

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SPECIAL BULLETIN

US AID MISSION TO VIETNAM

NUMBER: 1

DATE: February 9, 1968

The Special Bulletin, here appearing for the first time, will be issued daily during the present circumstances. Information of importance to the US AID Vietnamese and American community will be included on a current basis insofar as possible. Material to be published may be delivered to the Information Center located in the office of Mr. Culbertson, ADLD, or reported on ext. 5271.

MEMO FROM US AID DIRECTOR D.G. MACDONALD

"As we move back to normal, we must redirect our talents and efforts from our previous mid- and long-term goals to those actions required to assist the GVN in taking the immediate steps required to recover from the treacherous VC attack on civilian-populated areas. In this regard, we must match the efforts of the Vietnamese, American and other Free World fighting men who are bravely giving their full measure to their task. The effort we face calls for all the resources, intelligence and skill that we can muster. We must invent and put into operation the unconventional kind of programs and activities which will best help us support the GVN in their overall effort.

"My pride increases when I learn of continuing acts demonstrated by many of our US AID colleagues as they carry out the work that needs to be done. This is especially so as I know the emergency in which you carry out your work and the long hours you devote to your efforts. You are working in critical areas -- helping the GVN to keep the utilities operating, the hospitals serving the wounded, the medical supplies going to where they are needed, the food supply channels opened and supporting the GVN efforts to help the many refugees.

"I know these acts are performed without thought of personal acknowledgment. However, I want you to know that I am proud of your performance during these days. I know that the Ambassador shares these views."

USAID OFFICE HOURS

Until further notice US AID office hours are 0830 - 1230 and 1430 - 1730. In establishing these hours it is recognized that many Vietnamese employees will not be able to work in the afternoons because of current 2 p.m. curfew restrictions in certain parts of the city and that all Vietnamese employees will have to leave in time to abide by 5 p.m. curfew restrictions. The curfew for American employees is 7 p.m. It is recognized that American employees dependent on Vietnamese drivers may also have to leave prior to 5:30 p.m. American employees are encouraged to form car pools and make other arrangements with Americans driving cars to work so that American employees can be available during working hours. Volunteer American drivers are being sought by the Motor Pool.

CUMULATIVE USAID-FINANCED (INCLUDING THOSE ASSIGNED TO CORDS) PERSONNEL
CUMULATIVE - REPORT OF DEAD - INJURED - CUMULATIVE

February 8, 1968

SAIGON - Dead - None

Injured - Two individuals, both in satisfactory condition.

FIELD - Dead: John T. McCarthy, CORDS/PSD - killed by sniper fire, NHA TRANG

Claude L. Curtice - CORDS/NLD. Deceased, not by hostile action.
DANANG

Jeffrey S. Lundstedt - CORDS/HUE

Kermit J. Krause - LOG/HUE

Injured: One individual in satisfactory condition; three individuals with slight injuries who have returned to duty.

EXCERPTS FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DAILY REPORT OF USAID ACTIVITIES TO THE
AMBASSADOR, FEBRUARY 8, 1968

Because of the continuing difficulty many of USAID's key Vietnamese personnel have had in securing food, USAID expects to begin direct purchase and redistribution of rice and possibly other foods. Details will be issued by ADLOG.

* * *

Potable water is now being gravity fed rather than force pumped from the Dong-Nai water plant to Saigon so as to lessen chances of line breaks and leakages as maintenance crews are still skeletal. Nonetheless, positive pressure is being maintained at 25 pounds per square inch which is adequate to serve all needs, including fire protection.

* * *

Only 50 to 60 percent of the Saigon/Cholon area is now getting electric power from the city's grid. As of 3:30 p.m. Thursday, it is expected area coverage will be up to 60 to 70 percent by midnight Thursday.

* * *

The fuel crisis causing shutdown of the Phu-Tho long-distance lines transmitter reported yesterday (Wednesday) has been overcome. A six-day supply of fuel has been delivered. All main Saigon telephone exchanges remain in operation (except that conditions in Cholon are unknown).

* * *

Hospital admissions (as of February 8) to Saigon area hospitals for the previous twenty-four-hour period totaled forty-eight casualties -- no deaths. Total admissions to date 3118 with 1537 remaining in hospitals.

Activities in Cho Ray and Tu Du Hospitals are hampered by an influx of refugees into the hospital areas.

* * *

The Ministry of Health has started a blood donor campaign (as of February 8). Donor stations are at Central Blood Bank, Cholon, Binh-Dan, Tu-Du, and Saigon Emergency Hospitals. Americans, if they desire, should report to Saigon Emergency Hospital (on Le-Loi opposite the central market) only. Two American nurses and one American doctor are on duty.

* * *

The city public works has 29 new five-ton garbage dump trucks, but no one to operate them despite radio pleas for operators to report. If the operators do not respond to today's broadcasts (February 8), volunteer truck drivers will be sought from any source to remove garbage and trash from the streets.

* * *

An offer of assistance from the Australian Embassy of 500 tons of galvanized sheet roofing has been made. Other foreign embassies in Saigon are seeking ideas for specific programs with which to respond to the GVN plea for help. USAID has inventoried immediate emergency requirements (for example -- milk, canned fish and meats, and light blankets) and has cabled these needs to interested FWA capitals. USAID staff is helping Mr. Calhoun to assist the GVN in their liaison efforts with the foreign missions in Saigon to obtain assistance. Positive responses have already been received from the UK and the Vatican; the Japanese and Germans are expected to follow through shortly. UNICEF is beginning to mount an emergency program.

