

SPECIAL IN THIS ISSUE — THE PRESIDENTIAL TRIP IN FEATURES & PHOTOS

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TEN (10) PIASTERS



Happy Homecoming

Saigon, May 23 — Escorted by eight Bearcats of the Vietnamese Air Force after it had crossed the national frontiers from the Pacific, the presidential plane came into sight at eight o'clock this morning, and slowly came to a standstill before the waiting crowd. The President stepped off the plane to a 21-gun salute by the Vietnamese Navy.

After reviewing the Guard of Honor and standing through the National anthem, the President went to meet the members of the Diplomatic Corps who had come in full strength. The Deputies to the National Assembly were there too, and Ministers, directors-general, and other officials. The reception hall was full of VIPs, and outside, in front of it, and for kilometers from Tan Son Nhat Airport to Independence Palace, the crowd lined the streets: political organizations, labor groups, religious and youth associations, all were there. It was the biggest crowd Saigon has seen since the Republic Day.

Dressed in a light grey suit,

the President shook hands with the people nearest to him, and smiled to all. He made for the little stand specially erected for him from where he addressed the silent crowd. His voice sounded firm as usual, but there was an additional note of a happy return home after a successful — let us say, triumphant — trip abroad. Loud-speakers carried his words to the crowd or to the people who had to stay home, and to those in

dom and partnership have served to strengthen his faith in the future of Free Viet Nam.

The President then got into his open Cadillac, remained standing and waved to the cheering crowd as his car slowly proceeded. Cheers roared up, ran along the crowd as did the car. The same thing was repeated within the grounds of the Palace itself, when the President's car went through the gates. Here a Boy Scout Hon-

has consolidated the friendship between the peoples of the U.S. and Viet Nam, and strengthened the defense of liberty against the maneuvers of communism in our troubled world. The joint declaration by President Eisenhower and myself is evidence of that friendship and community of objectives.

The warm reception of the American government and people, the special kindness shown

for the courage and determination of the people of Viet Nam in its fight for liberty, for its achievements and effective contribution to the common cause of the Free World.

Everywhere I went, I was impressed by the almost incredible prosperity and high standard of living of the American people, due to their intelligence, initiative, industriousness, sense of co-operation and social justice. What I have seen has strengthened my faith in the force and cohesion of the free world and in democratic methods.

The Vietnamese are fully aware of the special position of their country as a free nation in Asia and its obligations. We must therefore achieve our economic independence in order to complete our national independence. Through relentless efforts, we will attain this objective. We are convinced that the U.S. and the other friendly countries in the world understand and support our cause.

WELCOMING CROWDS LINE STREETS FROM TAN SON NHUT TO INDEPENDENCE PALACE

Hue, Nha Trang, Dalat, and everywhere in the national territory, thanks to a live broadcast by Radio Viet Nam.

The President said how happy he was to have made the trip. He told of the warm welcome he had received from the people of the United States, of the things he had been able to see for himself, and how the achievements of this friendly country in free-

dom and partnership have served to strengthen his faith in the future of Free Viet Nam.

Translation of the Statement By President Ngo Dinh Diem Upon Arriving in Saigon (May 23, 1957)

Dear countrymen,

Through press and radio reports, you have closely followed my visit to the U.S. That visit

me by President Eisenhower, the cordial comments of the American press and of the public, are an eloquent demonstration of the feelings of a nation which has helped us with perfect unselfishness, proving its deep understanding of Viet Nam's problems and the close solidarity between the two peoples. These are a testimony through my person of the admiration of the people of the U.S.

Diem-Eisenhower Issue Joint Communiqué — Exchange Views On Promotion Of Peace

Text Of Eisenhower — Ngo Dinh Diem Joint Communiqué

H.E. Ngo Dinh Diem, President of the Republic of Viet Nam, and President Eisenhower have held discussions during President Ngo Dinh Diem's state visit as the guest of President Eisenhower during May 8-10.

Their discussions have been supplemented by meetings between President Ngo Dinh Diem and his advisers and Secretary of State F. Dulles and other American officials.

These meetings afforded the occasion for reaffirming close mutual friendship and support between the Republic of Viet Nam and the United States.

The two Presidents exchanged views on the promotion of peace and stability and the development and consolidation of freedom in Viet Nam and in the Far East as a whole.

President Eisenhower complimented President Ngo Dinh Diem on the remarkable achievements of the Republic of Viet Nam under the leadership of President Ngo Dinh Diem since he took office in July 1954.

It was noted that in less than three years a chaotic situation resulting from years of war had been changed into one of progress and stability.

Nearly one million refugees who had fled from communist tyranny in North Viet Nam had been cared for and resettled in Free Viet Nam.

Internal security had been effectively established, a constitution had been promulgated and a national assembly elected.

Plans for agrarian reform have been launched, and a constructive program developed to meet long range economic and social problems to promote higher living standards for the Vietnamese people.

President Ngo Dinh Diem reviewed with President Eisenhower the efforts and means of the Vietnamese Government to promote political stability and economic welfare in the Republic of Viet Nam.

President Eisenhower assured President Ngo Dinh Diem of the willingness of the United States to continue to offer effective assistance within the constitutional processes of the United States to

meet these objectives.

President Eisenhower and President Ngo Dinh Diem looked forward to an end of the unhappy division of the Vietnamese peoples and confirmed the determination of the two governments to work together to seek suitable means to bring about the peaceful unification of Viet Nam in freedom and accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter.

It was noted with pleasure that the General Assembly of the United Nations by a large majority had found the Republic of Viet Nam qualified for membership in the United Nations, which has been prevented by Soviet opposition.

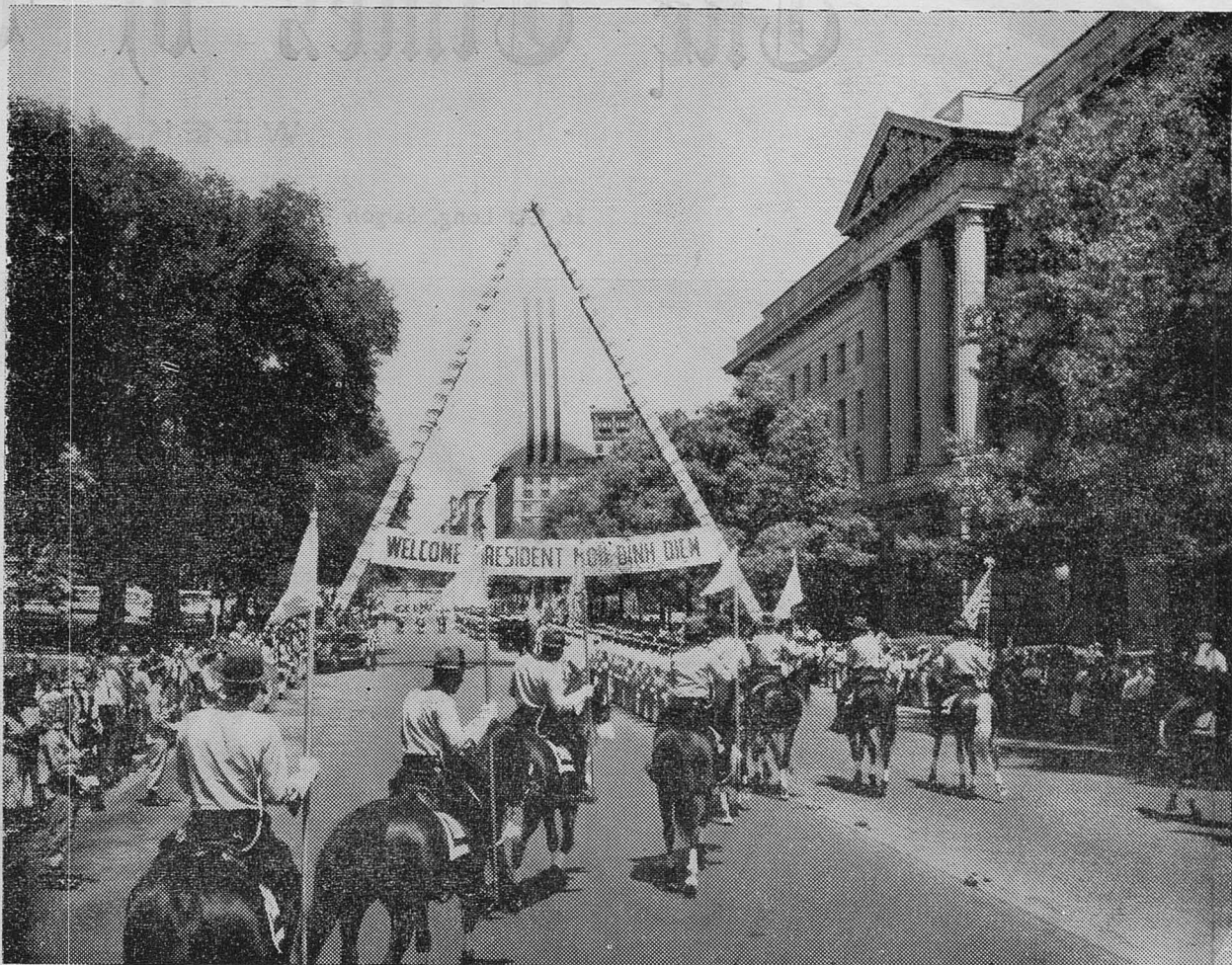
President Eisenhower and President Ngo Dinh Diem noted in contrast the large buildup of Vietnamese communist military in North Viet Nam during the past two and one half years, the harsh suppression of the revolts of the people of North Viet Nam in seeking liberty, and their increasing hardships which, noting the apparent diminution during the last three years of communist inspired hostilities in South East Asia except in the Kingdom of Laos, President Eisenhower and President Ngo Dinh Diem expressed concern over continuing communist subversive capabilities in this area and elsewhere.

In particular, they agreed that the continued military buildup of the Chinese Communists, their refusal to renounce the use of force, and their unwillingness to subscribe to standard of conduct of civilized nations constitute a continuing threat to the safety of all free nations in Asia.

Noting that the Republic of Viet Nam is covered by article IV of the South East Asia collective defense treaty, President Eisenhower and President Ngo Dinh Diem agreed that aggression or subversion threatening the political independence of the Republic of Viet Nam would be considered as endangering peace and stability.

The just settlement of problems of the area by peaceful and legitimate means within the framework of the United Nations Charter will continue to be the mutual concern of both governments.

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VIETNAMESE FLAG waves over Constitution Avenue in Washington, D.C., an honor guard stands at attention, crowds line the street, and banners welcome President Ngo Dinh Diem as troopers lead the way for the official motorcade bringing the official party into the city from Washington's airport. The troopers on horseback are Washington's Park Police who patrol Rock Creek Park which runs through the capital city.

« Asia's Problems Are Viet Nam's Problems » President Tells National Press Club Of U. S.

Address Of His Excellency Ngo Dinh Diem President Of The Republic Of Viet Nam To The National Press Club, Washington, D.C. May 10 1957

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am particularly pleased to have this opportunity of meeting today the representatives of a broad section of the American Press. I say this in full sincerity because it permits me to convey to you the appreciation of the Vietnamese people for the unanimous support you gave us during the tragic days of March and April, 1955. We were then abandoned by nearly all our friends in the Free World. Being only a handful, we had to fight for the life and honour of the Vietnamese people, against the return of colonialism, reduce the remnants of the feudal sects to impotence, and ward off immediate Communist absorption.

2. In those critical days, the American correspondents in Saigon exhibited unusual courage, far-sightedness, and disregard for personal inconveniences. They have done honour to the entire American Press. We know it, and we want to thank them once more for it.

Next, I want to tell you that the cause which you served just over two years ago has lost none of its ardor and that the dangers which we experienced at that time are still lurking in the background today. These dangers have taken other forms, but remain virulent and have the same goal — the destruction of Free Viet Nam.

3. Destiny has placed our country at the converging point of one of the great human migrations. It lies across one of the main roads of access to the re-

serves of raw materials of South East Asia. In addition to this critical situation, the Vietnamese masses, like the Asian masses, are now aware that their political and economic development were retarded by colonial domination. Their nationalist feeling and social resentment have thereby been exacerbated. They have become embittered and impatient. They want to catch up rapidly with the advanced western nations, and some are even prepared to accept totalitarian measures in order to achieve this end.

4. The Communists have taken advantage of this situation to extend their domination over continental China and over neighbouring countries.

5. Thus Viet Nam, by virtue of its geography and history, is subject both internally and externally to heavy pressure. Its future political and economic regime will be to a very large extent determined by this fact. The Vietnamese people will be able to defend their independence and freedom against the covetousness of expansionist nations and the seduction of totalitarianism, only to the extent that they possess the necessary intelligence and sense of discipline. You should not lose sight of these geographical, sociological and historical facts if you wish to appraise correctly and justly our present efforts, because the Viet Nam problem is a complex one.

6. Viet Nam is located at a strategic spot in Asia. Its people are sensitive to all the currents which are agitating the Asian world. The problems of Viet Nam cannot be separated from those of Asia. None of us must forget that Asia is living in a state of high revolutionary tension. Nationalist feeling may be

in a large measure satisfied by the recovery of political independence, but only on the condition that political independence be made meaningful by tangible economic independence. And this is precisely the key to the understanding of Asia's revolt. Revolutionary tension there is at a high pitch because for too long the peoples of Asia have been the victims of hunger, disease and illiteracy. They are impatient. They want to see a quick end to their miseries. But how?

7. Viet Nam cannot shut itself off from this revolutionary atmosphere, because Asia's problems are Viet Nam's problems. Furthermore, by virtue of its geopolitical situation, Viet Nam lies in the midst of this tension itself.

8. We see from time to time some Asian statesmen or leaders adopt positions which do not agree with our viewpoint. They probably hope thereby to shelter their peoples and themselves against this climate of tension in order to examine their problems in greater tranquility, deal with them and solve them one by one, leisurely, surely. This attitude is very human. But I am afraid that I do not see the problem in the same fashion, because I think this revolutionary tension is not entirely external to us. It is in large measure of internal origin. It is an organic part of the general situation of Asia. Well, I myself stated in June, 1954, when I assumed office, that I wanted to carry out our national revolution peacefully in every respect.

9. You know that events have not complied with my wish. You, yourselves followed closely this situation in April and May, 1955. An American photographer even

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OFFICIAL CALL on President Dwight D. Eisenhower, President Diem chats with Eisenhower and the U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, former acquaintance as visitor to Viet Nam last year.

« The Conscience Of The World Has At Last Awakened To... The Birth Of Asian Independence » President Tells U.S. Congress

Address of President Ngo Dinh Diem To a Joint Session of The U.S. Congress.

Mr. President,
Mr. Speaker,
Distinguished Members of
the Congress of the United States.

It is a rare privilege for me to have this opportunity to address you today.

To address you in the Halls of this Congress — where there has been forged the destiny of one of the great countries of the World.

I am proud to bring to the distinguished Representatives of the Noble Republic of the United States — the fraternal best wishes of the Vietnamese people. I bring as well the expression of their profound gratitude for the moral and material aid given by the people of the United States. My people appreciate both its great import and its profound significance.

Since the end of the last war, when Asia broke her chains, the conscience of the world has at last awakened to a profound and inevitable development — the birth of Asian independence. This realization has brought about a condemnation in the most concrete terms of the old system of exploitation which governed, in the past, the relations between East and West. In its place firm efforts are being made to establish a new formula of international cooperation, more adapted to the real needs of the world and to the new Asian philosophy. It is the battle for independence — the growing awareness of the colonial peoples that the origin of their poverty has been the systematic withholding of technical development — coupled with the growing nationalist and social sentiment — that have combined to bring about a profound transformation in the Asian state of mind and given to its masses an irresistible dynamism.

The Asian people, — long humiliated in their national aspirations — their human dignity injured — are no longer, as in the past, resigned and passive. They are impatient. They are eager to reduce their immense technical backwardness. They clamor for a rapid and immediate economic development — the only sound base for democratic political independence.

The leaders of Asia, — whatever their ideologies, — are all faced with the tragic urgency of the economic and social problems of their countries. Under the strong pressure of their peoples, they are compelled to adopt economic planning. Such planning is bound to cause serious political repercussions. It is for this reason that the main theme of domestic political debates in Asian countries centers around — the extent of planning needed — the indispensable method required to bring urgent practical results. Should everything be planned or — should planning be restricted to essential sectors? Should democratic or should ruthless totalitarian methods be adopted?

It is in this debate — unfortunately influenced in many coun-

tries by the false but seductive promises of fascism and communism — that the efforts being made to safeguard liberal democracy through aid given by the industrial countries of the West — play a vital role. For the honor of humanity, the United States has made the most important contribution to this end.

These, gentlemen of the Congress, in outline and general summary, — are of the problems facing the countries of Asia. These are the goals to be realized and the methods proposed. These are also the internal pressures and temptations facing Asian leaders.

In the great Asian land mass — Viet Nam finds itself in the most sensitive area. Although Viet Nam faces the same general problems of other Asian countries, — because of her sensitive geopolitical position her problems are greatly intensified.

Placed at one of the strategic points of access for the important raw materials of South East Asia — the possession of which is decisive in the world — held back in her development by one hundred years of foreign domination — exhausted by fifteen years of war and destruction — the northern half of her territory given to the Communists — Free Viet Nam is in a more menaced and critical position than other Asian countries.

At great human sacrifice and thanks to the aid given by the generous American people — Free Viet Nam has succeeded, in record time, to overcome the chaos brought about by war and the Geneva accords. The national rehabilitation and stability which have been achieved have permitted the integration of over 860,000 refugees into the economy of the other eleven million people in Free Viet Nam — and have permitted the adoption of important economic and political reforms.

Nevertheless, at the time all Asia is passing from one civilization to another, — at the moment when all the important problems come up at once to the leaders and seem to call for immediate solution — at a time when all must be done in a climate of increasing revolutionary tension — it has become necessary for Viet Nam — more than for other countries, — to adopt a certain number of principles — guide lines for action — not only to protect her from the totalitarian temptations but — above all to assist her to attain independence instead of anarchy — to safeguard peace without sacrificing independence — to attain economic progress without sacrificing essential human liberties.

It was for these reasons, — basing myself on fundamental sources of Asiatic culture — and within our own Vietnamese democratic tradition — that I had the honor to define this doctrine in the message of the 17 of April, 1956, delivered to the Constituent Assembly of Viet Nam. I take the liberty of citing from it the most significant passages — for they constitute the basis of our Constitution.

I quote, — « In the face of the massive forces of material and political oppression which



JOINT SESSION OF THE U.S. CONGRESS is convened (House of Representatives and Senate, the two houses of the Legislative Branch) to hear President Ngo Dinh Diem, who stressed the efficacy of American Aid and expanded on the aims and the meaning of the Vietnamese peaceful revolution. Behind the President are U.S. Vice President Richard Nixon (who visited Viet Nam on Republic Day last year) who serves as President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives Sam Rayburn.

constantly menace us, we feel, more than other people — the essential need to base our political life on a solid foundation and — rigorously to hasten the successive steps of our actions along lines which, without hesitation, will bring about the largest measure of democratic progress.

« This can only be spiritualist — that line followed by human beings in their intimate reality as in their community life — in their vocation as in the free pursuit of intellectual, moral and spiritual perfection.

We affirm, therefore, our faith in the absolute value of the human being — whose dignity antedates society and whose destiny is greater than time.

We affirm that the sole legitimate object of the State is to protect the fundamental rights of human beings to existence — to the free development of his intellectual, moral and spiritual life.

We affirm that democracy is neither material happiness nor the supremacy of numbers. Democracy is essentially a permanent effort to find the right political means in order to assure to all citizens the right of free development and of maximum initiative, responsibility and spiritual life. Unquote.

We are convinced that with these guiding principles as the central theme for the development of our political institutions, Viet Nam will be able to make its political and economic regime — not a closed one — but an open system, — broader with each passing day — until it reaches the broad dimensions of man.

Mr. President
Mr. Speaker
Gentlemen of the Congress,
The Republic of Viet Nam,
the youngest Republic in Asia,

soon will be two years old. Our Republic was born among great suffering. — She is courageously facing up to economic competition with the Communists, despite heavy and difficult conditions, — which become daily more complex. Viet Nam nevertheless has good reason for confidence and hope. Her people are intelligent — have imagination and courage. They also draw strength from the moral and material aid they receive from the Free World — particularly that given by the American people.

In the face of increased international tension and Communist pressure in South East Asia — I could not repeat too often how much the Vietnamese people are grateful for American aid and — how much they are conscious of its importance, profound significance and amount.

In actual fact, at any other moment of history — the conflicts between peoples have never been

posed in such immediate terms of civilization as they are today. — It is by having made timely contributions in sufficient quantities for the rehabilitation of our economic and technical life — which permitted a higher standard of living — that the Free World — under the leadership of the United States — is assuring the success of the new system of international cooperation. This action has contributed to the defense of Southeast Asia and prevented the raw materials of this area from falling into Communist hands.

Although our economy has suffered greatly from war, destruction and colonialism, — the people of Viet Nam are now increasing their contribution to their country. A few months ago the National Assembly voted new and higher taxes to bring in needed revenues for the national budget. A national conscription

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LEAVING THE U.S. CAPITOL after lunch with the U.S. Vice President which followed the Joint Session of Congress, the President is flanked by Vietnamese Ambassador to the U.S. Tran Van Chuong and U.S. Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

President Stretches Out His Hand First « To Those Americans Who Told Us In Our Difficult Months That They Had Confidence In Us »

Text Of President Ngo Dinh Diem's Speech At A Dinner Offered In His Honor Jointly By American Friends Of Viet Nam and International Rescue Committee

Mr. Chairman,
Your Eminence,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to say first, in accepting the Admiral Richard E. Byrd Memorial Award so graciously bestowed on me by the International Rescue Committee, that I accept it only in a token capacity. It most truly belongs to the entire Vietnamese People who in a crisis of our civilization, were determined to be free — to achieve freedom — to remain free. My merit lay only in correctly understanding their determination.

