

# VIET-NAM

## INFORMATION NOTES

OFFICE OF MEDIA SERVICES, BUREAU OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
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### FREE-WORLD ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH VIET-NAM

A large number of countries have supported the efforts of Viet-Nam to preserve its freedom. Recognition of the Government of Viet-Nam by more than 50 nations implicitly indicates this support. More than thirty of these nations have contributed military, economic, and/or technical assistance to Viet-Nam and the Vietnamese people.

The free nations of Asia, deeply concerned about the security of the area, have been in the forefront of those nations contributing military assistance. Many countries of Europe and the Western Hemisphere, and several countries of Africa and the Middle East, have provided humanitarian and other nonmilitary assistance to the Republic of Viet-Nam.

This paper documents the scope of the aid given by other nations since the Government of Viet-Nam issued an appeal to the free world for assistance in July 1964. Aid from the United States will be described in another paper of this series and is not included here.

About 60,000 troops from five Asian and Pacific nations (Australia, New Zealand, Korea, Thailand, and the Philippines) are now in Viet-Nam serving alongside the Vietnamese and U.S. Armed Forces, and more are expected. The recently announced increases from Australia, New Zealand, and Thailand will bring the total troop contribution to more than 71,000. Of the nations which have given aid, 12 (Australia, Canada, Republic of China, Germany, Iran, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, the Philippines, and the United Kingdom) have sent some 500 civilians—doctors, nurses, teachers, agricultural advisers, engineers, and other technical personnel—to work in the cities and rural areas of Viet-Nam to help build a better life for the people. The major donors of economic and technical assistance are Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom. A number of other nations have made more modest contributions as indications of their support for the Vietnamese people.

More than 20 medical and surgical teams from a dozen nations, not including the United States,

are providing medical care—largely in provincial hospitals. Many countries have provided substantial material help, including medical supplies, textbooks, construction materials and equipment, refugee relief supplies, and foodstuffs. They have also provided scholarship aid to Vietnamese students so that they may obtain vitally needed training which will enable them to participate more effectively in building a free and prosperous country.

The 31 nations which have given aid to South Viet-Nam under the free-world assistance program are:

<u>Asia-Pacific</u>	<u>Middle East</u>	<u>Europe</u>	<u>Western Hemisphere</u>	<u>Africa</u>
Australia	Greece	Belgium	Argentina	Liberia
Japan	Iran	Denmark	Brazil	Tunisia
Korea	Turkey	Germany	Canada	
Laos		Italy	Costa Rica	
Malaysia		Luxembourg	Ecuador	
New Zealand		Netherlands	Guatemala	
Philippines		Spain	Honduras	
Rep. of China		U.K.	Uruguay	
Thailand			Venezuela	

France, Pakistan, Ireland, Switzerland, Israel, and Norway have contributed separate aid which does not appropriately fall in the free-world assistance category.



Men of an Australian Military Forces unit stand at attention during welcoming ceremonies in Saigon.



*Troops of the Korean Ninth "White Horse" Division trained in jungle warfare come ashore for deployment in central Viet-Nam.*

## MILITARY AID

Understandably, the nations closest to the threat of Communist expansion are making the most substantial contributions in military assistance after that of the United States. Korea has contributed two divisions, one combat brigade, and a number of support units. Four of the Asia-Pacific SEATO members (Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, and Thailand) have military forces in South Viet-Nam as well as military advisers, technicians, and supplies.

The following list indicates the extent of the military assistance being contributed by Asia-Pacific nations:

### Australia

- 6,300 combat troops in Viet-Nam, including a brigade and support units.
- A squadron of eight Canberra bombers.
- A guided-missile destroyer, as well as naval assistance to the Vietnamese Navy.
- 100 combat advisers (primarily specialists in jungle warfare).
- 73-man air force unit with six Australian Caribou planes flying daily logistical transport missions in support of Vietnamese military forces.

The Australian Government has announced that an additional battalion group with supporting helicopters and a tank squadron will be sent to Viet-Nam, bringing the total of the Australian contribution to 8,000 combat troops. Additional helicopters and Australian Skyhawk pilots will also be sent.

### Korea

- 48,800 troops, including two combat divisions and one combat brigade, a 130-man Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, 10 military instructors in Korean karate for training the Vietnamese mili-

tary in hand-to-hand combat, and a 2,200-man Task Force Unit composed of numerous support elements.

