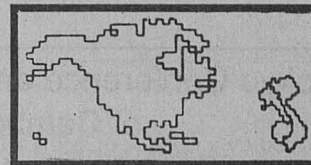


Indochina Interchange



July 1992 - Double Issue

Volume 2, Number 4

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- ** Repatriation from the Thai-Cambodian Border.
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PROGRESS ON U.S.-VIETNAM RELATIONS

By Faith Keenan

Washington--The news was buried deep inside major daily newspapers, if mentioned at all: the United States opens phone links to Vietnam; The U.S. allows sales of food and medicine to Vietnam.

Individuals who do not follow Indochina closely probably did not notice those State Department announcements of April 13 and 29. And that's exactly the way the U.S. government wants it.

By taking small but significant steps toward formal relations with its erstwhile enemy, officials are hoping to discourage protest from small but vocal groups still opposed to normalizing ties.

"We keep telling Vietnam the reason we want to work this road, step by step, is to build political support in the United States for normal relations and avoid issues tearing apart our political debate," a senior State Department official said.

Whether the piecemeal approach will bring an end this year to the longstanding trade embargo that has helped cripple Viet Nam's economy remains an open question. Although Federal officials generally agree that the embargo will fade away rather than be formally lifted, they hesitate to predict when that might happen.

The State Department continues to follow an if.. then formula in which moves to ease trade rules depend on the U.S. government's opinion of Viet Nam's cooperation on the POW/MIA issue.

Continued on p. 5...

3rd NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The third national conference of American NGOs and others working with Indochina took place from June 12 to 15 at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Attendance exceeded previous gatherings, with 350 persons and 182 organizations participating. The official representation was strong - 5 Lao, 8 Cambodian, and 14 Vietnamese nationals - as was that of the overseas NGO staff - 4 from Viet Nam, 2 from Cambodia, 3 from Laos, and 1 from the Thai-Cambodian border. In addition, 12 Lao, 23 Khmer, and 61 Vietnamese living in the U.S. took part.

The conference was aptly named "The NGO Role at a Time of Transition," since all three countries of Indochina are undergoing a great deal of change as their isolation from the West becomes a fading remnant of the cold war. Many issues relating to the roles NGOs should play in these new environments were discussed, such as creating local



Sarah Newhall (FACT, Phnom Penh), Linda Hiebert (Save the Children UK, Hanoi) at an NGO Conference workshop

counter-part NGOs, focusing on grass-roots projects, increasing participation of Indochinese emigres living abroad in development and aid work, and

strengthening efforts in the U.S. for normalized diplomatic and economic relations. As noted in closing remarks, these questions are becoming important and the situation seemingly more complicated for NGOs precisely because things are slowly becoming more "normal".

The Keynote address was given by Graham Alliband, former Australian Ambassador to Vietnam, and currently a businessman based in Hanoi. Additional opening remarks were made by Forum Convenor Joy Carol of Save the Children and Conference Coordinator John McAuliff of USIRP.

See NGO Conference article on p. 10 for details...

Tokyo Conference on Reconstruction of Cambodia

By Joel R. Charney

Representatives of 34 countries, 12 international organizations, and five organizations present as observers gathered in Tokyo on June 20 and 22 for the Ministerial Conference on Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia. The purpose of this meeting, organized and convened by the government of Japan and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), was to affirm the commitment of the international community to the Cambodia peace accords and to garner pledges of concrete support to the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia, especially the Consolidated Appeal for Immediate Rehabilitation Assistance endorsed by the UN Secretary General.

NGOs had the honor of participating in the meeting as observers. The NGO delegation formally represented the Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC), the umbrella organization for NGOs based in the country. But the NGO Forum on Cambodia, an advocacy working group from a mid-March NGO conference in Phnom Penh, and a coalition of Japanese NGOs also worked on gaining NGO representation at the meeting and endorsed the NGO statement which was accepted as part of the conference record. The NGO delegation consisted of two representatives from Phnom Penh -- Eva Mysliwiec of the Cambodia Development Resource Institute and Onesta Carpena of Australian Catholic Relief -- and two representatives from outside Cambodia -- Joel Charney of Oxfam America and Sakae Motohashi of the Japanese NGO Preparation Committee.

The NGO delegation had two major concerns going into the meeting. First, it was important for the international community to make significant pledges towards the immediate rehabilitation of Cambodia; the concern was that the Khmer Rouge non-compliance with Phase II of the Paris Accords might make countries more cautious in pledging assistance. Second, NGOs wanted to make sure

that the participation they had been granted in the planning conference would be more than a one-time gesture; the NGO delegation was seeking the right to participate in the long-term planning body mandated by the peace agreement, the International Committee on the Reconstruction of Cambodia (ICORC).

In the event, the international community did indicate a willingness to move forward with the rehabilitation effort, with or without the Khmer Rouge. Statements by the United States and French delegations made this clear. On the other hand, while an impressive amount of money was pledged, NGOs are still concerned that many of the pledges appeared to be directed towards refugee repatriation and the western areas of Cambodia to which the refugees are returning. It is still not clear that the aid effort will be balanced and reach all parts of the country before elections. The NGOs did gain

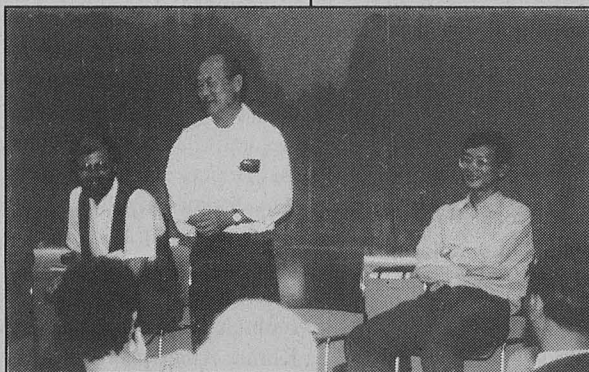
the right to be part of the ICORC, with the conference declaration stating that representatives nominated by the CCC "will be welcome to present their views as observers at meetings of the ICORC." The delegations from Australia, Sweden and Germany were instrumental in making sure that the official declaration included this language.

The NGO participation in such a critical international meeting underscored the importance of the

NGO role in the reconstruction of Cambodia. NGO advocacy work on Cambodia will continue to be critical. With the completion of the Ministerial Conference the key points for which to advocate are:

- 1) A firm stance by the international community towards the Khmer Rouge and their non-compliance with the peace accords.
- 2) The provision of immediate balanced rehabilitation assistance to the people of Cambodia, including funds for personnel providing essential humanitarian services.
- 3) The provision of full funding to the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia so that they can fulfill their mandate.

[A copy of the NGO statement to the Conference is available. 7 pages. \$0.75. USIRP, 220 W. 42nd St., Suite 1801, New York, NY 10036. Tel. 212-764-3925; Fax. 212-764-3896. Joel Charney is the Overseas Director for Oxfam America, and attended the conference in Tokyo.]



Brett Ballard (AFSC), Heat Chheng Leao (Cambodian Family, Inc.), & SOC Vice Minister Cham Prasidh in an NGO Conference workshop discussion

Administration Steps Up Aid to Viet Nam and Cambodia

Satisfied by intensified Vietnamese cooperation on the POW/MIA issue, Assistant Secretary of State Richard Solomon announced that the U.S. would increase humanitarian assistance to Viet Nam from \$1.3 million to \$3 million.

The aid package which Solomon outlined will provide \$1 million in assistance for displaced children, \$1 million for prosthetics projects, and \$1 million to support 15 Fulbright Scholarships for Vietnamese to study in the U.S. beginning this fall.

Further, the Veterans Affairs Department will donate excess medical equipment and the Denton Amendment will be applied to Viet Nam, allowing for the free transport of donated humanitarian goods. Also medics traveling with crash site investigative teams will provide medical services to villagers at the sites they visit. The U.S. would also consider additional disaster relief if the need arises; last year the U.S. contributed \$25,000 after a typhoon struck central Viet Nam.

AID is also the implementing agency for the Denton Program. To obtain procedural guidelines contact Mr. Kevin Rafferty, Denton Officer, Agency for International Development, FHA/PVC/IPS, Room 708, SA-8, Washington, D.C. 20523-0804; 703-351-0280.

On April 3, 1992, Charles Twining, U.S. Special Representative in Cambodia informed Prince Norodom Sihanouk that the U.S. government intends to make available \$25 million to meet humanitarian needs and promote democracy in Cambodia. At the behest of Sihanouk, the largest portion of aid, \$11 million, will go towards emergency repair and rehabilitation of rural roads, which complements the \$1 million the U.S. is already spending for the demining of Route 69. In addition, Twining stated that the U.S. Government envisions spending \$5 million to aid children and victims of war through American NGOs. Another \$5 million will be devoted to health and community development programs in the FUNCINPEC and KPNLF zones, \$3 million for programs which promote democracy and human

rights, and an anticipated \$1 million to support a volunteer program facilitating the return of Cambodian-Americans to contribute their expertise to reconstruction. Sihanouk was encouraged to be informed of this U.S. Government aid, as it demonstrates "good will and timely support towards successful implementation of the Paris Peace Agreement."

Cambodian and Vietnamese Delegations Participate in Meetings Across the U.S.

By Martha Walsh

While in the United States for the U.S.-NGO Forum Conference, delegates from Cambodia and Viet Nam traveled widely, meeting their counterparts and others, sharing insights and increasing mutual understanding.

Two groups from Cambodia visited the United States. Deputy Minister Cham Prasidh of the Council of Ministers and Deputy Foreign Minister Long Visalo arrived in Los Angeles on May 26 and spent the two weeks prior to the conference in LA/Long Beach, San Francisco, Seattle, Boston, New York, and Washington meeting with individuals in the business community, academia, multilateral organizations, policy arena, the press, and Khmer-American community.

They carried a strong and urgent message to their audiences: Cambodia needs assistance now and any delay will ultimately benefit the Khmer Rouge. Still, they were optimistic that the U.N. peace plan would successfully result in elections in April or May of next year. Following the conference, Prasidh remained in the New York area and departed for Tokyo on June 18 where he was to take part in the pledging meeting (see article on page 2). Visalo flew up to Ottawa for three days of meetings with government and NGO officials after which he returned to Phnom Penh. This tour was organized and sponsored by USIRP.

Six other Cambodians from diverse ministries and institutions came to the U.S. on June 5 to participate in a study tour. The participants -- Mr. Kong Thai Bunthan (Ministry of Agriculture), Mr. Chhim Somean (Department of Forestry), Dr. Abdul Coyaume (Phnom Penh Health

Continued on p. 23...