But I should like to say a few words about that illustrious American, the late Admiral Richard Evelyn Byrd. I never met him, but I have known him through his works. He was a great gentleman. His public career in the service of his country belongs to History. But over and above his service to his great country was his service to humanity so well illustrated by his leadership in the cause of aid to our refugees from the North. More recently, he took the lead in mobilizing aid for the heroic Hungarian patriots who, like ourselves, were determined to fight for freedom. It is a measure of that great American, Admiral Byrd that almost the last act of his life was a telegram of encouragement to the Hungarian freedom fighters.

Since I left Viet Nam a week ago, I have travelled a long distance, seen many places, talked to many people and made many speeches. Our party has had,

and is still having, a busy time, and my companions would certainly protest if I called our visit to the United States a vacation. But I know they would agree to call this day of May a holiday, or if you like, a day of celebration. I have been looking forward to this day for a long time. Although being with you tonight means making another speech, I am happy to have the occasion to make it. I want to say a few things that have been on my mind for a long time.

During the last few days, I have spoken a great deal about the financial aid our country has received from your Government. Tomorrow, I shall have an occasion to speak about the economic problems of Viet Nam. But to night, I shall speak of the role some moral factors have played in the recent history of our State. Although less obvious than the economic, I believe these moral factors to be equally important, and at certain times perhaps more so, than all the others.

You all know what we have achieved during the last two years. Most people know that we could not have succeeded as we did without American aid. But not many know that equally important for our survival was your moral aid, a kind of aid that usually does not come from governments but from the people directly.

Let there be no misunderstanding. I do not intend to minimize the help that came to us from your Government in the form of dollar aid. Tonight, however, I want to speak not of government relations but of human relations, not of helpful officials but of helping friends, not of dollars but of the solidarity of free men.



ANGIER BIDDLE DUKE, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Friends of Viet Nam and President of the International Rescue Committee bestows on President Diem the Admiral Richard Byrd award, first of the Byrd awards to be given.

This point is of the utmost political importance, because your dollars might well have been our political ruin if our people had not recognized the American People as their friends.

The word «friends» introduces my theme for tonight. I am addressing myself to friends — to American friends of Viet Nam —, of whom there seem to be so many that our hearts are filled with joy. Looking at the newspapers since I have arrived in your country, one would think that everybody in America is now

a friend of Viet Nam. Indeed, I take this occasion to thank our many sincere friends from the American press for the words of praise they have given us since we arrived. Allow me, Ladies and Gentlemen, to give my special thanks to the Chairman of tonight's meeting, Mr. Henry Luce, for all he and his publications have done to create better American understanding of Viet Nam.

I said our friends are so many, but this, as you know, has not always been the case. Although I have forgotten most of the adjectives that were attached to my name between September 1954 and May 1955, I still remember that they were not always flattering. But if you are in my kind of position, Ladies and Gentlemen, the troubles you have today make you forget the troubles you had yesterday. Besides, I prefer to believe that those who are our friends today were really also our friends yesterday, only they would not let us know.

To these Americans who told us in our difficult months that they had that confidence in us I would like to stretch out my hand first. They gave us moral aid when we needed it most.

But they alone would not make this day an occasion for me to rejoice, and to celebrate the reality of the friendship between our two peoples. Let me here record my gratitude to other groups of people who gave us the moral aid for which material aid can never be substituted. I think with emotion of the sailors who carried our refugees children to and from the boats, who nursed the sick and sustained the old people during the terrible months when almost one million of my countrymen fled to the South. These sailors were truly among the first American friends of Viet Nam.

And there was the group of American officers who helped build our Army and gave to our soldiers more than a brilliant technical training. They gave them the feeling of being respect-

ed and trusted, and this is why we like to put these officers also as the early friends of Viet Nam. It is probably no accident that the man who first headed the United States Army Training Mission, General O'Daniel, truly one of the most ardent friends of our young Republic, is now also head of the American Friends of Viet Nam.

How sincerely Americans were interested in our welfare is perhaps best illustrated by the splendid work of your internationally-famous relief organizations, such as the Catholic Relief Services of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the International Rescue Committee, CARE, and several Protestant relief organizations. I think in particular of Monsignor Harnett who is with us tonight. The amount of help we received from you and the spirit in which it was given will never be forgotten in Viet Nam. Your aid has not only shortened the misery of many refugees, it has also given them the moral courage needed for the hard task of starting a new life.

As for the International Rescue Committee, Mr. Cherne and Mr. Duke, let me say this: what we received from you in material aid was certainly most welcome, but it was not the main contribution the Committee has made to the recovery of South-Viet Nam. You gave us something we value more highly than the medicines and foods we needed for our bodies. By inspiring our youth and our intellectuals and by giving them the courage they needed after the terrible last ten years, you have given us food and medicine for our souls. I am sorry illness has prevented your National Committee chairman General Donovan from being with us tonight. I greet him from here and send him my best wishes for a quick recovery.

In times as hard as those that our refugee students and intellectuals knew after Geneva, there are always moments in a man's life when he loses courage. He may continue to work and fight, but all the while he walks close to despair. Many of our people have gone through this. They were then in need of that which is most precious to all men — understanding, appreciation and friendship. This is the unforgettable contribution that you of the International Rescue Committee have made to the moral recovery of an important part of our people, and this is why we are so pleased to see so many of you in the midst of the American Friends of Viet Nam.

I cannot name them all, but about one group, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, who supported the magnificent work of Operation Brotherhood, I would like to say a few words. The foreign doctors who went out into the villages to help our people were direct messengers of international friendship. Your support of this work has enabled us to develop it from a small, local beginning into a country-wide operation. We all know by whom this splendid work was started and which doctors and nurses carried the main burden: they were our close friends from the

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ABOARD THE « ADVENTURESS » passing beneath San Francisco's famed Bay Bridge, President Diem enjoys the company of old friends and the chilly breezes of San Francisco on his arrival in the United States. Shown, left to right, are: Lt. Gen. John W. O'Daniel (Retired), former MAAG Chief in Viet Nam and present Chairman of the American Friends of Viet Nam; President Diem; Asia Foundation President Robert Blum (Chief of American Aid Mission to Viet Nam, 1950-51); Secretary of State for the Presidency and, for Interior Nguyen Huu Chau; and General Tran Van Don, Chief of Staff for General Staff of the Vietnamese Armed Forces. Secretary Chau and General Don were in the Presidential party for the trip to the U.S.

New York « Impressive Image Of Economic Dynamism And Political Idealism »

Address By His Excellency Ngo Dinh Diem President Of The Republic Of Viet Nam At Luncheon In His Honor By The Mayor Of The City Of New York Waldorf-Astoria Hotel May 13, 1957.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I would like to thank you, from the bottom of my heart, Mr. Mayor, for this memorable reception in the great City of New York, which is not only the largest city in the world, but also the one which represents the most radiant, the most impressive image of economic dynamism and political idealism of America.

Indeed, the marvelous development of this City during the recent centuries, the mounting increase of its population, the unceasing activity of its harbor, its factories, its business quarters, are altogether the symbol of the intense, vibrating economic activity of your great country. The skyscrapers which form the horizon line of your City, concretize also, so to speak, the tenacious will of your people to rise up always higher by hard work and continuous efforts.

However, another feature which is even more interesting than the impressive view of your material achievements, is the fact that New York City has succeeded in uniting in a harmonious community, people coming from different parts of the world, to whom it has offered a haven of peace and prosperity. By this fortunate merger of races and nationalities, your City is also, in this regard, the symbol of America, and, I dare say, of human brotherhood. This feature has impressed me deeply when, six years ago, I came to New York for the first time, in my political exile.

At all events, in the eyes of all the people in the world, your City represents the beautiful and living symbol of Liberty. For millions of immigrants who come here in search of a new life in this country, as well as for visitors from far-away lands attracted by the good name of the United States, the Statue of Liberty which lights the entry of your harbor with its outstretched torch has become the symbol of democratic ideals, of which your country is today the champion, at the vanguard of the Free World.

In this perspective, it seems to me that, in certain respects, there exist some points of similitude between the history of the development of your City, and the present situation in Viet Nam, although, of course, the scale of problems as well as the surrounding circumstances are not exactly the same.

Like the pilgrims and immigrants who, in the past centuries, landed on these shores in search for a better life in the framework of Freedom, recently in our Republic of Viet Nam, almost one million of people left their homes and villages in the North to settle in the South, after the partition of our country, following the Geneva Conference. The motives which directed those two great movements of human exodus in history are the same: it is the love of freedom without which life is not worth living, and for which no sacrifice could be too great; beyond pure idealism, it is also the conviction that prosperity and progress can best be

achieved in the framework of a free economy. These two aspects of the attachment to freedom which, with differences in emphasis, have successively motivated the first pilgrims and the immigrants of modern times coming in your harbor form the simultaneous motives which determined hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese to abandon the places of their birth, so dear to the hearts of Asians, and face the risks of an odyssey across the bamboo curtain, as well as the uncertainties of life in a strange land.

Like the first immigrants on your shores, the refugees from North Viet Nam have found in the Free Republic of Viet Nam a newer and less populous land; they have already contributed to make it prosper in a short time. Indeed, the North-Vietnamese refugees, established in the Southern plains, have already begun to become an economic asset for our country devastated by a long war. That resettlement of our Northern immigrants has its most concrete, and, I dare say, most impressive success in Cai Sam, where, with American help, 50,000 refugees have put in cultivation a zone of 270,000 acres within a little more than one year since their arrival in this previously abandoned area.

In a future which we hope not to be far away, these refugees will strengthen the labor force and the cadres of our nascent industry.

The magnitude of this human exodus could be fully conceived only in the framework of the size of our country and of our total population. In any circumstance, the displacement of a mass of one million people is already impressive by itself. For a population of eleven million inhabitants in South Viet Nam, the arrival of almost one million immigrants required the resettlement of about one tenth of the total population, with all the problems which you can imagine.

Fortunately, in these difficult moments we have received material aid, and, what is even more precious, moral support from the United States. This aid is the most vivid symbol of human brotherhood, and of the solidarity between free nations. Indeed, we could today apply more specifically to freedom the well-known words of John Donne who said that when the bell tolls for somebody in the world, it tolls for everyone of us. In other words, when the curtain falls on freedom in any part of the world, this is a tragedy which should afflict all those for whom liberty is dear, well beyond frontiers and oceans. That is more than natural sympathy: it is no less than a matter for common survival.

Indeed, today, more than ever, the defense of freedom is essentially a common task. With regard to security, the frontiers of the United States do not stop at the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts, but extend, in South East Asia, to the Ben Hai river, which partitions Viet Nam at the 17th parallel and forms the threatened border of the Free World, which we all cherish. The present development of destructive weapons has stressed in the most acute manner international solidarity, which has become vital, and should not be ignored, nor neglected.



(Above) NEW YORK'S MAYOR Robert Wagner and President Diem pose for photographers. (Below) President Diem, accompanied by New York City's Department of Commerce Commissioner, receives New York's traditional grand welcome, the famed « ticker-tape » parade, so named because it passes through the financial section of Manhattan and viewers scatter confetti and paper from the windows of the skyscrapers as the dignitary passes. The President is shown at the head of the motorcade as it passes Pine Street and Broadway.



In this respect, we should not lose sight of the fact that in war as well as in peace — I mean the absence of an armed conflict — economic efforts are at least as important as military efforts. Indeed not only the former efforts condition the latter, but also economic achievements are one of the goals of human pursuit, and therefore form the testing ground for opposing political ideologies. We, Vietnamese, on the frontier of the Free World, could not afford underrating that important aspect of the present battle for the minds of men. However, like you, Mr. Mayor, and members of this distinguished group, we are convinced, in South Viet Nam that rapid economic progress is

compatible with the respect for the individual, in the framework of a free economy. If any evidence is needed, the splendid development of your great City is the most striking example in support of that idea.

However, the economic development of a nation could not be fully successful without the participation of friendly countries, in the same way as military defense could not be efficient if it has to remain on the shoulders of a single country. It is the more so in the case of a nation, the economic development of which has been delayed by colonialism. This participation, in strengthening an allied nation, strengthens at the same time as you know,

the Free World as a whole. We should therefore pay tribute to the farsightedness of President Eisenhower when he insists that what is usually called « foreign aid » is actually « mutual aid » in the interest of all the parties involved: The safeguarding of Greece and Turkey for the Free World, by a timely economic aid, and the enormous losses in properties and human lives which the Free World suffered in Korea by the absence of an adequate « aid » would suffice to support the viewpoint of your President, if indeed any evidence is necessary for those who remember the lessons of recent history.

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President Talks Business To U. S. Businessmen: « Vietnamese Ancestors Were A Practical People »

Text Of A Speech By President Ngo Dinh Diem At A Luncheon Of The Far East-America Council Of Commerce And Industry (May 14, 1957)

Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the last few days I have had many occasions to talk about the political problems that have plagued Viet Nam in the recent past, and of the progress we have made in solving them. I am happy to be able to speak today of our economic problems which are of such great importance for our future. I am particularly pleased that I can talk about these problems to you who, by virtue of your position in the world of business, are best able to understand why we must solve these problems if we are to survive.

In the Asia of today, no major question of politics can be solved unless the inherited economic and social conditions are overcome. We must raise the living standard of the masses. To enable the masses to buy more and live better is for us not only an end in itself; it is also a means to spark the industrialization of our country, and thus to enable Viet Nam to remain both independent and free.

During my stay in your country as a political exile a few years ago, I was constantly reminded by friends and well-wishers that Americans — and particularly you American businessmen — are practical people. I was told that if I wanted to be of use to my people, I should talk to Americans from a commonsense, practical point of view. Now I have come back to do just that. And I believe that it comes easily to me as a Vietnamese. My Vietnamese ancestors were practical people, always

tilling their ricefields, building their homes, and harnessing the rivers. They were not forced by the folly of their rulers to construct the gigantic monuments that have so often been the economic ruin of great peoples. It is no accident of history that in some regions of Indochina the jungle has regained the land around these monuments, whereas in our country the surface of rice-land has constantly increased.

I wanted to make this point because it explains why I shall not present you today with any grandiose program for rapid economic progress based on dogmatic and theoretical views. Our people have had, in the short time since the Geneva Agreements surrendered half of our country to the Communists, a revealing display of what Communist dogmatism can mean. Viet Nam above the Seventeenth parallel has witnessed starvation, exploitation, and misery. The Communists have created such suffering and chaos that our fellow-countrymen in the North have openly rebelled.

But exploitation and economic misery were known to Viet Nam long before Geneva and before the Indochinese war. The ten years of war between the French colonial government and the Communist-led Viet-Minh further impoverished the country. In the North, the Communist leadership adopted a « scorched earth » policy. Between their destruction and the havoc wrought by the actual fighting, industrial plants were demolished, the handicrafts deteriorated, communications were wrecked, rice-mills were dismantled, our livestock reduced, and even the irrigation systems were allowed to fall into disuse. Only twenty

percent of the prewar river transport, so important to marketing our rice crop, remained, when the fighting finally ended.

Another great economic problem, one that resulted from the insecurity in the countryside, was the movement of masses of rice-farmers into the cities. There they ceased to be producers in the economy, becoming instead part of the swollen layer of middlemen which lived off the artificial economy that grew up during the war and around the French Expeditionary Force.

For the South, partition brought innumerable extra difficulties. Viet Nam's coal is located North of the 17th parallel, as are most of mineral resources, such as iron, copper, tin, zinc, and manganese. What was left of our little-developed industry — cement, glass, paper and textiles — also remained mostly in Communist hands. Our problems were intensified when fear of Communist tyranny forced almost one million refugees to flee their ancestral homes in the North and seek the protection of our government in the South.

During the first year after the Geneva Conference, the economic picture was dark, but the political crisis was even worse. We had to fight the defeatism engendered by the fact that we were threatened by the powerful army of the North, ready to engulf us. In the South itself we were threatened by the petty local tyrannies that had grown up during the ten years of war, the so-called sects. The suppression of these states-within-the-state was as necessary for economic progress as for political stability.

It took over two years to overcome these initial political difficulties. We are aware of the fact that our political consolidation would not have been possible without the generous and time-

ly aid of the United States, which carried us through our great crisis after Geneva. Since Geneva, United States aid to Viet Nam has averaged some US\$250-million a year. We in Viet Nam believe that no American taxpayer need regret these expenditures, and that this investment has been wisely made. Let me strike a balance-sheet and show you what your aid has produced.

It has saved us from the disaster of an inflation that would have wrecked our crippled economy, and it has enabled us to build up an army of fifteen divisions, one of the best in Asia according to competent professional observers. As a consequence, we successfully held two free elections, proclaimed our country a Republic, and promulgated a Constitution that gave us our first National Assembly. Viet Nam is now one of the most stable countries in all of Asia. With the phase of political consolidation completed we are at last in a position to turn our attention to our economic and social problems.

In the field of agriculture we have already made long strides. Our program of land reform is being audaciously carried out. We have already transferred a good deal of land to landless farmers. It is the conviction of my government that the individual farmer must own the land he cultivates. With this program we meet the false claims of land reform by the Communists. We give the farmers land, and we do it without the inhuman technique of compulsion and confiscation.

We are steadily increasing the surface of our cultivable land, by regaining rice-fields that had been abandoned, by opening up the Plaine des Jones for cultivation, and by winning for agriculture the vast undeveloped territories of our higher regions. This

work which is being done largely by the refugees from the North, will bring Viet Nam back on the world rice market; and mounting export will reduce our present national deficit. We are also beginning to tap the wealth of our forests, to increase our livestock, and to revive our old handicrafts and village industries. Our money is stabilized, and our policy in regard to prices has proven to be sound.

In increasing our rice crop and developing other products of the land such as rubber, coffee, and tea, we pursue a twofold aim. Our growing agricultural wealth will also stimulate growth of the industries which we believe to be suitable for our country, necessary for our economy, and indispensable for the preservation of our independence.

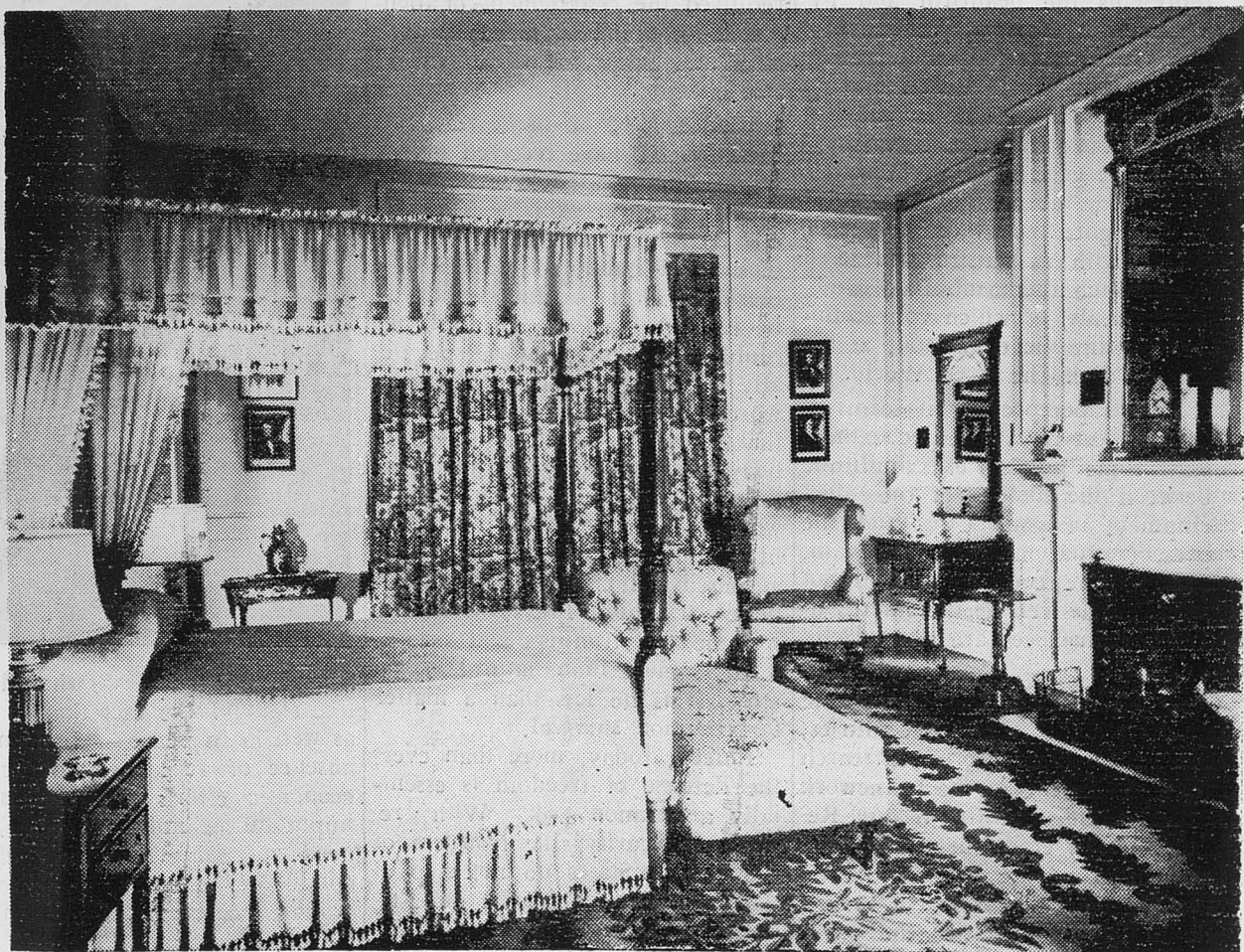
Our own means, however, are quite insufficient to give us a good start. We can make little progress in industrialization without the development of our hydraulic resources, the improvement of our roads and railroads, the creation of a modern system of communications, and the training of business executives, technicians, and qualified workers. For this, we again need help, both international and American.