HOURS OF SERVICE. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1968

Commissary Cholon: 0900 - 1300

Post Exchanges:

Cholon	--	1000 - 1500 limited service
Brink	--	1200 - 1700 limited service
Meyerkord	--	1000 - 1500 limited service
Ton-Son-Nhut	--	1100 - 1700 limited service

Check Cashing:

USAID #1 and #2:	0930 - 1130
Old Embassy Annex:	0900 - 1100; 1500 - 1700

TRAVEL TO CHOLON COMMISSARY

Recommended route to the Cholon Commissary for Friday, February 9:
Follow Tran Hung Dao to a point west of Cong Hoa at least $\frac{1}{2}$ mile beyond the
17th Field Hospital. Take open streets, northward, toward Commissary compound.

CABLE INFORMATION

USAID is keeping all important contact points advised of any personnel
accidents since January 30, 1968. AID/W, safehaven posts in Manila, Taipei,
Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, and other points as required are being kept informed.
AID/W has established a central information office to answer inquiries
received from relatives and friends about staff in Vietnam.

Due to the press of emergency work and communications traffic, it
is not possible to send individual messages to stateside addresses as
has been requested by several employees.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Several offices and units in USAID are in need of American personnel
to assist in handling emergency operations. Anyone able to assist in the
following activities is requested to call Miss Doris Loechner, ADIAB,
Ext. 5272.

Drivers: Needed primarily in the afternoon to move personnel, handle
supplies, and meet emergency needs. Drivers of cars, light and heavy
trucks, and buses are needed. Volunteers should specify what class of
vehicle they are qualified to drive.

Mail Room Sorters: There is a current need for two persons, pre-
ferably women.

Gas Delivery: 10 men are needed to drive light trucks and to
deliver Buta Gas.

Laborers: Needed to aid in rice distribution. This is heavy work.

"C" RATIONS

Cartons of "C" rations containing 12 meals are available at USAID #2
for \$8.75 per carton.

Distribution: D

Validated: DD

USAID INFORMATION CENTER

Emergency telephone service is available at the Information Center, 4th floor, USAID I. Information will be relayed from there to key offices of the Mission during working hours. Messages of urgency and importance will be transmitted promptly. DON'T CALL US . . . WE'LL CALL YOU!

WARNING ON FIREARMS

In an interview Friday morning, Philip D. Batson, acting chief, PSD, warning all USAID personnel regarding possession of firearms in Saigon. "It must be remembered that, under Vietnamese law, possession of un-registered firearms is prohibited." Mr. Batson stated, "and violators are subject to severe penalties."

National Police officers have been searching houses in several areas of Saigon, and have discovered illegal weapons. Unregistered weapons may be confiscated," added Mr. Batson, "and holders may be arrested." USAID personnel who have personal firearms in their possession may, however, register them with the Customs and Travel Unit of the American Embassy. This action will be sufficient to establish legal ownership and possession.

In response to inquiries and requests for issue of weapons, Mr. Batson pointed out that PSD is definitely not issuing firearms to USAID personnel. Employees holding legally registered arms are cautioned against allowing servants or other Vietnamese individuals to handle them. Under no circumstances are firearms to be entrusted to servants.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Several offices and units in USAID are in need of American personnel to assist in handling emergency operations. Anyone able to assist in the following activities is requested to call Miss Doris Eoehner, Ext. 5272.

Drivers: Needed primarily in the afternoon to move personnel, handle supplies, and to meet other needs. Please state if you can drive a bus, heavy truck, light truck, or car.

Buta Gas Delivery: Men are needed to drive light trucks and to make deliveries of gas at residences.

Laborers: Men are needed in rice distribution; this is heavy work.

Workers: Men are needed to perform various duties at the Commissary.

REQUESTS FOR AMERICAN VOLUNTEER HELP

All requests for American volunteer help should be made by the Division Chief to Richard W. Newman, ADA, Ext. 5356 (or 5609 and leave a message) or in case of great urgency, directly to Jack A. McConnell at Ext. 5609. Whenever possible, requirements should be in by 1600 of the preceding day. The Information Center will arrange for volunteer help and will confirm arrangements with the requesting division.

CABLE INFORMATION (repeat from SPECIAL BULLETIN, No. 1)

USAID is keeping all important contact points advised of any personnel accidents since January 30, 1968. AID/W, safehaven posts in Manila, Taipei, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, and other points as required are being kept informed. AID/W has established a central information office to answer inquiries received from relatives and friends about staff in Vietnam.

Due to the press of emergency work and communications traffic, it is not possible to send individual messages to stateside addresses as has been requested by several employees.

RELIEF EFFORTS REPORTED

Responding to the sudden needs of thousands of refugees and displaced persons the Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees reported that food and other needed items are being distributed widely. As of 1800 hrs., 7 February, the following had been given to needy people:

Rice	200 tons
Rice balls (cooked rice)	1,785 kg.
Condensed milk	25,000 cans
Canned fish	35,000 cans
Canned meat	8,000 cans
Nuoc mam	7,500 ltrs.
Bread	12,500 loaves
Mosquito nets	200 nets
Bed mats	27,158 mats
Water containers	1,767 units
Aluminum cooking utensils	3,300 sets

Contributions of money from individuals and organizations as of 1200 hrs., 8 February, totaled VN\$3,073,595.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Embassy Dispensary is now located in Ly Hotel, 6 Chien-Si Circle (Duy Tan). It offers routine medical services on the schedule appearing below. All US AID personnel should use this facility, rather than the 17th Field Hospital.