NGOs EVALUATE FUTURE ROLE IN CAMBODIA

By Linda Hartke

The October 1991 signing of the Paris Peace Accords was an event which opened the door for the reintegration of Cambodia into the world community. Today, Cambodians and NGOs alike find themselves in a confusing period of rapid change and uncertainty at the very time aid relations are being normalized with international organizations (both bilateral and multilateral) and financial institutions.

The issues which preoccupy many NGOs working in Cambodia today include the shifting of power both inside and outside government structures; new actors; changing roles; the sudden influx of business; a growing presence of aid agencies; the absence of aid coordination mechanisms and clear development objectives; the potential for massive amounts of aid and limited absorptive capacity; growing inequalities between rural and urban areas as well as between the rich and the poor.

On March 13-14, 1992, 37 expatriates and 20 Cambodians met to wrestle with difficult questions assessing our strengths and weaknesses, developing a common vision for the future of development in Cambodia and reaching agreement on six priority issues and what NGOs can realistically do to address them. The workshop was conducted in both English and Khmer -- and this is an important point. There was broad consensus that NGOs must make a greater effort to conduct their work (written and spoken) in Khmer.

The six priority issues which were identified are: - developing human resources - peace, justice and reconciliation - participation - the economy - planning, management and coordination - government structures.

Two days of intense work produced findings that were carefully considered and quite detailed. A sampling of some of the results include: * NGOs can assist in the development of local NGOs and associations, particularly by providing training * Human resource development is the highest priority -- particularly with

regard to planning, management and coordination * Cambodian participation in NGO activities needs to be strengthened, particularly in the areas of project identification, design, monitoring and evaluation * The NGO community needs to be more actively engaged in advocacy efforts * NGOs can play an important role in fostering respect for human rights, reconciliation among persons and the re-integration of returning refugees, internally displaced persons and demobilized soldiers * NGO presence in the field (outside of Phnom Penh) can increase -- decentralization is important * NGOs need to find an appropriate way to work with both UNTAC and the SNC * NGOs can develop joint strategies in an integrated approach to rural development * There is a need for the NGO community to develop a code of ethics/practices * The coordinating mechanism of sectoral meetings can be enhanced and made more effective * The mandate and role of the Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC) should be expanded to provide a common voice for NGOs * The NGO role and experience should be more effectively interpreted with our counterparts.

More than 40 workshop participants agreed to be a part of follow up activities, and the workshop's findings have been the basis for new efforts within existing structures as well as the creation of a variety of task forces -- all of which are engaged in a long term process of dialogue, cooperation, and action.

(The report of the NGO workshop is available for purchase for \$ 4 from USIRP).

[Linda Hartke is Deputy Director of the Church World Service & Witness office in Phnom Penh].



SOC Prime Minister Hun Sen, Vice Minister Uch Kiman, Linda Worthington (International Voluntary Service), & Joy Carol (Save the Children) at an NGO Forum quarterly meeting in March in Washington

But the recent announcements, as well as the glowing approval Viet Nam received from U.S. Senators who traveled there in April, are a clear thumbs up to Hanoi.

"Significant progress has been made in a short span of time," said Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., when he returned to Washington. He added:

"We'll know within a matter of months whether or not we are on the road to continuing misunderstanding and dispute or whether we have finally embarked on a far more sensible road to full cooperation."

The warming trend began to pick up steam after Assistant Secretary of State Richard Solomon visited Hanoi in March. During that trip, the United States offered Viet Nam \$3 million in humanitarian assistance--money apparently linked to Viet Nam's release of a prized military manual. American investigators working on the MIA issue in Hanoi consider the 84-page document critical to their work.

The release of the manual assured the U.S. that Hanoi is delivering on its pledge to provide Americans access to military archives.

Former Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach promised such access during his first trip to Washington in October, 1990. But Garnett Bell, chief of the U.S. office for POW/MIA affairs in Hanoi, told Congress last November that the Vietnamese were barring access to important documents and requiring advance notice for travel in country.

For Hanoi, the U.S. aid and subsequent moves indicated that Washington is willing to sweeten its ultimatum that the trade embargo will be lifted only after progress is made toward resolving the MIA issue.

In April, five Senators who traveled to Hanoi one-upped Solomon with a near spontaneous visit to a prison where American POWs were held during the war. After two hours of negotiations between the prison warden and the Ministry of Interior, the Senators were allowed to wander throughout the prison and open cells at will.

Their group also visited four military bases that were previously off-limits to foreigners.

Perhaps the most encouraging endorsement of the trip came from Sen. Bob Smith, R-N.H., the co-chair of the special committee investigating the government's

handling of the MIA matter who has harshly criticized Viet Nam in the past. Smith traveled to Hanoi in 1986 and 1988 to probe the MIA issue.

"I have never had the access I had on this trip" he said. "I am very optimistic [about continued progress]"

Further moves toward economic ties rest largely on the work accomplished by a 58-member search team and on that of a Pentagon technical team which traveled there in late May.

The search team--the largest ever--arrived in Hanoi on April 20 to conduct a 30-day investigation across seven provinces in northern and central Viet Nam.

The technical team is seeking to resolve the question of whether Viet Nam is warehousing remains of U.S. soldiers. Hanoi has denied the charge made by a Vietnamese refugee who served as a mortician in Hanoi.

Resolving the warehousing allegation was one of five areas Solomon and Vietnamese officials agreed to in March. The others include:

**Access to prisons, military bases, other areas where there may have been live sighting reports **Access to military, prison, and hospital archives **Access to former military, prison and hospital personnel **Logistical support for U.S. investigators

After the Pentagon evaluates those efforts early this summer, the State Department will decide whether the time has come to completely phase out the embargo.

When George Bush sends the dwindling list of countries barred from trading with the United States to Congress this September, it could be one item shorter.

Additional later developments:

* Boris Yeltsin "revealed" that American POWs had been transported to the Soviet Union. His story was later discredited by Russian and American experts, at least as it applied to the Vietnam era.

* The Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs held two days of hearings June 24-25. Their investigations indicate that only 132 cases remain of Americans who were or should have been listed as prisoners and for whom there is still no adequate accounting. Chairman John Kerry and government witnesses said there was no evidence any of the 132 are alive, only that their cases are unresolved.

* The Defense Department has confirmed that a photo widely published in July 1991 of three supposed POWs was a doctored reproduction of a picture of three farmers from a Soviet magazine.

Amendment to Department of Treasury Regulations on Humanitarian Aid to Viet Nam

As of May 1992, the regulations regarding humanitarian aid to Viet Nam are stated as follows:

**** 500.572 Humanitarian Projects authorized**

(a) All transactions by non-governmental organizations [NGOs] incident to carrying out humanitarian projects in Viet Nam are authorized. For purposes of carrying out this section, the term "non-governmental organization" shall mean any private voluntary organization accorded tax exempt status under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as well as any other organization engaged in voluntary charitable assistance activities that receives funding from private sources including, but not limited to accredited degree-granting institutes of education, private foundations and research institutions. (b) The non-



Le Mai (Viet My), Nguyen Ngoc Hung (Hanoi Foreign Languages College), Robert Muller (Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation) at the NGO Conference Vietnam mini-plenary

governmental organization carrying out humanitarian projects in Viet Nam pursuant to this authorization shall file an initial report within 10 business days after the formal commencement of U.S. activities on the project with the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Compliance Division, U.S. Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW - Annex, Washington, D.C. 20220, stating:

Vietnamese Embassy in Ottawa Relocates

The new address for the SRV embassy to Canada:
695 Davidson Drive Gloucester, Ottawa, Ontario,
K1J 6L7, CANADA Telephone: 613-744-4963, Fax:
613-744-1709

(1) The name, address, and telephone number of the non-governmental organization, and the officer in charge of the project in Viet Nam and (2) The nature, scope, purpose and location of the project in Viet Nam.

**** 500.573 Provision of goods and services to meet basic human needs authorized.**

(a) With respect to transactions not within the scope of the general license contained in **500.533 of this part, specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis for all transactions incidental to the provision (by commercial sale or by donation) to Viet Nam of goods or services to meet basic human needs.

(1) For purposes of this section, goods to meet basic human needs shall be defined by reference to the Humanitarian License Procedure set forth in 15 CSR 773.5 (c) and (d) and Supplement No. 7 to part 773 of the Export Administration Regulations. (2) Services to meet basic human needs shall include those services related to health, food, clothing, shelter, and education. Such services are considered to extend beyond those of an emergency nature to encompass those that meet direct needs for mere subsistence.

(b) Note: Exports or re-exports to Viet Nam of U.S.-origin goods, or foreign goods containing U.S.-origin material or produced from U.S.-origin technical data, to meet basic human needs may require authorization from the U.S.

Department of Commerce. (For information please contact: Tel. 203-377-0081)

[The full text of the regulations, including the list of goods which may be sold or donated by non-NGOs is available from USIRP or from the Treasury Department: 202-622-2480.]

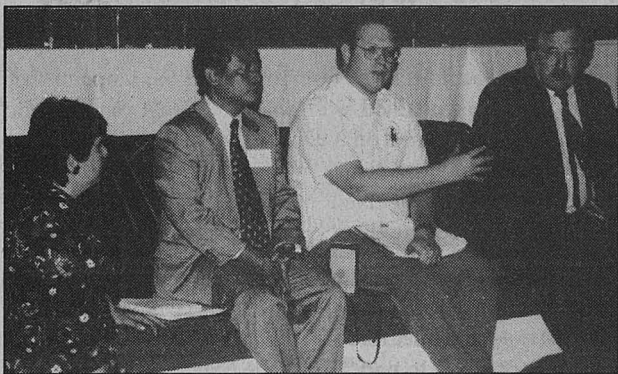
PHONE AND FAX UPDATE

Vietnam can now be dialed directly through MCI and Sprint and via an operator through AT&T. Cambodia can be dialed directly on Sprint and AT&T. Access codes for non-subscribers are: AT&T 10288; MCI 10222; Sprint 10333. City codes: Phnom Penh, 855; Hanoi, 844; Ho Chi Minh City, 848. (Warning: HCM City numbers have been changed slightly.)

COMMENTARY: A New Human Rights Controversy

The case of Do Ngoc Long and Doan Than Liem has generated growing interest in the press, primarily because of their association with the war-time Shoesline Boys Project in Saigon. (See November 1991 Indochina Interchange.)

