

military units administered some 2.2 million treatments of various nature to the civilian populace in the first half of this year.

□ *Malaria eradication* was an early success. Between 1958 and 1961, the incidence of malaria infection was reduced from 7.2 percent to 1.5 percent. Some 85 percent of Vietnamese subject to malaria are protected and in the last year 405,000 houses were sprayed under the anti-malaria program. The goal is total eradication when security conditions permit restoration of a nationwide campaign.

□ To prevent the spread of communicable diseases, special attention is given to refugees as they come to the refugee centers. Some 50,000 immunizations against cholera and 70,000 against plague were given refugees and others in areas where outbreaks of disease threatened in the first half of 1966, adding to a total of some 12 million immunizations so far given with AID-donated medicine.

□ A special immunization program for 90,000 Saigon elementary school children was completed in February.

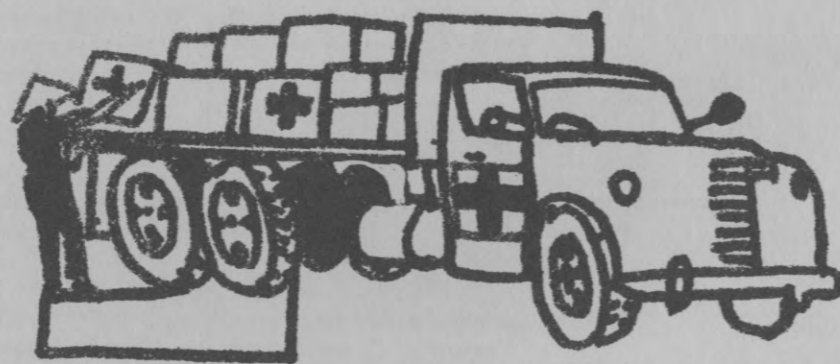
□ Using vaccine donated by Canada, another special program will shortly begin for the *immunization of school children against polio*.

□ The assistance of the National Tuberculosis Association is being sought in a program against tuberculosis.

□ In the increasingly crowded cities the United States is assisting the Vietnamese Government to improve sanitary conditions, and garbage trucks are being provided for the collection of refuse.

□ After visiting Vietnam in March, Secretary Gardner suggested emphasis on improving the transport and distribution of medical supplies. Construction has since begun on four regional medical depots and the expansion of the Saigon central depot. With United States military help, the logistics system for the movement of medical supplies to Vietnam has been improved.

□ *Major emphasis has been placed on medical education*. The American Medical Association, drawing on United States medical school faculties under AID contract, is working with the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Saigon to revise curricula and educational techniques.



□ The Vietnamese and United States Governments jointly financed the construction of a basic sciences complex at the University which was completed in March 1966.

□ In the last year 32 Vietnamese were trained in medicine in the United States, and 2,100 students (not including nurses) attended medical facilities in Vietnam supported by the United States.

□ There are only about 2,500 nurses and 3,000 practical nurses and midwives in Vietnam. The United States has supported the construction and staffing of six new nursing schools, four of which are now open. When all are completed, Vietnam will have eight such schools, the number of student nurses will be doubled, and over 800 will be graduated annually.

□ The United States has assisted in the renovation and construction of 10 key provincial hospitals. Construction has been troubled by rising costs and competing demands for materials, but two of the hospitals are now near completion. Further expansion of existing hospitals is to start shortly.

□ The U.S. has donated 28 *surgical suites* to hospitals throughout the country. Prefab techniques are being investigated for the improvement of 14 more provincial hospitals.

□ Our military units through their civic action programs renovated or constructed 29 local dispensaries in the first half of 1966, and treated hundreds of thousands of patients.

□ The German hospital ship "Helgoland" has arrived, and equipment for ten 200-bed portable emergency hospitals has been donated by Canada.



Anesthesia is applied in the operating room of the Danang Province hospital.

