then amounting to 50% of the entire global GNP; the United States was by far the most wealthy nation. The total value of the Marshall Plan was 13.6 Billion Dollars, which was the equivalent of 80 Billion 1990 Dollars.

The economic miracle of the past 40 years has

produced a revived and fully industrialized Western Europe, the most powerful economic bloc in the world. Whereas the United States' GNP encompassed 50% of the world market then, it is only 22% now. Although the United States has become more prosperous during those 40 years, other nations, especially Western Europe, Japan and South Eastern Asians, have progressed at a much faster pace than the United States. The current condition of the United States' economy is quite different, and the same applies to its level of foreign aid ability.

Thus, the ability of the United States to provide a Marshall Plan for other nations has been eroded by economic reality.

Now, let us take a tour of potential Indochina aid recipients of such a "Marshall Plan." The economies of Cambodia and Laos are not in as dangerous a condition as Vietnam's, but are nevertheless wholly dependent on Vietnam. "Aid recipients," then, refers to both Vietnam proper and the communist regimes in Cambodia, Laos, and beyond (Burma) which are united in a heroin cartel.

Will the United States freely give aid to a country still holding on to the principle of central planning economy? All of the Vietnamese communists' confessions of economic failures and periodical "famine" warnings are spewed alongside continuous boasting of plans exceeding requirements, and of rice fields yielding 5 tons per acre. The goal of "glasnost" on suppressed matters is only to obtain aid. Sadly, the Vietnamese communists do not understand that "crying hungry will not automatically bring aid" and even worse, they do not see that the United States will only grant aid to be used in restoring health and freedom to a viable economy.

What have the Vietnamese communists accomplished in the area of economics to justify their request for aid to revive and free the economy? The answer is nothing, and nothing can be done to change the course of their economy.

After 3 years of "doi moi," the Vietnamese communists have been scarcely able to decentralize economic planning, and give some authority to localities. The side effect of this power-relinquishment has been economic chaos everywhere. When cadres do not have formal training in the realities of human economic activity, the more decentralize the power, the more they are apt to cause social disorders. The Vietnamese

communists have propagandized much about their releasing control of various areas of private enterprise, state-owned businesses and collective farms. However, documents taken from the Sixth National Party Congress, and other recent reports show that the Vietnamese communists do not conceal their aim in building totalitarian socialism. The freedom granted to private sectors is only temporary, and sooner or later they will be pushed into the communist orbit of state censorship and exploitation. Therefore, it is no surprise to see the people having no faith in the Party, since whatever they do is only for short term results; people are making provisions to dispose money and conceal goods as a measure of self protection against the Party.

When "doi moi" leads to market chaos and declining productivity, the Vietnamese communists cure the ailment by employing the harsh method of "deflation", which means reduction and postponement of income payment, tax increases, and merchandize confiscations to force prices lower. This leads inexorably to black-market racketeering, non-productivity, and unemployment (reaching a high of 30%), leaving only state-owned establishments (out of which 60% are closed down), state employees working without pay for up to 5 months, and so on. The whole nation has no choice but to become parasites depending on outside sources, and people are forced to exchange goods to live from day to day. The situation is laden with "acquisition" opportunities for those who are in power. The Vietnamese communist regime is a deteriorative pirate subculture.

An economy hampered by the state in areas of administration, finance, taxation and credit by its very nature contradicts the rules of a free market economy. On top of this, the economy is being applied brutally by the Vietnamese communists who bear the shield of a legal government out to rob its own people. How can such a state qualify for aid from a free country like

the United States? When both the Party and the government affirm their faithfulness to Marxism-Leninism, it is understood that in the hour of feebleness they have to resort to plain highway robbery. With aid to revive the regime, their level of criminality will only be magnified manyfold.

Would the taxpayers of the United States allow their government to squander money recklessly on aiding and invigorating a marxist economy so that it can be even more marxist? Perhaps! The Romania of Ceausescu received aid from the United States and even enjoyed "most favored nation" status; Ceausescu had a life even more majestic than Marcos, while the Romanians have had one of the lowest living standards in Eastern Europe.

The question is better reworded as "Are the United States well-off enough financially to splurge?"

