

The VIETNAMESE RESISTANCE published by the General Directorate of Overseas Affairs to provide background and information on the liberation struggle of the Vietnamese. Subscription is \$12.00 US dollars or other currency equivalence. Please contact respective offices for inquiries and changes of address. Financial contributions to our cause are greatly appreciated.

## NUFRONLIV

### Overseas Headquarters:

P.O. Box 7826  
San Jose, California 95150-7826  
USA  
Tel: (408) 723-2997

### Asia:

P.O. Box 223  
Shiba, Tokyo 105-91  
JAPAN  
Tel: (03) 768-9856

### Australia:

P.O. Box 1260  
North Richmond, Victoria 3121  
AUSTRALIA  
Tel: (03) 429-4717

### Europe:

B.P. 131  
92164 Antony Cedex  
FRANCE  
Tel: (1) 43-86-82-01

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## HANOI ALARMED FACING RESISTANCE CHALLENGE

Recent breakdowns in its security control system over various regions of Southern Vietnam, coupled with rising civil unrest, have spurred the Vietnamese communist regime to adopt new crackdown tactics both at home and abroad. Hanoi's urgent resort to terrorization campaigns, paradoxically paired with announcements of a new "openness" policy, underscores the government's anxiety over its loss of domestic security control. In its intimidation efforts, the regime, within the last four months alone, have staged public trials for three groups accused of "anti-revolutionary" activity. But its tactics unexpectedly backfired as the Vietnamese population identified the source of these actions -- the regime's panic as it discovered that it could neither stem nor hide the existence of a growing resistance movement.

Resistance activity had begun the moment that the Vietcong regime took control of the country in 1975. There were open and silent executions of individuals opposing the government. Lacking long-term planning and coordination, several scattered resistance groups were discovered and destroyed. By the late 1970's, resistance efforts had nearly waned away.

The situation changed after 1980 upon the formation of the National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam (NUFRONLIV). NUFRONLIV united scattered resistance groups and adopted a new strategy which quickly gained active support and participation from Vietnamese both in and outside the country. Its liberation strategy tapped the energy and the resources of all strata of the population, and attacked every crack in the Vietcong armor: It reached and won Vietcong soldiers to the resistance ranks. In addition to aid provided by refugees living abroad, its forces received shelter, supplies, and information from local villagers. It was the birth of a self-sustained and growing resistance movement.

During the early years, NUFRONLIV's primary task was the creation of an infrastructure suitable for the prolonged struggle. By the late 1980's, it was engaged in direct confrontation as its forces aimed at crippling Vietcong control at the village and district level. Its success also energized independent resistance activity from diverse sectors of the population. The Vietcong regime encountered resistance groups rooted in various religious associations: The Buddhist group led by Reverend Monk Thich Duc Nhuan was detected in 1984; the Catholic group led by Priest Tran Dinh Thu was put on trial in mid-1987. The Communist government had to counter the rising force of the resistance movement quickly. Its public media mounted a consistent attack against the NUFRONLIV. And the depiction of NUFRONLIV's elimination was meticulously set up nearly one and a half year ago -- with the goal of making the movement's destruction a reality.

In early December, 1987, Hanoi declared that it had captured 77 NUFRONLIV resistance fighters and killed more than 100 others, including leader Hoang Co Minh, in a series of 23 clashes allegedly occurring in Southern Laos during July 15 to 29. The allegation was originally reported by the Laotian Communist Radio on October 27, to be regurgitated nearly two months later by the Vietnamese Communist Radio. The announcement was followed by a well-publicized trial, lasting from December 1 to 3, 1987, of eighteen Vietnamese allegedly captured in these battles. Some pictures of NUFRONLIV leaders and printed materials were also put on display. Hanoi presented its meager store of NUFRONLIV

(Continued, back cover)

# RESISTANCE NEWS IN VIETNAM

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 Brief from VRR Broadcasts of December 16, 1988

### Boycotting Vietcong farming plans - A Vietcong agent killed in Cai Lay district

During the year end of 1988, the people of districts of Cho Gao, Tan Chau, Cai Lay, Go Cong Dong and Go Cong Tay, responding to NUFRONLIV calls, have participated in boycotting Vietcong farming and procuring plans. The situation has angered the Vietcong Political commissar of the province. Threats were spread but to no avail. On November 12, 1988, Hai, a Vietcong agent with a repulsive record of terrorizing the local people, was killed; his body was discarded in a rice paddy in Cai Lay District. resistance activity has been stepped up in the Tien Giang province; in mid-July 1988 the Resistance and Administrative Committee has taken into NUFRONLIV ranks members of a group called "Youth of Go Cong for Nation-Saving".