*effort
in the
coming year:*

- The AID budget for medical help to Vietnamese civilians rose from about \$5 million in fiscal year 1965 to \$25 million in fiscal year 1966; it will rise to more than \$50 million in fiscal year 1967.
- Emphasis will continue on improving basic medical education and facilities to prepare for Vietnam's future peacetime needs. The United States plans to work with the Government of Vietnam on improving regional public health laboratories, rehabilitation facilities (including those for the blind) and the operations of the Ministry of Health.
- By 1970 Vietnam will be capable of producing annually 200 fully-trained physicians and 50 dentists.
- A survey will be conducted on where new medical facilities should be built, using permanent-type hospital construction on a standard architectural plan.
- Fifty inter-village medical dispensaries are planned by the end of 1967. Dispensary services will include maternity care.
- United States civil and military agencies are cooperating on methods to improve the flow of medical supplies both to and within Vietnam, and to help the Government of Vietnam maintain the proper balance of medical resources between civilian and military needs.

*Strengthening
Public
Administration*

For ten years the Viet Cong has marked the structure of government in Vietnam as a special target. They have systematically murdered, maimed, or kidnaped government officials; and made public service vulnerable and hazardous. Their aim has been to destroy government at the lower levels, or leave behind a wasted structure of intimidated and ineffective officials, especially in rural areas. Cities have been besieged by refugees, and beset by problems of rapid urbanization, political instability and growing insecurity. The years 1964 and 1965 saw rapid deterioration. These trends have not yet been totally reversed, but much progress has been made, especially in the last six months.

*accomplishments
to date:*

- A major effort has begun to restore some authority and autonomy to the vital and traditional *village-hamlet level of government*. Salaries for village and hamlet officials are being increased, and a coordinated program is under way to rebuild this weakest link between the people and the Government.
- The Revolutionary Development Cadre performs an essential role in helping local officials to rebuild village and hamlet administration.
- *The National Institute of Administration*, Vietnam's only school for administrators, is being reorganized. New programs are designed to train more young officials for work outside of Saigon. Each year there are graduating classes totaling about 170, and the graduates are assigned to rural districts as Deputy District Chiefs for administration or other positions of equal responsibility. In addition the National Institute of Administration graduates 70 senior clerks yearly for positions in the Government of Vietnam.
- *Training centers for local officials* have been built and staffed in most of the 43 provinces. Last year 14,000 local government employees participated in training programs.
- *Technical services* are being decentralized to the provinces and districts. Services will be more readily available to the rural population.



Hamlet school and clinic, Ba Xuyen Province.

- The May 30, 1965, *local elections* were a significant, if generally unpublicized, step towards developing a responsible and creative relationship between central, provincial, and village government.
- A major administrative conference was held in Saigon in October 1965, with province chiefs, mayors, and councilmen attending, representing all provinces.
- Viet Cong terrorism against local officials is being slowly reduced. There were 991 local officials killed or kidnaped in the first half of 1965; 512 in the second half of 1965, and 420 in the first half of 1966.
- Finally, the *September 11 elections* for a Constituent Assembly to draft a new Constitution reinforced the democratic process and provided new foundations for the reconstruction of government at all levels.

**effort
in the
coming year:**

The Government of Vietnam, with United States help, plans to give special emphasis to strengthening Government institutions and improving public services, particularly at the provincial, village and hamlet levels, which are critical to Revolutionary Development.

- Training of Government administrators will be expanded; 5,000 more local officials are to be trained during the remainder of 1966.
- The student capacity of the National Institute of Administration is being increased by 39 percent, with part-time courses for 700 trainees, and the addition of business administration courses with AID help.
- The U.S. will continue to urge steps to improve the legal system, with emphasis on social justice.

**Helping
Vietnamese
Youth**

Youth in Vietnam represent the key to truly "revolutionary" development. The young have been suspicious of the government—a government which has relied traditionally on the wisdom of the elders. They have tended to stand aside. Meanwhile, the Viet Cong labor to capture the spirit and energy of youth for purposes of insurgency. So new horizons of hope and opportunity must be opened to the youth of Vietnam. They need to be



In a Bien Hoa school, two young students open new books provided under the AID-supported textbooks distribution program.

educated so that they can reach their goal. They must be motivated to serve their country in war—as they must be prepared to serve it in peace.