Hours of operation:

Monday - Friday: 0900 - 1000 by appointment, physical examinations
0900 - 1800 Immunizations
1000 - 1230 Sick Call
1430 - 1500 by appointment
1530 - 1800 Sick Call

Saturday & Sunday: 1000 - 1200 Sick Call

The 17th Field Hospital, 263 Tran Hung Dao, maintains outpatient services; it offers emergency medical and surgical services. The schedule appears below:

Outpatient services: Daily, 0730 - 1800
Emergency services: Daily, 1800 - 0730

US AID personnel should call on the 17th Field Hospital only in event of genuine emergency.

BUTA GAS

Deliveries of Buta Gas have been unavoidably delayed. Orders placed within the last two weeks that remain unfilled should be placed again. GSO, utilizing volunteer American personnel, will deliver Buta Gas Saturday and Sunday, processing requests as quickly as possible. An approximate delivery schedule will be published in a later BULLETIN. Deliveries to members of the fairer sex will be made to point of use; but in order to expedite distribution as much as possible, able-bodied males will be expected to have their empty cylinders ready for exchange with full cylinders at the truck side. For each full cylinder of gas delivered, an empty cylinder must be picked up. Requests for extra cylinders cannot be honored.

RETAIL PRICES, FEBRUARY 9, 1968

Prices fell today, February 9, in all food groups, rice, protein foods, and vegetables. However, the price differential between Saigon and Cholon markets was again evident, probably because of the fighting in Cholon yesterday.

Small quantities of fresh Dalat cabbage were reported in some Saigon-Cholon markets today for the first time since late January. Over half of the clothing and hardware stands in the Saigon Central Market were open today, but there were very few shoppers. The central section of the Central Market remained closed.

Selected Prices - all quantities 1 kg. unless otherwise indicated.

	<u>Jan. 22</u>	<u>Feb. 8</u>	<u>Feb. 9</u>
Rice-Nang-huong/100 Kg.	VN\$3400	6500	6000
Soc-nau	2450	4500	4500
No. 1/25% Brokens	2100	4000	4000
Lean Pork	350	600	550
Pork Bellies	230	400	350
Fish - Ca Tre	250	450	400
Brown Sugar	26	30	28-30
Condensed Milk - can	38	60	55
Cabbage - Dalat	35	200	180
Cabbage - local	17	60	50
Bindweed	18	60	45
Cucumbers	27	60	40-50
Nuoc Mam	150	180	180
Kerosene - liter	9	14	14
Chicken	260	400	400

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EXCERPTS FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DAILY REPORT OF USAID ACTIVITIES TO THE
AMBASSADOR, FEBRUARY 9, 1968

The number of refugee collection stations within Saigon increased from 42 to 48 today. Discipline within the refugee centers run by religious orders is quite good.

* * *

Saigon hospital operations continue to be hamstrung by refugees within compounds ... The bulk of refugees are in the Cho Ray and Tu Du areas ... Admissions to Ministry of Health hospitals in the greater Saigon area for the previous 24 hour period totalled 343 casualties--12 deaths. Total admissions to date total 3,431 with 1,546 remaining in hospitals and 194 dead ... With the return of the Tuyen-Duc Hospital (Dalat) to GVN hands all provincial hospitals are again in government control and all are operational.

Incomplete reports from Col. Moncrief's regional chief health officers on Vietnamese civilian war casualties are:

- Region II 869 dead
3,442 wounded
- Region III 179 dead
2,439 wounded
- Region IV 1,993 dead (includes estimate of 1,000 in
Kien-Hoa Province)
4,415 wounded
- No report from Region I

* * *

Power is at 65 percent coverage in the Saigon/Cholon area and expects to increase today. Power is adequate for present needs as demand has been limited by the emergency.

* * *

City sanitation remains a serious problem although yesterday there were 24 garbage trucks on the job as against 17 the day before. The lack of common laborers (drivers and loaders) because of curfew problems is the big problem here.

Potable water continues to be heavily chlorinated and gravity fed into Saigon. There is adequate service throughout the metropolitan area ... The Phu-Tho long distance lines transmitter continues to operate entirely satisfactorily ... The local Saigon telephone system remains operational.

* * *

Despite yesterday's announcement that the airport was open for commercial operations, no flights moved.

* * *

In addition to the large quantity of rice available in Saigon and Cholon warehouses (over 120,000 tons) there are about 30,000 tons on 4 ships in Saigon.

* * *

USAID arranged for issues of Title II PL 480 commodities to III CTZ, Gia-Dinh, Phu-Quac Relief Committee and Ministry of Public Health as follows:

Oil	2,050 cases (6 gal.)
Flour	200 bags (100 lb.)
Beans	203 bags (100 lb.)
CSM*	1,025 bags (50 lb.)
Bulgar	570 bags (23 kg.)

* Corn, soy, milk mix; 20% protein content.

USAID is delivering a stockpile of food stores to the Air America warehouse at Tan-Son-Nhut for instant use in filling shipments to field locations as they are requested.

* * *

Schools in Saigon have not operated during the emergency and no date has yet been set to reopen them. Many school grounds are being used as refugee staging areas. Many teachers and students are assisting with rice distribution.

* * *

A team from USAID/Logistics and Philco-Ford made a reconnaissance of the DIC warehouse area in Cholon with military escort. As of mid-morning, February 8, DIC warehouse was still intact. Viet-Cong had been inside the warehouse and had done some damage but food stocks inside were largely intact.