### Attack on a lumber kolkhoz in Sa Thay district.

Four Vietcong were killed early November, 1988 in a NUFRONLIV attack to a lumber kolkhoz in Sa Thay District, Gia Cong province. The Armed Resistance Unit took control after a few minutes of confrontation. Ten Vietcong cadres and security guards were released after being explained of NUFRONLIV pardon policy. All of them promised to leave

the Vietcong rank and to convey the resistance cause to other. The Armed Resistance Unit seized 3 assault rifles AK-47, one K-54, 2 rifles CKC, ammunition and documents. Leaflets were dispersed and some machineries and equipments of the kholkoz have been destroyed before the Unit left the scene.

### Vietcong soldiers in Nghia Binh deserted to Resistance rank

As a result of NUFRONLIV mobilizational activity, parents have actively helped their sons to leave the Vietcong ranks and to join the Resistance. Several dozens have deserted and over 20 youths have asked to be accepted to the Armed Resistance Unit of the province. According to a Vietcong soldier-turned resistance fighter, the desertion ratio in An Son Training Camp was very high despite tighter control and harsher punishment. The Unit has destroyed 2 bridges and several electrical posts in the province, causing alarming uneasiness to the Vietcong public security agents.

## News Briefs from VRR Broadcast of November 14, 1988

### Supplies to Resistance from Binh Tri Thien's population

600 kilos of foods and supplies in total have been donated by the people of Binh Tri Thien Province to NUFRONLIV Khang Chien Quan during 3rd quarter of 1988. The supplies included 30 heavy sweaters and 14 kilo of explosives with

detonators. In September many mobilization missions have been taken place in districts of Huong Dien, Huong Hoa, Phu Loc, and Hue City. Many youths have asked to join the local Armed Resistance Units.

### Recruitment for Saigon Resistance and Administrative Committee

Many young male and female youths have joined Mission Groups organized by the Resistance Youth Unit of Saigon City after several contact and testing during the 3rd quarter of 1988. Most of these youths had been forced to join the Vietcong Volunteer League. In late September, 1988 a Vietcong cadre named Tai was found dead with an execution sentence pinned on the body in the interprovincial route 15 of Nha Be district, a vicinity of Saigon City. Tai was well-known of his bullying and harassing in the Saigon Port, the Resistance and Administrative Committee of Saigon reported.

### Passengers of Saigon-Dalat Route met Armed Resistance Unit

NUFRONLIV Khang Chien Quan of Lam Dong province have informed of resistance activity to passengers of a bus of Saigon-Dalat route on late September, 1988, the provincial RAC reported. The bus passengers, elated when being informed of widespread resistance activity, have donated money, food, and cigarette to resistance fighters. Three youths requested to join the Resistance on the spot. A national flag and leaflets have been given to the bus passenger for dispersion. Two Vietcong cadres among the passengers, later released safely after being explained of the resistance cause, have promised to participate in the passive resistance and to spread the resistance cause to their friends.

The National United Front For Liberation Of Vietnam (NUFRONLIV) was formed in 1980 to absorb Vietnamese at home and abroad into a mass organization to free Vietnam from the Vietcong and Soviet domination, and to build a democratic and prosperous country for the Vietnamese people.

NUFRONLIV liberation strategy emphasizes on mass mobilization for an all-front struggle that utilizes all available means and imaginative methods of the mass to destroy the enemy, in which military approach is conceived supplemental to mobilizational activity.

Overseas the NUFRONLIV has chapters almost everywhere there is a Vietnamese community. Inside Vietnam the infrastructure expands even far deep into the North. Besides the cadres network, NUFRONLIV communicates with people inside Vietnam via its Vietnamese Resistance Radio, broadcasting 8 times a day for one hour each.