**accomplishments
to date:**

□ The Government of Vietnam has improved its aid to and contact with *youth groups*, and is encouraging the participation of young people in local government. Democratic student government athletic programs and civic action programs are being sponsored by the "New School Movement" in the secondary schools. Thirty out of 187 secondary schools have adopted this program, and the Government of Vietnam is encouraging its expansion.

□ Young civilians and soldiers joined in a highly successful project of self-government and self-improvement in one of Saigon's worst slums, District Eight. Premier Ky has directed expansion of this work to other Saigon slum areas.

□ Youth are aiding their countrymen through *civic action programs*. Some 12,000 secondary school students under the direction of young teachers and youth leaders worked this summer in Saigon and 33 provinces on reconstruction and repair projects in hamlets and urban slums. Other youth organizations such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, Buddhist and Catholic student groups, the National Voluntary Service, and the Voluntary Youth Association are working on a variety of socio-economic development projects.

□ Under the Ministry of Youth, *the Province Youth and Sports Service* is developing civic responsibility through voluntary civic action and social welfare projects—aiding competitive sports programs and assisting the police through the 41,000-man Combat Youth Force. There are 7,500 youth cadres at the province, district, village and hamlet levels.

□ Greater emphasis is being placed on recruiting capable young people for *Revolutionary Development Cadre*. Young men and women are ideally suited to this rigorous life. They have the ability to motivate others.

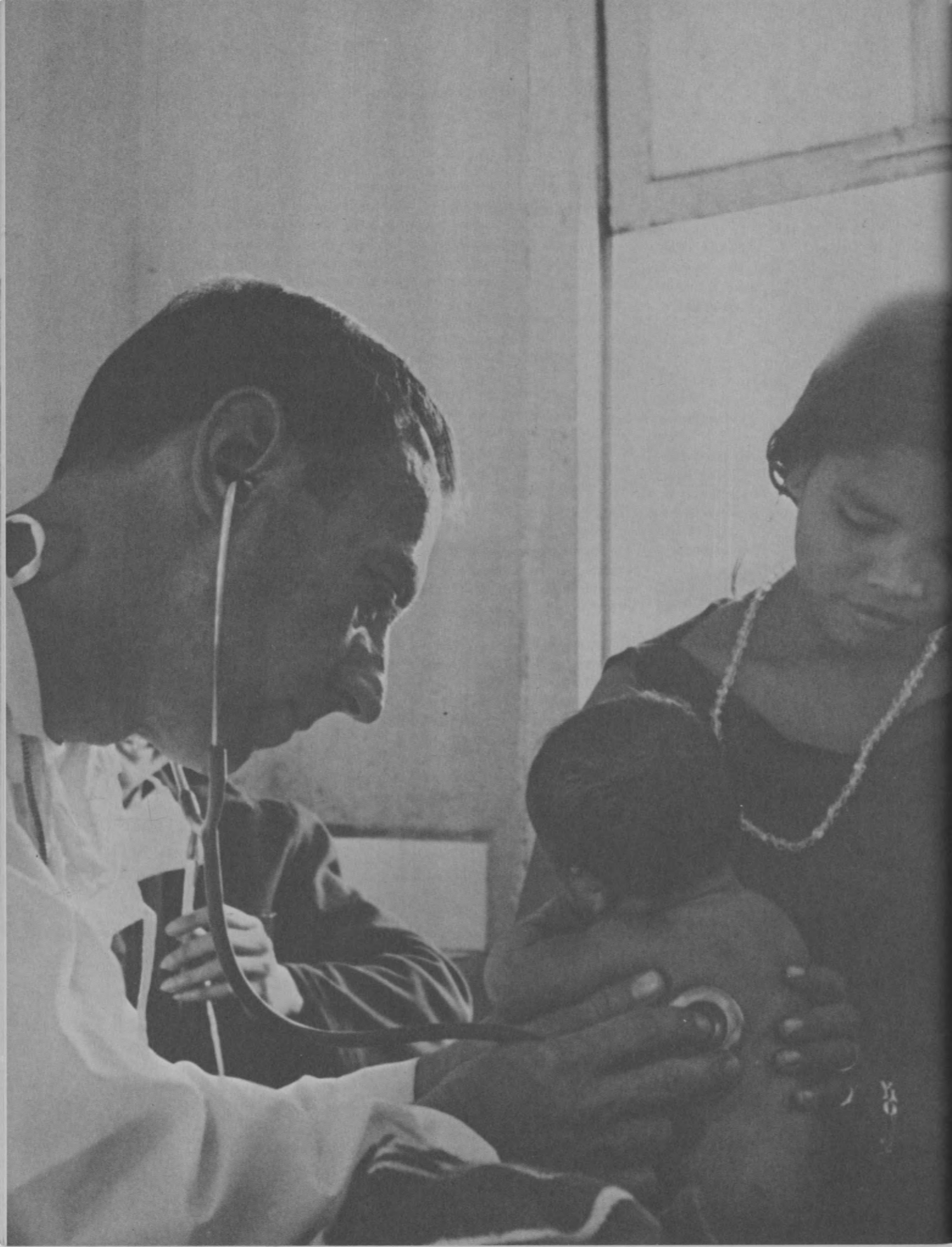
□ Thirty-one provinces have *4-T Club programs* similar to our 4-H Clubs. Membership of young people from farm families has risen from 46,000 in 1965 to 81,000 this year.