People often speak about events in Eastern Europe, Lech Walesa's trip to the United States, President Bush's visit to Poland and then they would imagine of a Marshall Plan to create a new prosperous Eastern Europe in which communism will be forever oblivious. President Bush mentions quite often "It is time for us to open our arms congratulating the new democratic Eastern European nations." A close examination of those hands show little or nothing at all. The total funds for aid to Poland and Hungary only amount to a pitiful 300 Million Dollars. Compared to the relief given out in 1947 and with Indochina not showing any significant encouraging sign, prospects for a Marshall Plan for Indochina are no more than hallucinatory.

Economic aid to Vietnam in hope of democratizing the regime, to ameliorate the conditions of the Vietnamese people specifically and Indochina overall, is a fantasy. To bring a callous regime to grips with reality, a stick is always more effective than a carrot. •

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Joint Venture on Paper Raw Material Proposed to Foreign Investor

Vietnamese authority has drawn up a detailed proposal to attract VMH, a French company, to join its investment in a program to plant and process sandalwood for paper raw material. The project requires a capital investment of \$US 105 millions over the five year period, in which each partner only needs to invest \$US 500,000 and the rest of the capital will be borrowed from the international lending institutes. The project has been drafted since May, 1989, but has got nowhere due to many deadlocks between the two partners.

Among many ludicrous technological and financial details of the proposal, one point noteworthy and is cited here as an example of the Vietnamese communists' backwardness is the specification of a technique to measure the water temperature in the germinating process of sandalwood seed, requiring to be at 35 - 40 C. The method proposed by the Vietnamese authority was to put one's hand under one's armpit for 1 minute, then place that hand into water; the hand would not feel any difference in temperature should the water is of the right temperature.

This incredible detail has illustrated two things of the current Vietnam as a business partner: either the availability of a simple device such as thermometer is so scarce within the industry or the mentality of these communist business leaders toward scientific method is so inhibited that the use of a thermometer is unthinkable of for a \$US 105 million project.

Hanoi and the Prolonged Cambodia Problem

The recent JIM III at the end of February once again shared the same fate as the last Paris Conference when Nguyen Co Thach and Hun Sen rejected the proposal of an interim government by the United Nations in replacement of the current

Heng Samrin regime during the election set up. They also refused to discuss the verification of Hanoi troops in Cambodia and denied the role of Khieu Samphan faction in the settlement.

In a recent meeting with foreign press from a liberated zone, Prince Sihanouk has fiercely denounced Hanoi manipulation and maintaining troops in Cambodia. Hanoi forces were reportedly dressed in Heng Samrin uniform and stationed at strategic locations around Phnom Penh. There are at least 5000 Hanoi troops in Battambang and 5000 more in Siem Reap. In an interview with two captives from Hanoi troops On March 1,1990 at Boeung Trakuen, the two, Nguyen Van Minh and Phung Long Hiep, disclosed that their unit was ordered to withdrawn from Cambodia at the end of September 1989 then was reordered to return by November 1989. From their confession, each soldier was paid over \$U.S. 100 per month by the Heng Samrin but part of the pay was withheld to defray for the so called individual supplies and service.

The Weekly Le Point of Paris, France, in its March 5 issue also reported that US intelligent has confirmed the presence of at least 80,000 Vietnam troops in Cambodia using Southern Lao for its logistic route. Hanoi repeated advertisement of its encounter with the Vietnamese Resistance force in Southern Lao might intend to legitimize its troop presence in this area. Eastern European diplomats have also disclosed information on Hanoi forces helping Cambodia since October, 1989.

Hanoi continued involvement in Cambodia coupled with its attitude during the recent Jakarta meeting tells a great deal of its stance on the issue: it has never really wanted to let go of the Angkor Wat land. Even if the regime is desperate for Western aid, and countries of the free world have put a comprehensive solution for the Cambodian problem as precondition for any economic or diplomatic normalization with

Hanoi, the Vietnamese communists still refuse to show any sign of cooperation.

A meeting between Hanoi and the Japanese Foreign Ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau on February 23, the first high-level official contact between the two nations in eleven years, was also reportedly reached a deadlock when Hanoi rejected the Japanese proposal for an interim coalition government including all four Cambodian rival factions.

A Fruitless Dialogue

A four-day informal and personal dialogue between U.S. and Hanoi delegates, headed respectively by U.S. Senator Dick-Clark and Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien, ended on Saturday February 17 without any concrete results.