Some we have already received, as for instance from the group of United Nations experts headed by Professor Carter Goodrich, and in particular from the Michigan State College team under Professor Wesley Fishel, who have been working with our own experts for several years. We hope soon to set up a group of long-term advisers for our government with the help of one of your foundations interested in the problems of economic development of Asia. And we also hope that we can get the advice of

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(Left) President Ngo Dinh Diem, leaves Blair House, official State Guest House, for the nearby White House where he was guest of honor at a State Dinner given by President Eisenhower.



(Right) The master bedroom at Blair House, where President Diem stayed as official guest of President Eisenhower, the furnishings were possessions of the Blair family. The canopy of the four-poster mahogany bed, the tapestried chairs and the Currier and Ives prints of United States Presidents are reminders of an earlier period of the country's history. The house was built in 1824 by Dr. Joseph Lovell, first surgeon general of the United States Army and was purchased in 1836 by Francis Preston Blair, Washington newspaper publisher. The mansion remained in the hands of his family until the death of Gist Blair in 1940, when it was bought by the United States Government as a guest house for visiting dignitaries. Four United States presidents — Andrew Jackson, Martin Van Buren, Abraham Lincoln, and William Howard Taft — United States cabinet members and other persons prominent in public life were frequent guests at the home. In recent years presidents, prime minister and other representatives of foreign nations have resided in the mansion while visiting Washington. During 1949 Blair House served as the home of President Harry S. Truman and his family, while the White House, official residence of presidents of the United States, was undergoing structural and other repairs.

President Stretches Out His Hand

(Continued from page 4)

Philippines. This nation has in so many respects set an inspiring example for us. The recent tragic loss of their great Leader, President Magsaysay, has also been a loss for us and for the entire Free World.

During the last few days, I have heard many words, some even embarrassing, about the courage that enabled us to fight our way from chaos to political consolidation. Our courage, however, was nothing but an automatic expression of our will to live, and to live in freedom. The acting participant in a desperate situation never has many choices. He either gives up in despair or becomes what is called courageous. The outsider has a choice, and sometimes he also sees more clearly. This is why I would like to mention also those as American friends of Viet Nam who stood up for us even before Geneva, at the time we were still far from independent, when little echo and when my own pleading was largely ignored. There are many among you who already then stood by our side and who thus must be counted among the first American friends of Viet Nam. It gives me pleasure that all these early friends are members of your Organization. The few who sided with us for the policy of true independence, who opposed a policy determined by colonial interests, these are men of whom I would say that they have shown the political courage Viet Nam needed most.

As to our own role in this difficult period, let me say that there were many in our ranks who pointed to the so-called realities of the situation, and these realities were indeed terrible enough. Some asked: « How can we overcome the power of the Sects? », « What will happen to your Government » others said to me, « If you try to transform the Army that is now in Viet Nam into a true Vietnamese Army? ». Yes, some even warned me that « if I insisted on creating order, the police would arrest me ». For all these problems, I confess, I didn't always know the solution. I only knew that to find them meant to work and to fight with the people at our side. Without the people, we would have achieved nothing. You have all heard of the canal our refugees built in Cai San with their hands. No government could have done this. The government can guide the people's efforts, but it cannot substitute for their iron will and work. Yes, the people need leadership, but democratic leadership can only be as strong as the will of the people. So if you feel like saying words of praise for our accomplishments during the last few years, address them to the brave hard-working Vietnamese people.

Recently, we and our friends talked for leadership on other levels than the political — for leadership in the cultural, technical and economic fields. In order to build the necessary basis for democracy, we do indeed need such leaders whom we so desperately lack. This is why we welcome your technical advisors, also American friends of Viet Nam, from your Government, universities or from foundations.

We welcome such help, but even more we would welcome support for our efforts to train our own technicians. Although we want your advisors in our country, we aspire also in this effect toward fuller independence. We must multiply our efforts to educate our youth for these great new tasks. This is why I am again grateful to the American Friends of Viet Nam for having created a committee of sponsors in support of a project that we have pursued for a long time — I mean the creation of a second University in Viet Nam — the University of Hue.

Our youth is eager to study and we must supply them with

the opportunities. We want this University to be close to the 17th parallel where the youth now under communist rule should see what we can accomplish with the aid of our friends.

Some people may think it must be painful for us to ask that the aid we receive be continued and even expanded to new fields. But we rather feel like officers at the front line who speak up so that their troops will be given what they need to continue the fighting.

We all still live in great peril of losing out to a determined enemy who is active along a front line that circles the whole globe. Fate has put us at a cru-

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«Asia's Problems Are Viet Nam's Problems»

(Continued from page 2)

lost his life there. In spite of my goodwill, I could not avoid the conditions of the revolutionary struggle the moment I came to grips with an important problem. I was successful in stabilizing a situation seemingly past mending, thanks to the strong measures taken and thanks to the moral and material support of the American people. But more important and urgent tasks are arising all the time and require solution. The most important and urgent of these is the economic and social recovery of Viet Nam. I have outlined this problem earlier.

10. Whether we like it or not, the revolution continues to be with us in Viet Nam. And as in all revolutions, a period of centralization is necessary before we can pave the way for decentralization. This must be done if we want to avoid paralysis, anarchy, and with them, violent revolution or foreign invasion.

11. You know as well as I do that the possession of Viet Nam is a great temptation for the Communists. Viet Nam is the gateway to the invasion of South East Asia and to its immense resources in manpower and raw materials.

12. As long as Communism has not renounced world revolution and domination, we cannot let ourselves be lulled by the songs of peaceful co-existence. This is especially true since competitive co-existence has replaced peaceful co-existence as the war cry of the Communists after the last Congress of the Russian Communist party. Moreover, the Chinese Communist party proclaimed in December 1956, the necessity of imposing the dictatorship of the proletariat by violent action. Because Communist pressure threatens to weigh heavily on all our land frontiers, Viet Nam must be more watchful than in the past against this menace.

13. We are convinced that our neighbours are also concerned about the problems of internal subversion and that their efforts combined with ours can stem international Communism of which Red China is the active leader in all South East Asia.

14. I am certain that it is clear now that Viet Nam is living in a volcanic situation. It is a focal point in this vast area of the world which is bound to experience, for many years to come, rapid, profound and violent trans-

formations.

15. What to do then?

It is obvious that we must not allow fatalism and defeatism to overwhelm us. Neither must we be deluded into adopting seemingly easy solutions which consist in imitating western methods blindly. America has had more than a century at her disposal to accomplish and digest its political, economic and social revolutions.

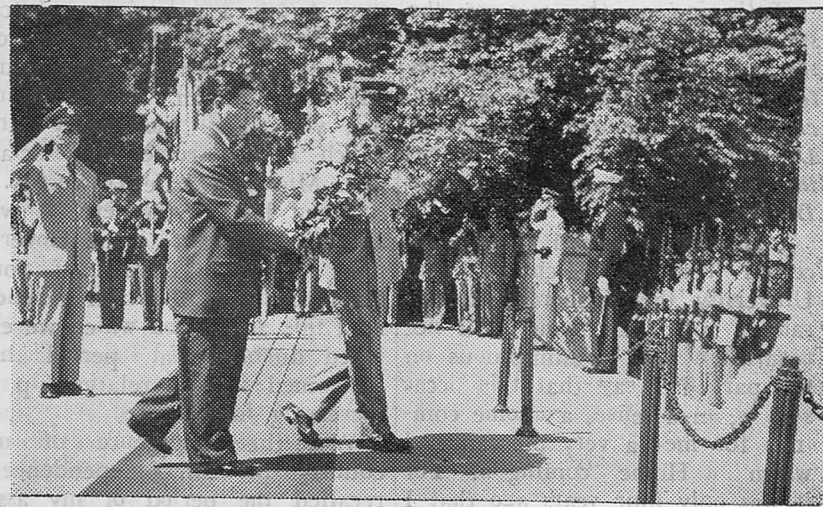
16. We must then find our own solution in the light of our own experience of the last two and a half years, in drawing from the experience of other democratic nations, and from our own Vietnamese traditions. We have endeavored to build a political and economic structure in conformity with our national character and the geopolitical realities of Viet Nam, while retaining all the essential freedoms of men. Our task has been now to organize our political and economic life in such a way that our government will be strong enough to meet the enormous difficulties which beset us, flexible enough to deal rapidly with an ever-changing situation, and open enough to allow more freedom as the dangers which threaten us subside.

17. Our experience is hard. But it is also exalting, because we are not alone: the United States is with us. We can never repeat often enough how effective the moral and material aid of the American people to Viet Nam has been. This aid has met complete success. Nobody can deny it. We want the American people to know it.

18. We also want the American people to know that their unselfish and effective aid to Viet Nam is a good example for other peoples of South East Asia. In this connection I am pleased to tell you that — now that the economy has begun to recover — principally thanks to American aid — the people of Viet Nam are increasing their own contribution to the general welfare. New and higher taxes were recently imposed — national conscription has been decreed — and a new policy for foreign private investment has been announced.

19. I wish to conclude on this optimistic note. I am convinced that by its determination, courage, sense of discipline and with the effective friendship of the United States, Viet Nam will triumph over its difficulties, internal and external.

A TOURIST IN WASHINGTON



AN HONOR WREATH is laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Arlington National Cemetery just outside Washington, D.C., by President Diem in a solemn ceremony.



WASHINGTON'S « TOURIST OF THE MONTH » signs the guest book on a sight-seeing trip to Mount Vernon, while Ambassador Tran Chuong awaits his turn.



MOUNT VERNON, the historic home of George Washington, first President of the United States.



Vietnamese student officers attending the engineering center of Fort Belvoir, Virginia, received a visit from the President, too.

«Your Country Has Helped Us To Resume Our Role On The World Stage» Says President Diem On Accepting Honorary Degree At Michigan State University

(Following is the text of the speech delivered Wednesday at the convocation of Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, by President Ngo Dinh Diem before the conferring of the Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree on him).

I am deeply moved to have received from the Michigan State University this Honorary Doctorate. I hope that you will not regard it as presumptuous on my part if I say that this occasion is, in a sense, a «home coming» for me—a very pleasant and warm «Home coming». For it was only four years ago that I last visited this campus. At that

time I was a voluntary political exile from my homeland. Yet you received me with the same courtesy and human understanding that you show me today and which I have come to associate with Michigan State University.

When last I was here, it was as a consultant to the Government Research Bureau of your Department of Political Science. And this association which we enjoyed during that period has blossomed into a relationship of increasing importance.

With the emergence of my country into full independence, I recalled the period of my association with Michigan State Uni-

versity and invited your counsel and help in the solution of some of the many pressing problems we faced. Your response was immediate. I should like to take this opportunity to express to you my personal appreciation for the outstanding services your Viet Nam Advisory Group is performing in my country in the fields of governmental and police administration, as well as in some other areas. I want also to add my personal tribute to the outstanding work of your group Head, Professor Wesley Fishel. At the same time you have invited here to your campus some of our talented young people for

special training in the fields of their usefulness. Let me express my appreciation and that of my government for your successful efforts in these various ways.

This meeting in your house of learning and culture has for me a significance that goes far beyond its solemn purpose. It is on such occasions, Ladies and Gentlemen, that we feel most strongly how profoundly our relations with the West have changed in recent times. For centuries, East and West have met under the sign of violence. Violence created hatred, and hatred a lack of regard for each other's cultural heritage and concept of human values.

Viet Nam suffered much violence when our older relations with the West ended in conquest, rule by force and colonial exploitation. Our own cultural development was interrupted, and many elements of our ancient civilization were destroyed. For it is almost a law of history that in a meeting of different races or peoples, no human relations or profitable cultural contacts can exist if one people become the oppressor of the other.

To rule us in Asia with a good conscience, the West had to devalue our own achievements. To strengthen our own spirit of resistance, many of us were inclined to reject Western ideas and innovations even in fields where we had fallen behind. Force, as you know, is a bad teacher for men who want to be free. In a relationship based on force, humanity suffers on both sides, the oppressor as well as on the oppressed. Between the two, there is no room for higher human values. That is why colonial rule, in spite of some technical ad-

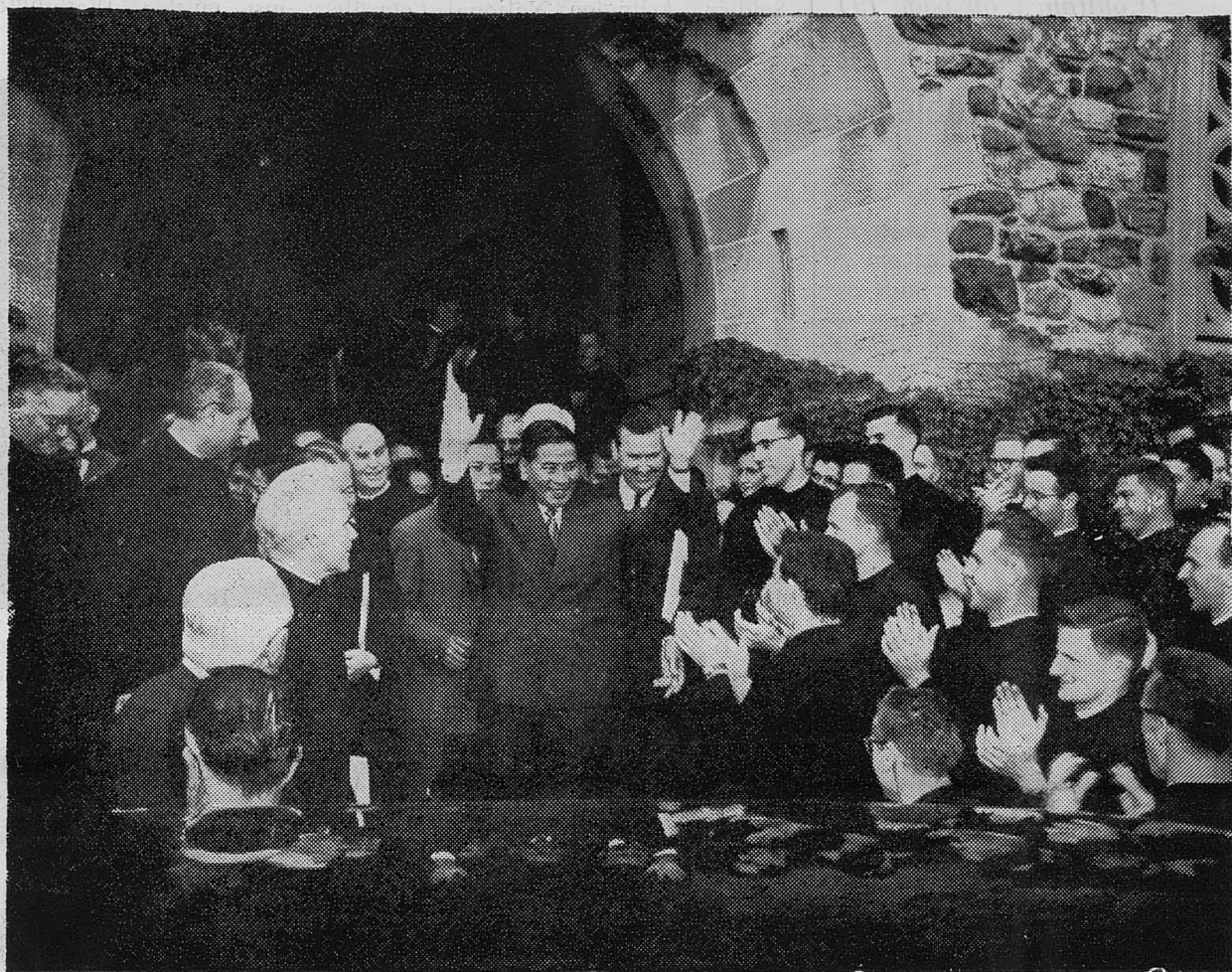
vance in several Asian countries, has done such harm to both East and West.

A new era has begun. Now, at last, we are able to learn from each other, to respect each other's inherited values, even to repair some of the damage that the tragic interlude of colonialism has done to both East and West. Only on this new basis, with coercion replaced by cooperation, can we defeat the new threats that have arisen against both the civilizations of the East and West.

The United States of America has helped us magnificently in our efforts to achieve our independence, to become free and to remain free. But it is perhaps the greater merit that your country has helped us to resume our role on the world stage as a culturally sovereign people, able to repay some of the debt each nation owes for its freedom. For this, too, we thank America. And a part of that gratitude certainly belongs to Michigan State University.

Allow me, in conclusion, to apply those general remarks to the occasion that has brought us together on this meaningful day. I like to think of my earlier stay with you, and of your invitation that brings me back today, as symbolic for the new era that has begun in the relations between East and West. You have long been inspired by the spirit of this new era. And your inspiration has helped to bring it about.

In thanking you once more for the honor bestowed on me today, I want to assure you that Viet Nam will always fulfill her duties in this partnership between East and West.



(Above) President Ngo Dinh Diem had a joyful reunion on the pleasant rolling campus of Maryknoll Seminary, outside Ossining, N.Y. President Ngo Dinh Diem had lived at the Seminary and at Maryknoll Junior Seminary and Lakewood, N.Y. when he was in self imposed exile during the years 1951 to 1953. When he returned there yesterday for the first time the students, dressed identically in their black cassocks, gave him a rousing welcome. First they applauded as he stepped from his car and then they gave him a lusty three fold «Hip, Hip Hurrah» that echoed in the sunlit hills.

(Below) Maryknoll Seminary.



SETON HALL UNIVERSITY ALSO AWARDS HONORARY DEGREE TO PRESIDENT



After his stop at Maryknoll, President Ngo Dinh Diem went to South Orange, N.J., where he received an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Seton Hall University.

In its citation, the University said of President Ngo Dinh Diem:

«He, more than anyone else, stopped the Communists in their hour of partial conquest of Viet Nam. Had all Viet Nam fallen to them, as seemed inevitable in July of 1954, the Communist empire would have harvested huge economic strategic and political advantages.»

In accepting the degree, President Ngo Dinh Diem said «Never before in the history of the world have conflicts among people been presented more directly in terms of civilizations than at the present time.

«Formerly enemies fought on physical, material grounds. Those of today violate even the soul. Nowadays the Communist make a clean sweep wherever they go.»

President Diem also received an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from Michigan State University.

World Affairs Council (L.A.) Hears President Diem On What American Aid Can Do In Asia — « Asia Must Be Saved From The Communists »

Text Of President Ngo Dinh Diem's Speech To World Affairs Council Of Los Angeles California

« Mr. Chairman,
« Mr. Minckler,
« Ladies and Gentlemen,
« I thank you for your kind words.
« However, I must not take all the credit for myself.
« If I have been able to do something, it is thanks to the determination of the Vietnamese people to remain free, and to the generous and unselfish help of the American government and

people.
« What has been achieved in Viet Nam in these last three years is indeed the most shining example of what American aid can do in Asia.
« It can do almost miracles because it is not suspected of any imperialistic designs.
« The Vietnamese people, for instance, are well aware that the United States granted full independence to the Philippines after having reconquered it from Japan.
« And now, after visiting the United States again, I have still

more confidence in its ability to help other nations preserve our common freedom.
« During these last eleven days, even though I had visited some parts of the United States before, I have gone from surprise to wonder, from wonder to admiration and deep emotion. Not only have I been warmly welcome everywhere, I have also felt that this sympathy comes from your hearts for every fighter for freedom.
« Not only have I witnessed enormous material prosperity and incredible high living standards, I have also understood that his American prosperity is born from freedom, democracy and social justice. Tennessee Valley, for instance, has shown me how you have preserved your soil, bettered the living committee of your people and multiplied your power through intelligent organization and willing cooperation.

« The innumerable employees' and workers' cars on the incredibly large parking lots of the Ford motor company, for another instance, reminded me that Henry Ford immensely increased his own success and fortune by giving his associates, employees and workers a great share of their common profits.
« This generous formula to achieve success for oneself has since been one of the main causes of American prosperity. If applied to the rest of the Free World, it will save it from communist slavery and, at the same time, increase American prosperity.

« For Asia must be saved from the Communists or the United States itself will be most seriously threatened by them. And Asian countries cannot be really and permanently strengthened against them by merely being given, from the outside, arms and money on a day-to-day or year to year basis; they can be really strengthened only from the side, by being helped to produce themselves what they most need in order to become self-sufficient and really independent even from their best friends.

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Conscience Of The World

(Continued from page 3)

ordinance was recently promulgated — and a comprehensive declaration of policy was issued two months ago for the purpose of encouraging foreign private investment.

It is on this high moral plane that we pay tribute to the generous and unselfish assistance we have received from the people of the United States. It is on the same plane that the interests of Viet Nam are identical with the interests of the people of the Free World. It is on this plane that your and our fight is one and the same. We too will continue to fight Communism.

If it is in this conviction and in the ardent and always present remembrance of the strong sympathetic comprehensive with which the American people and Government have followed our efforts — that I close, in thanking you once again, Mr. President, Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Congress — for the honor you have bestowed on me and for your kind attention.

« For that purpose a minimum of industrialization is absolutely necessary and nothing can do more to achieve it than the American formula of common prosperity through just cooperation and equal partnership, not through domination and exploitation.

