

VIETNAMESE PEOPLE NEED YOUR HELP ...

... Because the Vietnamese Communist government have no interest in the people but their own:

- *The army and police traffic drugs under the protection of top communist leaders, and even give free cocaine samples to elementary students (reported by the United Nations and the foreign press).*
- *All systematic and large-scale deforestation has been carried out by government agencies and the army (admitted by Vietnamese Prime Minister at the National Assembly).*
- *No independent labor unions are allowed in Vietnam. The state-run Federation of Labor Union not only turn blind eyes on labor abuses but also help the government and foreign bosses suppress workers' strikes.*
- *The government continues to imprison thousands of religious leaders of the Catholic, Evangelical, Baptist, Buddhist, Cao Dai, Hoa Hao churches, and other prisoners of conscience. (documented by international human rights organizations).*
- *The government continues to ignore starving children across the country and export great amount of foodstuffs out of Vietnam to finance its ruling machinery. (see attached report by the UNICEF)*

PLEASE LEND YOUR HELP BY:

- *Making sure that any NGO's assistance go directly to the victims, and not be turned into more means of oppression for the Vietnamese communist rulers.*
- *Raising your voice at this forum on behalf of starving children in Vietnam. The government must stop robbing their food and their health.*
- *Asking delegates from Vietnam to convey the message to Hanoi that the world demand that they release all religious leaders and political prisoners, and respect people's rights to freedom of religion and freedom of expression.*

Forty per cent of Vietnamese children under five years suffer from malnutrition despite the country's increasing rice production, the United Nations' child welfare agency said yesterday.

And about 200,000 babies are born underweight each year, a Unicef official said.

Damien Personnaz said rice was not enough for a balanced diet, and high malnutrition levels derived in part from a lack of dietary education.

Malnutrition is more pronounced in rural areas. Of ethnic minority children in Vietnam's mountains, 60 per cent are malnourished. In cities, the figure drops to about 30 per cent.

The agency released the figures before a new campaign to promote better child nutrition.

Hanoi (dpa) - Vietnam suffers from the contradiction of being a major exporter of rice while 40 per cent of its children under five years of age still suffers from malnutrition, said the United Nations Thursday.

Each year in Vietnam some 200,000 babies are born under-weight impairing their chances for survival or developing fully, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) noted in an unusually pointed release.

The U.N. agency also noted that the situation had not improved since 1991, despite significant economic advances made during that period as a result of Vietnam adopting more market-oriented policies.

"Vietnam produces enough food for all its children, and we need to ensure that all its children can benefit from it," declared Rima Salab, the UNICEF representative in Hanoi.

There are also significant disparities among children in the socialist republic

Nowadays only 30 per cent of children living in cities suffer from malnutrition but this rate has continued to worsen among ethnic minority children living in the mountainous areas, where the rate is now higher than 60 per cent