The talk centered around the three main themes: (1) exploring the possibility of cooperation between the two countries, including efforts to seek a solution to the Cambodian problem. (2) the reconstruction of Vietnam, especially its economy, including humanitarian and boat people issues. (3)the impact of changing international situation on Vietnam, including the Soviet-Vietnam relations and the future of ASEAN-Vietnam relations.

There were sharp differences exchanged in a heated manner including tough arguments on many issues, and according to a U.S. delegate the goal toward diplomatic normalization is still far away.

It seems impossible for Hanoi to take any compromising step as its leadership, with a suspicious and indoctrinated mind, viewed every approach toward more peace and freedom for the people as adverse and even fatal to communism and the party.

Hanoi Warns Against Efforts to Seize Leadership

Excerpt from The Hong Kong AFP on January 27, 1990 news.

A Vietnamese daily warned in its latest edition against any attempt to

"seize" control of the ruling communist party, in an apparent reaction to the reforms sweeping the East bloc.

Lao Dong, the mouthpiece of the country's labor unions, warned that any attempt to take over the leadership of the Vietnamese Communist Party would threaten the "independence of the Vietnamese people and would throw up an obstacle to the prosperity of the country."

The Lao Dong was reproduced Saturday (27 January) by the official Vietnam News Agency (VNA). "Any attempt aimed at seizing the leadership of the party will be considered a constraint upon the historical mission of the majority of the Vietnamese people and a violation of national independence," the daily said.

In what analysts considered a clear reference to the wave of reform sweeping Eastern Europe, the commentary said that any move to take control of the party "would mean blocking the way to the prosperity and the well-being of our people."

"In other words, it would mean... denying all freedom and democracy to the Vietnamese people," said the editorial, which was entitled "Defending the Party Is Defending Intelligence, Scientific Thought and Democracy."

It is the first such warning issued by Vietnam's state-controlled press since the wave of reform and revolution began sweeping Eastern Europe, prompting unease among the state and communist party leadership here.

Vo Chi Cong, president of the State Council, said recently that the crisis in Eastern Europe "negatively influences the entire socialist system" of Vietnam and called on the party leadership to "pay close attention to it."

Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the party since 1986, called in December for "the consolidation of the party," both politically and ideologically.

The party central committee called in late January for a renewal and a better quality to the party leadership."

RESISTANCE NEWS

Vietnamese Resistance Radio established by NUFRONLIV in late 1983 broadcasts 8 times daily on the 30m and 40m wave bands (10.3MHz and 7.4MHz) to inform and mobilize the Vietnamese at home on the liberation struggle. Due to limited space, we can only excerpt part of the VRR daily news programs.

NEWS FROM VIETNAM

THUAN HAI PROVINCE

A Resistance Group Joins NUFRONLIV

The Resistance-Administrative Committee of Thuan Hai province reported that during September and October, 1989, with help from the Resistance Youth Group, NUFRONLIV members in the province have disseminated several thousands leaflets throughout Phan Thiet city, Bac Binh, and Quy Phong districts. Also in October the Committee had organized a joining ceremony for a Resistance Group, namely "The Action Group B-6", which comprised former South Vietnam's soldiers and youths. They brought along 3 short guns, some grenades, ammunition, bayonets, documents, and other equipments. The Committee also received from people hundreds of kilos of foodstuffs, supplies, and explosive powders.

BINH TRI THIEN PROVINCE

Hanoi Soldiers Defect to Join NUFRONLIV

According to report of the Resistance-Administrative Committee of Binh Tri Thien province, during August and September 1989, with help from the people of Huong Hoa, Huong Dien, and Le Minh districts, several Hanoi soldiers have defected to join NUFRONLIV rank. Several youths within the districts also evaded Hanoi conscription. According to the defectors, Hanoi soldiers are totally dispirited including officers levels, who have not only shows their resentment toward the regime openly, but also ignored soldiers' illegal sales of weapons and military equipments to compensate for the destitute living standard.

