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NEW DECISIONS ISSUED

Of decisions promulgated since publication of the last Bulletin, the following will be of general interest:

DECISION OF THE ARMED FORCES COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

Considering Declaration No. 1 of December 20, 1964, of the Armed Forces Council of the Republic of Vietnam:

Art. 1 - There is hereby dissolved the National High Council created by Decree No. 7/BLDQGQL dated September 8, 1964, of the Provisional Leadership Committee.

Art. 2 - The Armed Forces Council places confidence in the Chief of State to perform his responsibilities as specified in the Provisional Charter of October 20, 1964 (section 3), as well as to exercise legislative power.

Art. 3 : The present government will continue to direct the nation and ~~is~~ assigned the responsibility of convening the national assembly within 3 months.

Art. 4: The Provisional Charter of October 20, 1964,* remains applicable except for articles conflicting with this decision.

Saigon, December 20, 1964

s/ Armed Forces Council
of the Republic of Vietnam

DECISION OF THE ARMED FORCES COUNCIL

Realizing that the National High Council is being abused by counter-revolutionary elements who are acting against the spirit of national unity to the detriment of the highest interests of the nation in violation of the Provisional Constitution, thus hampering the reorganization of the armed forces and weakening the anti-communist potential:

The Armed Forces Council withdraws its confidence from the National High Council and therefore proclaims dissolution of the latter as of December 20, 1964. The armed forces expresses its continued confidence in the Chief of State, Phan khac Suu, and support for the civilian government of Prime Minister Tran van Huong in the present transitional period and until a national convention is convened.

The armed forces also confirms its impartiality regarding religious and political differences and is ready to act as mediator between all differences in order to achieve national unity, exterminate the communists and safeguard the nation.

For the welfare of the motherland and the people, the armed forces shall not allow any individual or group to make use of the sacrifices of the soldiers for personal ambitions.

Saigon, December 20, 1964

s/ Armed Forces Council
of the Republic of Vietnam

* PAD has copies of Provisional Charter available.

PRIME MINISTER CALLS FOR ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE
SIMPLIFICATION IN GVN AGENCIES

In an official letter addressed to the Vice Prime Ministers, Ministers and Commissioners General, the Prime Minister urged simplification of organization and procedure within all government agencies in order to conserve public funds and expedite government affairs. The Prime Minister asked each ministry to immediately establish a committee to consider his request.

Suggestions for simplifying government affairs and reducing expenditures include:

- (1) avoid creating new agencies and hiring additional personnel;
- (2) abolish unimportant directorates, services, bureaus and concentrate personnel in key services;
- (3) redistribute workload to eliminate backlog and red tape; and,
- (4) institute measures to effectively supervise and control all levels of administration.

In addition, the Prime Minister announced that the policy of the present government is to devote the larger part of the national resources to pacification programs and other urgent projects.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS COMPLETES
DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY IN SAIGON

In early December, the National Institute of Statistics completed a demographic survey of a lower working class area of Saigon selected by Doxiadis Associates. (The GVN contracted in October with the Doxiadis consulting firm of Athens, Greece, for a 90-day feasibility study of the Saigon-Cholon Prefecture). Sample selection, interviewing, and data processing were completed by the National Institute of Statistics during a six-week period. Analysis will be undertaken in Athens by the consulting firm.

The survey covered about 700 households and 4,400 persons in a four hectare area of Saigon. The area was selected by Doxiadis Associates as being typical of that social stratum of urban Vietnamese working class families for whom low-cost housing programs might be most applicable.

Preliminary findings of the survey indicate that household composition for this working class group does not differ markedly from that of Saigon in general. There are about 6.3 persons per household in the

study area. An estimated 69 percent of the households live in row houses while 21 percent dwell in thatched houses. About three-fourths (3/4) of the houses are owned by the families living in them; most of the remainder are rented. There are no sub-tenants. A very few families obtain free housing as a result of government employment.

Almost 80 percent of the homes have electricity at the present time, but only five percent have running water.

About three percent of the population live with an unrelated family as lodgers. There are practically no servants among this population group, most of the help being "aides familiaux."

Over two-thirds (2/3) of the respondents would prefer to live in a row house. Of these, about half would favor provision for a ground floor window shop for combined living-business quarters.

The majority of rented units were in the 500-1,000 piaster per month category. Most of the remaining were still lower.