« If the American government and people make the necessary efforts to help make available to Asia a small part of the American excess of productivity together with the methods and principles that have made American prosperity, they will soon discover that such countries as South V. N. are not only most important frontiers of the Free World, but can also open up golden opportunities for American trade and enterprise. Let me tell you, however, that before reaching this goal and for some years to come, American aid is absolutely necessary to stop communist expansion throughout the world and to consolidate the good results that have been achieved in Viet Nam and other free countries.

« For our common safety, none of us can rely too much on the deterrent and protective power of military pacts, nuclear weapons and air supremacy.

« They are necessary but not sufficient.

« They do not frighten nor impress the communists too much because the communists proceed by infiltrations, subversions or revolutions that can be stopped and fought only by the ground troops, the police and the people of the countries concerned.

« In this way, they have already conquered in twelve years the Chinese Mainland and North Viet Nam and they are now operating in the Middle East.

« In all those conquests and also in the Middle East crisis and the Korean war, International Communism has only operated through aid — selfish and interested aid, aimed at domination and conquest (but aid all the same): — by exciting and arming other people, and such communist warfare might or could be effectively countered only by Western aid to the countries concerned.

« Therefore, in this atomic age, it is foreign aid — selfish or unselfish — not the A-bomb, nor the H-bomb, which has become the most modern and most effective instrument of conquest as well as of defense.

« The Communist attack in Korea, for instance, was not deterred by American atomic supremacy which was then unquestionable. But it might have been deterred by appropriate aid and sufficient military aid to South Korea when she asked for it to meet the Communist military build-up on her Northern border; so that timely aid of only a few hundred million dollars might have deterred a disastrous war which caused Korea to be nearly destroyed and the United States itself to lose 18 billion dollars, many killed, and 103,000 wounded.

« Therefore, it is my duty to say frankly that much has been done in Free Viet Nam in the

(Continued on page 20)

President Talks Business

(Continued from page 6)
your management consulting firms. Being practical people, we Vietnamese believe that good advice could be paid for, and that such expert advice is also more likely to be heeded by timid government officials, whether they be ours or yours.

Our country needs industries. It is a result of colonialism that we are merely a producer of raw materials, and forced to import all finished goods. Economic survival requires that we break this colonial pattern. We do not aim at self-sufficiency, nor do we plan to build major capital goods industries. Our single major industrial undertaking will be the development of our unused but excellent hydroelectric potential, and we hope to do this as a joint undertaking between government capital, United States private advisors and private operating companies working on contract.

Otherwise, our program of industrialization is a modest one, adapted to our resources and needs. We aim at producing some textiles, sugar, cement, paper, glass, and plastic. Together with some other plants producing goods for daily use, this would, for the time being, be the core of our industrialization plan.

If you ask me whether our aim is a directed economy or a completely laissez-faire doctrine, whether it is capitalist or socialist, I have but one answer: such preoccupations are to us purely theoretical. The policy of our government is based on present, practical needs, and not guided by theoretical speculations. Our principal guide is that we seek to solve our economic problems with the best means on hand.

We are convinced that an important method to enable us to meet our problems can come from overseas investors who seek opportunities in Viet Nam. That is why March of this year my government issued a policy directive under which all foreign firms can justly operate. The Vietnamese Government guarantees foreign investors against nationalization and against expropriation without due compensation. We grant any new foreign investor three years exemption from real estate taxation, as well as free registration of incorporation, new agricultural investments are exempted from land tax until the enterprise shall have harvested its first crop. Industrial, commercial, and agricultural enterprises will receive 100 per cent remission of income taxes for

their first year of operation, 25 per cent for the second and third years, and 25 % on reinvested income. Imported capital goods is exempted from income duties. Or if foreign exchange is requested from the Government, import duties will be reduced by 50 per cent. Foreign personnel will be afforded opportunities to repatriate family savings, bonuses, and other payments. Repatriation of capital will be permitted within five years of the initiation of the enterprise at an annual rate of 20 per cent. Additional advantages beyond those presently allowed for repatriation of profits will be granted according to the importance of the enterprise for our economy, and the currency involved. But in no case do any of these regulations remain rigid but can be changed whenever attractive opportunities arise for the economy of Viet Nam and the potential investor.

Let me say here and now that my Government and the Vietnamese people do not share the hostility toward the West which is so much the vogue in Asia today. We regard the United States, in particular, as our friend. Perhaps the most tangible test of this is our attitude toward private business, especially American capital. We recognize the crucial role which private enterprise has historically played in raising the living standards of all people. Further, and possibly in contrast to other Asian nations, we do not regard American private investment as a threat to our national integrity.

On the contrary, we welcome it as a necessary and cooperative factor in the development of Free Viet Nam — and we will do everything within our means to create a hospitable climate for American investors who wish to cooperate in strengthening the economy of Viet Nam.

Far from attempting to build a rigid frame for our economy, the system at which we aim will be an open one, capable of adaptation to changing needs.

It was the discipline, the determination, and the working capacity of our people which carried our Republic through its first few difficult years. These same qualities, we hope, will also enable us to solve our economic problems. We must show to the other Asian peoples that the economic progress they desire can be brought about by democratic means. To succeed in this will be as important for the whole free world as it is for ourselves.

New York — « Impressive Image »

(Continued from page 5)

Aside from direct aid between governments, economic interdependence today manifests itself also in the form of international movements of goods and capital. There is no need to point it out to you, Mr. Mayor, who has the direction of this City of New York, the greatest financial and commercial center in the world, and the largest international harbor for economic exchanges between the United States and the different parts of the world.

That is why, in Viet Nam, at the present time, we keep our doors wide open to international commerce and investments. In so doing, we only apply an idea which has been familiar to you for a long time. If there is any innovation, it is in the exceptional privileges that my Government accords to foreign investments, which go as far as exemption of taxes and customs duties, as well as facilities for withdrawal of capital, granted to foreign enterprises which contribute to our economic development. These advantages are protected by our unequivocal guarantee against nationalization and expropriation without due compensation.

These measures deserve attention by their exceptional character, in comparison with more reserved policies in other Asian countries, deriving from an atmosphere of distrust, which remains as a vestige of the colonialist era still so recent in the memory of many men. However,

we Vietnamese, through centuries have successfully resisted the expansion of the immense Chinese mass, and, in the 13th century, were the only ones to oppose victoriously the Mongol Armies of Genghis Khan, at that time masters of Asia and Eastern Europe. More recently, we have reconquered our independence after a hard struggle. Thus we have enough confidence in ourselves not to have to take refuge behind economic autarchy, and to adopt clearly a policy of international economic cooperation.

Foreign capital and technicians are therefore welcome in Viet Nam, and I am convinced that this cooperation will be in the best interests of the parties involved.

In the economic relations between our two countries, favorable signs have already appeared in the horizon. Since 1953, the volume of American importations into Viet Nam has tripled, and the U.S. has become the leading exporter country to Viet Nam, ahead of Japan and France.

It is a pleasure for me to be in New York City today and to conclude with this remark: At the same time as our community of democratic ideals, the intensification of economic exchanges, and a continuous broadening of cultural relations form already the foundation of a solid alliance and, I am sure, a long-lasting friendship between our two countries.

The Times of Viet Nam

WEEKLY

26 Gia Long Street, Second Floor
Saigon, Viet Nam
P. O. Box 96 — Tel. Saigon 314

Publisher and Editor
Nguyễn M. Thai

Managing Editor
Nguyễn Văn Thai

Senior Editor
Lê Ngã Nhi

City Editor
Lê Bích Anh

Business-Finance Editor
Nguyễn Lầu

Contributing Editors

Thai Văn Kiêm

Nguyễn Văn Mung

Nguyễn Sơn

Phạm Đình Tân

Tân Thọ Phước

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WELCOME HOME MR. PRESIDENT

We join the populace in welcoming you home after a job well done, Mr. President. You have, on this journey, served your country well and with dignity.

Your speeches, especially that made before the U.S. Congress and that made before the American Friends of Viet Nam, were eloquent and moving, even to us at home who were intently reading every word of the news which reached us concerning your activities and your words.

What you said and what you did in the United States reflects in the most creditable manner on us, your compatriots. The public have a long standing debt to you, our leader in most troubled days, and we therefore appreciated most of all your modesty in refusing to accept praise, insisting that the credit for our new Republic's accomplishments goes to the Vietnamese people.

Welcome home.

HIGHWAY PROJECT : A MOOT QUESTION

A highway project planning the construction of an expressway between Bien Hoa and Saigon is underway. The survey of the location is being carried out by the Capitol Engineering Corporation and the actual construction will be executed by Johnson Drake and Piper Company. Both companies are American.

That Viet Nam needs a better communications network is no matter for discussion. As the country increases her economic activities in the progress toward recovery, a road system capable of handling the increased traffic is a *sine qua non* condition for establishing good communication. The problem, however, is not simply one of raising the funds and appealing to foreign technicians. Saigon and Bien Hoa are going to have to live with this road, and it is wise to consider

beforehand the best place for it to cut into the city.

We feel that the masterminds who drew up the plan have made a great error to the detriment of our city and of Saigon - Bien Hoa traffic. It is our understanding that the plan for the road has not yet been incorporated in a governmental decree. Thank goodness!

The plan awaiting final approval calls for the expressway to meet Hong Thap Tu Street at Thi Nghe Communal House, from there to curve to the left, pass through what is now a heavily populated area, cross the river, cut a huge path through the middle of the Zoo (Saigon's most beautiful park) and join Thong Nhat Boulevard.

In recent public discussion of the project via the newspapers there is much talk of individual rights for the people living in Thi Nghe whose houses must be torn down if the new highway goes under construction according to this plan.

It would be wise for the inhabitants of Thi Nghe to recognize that the State has the right of eminent domain. When the State decides a particular project is in the public interest, the few individuals with a personal interest involved are not considered. The only rights the inhabitants of Thi Nghe have in this matter are to complain and to be justly remunerated for their property. This is normal in a Republic, the State must have the power to gain lands needed to promote the public interest.

However, there are other and stronger arguments against the present planned route for the Bien Hoa - Saigon expressway. Why must the highway leave Hong Thap Tu at the Thi Nghe Communal House to make a deliberate detour through Saigon's nicest park, of which we have few enough already, and plunge into Boulevard Thong Nhat? Surely the least expected destination of all the heavy truck traffic from Bien Hoa would be Independence Palace. It is unbelievable that anyone thinking of the good of the city would recommend running the main commercial highway onto what we had hoped would one day be a boulevard lined with governmental and diplomatic buildings.

And where do all the darkly smoking diesel run trucks go once they have run through the Zoo (polluting the air) and rolled up through Saigon's most imposing boulevard? If not to the Presidential Palace, surely they must turn to the left and head for the center of Saigon, the most congested area during business hours or to the right to find once again good old Hong Thap Tu.

Poor old abused Hong Thap Tu. From Barbe to Cholon she has been bared of her lovely trees to make an expressway through the city. But in the other direction she is left neglected in quiet, shady repose. Why not finish it off and simplify the whole matter. Now when the occasion comes to make her really useful (half of her beauty has been ruined already) it is suddenly found advisable to detour and bring tree-cutting and ruin to yet another area.

It appears so obviously more simple and more in the public interest to bring the highway in on Hong Thap Tu, thereby creating a real throughway from Bien Hoa on through Saigon-Cholon and hence to the West, that we can't imagine who has recommended this zig-zag affair which almost looks designed not only to complicate the lives of the inhabitants of approximately 2,000 houses in Thi Nghe, but to destroy some of the most beautiful parts of Saigon, while at the same time devising an expressway that arrives at a dead-end street in front of the Palace.

If there is one good reason for this planned comedy of errors, we have not heard it in our investigations of this week.

It is to be hoped that the details of the plan will be carefully studied from all points of view before a decree is signed giving the « go-ahead » to Capitol engineers.

However, it might be pointed out that this organization has already begun surveying and planting stakes in the backyards of Thi Nghe, not asking permission for such trespassing but going about their business there as if the land had already been purchased by the Government. Letters received by the Times prompted us to investigate this matter further. We have found no homeowner in Thi Nghe who has been properly notified that his land will be purchased by the Government for a new highway. Yet engineers have come into the area and, without asking permission of the owners and occupants, have invaded private property.

The least that can be done, if the Government decides this route is the one in the public interest, is for the Government Agency and the engineering company to properly inform the inhabitants of Thi Nghe what action will be taken and request permission to enter private property and plant stakes in gardens.

We sincerely hope that the government will decide according to the best interests of the people and of the city. The actual «ruining» of Thong Nhat Blvd. would start only months from now, when the rest of the highway between Saigon and Bien Hoa is really completed, then the problem must be solved as to where traffic should be diverted through Saigon. From now until then, there is ample time for consideration of the problem from all aspects, fortunately.

CRACK IN THE WALL ?

Responsible sources inform that someone will soon make a statement on the murder of Canadian Delegate to the ICC A.E. A. Cannon.

We look forward to an informative and conclusive report from the authorities and sincerely hope such a statement will clear up once and for all the mystery of motive and identification of the murderer.

This is, of course, presuming that a statement of consequence is about to be released.

LETTERS TO THE Editor

NO NEED TO WORRY

Dear Sir,

I have received the following letter.

« Dear Sir: I have followed the President's visit to the United States with interest and concern and could not avoid being surprised by a statement of the President, published by the Times of Viet Nam and broadcast several times on the radio, which has led people to confusion and made them ask question without finding any answer.

« Speaking before 450 persons there, President Diem declared that the frontier of the United States extends to the 17th parallel dividing his country from communist North Viet Nam ».

(Times of Viet Nam, 18-5-57 Vol. II, -9 page 2).

« Speaking as a citizen who loves his country I would appreciate if you mind to explain its meaning over the radio and in the press. » Signed VIET-AI-QUOC.

I understand Mr VIET AI QUOC's concern. But he need not worry. In the statement quoted, President Ngo Dinh Diem means nothing more — nor less — than this: the security of the United States depends also on the security of Viet Nam, and that, securitywise, the 17th parallel is also the frontier of the United States.

Ton That Thien

Press Secretary

Independence Palace

« NOT OUR AFFAIR »

Sir:

Our attention has been drawn to a leader in your esteemed weekly dated 4th May 1957 under the heading « Conspiracy of silence ». You will appreciate that the primary responsibility for the investigation of this case and informing the press, if necessary, rests with the Government of the Republic Viet Nam. A member of the Canadian Delegation has been nominated to help the South Viet Nam authorities in these investigations. He has also been nominated as the representative of the Commission for this purpose. The International Commission and its 3 Delegations have offered their wholehearted cooperation to the investigating authorities without prejudice to the diplomatic immunities which their members are entitled to.

With regard to the departure of the Chairman, Saigon Headquarters of the International Commission from Saigon on the 13th April, it was categorically stated by Ambassador Carter during his press conference on 15-4-57 that the said departure had nothing to do with this case. Since you have made reference to it in the leader of your weekly of 4 May 1957, I have been authorized by the Commission to state categorically that the date of the said departure had been fixed weeks ahead and that the Chairman, Saigon Headquarters of the ICSC left on the termination of his assignment and not for « consultations ».

The International Commission has no information beyond what has been stated above but is confident that the Government of the Republic of Viet Nam are taking necessary steps in this matter

and hopes that they will soon get at the truth of this murder.

G.R. Iyengar
Chairman, Saigon
Headquarters ICSC.

AT BLAIR HOUSE

Sir:

For years I have been interested in the culture and people of Indochina. My interests have just recently been fixed anew on the new State of Viet Nam after your President's recent visit to Washington. In fact, I got to see him for a moment just yesterday as I was passing Blair House, where he has been staying.

I am writing this letter to you in the hopes that you may know of someone there who would be interested in corresponding with an American that we may learn more of each other's countries. I would love very much to correspond, trade pictures, stamps, etc. with people there interested in the same things.

I am an aerial photographer for the U.S. Navy at present. Am going to write and direct TV shows in Hawaii in a year or two.

I thank you in advance for what help you can render.

R.P. Groves

3218 Maywood Lane, S.E.
Washington 23, D.C., USA.

PRESIDENT'S VISIT

Dear Editor,

The visit of President Ngo Dinh Diem to the USA has brought to the American people a much-increased interest in Viet Nam, as well as Laos and Cambodia. As a hobby, I have for some time arranged the exchange of friendly letters between Americans and people of other nations, in my sincere belief, as a Geographer, that only a mutual friendship and understanding between people of different nations will bring eventual peace to the world. I am frequently asked to provide names of penfriends in Indochina. If any of your readers would like to exchange letters with America (or other nations), I will be glad to arrange it. A pen-friend request should include name and complete address, age, a list of any hobbies or other interests, and whether a gentleman or lady pen-friend is desired. This offer extends to people of all ages, and is entirely free of charge to all concerned. Requests should be mailed directly to me, at 6035 Hornwood Drive, Bellaire, Texas (USA).

G. J. Raymond

FLOWERS

Dear Editor,

Your special issue on India-Viet Nam relations was a remarkably beautiful one and I was immensely pleased with its wonderful articles which were informative and enlightening. You have indeed rendered a great service to the people of the two countries and proved beyond doubt that you are aware of your duties as journalists. I hope this issue will bring the two people closer and create better understanding and goodwill between them. You deserve our heartiest congratulations for publishing such an excellent issue.

Jethanand Wadhmal

The Key To The Orient

By E. Heskell Smith

Time and Tide,
April 20, 1957.

(Free-lance journalist who spent several years in the United States writing articles and broadcast scripts; has made a special study of foreign affairs).

The Islamic countries hold a unique geographical position: they cover a vast intercontinental area which runs from Morocco to Indonesia and beyond. Of the four hundred million Moslems in the world, twenty million live within the borders of the USSR.

Russia has had centuries of experience with Moslems and the Communists have merely inherited and taken over the colonialism of the Czars. Without the original colonial Moslem territories the Soviet Union would not today be a great Power. Oil, cotton and a large percentage of ores come from these regions and it has often been said that this Islamic area is the real Achilles heel of the Soviet Union.

When the Bolsheviks seized

power in 1917 one of their promises was:

« All nations within Russia must be accorded the right to secede and to form independent States ».

This was largely the work of Lenin, who realised that the colonial peoples of Russia's Asiatic territories could be lured to the support of Communism only by promises of national freedom and independence.

The first reaction which the Revolution produced among the Moslems of Russia was from their intelligentsia, who began to visualise:

« a revolution in the East whereby a Moslem federation, beginning in Russia, would gradually expand to include neighbouring Moslem countries ».

This idea found little favour in Moscow. The Communist leaders realised the potential strength of a united Islamic bloc and as an antidote they encouraged nationalism and created independent national republics in the Moslem areas.

Events then played into their hands. Following Turkey's defeat in 1918 the Ottoman Empire collapsed and a few years later the Caliphate was abolished. These blows to Islamic prestige, coupled with Moscow's determination to foster nationalism, destroyed the dream of the Russian Moslem intellectuals.

Once the Soviet Government had secured a certain stability, all the beautiful promises to the Moslem peoples were forgotten and the Communists proceeded ruthlessly to reconquer the Islamic colonial empire of the Czars. By 1926 the Moslems of Central Asia were once more subject to domination by Moscow.

After armed resistance had been overcome, the Kremlin took a further step in order to ensure their total submission: the territories were divided up or incorporated into Russia proper. The Russianization of Turkestan by settlers of different ethnic origin was carried through with such thoroughness that, by the end of 1954, the native element in Kazakhstan had decreased to 41.2 percent, of the population. At the same time there was a systematic destruction of Islamic culture and Islamic institutions; 97 percent, of the mosques were destroyed or closed; religious schools were shut down; instruction in the Koran and the celebration of Moslem festivals were both prohibited. The Cyrillic script was compulsorily substituted for Arabic and the youth of Islam was thus cut off from its heritage. A land which, within

(Cont. on page 20)

(Cont. on page 20)

«Hear Who's Talking!»

By William Bluett

The recent allegations in Damascus, eagerly seized upon by Cairo Radio and the Egyptian-government controlled Middle East News Agency, to the effect that American military attaches in Amman had taken a personal part in a « plot » to unseat the Nabulsi administration in Jordan were remarkable.

Remarkable first perhaps in their absolute lack of veracity. Remarkable secondly in their attempt to saddle a western nation with a diplomatic technique entirely foreign to it. Certainly the practice of installing military attaches as combined intelligence agents and troublemakers in friendly states is a well-known one. So is that of granting such officials power and status greater than those enjoyed even by ambassadors. But these practices have become notorious only because of their avid employment by Egypt and Syria themselves. In accusing a western nation of using its military attaché to disrupt a regime Cairo and Damascus are — as the English saying goes — merely « pots calling the kettle black » or, to invoke psychological jargon, they are projecting their own guilt complexes on to the innocent.

Look at Egypt's record in this field. It is not very long since Sayyid Ismail Sadid, her military attaché in Libya, was declared *persona non grata* and expelled from the country. There can be no conceivable doubt that he used his office for the main — indeed it would seem the solitary — purpose of inciting local disaffection. He did his utmost to organize public disorder, even going to the lengths of standing on the roof of the Egyptian consulate in Benghazi and haranguing a crowd to stage a violent demonstration against the Libyan authorities. He also struck a Libyan police official. In Tripoli, to quote the newspaper « Tarablus al Gharle »: « he launched extensive plots endangering peace

and security ». He hid boxes of ammunition in the Egyptian Embassy for distribution among unruly elements. His own car carried a machine-gun with which he threatened police patrols during curfew hours, and he was directly responsible for a bomb explosion in one of the British

By INEZ ROBB



So we have lost another important round to the Russian propaganda machine in the battle for humanity's friendship and understanding.

We have let the USSR walk off, unchallenged, with another thumping victory in its current peace offensive through a direct appeal from the Supreme Soviet to both the United States Congress and the British Parliament to end the testing of nuclear weapons.