NUFRONLIV President:

Commissioner-General/Directorate of Inland Affairs:

Commissioner-General/Directorate of Overseas Affairs:

Commander in Chief/Armed Resistance Forces:

HOANG CO MINH

NGO VAN TU

NGUYEN KIM

DANG QUOC HIEN



Vietnamese Resistance Armed Unit prepares for missions

**News briefs from VRR broadcast of January 1, 1989**

**30 Vietcong soldiers joined the Resistance Rank**

During October and November, 1988 The Resistance and Administrative Committee of Phu Khanh province reported that it had welcomed 30 Vietcong soldiers, who defected from Vietcong army unit while on duty. A former Vietcong soldier, Tran Van My, said that the troops in his unit publicly disobeyed their superiors, but the superiors often

ignored out of fears. The NUFRONLIV also received 14 machine guns AK-47, 2 CKC rifles, ammunition, and documents. Another former Vietcong soldier, who brought along some grenades, explosive charges, and ignitors, also said, before leaving his unit, he had destroyed one armor tank.

**NUFRONLIV Armed Unit encounters Vietcong in Tay Ninh**

The Resistance and Administrative Committee of Tay Ninh province reported that NUFRONLIV Armed

Unit had encountered Vietcong units many times during October and November in Hoa Thanh, Trang Bang, and Ben Cui districts. In these very short clashes, Vietcong soldiers usually fled away. The Armed Unit seized 4 machine guns AK-47, one K-54, some grenades, and ammunition. Seven Vietcong soldiers were killed. Before left the scene, the Unit had disseminated many leaflets.

**Resistance activity in Northern Vietnam**

The VRR had reported: In recent years, resistance activity has manifested and progressed in the highland region in the Northern Vietnam, especially in Lai Chau, Lao Kay, Cao Lang, and Ha Tuyen provinces, which caused a great concern for Vietcong regime. The activity included armed attacks, and also actions of mass mobilization. Many armed groups are of the minority ethnics. The Vietcong regime usually embarked on "autonomy label" to defraud the minorities, they oppressed, terrorized. The worst they try to eliminate the H'Mong ethnic, also known as Meo, which has strong opposition to the regime. In recent years, the efforts to unite resistance groups in North Vietnam have been successful.



The Salzburg Mayor hailed the just cause of Vietnamese Resistance, Dec. 29th, 1988



VRR 5th anniversary - Aalborg, Denmark, Dec. 3rd, 1988



VRR 5th celebration - Vancouver, Canada, Dec. 4th, 1988



Mr. Ly Thai Hung, The Vietnamese Mobilization Commissioner - Oklahoma, Dec 17th, 1988

## OVERSEAS

### 5th Anniversary of the Vietnamese Resistance Radio celebrated worldwide

Yearly when people around the world celebrate Christmas and New Year, the Vietnamese people gather on the anniversary of the Resistance Radio for the cause of liberating their country from the Vietnamese Communist regime. The Vietnamese Resistance Radio, in operation for 5 years with the first broadcast on December 27, 1983, has maintained a program of 5 transmissions daily, instructing and mobilizing the Vietnamese inside Vietnam into a struggle of totality, and informing them of the world advancement and progresses. Funded by the Vietnamese, the Vietnamese Resistance Radio is manned and protected by NUFRONLIV resistance fighters. The Radio's value in mass mobilization has greatly appreciated, and hence, there are worldwide celebration of its continuing operation by Vietnamese communities.

Many communities have begun to celebrate early in November, some gathering for communal donation, other organizing music festivities. On November 12 and 19, Vietnamese in Alkmaar, Heerhugowaard, Hoorn, and Pumerend of Holland, have initiated a campaign "2-day earnings for Resistance". The anniversary celebration took place one month later on December 18 at Akmaar with more than 200 Vietnamese and Hollander supporters attended. A Vietnamese traditional music tape named "Country Love", made by a Vietnamese singer group as a way to raise money for the Resistance, was introduced in this occasion.