Radio and newspapers are routinely available to about half of the families. Very few read magazines or other periodicals. Favorite recreational activities are movies, reading, and music.

REORGANIZATION OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATION

On December 3, the Prime Minister signed an order reorganizing the administrative council of the National Institute of Administration (N.I.A.) and putting that government agency under his direct control.

The administrative council will meet at least once every six months to study and discuss suggestions from the NIA rector related to the Institute's operations and development, and to vote on the NIA operating budget.

Chaired by a representative of the Prime Minister, the council will have five other members and a secretary. Members are a representative of the Interior Ministry, a representative of the Education Ministry, the Director General of the Civil Service, the Director General of the Budget and Foreign Aid, and the NIA rector.

SELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE STATISTICS OF VIETNAM BY PROVINCE

Basic administrative and population data of Vietnam by province, updated to January, 1965, are attached. The unofficial projections are based largely on reports of the National Institute of Statistics.

The estimated population of Vietnam as of January, 1965, is 15,730,000. Provincial data, while obviously subject to many qualifications because of war conditions and lack of census data, reflect the best information currently available.

The overall population density is about 90 persons per square kilometer or 235 persons per square mile. The highest regional density is in South Vietnam-West, with about 160 persons per square kilometer. This region contains an estimated 40 percent of the entire population of the country.

The 2581 villages are distributed among 239 districts and 45 provinces. The official total area of Vietnam (a revision of previously published official figures) is 173,264 square kilometers or about 67,000 square miles.

SELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE STATISTICS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM BY PROVINCE

(Unofficial Data)

1 January, 1965

REGION AND CORPS SUMMARY	No. of districts	No. of villages	Area (km ²)	Estimated population 1 January, 1965	Population density Persons : per km ²	Persons : per mi ²	Proportion of total population (per 1000)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
TOTAL VIETNAM	239	2581	173,264	15,730,000	91	236	1,000.0
South Vietnam - West	93	851	39,357	6,308,000	160	414	401.0
South Vietnam - East	47	388	28,826	4,048,000	140	362	257.3
Central Vietnam Lowlands	75	978	56,694	4,662,000	82	212	296.4
Central Vietnam Highlands	24	364	48,387	712,000	15	39	45.3
Corps I	40	579	28,021	2,730,000	97	251	173.6
Corps II	62	783	81,217	2,706,000	33	85	172.0
Corps III	44	385	25,227	1,945,000	77	199	123.6
Capital Special Zone	6	64	824	2,448,000	2971	7692	155.6
Corps IV	87	770	37,975	5,901,000	155	401	375.1

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SELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE STATISTICS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM BY PROVINCE

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(Unofficial Data)

1 January, 1965

PROVINCE	No. of districts	No. of villages	Area (km ²)	Estimated population 1 January 1965	Population density Persons : per km ²	Persons : per mi ²	Proportion of total population (per 1000)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
South Vietnam - West	93	851	39,357	6,308,000	160	414	401.0
An-Giang	4	38	1,826	467,000	256	663	29.7
An-Xuyen	6	23	4,952	226,000	46	119	14.3
Ba-Xuyen	5	53	2,684	402,000	150	388	25.6
Bac-Lieu	4	19	2,632	314,000	119	308	20.0
Chau-Doc	5	56	2,151	474,000	220	570	30.1
Chuong-Thien	5	35	2,573	273,000	106	274	17.4
Con-Son	0	0	64	2,000	32	83	.1
Dinh-Tuong	7	93	1,640	591,000	360	932	37.6
Go-Cong	2	31	580	183,000	316	818	11.7
Kien-Giang	8	40	5,403	403,000	75	194	25.6
Kien-Hoa	9	115	2,155	618,000	287	743	39.3
Kien-Phong	5	45	2,615	296,000	113	293	18.8
Kien-Tuong	4	26	2,297	64,000	28	72	4.0
Long-An	6	81	1,382	407,000	295	764	25.9
Phong-Dinh	5	40	1,623	426,000	263	681	27.1
Vinh-Binh	9	75	2,880	568,000	197	510	36.1
Vinh-Long	9	81	1,900	594,000	313	810	37.8

SELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE STATISTICS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM BY PROVINCE
(Unofficial Data)
1 January, 1965