The end of such tests is a major — repeat, major — issue agitating all mankind today. This issue has been snowballing with ever expanding force and rapidity for 36 months as more and more men in every sector of the globe have become increasingly alarmed by the dangers of radioactive fallout to man and his descendants.

Within a matter of weeks, the world's deep agitation has been dramatically highlighted by Dr. Albert Schweitzer's appeal for the cessation of such tests. This appeal has had a tremendous effect in aligning the moral forces of the globe behind the doctor.

Here, then, was a propaganda weapon, ready-made and begging to be exploited for many months, that the Russians have given gratis. Once more Russia, posing as the stalwart friend of peace and disarmament, has made a move that is certain to have far-reaching effect among the neutralist and uncommitted nations of Asia, Africa and the Middle East,

no less than among the pro-Russian groups operating in the West.

The cynicism of Russia's offer, just after she has concluded an extensive series of nuclear weapon tests and just before both the United States and Britain begin separate series of tests, will be entirely lost on that part of the world where this latest peace plea will do Russia the most good and the West the most harm.

There is no point in belittling this Russian appeal to end nuclear weapon tests. It will not disguise the egg on our face. There will be the usual statements that Russia doesn't mean it, that it is no more than a shrewd propaganda move (which no one will deny), that we must beware of Greeks with gifts, etc.

But no matter how true all of the above excuses, the Russian offer, true or false, will fall, like sweet music on the ears of peacehungry, war-weary, atom-terrified people the world around.

In the meantime, the real tragedy is that there is no reason this offer should not have come from the West and at least three to six months ago. Then we would have had the pleasure of seeing the Russians squirm, instead of vice versa, and of testing the real quality of her peace

« Towards Limiting Nuclear Tests »

By Jules Menken

« Britain has just made an important move with a view to limiting tests of atomic and hydrogen weapons. The move was made in the proposals which the British representative laid before the United Nations Disarmament sub-committee in London. These are confined to three points: the first point is that nuclear test explosions should be registered before they are carried out: the second point concerns the methods of limiting such explosions, and the third point deals with the relation between stopping nuclear test explosions and a general disarmament agreement.

Advance registration of tests:

« Nuclear test explosions, Britain says, should be registered with the United Nations before they are made and there should be agreement to this effect between Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union, the only three powers which possess nuclear weapons today. Such agreement might be along the lines suggested in the Canadian — Japanese — Norwegian draft resolution presented to the U.N. General Assembly last January. In an agreement for this purpose Britain would be prepared to include arrangements for limited international observation of such nuclear tests.

« Why does Britain propose that nuclear test explosions should be registered beforehand with the United Nations? Why should not such explosions simply be banned outright?

« The answer to these questions is a practical one. Contrary to what has been thought hitherto, scientists now recognize that it is no longer certain that all nuclear tests which are made inside a country can be detected outside it. For example, certain kinds of atomic tests which involve limited nuclear explosions and produce only small quantities of radioactive products might be conducted in a manner which would escape detection by scientists a long way away. The same thing is true of nuclear explosions of certain kinds conducted under water at great depths. To carry out nuclear tests in ways that would evade notice would be especially easy inside a large country where there is strict censorship and where free movement everywhere is forbidden, and this would mean that one nuclear power could steal a march on everyone else with its weapons tests. It is to prevent such development, with all the perils it could bring, that the British has been made. Only the Soviet

offensive.

We had nothing to lose and everything to gain from such an offer, just as Russia now has nothing to lose and much to reap. It is one woman's opinion that the ban on nuclear warfare, much less weapons-testing, is inevitable. The whole world, including the Communist world, is as eager for it as for glimpse of the Grail. We of the West should lead the way.

Instead, as of today, we are way out in right field with a silly look on our face, clutching an empty glove.

Union is against the idea, and the Soviet Union, if it will be recalled, carried out a series of at least five known nuclear tests last month without any notice given beforehand to anyone.

Limitation and supervision of tests:

« The second point in the British proposals concerns the methods of limiting nuclear test explosions and also the methods by which agreement to limit such explosions can be effectively supervised. Here again the problem is essentially practical: nuclear test explosions can in theory be limited by restricting the size of the explosions, or by exploding them under conditions which minimise their evil effects — for example by high air bursts instead of by bursts on or near the ground, or by so-called « clear » explosions in which the minimum of material producing radioactive fission products is used as distinct from so-called « dirty » explosions in which a lot of such material is used, or by increasing the interval between tests explosions. Which of these methods is best is a practical problem that requires expert knowledge and advice to decide. Again, the practical means that must be used to provide supervision which will ensure that whatever is agreed is in fact carried out, is again a purely practical problem with which expert nuclear scientists can help. This work, incidentally, might well be done in connection with the preparation of a general nuclear control system, a problem which the United States has suggested that experts should study.

General disarmament agreement the aim:

« Britain's third proposal concerns the cessation of all nuclear test explosions whatever. Here what Britain proposes is again severely practical. There is no use in merely asking governments to declare that they will carry out no more nuclear test explosions, for such declarations might be made and then secretly disregarded. And even if strict control made this impossible, the stopping of nuclear test explosions by itself would leave the nuclear powers free to go on making fissile nuclear material for weapons purposes. To be effective an undertaking to stop all nuclear test explosions must follow banning of the production of fissile nuclear material from which weapons can be made, and both steps must clearly form part of a general disarmament agreement. Only in this way can the world be certain that evil men shall not plan and prepare to use the dreadful destructive powers of the atom for their own purposes.

« Britain is of course prepared herself to adopt the proposals she has just put forward. The United States is also ready to link the stopping of nuclear test explosions with ending the production of fissile nuclear material for weapons purposes. Whether the world shall take this sound practical step towards ending the nuclear disarmament race depends on the Soviet Union ».

The Times of Viet Nam

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P. O. Box 96 — Tel. Saigon 314

Publisher and Editor

Nguyễn M. Thai

Managing Editor

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Senior Editor

Lê Ngã Nhi

City Editor

Lê Bích Anh

Business-Finance Editor

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WELCOME HOME

MR. PRESIDENT

We join the populace in welcoming you home after a job well done, Mr. President. You have, on this journey, served your country well and with dignity.

Your speeches, especially that made before the U.S. Congress and that made before the American Friends of Viet Nam, were eloquent and moving, even to us at home who were intently reading every word of the news which reached us concerning your activities and your words.

What you said and what you did in the United States reflects in the most creditable manner on us, your compatriots. The public have a long standing debt to you, our leader in most troubled days, and we therefore appreciated most of all your modesty in refusing to accept praise, insisting that the credit for our new Republic's accomplishments goes to the Vietnamese people.

Welcome home.

HIGHWAY PROJECT :
A MOOT QUESTION

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It would be wise for the inhabitants of Thi Nghe to recognize that the State has the right of eminent domain. When the State decides a particular project is in the public interest, the few individuals with a personal interest involved are not considered. The only rights the inhabitants of Thi Nghe have in this matter are to complain and to be justly remunerated for their property. This is normal in a Republic, the State must have the power to gain lands needed to promote the public interest.

However, there are other and stronger arguments against the present planned route for the Bien Hoa - Saigon expressway. Why must the highway leave Hong Thap Tu at the Thi Nghe Communal House to make a deliberate detour through Saigon's nicest park, of which we have few enough already, and plunge into Boulevard Thong Nhat? Surely the least expected destination of all the heavy truck traffic from Bien Hoa would be Independence Palace. It is unbelievable that anyone thinking of the good of the city would recommend running the main commercial highway onto what we had hoped would one day be a boulevard lined with governmental and diplomatic buildings.

And where do all the darkly smoking diesel run trucks go once they have run through the Zoo (polluting the air) and rolled up through Saigon's most imposing boulevard? If not to the Presidential Palace, surely they must turn to the left and head for the center of Saigon, the most congested area during business hours or to the right to find once again good old Hong Thap Tu.

Poor old abused Hong Thap Tu. From Barbe to Cholon she has been bared of her lovely trees to make an expressway through the city. But in the other direction she is left neglected in quiet, shady repose. Why not finish it off and simplify the whole matter. Now when the occasion comes to make her really useful (half of her beauty has been ruined already) it is suddenly found advisable to detour and bring tree-cutting and ruin to yet another area.

It appears so obviously more simple and more in the public interest to bring the highway in on Hong Thap Tu, thereby creating a real throughway from Bien Hoa on through Saigon-Cholon and hence to the West, that we can't imagine who has recommended this zig-zag affair which almost looks designed not only to complicate the lives of the inhabitants of approximately 2,000 houses in Thi Nghe, but to destroy some of the most beautiful parts of Saigon, while at the same time devising an expressway that arrives at a dead-end street in front of the Palace.

If there is one good reason for this planned comedy of errors, we have not heard it in our investigations of this week.

It is to be hoped that the details of the plan will be carefully studied from all points of view before a decree is signed giving the « go-ahead » to Capitol engineers.

However, it might be pointed out that this organization has already begun surveying and planting stakes in the backyards of Thi Nghe, not asking permission for such trespassing but going about their business there as if the land had already been purchased by the Government. Letters received by the *Times* prompted us to investigate this matter further. We have found no homeowner in Thi Nghe who has been properly notified that his land will be purchased by the Government for a new highway. Yet engineers have come into the area and, without asking permission of the owners and occupants, have invaded private property.

The least that can be done, if the Government decides this route is the one in the public interest, is for the Government Agency and the engineering company to properly inform the inhabitants of Thi Nghe what action will be taken and request permission to enter private property and plant stakes in gardens.

We sincerely hope that the government will decide according to the best interests of the people and of the city. The actual «ruining» of Thong Nhat Blvd. would start only months from now, when the rest of the highway between Saigon and Bien Hoa is really completed, then the problem must be solved as to where traffic should be diverted through Saigon. From now until then, there is ample time for consideration of the problem from all aspects, fortunately.

CRACK IN THE WALL ?

Responsible sources inform that someone will soon make a statement on the murder of Canadian Delegate to the ICC A.E. A. Cannon.

We look forward to an informative and conclusive report from the authorities and sincerely hope such a statement will clear up once and for all the mystery of motive and identification of the murderer.

This is, of course, presuming that a statement of consequence is about to be released.

LETTERS TO THE Editor

NO NEED TO WORRY

Dear Sir,

I have received the following letter.

« Dear Sir: I have followed the President's visit to the United States with interest and concern and could not avoid being surprised by a statement of the President, published by the *Times* of Viet Nam and broadcast several times on the radio, which has led people to confusion and made them ask question without finding any answer.

« Speaking before 450 persons there, President Diem declared that the frontier of the United States extends to the 17th parallel dividing his country from communist North Viet Nam ».

(*Times* of Viet Nam, 18-5-57 Vol. II, -9 page 2).

« Speaking as a citizen who loves his country I would appreciate if you mind to explain its meaning over the radio and in the press. » Signed VIET-AI-QUOC.

I understand Mr VIET AI QUOC's concern. But he need not worry. In the statement quoted, President Ngo Dinh Diem means nothing more — nor less — than this: the security of the United States depends also on the security of Viet Nam, and that, securitywise, the 17th parallel is also the frontier of the United States.

Ton That Thien
Press Secretary
Independence Palace

« NOT OUR AFFAIR »

Sir:

Our attention has been drawn to a leader in your esteemed weekly dated 4th May 1957 under the heading « Conspiracy of silence ». You will appreciate that the primary responsibility for the investigation of this case and informing the press, if necessary, rests with the Government of the Republic Viet Nam. A member of the Canadian Delegation has been nominated to help the South Viet Nam authorities in these investigations. He has also been nominated as the representative of the Commission for this purpose. The International Commission and its 3 Delegations have offered their wholehearted cooperation to the investigating authorities without prejudice to the diplomatic immunities which their members are entitled to.

With regard to the departure of the Chairman, Saigon Headquarters of the International Commission from Saigon on the 13th April, it was categorically stated by Ambassador Carter during his press conference on 15-4-57 that the said departure had nothing to do with this case. Since you have made reference to it in the leader of your weekly of 4 May 1957, I have been authorized by the Commission to state categorically that the date of the said departure had been fixed weeks ahead and that the Chairman, Saigon Headquarters of the ICSC left on the termination of his assignment and not for « consultations ».

The International Commission has no information beyond what has been stated above but is confident that the Government of the Republic of Viet Nam are taking necessary steps in this matter

and hopes that they will soon get at the truth of this murder.

G.R. Iyengar
Chairman, Saigon
Headquarters ICSC.

AT BLAIR HOUSE

Sir:

For years I have been interested in the culture and people of Indochina. My interests have just recently been fixed anew on the new State of Viet Nam after your President's recent visit to Washington. In fact, I got to see him for a moment just yesterday as I was passing Blair House, where he has been staying.

I am writing this letter to you in the hopes that you may know of someone there who would be interested in corresponding with an American that we may learn more of each other's countries. I would love very much to correspond, trade pictures, stamps, etc. with people there interested in the same things.

I am an aerial photographer for the U.S. Navy at present. Am going to write and direct TV shows in Hawaii in a year or two.

I thank you in advance for what help you can render.

R.P. Groves
3218 Maywood Lane, S.E.
Washington 23, D.C., USA.

PRESIDENT'S VISIT

Dear Editor,

The visit of President Ngo Dinh Diem to the USA has brought to the American people a much-increased interest in Viet Nam, as well as Laos and Cambodia. As a hobby, I have for some time arranged the exchange of friendly letters between Americans and people of other nations, in my sincere belief, as a Geographer, that only a mutual friendship and understanding between people of different nations will bring eventual peace to the world. I am frequently asked to provide names of penfriends in Indochina. If any of your readers would like to exchange letters with America (or other nations), I will be glad to arrange it. A pen-friend request should include name and complete address, age, a list of any hobbies or other interests, and whether a gentleman or lady pen-friend is desired. This offer extends to people of all ages, and is entirely free of charge to all concerned. Requests should be mailed directly to me, at 6035 Hornwood Drive, Bellaire, Texas (USA).

G. J. Raymond

FLOWERS

Dear Editor,

Your special issue on India-Viet Nam relations was a remarkably beautiful one and I was immensely pleased with its wonderful articles which were informative and enlightening. You have indeed rendered a great service to the people of the two countries and proved beyond doubt that you are aware of your duties as journalists. I hope this issue will bring the two people closer and create better understanding and goodwill between them. You deserve our heartiest congratulations for publishing such an excellent issue.

Jethanand Wadhmal

Veterans' Activities: CEE Labor Conflict Settled — No Strike

Gifts To War Disabled Of Cao-Bac-Lang

Saigon, May 21 (VP) — Members of the Central Executive Committee of the Viet Nam Veterans Legion last week went to Trung Nghia village (Dalat) where they distributed gifts to 70 war disabled, in the form of money and clothes.

These war disabled who are « Tho » and « Nung » (ethnic minorities) from Cao Bang, Lang Son, and Bac Kan provinces, evacuated to the South after having fought theoretically the communists.

Gifts From « American Friends Of Viet Nam »

Saigon, May 21 — The Vietnamese Veterans Legion received last week about US\$ 5,000 worth of gifts from the « American Friends of Viet Nam ».

During his recent visit to Viet Nam, the Chairman of the « American Friends of Viet Nam » General O'Daniel handed to the Chairman of the « Vietnamese Veterans Legion » General Nguyen Ngoc Le, a letter announcing the decision of this Association to offer gifts to Vietnamese Veterans. The said gifts include wheel chairs for disabled veterans, clothing, shoemaking tools, etc. They were received here by Vice-Chairman of the Legion Lt. Colonel Le Van Lung.

Wrist-Watch Distribution

Saigon, May 21 (VP) — At the ceremony of presentation of 12 special wrist-watches to Vietnamese disabled ex-servicemen, Dr. Nguyen Van Kieu, Viet Nam Red Cross Chairman praised the spirit of veterans who he said in the defense of the homeland, shirked no responsibility and made all kinds of sacrifices.

The watches were gifts of the Viet Nam Red Cross presented in recognition of the veterans' service to the country.

The ceremony was held Sunday morning at the Rest House in Vung-Tau (formerly Cap St. Jacques) attended by top officials

Saigon — Thanks to the intervention of the Labor Secretary, the demands of the employees of the French-owned « Compagnie des Eaux et Electricite » were satisfactorily met, with a 6 percent increase granted by the Company to its employees as of March 1, 1957.

The action followed a recent dispute opposing this Company's management to its employees who were reported having decided to begin a general strike if their demands were not met.

With a view to rapidly settling this thorny problem, many meetings were convened on May 14 and 15, 1957 by the Labor Department in which representatives of the Public Works and National Economy Departments and leaders of the Viet Nam Christian Workers Confederation and CEE delegates took part.

As a result of these parleys, the Labour Department considered that any wage increase would bring about the rise in the cost of living, thus badly affecting the labourers' situation.

A Timely Book,

Saigon — An new book on law was recently published by Mr. Nguyen Quoc Hung, judge at the Court of Saigon, entitled « *Hinh Su To Tung Luoc Giai* » (Survey on Penal Procedure). This is the first work of this kind ever published in Viet Nam. Written in Vietnamese, the book aims at reaching a large public, making them aware of the procedure presently in application in Viet Nam, concerning enquiry and repression of crimes, offences and contraventions.

from Viet Nam Red Cross and the Viet Nam Veterans Legion including Mr. Luenberger, representative of the International Red Cross; Colonel Bui Van Hai, Director General of Veterans and War Disabled Ex-Servicemen; and many ranking officers of Viet Nam Armed Forces.

Furthermore, the Labour Department stated that the present cost of living is lower than that in January 1956. It decided that there would be no rise in salary for CEE's skilled labour, but a wage re-adjustment for unskilled workers.

The CEE employees have accepted the 6 percent wage increase for unskilled workers and agreed to continue their work. On the initiative of the workers themselves, they decided to group themselves into 2 groups: the first one included those earning less than 100 piasters a day and the second those earning more than 100 piasters a day. The grouping aims at favoring those who receive low wages.

Major General Tran Van Minh, Official Observer Of Viet Nam To SEATO Operation « Sealink »

Manila, May 21 (AFP) — Major General Tran Van Minh, Director of the High Military School of the Republic of Viet Nam, came here today by plane from Saigon to attend, as official observer of Viet Nam, the last phase of the SEATO's land-sea

New Saigon-Bien Hoa Highway Planned To Cut Through Thi Nghe

Saigon, May 22 — A new Saigon-Bien Hoa highway will be built by an American company, the Johnson, Drake and Piper company. Preparatory work is now taking place. The four-lane highway will be 30 meters wide and 28 kilometers long. The Saigon-Bien Hoa highway will be of the standard U.S. type divided-lane highway, and is sure to be one of the heaviest-traveled road in Viet Nam. A concrete

culvert pipe network for drainage will also be built and most of the bridges along the route which were damaged during the war are to be replaced.

As far as construction is concerned, the imported items being used on the project are products which are not produced in Viet Nam such as cement, steel, equipment, compressor drills, scrapers and trucks. Facilities such as shops and offices, will be turned over to the Highway Division of the Public Works Department when the project is completed.

The training of local personnel to handle equipment is also an important job for the company. Group instruction will be given on the job as well as individual training of mechanics, equipment operators and construction craftsmen.

The projected road is expected to cut through the Saigon Zoo, the Thi Nghe river and district and to join the Thong Nhat Boulevard. Two thousand houses in the Thi Nghe district will have to be moved and dismantled.

Tran Minh Tiet New Councillor To Court Of Appeal

Saigon — It was announced earlier this week that Tran Minh Tiet, Vice-President of the Court of Saigon, has been appointed Councillor to the Court of Appeal. This appointment is warmly welcome by the judicial circles of the Capital.

exercises of « Operation Sealink » off Manila.

General Tran Van Minh will join other Vietnamese observers accredited to the SEATO exercises and will come back to Saigon by the end of this week.

Vietnamese Makes Saigon-Paris Trip By Car

Go Dau Ha, May 22 (VP) — A warm welcome was given to Mr. Tran Van Nghia, the first Vietnamese who made the Paris-Saigon trip by car, as he arrived at the Cambodian-Vietnamese border yesterday afternoon.

« The first aim of my trip is to show the foreigners that the Vietnamese are also eager for tourism just as other peoples », Mr. Tran Van Nghia told Viet Nam Press correspondent, adding that: « the second aim is to introduce the young Republic of Viet Nam to European and Asian countries I have toured ».

Although weary from his month-long trip, Mr. Tran Van Nghia went on to say:

« I have toured Italy, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Turkey, Syria, Irak, Iran, West and East Pakistan, India, Singapore, Federation of Malaya, Thailand and Cambodia. Everywhere I was given an enthusiastic welcome, particularly in Irak, Iran and New Delhi... »

He said that during the trip he spent all the nights in his car; and despite this fact, he explained, « over 500,000 French francs were spent for this tour ».

He declared: « I also want to make on-the-spot surveys of foreign travel services.

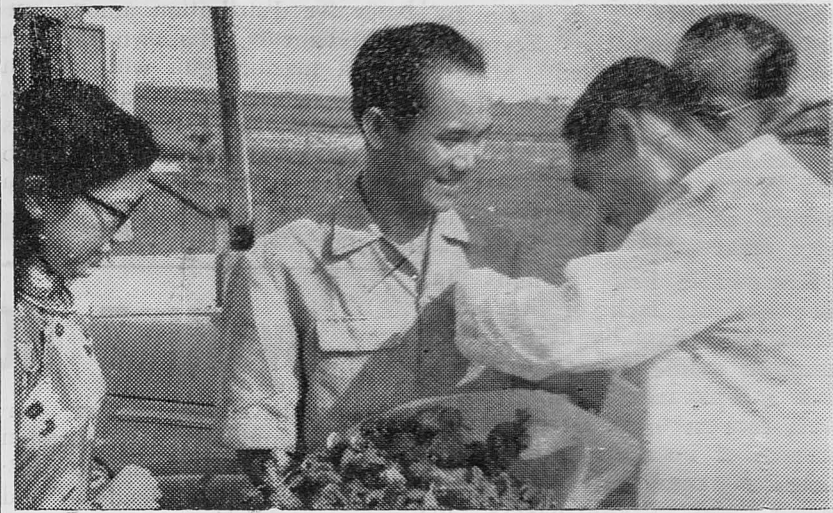
« Local authorities of countries I passed through have given me all required help with kindness, thus greatly facilitating my trip ».