□ *Vocational training* for students is expanding. Many others are learning on-the-job skills working on construction projects.

**effort
in the
coming year:**

Programs are under way to:

- Increase broad programs of educational assistance to youth.
- Strengthen the Ministry of Youth and increase aid to the Province Youth and Sports Service.
- Encourage youth to participate in government. Many will be given important responsibilities in guiding the people and improving conditions in Saigon slum areas.
- Increase vocational training opportunities.
- Send more young people to rural areas during school vacations.
- Sponsor and help more competitive sports events. Our military units will increasingly help.
- Improve the effectiveness and morale of the Combat Youth Force.
- Work with the religious youth organizations to improve their leadership and resources for greater work in social welfare.



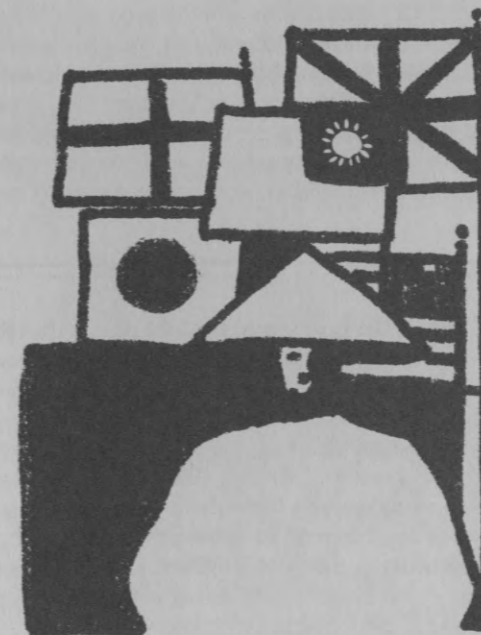
*The
Free World
Joins In;
32 Nations Help
the Vietnamese*

4

Many other Free World countries have come to the aid of Vietnam. There were nine helping this embattled nation in 1963. As of today, 32 nations have participated. They have sent more than 700 teachers, technicians and medical personnel. In the first six months of 1966, their grant assistance for civil programs amounted to more than \$15 million. Over 600 Vietnamese are studying abroad at the invitation of foreign governments.