On May 15 Saigon Giai Phong reported Liem was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment for "conducting propaganda against the socialist regime". The article



Jacqui Chagnon (consultant), SOC Vice Minister Long Visalo, John McAuliff (USIRP), Don Luce (International Voluntary Service) speaking at a memorial meeting at the NGO Conference for Sokhom Hing, a former professor at SUNY Stony Brook. Sokhom returned to Cambodia in 1976 at the urging of Thun Prasith, then and current Khmer Rouge ambassador to the U.N. He was imprisoned and tortured at Tuol Sleng.

accused him of being, "profoundly attached to the former puppet administration and some of the former U.S. high-ranking officials."

Several letters to Vietnamese authorities from prominent Americans about the case failed to produce a response and a petition of concern was sent on April 30th to Party General Secretary Do Muoi. The 125 signers included well known journalists, writers, actors, peace activists, and NGO leaders--some strongly identified with the anti-war movement.

The letter became public in a news report in the New York Times on June 7. It was reprinted in a full page ad in the Times of July 10 to the dismay of several who had thought they were signing a private communication not a public manifesto. In order to address the issue in a wider context, the following was submitted and published in a somewhat edited form as a letter to the editor:

The concern expressed for Do Ngoc Long and Doan Than Liem featured in the ad in today's New York Times is well taken. There appears to be no legal justification under widely accepted international standards for their lengthy detention and Liem's conviction.

However, we believe equal concern should be expressed for the denial of the human right of the whole of Vietnam's population to freely develop their country's economy which is the effect of the unilateral U.S. trade embargo and veto of assistance from international financial institutions.

American non-governmental organizations with aid programs in Vietnam, as well as leaders of European and neighboring governments have criticized this vestige of past U.S. conflict with Vietnam. They observe its impact for strictly bilateral political reasons on the impoverishment of innocent people and on the generation of refugees.

The two forms of denial of human rights are not unrelated. From Vietnamese press accounts, it is clear that the underlying accusation against Long and Liem is that they were engaged in subversive activity in league with Americans whose motives were suspected. The perpetuation of the embargo and the unique U.S. position of withholding diplomatic recognition heightens the suspicion of some Vietnamese leaders and security officials, especially those influenced by China's paranoia about foreign inspired "peaceful evolutionists" who conspire to destroy all communist regimes.

While it is correct and easy to decry such suspicions as irrational, we should hardly be surprised when our own nation's business and diplomatic interests are hobbled by an obsession that American POWs remain alive in Indochina. Ascribing evil intentions to a former adversary is a two way street.

The ad is correct. "It is time...for all of us to realize our dream that the war be truly ended ... and that suspicion and misunderstanding become a thing of the past." But the admonition applies equally to both countries. The Vietnamese should release Long, Liem, Dr. Nguyen Dan Que and others whose alleged crimes are essentially political. President Bush should not reimpose the trade embargo when it expires in September.

Sincerely,

*John McAuliff
Executive Director
U.S.-Indochina Reconciliation
Project*

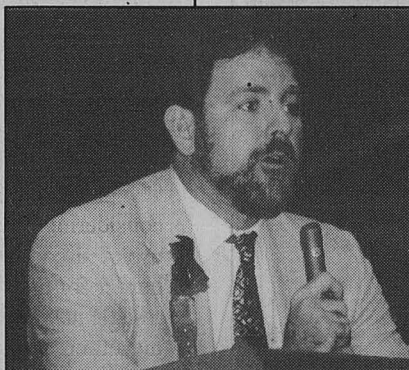
*Mary Byrne McDonnell
Program Director
Social Science
Research Council*

The Cambodian Repatriation Program

By Liz Bernstein

The signing of the Paris peace agreement on October 23, 1991 cleared the way for the next phase of planning for the return home of Cambodians who had been living in Thailand for up to 13 years. The agreement's goals included: 1) provision, within a nine-month time period, of an organized repatriation program for up to 330,000 Cambodian refugees and displaced persons living in Thailand; 2) provision of land to be used for both agriculture and homes, including installation assistance and food for up to eight months; 3) provision for up to 30,000 "spontaneous" returnees of installation assistance and twelve months' worth of food; 4) provision of limited reintegration assistance for up to 360,000 returnees and, through "quick impact" projects, improvement of basic infrastructure in the areas of return; 5) provision of indirect assistance for up to 170,000 internally displaced persons from the "land identification" process, the UN's de-mining efforts, and quick impact projects to benefit not only returnees, but long-standing residents as well.

The primary requisite for beginning repatriation was the establishment of peace and security, a task initially aided by UNAMIC (UN Advance Mission in Cambodia). UNAMIC was subsequently taken over by the military and civilian divisions of UNTAC (UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia) which is presently charged with the administration of the country and the organization of free elections in 1993. Once a land survey determined the availability of mine-free, arable land in Cambodia, the de-mining program began along the major roads of the western provinces. In addition, general road and bridge repair work was started on these routes, which were to be used for the movement of returnees. Newly-built reception centers in Sisophon, Battambang, Siem Riep, Mong Russei, Pursat, and Phnom Penh provided health care facilities, and stocks of food and water.



Lou Mazell (Refugee Bureau, State Department) speaking on the NGO Conference repatriation panel

A pre-registration poll was carried out in the border camps to determine people's preferred destinations, and results showed that 70% of those polled hoped to return to one of the four western provinces: Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap or Pursat. UN, ICRC, and NGO staff worked to identify individuals with potentially problematic health or social needs and attempted to implement systems to protect these groups during repatriation. In addition, various systems of information dispersal were used to inform as wide a population as possible about plans for repatriation.

On March 30, 1992, the first group of returnees under the UN program, 526 Cambodians representing all the border camps and Khao I Dang, left the staging area at Site 2 in a convoy headed for Sisophon. This group has been called the "lucky ones" as their registered requests for land coincided with available, mine-free, arable land. This was also the cutoff date for the border camps, after which any new arrivals, with the exception of those who came with urgent medical needs, would receive neither the UN package on return to Cambodia, nor assistance while in the camps.

Problems quickly became evident on both sides of the border. Within the camps sometimes as much as 20% of those called for each convoy did not show up for repatriation, while in Cambodia itself, the poor condition of roads and bridges delayed some of the vehicles. Therefore,

use of the railroad for some movements was begun on April 30. Furthermore, some reception centers could not be cleared for the incoming group when resettlement villages were found to have no water. The most discouraging problem, however, was the growing awareness that there was simply not enough land to give to each family the promised two hectares, as the mine problem has been grossly underestimated.

As a result of these snags in the original plan, several alternatives to waiting for the original plan to be made feasible by clearing mines were presented in early May. These included: 1) immediately accepting land for a house, house building materials, a household kit, and twelve months' worth of food; 2) reintegration money of \$50 per adult and \$25 per child, with no land for a house, but twelve months' worth of food; 3) income generating tools and food

for twelve months; 4) for those with a job already in Cambodia, transportation of family to place of employment, reintegration money, and three months' worth of food; 5) for those wishing to return independently, UNHCR will provide food for twelve months in the provinces, or for six months in Phnom Penh. There were, however, numerous difficulties in the mechanics of actually registering camp residents' option changes.



Mathilde Genovese (Vietnam Newsletter, Hong Kong) brings the business perspective to U.S. policy discussion chaired by author Lady Borton

On May 22, 495 persons were moved from Site 2 to Thmar Puok, an area controlled by the KPNLF, in a symbolic gesture that UNHCR will move people to all of Cambodia, if "granted access and assurances of voluntariness." They will not receive land, as they already have it, but they will receive rice for twelve months. Since many of these returnees have been physically present at Thmar Puok for several months already, this will "basically get them off the UNHCR books."

On June 1, 1992, demonstrators gathered at Site 2 with signs expressing their anger at the offer of \$50 per adult "incentive" money to return to Cambodia, when Vietnamese returnees were allegedly being given \$700. Over the next two days, increasing violence led to the initial evacuation of expatriate staff and eventually DPPU, Khmer police, and other Khmer leaders. On June 4, the camp returned to the control of DPPU and Khmer Police, yet remained closed to most expatriate staff until June 15. The exact cause of the outbreak is not known, nor have the participants been fully identified, but some concerns, in addition to those regarding the incentive money, have been raised, i.e. the withdrawal of the promise of land and the reduction of the free food grace period from 18 to 12 months. Many have voiced frustrations over these changes,

reflecting a loss in credibility and confidence in UNHCR - a loss that allows for a host of rumors to develop. Other possible causes for this unrest include inter-or intra-factional disputes, the aim of which may have been to create insecurity intended to encourage people to return to faction-controlled areas. Whatever the reason, repatriation from Site 2 was fully stopped, and UNHCR was anxious to resume the repatriation program on June 18. Other camps have continued repatriation during this time, attempting to increase their numbers to make up for the lack of Site 2 returnees.

The repatriation plan envisaged that the 360,000 refugees (the camp population continued to grow after the first plan was made for 330,000) would cross the border at the rate of 8,500 to 10,000 per week. However, in the six weeks from the 30th of March to the 8th of May, 6,856 people were repatriated, averaging a disappointing 1,143 per week. From June 1-17, 10,884 returnees have moved out; this figure is better, but still well below the number needed to complete repatriation before the desired date of 30 December, 1992; a date before which returnees would be able to register to vote, or even the 1st of May, in time for the actual elections. The pressure created by this deadline has led to considering other forms of repatriation, including the use of aircraft, short-term transportation across the border for the refugees to register, or possible temporary resettlement in camps within Cambodia. In the meantime, pressing questions remain: do the factions and/or the Thais have other plans? Does the UN have the ability to provide what has been promised regarding repatriation and, indeed, all other areas of the operation? Does the Khmer Rouge refusal to cooperate in Phase II of the Peace accords, which calls for cantonment and disarmament of the military factions, threaten the entire plan?

Note: As of July 13, UNHCR had repatriated 50,000 Cambodian refugees from Thailand.

[Liz Bernstein is a member of the Coalition for Peace and Reconciliation, P.O. Box 1 Sanampao, Bangkok 10406, Thailand, Tel. 6637-269-073, Fax. 6637-269-082, and has followed the repatriation program since its inception].

Indochina Interchange Staff

John McAuliff, Editor

Martha Walsh, Staff Writer

Jim Spencer, Production & Design

NGO CONFERENCE HELD AT STONY BROOK

by Joe Hannah

The third national conference of American NGOs and others working with Indochina took place at S.U.N.Y. Stony Brook from June 12-15. The conference included a series of plenaries designed to bring together experts from the various groups working in the region.