Among the many welcomers present at the Cambodian-Vietnamese frontier yesterday afternoon, were Mr. Sinh, representing, the Director General of

Diem-Eisenhower

(Continued from page 2)

Finally, President Eisenhower and President Ngo Dinh Diem expressed the desire and determination of the two governments to cooperate closely together for freedom and independence in the world.



Sports and Youth; Mr. Tran Phu Huu of the Viet Nam Travel Service, sports-fans and newsmen.

Soon after his arrival here yesterday afternoon at 17:15, Mr. Tran Van Nghia was received by Director General of Sports and Youth Thai Manh Tien.

On this occasion, Mr. Thai

Manh Tien praised Mr. Tran Van Nghia for his « wonderful deed » which, he said, « shows how great and noble the sporting-spirit of the Vietnamese youth is ».

Mr. Tran Van Nghia later gave an account of different phases of his trip and of the experiences gained.

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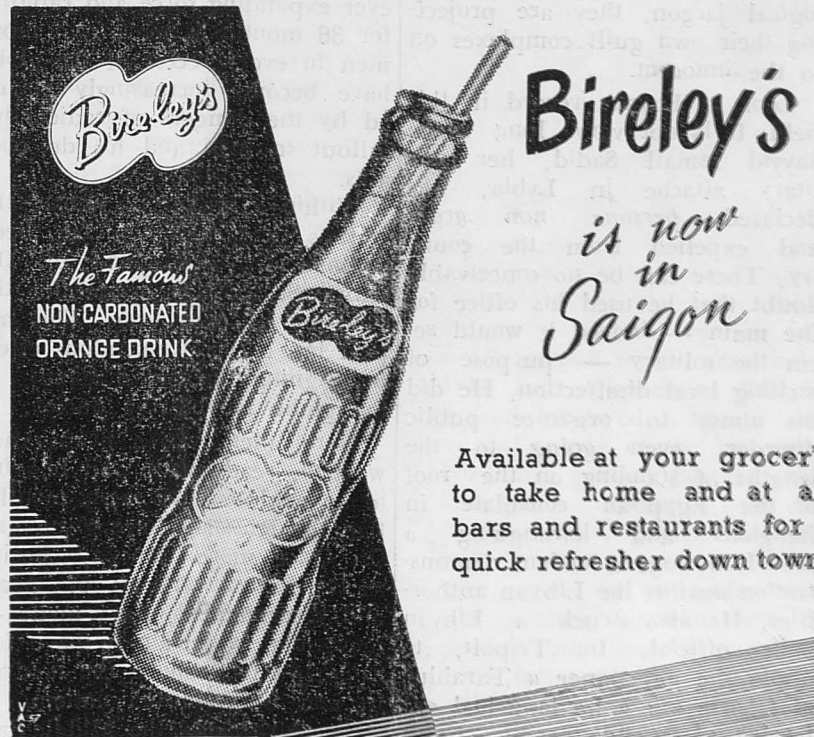
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Education Dept. Reports On Student Activities For 1956-57

Saigon — A number of activities were scored during the year 1956-57 by the organization of Vietnamese Students. The record of these activities has been made by the Department of National Education which will send the report to the International Conference of Education to be held in Geneva next July.

In the domain of social action, it is to be mentioned that after each catastrophe such as typhoon, flood, fire, the different organizations of students mobilized their members to help the victims building up their new houses and to organize collections in their favor. Most outstanding of these collections was that taken after the typhoons and floods of November 1956 in the South and the Center, this amounted to nearly half a million piasters.

Concerning traveling and holiday camps, the students organized with the help of the Department of National Education, several touristic trips throughout the country to admire our sites and landscapes, to understand better the geography of Viet Nam and to strengthen friendship between students of different regions and provinces.

During the summer vacation of 1956, the Department of Education organized 3 holiday-camps at Nha Trang, Vung Tau and Lang Co during 15 days for 1,500 students coming from different regions of the country. Another camp for 230 professors and teachers and 1,300 students took place recently on the occasion of the Easter Holiday. Several trips to the sea and the mountains were organized by the students' groups on their own initiative.

The Department of Education

has particularly encouraged sports and physical education in the schools, offering prizes for football, basket-ball and volley-ball for students of both sexes. Judo is also greatly appreciated by the students for whom several Judo courses have been organized in 4 establishments of the Capital.

In the cultural and artistic area, the students have shown themselves talented in many instances, and great prospects can be drawn for them especially in literature, music and choreography. They organized by themselves several performances for the benefit of different charity organizations.

In a word, although being oriented and organized only from the beginning of the school year, the students' organizations have spent great efforts and their activities have enabled the Education Department to envisage the future with confidence.

Leading Figure Of World Confederation Of Organization Of Teaching Profession Visiting V. N.

Saigon, May 21 (VP) — A reception was given on May 19, 1957 by the Viet Nam Friendly Association of Professors in honor of Mr. Asservathan, representing the Executive Committee of the World Confederation of Organization of the Teaching Profession, on the occasion of the latter's short stay in Saigon.

Mr. Asservathan, now on a fact-finding tour of different Asian countries, had an interview with Chairman of the Viet Nam friendly Association of Professors Ding Cang Nguyen during his visit to Viet Nam.

City Taxes Must Be Paid Before July 1

Saigon May 22 — The Prefecture reminds owners of houses built on Prefectural land and business firms with signs and advertisements for their shops that they must immediately pay the two taxes (land and advertising taxes) for previous years in order to avoid prosecution.

Those who still owe the land tax (some have not paid for as far back as 1953) must realize that only with the population's tax payment can the Prefecture pay the cost of public utility works in the social, health, culture, and security fields which raise the general living standard.

To allow sufficient time for the settlement of overdue taxes, the Prefecture has set a deadline of July 1 after which severe measures will be taken to enforce payment.

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VIET NAM INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

V.N. To Participate In International Labour Congress In Geneva

Saigon, May 21 (VP) — This year's International Labour Congress which is to be held in Geneva next June, will include an exhibition of articles of handicraft and craft from member countries, it was announced today.

The Republic of Viet Nam is expected to send a delegation to this Congress.

As known, the International Labour Organization now numbers 77 member states. Each country's delegation includes: two government delegates, one representative of the employers and one representative of the employees.

This organization has been giving for the last few years technical aid to under-developed countries.

Viet Nam Represented At 25 th IEO Annual Meeting

Saigon, May 20 (VP) — A 2-member Vietnamese delegation left for Paris on May 16, 1957 to attend the 25th IEO (Inter-

national Epizootic Organization) annual conference to be held there May 20-25, 1957.

This delegation includes:

— Doctor Veterinary Vu Thien Thai, Director of the National Animal Husbandry Service: *Leader*;

— Doctor Veterinary Nguyen Ba Luong, Director of the National Institute of Epizootic Pathology: *Member*.

Viet Nam To Have Observers At International Conference On Formation Of Professors.

Saigon, May 20 (VP) — The Directorate of Cultural Affairs is to send observers to the forthcoming conference of the international league for education organization, sponsored by « Asia Foundation », it was announced today.

This conference to be held in Frankfurt (West Germany) by the beginning of August 1957, is to deal with the present shortage of professors with a view to

finding solutions for the problem,

Viet Nam To Participate In Exhibition Of Articles Of Art In Geneva

Saigon, May 22 (VP) — This year, on the occasion of its 40th Congress, the International Office of Labor will organize an exhibition of articles of art from its member countries, to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the death of Mr. Albert Thomas, first Director General of the Office.

This exhibition will be held at the Museum of Geneva from June 15 to September 21, 1957. The articles of art will be divided into 3 categories: Those prior to the period of industrialization; Those produced during the period of development of industry; Those belonging to the modern period.

The Republic of Viet Nam, official member of the International Labor Organization (I.L.O.) will display articles of art at this exhibition.



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A Flying Start Toward Self Government For Singapore Kishi Travels To Scout Role As Asia-West Mediator

By Woodrow Wyatt

London, May 11 (NAFEN) — Mr David Marshall is an exceptional figure.

When he was Singapore's Chief Minister he achieved many things. He worked hard and conscientiously for the people.

He certainly did much to bring forward self-government for Singapore. I met him in London when he came on a delegation to have talks with the Colonial Secretary about the Constitution of Singapore. He is sincere, and the fact that he sometimes contradicts himself does not detract from that quality. Inconsistency is not the same thing as insincerity.

On the issue of the new Constitution for Singapore, Mr Marshall denounced the agreement as not giving enough self-government to the island. On the other hand he supported the arrangement demanded by Britain as a condition of self-government, that those who had been connected with the Communist Party in the past should not be allowed to vote in the elections.

Mr Lim Yew Hock had no difficulty in the Assembly in demonstrating that the agreement was the best possible under the circumstances. Singapore is in a difficult position economically and politically so long as she is divided from the mainland of Malaya.

Obviously, full self-government under these circumstances would make nonsense. With a population of only about 1,000,000, depending entirely on entrepot trade and on the work and employment brought by British bas-

es, Singapore could hardly stand on her own feet.

Mr David Marshall, as he told me, has never believed this. He cites countries which are actually smaller in population than Singapore. But he has no lists of countries which appear to be really viable which are both smaller than Singapore and as economically un-balanced.

The trouble is that the mainland of Malaya does not want Singapore to be joined in it. That is because the Malays on the mainland have a slight majority over the Chinese which would be completely lost if the almost totally Chinese Singapore were to be added to the mainland.

The Malays do not yet feel themselves strong enough to be able to stand such an addition to the Chinese strength. They see themselves becoming a complete minority politically in their own homeland.

So there is no help for it as far as Singapore is concerned but to continue in an attenuated form the British connection. And it is an attenuated form. After all, there will be full self-government for Malaya, without defence and without certain aspects of foreign affairs and those parts of internal security which affect the running of the bases.

Even as far as internal security is concerned, the Government of Singapore will have complete control except when some issue affecting the defence bases arises. When and if there is disagreement, the matter will go to arbitration and the casting vote will be in the hands of a Malay from the mainland.

Mr Lim Yew Hock, the present Chief Minister, has seemed to be on strong ground when he insists that the condition imposed by Britain as far as the voting of subversives in the next elections is concerned should be dropped. But even so, his case really is that Britain has only demanded it for the next elections and does not seek to prevent such people voting in subsequent elections.

Mr Lim Yew Hock may be felt to be in a much better position to defeat the pro-Communist elements at these next elections when he has just brought back this great advance towards self-government, than he would perhaps at subsequent elections.

He appears to take the view that it would be easier to establish democracy firmly, having shown that it has clearly beaten every contrary element in the population, now when he is in the best position to bring about this result, than to wait until later when conditions may not be so favourable.

Marshall's chief hope was that he might be able to get the support of the trade unions. He failed in this bid. Perhaps it was because Mr Lim Chin Siong, a Labour leader and Member of the Assembly, has been detained. He is referred to as « the honourable member in prison. » Anyway, the trade unions were not willing to do anything which might lead to the dropping of the present Government of Singapore's agitation to have the ban against subversives voting in the elections removed.

It must be said that Mr Marshall's prolonged speeches, last

By Goro Fujise

(Institute of World Economy, Japan)

Tokyo, Japan, May 21 — Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi set out May 20 to consolidate Japan's relations with six Asian countries and prospect reactions to a Japanese role as mediator between Asia and the West.

War-time Prime Minister Hideki Tojo is the only other Japanese prime minister to have visited any of these countries during his term of office.

Travelling by a chartered Japan Air Lines plane, Kishi will spend about two weeks visiting Burma, India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Thailand and Taiwan (Formosa).

Upon his return to Tokyo, he will prepare for a visit to the United States in the latter half of June.

Mr. « Both Banks »

The prime minister originally planned to visit the U.S. first. The change of schedule seems to have been the result of his quickening interest, as expressed in a speech to foreign correspondents here late last month (April), in seeing Japan act as an intermediary between Asia and the West. For him to talk with other Asian leaders before broaching the matter in Washington would serve this purpose.

Just how and what Kishi would mediate has not been made clear, but observers believe one issue he has in mind is the conflict in at-

titudes toward Communist China. On this, it is suggested, his forthcoming conversations with Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Nationalist Chinese Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek will provide pertinent insight into contending Asian viewpoints.

Another subject might be American-Japanese cooperation to develop Asian economies.

The role of intermediary would fit Kishi's personality, it is being said here. For his name, which means « river bank », his reputation as a shrewd opportunist has led politicians to coin the nickname « Ryo-Kishi » — « both banks ». His skill at keeping one foot on one bank and the other should serve him well in the role he envisages for Japan — and himself.

Asian Fears

But another task comes first. As Kishi further told the foreign press, « Frankly speaking, before we undertake the job (of adjusting the relations between the Asian countries and the Western countries) we are doing everything we can to first clear the war's aftermath by solving the various issues pending between our country and other countries of Asia. By so doing, Japan can win the confidence of these countries ».

He had a message for Asia: « Japan of today is not the militaristic Japan of yesterday. It is our duty to contribute to the development of Asia... »

(Continued on page 20)

PAST IS PROLOGUE

ONE YEAR AGO

Last Rebel Groups Surrounded

The command of « Operation Nguyen Hue » started new cleanup operations yesterday North, East and South of the province of Chau Doc, where small groups of rebels belonging formerly to Hoa Hoa rebel leader Ba Cut were still hiding.

During a short battle South East of Chau Doc, the operation troops killed two rebels and wounded several. Seven tons of rice and interesting documents were captured along with an important quantity of arms and equipment.

Heavy Sentences for Opium Addicts.

Opium addicts in South Viet Nam will have until May 26 to give up smoking, under Ordinance No. 60 of September 27, 1955 which allows the Court to hand down penalties from three months to three years in jail.

The Ordinance allows the addicts six months to give up smoking. The sentences provided in the Ordinance do not apply however for applicants for detoxification treatment who are over 55 years of age, or whose illness needs treatment by drugs deriving from opium.

New Deadline for Completion of Constitution.

President Ngo Dinh Diem received a delegation from the National Constituent Assembly and gave an extension of thirty days

to the deadline by which the draft of the Constitution must be completed.

The Assembly previously had until June 2 to complete the constitutional draft and debates. With the thirty day extension, the Assembly will now have until July 2 to complete its work.

Auto Theft Gang Uncovered.

Police reportedly arrested the leader and two members of an organization specialized in stealing cars in Saigon-Cholon. The arrest was the result of painstaking investigation by the Security and Police Services of South Viet Nam.

The gang was lead by a former Cao Dai captain, Thai Van Gia of Tay Ninh. He admitted having engineered the plan for many car and Vespa scooter thefts in Saigon-Cholon.

TEN YEARS AGO

Ex-Emperor Thanh Thai Back From Exile.

Prince Buu Lam, i.e. Ex-Emperor Thanh Thai, recently arrived in Cap Saint Jacques aboard the S/S Huynh Khuong An with his family, coming from Reunion Island.

The 70 year-old prince took up residence at Villa « Anna », belonging to late Le Phat An, a relative of Ex-Empress Nam Phuong.

Ho Chi Minh Not to Accept French Conditions.

A meeting was held in the first

fortnight of May between a messenger of French High Commissioner Bollaert and President Ho Chi Minh, assisted by his Foreign Minister Hoang Minh Giam, to discuss a possibility of ceasefire, consequent to a recent peace proposal addressed by the Viet Minh to the French Government. Here are the two main conditions set forth by the French representative: Complete Surrender of arms by the Viet Minh troops; entire liberty of circulation of French troops in Viet Nam territory.

These conditions were wholly refused by Ho Chi Minh who considered them as humiliating and dishonorable. He declared then that the Resistance will continue for 5 or 10 years if necessary.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Manifestation at Michelin Plantation.

An important manifestation occurred recently at the Michelin plantation, in Dau Tieng. About 1,500 workers of the plantation marched against the house of the Director, claiming an increase of salary. They encircled the house and refused to leave before obtaining satisfaction.

They were dispersed at last by an unit of the Mobile Guard coming from Saigon. 32 manifestants were caught up, among them some leaders would probably be turned back to the North.

VIETNAMESE LEGENDS:

The Origin Of The Water Melon

Under the reign of king Hung Vuong, a foreigner by the name of Mai Uyen lived in our country from early childhood. Nobody knew what was his native land, but he was famous for his particular success in business which even drew the attention of the King. With his special talents, he stood high in the estimation of the latter who bestowed on him the name of Mai Uyen (the Garden of Mai).

Mai Uyen married, had a son and a daughter, went on to be helpful to the King, and of course become rich in a short lapse of time. With such success, he could not help showing signs of arrogance, telling people that he was quite a self-made man, and had not benefited from any favor by the Court. This displeased the King a great deal, for he considered Mai Uyen as an unfaithful subject to be exiled in some remote island where nobody was living. « In solitude, he will be repentant, » said the King.

Thereupon, Mai Uyen was forced to leave for a small island, by the region of Nga Son, where « nothing could be seen except the sea and the sky ». According to the King's order, he was allowed to carry with him enough of food to last only four or five months. To let him die of starvation was the King's intention.

Mai Uyen was accompanied by his wife and children. Though his wife was overcome with sorrow, Mai Uyen only laughed and said, « There is nothing to worry about. Providence created us, Providence will care for us. Besides, as long as we have our hands, we can get along by ourselves ».

Not long had he been in the island when one day he saw a

white bird coming from the West which perched upon the summit of the mountain, screeched three times and then flew over him, and dropped down to the ground some seeds from its bill. Later from these seeds, grew up plants fraught with fruits. Delighted, Mai Uyen said, « This certainly is something Providence has sent us ».

He took a fruit, tasted it and realized that it was quite delicious and stimulating, able to replace rice. He kept the seeds apart and sowed them the next year all over the beach, soon raising many of the new plants all heavy with fruit.

One day, a sailboat drifted by the wind to the island. In short of food, the sailors went ashore and bought some fruit from Mai Uyen. The fact was heard soon by people everywhere who rushed to the island for the famous fruit they had never seen before. Then a number of people came quite readily to settle on the island which soon became joyful and prosperous. The fruit was put on sale everywhere, but no one knew what to call it. Remembering the bird which brought it from the West, somebody named it *Tay Qua* (the Fruit from the West), which was the original name of the water-melon.

Year later the King, remembering Mai Uyen's exile sent a messenger to see whether he was still alive. When he learned what had happened on the island, the King called Mai Uyen back and restored to him the whole of his former fortune. Then he bestowed on the beach the name of An Xiem (the beach of Safety). It is located now in the province of Thanh Hoa.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Viet Nam Can Have Exportable Surplus Of Coffee

The government is making plans to expand the production of coffee in Viet Nam in order to meet a growing demand for coffee on the part of the population and to turn coffee in to an earner of foreign exchange as the country offers important facilities for the cultivation of coffee.

Viet Nam's production

The production of raw coffee from 1955 to the present has increased some. In 1955 coffee trees were grown on an area of 3,247 hectares, producing 2,157 tons of coffee. This area was extended in 1956 to 3,401 hectares with an output of 2,415 tons. Although there are no available statistics regarding the 1957 crop, predictions point to an estimated production of 2,500 tons.

Exportation

From 1953 to the present time Viet Nam has been having an exportable surplus of coffee. However except in the beginning of 1955 when coffee to the value of 3,560,000 piasters was exported to Cambodia, no exportation of coffee has taken place since.

Importation

On the other hand from 1955 Viet Nam has been importing coffee: In 1953: 117 tons at 4,673,000 piasters; in 1954: 402 tons at 19,926,000 piasters 362 tons of which were reserved for the South of Viet Nam.

From 1956 the volume of coffee imported has been reduced considerably: in 1956: only 386 tons were imported to the value of 9,345,000 piasters; in 1957: from January to April, in four

months Viet Nam has imported from Singapore 75 tons and from Laos 20 tons at an aggregate value of 1,810,446 piasters.

If the importation of coffee is to be maintained at this level, Viet Nam will be importing during 1957, 288 tons at a price of 5,400,000 piasters.

The importation of coffee by Viet Nam is open to question. Objections have been raised and they are considered justified. Viet Nam has lands which lend themselves excellently to the cultivation of coffee for which the climate is also most favourable. For these reasons the per-hectare productivity is very high, reaching 4,000 kilos. The per-hectare productivity of coffee plantations in the Highlands, where most of Viet Nam's coffee is grown, is unfortunately too low at present. These cover an area of 3,000 hectares. Their production

was estimated at 1,200 tons in 1935. This represents an average per-hectare productivity of 400 kilos. There is therefore a big margin to be filled by raising productivity to 4,000 kilos, which is feasible, given the improvement of methods of production and cultivation. Plans should be put into operation the sooner the better in order to raise production to save the foreign exchange being spent on the importation of a product which can easily be produced at home in quantities adequate to satisfy local demand and even to earn foreign exchange through its exportation.

Certain quantities of coffee were exported to France before the war. If productivity is raised to the level of 4,000 kilos of coffee per-hectare, not only will local needs be met but Viet Nam will also have an exportable surplus of coffee.

Rice Trade Effective Answer To V.N. Economic Ills

Saigon, May 15 (NAFEN) — The restoration of the rice trade to its pre-Indo-China War level is the effective answer to South Viet Nam's economic ills.

