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The following recent major changes may be of general interest:

The creation of military zones, Decree No. 012/65.

Overseas Training: supervision and control by the Commissioner General of Cultural and Social Affairs: Decree No. 1485-GD.

Import taxes increased on all luxury and semi-luxury items: Decree No. 017/65 as modified by Cabinet Decision of Oct. 15.

The Creation of Military Zones, Decree No. 012/65:

The Chairman of the National Directory

DECREES:

Art. 1 - There are hereby created military zones in important areas throughout the territory of the Republic of Vietnam.

Definition of military zone

Art. 2 - A military zone is an area governed by a special statute which authorizes the Vietnam Armed Forces to establish installations, workshops and bases necessary to the National Defense network.

Art. 3 - Public properties within the military zone are placed at the disposal of the Defense Ministry for utilization in any operation considered necessary to national security.

Art. 4 - Boundaries of a military zone, may coincide with those of an administrative area and, according to the national defense requirements, may be occupied entirely by the VN Armed Forces or partly inhabited by civilians. Therefore the military zone will be divided into two clearly defined areas.

- The prohibited area--entirely occupied by the Armed Forces (no civilians). In a military zone, there may be one or several such prohibited areas.

- The limited area--reserved for civilians and governed by a special statute.

Art. 5 - Establishment, abolishment or modification of military zone boundaries will be fixed by decree-law.

Art. 6 - A military zone will be supervised by a VN Armed Forces officer appointed by the Ministry of Defense.

Art. 7 - The commanding officer of each military zone will be placed under the direct control of the Defense Ministry or the concerned Tactical Zone, depending upon the importance of the zone in question.

Art. 8 - In those military zones which include civilian populations an administrative official will be appointed to assist the commanding officer.

Art. 9 - The assistant for administration will be a civil-servant designated by the Ministry of Interior with the concurrence of the Ministry of Defense.

Art. 10 - Under the direction and control of the commanding officer, the administrative assistant will supervise the administrative agencies within the zone.

Statute of military zone

Art. 11 - The following measures are authorized:

A. In a military zone:

- (1) search of private residences at any time
- (2) control the distribution of food
- (3) control or restriction of the gathering or movement of people according to security requirements
- (4) censoring of news, including newspapers, radio-broadcasts, movies, plays, printed materials
- (5) expelling of persons or assigning of living areas to elements regarded as dangerous to the National security
- (6) closing, where necessary, public entertainment places
- (7) forbidding the circulation of printed papers, documents, leaflets considered as harmful to the public safety
- (8) forbidding strikes
- (9) forbidding demonstrations or public gatherings harmful to the public security and order

B. In military zones, the maintenance of public order and security is a responsibility assumed by the VN Armed Forces.

Art. 12 - Besides the measures stipulated in article 11, the following measures can be applied:

- Requiring private individuals to turn in weapons despite their having permits to carry fire-arms
- Evacuation of the population

Art. 13 - Upon proposal of the commanding officer, martial law can be declared when the military zone is threatened by attacks, turmoils or disasters.

Art. 14 - The commanding officer is empowered with the right to requisition according to laws in force.

Art. 15 - According to the Defense requirements, localities adjacent to a prohibited area are subject to the following:

- Structures and plantations are prohibited within 250m to 1,000 meters of the borders of the prohibited area.
- Buildings and crops existing before the establishment of the prohibited areas can be removed or destroyed with compensation according to laws in force.

Art. 16 - The Chairman of the Central Executive Committee, Commissioner General for War, Commissioner for National Defense, Commissioner for Interior and the Commissioner for Communication and Public Works are charged, each as to that which concerns him, with the execution of this decree.

This decree will be published in the official gazette of the Republic of Vietnam.

Saigon, August 31, 1965

Maj. Gen. Nguyen van Thieu

Overseas Training Under Supervision and Control by the Commissioner General of Cultural and Social Affairs, Decree No. 1485-GD.

The Chairman of the Central Executive Committee:

DECREES:

Art. 1 - The Commissioner General for Cultural and Social Affairs is hereby assigned the responsibility to direct and supervise the students' overseas studies and the training of civil servants abroad.

Art. 2 - To perform this duty, a Committee on Overseas Studies is created in the Ministry of Education with authority to:

- Review plans for training of personnel necessary to all national activities.
- Determine the subjects of study, based on order of priority, which are necessary to the nation.
- Determine annually the maximum number of students permitted to go abroad for study at their own expense.
- Select and authorize Vietnamese youths of both sexes and civil servants to go abroad to study or undertake in-service training courses.
- Distribute and grant scholarships sponsored by the national budget and by public, private or international organizations.
- Consider requests for changing subjects of study.
- Subsidize Vietnamese studies abroad.
- Follow up, guide, and control the courses of study of the trainees.
- Provide for the return of the trainees.

Art. 3 - The committee on overseas studies consists of:

The Commissioner General for Cultural and Social Affairs,
concurrently Commissioner for Education, Chairman.

The Commissioner General for Foreign Affairs or his representative.

The Commissioner for Interior.

The Commissioner for National Defense.

The Commissioner for Finance.

The Director General of Plan.

The Director General of Budget and Foreign Aid.

Representatives of ministries which have civil servants
taking in-service training courses abroad.

One representative of students' parents.

One representative of students.

One official designated by the Education Dept., Rapporteur.