USAID-FINANCED (INCLUDING THOSE ASSIGNED TO CORDS) PERSONNEL CUMULATIVE-
REPORT OF DEAD - INJURED - MISSING, FEBRUARY 10, 1968

Saigon

Dead None

Injured 2 (1 evacuated, 1 in satisfactory condition, released from hospital)

Unaccounted for 2

Field

Dead

John T. McCarthy, CORDS/PSD, Nha-Trang
Claude L. Curtice, CORDS/NLD, Danang (deceased, not by hostile action)
Jeffrey S. Lundstedt, CORDS, Hue
Kermit J. Krause, CORDS/LOG, Hue
Robert R. Little, CORDS, Hue
Thomas M. Gompertz, CORDS/NLD, Hue

Injured 4 (3 returned to duty, 1 in satisfactory condition)

Unaccounted for 2

The situation in Hue is still fluid and it is not possible to give exact figures as to personnel missing.

INQUIRIES TO PER/AM

Due to heavy pressure of work in PER/A and unavoidable absence of many Vietnamese employees, personnel are requested to defer visitation to PER/A for routine business matters. Urgent items only will be handled at this time.

AFVN RADIO: ARE YOU LISTENING?

Many special announcements reported over AFVN are specifically aimed at military personnel. For example, an armed escort is NOT required for civilian movement within secure areas of Saigon.

CURRENT STATUS OF GVN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, REPORTED BY ADPA,
FEBRUARY 10, 1968

In general, we have received Ministry by Ministry reports that the percent of work force on duty varies from 50% in the less vital ministries on up to 90-95% in some of the key Ministries.

Key employees in some of the more vital Ministries remain in their offices 24 hours per day, e.g. Ministry of Interior monitors communications from local government in the provinces on a round the clock basis. Some of the key Ministries, such as Chieu Hoi and Refugees, work on a round the clock basis.

It is reported that the Ministry of Education has released school teachers to work at the key Ministries. No figures on this as yet. No reports as yet of any cross-Ministry transfer of employees to balance the work load.

RELIEF ACTIVITIES CONTINUING

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees reported this morning that 88 refugee centers were in operation as of 1800 hrs. Friday. Approximately 165,000 individuals had been aided up to that hour. Twenty-four of the centers are located in Gia Dinh, and have processed nearly 42% of the total number of refugees.

	<u>Centers</u>	<u>Refugees</u>
Saigon	64	95,754
Gia Dinh	24	68,664
Totals	88	164,418

Volunteers from a large number of Vietnamese voluntary organizations are manning the centers. The total number of workers is now high in the hundreds. As of Thursday afternoon, 27 organizations had been identified. Many groups, however, have volunteered help directly, without first registering with the Ministry.

Quantities of food and other commodities are being distributed to needy individuals and groups. Following is a resume of distribution:

Relief Commodities Distributed
Totals as of 1800 hrs, 8 February 1968

Rice	249 tons
Rice balls (cooked rice)	1,787 kg
Condensed milk	32,295 cans
Canned meat	7,678 cans*
Canned fish	37,484 cans
Nuoc Mam	8,038 ltr
Bread	14,627 loaves

Mosquito nets	300 ea.
Bed mats	33,864 ea.
Blankets	7,900 ea.
Cooking utensils	4,244 sets
Water containers	1,847 ea.
Refuse cans	265 ea.

* Corrected figure

RETAIL PRICES, FEBRUARY 10, 1968

Prices rose slightly today, February 10. Arrivals of fish and vegetables fell because travel was interrupted south and west of Saigon. Today's prices in Cholon are said to be about 20% higher than prices in Saigon.

Bananas were available in the Saigon Central Market today. The vender said she had come from Ho-Nai which is about 25 kilometers from Saigon on the road to Dalat. Dalat cabbage was available; however, some vendors said it had come from Dalat by road and/or by air on military flights, while others said no produce was coming from Dalat because the road was still closed and that the cabbage they were selling (a soldier and his wife) arrived before Tet.

Prices of public transport for Vietnamese were reported as: 1) cyclo, VN\$80 for 1.5 km., 2) trilambretta, to Cholon from Bien-Hoa bridge via Phan-Thân-Gian Street, VN\$800 for ten people, or VN\$80 each.

Selected Prices - all quantities 1 kg. unless otherwise indicated.

	<u>Jan. 22</u>	<u>Feb. 9</u>	<u>Feb. 10</u>
Rice-Nang-huong/100 kg.	VN\$3400	6000	6000
Soc-nau	2470	4500	4500
No. 1	2100	4000	4000
Lean Pork	350	550	550
Pork Bellies	230	350	350
Fish - Ca Tre	250	400	550
Brown Sugar	26	28-30	28
Condensed Milk - can	35	55	50
Cabbage - Dalat	35	180	180
Cabbage - local	17	50	90-100
Bindweed	18	45	70
Cucumbers	27	40-50	40
Duck Eggs - each	8.5	15*	16-17
Nuoc Mam (jar)	150	180	180

* February 8

To those who have responded so promptly, our hearty thanks. To prospective volunteers, please do not hesitate to register. Even if no openings exist for your particular talent, making yourself available will help us to meet emergencies as they arise.

HOURS AND SCHEDULES, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1968

USAID employees will report for work 0830-1230 and 1430-1730. Attendance by Vietnamese personnel is optional.

	PX (limited service)	Commissary
Cholon	1000-1500	1000-1400
Brink	1200-1700	
Meyerkord	1000-1500	
Tan-Son-Nhut	1100-1700	

Snack Bar, USAID I is open for coffee 0900-1100, and for lunch 1100-1230. Chit books needed.