### New Zealand

- 125-man artillery battery of six howitzers.
- 25-man army engineer detachment.
- 210-man infantry company with supporting elements.

The New Zealand Government has announced that an additional infantry company will be sent to Viet-Nam, bringing the New Zealand force level to 546 men overall.

### Philippines

- 2,000-man military engineering unit with security personnel, a station hospital, and rural health and civic action teams.

### Thailand

- 2,450 troops, including one combat brigade. The Thai Government has announced that a combat division will also be sent to Viet-Nam, increasing the total Thai troop contribution to around 13,000.

- 150-man Thai naval group manning an LST and PGM patrol craft.

- 35-man air force contingent has been flying operational transport missions for the Vietnamese forces.

- Jet training for Vietnamese pilots in Thailand.



*Philippine President Marcos awards medals for bravery to Philippine Civic Action Group members. The detachment was part of a 2,000-man group of engineers, construction workers, and medical and rural development teams.*



Royal Thai Army Volunteer Regiment members load gear for transport to their new base camp in South Viet-Nam.

## ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### Asian and Pacific Nations

The free Asian and Pacific nations have been particularly generous in their nonmilitary aid to Viet-Nam:

Australia has contributed more than \$10 million since 1964. This includes:

- Three surgical teams totaling 42 medical personnel in three provincial hospitals. These teams, in addition to performing major operations, have established a blood bank and are providing training for nurses.

- A group of civil engineers working on water supply and road construction projects.

- Three experts in dairy and crop practices and radio techniques.

- Training of 130 Vietnamese (including nurses and pilots) in Australia at universities and technical institutions.

- In goods and materials—1,250,000 textbooks in Vietnamese for rural schools; 3,300 tons of corrugated roofing for Vietnamese military dependents' housing; six large community windmills; 15,750 sets of handtools; 400 radio sets and 2,400 loudspeakers; 16,000 blankets; 14,000 cases of condensed milk; and a 50-kilowatt broadcasting station at Ban Me Thuot.

Republic of China has provided a variety of nonmilitary aid, including:

- An 80-man agricultural team.

- A 34-man electrical power mission.

- An 18-man psychological warfare team.

- A 16-man surgical team.

- Training in Taiwan for more than 200 Vietnamese in the fields of agriculture, industry, education, public health and sanitation, transportation, and public administration.

- In goods and services—26 aluminum prefabricated warehouses, agricultural tools, seeds and fertilizers, 500,000 copies of mathematics textbooks, and an electrical power substation.

Japan has contributed more than \$55 million in economic assistance, chiefly through repara-

tions. This includes technical personnel and funds for the construction of a large power dam across the Da Nhim River and an electrical transmission line. Japan has also sent:

- Two medical teams and considerable quantities of medical goods (4,544 cases),

- 20,000 transistor radios.

- 25 ambulances.

Japan has also signed a new medical agreement with the Vietnamese Government for \$1.1 million.

Korea has seven civilian medical teams totaling 118 doctors, nurses, and support personnel working in provincial health programs. In addition, Korean military medical personnel are providing some medical care to the local population in areas where ROK (Republic of Korea) troops are stationed.

Laos contributed about \$4,000 for flood relief in 1965 and a cash donation for refugees in 1966.

Malaysia has trained more than 2,900 Vietnamese military and police officers since 1964. Groups of 30-60 are sent regularly for a month's training in counterinsurgency with the Malaysian Police Special Constabulary. Substantial amounts of counterinsurgency materials, primarily military and police transport such as armored vehicles, have also been provided.

New Zealand has sent a 15-man surgical team and, for the University of Saigon, a professor in English language. That Government presently is training 80 Vietnamese in New Zealand; has provided \$21,000 for equipment for a technical high school and approximately \$600,000 for a science building at the University of Saigon. A second 16-man medical team is being sent to Binh Dinh Province.

The Philippines has financed a 12-man medical team and donated clothing, food, and medical supplies.



This University of Nagasaki surgical team, part of Japanese civil aid to Viet-Nam, prepares a Vietnamese boy for surgery.



Thailand has provided rice for refugees, cement, and zinc roofing materials. At the Manila Conference (October 1966) Thailand offered South Viet-Nam a \$20 million rice credit.

#### Middle East Nations

Countries of the Middle East have given medical and material aid as follows:

Greece—\$15,000 in medical supplies in 1964.

Iran—1,000 tons of petroleum products in 1964, plus a 20-man medical team sent to work in a provincial hospital.