The Indochina Perspective

As in previous years, an important aspect of the conference was the contribution of first-hand information on government policies and perceptions from high-ranking officials from Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, and the United States.

As the ranking member of the Lao delegation, **Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Soubanh Srithirath** discussed the economic reforms taking place in his country and the gradual increase in its standard of living. Laos has been improving relations not only with regional countries and the West, but also with international organizations and NGOs, which he hopes will assist in improving infrastructure, helping the victims of war, and furthering the general development of Laos. Vice Minister Soubanh also noted that due to constraints on communication and transportation in the country, small projects -- within the scope of most NGOs -- are the most effective.

Cambodia's spokesman was **Vice Minister Cham Prasidh** of the Prime Minister's office in Phnom Penh. He likened Cambodia after the trauma of the Khmer Rouge and 13 years of upheaval in Indochina to an amputee walking down a rocky road with two crutches; one crutch being the aid given by the Soviet Bloc, and the other being assistance from international organizations and NGOs. Following the changes in Eastern Europe, however, Cambodia finds itself one crutch short, and in need of NGOs to supply the second crutch and help Cambodia construct its own artificial limb to achieve desperately needed stability. Since bilateral aid is

impractical before Cambodia's national elections (scheduled for March 1993) because of the preoccupation with factional legitimacy, NGOs and international organizations offer the only avenue for aid to reach the suffering people of Cambodia.

Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, chair of the Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organizations, and **Ambassador Trinh Xuan Lang**, Permanent Representative to the United Nations, spoke on behalf of Vietnam. Madam Binh discussed the many successes of American NGOs in promoting people to people contacts and mutual understanding despite the lack of formal relations between Viet Nam and the U.S. She related how the "doi moi" reforms in Vietnam have begun the process of economic growth, but that the need for NGO assistance is still great, and that despite the successes there is still a long way to go.

Particularly, NGOs can help by advocating for normalized relations with Vietnam and helping to put an end to the "Vietnam syndrome" in America.



Marie Huhtala (State Department)

Ambassador Lang focused his talk on Vietnam's foreign policy, and particularly on U.S.-Vietnamese relations. He noted that the U.S. is the only major country in the world lacking normal diplomatic relations with Vietnam, which is ironic given the number of issues and interests the two countries share. The main constraint on normalization, since the signing of the Cambodian peace agreement, is the POW/MIA issue. In contrast to the American approach, Vietnam considers this a humanitarian issue and feels it is entirely separate from the issue of diplomatic relations. Nonetheless, Vietnam has given, and will continue to give, its full cooperation in this matter, independent of normalization, but "all attempts to make ill use of this issue must not go unpunished," said Ambassador Lang.

U.S. Policy

Ms. Marie Huhtala, Deputy Director of the Office of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodian Affairs, U.S. Department of State, described the official U.S. policy in Indochina. She characterized last year as the most important year in U.S.-Indochina relations since 1975. In April 1991 the U.S. introduced its "road map", a clear and organized series of steps for each side to take in order to achieve normalized relations. POW/MIA talks and cooperation have progressed very steadily, and though some issues remain, the U.S. is



Michael Feldstein (USAID)

very optimistic about the progress being made. Further advances in U.S.-Vietnam relations depend on Vietnam's continued cooperation on the critical issues; the U.S. is prepared to move ahead either quickly or slowly depending on Vietnam's actions.

Ms. Huhtala went on to say that to express its satisfaction with the breakthrough in the Cambodian peace agreement last October, the U.S. has opened its first diplomatic office in Phnom Penh since 1975. The Khmer Rouge have raised a number of objections to the implementation of Phase II of the agreement, which includes demobilization of factional forces, but they need to realize that the international community is intent on having the peace plan implemented.

U.S. relations with Laos took "a giant step forward" last November when, due to Laos' cooperation on the issues of POW/MIA's and narcotics control, U.S. representation in Vientiane was upgraded to the ambassador level. The U.S. looks forward to continued improvement of relations and continued cooperation from Laos on these issues.

[N.B. Marie Huhtala's remarks were given on the eve of her transfer from Washington to become U.S. Consul General in Quebec. Joy Carol, on behalf of the NGO Forum, gave thanks to Marie for her special contribution to improved NGO-State Department cooperation.]

Other U.S. government representatives included Mr. Michael Feldstein of USAID, who outlined AID's projects over the past year and those planned for the coming year; and Mr. Lou Mazel from the Refugee Bureau who explained the U.S. role in repatriation programs in the region.

Ms. Mathilde Genovese, publisher of "Vietnam Newsletter" and CEO of a Hong-Kong based investment company, stated that the U.S. continues to isolate itself through its policy of economic embargo against Vietnam. American businesses are missing out on the best investment opportunities. Companies from all over the world invested U.S. \$2.6 billion between 1988 and 1991.

Ms. Pat Martin of the Mennonite Central Committee spoke on the need for both the government sector and the

NGO community to keep their unique roles clearly defined. When these roles are blurred -- as when the government restricts NGO activity or uses NGOs as bargaining chips in negotiations with host countries -- both sectors ultimately suffer.

NGO Experience

Participants were given a first-hand account of NGO work in Indochina by American staff working there. Mr. Jerry Sternin of Save the Children, Vietnam, warned that with the new economic reforms, the distance between the "haves" and "have-nots" is increasing. Sternin urged that, as the government allows the most vulnerable groups to be left behind, NGOs must remain committed to helping them keep up. He also stressed the need for NGOs to work within the existing system and to use it to advantage. One example is carrying out programs through mass organizations such as the Women's Union and the Farmers' Association which reach down to the village level and are already constituted as extension agents.



Susan Walker (Handicap International) reporting on NGO work with refugees

Mr. Bruce Shoemaker of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), Laos, is particularly excited about the increased involvement of counterpart organizations and local Lao staff in the planning and management of NGO projects. He stressed the need to build "devolvement" into projects from the outset, empowering local people to control their own development process.

Ms. Sarah Newhall of PACT, Cambodia, described the confusion resulting from tenuous political conditions and the sheer number of NGOs, international agencies, and bilateral aid projects. This introduces very controversial issues such as "donor-driven aid" and "Quick Impact" projects, over which many in the NGO community are divided. In recent months Ms. Newhall has met with leaders from over 80 NGOs, government ministries, UN organizations, etc., and each has its own version of "reality". She has pinpointed

two major concerns: that of NGOs for human resource development, and that of Khmers with whom the NGOs work for human rights.

Ms. Susan Walker, Southeast Asia Regional Director for Handicap International (and chair of CCSDPT) spoke about the situation of the hundreds of thousands of Cambodian refugees in the region and the role NGOs can play to help them. NGOs have developed a good relationship with refugees in the camps over many years and should now work closely with the UN to ensure their safe and voluntary repatriation.

Economic and Political Reforms

All three countries of Indochina are undergoing significant changes in both political and economic spheres, caused in part by internal factors and in part by international developments such as the break-up of the Soviet Union. Separate plenary sessions were held for political and economic reforms in Indochina, and panel speakers included officials from each country and other experts. In both Laos and Vietnam, new constitutions have been adopted in the last year with the intent to increase and codify certain democratic tendencies, and to affirm the change from centrally planned systems to market based economies.

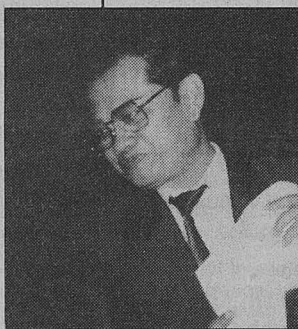
Vice Minister Soubanh outlined the main articles of the Lao constitution, which included sections on civil liberties and minority rights, the primacy of the rule of law, and the endorsement of a multi-sectoral market economy. **Ms. Jacqui Chagnon**, a consultant who formerly represented AFSC in Vientiane, commented that the drafting of the constitution was a slow and painful process which began in 1980. On two separate occasions drafts were made available to the entire Lao population for comment, sparking lively debate at the grass roots level about issues such as polygamy.

On the economic front, **Mr. Phoukhao Soulivong** of the Lao Embassy described Laos' "New Economic Mechanism" (NEM). **Mr. Ulhas Gunjal** of the International Monetary Fund expanded on this theme in saying that under the NEM Laos has taken steps to integrate itself with the world economy. A small private sector has grown, the official exchange rate is more realistic and more stable, the banking system has been

re-organized, and a liberal foreign trade code has been instituted. Economic and social impacts have been quite favorable, and Laos is working toward furthering these reforms with support from several international agencies.

According to **Mr. Tran Minh Quoc**, a representative of the Union of Peace, Friendship and Solidarity Organizations, Vietnam's new constitution continues political reforms and democratization begun with the economic renovations of 1986. After much discussion in the National Assembly on the role of the Vietnamese Communist Party, the constitution continues single party rule, stating "The Party leads, the people are the masters, the State manages."

Professor Ngo Vinh Long, a panel speaker from the University of Maine pointed out that, although there has been some progress toward rule of law and democracy in Vietnam, the new constitution in Vietnam has also regressed in some areas, notably in its lack of guarantees of free education and free health care. Long questioned how an uneducated and unhealthy population can participate in any meaningful way in a democracy.

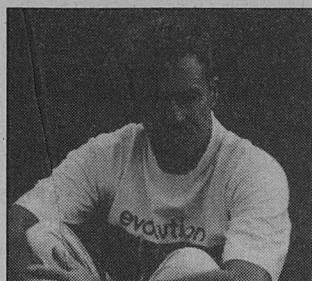


Lao Vice Minister Soubanh

Ms. Le Anh Tu, a World Bank consultant, stated in her talk during the Economics Plenary that the energy and drive of the Vietnamese people is phenomenal, and there is a great deal of consensus on the effectiveness of the "Doi Moi" economic reforms in the country. Vietnam has made substantial progress with very little outside support.

Mr. Graham Alliband, the former Australian Ambassador to Vietnam, noted that the combination of internal reforms in pricing, private enterprise, land tenure, etc., coupled with an open door external economic policy have produced very encouraging results: inflation has been substantially cut, Vietnam has achieved a net trade surplus for the first four months of this year, and public confidence in the economy is very high.

In Cambodia, the massive problems facing economic and political reform are intrinsically linked to the peace process underway there. **Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Long Visalo** noted that political changes are based on the Cambodian peace agreement which requires liberal democracy overseen by UNTAC. He warned that although his government is committed to the full implementation of



Keynote speaker Graham Alliband, former Australian Ambassador to Vietnam

the peace agreement, some parties seek vengeance and power rather than peace. He feels the people of Cambodia must be educated and their living conditions must be improved to ensure their ability to make good decisions regarding leadership.