Far away in the United States, Vietnamese in Seattle came together

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for a fund-raising dinner at the Cathay Restaurant on November 20. A week later, on the 27, a smaller-scale dinner at a private house was organized in Melbourne, Australia, which was followed by a picnic at Footscray Park with participation of more than 400 Vietnamese on December 18, 1988. On December 4, featuring a NUFRONLIV guest speaker, the fund-raising dinner drew more than 150 Vietnamese supporters to the Vietnamese Club in Vancouver B. C., Canada. That day, nearly 200 Vietnamese in Dallas, Texas also came together for a resistance-supporting event. On December 3, a similar gathering for fund-raising was organized in Aalborg, a city where the Vietnamese in Denmark most concentrates. The event was featured with performance of the Music Youth Group of Aalborg and the Resistance Choir Group of Hjorring.

In Biloxi, Mississippi of the United States, the dinner on December 10 became an occasion for the Vietnamese community to bestow praises to many active resistance supporters. For the 5th Anniversary, nearly 600 Vietnamese and American friends at San Jose, Northern California, on December 18 have enjoyed the music performance whose theme was calling for active boycotting Vietcong-affiliated businesses. On the same day, the Vietnamese in Orange County, Southern California assembled at a fund-raising dinner for a speech of Doctor Tran Xuan Ninh, NUFRONLIV Overseas Deputy Commissioner-General, on the Resistance's progress and the Vietcong's inevitable debacle. The Vietcong puzzle in face of the growing Resistance movement was the topic that Mr. Ly Thai Hung, Vietnamese Mobilization Affairs Commissioner, gave at 2 gatherings of Vietnamese in



Over 2000 Vietnamese gathered for the VRR 5th celebration in Houston, USA, Dec 25th, 1988



VRR 5th celebration - Chicago, USA, Dec. 30th, 1988



VRR 5th celebration - Toronto, Canada, Dec. 31st, 1988



VRR 5th celebration - San Jose, USA, Dec 18th, 1988

Oklahoma City on the 17 and Tulsa on the 18.

One week later, on December 25, over 2000 Vietnamese congregated in Music Hall, Houston, Texas to celebrate the 5th Anniversary of the Resistance Radio, an event that was featured with participation of many prominent Vietnamese performing artists. The same day, more than 100 Vietnamese in Central of West Germany have arrived Kempen City for a dinner at the Saigon Restaurant whose owner has organized and delivered all the sale of the day to NUFRONLIV representative. Even in Austria, a country with a small Vietnamese community, 150 people has gathered on December 29 in Salzburg for the Anniversary Festivities. In this occasion the Mayor of Salzburg has praised the righteous cause of the Vietnamese resistance, and the event was widely covered by the local media.

Fund-raising dinners of smaller scale were also organized in private houses by Vietnamese who live scatteringly in smaller neighborhoods of Brisbane, Australia on last weekend of December. In larger city of Chicago, USA, more than 400 Vietnamese have gathered at Furama Restaurant for a dinner-music performance on December 31. A similar event in Toronto, Canada has drew over 300 Vietnamese on the same day. For the whole month of December, a series of festivities have been organized by Vietnamese in Kansai, Kanto areas of Japan to celebrate the 5th Anniversary of the Vietnamese Resistance Radio.

The similar events had been also organized at San Diego, USA (7/1/89); Sydney, Australia (16/12); Switzerland (18/12); Ottawa, Canada (31/12); Adelaide, Australia (7/1/89); St Paul, USA (14/1/89).

#### Campaign against Vietcong's businesses in France continued

Organized by the France Committee Against Vietcong



VRR 5th celebration - Kempen, West Germany, Dec. 25th, 1988



VRR 5th celebration - Sydney, Australia, Jan. 7th, 1989



Melbourne, Australia, Jan. 22nd, 1989 - Protest against Vietcong's propaganda

Financial Schemes, more than 40 Vietnamese have braved the chilly winter winds on December 4, 1988 to protest in front of Vietcong's stores in Paris. Parading along Choisy Avenue and Ivry Avenue, the demonstrators have dispersed 5000 leaflets and called on passer-by customers to boycott the Vietcong front's businesses in showing solidarity with the Vietnamese struggle for freedom and human rights.

