

VIET-NAM BULLETIN

Vol 111, No. 58

A WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE EMBASSY OF VIET-NAM
2251 "R" Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008 (Telephone: 234-4860)
Weeks of January 1-15, 1970

National Assembly

SENATE RECOMMENDS MEASURES TOWARDS ACHIEVING MORE EFFECTIVENESS

Saigon, January 5--The Senate Saturday morning recommended that the Education Ministry collect tuition at public high schools and examination fees to build up the national budget.

It also requested that the Ministry limit the use of the teaching staff for administrative duties and to speed up training projects for hamlet and village teachers in conformity with the "community primary education system" set forth by the government.

The Senate also proposed the construction of a "national shrine" and a "heroes' shrine" for the worship of King Hung Vuong, Vn National Ancestor and National hero.

In the recommendation to the Defense Ministry the Senators proposed the maintenance of the current strength of 929,000 men for the armed forces and consolidation of civil self-defense organizations throughout the country.

The Senators also asked the Defense Ministry to focus on "the training of the present strength" rather than to build up the armed forces quantitatively and on the raising of the servicemen's living standard.

The Senators also proposed that the Foreign Ministry decrease the allocation reserved for the RVN delegation at the Paris peace talks and to check on diverse funds allocated for the Vietnamese missions abroad.

They recommended that the personnel serving at the RVN Consulate General at Pakse (Laos) be reduced for economical purposes.

As regards the Information Minister, other Ministries and agencies, their present poor organization at the central level was criticized by the law makers who, at the same time, recommended that the TV Directorate simplify administrative procedures for the programming teams.

Concerning the Health Ministry, the Senate proposed better use of health experts and better control of ambulances and other vehicles belonging to the Ministry.

At the plenary session, the Senators suggested a closer cooperation between the Economy and the Land Reform Ministries so as to implement a program for increasing output of farm and fishing products.

As for the imports, a percentage of not higher than 10 per cent was recommended to the Economy Ministry to encourage local industrialists.

Dealing with the inspectorate's activities, the Senate recommended that inspectors' salaries and subsidies be in line with the 1970 draft budget.

It also suggested that this agency keep the executive and judicial branches informed of its works against corruption, abuse of authority and of other activities considered harmful to the nation.

The January 3 session was attended by 32 Senators under the chairmanship of Senate-Chairman Nguyen Van Huyen.

BLOCS CHANGE IN SENATE

Saigon, January 9--The Senate's Republican bloc was officially dissolved after the withdrawal of six Senators, sources from the Senate reported Thursday.

Meanwhile a new bloc called Dan Toc (people) was set up with the participation of 16 senators headed by Sen. Tran Van Don.

The people's bloc advocated opposition to the government in a constructive and legal way.

According to Sen. Hoang Xuan Tu, the six senators who withdrew from the Republican bloc will join the Independence group.

On the other hand, three members of the Social Democratic bloc and three of the Independence group have joined the people's bloc. They are Tran Ngoc Nhuan, Wong A Sang, (Mrs .) Nguyen Phuoc Dai, Nguyen Van Chuan and Pham Van Tam.

Thus the Social Democratic bloc headed by Sen. Dang Van Sung now has only 18 members and the Independence bloc will have 23 members.

DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THREE REPRESENTATIVES CONTINUE

Saigon, January 1--Vietnamese of all walks of life and civic, military and administrative representatives throughout the country continue to organize meetings and demonstrations and to sign petitions condemning the 3 representatives Tran Ngoc Chau, Hoang Ho and Pham The Truc who were accused of having had contacts with the Communists.

They appealed to the National Assembly to make public its investigation of these representatives and to apply drastic measures against them.

About 50,000 persons demonstrated in Phuoc Tuy, Quang Tin, Long An, Tuyen Duc and Phong Dinh provinces. Meantime, petitions from various political and religious organizations in provinces and cities throughout the Republic condemning these representatives' activities were also sent to the government authorities, the same sources said.

Budget

HOUSE REJECTS SENATE'S BUDGET PROPOSAL

Saigon, January 14--The Lower House at its plenary session Tuesday morning rejected the whole 22 points of the Senate on the reconsideration of the draft law on the 1970 national budget.

Thus in consideration of Clause 7, Article 43 of the Constitution, the opinion of the Lower House on the 1970 national budget bill will remain unchanged.