Dr. Ben Kiernan of Yale University noted four major areas of reform in Cambodia: 1) administrative reform, especially the centralization of authority and the reduction of regional autonomy; 2) political reform; 3) legal reform (a tremendous task given the very small number of lawyers that remain in Cambodia); and 4) human rights, which are of great importance to the people of Cambodia, especially with the Khmer Rouge still a potent force.

According to **Vice Minister Prasidh**, Cambodia has made remarkable economic progress in the last 13 years despite continuous warfare. In 1979 there were 6.5 million Cambodians starving, without belongings, land or other means of production. Despite this state, Cambodia has steadily been able to improve the situation until now, after the "land to the tiller" program of land distribution, Cambodia is nearly self sufficient in food production. (It would have been self-sufficient in 1991 but for devastating floods in most of the country.) Cambodia's small industrial sector has also made some progress, despite the economic embargo which stopped the flow of Western spare parts for many years. Cambodia's lack of engineers, most of whom were killed during the Khmer Rouge years, has also limited the growth of the industrial sector. However, despite a glaring lack of lawyers, Cambodia's legal reforms are moving ahead to cope with increasing economic development, including contract law, a code of commerce, and foreign investment law.

Cambodia is now in what is described in the peace agreement as the "rehabilitation phase" (to be followed by the "reconstruction



Pat Martin (Mennonite Central Committee) provided the NGO view of U.S. policies

U.S. NGO Forum Materials

Conference Texts (available prepaid from the U.S. NGO Forum, c/o USIRP:

Opening Address - Graham Alliband, former Australian Ambassador to Viet Nam. 18 pages. \$2.00

Ranking Member of Vietnamese Delegation Address (includes Analysis of Political Reform) - Mmc. Nguyen Thi Binh, Chair of the Union of Peace, Friendship and Solidarity, and PACCOM. 10 pages. \$1.00.

Ranking Member of Vietnamese Delegation Address - Ambassador Trinh Xuan Lang, Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations. 5 pages. \$0.50.

Ranking Member of Cambodian Delegation Address - Cham Prasidh, Vice-Minister, Council of Ministers. 4 pages. \$0.50.

Ranking Member of Lao Delegation Address - Soubanh Srithirath, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs. 5 pages. \$0.50.

U.S. Policy Issues in Indochina Plenary Address - Mathilde L. Genovese, Chief Executive Officer, Kingship Limited, Editor & Publisher, The Viet Nam Newsletter. 2 pages. \$0.30.

Economic Reform and Development in Cambodia - Fritz Loebus, Senior Area Officer and Team Leader for Indochina, UNDP. 8 pages. \$1.00.

Economic Development of the Lao P.D.R. - Phoukhao Soulivong, Economic and Commercial Officer, Lao Embassy to the U.S. 6 pages. \$0.60.

Economic Reform in Laos - Ulhas Gunjal, International Monetary Fund. 8 pages. \$0.80.

New Constitution and Democratization Plenary (Laos) - Soubanh Srithirath, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Laos. 5 pages. \$0.50.

New Constitution and Democratization Plenary (Viet Nam) - Ngo Vinh Long, Professor of History, University of Maine. 6 pages. \$0.60.

New Constitution and Democratization (Cambodia) - Long Visalo, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cambodia. 6 pages. \$0.60.

The State of Social Welfare in Viet Nam (includes analysis of the situation of underprivileged Vietnamese children) - Nguyen Xuan Tue, Deputy Director of International Relations, Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs, Viet Nam. 12 pages. \$1.25.

Proposals Submitted by PACCOM to U.S. NGOs for Aid Consideration, including description of proposed aid, requested funding, duration and location. 2 pages. \$0.20.

Note: All Plenary Sessions were videotaped non-professionally. Unedited copies may be purchased for special use.

phase" after the national elections next spring). **Mr. Fritz Loebus** of UNDP said that international assistance coordinated by UNTAC does not require intervention in the economic reform process at this stage. Cambodia has made considerable progress in economic reform since 1979 with little or no outside help. The last several years have seen relatively rapid economic growth, in part due to the reforms begun in the mid-1980's. But

much remains to be done, as Cambodia's ability to address its own needs is handicapped by the lack of trained personnel, supplies, and infrastructure. The country stands a great chance of returning to economic and social turmoil if economic reforms fail.

Return of Refugees and Expatriate Nationals

This plenary session covered the problems inherent in the repatriation of refugees to their home countries as well as the potential for using overseas nationals in development efforts.

Mr. Rene Van Rooyen of UNHCR reported that in 1992, only seven Vietnamese have arrived in first asylum countries by boat, marking this year as the end of the "boat people" era. As part of the UNHCR "Comprehensive Plan of Action" to stop the illegal outflow of people from Vietnam, approximately 50,000 Vietnamese will immigrate to the U.S. this year through the Orderly Departure Program (ODP). In addition, UNHCR has undertaken a campaign in Vietnam to give accurate information about emigrating and resettling in a new country. A third component of the plan is the screening process in the region's refugee camps, and assistance to and monitoring of those who have been screened out and repatriated to Vietnam. UNHCR has not found any evidence of maltreatment of returnees and believes the government of Vietnam is living up to its commitments.

Mr. Nils Sivertsen of Nordic Assistance to Repatriated Vietnamese (a consortium of Scandinavian NGO's based in Hanoi) described some aspects of the resettlement process of returned refugees. Programs for the returnees are designed in close cooperation with provincial and district organizations, and are intended to assist the entire community where the refugees resettle. This approach helps reduce friction and promotes reintegration.

Mr Van Rooyen also talked of repatriation to Cambodia. With the coming of peace, the demobilization of thousands of soldiers, and the return of hundreds of thousands of refugees, Cambodia has arrived at a

"moment of truth". The major problem for repatriation is locating the land on which to resettle 350,000 people -- land with adequate water, near existing villages, and clear of land mines. Only about 25,000 hectares of the necessary 200,000 hectares have been identified so far. Since March 1992, over 27,000 refugees have returned to Cambodia, but the target of 10,000 more returnees each week is not likely to be reached soon. The goal is to repatriate all before March 1993 so that they may participate in national elections.

Ms. Dia Cha, a consultant on Lao refugee repatriation, discussed the problems and conflicts among Hmong refugees in the camps in Thailand. There is often a gender-split on the issue of whether to repatriate or to resettle in a third country. Typically, women prefer not to repatriate because they do not wish to return to a culture where they are required to do 60-70% of the work. They are

not lazy, she explained, however they have experienced some emancipation in the camps. Hmong men, on the other hand, typically do not wish to face the trials of learning to live a modern Western lifestyle. Information programs are underway to give the refugees accurate views of life both in resettlement countries and inside Laos itself.



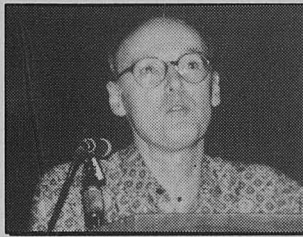
An unidentified Vietnamese American, Nguyen Thi Binh, & Le Ly Hayslip (East Meets West)

The interest in overseas nationals in returning to their home countries to

provide expertise and assistance has been increasing at a remarkable rate in the last two or three years.

UNDP's TOKTEN (Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals) program was described by its founder **Mr. Nessim Shallon**. It arranges for persons "with an established level of professional competence" to return to their countries for a short-term position (from two weeks to six months). UNDP pays for the consultant's travel and living expenses, but does not offer a salary. At the present time, programs in Vietnam and Laos are small and moving slowly. The program in Cambodia is just beginning and is expected to be very large.

Ms. Frances Sullivan of the International Organization for Migration characterized its Return of Talent program as an attempt to reverse "brain drain". Expatriate professionals are recruited to return to their home countries on a temporary or permanent basis, with emphasis on permanent repatriation. The program in Cambodia has already returned



Hedi Annabi (United Nations)

5 experts, and has had 24 job offers from U.N. agencies and NGOs. IOM offers travel costs, assistance to families, salary supplements, and transitional allowances.

In addition to these programs, some expatriate nationals are returning to their home countries to provide direct assistance through their own NGOs. Ms. Le Ly Hayslip, director of East Meets West Foundation talked of her organization's work in Vietnam. East Meets West built its first 7-room medical clinic in Vietnam in 1989. It was staffed with Vietnamese doctors and nurses, served over 5,000 people, and delivered 262 babies. In 1991, East Meets West built a bigger clinic and a school in Vietnam. Two volunteer American English teachers were recruited, an outreach program was started, and a full traditional medicine service was added. Ms. Hayslip expressed her belief that there is a special place for overseas nationals in the rebuilding of their homelands.

Special Report on UNTAC

Because of the growing crisis on implementation of the Peace Agreement in Cambodia, a late addition to the agenda was a report on the United Nations Transitional Authority on Cambodia (UNTAC) by Mr. Hedi Annabi, Director of the UN's Department of Peace Keeping Operations. UNTAC was established in February 1992 and is the biggest U.N. operation in history. Its mission is "peace building" or "nation re-building". In its first three months UNTAC has had a good deal of success, but many serious problems remain.

UNTAC has seven major areas of responsibility:

- 1) human rights, which, given Cambodia's history, needs special attention
- 2) organization and execution of national elections scheduled for April-May 1993
- 3) oversight and advisory roles in the civil administration
- 4) supervision and control of police to ensure law and order
- 5) repatriation of refugees (in conjunction with UNHCR)
- 6) rehabilitation of the infrastructure of the society and the economy
- 7) oversight of the military aspects of the peace agreement, including the cease-fire, the withdrawal of foreign forces, demobilization of Cambodian forces, and de-mining operations.

Phase II of the peace agreement -- the cantonment and

demobilization of faction armies is currently scheduled to commence, but there are substantial problems, particularly from the Khmer Rouge. A number of serious cease-fire violations have been reported, and the Khmer Rouge have not taken the necessary steps to mark mine fields, provide free access to areas they control and disclose troop strength. UNTAC will proceed with Phase II, but cannot go far without Khmer Rouge cooperation.

Discussion Groups and After Hours Meetings

The "meat and potatoes" of the conference were the sectoral working groups, offering an opportunity for greater dialogue among participants. Topics covered were Agricultural and Rural Development; Health, Prosthetics and Family Planning; Environment; Economic Development /Income Generation; Private Investment, Trade and Tourism; Secondary and Higher Education/Academic Exchange; Child Welfare and Orphans; Cultural and People-to-People Exchange; Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement.