#### Protest Against Vietcong Policy of Terrors

On December 11, 250 Vietnamese in Tokyo participated in a parade organized by NUFRONLIV Japan Chapter and the Association of Vietnamese in Japan to protest the Vietcong regime's terrorizing policy. The Vietnamese, gathering in Mizutanibashi Park, marched through main thoroughfares of Ginza to Hibiya Park. Two prisoners kept in a

simulated hold cell, and a handcuffed monk led the parade to portray the Vietcong's terrorizing policy toward all segments of the population in Vietnam. Photos of Catholic Bishop Tran Dinh Thu, and of Buddhist Reverend Monks Thich Tue Si and Thich Tri Sieu, who were among the clergy recently accused and sentenced to life on "anti-regime" activity, were carried along the parade to remind the world of the Vietcong's inherent deceptions in their announced "openness" policy and their deeds.

**Seven Vietnamese Political Organizations in Australia convened for a joint operation**

On 14 and 15 of December, 1988, seven Vietnamese political organizations in Australia gathered for a special conference, which was aimed to coordinate in operation against the Vietcong overseas manipulations. Mr. Tran Dinh Tho, NUFRONLIV's leader of Australia Chapter was one of the key speaker of the event. With the issue "the Urgent Issues of the Vietnamese Community in Australia", Mr. Tho has pointed out two most important actions needed to proceed: to construct a strong community and to participate actively in the struggle for the liberation of Vietnam. A joint announcement, released with signatures of all representatives, was a foundation for future plans and actions of the Vietnamese Community in Australia. After the conference, all participants joined a demonstration against Hanoi-affiliated businesses and Vietcong-promoted tours, an activity initiated more than a year ago by the Sydney Committee Against Vietcong Financial Scheme and Vietcong Tours.

**Vietnamese crush Vietcong propaganda plan in Australia**

On January 22, 1989, hundreds of Vietnamese in Melbourne joined together for a demonstration in front of the building, where the Fifth World Inter-Religious Conference was held. Thousands of leaflets were disseminated to the conference

participants and passers-by, which explained the oppression of the Vietcong regime toward the Vietnamese people, particularly Catholic and Buddhist communities. Many conference participants showed

with the special purpose of raising money for resistance. More than 100 people of this small Vietnamese community gathered to celebrate Tet and to remind each other of duty to their country. A French student,



Tokyo, Japan, Dec. 11th, 1988 - Protest against Vietcong's policy of terror

concerns for the demonstrator's cause. The Vietcong's delegation led by Thich Minh Chau, entering the convention by the back door, was coolly received by other delegations.

**Fund raising for resistance in Tet festival**

February usually is a month for the Vietnamese community around the world to celebrate the Lunar New Year (Tet Festival). On January 29, 1989 in Toulouse, France the Vietnamese community organized a Tet Festival

expressing his admiration to the resistance fighters led by NUFRONLIV, said: "1975, your people once more lost everything, but a torch for liberation struggle has been flared up. Even without manpower, weapon, your people rose up with unified organization. This achievement was made possible by the determination of 60 million Vietnamese, which is a potential force, as you and I believe, to liberate your country. It was called the Just Cause of this struggle."

**Abbreviations in the Newsletter:**

ARF	NUFRONLIV Armed Resistance Forces
ARVN	Armed Forces of Republic of Vietnam
CPVN	Communist Party of Vietnam
GD/ILA	NUFRONLIV General Directorate of In-Land Affairs
GD/OA	NUFRONLIV General Directorate of Overseas Affairs
NRC	NUFRONLIV National Resistance Council
RAC	NUFRONLIV Resistance & Administrative Committee
RVN	Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam)

**Acronyms and well-used Vietnamese:**

Khang Chien Quan (KCQ):	Vietnamese Resistance Fighter(s)
NUFRONLIV:	National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam
Vietcong (VC):	Vietnamese Communist(s)



materials, probably collected from previous clashes between Vietcong troops and NUFRLIV resistance fighters, on this occasion to bolster its credibility.

But serious defects upset the misinformation program. The time lapse and contradictions between the alleged clashes and their reports, lack of concrete evidence (since the pictures of NUFRLIV activity presented were readily available in the public domain), and poor reconstruction in the picture of a seemingly dead impersonator alleged to be NUFRLIV leader Hoang Co Minh all provided clues to the Vietcong's scheme. The Vietnamese, familiar with Hanoi's misinformation and propaganda methods, questioned its claims; many read them as a sign of apprehension in the Communist regime facing the growing resistance movement.