Nations which have given non-military aid to Vietnam include:

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| Argentina | Italy |
| Australia | Japan |
| Belgium | Korea |
| Brazil | Laos |
| Canada | Luxembourg |
| China | Malaysia |
| Denmark | Netherlands |
| Ecuador | New Zealand |
| France | Norway |
| Germany | Pakistan |
| Great Britain | Philippines |
| Greece | Spain |
| Guatemala | Switzerland |
| Iran | Thailand |
| Ireland | Turkey |
| Israel | Venezuela |



Their large and varied assistance, contributed either directly or in some cases through the Red Cross, includes: surgical teams, civil engineers, dairy experts, textbooks, hand tools, blankets from Australia; agricultural and electric power advisers, mathematics textbooks and electrical power substations from the Republic of China; \$55 million of reparations plus radios, ambulances, and medicine from Japan; police training in Malaysia; medicine from Greece, Turkey, Israel, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Spain, Ecuador and Brazil; relief goods from India and Pakistan; petroleum and medical specialists from Iran; a wide range of teachers, experts and other assistance from France, Germany, Canada, and the United Kingdom; and much else.

In the last few months, major new contributions have included the donation by the Federal Republic of Germany of \$4.4 million for refugee relief, social centers and buses for the city of Saigon. Germany also has supplied the fully-equipped hospital ship "Helgoland" which arrived in Saigon in August. This ship carries eight doctors, 30 other medical personnel, 145 beds, medical supplies and an ambulance. Canada is giving polio vaccine and equipment for 10 emergency portable hospitals and Japan a ward and surgery section to the Cho Ray Hospital in Cholon. New medical teams are being sent by Japan, Denmark, Spain and the United Kingdom. Venezuela is giving 500 tons of rice.

Military units from the Republic of Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Thailand and the Philippines are participating actively in civic action programs in the communities near which they are stationed.

The United Nations and its specialized agencies also are making significant contributions to the social and economic development of Vietnam. Under the UN Development Program 23 technical assistance programs are under way in such varied fields as tuberculosis control, postal services, soil survey, and physical therapy. The United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization have large programs in the field of health. The International Atomic Energy Agency, International Labor Organization and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization also are conducting programs in Vietnam. The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East is pressing ahead with projects of benefit to all the nations in the Mekong Basin, and has undertaken surveys for irrigation, hydroelectric facilities, and bridge construction projects in Vietnam.

Postscript

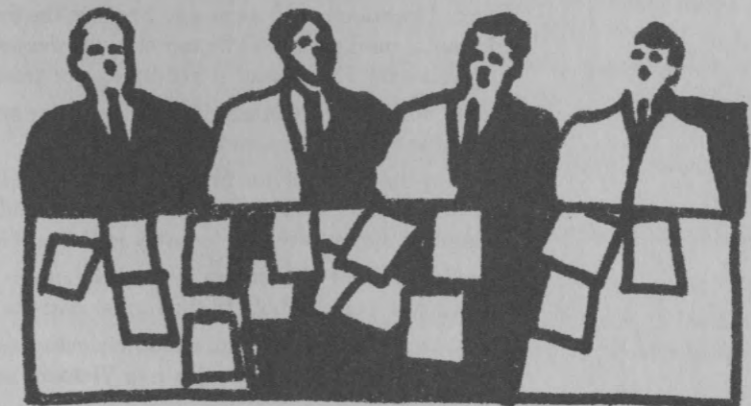
To end at the beginning, I would repeat that this progress report focuses mainly on accomplishments to date. Its purpose is to show what the Government of Vietnam, with U.S. help, is doing in key non-military fields—under difficult wartime circumstances. It is written in full recognition that few of the problems of the Government of Vietnam and the U.S. confront have yet been solved; that all too many shortcomings still exist, and that much more remains to be done. Nonetheless what *has* been achieved to date is more than enough to demonstrate both real progress and growing momentum in the joint Vietnamese-U.S. effort to move Vietnam forward, even in the midst of war. That is the message of this report.