Turkey—medicines in 1964 and the offer of a substantial quantity of cement.

#### European Nations

The countries of Western Europe have given generously in the field of humanitarian assistance, having provided medical personnel and supplies, and are expanding their assistance to Vietnamese universities and technical institutions. They have also aided in construction and social projects in Viet-Nam.

Belgium has provided medicines in 1964 and an ambulance in 1965, as well as scholarships for 15 Vietnamese to study in Belgium.

Denmark has provided medical supplies in 1964 and has offered to train Vietnamese nurses in Denmark.

Germany provides substantial economic and humanitarian aid, averaging about \$7.5 million annually. The Federal Republic has on duty in Viet-Nam a 3,000-ton, 145-bed hospital ship, the "Helgoland," staffed with eight doctors and 30 other medical personnel.

There are seven Germans, a director and six instructors, teaching at the new Vietnamese-German Technical High School at Thu Duc near Saigon. At Hue University there are five Germans: three physicians in the Medical School, a professor of music, and a professor of German language. There is a German forestry expert working at the Department of Rural Affairs, Saigon. Germany also is training 40 Vietnamese, primarily as future instructors in the technical high school, and has agreed to accept 30 more.

In goods and materials, the Federal Republic has provided credits as follows:

(1) \$3.75 million for import of German products, such as machine tools, fertilizers, etc. The piastre funds generated through sales of these products to Vietnamese importers are made available to the National Office of Agricultural Credit to aid farmers, particularly with loans.

(2) \$12.5 million for development of the major industrial complex at An Hoan-Nong Son.

(3) \$5 million for construction of a slaughterhouse at Saigon-Cholon, and three coastal vessels.

(4) \$125,000 for equipment at the Vietnamese-German Technical High School at Thu Duc.



*The Vietnamese Minister of Health (right) and the German Charge d'Affaires in Saigon examine a mobile dental clinic donated by the Federal Republic of Germany.*

In April 1966, Germany announced a gift of \$4.4 million of pharmaceuticals, the first shipments of which have arrived. The Federal Republic has also provided two mobile dental clinics and 30 ambulances for the Vietnamese Ministry of Health.

German aid averages about \$7 million annually and includes the financing of such projects as:

- (1) technical experts to establish a refugee center;

- (2) construction of a home for delinquents;
- (3) construction of several social centers;
- (4) establishment of a training center for social workers.

Germany also donated 260 tons of rice for refugee relief programs. There are more than 200 German personnel working on aid projects in Viet-Nam.

Italy provided a 10-man surgical team and has offered science scholarships to 10 Vietnamese to study in Italy.

Luxembourg gave plasma and blood transfusion equipment in 1965.

The Netherlands has undertaken to build five tuberculosis centers in Saigon, and sites for three have already been selected. In August 1966 the Netherlands announced a contribution of \$355,000 for a 4-year U.N. project in social welfare, part of the \$1 million they have earmarked for U.N. projects in Viet-Nam.

In 1964 the Netherlands Government gave antibiotics, and four scholarships for Vietnamese doctors to study in the Netherlands. They previously provided a dredge for canal clearing in the Mekong delta area.

Spain has provided 2,200 pounds of medicines, medical equipment, and blankets and has sent a 12-man medical team to South Viet-Nam.

The United Kingdom has provided six civilians for a British Advisory Mission in Saigon and a professor of English at Hue University. In the

United Kingdom 21 Vietnamese are receiving training under Colombo Plan and British Council auspices. A pediatric team of four British doctors and six nurses went to Viet-Nam in August 1966.

In goods and materials, the British have provided: laboratory equipment for Saigon University; a typesetting machine for the Government Printing Office; a cobalt deep-ray therapy unit for the National Cancer Institute; various equipment for the Faculties of Medicine, Science, and Pharmacy at Saigon University, the Meteorological Service and the Agricultural School at Saigon, the Atomic Research Establishment at Dalat, and the Faculty of Education at Hue.

In 1965-66 British economic aid included \$226,800 for roadbuilding equipment, diesel fishing-boat engines, and portable anaesthetic machines.

Economic aid from the United Kingdom in the past 3 years is valued at more than \$2 million. British aid for FY 1967 was \$515,200; it is estimated \$666,400 will be expended for aid in FY 1968.

#### Western Hemisphere

Western Hemisphere countries have also made contributions to South Viet-Nam in the categories of humanitarian aid and training of personnel.