The Lower House last November 29, 1969, endorsed the 1970 national budget at 177,817,187,000.

On this occasion, Lower House speaker Nguyen Ba Luong declared the closing of the 1st extraordinary session in 1970 which opened last January 5.

During the 10 day period, the Lower House endorsed three draft laws on the search and exploitation of petroleum, the elections of popular elected councils and the 1970 national budget.

Agriculture

LAND OWNERSHIP CERTIFICATES DISTRIBUTED TO FARMERS

Phuoc Long, January 5--Phuoc Long province chief Lt. Col. Luu Yem last December 30 distributed land ownership certificates to 1968 peasants in Phuoc Long province and 35 water pumps to 35 hamlets in the province.

The new land owners will till 160 hectares of land in various hamlets in Phuoc Qua village. Meanwhile 35 of the 56 hamlets in the province received from the agriculture service, pumps worth 1,224,000 piasters.

Labor

FOREIGN LABOR RESTRICTED TO AID VIETNAMESE WORKERS

Saigon, January 13--The Labor Ministry recently issued a communique on the restriction of foreign workers in Viet-Nam, which reads in full as follows:

In order to provide additional employment opportunities for Vietnamese workers, and after consultation with the Interministerial Manpower Coordinating Committee, the Labor Ministry has decided on the following points for the restriction of foreign workers in Viet-Nam:

- 1) Upon termination of his employment, the foreign worker must be repatriated, except in those cases in which he has been authorized permanent residence.
- 2) There will be no extension of the worker permits of foreign workers and no authorization for recruitment of foreign workers if the enterprises have dismissed Vietnamese workers of the same occupation, and if they refuse to hire acceptable Vietnamese workers capable of performing the same skills.
- 3) There will be no authorization for recruitment of foreign workers if there are Vietnamese workers capable of performing the task.
- 4) All enterprises should seek to reduce the number of their foreign national personnel to the maximum extent feasible, consistent with their business requirements.
- 5) Strict application of penalty measures according to the law for enterprises violating regulations pertaining to foreign workers will be observed.
- 6) For the purpose of supervising the reduction of foreign workers, all enterprises employing foreign workers will be required every three months to submit to the Labor Ministry lists of their personnel.

Representatives of the Interministerial Manpower Coordinating Committee will meet regularly with representatives of the U.S. Embassy to discuss matters relating to the reduction of foreign workers employed in the U.S. sector in Viet-Nam.

The Labor Ministry is pleased to note the recent progress which has been made in reducing the number of foreign workers in Viet-Nam. For example, MACV has given instructions to its constituent commands to terminate during 1970 all third country nationals employed in non appropriated fund activities (such as officers' clubs, PA's, etc.)

Economy

ECONOMIC TIES BETWEEN RVN AND ROC CLOSE

Saigon, January 12--Delegations of the Republic of China and the Republic of Viet-Nam to the sixth session of the Sino-Vietnamese Economic Cooperation Conference issued their joint communique at the closing ceremony.

The communique says:

"The sixth session of the Sino-Vietnamese Economic Cooperation Conference was held in Saigon from January 7 through 12, 1970.

- The delegation of the Republic of Viet-Nam (RVN) was headed by His Excellency Pham Kim Ngoc, Minister of Economy. His Excellency Cao Van Than, Minister for Land Reform, Agriculture and Fisheries Development, was the deputy-chief of the delegation.

- The delegation of the Republic of China (ROC) was headed by His Excellency Yun Suan Sun, Minister of Economic Affairs. Mr. Hsien-Chee Fang, Vice Minister, Ministry of Communications, was the deputy chief of the delegation.

- In a series of panel discussions held on January 8, 9, and 10, 1970, delegates of the two countries were divided into three groups to review the progress in implementing the resolutions adopted at the fifth session of the conference held in Taipei in January, 1968, and to discuss future cooperation projects relating to: a) trade and industry, b) land reform, agriculture and fisheries development, and c) public works and infrastructural development.

Results of the panel discussions were reviewed and resolutions were adopted on January 12, 1970.

Both delegations observed with gratification the concrete results materialized since the fifth session of the Sino-Vietnamese economic Cooperation Conference. They were happy to see the great progress made on the concrete pole plant project, the dredging project and the watt hour meter testing laboratory project. They also noted with satisfaction the great success of the Sino-Vietnamese cooperation in such fields as civil aviation, telecommunications and postal services, railway and navigation.