ALL PERSONNEL IN SAIGON WHO HAVE USAID OWNED SELF-DRIVE MOTOR VEHICLES ASSIGNED TO THEM WHICH CANNOT BE LOCATED, SHOULD REPORT BY TELEPHONE TO THE TRANSPORTATION OFFICE AT USAID II EXT. 5457 or 5447.

Distribution D

Validated ED

There is no shortage of electric power in Saigon. The power load in past 24 hours was 80 megawatts compared with a normal load of 116 megawatts.

* * *

Adequate water service continues throughout the Saigon Metropolitan area. Sufficient staff are now on hand to maintain current operations on a reasonably non-emergency basis. Since adequate power is now available to operate the 4 raw-water pumps at the intake station, the city will cease drawing from 10 wells tapped during the last few days.

* * *

The Phu-Tho long-distance transmitter site is operating nicely. USAID Page Communications contractors are clearing cable troubles and installing emergency telephones. The Directorate for P&T is attempting to restore public telegram service today. All out of country service is still operating for press, USO circuits, and Telex.

* * *

In the Saigon area, railroad facilities and rolling stock were not damaged and the railroads have already begun providing some local service.

* * *

The Director General of Housing and Urban Reconstruction is moving quickly to plan a massive program of reconstructing housing in the devastated areas of Saigon. Plans call for the construction of modest, yet permanent, structures. Occupants would participate in the construction.

* * *

AID/W reports being deluged by inquiries from USAID-sponsored Vietnamese studying in the U.S. for word of their families. USAID will try to begin gathering what information it can.

* * *

Ten tons of rice were drawn yesterday, February 9, and are being distributed to USAID and CORDS Vietnamese and third country national employees at the official GVN price of 22 piasters per kilo.

"C" RATION" EXHAUSTED

The supply of "C" Rations at USAID II has been exhausted. No reorder at this time will be made.

USAID-FINANCED (INCLUDING THOSE ASSIGNED TO CORDS) PERSONNEL CUMULATIVE-
REPORT OF DEAD - INJURED - MISSING, FEBRUARY 11, 1968

Saigon

Dead	None
Injured	2 (1 evacuated, 1 in satisfactory condition, released from hospital)
Unaccounted for	2

Field

Dead

John T. McCarthy, CORPS/PSD, Nha-Trang
Claude L. Curtice, CORDS/NLD, Danang (deceased, not by hostile action)
Jeffrey S. Lundstedt, CORDS, Hue
Kermit J. Krause, CORDS/LOG, Hue
Robert R. Little, CORDS, Hue
Thomas M. Gompertz, CORDS/NLD, Hue
Hugh C. Lobit, CORDS/NLD, Vinh Long

Injured 6 (3 returned to duty, 3 hospitalized)

Unaccounted for 3

The situation in Hue is still fluid and it is not possible to give exact figures as to personnel missing.

CURFEW HOURS SUMMARIZED

Curfew hours for Vietnamese residents of Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh are as follows:

1400 - 0730 hrs: Districts 5, 6, 7, 8, and part of 3*

1700 - 0730 hrs: Districts 1, 2, 4, and part of 3*

24 hours/day: District 9 and Gia-Dinh

Curfew hours for Americans is 1900 - 0800

These parts have not been identified.

The following information is offered for whatever help it may give in establishing district locations:

- District 1 - Principal streets include Nguyen-Hue, Tu-Do, Phan-Thang-Gian, Hai-Ba-Trung, Thong-Nhut, and the Zoo.
- District 2 - Principal streets include Tran-Hung-Deo, Nguyen-Cu-Trinh, Nguyen T-Hoc Phat-Diem.
- District 3 - Principal streets include Hong-Thap-Tu, Phan-Dinh-Phung, Cong-Ly north of Hong-Thap-Tu, Le-Van-Duyet north of Hong-Thap-Tu, Tran-Quoc-Toan east from Nguyen-Tri-Phuong, Duy-Tan.
- District 4 - Includes the waterfront area of Khanh-Hoi; Trinh-Minh-The Street and west.
- District 5 - Cholon. Principal streets include Tran-Hung-Deo west of Cong-Hoa, Hung-Vuong west from Cong-Hoa circle, past the main PX compound, Minh-Mang, Tran-Quoc-Toan.
- District 6 - Includes the Phuong-Binh-Thoi area west of Dist. 5.
- District 7 - Includes the Phuen-Rach-Cat area, south of Dist. 6.
- District 8 - The area across the canals, south of Dist. 5. Principal streets include Fung-Phu, Ben-Nguyen-Duy.
- District 9 - The Gia-Dinh area, across the Saigon River, and lying in the curve of the river, east of Dists. 1 & 4.

SAIGON UNIVERSITIES VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

Dr. Tran-Quang-De, Rector of the University of Saigon and the Venerable Thich-Minh-Chau, Rector of Van-Hanh University, have let their deans and key professors in forming the University People's Relief Committee. Voluntarily these educators have pledged their support to the Government and organized their membership into sub-groups for Health and Medical Care, Social Relief, and Coordination conforming with government practices and regulations.

Twenty faculty members donated blood on February 10. Additional donors are being recruited. Other activities include assistance in distribution of rice, milk, medical supplies, and first aid equipment.

University students have been urged to join with faculty members in relief work.