Honolulu: Seven Months of Progress

Annex:

Another way to show the accelerating tempo of our "other war" is to relate its progress to those joint pledges made during your meeting with the top Vietnamese leaders at Honolulu February 6 to 8, 1966. Only seven months have passed since this meeting, but these months have witnessed progress. The impetus already given to Revolutionary Development, the electoral process, economic stability, and a better life for the Vietnamese people might best be demonstrated by reviewing the status of 10 major pledges made in the Joint Communique and Declaration of Honolulu of February 8, 1966. To this end, the following recapitulates highlights in my main report:

- GOAL** The Government of Vietnam pledged:
To formulate a democratic constitution for discussion and modification.
To seek its ratification by secret ballot.
To create, on the basis of elections rooted in that constitution, an elected government.
- STATUS** The first step in this direction preceded Honolulu—the elections for provincial and city councils of May 30, 1965.
The second step took place September 11, when the Vietnamese people elected 117 men and women to draft a constitution for Vietnam.
The Government of Vietnam has already announced a third step—elections next year for whatever governmental institutions are called for in the new constitution.
- GOAL** "The President and the Chief of State and the Prime Minister have agreed that their two Governments will take further concrete steps to combat inflation in Vietnam."
- STATUS** Measures taken during 1966:
The Vietnamese piaster was devalued by 50 percent.
Port congestion was reduced and the volume of imports was doubled.
Import procedures were reformed to increase competition and restrain prices.
Customs duties and domestic taxes were increased.
By late summer the cost of living index ceased to rise, money in circulation declined slightly, confidence in the piaster—and thus in the country's future—strengthened, and black market exchange rates fell sharply.



GOAL "Continued emphasis by both Vietnamese and Allied Forces on the effort to build democracy in the rural areas—an effort as important as the military battle itself."

STATUS This effort, called Revolutionary Development, continues at an accelerating pace:
 During the first six months of 1966, 531 hamlets, containing around 580,000 people, were brought into the program. 408,000 people were added to secure areas, and 195 hamlets not previously under Government of Vietnam control were pacified.
 The largest direct budget for these efforts in Vietnam's history has been committed: 1.7 billion piasters (\$13 million) so far in 1966. Other ministerial programs in direct support also reached record levels.
 Revolutionary Development Cadre teams, 24,766 men and women, are now operating in all provinces, with a separate Montagnard program of 3,773 cadre in the Highlands.
 9,338 cadre have received Revolutionary Development training at Vung Tau.
 Training facilities and staffs have been expanded to train and graduate 5,000 to 6,000 new cadre every 15 weeks.

GOAL The Government of Vietnam invited those fighting with the Viet Cong to leave their jungle hideouts, and "come safely to join us through the Open Arms program."

STATUS Since that call around 11,000 Viet Cong have returned to the Government, accepted its protection and sought its benefits, under the Open Arms program.

GOAL "Continued emphasis on the design of rural construction work to meet the people's needs for larger output, more efficient production, improved credit, handicrafts and light industry, and rural electrification."

STATUS Major steps are being taken in rural areas:
 Under the provincial electric program, power has been furnished to 135 localities as of July 1, 1966.
 Rural electric cooperatives will bring electricity to 144,000 people in three selected locations, with service to begin in the first area in September. Thirty additional rural areas will be served with electricity in 1966 under the Revolutionary Development electricity program.
 Eighty additional wells and 60 potable water systems have been provided in the last year in villages and district towns.
 Much of the \$398 million obligated for U.S. aid imports in fiscal year 1966 was for fertilizer, machinery, iron and steel, and petroleum products to strengthen agriculture and industry in the provinces.
 The Government of Vietnam, with U.S. help, is improving the mechanisms for providing credit, both to the farmer and the small businessman.
 Special attention is being given to help refugees learn the production of handicrafts and other skills of use to Vietnamese society.

GOAL "In agriculture, it was agreed that special effort would be made to move agricultural know-how—particularly new species of highly productive rice and corn and vegetable seed—from the experiment station to the farmer in the fields."