Canada has provided almost \$6 million in assistance. A Canadian supervisor at Quang Ngai is directing the construction of a small tuberculosis clinic which the Canadians are funding and staffing with two doctors and four nurses. Canada has provided a professor of orthopedics for Cho Ray Hospital, Saigon, and a teacher for Hue University.

Canada is currently training 231 Colombo Plan trainees in Canada. Altogether, it has trained 380 Colombo Plan trainees and 463 trainees under all programs, including those sponsored by other agencies and third countries.

Since 1958, Canada has provided \$850,000 worth of food aid for Viet-Nam. Funds generated by sales are used for capital construction projects in Viet-Nam, such as the new \$333,000 science building for the medical faculty at Hue University.

In addition, Canada has agreed to construct an auditorium for the Faculty of Sciences at Hue University which will cost approximately \$125,000.

This fiscal year Canada has allocated \$1 million for medical assistance, including provision for ten 200-bed emergency hospital units—the first two have arrived and have been established in provincial towns in Viet-Nam. Canada has given Viet-Nam more than 650,000 doses of polio vaccine for Vietnamese schoolchildren and has offered various additional vaccines.

Argentina sent 5,000 tons of wheat flour; Brazil, a substantial quantity of medical supplies



*The director of the Viet-Nam Red Cross (left) inspects relief supplies donated by the people of Honduras for South Vietnamese refugees.*

and coffee in 1965 and 1966; Costa Rica is contributing an ambulance; Ecuador sent medical supplies in 1965; Guatemala, 15,000 doses of typhoid-paratyphoid serum in 1965; Honduras, drugs and dry goods for refugees sent via the Honduran Air Force in 1967; Uruguay, refugee relief supplies and medicines in 1966; and Venezuela, 500 tons of rice sent in 1966, and two civilian doctors.

#### Africa

Two countries of Africa have been contributors to the Republic of Viet-Nam:

Liberia, which gave \$50,000 in 1966 for the purchase of hospital equipment and other medical supplies; and

Tunisia, which in 1967 made available a number of scholarships for Vietnamese.

#### Other Nonmilitary Aid

In addition to the support of the countries listed above, other countries have contributed separate aid which does not appropriately come into the free-world assistance category:

France since 1956 has contributed approximately \$115 million in assistance. Present aid is running at a rate of about \$4 million per year, largely in the cultural field. There are nearly 500 French civilians serving in South Viet-Nam. Among them are 65 experts under France's program of economic and technical assistance, including 32 physicians, professors, and other medical personnel.

Under its cultural programs, 471 professors (350 French and 121 Vietnamese) are teaching at nine French institutions, and 30 French professors are at Vietnamese institutions. In 1965 France provided 55 fellowships for technical



*Private voluntary aid includes the distribution of 2,000 blankets to the Rhade tribe purchased with funds raised by Britain's Oxford Committee for Famine Relief.*

training and 55 academic fellowships for Vietnamese to study in France.

Low-interest credits of \$20 million for financing imports of French equipment for Vietnamese industry, and a grant of \$100,000 for equipment for L'Ecole Nationale d'Ingenieurs des Arts Industriels have been provided by the French Government.

In 1960 France extended a low-interest credit of \$14 million to aid construction of the major coal and chemical complex at An Hoa-Nong Son, south of Da Nang, which is now well under way. It also made available a low-interest 5-year credit of \$12 million for construction of Viet-Nam's largest cement-producing complex, with plants at Ha Tien and Thu Duc. In 1964 France provided an \$186,000 grant for the installation of a training center for electrical technicians, and in 1965 a gift of \$250,000 for teaching equipment, primarily in the medical field.

Ireland, Israel, Pakistan, and Norway contributed money, clothing, and pharmaceutical supplies to the victims of the floods of 1965.

Switzerland has provided microscopes for the University of Saigon. The Swiss Red Cross has sent an 11-man medical team to work in a provincial hospital in South Viet-Nam's central highlands. The Swiss Government has also made a grant for a pediatric wing at Da Nang hospital and has voted funds for another medical team.

## United Nations Aid

The United Nations and its specialized agencies are making a significant contribution to the social and economic development of Viet-Nam. Under the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance of the U.N. Development Program, 15 technical assistance projects are scheduled for 1967 and 1968 at a cost of \$724,475. These projects range across such varied fields as maternal and child health, labor administration, educational planning, telecommunications, meteorology, and civil aviation. Among the participating agencies are ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, ICAO, ITU, WMO, and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations. In addition, UNICEF has substantially expanded its health and child care programs. The 1967 program totals \$562,000, an increase of \$226,000 over the 1966 level.