USAID WORKING GROUP ORGANIZED FOR EMERGENCY CIVILIAN ASSISTANCE

To centralize responsibility for U.S. support activities and to ensure coordination with GVN ministries involved and other foreign diplomatic missions in Saigon, a special USAID Working Group on Emergency Civilian Assistance was

organized February 11, 1968. All inquiries regarding, and information relative to, any form of non-military aid to be provided from outside sources should be directed to this Working Group. Its members are:

Mr. Pierre L. Sales, FWA, Chairman
Dr. Lawrence Pratt, ADPH
Mr. L. Weisner, CORDS/Refugees
Mr. Batalden, Voluntary Agency Representative
Mr. Joseph B. Yost, ADLOG
Mr. Francis De Tarr, Embassy Political Section
Mr. Collin Ostrander, JUSPAO/USAID

The contact point for the Working Group is Miss Helen Kinney, FWA, who can be reached on Ext. 5595 or 5383.

AIRPORT ACTIVITY

Air Viet-Nam Special Flights departed from Tan-Son-Nhut Saturday, February 10; two flights were bound for Hong Kong and one for Singapore. On Sunday, February 11, Air Viet-Nam scheduled two additional special flights for Hong Kong and one for Bangkok.

Pan American Flight 841 arrived in Saigon February 11.

USAID GOLF TOURNAMENT CANCELLED

Due to the current emergency, the USAID Golf Tournament, originally scheduled for 22 February 1968, has been cancelled. Rumors of damage to the Clubhouse and golf course apparently are false.

Warning to sightseers: Stay away from the golf course!

KNOW YOUR MAILING ADDRESS

C & R receives huge quantities of mail with incorrect addresses. The chief defect is the omission of the Division Symbol. To avoid delays in delivery of mail it is essential that your correspondents be informed that use of your office or division symbol is mandatory. Mail not bearing this information requires Locator Service which is available only as time permits.

Correct format for mail addressed to USAID personnel in Saigon is:

Name of Addressee

US AID - Division Symbol

APO San Francisco 96243

and 76,222 short tons remained aboard ships in the harbor and 7 others awaiting clearance at Cap St. Jacques.

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

Need for American volunteers still continues.

If you wish to volunteer, please contact the Information Center, Ext. 5272. Lists of volunteers are maintained in this Center, and called as need arises.

The following volunteer specialties have been used to date: drivers, typists, commissary workers, laborers, mail-room clerks, and reproduction clerks. The Commissary has relied heavily on this volunteer assistance.

VIETNAMESE PAYROLL SCHEDULE

Monday, February 12, 1968

0900 - USAID I

1030 - USAID II

All Vietnamese employees who have missed their regular pay schedules will be paid by regular USAID cashiers.

CURFEW CURTAILS USAID TRANSPORTATION

Until regular drivers become available with lifting of the curfew, the USAID Motor Pool will be unable to provide transportation for American employees after 1800 hrs. American volunteer drivers must make their last runs at 1800 in order to observe the 1900 curfew.

MORE BLOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

The Ministry of Health has requested additional donations of blood for treatment of injured civilian and military personnel. Americans who wish to give blood should report to the Saigon Emergency Hospital only, located on Le-Loi Street, diagonally opposite the Central Market. An American doctor and two American nurses are on duty there, and will accept blood donations.

HOURS AND SCHEDULES FOR MONDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 1968

USAID employees will report for work from 0830 - 1230 and 1430 - 1730.

	<u>PX</u>	<u>Commissary</u>
Cholon	1000 - 1600 complete service	1000 - 1400
Brink	1100 - 1700 complete service	
Meyerkord	1000 - 1600 limited service	
Ten-Son-Nhut	1100 - 1700 complete service	

Distribution D

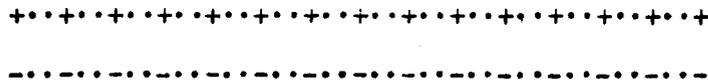
Validated DD

DISTRICT MAP SUPPLEMENT -- SAIGON/CHOLON

To assist American employees of USAID in locating the boundaries of the districts of the Saigon/Cholon area, the Information Center is offering this Map Supplement showing the division of the twin cities.