STATUS Agricultural programs are being greatly strengthened:
 About 1,200 tons of improved rice, corn, soybean, vegetable and other seeds, plus tens of thousands of improved coconut and sugarcane cuttings, have been distributed to farmers in the first half of 1966.
 Over 40 varieties of new seeds are being released through agricultural research stations for seed multiplication.
 The major part of 4.4 million educational leaflets scheduled this year have been distributed to farmers.
 Most of 26,000 pigs to be given to the farmers in 1966 have been distributed. There are now three million of improved varieties of Yorkshire and Berkshire pigs; average weight has grown from 130 to 220 pounds.

GOAL "Steps for more rapid land reform were carefully reviewed."

STATUS A pilot program for distributing 14,000 acres in An Giang is proceeding, with 80 percent of aerial mapping for the cadastral survey now completed.
 The Government of Vietnam is proceeding with distribution of 1.2 million acres of expropriated and government-owned land to new owners, including refugees.

GOAL "Both Governments agreed to make increased efforts in the training of health personnel, in providing teams for medical care, and creating a stronger medical logistics system."

STATUS American and other Free World medical teams in Vietnam increased to a total of 42 teams, with 5 to 21 members per team. They were treating an average of 39,700 patients a month at the end of June. They included 21 teams of American military medical personnel working at civilian hospitals throughout Vietnam.
 Now, 495 American medical and paramedical personnel are serving the needy civilian populace in Vietnam, compared to 193 at the beginning of the year.
 Four of six projected new nursing schools have been opened, two during the last year. When all are completed the number of student nurses will be doubled and over 800 will be graduated annually.
 The medical faculty of the University of Saigon was strengthened by a contract with the American Medical Association and the completion of a new basic sciences complex.
 AID and the Department of Defense worked out a common medical supply system.
 Expansion of the Saigon medical depot and construction of eight regional medical depots has begun.

GOAL Both Governments "agreed to strengthen their cooperation in building elementary schools, in training teachers, in reinforcing vocational and technical education, and in supplying textbooks."

STATUS Construction was completed on 2,309 elementary classrooms in the hamlet schools program in fiscal year 1966, making a total of 6,377.

About 3,200 teachers have been specially trained for elementary schools in the hamlets this year, and an additional 1,095 elementary school teachers were graduated from normal schools.

A total of 461 secondary school teachers completed training at the Faculty of Pedagogy at Saigon.

Twenty rural vocational training schools are being built; seven have been completed so far this year, and six others are more than half built. Each school will have a capacity of about 500 students. With double shifts and full staff, 20 to 25,000 can be enrolled.

Three hundred agricultural cadre are being given special training under the Revolutionary Development program.

A 30 percent increase in polytechnic education is planned for this coming school year.

About 2.2 million textbooks have been distributed to elementary school children, bringing the total almost to the half-way point in the distribution of 14 million textbooks under the scheduled program.

GOAL "It was agreed that the refugees who have of their own free will come over from the enemy side must be adequately cared for and prepared to resume a useful role in society . . . It was agreed that a special effort will be made to provide good schools for refugee children."

STATUS The Government of Vietnam has established a Special Commissariat for Refugees, funded with more than one billion piasters (\$8 million) for 1966. USAID/Saigon now has 49 staff positions (35 in the field) and a budget of over \$20 million for refugee-related programs, including Food for Peace commodities.

Eighteen voluntary agencies (with a total staff of over 150) are currently engaged in refugee relief.

To receive refugees, 306 temporary centers have been established, with in-country material and logistic support to respond to sudden influxes.

The Government of Vietnam has provided 104 classrooms for refugee children, with 60 more under construction and funds allocated for an additional 137.

By mid-1966, over one million refugees had been given temporary assistance, of whom 360,000 had been resettled and over 140,000 returned to their native villages.

A program of vocational training and cottage industry is under way for these people.

The most pressing problem in refugee work now is integrating the refugees into their new communities.