A new feature of this year's agenda were issue groups. They included In-country Cooperation among NGO Field Staff, with International Agencies, and with the SNC and UNTAC; Cooperation with USAID and the U.S. Embassy; Changing U.S. Policy on Normalization and the Embargo; and Relations with Host Governments.

As in past conferences, several "after-hours" activities were available to participants. These included an exhibit of Vietnamese and American veterans' art; a poetry reading by W.D. Ehrhart, John Balaban, Lady Borton, and Nguyen Ngoc Hung; special issue and interest group meetings covered women, veterans, AIDS, the Tai Dam Minority, and Agent Orange; and included presentations of videos and slides brought by participants.

Following the trend of last year's conference, the number and active participation by overseas nationals increased. Several of these people were from organizations either already involved in NGO work in Indochina or planning to begin work there. Of particular value were sessions arranged for overseas nationals to meet with the representatives from their home countries to discuss issues of importance to them in their own languages.

[A full report of the conference, including summaries of discussions in sectoral and issue groups, will be available by the end of the summer. We estimate it will be about 80 pages and cost \$8.00. To order a copy, please prepay that amount.]

Conference Reflections

by Joy Carol, Forum Convenor

The Third National NGO Conference provided participants a chance to approach, in an integrated and problem-solving fashion, the issues and challenges facing Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos, during a rather confusing and complex time of transition in each country.

As the days unfolded, the participants had the firsthand opportunity to listen and learn from each other's experiences; to decide together how NGOs could best assist Laos, Viet Nam and Cambodia in a useful and significant role during the time of transition and into the future; and to work out relationships with each other.

Perhaps the most exciting "results" of the Conference will not appear in the official Conference report. For example, the healing that took place between American-Khmer/Vietnamese/Lao people and government officials from Cambodia, Viet Nam, and Laos who until the Conference had not had the chance to talk face-to-face, to ask questions and express their feelings to each other. Many of us were deeply moved to see groups of these people sitting under trees talking, laughing, reading poetry and singing songs together until the early morning hours.

Finally, for all of us, this was a Conference that helped bring the issues and situations of each of these countries into a more realistic perspective. We left the Conference with new relationships and with the challenge and commitment to be respectful and helpful partners in Laos, Viet Nam and Cambodia.

Conference Generates Policy Action

Members of CORKR were so disturbed by reports they heard of the dangers posed by Khmer Rouge non-compliance that they circulated at Conference sessions an Open Letter to President Bush. It urged expansion of the UNTAC mandate to compel KR compliance, closing the Thai border to KR commercial and military activity. [Coalition to Oppose the Return of the Khmer Rouge, 202-544-8446.]

The issue group on changing U.S. policy initiated a petition campaign calling for normal relations and lifting the embargo which was circulated at the Democratic Convention. [Vietnam Reconciliation Initiative, 212-420-1586]

The Cambodian Crisis

by Jim Spencer

The June 12 UNTAC Progress Report given by U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali to the Security Council made little effort to hide criticism of the Khmer Rouge non-compliance with Phase II of the Paris Agreements.

According to Phase II, each of the four warring factions is required to permit UNTAC unrestricted freedom to inspect the zones under their control. Boutros-Ghali reported that "UNTAC's ability to adhere to the timetable [for cantonment, disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, and elections] is gravely compromised by lack of cooperation from the party of Democratic Kampuchea [the Khmer Rouge]. [As the importance of starting Phase II on June 13] cannot be overemphasized...[it is] crucial that [these] interrelated processes can proceed within the time frame envisaged in the implementation plan and that free and fair elections take place as scheduled in April/May 1993."

Becoming mired in Phase II of the cease-fire would result in a loss of critical momentum, thereby putting the Spring 1993 elections in jeopardy. When the Secretary General's Special Representative, Mr. Yasushi Akashi repeatedly requested the Khmer Rouge leaders to comply with the agreement, he failed to obtain a positive reply, based on the Khmer Rouge contention that Vietnamese military personnel remain in Cambodia, thereby necessitating full maintenance of Khmer Rouge military capabilities.

In response, UNTAC established ten border checkpoints with Viet Nam - one more, and at an earlier date than called for in the Agreements. In addition, on May 30 UNTAC formed "mobile military teams" to investigate the allegations of foreign military presence, and has urged that Khmer Rouge troops be made available to accompany the teams in their investigations. Radio Australia reported that the Khmer Rouge finally agreed to 70% demobilization, but only if that was coupled to dismantling the Phnom Penh government.

Observers in Phnom Penh, and indeed almost all those who follow the situation, feel that the Khmer Rouge is the sole party jeopardizing the peace process by attempting to rewrite the Paris Agreement to suit its own

deteriorating position. Frustration with their changing demands was expressed by a French Foreign Ministry spokesman: "France condemns the leaders of the Khmer Rouge who once again yesterday refused, under false pretenses, to apply the second phase of the UN plan...All other parties that signed the Paris agreement unani- mously rejected any renegotiation of the accords as well as the right of veto concerning the application of the accords." (Taken from *Indochina Digest* - July 10, 1992.)

Division emerged at the ASEAN Foreign Ministers meeting in July on how to respond to Khmer Rouge defiance. While Indonesia, the U.S., Australia and others favor pressure or sanctions to force compliance with the Peace Agreement, China and Thailand urge dialogue among the Cambodian factions and listening to Khmer Rouge concerns. The issue now for the United States is how much real effort Washington will make against China, and to win Thai government support for sanctions on KR timber and gem trafficking despite the cozy relationship of the Thai military with Pol Pot's forces.

Replacement Named for Solomon

Beginning in mid-July, William Clark will assume the duties of Richard H. Solomon, the Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs. Prior to this appointment, Mr. Clark served as U.S. Ambassador to India, a position which he held from November, 1989. This is not his first experience with the Bureau of East

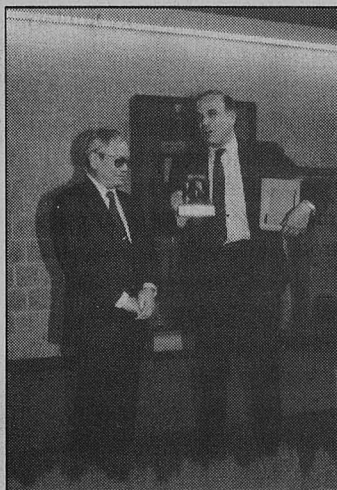
Asian and Pacific Affairs, as he was the Principal Deputy Assistant there from April 1987 until the assignment to India. Mr. Clark joined the Foreign Service in 1957; he assisted in opening up U.S. diplomatic relations with Sierra Leone, leaving that country shortly after the first U.S. ambassador arrived. Since that time, he has held several positions in Japan, including Director of the Liaison Department of the U.S. Civil Administration, where he participated in the return of administrative control of Okinawa to Japan; and a term in the Economic Section of the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, where he worked on U.S.-Japan trade problems. Mr. Clark has also served in South Korea and Egypt.

Organizational Briefs

Viet Nam

Amnesty International Initiates Campaign for Release of Dr. Nguyen Dan Que.

The international human rights group has launched an effort encouraging members to write to officials in Hanoi appealing for the release of Dr. Que who was sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment for "activities aimed at overthrowing the government." Amnesty has adopted him as a prisoner of conscience. Southeast Asia Coordination Group, c/o Veronique Fourment, 822 Noe Street, San Francisco, CA 94114; 415-647-7949.



Ambassador Trinh Xuan Lang presented with a Liberty Bell by Philadelphia Mayor Ed Rendell in honor of U.S. premier in May of Vietnamese water puppets

USAID Personnel:

Assistant Administrator for Asia	-----	Henrietta Holsman-Fore
Deputy Asst. Administrator for Asia	-----	George Ladauto
Director of the Office of East Asia	-----	Linda Morse
Deputy Director, Office of Development Resources, Asia Bureau	-----	Gene Morris
Officer in Charge of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia	-----	Michael Feldstein
Project Development Officer for Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia	-----	Tom Marr
Director of Office of Finance and Project Management, Asia	-----	Peter Davis

State Department Personnel:

Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs	-----	William Clark
Deputy Asst. Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs	-----	Kenneth Quinn
Director, Office of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia Affairs	-----	Christopher La Fleur
Assistant Director Office of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia Affairs	-----	James Gagnon
Viet Nam Desk	-----	Andrew Rothman
Laos Desk	-----	Cheryl Sim
Cambodia Desk	-----	Robert Wang

Asia Foundation To Send Up to 10,000 Books to Viet Nam in 1992-1993.

Academic institutions, ministries, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations will receive the books covering fields such as economics, management, law, social science, international relations, natural sciences, medicine, and English language training. The books are donated by American publishers and are collected at the Asia Foundation's Book Center in San Francisco and then shipped to field offices in Asia. The Asia Foundation welcomes suggestions regarding appropriate recipient institutions in Viet Nam. Contact Michael Kober, Assistant Representative, The Asia Foundation, GPO Box 1910, Bangkok, Thailand; or Matt King, Director, Books for Asia, P.O. Box 193223, San Francisco, CA 94104; tel: 415-982-4640.

Britain - Viet Nam Association Offers Scholarships for Vietnamese to Study English.

The London based NGO has initiated a scholarship program with the Ha Noi Foreign Languages Institute which, each year, will enable ten students who otherwise would not have been able to afford it, to study English. BVA, Len Aldis, Flat 2, 26 Tomlins Grove, London E3 4NX.

California Southeast Asia Business Council Hosts Meeting on Business Prospects in Indochina.

Mathilde L. Genovese, Chairman Emeritus of the Asia-Pacific Council of American Chambers of Commerce, was the keynote speaker at the afternoon meeting, May 26 in San Francisco. California-Southeast Asia Business Council, 1946 Embarcadero, Suite 200, Oakland, CA 94606; 510-536-1967.

Nordic Assistance to Repatriated Vietnamese Plans Program for Unaccompanied Minors.

NARVN consortium has submitted a Letter of Intent for a project focused on assisting and reintegrating returning unaccompanied Vietnamese minors and would recruit Vietnamese social workers to assist in the implementation of the program. c/o Norwegian Refugee Council,

Pilestredet 15 B, 0164 Oslo, Norway; Tel: 47-2 11 65 00, Fax: 47-2 11 65 01.

Vietnamese American Education Foundation Established.