The two delegations also took time to visit the Vung Tau national cadre training center. The ROC delegations observed with admiration the progress made by the center and expressed the readiness of the Republic of China to provide training facilities to assist the center in achieving greater effectiveness.

Both delegations recognized the vital role of rural development programs in the economic and social structure of Viet-Nam. They agreed that continued efforts should be exerted to strengthen further the program of agricultural cooperation between the two countries.

The ROC delegation observed the solid progress made in the pacification program and recommendations were made by both delegations for further expansion of these projects.

Both delegations recognized that present fisheries situation in Viet-Nam offers great opportunities for foreign investments and recommended various actions to encourage the cooperation between the Vietnamese and Chinese private sectors in this field.

Both delegations were happy to observe a noteworthy increase in the volume of trade as a result of closer cooperation between the two countries and recommended various measures to ensure even closer cooperation in the future.

In the field of industry, both delegations recognized the need for closer technical cooperation and possible joint ventures in the near future. Several industrial projects were considered and courses of action recommended.

The two delegations further recommended continued efforts to strengthen the cooperation between the two countries in the field of electric power development.

Both delegations were satisfied with the concrete resolutions reached at the conference for various economic and technical cooperation projects which they would recommend to their governments for approval and expeditious implementation.

It was agreed that the seventh session of the conference would be held in Taipei either by the end of 1970 or early 1971.

Massacre

SENATE INVESTIGATION REVEALS 47 KILLED AT SON MY

Saigon, January 7--The Senate Monday afternoon issued a statement saying that the regrettable incident in Son My on March 16, 1968, was initiated by a U.S. unit.

The statement also asked the executive 'to do all in its capability to ensure the protection of the compatriots' lives and properties, especially in insecure areas.

The senators, on this occasion, demanded that the executive hold the leadership in the conduct of the Viet-Nam war through the coordination of allied and ARVN units.

The senate's Son My inquiry team, made up of Senators Tran Van Don, Nguyen Van Chuan and Vu Minh Tran, called on Son My Village early last December for on-the-spot investigation and concluded that some elements of the U.S. task force Baker were responsible for the March 16, 1968, incident at Than Yen Hamlet, Son My village.

Another finding of the inquiry team was that the massacre occurred only in one hamlet and not the entire Son My Village.

The Senate team also disclosed that though no exact figure of the victims was available, the investigators noted that a total of 47 persons lost their lives in this tragic incident. The victims were members of 11 families having survivors now living in Quang Ngai province.

Pacification

OPEN ARMS PROGRAM BRINGS IN GREAT NUMBER OF COMMUNIST DEFECTORS

Saigon, January 6--A total of 47,023 Communists last year rallied to the national cause throughout the country bringing in 3,091 assorted weapons, open arms sources reported.

The returnees included 28,466 military agents, 12,635 political cadres and 5,992 other elements.

In November and December 1969 the government welcomed 7,445 Communist defectors, the sources added.

Since the promulgation of the "Chieu Hoi" policy in 1963, 140,403 Communists have returned to the government side.

The War

REDS VIOLATED TRUCE

Saigon, January 1--As of 4 p.m. Wednesday, the Communists have 15 times violated their own proposed three day New Year truce period effective from 1 a.m. Tuesday, a Vietnamese military spokesman reported.

These incidents caused the death and wounding of 72 persons on both sides.

The RVN Armed Forces suffered four killed and 42 wounded including two civil self-defense members whereas the enemy sustained 26 killed, the spokesman said.

The most significant incident took place in Quang Ngai at 1 a.m. Wednesday when the Communists slammed 100 - 92mm mortar rounds and attacked a position of an RVN infantry battalion, 20 kms North Northeast of Quang Ngai City.

The infantrymen engaged the enemy several hours with the air and artillery support. Twenty two Communists were killed, one crew served and one individual weapon captured.

The operational forces sustained four killed and 22 wounded.

MORE THAN 4,000 KILLED BY TERRORISTS

Saigon, January 5--The Vietnamese Mission in charge of relations with the International Control Commission (ICC), in a protest note lodged to the ICC headquarters in Saigon on January 2, 1970, strongly condemned the acts of terrorism and sabotage committed by the North Vietnamese Communists against South Viet-Nam in November, 1969.