TIEN GIANG PROVINCE

NUFRONLIV Fighters Ambush Hanoi State Security Forces in Cai Be and Cai Lay Districts

The Resistance-Administrative Committee of Tien Giang province reported that in October, NUFRONLIV resistance units had twice encountered Hanoi State Security Forces. The first time was in Cai Be district when the Hanoi units was on the raid mission. Two Hanoi soldiers were killed and one was injured. The NUFRONLIV unit seized 2 AK-47, some grenades, ammunition and some hard currency without casualty. The second encounter was in Cai Lay district when the NUFRONLIV unit ambushed a Hanoi personnel carrier. Three Hanoi soldiers were killed. The NUFRONLIV unit seized 2 rifle, some military supplies. One NUFRONLIV resistance fighter was slightly injured. Before leaving the scene, the NUFRONLIV unit destroyed the carrier and disseminated some leaflets. A bridge in Cai Lay district was also reportedly destroyed by the NUFRONLIV unit in a separate event.

GIA RAI-KONTUM PROVINCE

NUFRONLIV Unit Encounters Hanoi Troops

The Resistance-Administrative Committee reported that during October, 1989, its armed resistance units had encountered the Hanoi soldiers in Dac Lay, Sa Thay, and Dakto districts. There were a total of five Hanoi soldiers killed and several injured. One defected to join NUFRONLIV rank. The NUFRONLIV units seized 4 AK-47, one CKC, some B-40, grenades, ammunition, and some documents. One NUFRONLIV fighter was sacrificed.



QUANG DA PROVINCE

Railroad and Electric Posts Destroyed

The Resistance-Administrative Committee of Quang Da province reported that on the occasion of the 6th anniversary of the Vietnamese Resistance Radio, NUFRONLIV members in the province had organized several mobilizational missions in Duy Xuyen, Tuyen Phuoc,

mobilize the Hanoi former soldiers who were allocated to settle here after Hanoi partially withdrawn its troops from Cambodia. These veterans did not hide their resentment and despair over the way they were treated without any compensation or job arrangement from the state authority. Life is even harder for the disable. For this reason, a young veteran was reportedly threw a grenade into a State Security post of Go Dau causing one Hanoi cadre in-

support the Resistance Movement inside Vietnam, was formally organized January 6, 1990.

Mr Nguyen Vo Ky, the Movement's General Secretary and a former professor, in an interview with the BBC emphasized that the Movement mobilizes the Vietnamese in France from all walks of life to strive for an ultimate goal of ending the Vietnamese Communist regime in Vietnam. When asked if changes in Vietnam can be effected through cooperation with the regime, Mr. Nguyen replied "The regime is the cause of Vietnam's degeneration and poverty and has showed no sign of change in the people's interest. Cooperation with the regime, even only in economic and social activities, will only lead to more suffering in Vietnam and go against the democratic goal of the Movement", he said.



Rally for freedom and democracy in Vietnam - Paris, France, Dec. 16, 1990

Tra My, and Hiep Duc districts. After learning the NUFRONLIV strategy several youths voluntarily joined the Resistance Armed Forces. Among the newcomers were former Hanoi soldiers. The Resistance Youth Group and NUFRONLIV members within the district had disseminated thousands leaflets, dismantled several sections of railroad totaling over 50 meters on route 4, and destroyed many cable posts that paralysed the area communication.

jured and several physical damages to the post.

TAY NINH PROVINCE

NUFRONLIV Members Increase Mobilizational Activities

According to report of the Resistance-Administrative Committee of Tay Ninh province, NUFRONLIV members have increased its efforts to

OVERSEAS NEWS

PARIS-FRANCE

The Movement for Freedom and Democracy for Vietnam Initiated

The General Vietnamese Student Association and 37 other intellectual, professional, cultural and religious organizations within the Vietnamese community in Paris have met and united under a movement to strive for freedom and democracy of Vietnam. The movement, in response to NUFRONLIV's appeal and derived from the Vietnamese community's continuing efforts to

NUFRONLIV Appeals to Vietnamese Students and Forced Laborers in the Soviet Bloc

In a letter addressed to the Vietnamese students and forced laborers in communist countries of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, the NUFRONLIV chapter of West Germany has encouraged these victimized fellow countrymen to:

* Join with the local residents in their struggle for freedom and democracy.

* Inform relatives in Vietnam of these drastic changes sweeping across the Soviet Bloc which are often screened or distorted by the Vietnamese authority.

* Relate how people's aspiration has been transformed into power to effectively uproot the communist system.

* Take advantage of the residing country's openness to contact Vietnamese in the free world for assistance and guidance on how to contribute to our liberation struggle.