In an effort to support and improve the education system in Viet Nam, a group of professionals and academics have founded the VAEF. Its activities include collecting and forwarding college texts to Viet Nam, organizing seminars and courses to be taught in Viet Nam by U.S. instructors, creating an electronic network that connects all Vietnamese universities with educational and research institutions in the U.S.; and building educational facilities in Viet Nam. VAEF, 1628 16th Street, NW, Third Floor, Washington, D.C. 20009.

Vietnam Veterans Against the War Sends First Couples Tour.

Three couples traveled from north to south meeting with members of the Vietnamese Veterans Association with whom discussions were held on the structure and goals of the organization. A chapter in Ho Chi Minh City announced that it is now arranging visits for American veterans to the areas in which they were stationed. VVAW, Clarence Fitch Chapter, P.O. Box 74, Brooklyn, NY 11215; 718-826-1789.

CIEE International Faculty Development Seminar/ Viet Nam Set for January 3-16, 1993.

The seminar, intended to stimulate campus initiatives towards internationalizing curricula and introducing faculty to scholarly communities overseas, will be jointly hosted by Viet Nam's Ministry of Education and Training and Ho Chi Minh City University and will include daily seminar presentations by faculty from these and other Vietnamese academic institutions. The application deadline is October 19, 1992 and all applicants will be notified of their status by October 28, 1992. Professional Programs of the Council on International Educational Exchange, 205 East 42nd St., New York, NY 10017, tel.(212) 661-1414, ext.1455, or fax. (212) 972-3231.

Viet Nam Run for Harley Riders

The 1st Annual "Ride 'Nam", sponsored by Viet Nam Friends will take place in October 1992. Stops include Ha

Noi, Hue, Da Nang, Nha Trang, VungTau, Cu Chi and Sai Gon. Viet Nam Friends, Box 69, Garberville, CA 95440, 707-923-4147.

Cambodia and Laos

Trickle Up Expands Program in Laos and Implements One in Cambodia.

The Trickle Up Program is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to creating opportunities for self-employment and economic and social well-being among low-income populations of the world. The Program has designed and implemented a process through which people have helped themselves out of poverty by creating their own business opportunities. The Trickle Up process is initiated through Volunteer Coordinators who find that Trickle Up can enhance the work of their own organizations. Currently, the Program is seeking qualified candidates for Volunteer Coordinator positions in Laos and Cambodia. Trickle Up Program, Attn: William E. Rodgers, 54 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10024. Tel: 212-362-7958, Fax: 212-877-7464.

Handicap International, Mines Advisory Group, and Physicians for Human Rights Call for Stop to Cowards' Wars.

These three organizations are asking concerned people to register their opposition to the continuing crisis of anti-personnel mines in Cambodia, Afghanistan, Somalia, Kurdistan, Angola and Mozambique by sending a note stating "I want to sign your appeal to stop the Cowards' War" to Handicap International, 14 Ave. Berthelot 69361 Lyon Cedex 07 - FRANCE.

Regional

Opportunity for NGO Counterparts to Study in Thailand

NGOs seeking to improve the English language skills and other areas of training of host-country counterparts should contact Dr. Pramote Nakornthab, President of the University Foundation of Thailand. The Foundation plans to provide scholarships for personnel from Laos, Cambodia and Viet Nam to study in Thai colleges for short-term and degree programs. The Foundation has a special interest in assisting ethnic minorities. The NGO

sponsor would have to pay round trip transportation and approximately \$200 per month for housing and living expenses. A guest house is also available in Bangkok for modest cost transit visitors and small conferences. University Foundation, Rajabhat Institute at Suan-Dusit, Rachasima, Dusit, Bangkok 10300; tel. 662-243-2250; fax.662-243-0457.

Indochina Resources

Viet Nam

Directory of U.S. NGOs Viet Nam Programs - 1992, ed. Dao Spencer. A comprehensive directory of U.S. NGOs with projects in Viet Nam, which gives a profile of each agency, defining its objectives, history of involvement in Viet Nam, budget, funding, and description of current projects and future plans. Includes listing of NGOs by sector and by project location. 154 pages. \$10.00. U.S. NGO Forum, 220 W. 42nd St., Suite 1801, New York, NY 10036; tel. 212-764-3925, fax. 212-764-3896.

Business Vietnam. Monthly magazine which includes news affecting trade and investment, articles on different sectors of business, interviews with foreigners, and a section on legislation and regulations concerning investment in Viet Nam. Investip Co. 1 bis Yet Khieu, Hanoi; 31 Han Thuyen District 1, Ho Chi Minh City; Tlx: 811270 PBT LX VT; Fax: 84-8-98540.

Demystifying Dioxin's Dangers, by Karen F. Schmidt. January 11, 1992 issue of Science News. Article on composition and effects of the toxin in Agent Orange. 231 West Center Street, Marion, OH 43305. 1-800-247-2160.

Disrupted Childhood: Unaccompanied Minors in Southeast Asian Refugee Camps, by Huu Dinh Nguyen, MSW and James M. Freeman, Ph.D. Summary of a fact finding trip conducted by Aid to Refugee Children Without Parents, December 14, 1991-January 14, 1992. 18 pages. 1239 Shadowfax Drive, San Jose, CA 95121; 408-226-7031.

Doi Moi: Vietnam's Renovation Policy and Performance, edited by Dean K. Forbes, Terence H. Hull, David G. Marr, and Brian Brogan. Monograph containing works from participants of a 1990 forum at Australia National

University which evaluated Doi Moi in the contexts of economic development, population issues, political changes, and Viet Nam's domestic and international relations. 300 pages. \$A 18.00. Department of Political and Social Change, Research Institute of Pacific Studies, Australian National University, GPO Box 4, Canberra ACT 2601.

"Cao Lan Culture and Biodiversity in Historical Context: Environmental Change among an Ethnic Minority of the Midlands of Northern Viet Nam" by Kathleen A. Gillogly and Nghiem Phuong Tuyen, May 1992. Describes, using an anthropological method, the social, economic, political and agricultural changes which occur in an ethnic minority community in Viet Nam over the period from pre-1940 through the present. Indochina Initiative Working Paper No. 3, 80 pages. \$5.00 including shipping and handling, \$10.00 outside of North America from the Environment and Policy Institute, East West Center, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96848; tel.808-944-7555, fax. 808-944-7970.

National Center for Social Sciences of Viet Nam 1991 Report. Describes the history, purpose and current activities of the NCSS, including contacts and research and support bodies. 10 pages. \$1.00 from USIRP.

Cambodia

Humanitarian Assistance in Cambodia - 1991-92. A comprehensive directory of humanitarian aid organizations working in Cambodia, describing philosophy, history of involvement in Cambodia, budget, funding sources, and a listing of implemented projects. Includes listing by province and sector. 211 pages. \$15.00. U.S. NGO Forum, c/o USIRP.

NGO Statement to the Ministerial Planning Conference on the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia; Tokyo, June 20 and 22, 1992. This collaborative effort from the Cooperation Committee for Cambodia, the Advocacy Task Force of the NGO Development Workshop, the NGO Forum on Cambodia and the Japanese NGO Committee on Cambodia reviews past NGO experience, outlines prerequisites for reconstruction, and defines the role of NGOs in Cambodia's future and their coordination with multilateral and bilateral aid. 7 pages. \$1.00 USIRP.

Forging Cambodia's Future in Partnership: a Report of the NGO Development Workshop, March 13-14, 1992, Phnom Penh. Includes a history of NGOs in Cambodia, the roots of Cambodia's current problems, a common vision for future development, and recommendations on six priority issues: human resources, peace, participation, economy, planning/management and coordination, and government structures. 30 pages. \$3.00 from USIRP.

Beyond the Killing Fields, by Kari Rene Hall, with foreword by Dith Pran, 1992. A photographic essay from the Site 2 refugee camp on the Thai-Cambodian border. Hall, a staff photographer for the Los Angeles Times for the past ten years, took pictures at Site 2 over a period of five years, documenting inhuman conditions, despair and occasional moments of hope. 216 pages. \$39.95 hardcover ; \$29.95 paperback. Aperture Books 20 East 23rd St., New York, NY 10010. Tel. 212-505-5555, Fax. 212-979-7759.

Regional

"Cambodia in Chinese Foreign Policy Towards Viet Nam" by Peter M. Worthing, May 1992. Explores the evolution of China's policy towards Viet Nam in the post World War Two era, particularly with respect to changing relations among the major powers. This paper diverges from conventional analysis by focusing on Chinese relations to other regional countries, particularly Cambodia, as functions of China's Viet Nam policy; i.e. how China used Cambodia as a foil to Viet Nam. Indochina Initiative Working Paper No. 4. 39 pages. East-West Center, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96848; tel. 808-944-7555, fax. 808-944-7970.

Coming to Terms: Indochina, the United States, and the War, edited by Douglas Allen and Ngo Vinh Long. Collection of essays on contemporary and historical topics. 350 pages. \$37.55 hard cover, \$13.55 paperback. Westview Press, 5500 Central Avenue, Boulder, CO 80301; 303-444-3541.

Indochina Digest. Indispensable weekly compendium of events relating to Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos based on reports from wire services, Foreign Broadcast Information Service, and other sources. Rates for North America: Individuals-\$35 per year; non-profits-\$100 per year; corporations-\$350 per year. Overseas: individuals-\$45 per year; non-profits-\$150 per year; corporations-\$450 per year. Indochina Project, Suite 740, 2001 S Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009; 202-483-9222.

Senseless Casualties: The Aids Crisis in Asia, by Mark A. Bonacci, Ph.D. Report on the increasing incidence of AIDS throughout Asia and the means through which it is spread in different countries. 121 pages. \$12.50, Asia Resource Center, P.O. Box 15275, Washington, D.C. 20003; 202-547-1114.

War Era and History

Informed Dissent: Three Generals and the Viet Nam War, Essays by Robert Buzzanco and Asad Ismi. Two essays of politico/military history which focus on Generals James Gavin, David Shoup, and J. Lawton Collins, and their opposition to the Viet Nam War. 58 pages. \$10.00, Vietnam Generation and Burning Cities Press, 2921 Terrace Drive, Chevy Chase, MD; 301-608-0622.

Parallels: The Soldiers' Knowledge and the Oral History of Contemporary Warfare, by J.T. Hansen, A. Susan Owen, and Michael Patrick Madden. Narratives by surviving veterans of the Viet Nam and Afghanistan Wars. 252 pages. Cloth \$39.95; paper \$19.95. Aldine de Gruyter, 200 Saw Mill River Road, Hawthorne, New York 10532.