This is the opinion expressed by Mr. Leland Barrows, chief administrator of the American Aid Program in South Viet Nam, in an interview with NAFEN.

Mr. Barrows said that the United States Congress was at present considering the appropriations for the financial year June 1957 to May, 1958. He thought it likely that military aid to South Viet Nam would be slightly reduced in favour of a corresponding increase in economic aid.

« There is not likely to be any spectacular change, however », he said. The American aid program for the past three years has been running at about \$ 255,000,000 a year.

Mr. Barrows revealed that the settlement of the refugees from North Viet Nam was now complete and that all of them were self-supporting in agriculture, fishing or handicraft industries of one kind or another. This form of aid could now cease. The total aid figure would probably not change, which meant that economic aid could be increased from \$ 55,000,000 to about \$ 85,000,000 a year.

The remaining \$ 170,000,000 would be used for maintaining the 150,000-strong South Viet Nam Army.

Asked whether foreign aid funds would be used to promote industries, the director said: « This country's vocation is agriculture. Industries are planned, but there are great difficulties here which hamper the execution of such projects ».

Mr. Barrows explained: « The chief problem is that almost all the wealth of the country is in foreign hands. The rubber plantations and many of the rice estates are owned by the French, and most of the rest of the assets are in Chinese hands. Now that they are independent, the Vietnamese quite naturally want to own this wealth themselves. But this raises problems. Vietnamese experience in the running of industry and commerce is limited. The Viet Nam Government has recently declared that it will not nationalise foreign enterprises which instal themselves in the country ».

In any case, he said, there is not enough money in Vietnamese hands to buy out foreign interests in the country.

In reply to a question whether American aid funds could be used to compensate foreign enterprise owners, he said: « We are against such a policy on principle. This same question has arisen in other countries. It inevitably means that we are paying millions of dollars into foreign hands as compensation, and we feel that for the money to end up in such hands is an improper use of aid ».

The director said: « We are up against the most difficult problem of all — the nationalism, perfectly understandable, of a newly independent country. This nationalism often conflicts with economic good sense ».

Illustrating his point, he said: « We have been trying for three years to get the sugar refinery working but the plan has continually run into difficulties because the management of the plant is French. The Vietnamese do not want the factory, which broke down during the Indo-China war, to be re-started under French management. The result is that the plant is still not operating, and sugar has to be imported. The same thing happened over a glass factory we wished to put into working order ».

« Had the wealth of the country been more in Vietnamese hands, we could have brought in more capital goods, and the whole problem would have been easier to solve », Mr. Barrows went on. « These are the problems we are up against and which those who constantly complain about (not enough industrialization) fail to appreciate ».

Asked whether the recent declaration by the South Viet Nam Government promising « no nationalization of foreign enterprises » was likely to encourage the flow of new capital to the country, he said: « This is certainly a step in the right direction but whether capital is really forthcoming depends also on other factors. How far it moves in this direction depends on the political stability of this country. Of course, as everybody knows, this country is politically far more stable than it was and is becoming more so as time goes by ».

Mr. Barrows revealed that the project of an Industrial Development Centre for South Viet Nam, which would promote industry by canalising funds, and giving technical assistance, had been mooted. « Washington has not yet given its approval for this venture », he said.

Activities Of The Budget Directorate

Saigon, May 21 — The Budget Directorate is now studying budget estimates for the next financial year.

Also among its present tasks is that of approving local budgets for 1957.

Local budgets for 1957 of the following provinces have been approved. An Xuyen, Binh Duong, Gia Dinh, Binh Thuan, Khanh Hoa and Quang Ngai.

Budgets for 1957 of the provinces of Kien Hoa, Ba Xuyen, Dinh Tuong, Binh Dinh, Quang Tri and Thua Thien are still under study.

It has also approved the ap-

propriation to the Viet Nam Embassy in Paris of an allowance of 5,000,000 francs to be spent on promoting cultural activities.

A 18,000,000 piaster loan has been granted by the Directorate to the Dalat City Administration for the construction of a new market. The present market place is too small for a growing population. It has also approved the contract signed by the Saigon City Administration with the « Hydraulique-Asie Company » for the repairs of pumps and « Layne » wells by this company in order to improve the water supply of the Saigon area.

Security Deposit Of Japanese Salvage Company Confiscated For Breaking Contract

Saigon — By a decree dated May 5, the President has ordered the confiscation of the Japanese salvage company's security deposit (Kitagawa Sangyo Kaikum Kabushiki Kaisha Co.).

Moreover, the company has to paid to the government an amount estimated at 10,000 dollars as a compensation for having failed to meet commitments specified in their contract.

It is recalled that the above-mentioned company had signed on May 19, 1953, a contract with the government to remove vessels sunk in the Saigon river and Cap St. Jacques during the war. The deadline for the salvage has now expired, so the Vietnamese government has to resort to the above measure.

Viet Nam To Boost Export Of Fresh Fish

Singapore (Reuter) May 21 — « Viet Nam has begun an extensive project to boost its export of fresh fish to Singapore », Mr. Pham Khac Rau, the Vietnamese Consul, said today.

« The Vietnamese government had encouraged several private fishing cooperatives to be formed in the Republic. Two of the societies had each contracted with a Singapore company to supply the Singapore government with fresh fish ».

Mr. Rau said the scheme — the first of its kind to be launched since the end of the war — would ensure regular supplies of fish to Singapore so that market prices would be kept at a reasonable level.

Mr. Rau said in the first half this month 100 tons of fish had been brought to Singapore.

Revised Salaries For Personnel Of Asiatic Origin

Saigon, May 21 (VP) — The President of the Republic recently signed a circular by virtue of which the foreign personnel of Asian origin (Indians, Pakistanis, Malays, etc.) receive from now on salaries as provided by decree No. 739-NV of June 25, 1954.

In order to be beneficiaries of this measure, the interested must satisfy all the requirements provided for by this decree. The revision of their salaries has to be proposed by their offices.

This measure permits to unify the salary scale of the personnel now serving in public services.

Until April 29, 1957, the foreign personnel of Asian origin working in the Vietnamese services received salaries in compliance with the regulation laid down by the two circulars of the High Commissariat of France Nos. 83-Pers. and 14,796-P2 dated May 13, 1949 and September 29, 1949.



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Lao Economic Mission Seeks Outlet Through Viet Nam

Weavers Hold National Congress

Saigon, May 21 — Under the sponsorship of the Chamber of Commerce of Laos, an economic mission from Vientiane arrived in Viet Nam late last week to study with the Vietnamese authorities the possibility of re-opening the National Road No. 9 joining Vientiane and Tourane as well as the utilization of the port of Tourane for transit of goods imported and exported by Laos. Headed by Mr. Khambay, Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce of Laos and Mr. Oun Sananikone, Director of the Air Transport Co. «Veha-Akat», this 7-member mission included representatives of different business circles of the Lao capital.

In a press conference held at the Lao Legation this morning, Mr. Oun Sananikone, speaking on behalf of the mission, particularly emphasized the vital character of this project in regard with the whole economy of Laos which, he stressed, has been isolated since the abolition of the Customs Union of Indochina.

Mr. Sananikone said that with their too strict regulations and heavy taxes applied and levied since their coming to independence, Cambodia and Viet Nam sea and the warm desire of the

have thrown Laos into hasardous undertakings. Laos had to turn to Thailand with her newly built railroad joining Bangkok to Nong Khay, on the Mekong river just in front of Vientiane. But after one year of such a transit, the Lao government has realized that it was both expensive and unsufficient, the provinces of North East being the only beneficiaries of the system.

It is therefore envisaged by the Chamber of Commerce of Laos that negotiations with the Vietnamese Government be adequately undertaken for the reopening of the former RC 9 for traffic, as it had existed before under the French regime. Mr. Sananikone said that the mission has studied the situation of the road as well as of the port of Tourane, and has impressed upon the Vietnamese authorities the pressing needs of Laos to have an outlet to the

Lao people to resume economic and cultural relations with the Vietnamese people. « We are optimistic », Mr. Sananikone declared, pointing out the friendly welcome extended to the mission in the different points of the tour: Quang Tri, Tourane, Hue and Saigon where the mission was received by the Vice-President of the Republic on Tuesday morning. « The response is encouraging », Mr. Sananikone added.

As regards the situation of the road, Mr. Sananikone disclosed that repairs are proceeding; other difficulties however have to be overcome, but he can envisage the future with confidence; mutual understanding will help towards the realization of the plan.

The mission left Saigon on Tuesday noon.

Saigon, May 20 (VP) — The Chairman of the Union of Viet Nam Weaving Industry said yesterday that the weaving industry in Viet Nam has made important progresses thanks to the government's generous assistance and the people's support. The production of local fabrics has also increased satisfactorily, especially since the launching of the movement for home-made articles consumption last January by the President of the Republic.

He made this statement in his opening speech delivered at the inauguration of the Vietnamese Weavers' National Congress held yesterday morning at the premises of the Viet Nam Engineers and Technicians Association, Cholon.

This Congress, sponsored by

the Union of Viet Nam Weaving Industry, was presided over by the Vice-President of the Republic.

200 cooperatives' delegates of the capital and different provinces attended the meeting.

The Chairman of the Union of Viet Nam Weaving Industry went on to urge weavers to improve the quality of their products so as to « deserve the people's confidence and raise the value of local fabrics ».

Emphasis on the need to improve the quality of local fabrics was laid in the reply by Vice-President Nguyen Ngoc Tho who wished success to the conference.

Then a representative of the Union made public a draft plan tending towards the creation of a Commission of Control placed in charge of carrying out all studies regarding the fabrics: production, consumption, coloration, designing.

According to a congressman, as soon as it has enough experiences, the Commission of Control will be turned into an « Office of Textiles » the role of which would be similar to that of the « Office of Rice », i.e. dealing with all questions relevant to fabrics and textiles.

Big Utility Contruction To Start In 1957 In All Provinces

Saigon, May 21 — The budget of the Public Works and Communications Department has been divided as follow for works to be undertaken in South Viet Nam:

Houses Built With Lottery Proceeds

Saigon, May 20 — Since its introduction in August 1951, the Reconstruction lottery has brought to the National Treasury huge proceeds. Through 56 series issued up to the end of 1956, the treasury collected 125,836,992 piasters after the remittance of commissions to sellers, payments of prizes to winners and various expenses in the form of salaries to the people employed by offices connected with the printing issuing and drawing of these lotteries. Of this sum, 114,083,891 piasters have been turned over to the National Housing Service. Arrears from salesmen account for the remainder.

The Housing Service has used this sum to build 2,118 houses and to grant loans to house owners for repairs.

1. River transport line between Baria and Cap St. Jacques: 3,000,000 piasters;
2. Repair of streets in the Tay Ninh Cao Dai Holy See: 2,000,000 piasters;
3. Construction of streets in Moc Hoa: 1,000,000 piasters;
4. Displacement of the Chet Xay (Ben Tre bridge: 2,500,000 piasters;
5. Completion of the Nhu Gia (Soc Trang) bridge: 2,000,000 piasters
6. Stoning and asphaltting streets in Camau: 2,000,000 piasters;
7. Confining repair of the Rach Gia - Ha Tien highway: 3,000,000 piasters;
8. Enlarging and stoning the highway and building a bridge at Phong Thanh: 2,200,000 piasters
9. Stoning and repairing streets in Tam Can: 1,500,000 piasters;
10. Improving the Go Cong water plant and installing additional pipes: 1,600,000 piasters;
11. Installation of 1,000 sewage pipes in Vinh Long: 700,000 piasters.
12. Improvements to the Vinh Long water plan: 2,000,000 piasters.
13. Repairs to the Soc Trang water plant: 3,000,000 piasters;
14. Construction of 10 water tanks (40 cm.) in Tam Can: 360,000 piasters.

Red Chinese-Made Fountain-Pens Strictly Forbidden

Saigon, May 20 (VP) — The circulation, stocking, display and use of Chinese-Communist-made fountain-pens bearing the trademarks « Tan-Hoa », « Ngu-Long » and « Dai-Dong » are strictly forbidden, a recent communique from the National Economy Department here says.

Any infringement on the aforesaid regulations will be liable to prosecutions in conformity with the law in force.

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Pace Too Fast, Peking Now Retards Industrial Growth More Money Entered Italy Last Year

By Walter Briggs
Hong Kong — « One cannot reach heaven in one step ». — People's Daily (Peking), mouth-piece of the Chinese Communist Party.

This is the year of the big slowdown in China. The pace of industrialization set by its Marxist planners was too fast, they have discovered, for the nation's economy to bear.

The situation isn't as critical as Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Sek's recent prediction from Taiwan (Formosa) that the Communist economy would collapse if the present trade embargo were maintained for another year. But it is serious enough to have forced Peking to reconsider its cherished five-year plans.

To observers here the slowdown sounds like common sense.

Raw Materials.
As reported voluminously in the Communist press, the planners began to realize in the second half of last year that there just weren't enough industrial raw materials to go around. Shortages became crucial early this year, necessitating a fundamental revision of plans for the expansion of production.

Under the news plans, provisions for education, housing and consumer goods are cut to the bone. Available resources are channelled into the steel, power, coal, timber and cement industries. And even in these, many of the regime's ambitious projects are curtailed.

But heavy industry above all — this remains the planners' dogma. More than ever before, the Chinese people are being

told they must forego good things of life today for the promises of tomorrow.

The shortage of raw materials has turned up a capitalist incongruity: a black market has emerged for bamboo, scrap iron and the like. State enterprises have submitted inventories understating their steel stocks. Complex speculation has developed in barter between factories — with the exchange of cotton-padded coats, say, for pig iron.

« Thrift Movement »
To conserve raw materials, the state has launched a nationwide « more-production-in-thrift movement ». Further urban development has been stopped. Civil and military offices are warned not to enlarge their staffs. Consumers must turn in empty toothpaste tubes for the salvage of their lead.

Generally speaking, the slowdown will mean less rice, less rice, less dresses, less bedrooms for the people. The textile ration has been cut; food prices have been raised. Queues at various commodity shops are growing, admits Peking's daily Ta Kung Pao.

In the revision of construction plans, only those for the expansion of China's biggest steel works — at Anshan, Manchuria — appear to have gone unaltered. At its two other major heavy industrial centers a-building, Wuhan and Paotow, it seems that only works near completion will be continued. In the aftermath of abundant glorification, China Youth Daily (Peking) now reports ignominiously that « there is no need for large expansion »

at Wuhan; at Paotow, investment in construction has been reduced by the equivalent of US \$ 2.2 million.

For many of the enterprises to which raw materials have been allocated, plans have been altered to reduce their size. As People's Daily has it, « There (has been) too much emphasis on large, modern, mechanized, high-standard construction, with no regard for conditions in our country, which is vast, has an immense population and is economically backward ».

Russian Aid
In illustration, the Party organ says that a medium-sized steel works (with a yearly capacity of about 160,000 tons) can go into production in three years and be completed in four, while a large one (of 1.5 million tons) takes six years to begin producing.

Another rationalization for smaller plants is that most of their equipment can be produced in China. As a palliative to the restless peasantry, Peking has announced meanwhile that exports of produce are to be curtailed, pork as much as two-thirds. This means there will be less with which to barter for the import of heavy equipment.

Already the curtailment in exports may have affected imports from the Soviet Union. As of a few days ago, work was proceeding at only 102 of the 126 enterprises that the Russians had undertaken to assist this year. And no mention has been made recently of 55 additional enterprises for which help was promised by Soviet Deputy Premier Anastas Mikoyan last year in Peking.

Perhaps it's not entirely a matter of China's exports. Perhaps these omissions may be taken as a criterion of the economic debility of the Soviet Bloc that has set in since the event of last fall in Poland and Hungary.

Dollar Loan For Libya

Tripoli, May 11 (NAFEN) — Libya is to receive a \$ 2,500,000 loan following an agreement with the Export-Import Bank and the International Co-operation Administration.

The funds, made available under the mutual security program, will be used to repair the Tripoli power plant and expand its capacity by installing two 10,000kw generators. They will also pay for a new building to house a steam plant and the laying of new transmission lines.

Libya has already received a private credit of \$ 3,600,000 for her power expansion project, which is expected to cost \$ 11,000,000.

U.S. Output At New High First Quarter of 1957

Washington, May 18 (NAFEN) — The output of goods and services in the United States reached another record high in the first quarter of this year, according to preliminary estimates.

The estimates, made by the Council of Economic Advisers, put the gross national product at an annual rate of \$ 427,000,000,000 in the first three months of 1957.

This compares with a \$ 423,800,000,000 rate for the last quarter of 1956 and \$ 412,400,000,000 for the whole of 1956.

The rise was the smallest quarter-to-quarter increase since the first quarter of 1956. Furthermore, it appeared largely due to higher prices rather than an actual increase in production of goods and services, though no specific break-down was made in the estimates.

Wage Increases Outstrip Production

Amsterdam, May 18 (NAFEN) Wage increases in Holland are outstripping production, says Dr. De Graaff, Chairman of the Central Social Employers' Association.

This position has been developing since 1954.

During 1955, productivity rose by only 3.8 percent, against wage increases of 8.1 percent. Last year, productivity went up by 3.6 percent and wages by 8 percent.

Another alarming factor is that the rate of increase in productivity has been declining since 1953.

Dr. De Graaff urges that no further pay increases should be granted with the exception of a two percent rise to allow for a 25 percent increase in rents which comes into effect at the beginning of July.

thermore, it appeared largely due to higher prices rather than an actual increase in production of goods and services, though no specific break-down was made in the estimates.

This confirms the picture of a « winter lull » in the economy that has been suggested by other key economic indicators, such as the Federal Reserve Board's index of industrial production.

Consumers continued to spend heavily, increasing their annual rate of buying of goods and services from \$ 333,200,000,000 in the last quarter of 1956 to \$ 336,500,000,000 in the first quarter of this year.

Government buying of goods and services also increased. It rose from an annual rate of \$ 82,000,000,000 in the last quarter of 1956 to \$ 84,500,000,000 in the first quarter of this year. The increase was about evenly divided between Federal and State and local buying.

Canada's Trade With Commonwealth

Ottawa, May 16 (NAFEN) — The Commonwealth countries provided a billion-dollar market for Canadian goods last year.

Canada's exports to the Commonwealth last year gained about five percent over the 1955 figure and reached a value of \$ 1,056,000,000 more than one-fifth of total Canadian exports and over half her exports outside North America.

The greatest relative increases occurred in exports to Pakistan, South Africa, and the West Indies, although the gain of \$ 44,000,000 in shipments to the

United Kingdom was the largest in absolute terms.

Almost the only declines came in exports to Australia and New Zealand.

On the import side, 1956 brought a 16 percent increase in Canada's purchases from the Commonwealth, because of larger shipments of manufactured metal and textile products from the United Kingdom and a growing movement of bauxite and alumina from Jamaica and British Guiana to smelters in Canada.

Rome, May 15 (NAFEN) — Foreign interests invested nearly \$ 35,000,000 in Italy last year. This compares with \$ 24,000,000 in 1955.

These figures account only for deals carried out by private enterprise. When other money, such as that lent by the World Bank, is taken into account, last year's total is increased by \$ 7,000,000.

Between July, 1956, and the end of April, the department of the Treasury handling these deals received nearly 100 applications from foreign investors seeking recognition of enterprises. Only two were turned down.

Enterprises accepted by the Treasury as being useful to the national economy enjoy worthwhile advantages. Profits can be transferred abroad at any time and there is no limit on the amount allowed to be sent out. Capital invested may also be transferred back to its country of origin.

Big increases are expected this year in the amount of money coming in.

The \$ 35,000,000 quoted as entering last year applies in practice only to the second half, as the new regulations did not come into force until July.

Most of the money coming in is in the form of United States dollars or Swiss francs.

Petroleum enterprises, chemical manufacturing and engineering are the chief industries concerned.

Fewer Unemployed In U.K.


London, May 17 (NAFEN) — Some 342,000 persons were unemployed in Britain on April 15.

This was an improvement of 21,000 when compared with a month earlier, although 76,000 higher than in April last year.

Only 82,000 were on short-time at the end of March in the manufacturing industries, a reduction of 27,000 when compared with the total for the end of February.

Those out of work in the middle of April represented 1.6 percent in April, 1956.

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COMMODITIES

COTTON

U.S. Grows Less

New York, May 17 (NAFEN) — Cotton production fell by 1,411,000 bales in the United States during 1956-1957.

It declined from 14,721,000,000 bales in the previous year to 13,310,000 bales.

The reduction follows government restrictions on the area of land which farmers were allowed to use for cotton-growing. They were allowed to plant 15,615,000 acres, against 16,928,000 acres in 1955-56.

When this factor is taken into consideration, it was a good season. The crop works out at a yield of 409 lbs an acre. This is only seven pounds below the record achieved in 1955.

Because of the large amounts of cotton now being sent abroad, next year's restrictions may be less severe.

More than 6,000,000 bales have been exported so far in the current selling season, against less than 1,500,000 bales in the corresponding period of last season.

It is believed that when the final figures for 1956-57 are announced, they will show that exports have been the highest for more than 20 years.

U.S. Cotton Exports

New York, May 11 (NAFEN) — Some 6,400,000 bales of raw cotton were exported by the United States during the first nine months of the current selling season.

This is a higher figure than that reached in any complete season since 1933-34.

In the first three quarters of 1955-56, shipments came to only 1,500,000 bales.

The nearest approach to the present figure was in 1939-40, when the full season saw 6,192,000 bales sent out. Only twice since then has the 5,000,000 mark been passed. Last season, shipments were down to 2,215,000 bales, the most disappointing total since 1947-48.

Demand from the home market is falling.

