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## B. INTERNAL AFFAIRS

### BURMA

**President's tour of military regions** President U Ne Win inspected the eastern, north-western and western military regions from 27th January to 3rd February, accompanied by State Councillors U Thaing Kyi, Dr Maung Maung and U Sao Ohn Haya; the Chief of Staff, Gen Tin U; the Agriculture and Forests Minister, U Ye Gaung; U Tha Tun, Director-General of the President's Office; and officials of the Defence Ministry. (Rangoon home service 1330 gmt 3 Feb 76)

**Combat report by "VOPB"** On 1st February the "Voice of the People of Burma" (1200 gmt) broadcast a report giving details of actions by the People's Armed Forces and the (?Shan State People's Liberation Army) between 26th December 1975 and 20th January. Most of the actions were reported to have taken place in the Keng Tung area; others took place in Shan State and northern and southern Wa State. The radio said that at least 41 "mercenaries" had been killed in these actions.

### CAMBODIA

#### Elections to be Held on 20th March

Phnom Penh home service 2300 gmt 3 Feb 76

Excerpts from a press communique on elections to the Cambodian People's Representative Assembly, read by the Information and Propaganda Minister, Hu Nim:

... The Government of Democratic Cambodia announces that the election of members of the Cambodian People's Representative Assembly will be held on 20th March 1976. . . The assembly is to be made up of 250 members, representing the people, workers, farmers, all other Cambodian labourers and the Cambodian revolutionary army. Of these, 150 will represent farmers, 50 will represent workers and other labourers, and 50 will represent the revolutionary army.

The general elections will be held directly and by secret ballot in accordance with Article 6 of the Constitution of Democratic Cambodia. Therefore, 20th March 1976 will be the first time the Cambodian people, workers, farmers and revolutionary army, in their capacity as owners of the State of the co-operatives, the trade unions (Cambodian: sahachiep), the ricefields and farmlands, and of the factories, will send genuine representatives to jointly represent the Cambodian people in passing legislation and in defining the various internal and foreign policies of Democratic Cambodia. . .

On 20th March our people, workers, farmers and revolutionary army will elect brothers who have brilliant records in revolutionary struggle for the liberation of the nation and people, who are sincere towards the people, and who have a high spirit of struggle and responsibility in all tasks of rehabilitating the economy and the construction and defence of the country and the revolution, to serve as their representatives in the Cambodian People's Representative Assembly.

The Role of Peasant Co-operatives

Phnom Penh home service 0400 gmt 3 Feb 76

Text of radio commentary entitled, "Our peasants are determined to strengthen and expand to the maximum their production, so as to become the central force in building and defending our country:

During the revolutionary war our co-operatives fulfilled all kinds of duties, such as being the most reliable revolutionary bulwark in the rear. Our co-operatives contributed all their forces including combat effectives, means and supplies, to the front line. At the same time they carried out the military tasks of defending the liberated zone, protecting the revolutionary administration and smashing both the espionage and pacification moves of the enemy.

Now that we are building and defending Democratic Cambodia, the role of our co-operatives has become even more prominent and important. Ours are production co-operatives with the structure of a revolutionary administration. Since the beginning of 1976 our co-operatives have in general gradually taken on the character of a village. Formerly they functioned in groups with limited membership; now they are acquiring a village framework and performing the following overall revolutionary tasks:

(1) They mobilize the basic forces of the peasantry to carry out production work in all fields, including agriculture and handicrafts. The present urgent task of our co-operatives is to plunge into building new field embankments.

(2) Our co-operatives assume responsibility for communications and transport. They have all they need to transport material and products, to gather their own products and take them to various State organizations.

(3) Our co-operatives take care of the livelihood, culture, welfare and sanitation of the peasants under their authority. They have a schedule for the people to learn politics, culture, arithmetic and reading and writing and to improve the knowledge and abilities of the people, young people and children in each co-operative. During rest hours, the members of our co-operatives listen to the radio and enjoy revolutionary arts. Each co-operative also has a first aid medical unit to provide emergency treatment for the fraternal patients and to develop and produce traditional drugs, as well as supervise sanitation for public health.

(4) Our co-operatives resolve trade problems and take the initiative in bartering products for goods needed by the community.

(5) At the same time, our co-operatives fulfil all military tasks relating to security, defending the authority of the revolution and ensuring the well-being of the people, as well as guaranteeing the existence of the co-operatives and of the nation.

(6) More important, our co-operatives strive to endow and nurture the peasants living in the co-operatives with all the qualities called for by our revolutionary organization, including spiritual, political, organizational, economic, military, social and cultural qualities.

Our co-operatives are determined to fulfil these six important tasks, strengthen and expand their national and democratic stands, further improve the living standards of the peasantry and contribute to all national defence and nation building efforts so that our fatherland can become strong, prosperous and glorious very soon.