The Viet Nam War: Teaching Approaches and Resources, edited by Marc Jason Gilbert. Essays by leading scholars which address teaching strategies and resources designed to help educators present a broad perspective. 312 pages. \$49.95. Greenwood Press, 88 Post Road West, P.O. Box 5007, Westport, CT 06881; 203-226-3571.

CALL FOR PAPERS: Sixties Generations, From Montgomery to Viet Nam; A conference of Scholars, Activists, and Artists, March 3-7, 1993. Proposals needed for presentations, papers, panels, and workshops in the arts, humanities, and sciences exploring diversity and complexity of American and international cultures during the 1960s in terms of their continuing influence on contemporary American Culture. Submit 1-2 page proposals and abstracts to Vietnam Generation, 2921 Terrace Drive, Chevy Chase, MD 20815; 301-608-0622. Deadline, November 1, 1992.

Miscellaneous

Agroforestry Extension Training Manuals Available from Mennonite Central Committee. Four copies of this resource developed by CARE-International and funded by USAID are available by contacting the Mennonite Central Committee, 21 South 12th Street, P.O. Box 500, Akron, PA 17501-0500; 717-859-1151.

Position Openings

Cambodia

American Friends Service Committee

Prosthetist/Orthotist/Orthotic Technician (2 positions); assist Cambodian Ministry of Social Action and National Rehabilitation Center in Phnom Penh in providing quality prostheses within the limits of available local materials. Procure supplies, provide and identify opportunities for training. Support work with provincial prosthetic workshops. Write reports, prepare budgets for AFSC. Must be certified prosthetist or related professional with experience in prosthetics; requires administrative experience; prefer experience in developing country; conversational French and willingness to learn Khmer important.

AFSC Personnel Office, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102; tel. 215-241-7107.

International Organization for Migration

Overseas Khmer Professionals; the International Organization for Migration has begun a Return of Talent Program for Cambodia. Cambodian professional and technical experts interested in contributing to the redevelopment of Cambodia may apply through the IOM office in Washington. The IOM acts as an intermediary between professionals and employers and, in this role, assists in finalizing the contractual arrangements. IOM has received job offers from Handicap International, UNV, UNIP and several other UN agencies and NGOs. Financial assistance will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

IOM Return of Talent Program for Cambodia, 1750 K St., N.W., Suite 1110, Washington, D.C. 20006; tel. 202-262-1826, fax. 202-862-1879.

Laos American Friends Service Committee

Field Representatives for Laos: Vientiane, (Laos, field placement February, 1993). To develop, monitor, and report on projects promoting self-sufficiency in food production and other basic necessities in Laos with particular emphasis on developing local capacities to carry out community development work. AFSC projects in Laos include ethnic minorities community development, women's projects, small-scale hydrology, animal health, and refugee assistance. Field representatives

oversee projects, coordinate work of program specialists, and maintain liaison with appropriate government ministries. The positions require two people with an established relationship and demonstrated ability to work together; project development experience; good reporting and communication skills; administrative and supervisory skills. Lao or Thai language ability highly desirable or willingness to learn Lao; ability to speak French



Dick Krasno, President, Institute of International Education, listens to Vietnam's Vice Minister of Education Pham Minh Hac who visited the U.S. in April sponsored by World Vision

helpful; prior overseas living experience essential and familiarity with cultures of SE Asia and/or Indochina desirable.

Water Resource Development Coordinator (Civil Engineer). From a base in Luang Prabang or Vientiane, travel to provinces to help local authorities improve utilization of water resources, especially in support of food production; evaluate potential small-scale irrigation projects, introduce appropriate ideas and designs; support locally appointed staff in developing water use and management groups; help provide training for Lao technicians; handle administration and purchasing for projects.

Requirements include degree in civil engineering, experience in small-scale irrigation projects in developing countries (particularly northeast Thailand); willingness to learn Lao.

AFSC Personnel Office, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102; tel. 215-241-7107.]

Viet Nam

Minnesota Composers Forum

Composer-in-Residence, beginning Summer 1993: Responsibilities include teaching about post-1940 American musical development and arrangement of weekly presentations of new music. Requirements include an M.A. in Music; candidate must be an accomplished performer in one or more instruments, have expertise in directing and concert planning, and fluency in French or Vietnamese. Application deadline is August 29, 1992.

Hanoi Residency, Minnesota Composers Forum, 26 E Exchange St. #200, St. Paul, MN 55101.

Regional

Oxfam

Southeast Asia Representative (includes Viet Nam, Cambodia, and the Philippines). From base in Bangkok, will develop program strategy; identify, monitor, and evaluate projects; prepare and administer budget; manage local staff; and represent Oxfam in the region. Must have practical and academic familiarity with region and specific countries; graduate degree or equivalent experience in relevant field; familiarity with development issues; three or more years of experience in region, including time overseas managing development programs; ability to communicate proficiently in English and French; demonstrated ability to manage staff and budget; strong writing, verbal, photographic and

representational skills; and demonstrated involvement in concern for justice and empowerment of poor and disenfranchised in the developing world and/or US through participation in community development work.

Oxfam America, Recruitment Committee-SEAP, 115 Broadway, Boston, MA 02116; tel. 617-482-1211.

NOTES TO OUR READERS: We had intended to publish a newsletter in early June, but were swamped by conference work; accordingly, this is a delayed, but expanded double issue. *Copy deadline for the next issue is September 1.*

Kris Miller left USIRP after the Conference to pursue her studies. Martha Walsh is leading our August academic delegation to Indochina and will work in Cambodia with PACT. Jim Spencer joined USIRP staff in June as program assistant. Tara McAuliff is helping as a summer intern. We are looking for a new administrative assistant.

-- John McAuliff

Delegations (continued from p. 3)

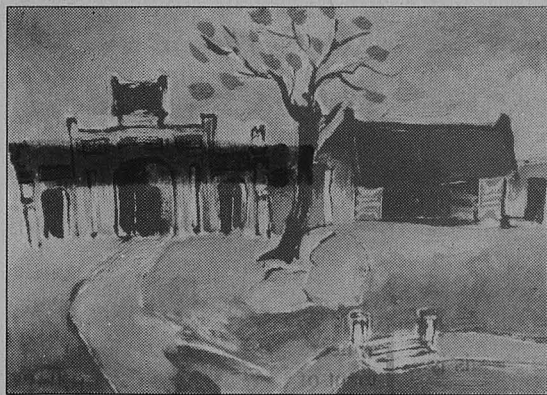
Department), Ms. Ros Sivanna (Women's Association of Cambodia), Dr. Nguon Sakhon (Cambodian Red Cross), and Mr. Am Sothea (Cooperation Committee for Cambodia) -- are counterparts for American NGOs in Cambodia. They began their visit in Washington, D.C. where they had meetings on Capitol Hill, with the World Bank, IMF, USAID, and VOA. In New York, they met with representatives of different organs of the United Nations. Following the conference at Stony Brook, each participant traveled to the headquarters of his/her counterpart organization where they spent two days becoming more familiar with the inner workings of their associates' operations and American NGOs in general. Twenty-three nongovernmental organizations and U.N. agencies supported this delegation. The primary coordinators were Linda Hartke of Church World Service in Phnom Penh and the staff of PACT.

Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, Mr. Le Mai, and Mr. Tran Minh Quoc represented Viet Nam at the NGO

conference. Madame Binh is General Secretary of the Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organizations and Mr. Quoc, who served as interpreter, is the secretary there. The Union is an umbrella organization for PACCOM and friendship groups such as Viet-My of which Le Mai is General Secretary. From June 16-June 26, the delegation traveled to Washington, D.C (where they met Senators McCain, Murkowski, and Pell); New York City; Salt Lake City, Utah; and Garberville and San Francisco, CA.

Much of the tour, sponsored by USIRP, was devoted to meetings with colleagues and old friends, providing an opportunity both to reminisce and plan future projects. Madame Binh's trip to the U.S. is historically significant. In her role as Foreign Minister of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet Nam, she participated in the Paris peace negotiations and was a symbol for anti-war activists. Though she was invited to participate in the first NGO Conference in 1990, her U.S. entry visa was denied.

Images from Vietnam Greeting Cards



Steps to My Pond

Artist: Vi Kien Thanh

The Indochina Project, a program of the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, is pleased to offer 12 different full-color, fine art greetings cards featuring contemporary graphic images by Vietnamese artists. The Indochina Project is publishing this fine art as part of its effort to promote cooperation and understanding between the peoples of the United States and Vietnam. Proceeds support humanitarian assistance programs as well as the Indochina Project's art and cultural exchanges.

These cards are 4 1/4" x 6 1/4", and are printed on recycled paper and come with recycled paper envelopes. Cards are available in sets of 12 (one of each 12 images). One full color image is available as a screen printed, 100 percent cotton pre-shrunk t-shirt in adult sizes: M, L, XL.

These cards are a great fundraising resource and are being offered at special wholesale rates to interested organizations that wish to order 500 or more sets. For details please contact the Indochina Project.

If you would like to receive a free full color catalog depicting all images, prices and information on how to order these cards and t-shirts please write: Indochina Project, 2001 "S" Street, N.W., Suite 740, Washington, D.C., 20009. Telephone 202-483-9222 or Fax 202-483-9314.

Indochina



Project

PRUNING TIME

An important note to our readers

You are one of more than 3,000 people receiving Indochina Interchange. Printing, postage and staff time for each issue cost about \$5,000. Prudent management requires that we periodically determine that a live body is actually opening the newsletter and finds it useful. In addition, it turns out that if a high enough ratio of our readers are paid subscribers, we are able to qualify for more rapid delivery at reasonably priced postage. Ideally we'd like to publish nine or ten times per year, instead of quarterly, but that requires funds for an additional staff person as well as substantially higher production costs. If you have already sent in a contribution, thank you. We truly appreciate the support. If not, please complete the following and return it as soon as possible:

- ☐ Continue sending me Indochina Interchange. ☐ Remove my name from your mailing list.
☐ Enclosed is a basic subscription fee of \$2 per year. ☐ For international air mail delivery, add \$10.
☐ In addition, I wish to contribute towards the newsletter and am enclosing a total of \$_____.
(For individuals, we suggest at least \$10; for non-profit organizations, \$20; for corporations, \$40.)
☐ Attached are names and addresses of persons who should receive Indochina Interchange.

Name: (please print or type) _____

Organization: _____

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City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

(P.S. We welcome your comments and suggestions for future issues. Deadline for next issue: September 1)

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The Fund for Reconciliation and Development, Inc.
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