Several major projects financed by the Special Fund of the U.N. Development Program are about to get underway. A National Technical Center (total international contribution approximately \$1.5 million), with UNESCO as the executing agency, is now becoming operational. The Special Fund has approved a Fisheries Development Project including exploratory and experimental fishing in the water of the South China Sea, to be executed by FAO at a cost of \$1.3 million. Also being negotiated is a Social Welfare Training Center. The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) is also pressing ahead with projects of benefit to all the nations in the Lower Mekong Basin, and has undertaken surveys of irrigation, hydroelectric facilities, and bridge construction projects in Viet-Nam.

## Private Voluntary Aid

Voluntary aid from private nonprofit organizations in third countries has come from the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Canada, and New Zealand. Voluntary private aid from the United States, which is substantial, is discussed in another paper in this series.

The following organizations in third countries have contributed:

The Save the Children Fund of Great Britain, which is helping refugee families; the Terredes Hommes of Switzerland which is dedicated to aiding Vietnamese children, particularly those injured by the war; the Quebec Medical Aid Association, which solicits contributions to be used for shipment of medical supplies; and the New Zealand National Council of Churches, which has sent a 6-man team to assist in refugee problems.

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## VIET-NAM INFORMATION NOTES

Viet-Nam Information Notes is a new series of Department of State publications. Each paper in the series summarizes the most significant available material on one important aspect of the situation in Viet-Nam. Viet-Nam Information Notes are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, for 5¢ each (with a 25 percent discount for quantities of 100 or more copies of any one Note mailed to the same address). Remittances, payable to the Superintendent of Documents, must accompany orders.

### PRESENTLY AVAILABLE ...

1. Basic Data on South Viet-Nam (Dept. of State pub. 8195) summarizes general information on the land, people, history, government, and economy of the country.
2. The Search for Peace in Viet-Nam (Dept. of State pub. 8196) reviews the efforts of individuals, governments, and international bodies to bring about a peaceful solution to the conflict in Viet-Nam. The policy of the Government of North Viet-Nam with regard to a peaceful settlement is included.
3. Communist-Directed Forces in South Viet-Nam (Dept. of State pub. 8197) seeks to answer such questions as: What is the Viet Cong? Who are its leaders? How is it related to party and government organs of North Viet-Nam? What are the Communists' objectives? Their strengths? Their weaknesses?
4. Free World Assistance for South Viet-Nam (Dept. of State pub. 8213) describes the scope of the international aid program for the Republic of Viet-Nam. It gives facts and figures about the contributions of 36 participating nations (U.S. aid is not included—a separate Note is to be devoted to that subject).
5. Political Development in South Viet-Nam (Dept. of State pub. 8231) discusses South Viet-Nam's steady progress toward an elected government and representative institutions at all levels of government.
6. Why We Fight in Viet-Nam (Dept. of State pub. 8245) describes the origin of the conflict and the principal reasons for U. S. involvement.
7. Viet-Cong Terror Tactics in South Viet-Nam (Dept. of State pub. 8259) describes the deliberate campaign of terror by which the Viet-Cong hope to break the resistance of South Viet-Nam.
8. National Reconciliation in South Viet-Nam (Dept. of State pub. 8260) describes the Chieu-Hoi, or Open Arms, program of the Government of South Viet-Nam.
9. Prisoners of War (Dept. of State pub. 8275) explains the special status of prisoners of war under the Geneva convention, allied treatment of prisoners and efforts to discuss with North Viet-Nam and the Communist National Liberation Front repatriation, exchange, and other matters pertinent to prisoners of war.
10. Legal Basis for U.S. Military Aid to South Viet-Nam (Dept. of State pub. 8285) discusses the well-established points of law and fact which are the legal basis for the U.S. military commitment in South Viet-Nam.

### COMING SOON ...

Several other Viet-Nam Information Notes will be available in the near future. Anticipated subjects include "Opinions of Asian Leaders"; "AID in Viet-Nam"; "The Military Struggle"; and "Wars of National Liberation." The Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, on request, will place individuals on its mailing list to receive Selected United States Government Publications—a free, biweekly announcement of new publications, including subsequent numbers of this series.