One official from the Education Dept., (Having no voting
right), Secretary.

Art. 4 - Meetings of the committee will be convened by the chairman
and minutes of each meeting will be submitted to the office of
Prime Minister as a report.

Art. 5 - The Ministry of Education will assume the following
responsibilities:

- Liaison between ministries and the Directorate General of
Plan in order to develop an overall personnel training program for
submission to the Committee on Overseas Studies for approval.

- Organization, if necessary, of tests in modern languages,
of general knowledge and of technical qualifications of applicants
seeking scholarships for students going abroad to study at their
own expense.

- Liaison with the Directorate General of Plan concerning scholarships granted by foreign countries and organizations in order to redistribute to recipients.

- Study of problems assigned by the Committee on Overseas Studies.

Art. 6 - Every year, prior to sessions of the Committee on Overseas Studies, the Ministry of Education will submit to the Chairman of the Central Executive Committee, for approval, the overseas studies policy, proposed to be applied in the following year.

Art. 7 - The Ministry of Education will be assisted by the Foreign Affairs and National Defense departments in performing its assigned responsibility.

Art. 8 - Procedures of the Committee on Overseas Studies will be governed by a decree of the Ministry of Education.

Art. 9 - Existing stipulations contrary to this decree are repealed.

Art. 10 - The Commissioners General, Commissioners, Under Secretaries of State and Assistants to the Chairman office are charged, each as to that which concerns him, with the execution of this decree.

This decree will be published in the Official Journal of the Republic of Vietnam.

Saigon, September 2, 1965

s/ Brig. Gen. Nguyen Cao Ky

Modification of Import Taxes on Luxury and Semi-Luxury Items

PURPOSES:

The purposes of the modification of tax rates to be levied

on imported goods as specified in Decree-Law No. 017/65, dated Sept. 22, 1965 are:

a. To provide additional receipts to the National Budget as well as to insure equity in tax payment and keep the inflationary pressure in check by requiring from consumers of imported goods, generally those in high income brackets in urban areas, a contribution more corresponding to their income.

b. To prevent development of black market transactions on some imported items, the increased tax rate is aimed at reducing the difference between the importation official price and the black market price.

c. To remedy some inequities in the current customs tariffs where different tax rates have been levied on similar items, thus causing illogical price structure.

d. To promote the inland production by establishing high tax rates on luxury and processed items; meanwhile tax rates on necessary items such as industrial and agricultural equipment and materials remain unchanged or change very slightly.

Chairman of the National Leadership Committee

DECREES:

Art. 1 - The minimum tax rate to be levied on imported goods as shown in the current customs tariff, and the austerity tax rate to be levied on some imported goods are modified in accordance with the list* attached hereto.

* Increase in import taxes averaged about 30 percent on all imported items. The Ministry of Economy and Finance announced that on October 15, 1965 the Cabinet decided the increase will apply only to luxury and semi-luxury items. The Ministry of Economy and Finance has published a new list of types of merchandise to which the new taxes apply.

Art. 2 - This Decree-Law will be promulgated through emergency procedure and will be published in the RVN Official Journal.

Saigon 22 September 1965

s/ Maj. Gen. Nguyen van Thieu

Changes in the organization of the War Cabinet: announced by the Prime Minister Oct. 1, or published soon after in Vietnam Press and other publications.

Although no official decrees are yet available, the following major changes have been made in the highest levels of the government of Vietnam:

1. The Ministry of War became the Ministry of War and Construction.
2. The Ministry of Public Works and Communications was placed under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of War and Construction.
3. The Directorate-General of Planning has been reorganized and the head of this agency has now the rank of a Deputy Commissioner (i.e. Under-secretary of State).
4. The Inspectorate General for Finance and Administration is reorganized and the head of this agency has now the rank of a Deputy Commissioner.

Changes in the Central Executive Committee (i.e. the War Cabinet) announced in Decree No. 121-CT/LDQG/SL dated Oct. 5.

The Chairman of the National Leadership Committee

DECREES:

Art. 1 - The composition of the Central Executive Committee established by Decree No. 001-a/CT/LDQG/SL, dated 19 June, 1965 is completed and modified as follows:

- Vice Chairman of the Central Executive Committee, (i.e.

Deputy Prime Minister) concurrently Commissioner General for War and Construction and Commissioner for National Defense:

- Brig. Gen. Nguyen huu Co
- Minister for Rural Construction:
- Sub Brig. Gen. Nguyen duc Thang to replace the late Mr. Nguyen tat Ung

Art. 2 - The Chairman of the Central Executive Committee is charged with the execution of this Decree. This Decree will be published in the RVN Official Journal.

Saigon, 5 October 1965

s/ Maj. Gen. Nguyen van Thieu

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS KILLED OR KIDNAPPED BY THE ENEMY:

The number of local government officials (officials of Hamlet, Village, District, and Province governments) killed or kidnapped by the enemy has decreased in recent months, after a peak in June. Losses were as follows:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Kidnapped</u>	<u>Total</u>
April	26	93	119
May	25	87	112
June	87	137	224
July	37	36	73
August	24	29	53
September	42	33	75
Totals	<u>241</u>	<u>415</u>	<u>656</u>

PRINCIPAL STEPS IN OBTAINING APPROVAL
OF G.V.N. BUDGET ESTIMATES FROM PROVINCIAL LEVEL
(FOR CIVIL FUNCTIONS)

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