After its first show of force had failed to achieve its purpose, the Vietcong government intensified its intimidation campaign in mid-1988 by timing a series of resistance trials. On August 1988, it put a resistance group led by Nguyen Dinh Bao and Tran Van Luong on trial. A month later, it delivered death sentences to two prominent leaders of the Buddhist group, scholars and monks Thich Tue Si and Thich Tri Sieu, and life sentences to nineteen other clergy members on "anti-revolutionary" charges. The campaign peaked with the November trial of thirty-four Vietnamese whom the Vietcong alleged to be NUFRLIV resistance fighters captured in July 1987 battles in Southern Laos.

Concurrent with these terror trials were other official measures which underlined the Vietcong's tense battle against the resistance movement led by NUFRLIV. Mobile road checks in coastal provinces, vigilance alarms for "provocateurs" in farmer protests raging in southern regions, and "defense hamlets" programs for the central area were among a few security measures allowed to appear publicly in official newspapers. The crack-down on resistance efforts, necessitated by breaches in the regime's control system, merely fed more faith and energy to the popular movement. Since 1987, the Vietcong regime has not only slumped into an economic quagmire, but has also had to combat a more confrontational resistance movement. In provinces and districts where Western media access is prohibited, elimination of Vietcong security agents and raids on Vietcong kolkhoz have become common events. The regime's terrorization campaign is an urgent response to these harbingers of a highly organized and wide-spread resistance network prepared and trained for the moment of general uprising. Hanoi's recent adoption of intense intimidation measures is testament of the Vietcong leaders' awareness that they are locked in a decisive battle for control.

In confronting the NUFRLIV threat, the Vietcong regime had to execute a meticulous scheme of misinformation about the death of the resistance movement's leader and its elimination: The ruse had to deter resistance activity, yet must not arouse any speculation about a resistance force which had enough

power to engage Vietcong troops in direct confrontation. For outside consumption, allegations of repeated clashes and killings were announced with carefully fabricated details. But for the domestic population, the event was originally reported as fantasy in the fiction column of Vietcong newspapers to stave off its significance. By the time the trials of the resistance fighters began, the regime had already stirred up an atmosphere of terror which effectively shielded it from the population's analysis of the situation and reaction to the event.

Overseas, Hanoi activated its plan to track down NUFRLIV leader Hoang Co Minh's whereabouts for elimination or to undermine the resistance movement through sheer misinformation. It needed to do little more than to create uncertainty about leader Hoang Co Minh safety (with its "news") to breed popular requests in the Vietnamese community for his appearance. The possibility that he will appear in contradiction to its reports is no deterrent to the Vietcong regime. Discovery of another broken promise or lie by the regime is nothing new to observers of the Hanoi game. In face of the growing resistance movement, an opportunity to eliminate the movement's leader far outweighs the cost of such a minor setback. NUFRLIV has confirmed the safety of its leader and has cautioned the Vietnamese community against Hanoi's scheme.

Allegations of captures of NUFRLIV resistance fighters will undoubtedly continue until the Vietcong regime perceives clear signs of this intimidation tactic backfiring. Currently, it is sustaining the campaign in response to the persistent necessity of unravelling the NUFRLIV network. To protect themselves and the organization, those captured by the Vietcong might have to hide their affiliation or disclaim their identity. Accordingly, NUFRLIV has maintained a policy of neither confirming nor denying the affiliation and identity of captured Vietnamese whom the Hanoi government alleges to be members of the organization.

To date, Hanoi's intricate scheme to regain political and economic stability has proven abortive. Following the classic formula of political intimidation/economic indulgence, it has conducted a terrorization campaign hand in hand with economic relaxation and management changes. The familiar tactic is intended as a stern warning that, despite temporary compromises in management and administrative conduct necessary to save the bankrupt economy and deteriorating administration, the Communist regime will tolerate no political challenge to its foundation. The Vietnamese people, however, have exploited the Vietcong's retreat on the economic and administrative front to advance their political movement. Material yields from relaxed controls have become resources for the expansion of the popular resistance network. Terrorization tactics and political intimidation have failed in face of the Vietnamese people's recognition, through eyewitness and personal contacts, of the rising strength of a winning resistance movement versus the desperate concessions of a deteriorating regime.