During the four weeks ending on March 30, it reached 691,000 bales, against 916,000 bales in the five weeks which ended on March 31 last year.

In the eight months which ended with March, home consumption came to 5,968,000 bales, against 6,348,000 bales in the corresponding period of 1955-56. It is expected that domestic consumers will take 8,750,000 bales in the whole of 1956-57. This compares with 9,202,000 bales in 1955-56 and an average of 9,055,000 bales in the five seasons which ended in 1954-1955.

Stocks held by mills in this country at the end of March were the lowest they have been at that date for five years.

MAIZE

Record Crops By

Salisbury, May 20 (NAFEN) — All southern African records for maize growing have been smashed by the 4,000,000-bag crop now ripening in Southern Rhodesia.

The yield is estimated at 23.3/4 bags to the morgen (about two acres), which is two-and-a-half bags more than last year. This high figure has been achieved

despite a more difficult season. It is nearly three times the highest yield ever reached in the Union of South Africa.

In Mashonaland, where 80 percent of the crop is grown, farmers have achieved nearly 26.5 bags to a morgen.

OIL

Kuwait Oil In Cheap Petrol Bid

Bonn, May 19 (NAFEN) — Swiss financial interests which plan to market petrol in West Germany at seven per cent lower than the standard price have arranged to buy their crude oil from Kuwait sources.

It is believed that the American Independent Oil Company is to be the supplier.

Herr Duttweiler, head of the Swiss interests, has announced that a company for building the necessary refinery will be formed before the end of May. The plant will have an annual throughput of 1,500,000 tons of crude oil.

Only about one-eighth of the share capital will be put up by Herr Duttweiler and his colleagues. American Independent will contribute one-third. It is planned to raise the remainder by selling shares to members of the West German Automobile Association.

RUBBER

New Interest In Natural Rubber

Saigon, May 19 — Reports from United States as well as from British rubber organizations show a renewed interest in natural rubber production as opposed to that of synthetic.

World demand for the latter well outstrips the present supply and synthetic rubber has uses for which natural rubber is unsuitable. The outlook for the grower seems bright.

Many thousands of acres of natural rubber have been replanted over the past six years and there is now news of experiments with hormones which result in an increase in production of white rubber by as much as 25 to 40 per cent for each tree.

The aim behind this research is the reduction of overheads by producing greater amounts of rubber from the same acreage with the same number of employees. Firestones are reported to have replanted 5,000 acres in Liberia, with plans for work on another 5,000 acres there and 2,500 acres in the Philippines. Goodyear are also reported to have increased their development plans for Brazil and another American organization, Goodrich, are now planting in Nigeria.

Canada Consumes More Rubber

Montreal, May 15 (NAFEN) — Some 21,000,000 lbs of rubber were consumed in Canada last year.

This compares with 19,900,000 lbs a year ago.

Natural rubber consumption reached 8,500,000 lbs, against 7,500,000 lbs. The figure for synthetic went up from 9,500,000 lbs to 9,400,000 lbs. That for reclaimed rubber rose from 3,100,000 lbs to 3,200,000 lbs.

Natural rubber accounted for 40.3 percent of the February consumption. This compares with a share of 13.7 per cent in that month of 1956 and of 39.8 per cent as last year's average.

TEA

Egypt To Buy Ceylon Tea

Colombo, May 18 (NAFEN) — Triangular trade between this country, Japan and Egypt is envisaged by Ceylon's Ministry of Trade and Commerce.

Negotiations are in progress with Japan and Egypt to introduce a switch account arrangement under which Japan will buy Egyptian cotton through Ceylon depositing all payments in Colombo. Egypt will use this money to pay for Ceylon tea.

This represents one of several attempts made by the Government of Ceylon to re-open the lucrative Egyptian tea market which was lost owing to payment difficulties.

Japan has agreed to import 10,000 bales of cotton from Egypt through Ceylon at an estimated cost of £ 1,000,000.

A Trade Ministry spokesman here explained that no arrangement had as yet been reached with Egypt for her to use the Japanese payment to purchase tea, but indicated it was likely that such an agreement would be concluded.

Egypt has been among Ceylon's best buyers for middle and low grown teas. In 1955, Egyptian buyers took nearly 26,000,000 lbs.

Ceylon Trade Perturbed

Colombo, May 21 (NAFEN) — The tea trade in Ceylon is perturbed over the Australian Government's decision to issue licences for the import of Formosa tea.

The trade here points out that Ceylon's already-declining tea exports to Australia will suffer further reverses as a result of this decision. In 1954, Ceylon supplied 85 per cent of Australia's tea requirements. In 1955, the exports dropped to 50 per cent, representing a decrease of nearly 20,000,000 lbs in terms of quantity.

Ceylon's declining tea trade with Australia is considered even worse than these figures show, as the Australian consumption rate is reported to be increasing at nearly six per cent a year.

Ceylon teas now sell in Australia at about 88 pence a lb, against the Formosan price of 54 pence a pound. The trade here feels that the only solution for Ceylon is to blend her tea with cheaper varieties, and concentrate on exporting to Australia cheap teas in preference to quality teas.

Meanwhile, the government is making every attempt to find new markets.

The Ceylon Ambassador to Moscow has been instructed to give the highest priority to discussions with the Russian Government for the purchase of Ceylon tea.

At present, no tea is sold to Russia through Colombo. Russia makes her purchases at the London auctions whenever she is in need of Ceylon blends.

Mr. Solomon Bandaranaike, the Prime Minister, has announced that one of the main reasons for his visit to Egypt next month en route to the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' meeting in London is to explore the possibility of re-opening Ceylon's tea trade with Egypt.

Mr. Bandaranaike expects to be in Cairo on June 24.

COMMODITY PRICES AND EXCHANGE

Commodity — Exchange

Foreign Exchange: PARIS (French Francs)

Official rates	Previous rate	Rate of 17 May	Rate of 18 May	Rate of 20 May	Rate of 21 May	Rate of 22 May	Rate of 23 May
U.S. dollar....	350.	350.	350.	350.	350.	350.	350.
Canadian dollar.....	366.20	365.70	365.70	366.40	366.30	366.50	366.40
Swiss franc....	8045.	8045.	8045.50	8046.50	8046.	8046.	8046.5
Belgium franc.	700.30	700.20	700.20	700.25	700.25	700.25	700.20

Foreign Exchange: NEW-YORK (U.S. Dollars)

100£ pound sterling)....	278.94	278.94	278.94	278.90	278.94	279.94	279.06
100 French frs.	.28509	.28509	.28509	.28509	.28509	.28509	.28509
100 Belgium francs.....	.19875	.19875	.19875	.19875	.19868	.19868	.19887

COMMODITIES — PRICES

Rubber R.S.S. (Saigon). In \$ per kilo FOB — From Friday May 17 to Thursday May 23

	Friday	Saturday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
FRANC ZONE						
R.S.S. No 1	22.80	22.80	22.80	22.50	22.50	22.50
R.S.S. No 2	22.50	22.50	21.50	22.20	22.20	22.20
R.S.S. No 3	22.20	22.20	22.20	21.90	21.90	21.90
R.S.S. No 4	21.50	21.50	21.50	21.30	21.30	21.30
U.S. \$ ZONE						
R.S.S. No 1	22.20	22.20	22.20	22.20	22.20	22.20
R.S.S. No 2	22.01	22.01	22.01	22.01	22.01	22.01
R.S.S. No 3	21.32	21.82	21.82	21.82	21.82	21.82
R.S.S. No 4	21.24	21.24	20.86	20.86	20.86	20.86

Rubber: Crêpe brun (Saigon), In \$ per kilo FOB — From Friday May 17 to Thursday May 23

	Friday	Saturday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Franc Zone						
Crêpe brun No 2x	19.40	19.40	19.40	19.50	19.50	19.50
Crêpe brun No 3x	18.70	18.70	18.70	18.00	18.00	18.00
Crêpe brun No 4x	17.40	17.40	17.40	17.50	17.50	17.50
U.S. \$ Zone						
Crêpe brun No 2x	19.75	19.75	19.36	19.36	19.36	19.36
Crêpe brun No 3x	18.21	18.21	17.83	17.83	17.83	17.83
Crêpe brun No 4x	17.44	17.44	17.06	17.06	17.06	17.06

Demand Expected For New Season Darjeeling Teas

Calcutta, May 9 (NAFEN) — The small quantity of new season's Darjeeling teas, which will be offered for sale early next week is expected to realize very remunerative prices, say tea trade sources here.

It is pointed out that there is a shortage of quality teas all over the world, though total production is likely to outstrip demand by a fair margin.

Furthermore, Russia, which provided much needed support to quality teas last year, will again be in the market to obtain her requirements for the current season. Buyers from the United Kingdom and West Asian countries are also expected to show keen interest.

Reduction in export duty on tea to 25 nP per lb, which is even lower than the minimum of 37.5 nP per lb under the slab system of export duty introduced in April last year, will also provide an incentive to overseas buyers to enter the market.

It is gathered that the total quantity on offer on May 13 will be below 1,000,000 lbs.

WOOL

Britain Using More

Manchester, May 15 (NAFEN) — Wool consumption in Britain

came to 134,540,000 lbs during the first three months of this year.

This beats the corresponding period of 1956 by 6,000,000 lbs.

The Wool Industry Bureau of Statistics says that output of merino tops rose from 48,600,000 lbs to 51,000,000 lbs. The output of crossbred tops increased from 33,000,000 lbs to 34,800,000 lbs.

The quantity of tops used by spinners went up by 1,500,000 lbs to 62,200,000 lbs. Deliveries of worsted yarn rose from 60,200,000 lbs to 63,100,000 lbs.

ECAFE To Discuss Steel Industry In Asia

Calcutta, May 9 (NAFEN) — The seventh session of the ECAFE Sub-committee on Iron and Steel will be held at Bangkok from June 3 to 10, 1957, it is learned.

The meeting will discuss the problems of the iron and steel industry in Asia and the Far East.

It will also deal with the training of technical personnel for the steel industry, techniques to be studied by Asian steel experts proceeding to Europe in September, 1957, iron and steel specifications, processes of iron manufacture without coking coal and their applicability in ECAFE countries and allied questions.

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(Continued from page 7)

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If attacked, we shall fight again. Your aid and your friendship will help us fight and, we hope, successfully. We will then surely not fight for Viet Nam alone. And if we, so we pray, are spared such a conflict, it may well be because the enemy is afraid of our determination and strength. In any case, and whatever the future will bring, we shall repay the best we owe to the Free World.

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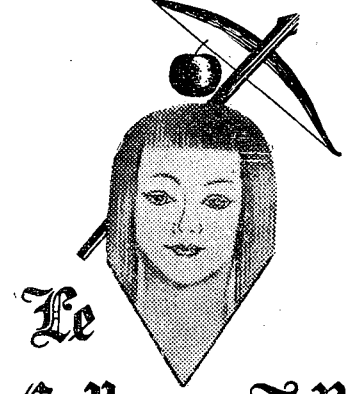
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« Petits Chanteurs A La Croix de Bois » To Perform In Saigon

Saigon, May 17 — French famed « Petits Chanteurs a la Croix de Bois » will give a performance on May 27 at 9:00 P.M. at the Dai Nam Theater under the sponsorship of the French Educational and Cultural Cooperation Mission to Viet Nam.

Tickets of 100, 200 and 300 piasters are on sale as of Friday May 17, at the Audio-Visual Office of the French Educational Mission 142 Hong Thap Tu St. (ex Chasseloup Laubat).

No ticket is to be on sale at the Dai Nam Theater.

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Judging will be based on :

Most Beautiful Eyes	60 %
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Best Costume	10 %
Most Charm	10 %

You Are Welcome !

Kishi

(Continued from page 14)

In discussing economic cooperation in the various countries he will visit, the prime minister meanwhile will do his best to wipe out existing apprehensions over Japanese intentions in this hemisphere. No only will he try to convince remaining skeptics that Japan no longer is imperialistic, but also he will try to sway those who believe that Japanese offers of economic cooperation are made solely in Japan's interest. The benefits, he will emphasize, would be mutual.

In general terms, Japan will suggest sending more industrial, agricultural and fisheries experts to Asian countries and providing more facilities in Japan to train Asians in these fields. Among specific subjects he will take up with his host countries are:

India's Iron Ore

Burma: A complaint that Japan is pricing its goods too high under its reparations agreement to provide US\$20 million a year for 10 years in goods and services.

India: A possible trade and navigation treaty, further Japanese cooperation toward implementation of the country's five-year plans and increased purchases of its iron ore, which the Japanese steel industry rates far better than China's.

Pakistan: The signing of a cultural agreement providing for exchanges of students, teachers and "cultural assets".

Thailand: The interpretation of the term "investment". From currency accumulated in Japan as counterpart payment for money borrowed from Thailand for military expenditures, Japan agreed to provide 9.6 billion yen for long-term investment. This is interpreted the word to mean "grant." Japanese sources say, while Japan looks upon it as equivalent to a normal financial investment, to be repaid eventually along with interest.

Kishi plans to visit Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines and South Viet Nam later — perhaps this fall.

World Affairs

(Continued from page 9)

last 30 months but much remains to be done if we want to avert another similar disaster.

"We must be more aware that International Communism and Communist China have by no means given up their avowed aim of world conquest, that there is North Korea, and that in this shrunken world of our Viet Nam like every other free nation has become an American frontier, as well as an Australian or an Indonesian frontier.

"For this reason, American military aid is American defense; and economic aid is as necessary because there can be no real military strength without economic self-sufficiency.

"Your great President means and knows what he says when he warns that one dollar in economic aid is worth five dollars in weapons: in this atomic age, aid — both economic and military — has become the most effective and least expensive weapon: solidarity among men and nations is indeed the divine law of human survival. I thank you."

Key To Orient

(Continued from page 11)

living memory, was a purely Moslem area is today a multinational territory without cultural or religious roots.

Communist Russia's treatment of her colonial peoples is well known in Islamic circles, since many of the refugees fled to adjoining Moslem countries. This dark chapter of history has been one of the main stumbling blocks in her efforts to win the Islamic world. Last month, for instance, a Turkestan Liberation Movement was launched in Jakarta. Its aim is "to support the struggle of the Turkestanian people against Communist colonialism." The committee includes many prominent Indonesian Moslems. During the last ten years the Russians have had to admit that there are widespread nationalist movements in Turkestan.

In 1952 Soviet pilgrims suddenly appeared in Mecca. The Kremlin had begun to woo the Islamic peoples of the free world in earnest. Since 1924 a systematic study of the Moslem world has been made, first in the Leningrad Oriental Institute, later in the Moscow Academy of Science and an ever-increasing volume of material is being produced. Perhaps most important of all, a School of Islamic Theology was established in Tashkent in 1944. Students from Turkey, Afghanistan, Persia, Pakistan, Indonesia and other Moslem countries, after being grounded in Communism in Moscow, were trained how to use Islamic theology for their own political purposes.

In Tashkent the Koran has been analysed, each verse and sentence has been studied with a view to adapting and harnessing its teachings to the furtherance of Communism. Communists find much that can be removed from the context and harmonized with Marxist doctrine. For example, there is a verse which says that the hungry masses have the right to rise against the rich and to deprive them of gold amassed through exploitation of the people.

Students at Tashkent have to learn the most important parts of the Koran by heart. Thus trained as teachers, they return to their respective countries and start the burrowing, undermining policy which is intended eventually to break down Islamic resistance. With the Koran in their hands as a passport, these teachers can travel from country to country, enjoying free entry to mosques, schools and religious institutions. They preach with enthusiasm and, by linking the Koran to everyday happenings, they bring it to life in a way which contrasts favourably with the dry academic approach of the ulemas trained at El Azhar University in Cairo.

As Halid Bardash, head of the Communist Party of Syria and a man of great theological knowledge, said last year:

"The Koran is the key to the gates of the Orient and we Marxists have learned from experience how to handle that key."

Russia is fully aware of her own early mistakes in Central Asia. She has therefore made sure that China should adopt a different policy in handling her Moslems. From the earliest days of Communist rule, Peking has stressed the freedom of worship that exists for her Moslem po-

Hear Who's Talking

(Continued from page 11)

banks. Upon his return to Cairo he was court-martialled — not for having exceeded his duties but for having bungled them.

Libya is by no means the only country which has found it necessary to insist on the removal of an Egyptian military attache. Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Ethiopia have all at different junctures followed the same course. It is apparent that as far as Egypt is concerned a military attache may often be nothing more or less than an official saboteur.

In Beirut, for example, a mass of explosives and small arms were discovered in the house occupied by the chauffeur of the assistant military attache to the Lebanon, while a quantity of equally lethal devices were found in the boot of one of the Egyptian Embassy cars. The origin of heavy explosions which recently occurred in Beirut no longer appears particularly mysterious.

With all this to live down, it is astonishing that Egypt's propaganda services, and those of her follower Syria, should deliberately ascribe disruptive activity in Jordan to a western military attache. Propaganda which merely boomerangs back on to its initiators is not very effective.

pulation and the Chinese pilgrims to Mecca make a triumphal tour of Islamic countries each year, bearing gifts and a wealth of insidious propaganda.

Many of the Indonesian and Pakistani Moslems, however, refuse to accept Peking's evaluation of the situation and are a thorn in the flesh of the Chinese regime. Last year, two important Indonesian Moslem scholars visited China and on their return to Jakarta rebutted all Peking's talk about religious freedom. According to them no new generation of Moslem leaders is being trained and no Chinese Moslem may make the pilgrimage to Mecca without Government approval.

The question that Indonesian Moslems repeatedly ask is "What has happened to the Chinese Moslems?" Before World War II their number was generally accepted as between thirty and forty million. At the current rate of population increase this figure might now be expected to have reached between forty and fifty million. But the All China Moslem League flatly maintains that there are only ten million and that there never have been more. This discrepancy is proving excellent propaganda for the Moslems of the free world, who are eager to educate their fellow believers in the true facts of Communist duplicity.

Soviet policy towards Islam is planned in two phases. The present phase is "the collaboration of Marxism and Islam" and, according to Moscow, is designed to defeat their common enemy: the West. Russia hopes to achieve this by leading Arab nationalism into paths so extreme that there must inevitably be an ultimate, irrevocable break between the Islamic countries and the free world.

The second phase, planned to follow this break with the West, is "the ideological conquest of Islam" whereby its basic concepts will be demolished by the same methods that Moscow employed towards her own Moslems.

Revision Of Ceylon Constitution

Colombo, May 11 (NAFEN)—

A revision of the Ceylon Constitution is to be considered by a 16-member Select Committee.

The committee, which will be appointed soon after parliament meets next month, will be called upon to consider two major issues. One is the changing of the island's present status to that of a Republic on the Indian pattern, and the other is the guaranteeing of fundamental rights to minorities.

The committee will also consider the future of Ceylon's Upper House of Parliament — the Senate which has a membership of 30, and the continued appointment of 6 members to the Lower House — the House of Representatives — to supervise the interests of un-represented minorities.

This represents the first attempt to revise the Constitution of Ceylon which was introduced in 1947.

Hong Kong's Economic Situation

Reviewing Hong Kong's economic achievement the "Financial Times" (May 21) reveals that Hong Kong has perhaps the highest income per head of any Far Eastern country.

Prior to the last war the Colony obtained its income from entrepot trading, when the mainland of China was the most important customer. But from taking 38 % of the port's exports in 1938, mainland China had decreased its purchases to 4 % in 1953. The paper stresses that far from allowing this to penalise its economy, "Hong Kong has compensated for the reduction of China trade by greatly extending its markets in Indonesia, Malaya, Thailand, Japan and elsewhere."

Hong Kong has turned its knowledge amassed from entrepot traffic to good use in developing markets for the products of the light industries with which it has been supplementing its economy. In 1940 there were eight hundred registered factories employing thirty thousand workers, while in 1955 two thousand nine hundred and twenty-five registered factories employed almost 130 thousand workers and this expansion continues. A growing stream of products includes textiles, rubber footwear, metal products, electrical appliances, foods and drinks, paints, plastics, cordage, cement, cigarettes and matches.

The paper strikes an optimistic note on the political outlook

Pacific Islanders Injured By H-Bomb

New York, May 20 (NAFEN)

— A number of people living in the Marshall Islands were affected by radiation when the United States exploded a hydrogen bomb in the area on March 1, 1954, it is now disclosed.

The worst-affected were 64 who live on Rongelap.

Flakes of radio-active dust fell on them six hours after the explosion.

By the time it was realized what had happened, they had been exposed to about 175 Roentgen units of radio-activity. It is accepted that 450 units is needed to kill a person.

All those injured have now recovered as far as doctors can say — but if their home had been 40 miles further north, they would have been fatally affected.

News of the injuries has been released by a House Appropriations Committee.

It was given before the committee in testimony by Dr Frank H. Shelton, technical director of a Forces weapon project connected with nuclear warfare.

Other details now disclosed include the fact that the bomb had a force equal to roughly 15,000,000 tons of TNT. The cloud from it rose 100,000 feet. The stem was six-and-a-half miles thick, with the mushroom top spreading across 66 miles.

Flying Start

(Continued from page 14)

ing for hours at a time, his arguments over every little detail, in the end produced a weariness with him. All the support he had for the good points he was making dribbled away as he persisted in what really amounted in the end to filibustering.

Mr Lim Yew Hock certainly seems, as Chief Minister, to be determined to see that democracy should triumph.

There are good many difficulties ahead for Singapore. But at least there has been a really democratic argument about the agreement which Mr Lim Yew Hock secured with Britain on the new Constitution. Judging by the fact that the Chief Minister's motion approving the Constitution was carried by 23 to 2, it seems as though Singapore will get off to a flying start.

and says: "There is little chance of any internal movement sweeping Hong Kong to absorption by China."

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