According to the note, excluding the Communist indiscriminate shellings on various populated areas, in November 1969, there were 173 terrorist incidents including 45 assassinations, 9 abductions, 107 blasts of hand grenades, mines or explosive charges, and 3812 cases of harassments or mining of passenger buses. As a result of these savage actions, 305 civilians were reported killed, 1026 injured and 38 kidnapped. Thirteen incidents termed the most typical cases were singled out to enlighten the ICC on the barbarous acts committed by the North Vietnamese aggressors. In addition, the Vietnamese mission also kept the ICC informed of 2216 acts of terrorism and sabotage directed by NVA agents from early January until late November 1969 resulting in 4309 civilians killed, 13,474 injured and 1791 kidnapped.

On behalf of the government of the Republic of Viet-Nam, the Vietnamese mission raises a strong protest against such cruel actions committed by the Hanoi Communist regime thirsty for blood, against the life and the property of the South Vietnamese people, in gross violation of the Geneva Agreement of 1954.

The Mission requests the Commission to urgently undertake investigations and to take immediate measures to end similar crimes perpetrated by the North Vietnamese Communists.

FIGURE ON ALLIED TROOPS IN RVN

Saigon, January 6--As of January 1, 1970, a total of 474,400 U.S. troops are serving in Viet-Nam according to a communique released by U.S. MACV Monday.

In addition, free world forces total 68,900.

The breakdown of U.S. strength in Viet-Nam is as follows:

Army	330,300	Navy	30,200
Marines	55,100	Air Force	58,400
Coast Guard	400		

In addition, approximately 29,000 navy personnel with the 7th Fleet and 600 U.S. Coast Guard personnel are aboard ships operating off the coast of Viet-Nam. These personnel are part of the U.S. commitment to Southeast Asia but are not included in the U.S. strength-in-country figures.

CAPITAL CSD MEMBERS INCREASE STRENGTH

Saigon, January 15--As of January 1970, the Capital Civil Self-Defense Committee has organized 268,750 CSD members into units and developed 56 ward and 675 subward offices.

Of the above mentioned CSD members, 167,455 have received military training, and 10,518 completed first aid training.

A total of 44,564 assorted weapons were also issued to these members.

The Committee made known that the Capital CSD members last year killed a Red woman special action agent, seized one National Liberation Front flag in the 6th precinct, two B40 rockets in the 11th precinct and three AK47 sub-machine guns at Nguyen Duy Quay in the 7th precinct.

Special Feature

VIET-NAM ON THE SCREEN

by Cong Lap

Saigon (MF) -- The Viet-Nam war is the first ever to be screened on television, and practically every major battle and other developments are seen in millions of homes through this medium. But strangely enough, few cinema films have been devoted to Viet-Nam, even though more than half a million American servicemen are in the country and there is ample material for war films, whether dramas or documentaries.

The film industry does not believe this gap will be left unfilled for long, and it foresees a spate of films about Viet-Nam after the war ends. Some producers have already devoted their energies to this task. At a recent Cannes Film Festival, Italy entered a documentary called "Viet-Nam: War without Frontiers." In July last year, Pietro Regnoli, an Italian director, came to Saigon with a film crew to shoot on location scenes for a new film about Viet-Nam. He invited a Vietnamese actor, Le Trac, to help him with the film, which is due for completion shortly. At the Twenty Eighth Venice Film Festival, French producers entered two films: "Far From Viet-Nam," and "The Chinese Girl." Director Claude LeLough ("A Man and a Woman") came to Saigon in April last year to shoot scenes for his film "To Live for the Sake of Living,"

with Yves Montand playing the part of a war correspondent. A German producer, Lorentz Stucki, produced a documentary, called "The Fight Against Disease in Viet-Nam." In Britain, Pierre Schoendoerfle's "Anderson Sweep Campaign" was warmly praised by critics. Vietnamese actors and technicians collaborated with a South Korean team to produce the film "Our Fatherland."