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PROVINCE	No. of districts	No. of villages	Area (km ²)	Estimated population 1 January 1965	Population density Persons : per km ²	Persons : per mi ²	Proportion of total population :(per 1000)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
<u>South Vietnam - East</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>28,826</u>	<u>4,048,000</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>362</u>	<u>257.3</u>
Bien-Hoa	7	66	2,352	293,000	125	324	18.6
Binh-Duong	5	49	1,599	252,000	158	409	16.0
Binh-Long	3	31	2,334	85,000	36	93	5.4
Binh-Tuy	3	20	4,157	62,000	15	39	3.9
Gia-Dinh (excluding Saigon)	6	64	824	807,000	979	2,535	51.3
Hau-Nghia	4	24	1,300	246,000	189	489	15.6
Long-Khanh	2	18	3,001	131,000	44	114	8.4
Phuoc-Long	4	18	4,604	67,000	15	39	4.2
Phuoc-Thanh	3	22	2,747	77,000	28	72	4.9
Phuoc-Tuy (excluding Vung-Tau)	6	31	1,931	103,000	53	137	6.6
Tay-Ninh	4	45	3,845	242,000	63	163	15.4
Saigon	*	*	58	1,641,000	28,298	73,264	104.3
Vung-Tau	*	*	74	42,000	565	1,463	2.7
<u>Central Vietnam Lowlands</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>978</u>	<u>56,694</u>	<u>4,662,000</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>212</u>	<u>296.4</u>
Binh-Dinh	11	168	9,537	862,000	90	233	54.8
Binh-Thuan	7	56	4,277	262,000	61	158	16.6
Khanh-Hoa	6	92	5,985	309,000	52	135	19.6
Ninh-Thuan	4	28	3,546	150,000	42	109	9.5
Phu-Yen	7	55	5,233	349,000	67	173	22.2
Quang-Nam (excluding Da-Nang)	9	149	6,472	629,000	97	251	40.0
Quang-Ngai	10	165	6,981	701,000	100	259	44.6
Quang-Tin	6	88	4,903	353,000	72	186	22.4
Quang-Tri	6	84	4,741	292,000	62	161	18.6
Thua-Thien (excluding Hue)	9	93	4,924	483,000	98	254	30.7
Da-Nang	*	*	80	160,000	1,999	5,175	10.2
Hue	*	*	15	112,000	7,458	19,309	7.1

SELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE STATISTICS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM BY PROVINCE
(Unofficial Data)
1 January, 1965

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PROVINCE	No. of districts	No. of villages	Area (km ²)	Estimated population 1 January 1965	Population density Persons : per km ²	Persons : per mi ²	Proportion of total population :(per 1000)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
Central Vietnam Highlands	24	364	48,387	712,000	15	39	45.3
Darlac	4	62	10,552	149,000	14	36	9.5
Kontum	5	100	9,112	93,000	10	26	5.9
Lam-Dong	2	23	4,739	68,000	14	36	4.3
Phu-Bon	3	36	4,757	51,000	11	28	3.3
Pleiku	3	101	8,444	183,000	22	57	11.6
Quang-Duc	4	15	6,010	34,000	6	16	2.2
Tuyen-Duc (excluding Dalat)	3	27	4,704	75,000	16	41	4.7
Dalat	*	*	69	59,000	860	2,226	3.8

SOURCES AND NOTES

* Entry not applicable

(a) Data exclude municipalities and independent cities where so noted in Col. a

(b) Decree review of National Institute of Statistics and Ministry of Interior
Incorporates changes in arrêtes published through 1 January, 1965

(c) Sources are Ministry of Interior and Cadastral Service. Data for SVN-W (Corps IV plus Long-An)
area based on decree review by National Institute of Statistics. "Villages" as defined do not
include quarters or other subdivisions of cities

(d) Cadastral Service summary of 1 October 1964 incorporating changes in arrêtes published through 1
January, 1965

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SELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE STATISTICS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM BY PROVINCE

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(Unofficial Data)

1 January, 1965

- (e) Unofficial projections of USOM statistical advisor based on reports of province-chiefs to National Institute of Statistics. Provincial accounting based on police registrations of the population
- (f) From unrounded population figures(not shown)
- (g) From unrounded population figures(not shown)
- (h) Totals and sub-totals not additive due to rounding