What of Americans, who after all are more deeply involved in Viet-Nam than any other nation? Producer Carl Krueger said the U.S. Air Force agreed to collaborate in the production of a film called "Wings of the Tiger," expected to include some of the most dramatic air-war pictures ever seen on the screen. The American Motion Picture Association is awaiting the Defense Department's approval for a film called "Nowhere is a Nice Place to Visit," describing the adventures of a Hollywood entertainer putting on shows for American servicemen. Among the famous Hollywood stars who have visited Viet-Nam are Bob Hope, John Wayne, Henry Fonda, Raquel Welch, Jayne Mansfield and Ann Margaret. Wayne starred in the film "The Green Berets," portraying the work of American Special Forces in the jungles of Viet-Nam. A few years ago Marshall Thompson, well-known for his role in the "Daktari" series of American T.V., produced the film "The Year of the Tiger", in which he played the starring role. The film tells the story of an American helicopter pilot who is shot down and sets out to escape capture by the Viet Cong. The film was made on location and the cast included the Vietnamese star Kieu Chinh.

The Vietnamese cinema has also tried to play its part. After the Viet Cong launched their general Tet offensive, cinemas were closed, and Vietnamese television showed three films about Viet-Nam. One was called "Special Action Cell 13" which dealt with a Viet Cong terrorist group discovered by the National Police. Another film, "The Man Who Came from the Mountain Top," features the lovely star Tham Thuy Hang, with the majestic highlands and mountains of Central Viet-Nam as its setting. It tells the story of tribesmen from the mountains of North Viet-Nam who are recruited to infiltrate into the South and work as political cadres. In this film, the North Vietnamese commander is shown as committing so many acts of cruelty that his group turns against him. The female cadre, whom Tham Thuy Hang portrays, dies, and one of the highlanders joins the South Vietnamese government. A third film, called "We Want to Live," is an old one made in 1954 and shows the massive influx of nearly one million northerners who came South after the Communists took control in the North. Last Year Vietnamese producers made two propaganda films: "Awaiting Dawn" and "11:30." The first was praised as a breakthrough in films of this type. The second will be released soon.

Hanoi and the Viet Cong have made some battlefield films. After the battle of Loc Ninh, near the Cambodian border, last year, three dead photographers were found with a 35mm camera and a roll of colour film.

About a year ago, a Western film critic made the following observation: "T.V. has recorded the full picture of the Viet-Nam war, so it is useless to spend five or seven million U.S. dollars on making a film which would not be as realistic as what is shown on television. Besides, the majority of cinemagoers in Europe and America are in the 25 age bracket; they worship hippies and the Beatles and are tired of war. Nobody is going to produce an unpopular item." He may well be right. Perhaps the Viet-Nam war will have to await its conclusion before it awakens enthusiasm among film-makers. "People prefer memories to an unfinished diary," he said.

VIET-NAM BULLETIN is a weekly publication of the Embassy of Viet-Nam, provided free of charge to all persons and organizations interested in VN. All inquiries and requests should be directed to VIET-NAM BULLETIN, Embassy of Viet-Nam, 2251 "R" Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008. Tel: 234-4860.

VIET-NAM BULLETIN

Vol III, No 58
Jan 1-15, 1970

In this issue:

Senate Recommends Measures Towards	
Achieving More Effectiveness	1
Blocs Change in Senate.	2
Demonstrations Against Three Represen-	
tatives Continue	3
House Rejects Senate's Budget Proposal .	3
Land Ownership Certificates Distributed	
to Farmers	4
Foreign Labor Restricted to Aid Viet-	
namese Workers	4
Economic Ties Between RVN and ROC Close .	5
Senate Investigation Reveals 47 Killed	
at Son My	6
Open Arms Program Brings in Great	
Number of Communist Defectors	7
Reds Violated Truce	7
More Than 4,000 Killed by Communists . .	8
Figure on Allied Troops in RVN	8
Capital CSD Members Increase Strength . .	9
Viet-Nam on the Screen	9

VIET-NAM BULLETIN

Name of person (or friend) or organization
wishing to receive the Bulletin:

MR
MISS
MRS

Address:

Is it a new one? YES ☐
NO ☐

STREET NO.

APT

CITY

STATE

ZIP

Anticipated duration of stay at this address:

Permanent ☐

Until

VIET-NAM BULLETIN

A weekly publication of the Embassy of Viet-Nam
2251 "R" Street, Washington D.C. 20008
Telephone: 234-4860

U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Washington, DC
Permit No. 41866

BULK RATE

Vol III, No. 58
January 1-15, 1970