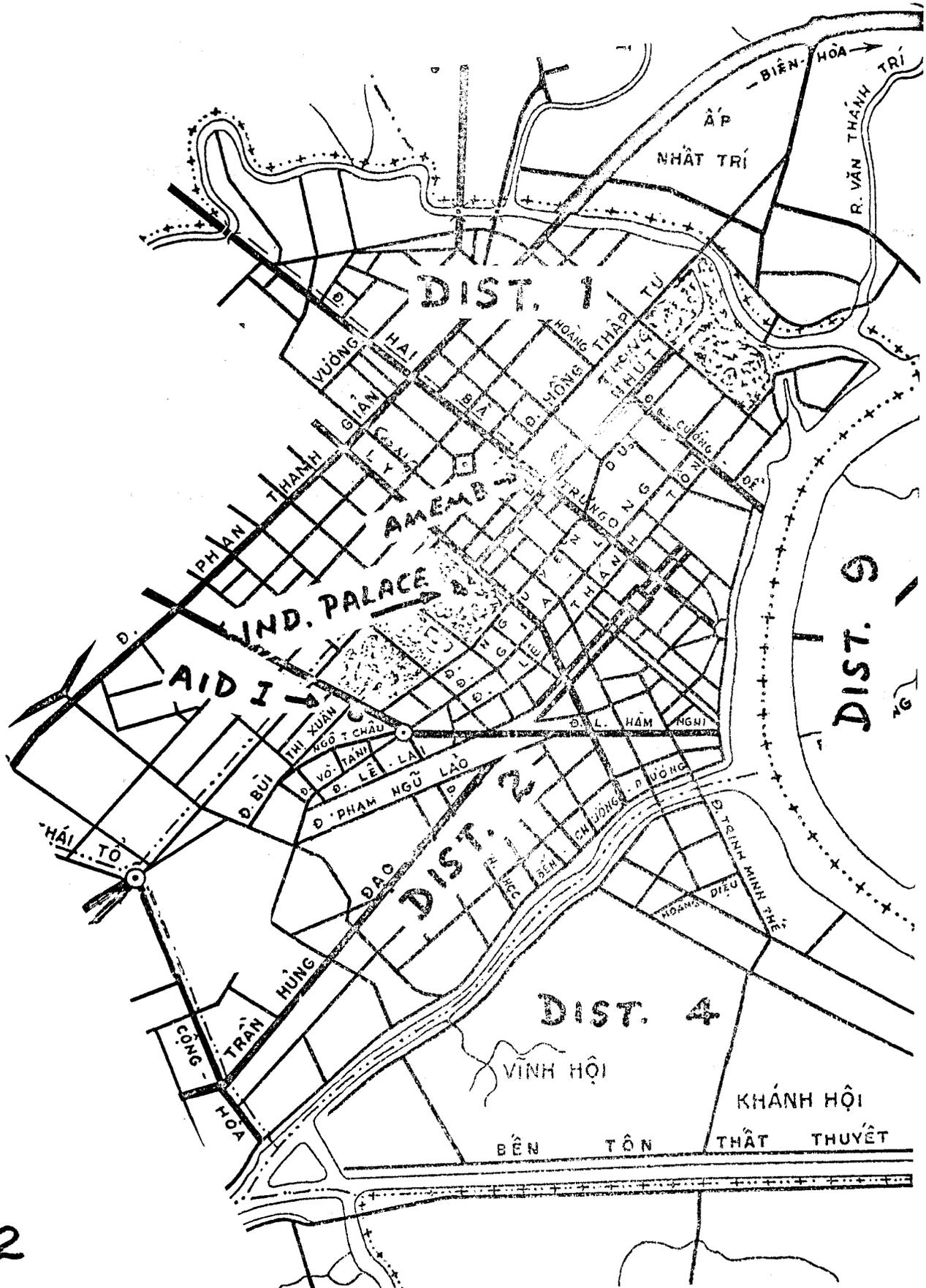
District 7 is not included, because it does not appear on the maps available to us. It lies to the south of District 6 and west of District 8.

Boundaries are indicated on the accompanying maps by two different kinds of lines, thus:

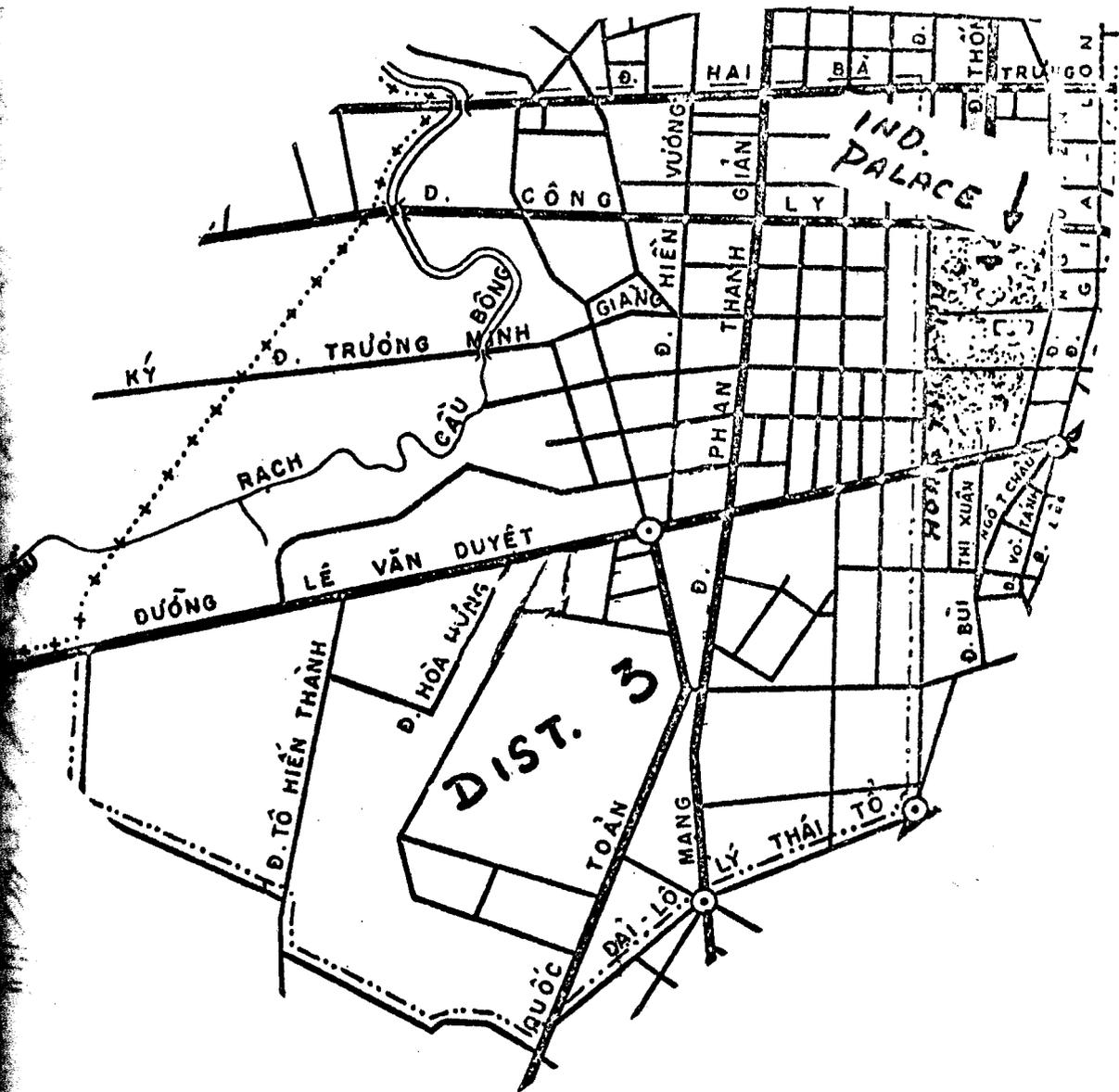


Some districts' boundaries which run along principal streets are not indicated by either of the above symbols; e.g., Hai-Ba-Trung, dividing Districts 1 and 3; Hong-Thap-Tu, between 1 ~~2~~ and 3; Cong-Ly, dividing Districts 1 and 2.

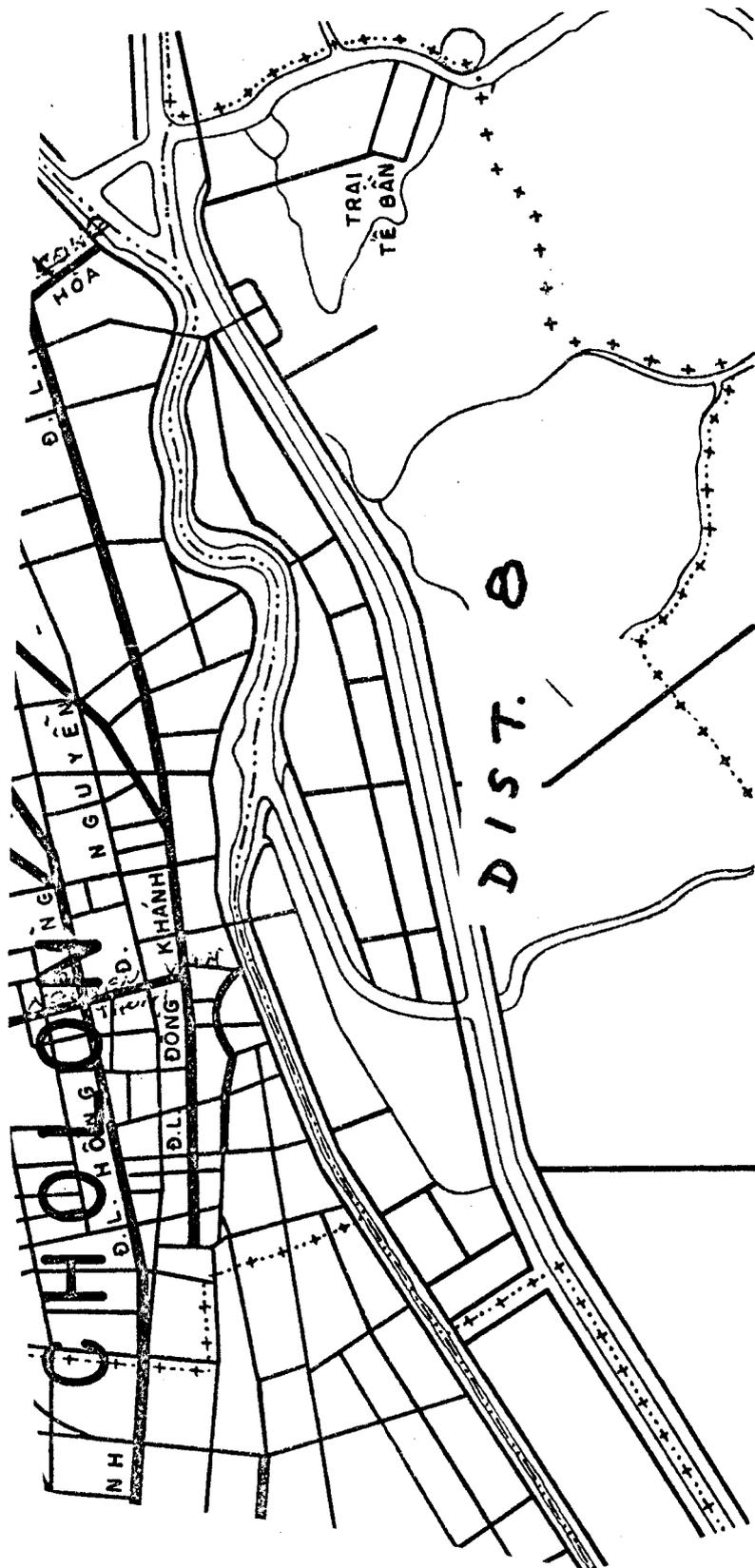
DISTRICT MAP SUPPLEMENT -- SAIGON/CHOLON



DISTRICT MAP SUPPLEMENT -- SAIGON/CHOLON



DISTRICT MAP SUPPLEMENT -- SAIGON/CHOLON



Admissions to greater Saigon Ministry of Health hospitals during the past 24 hours totalled 311 casualties--10 deaths. Total admissions to date are 3855, with 245 deaths and 1510 remaining in hospitals.

* * *

Vice-President Ky's world-wide appeal for material assistance has had world-wide response. Donations of things will soon start flowing to Viet-Nam.

* * *

A total of 2,095 metric tons of rice was drawn from stocks and issued on February 10, of which 530 tons were drawn from Thu-Duc stocks and the balance from ships discharging in the Port. One hundred forty-five tons were issued to the ARVN dependents' commissary; 385 tons the ARVN Quartermaster for distribution to troop units; 136 tons to fixed and mobile sales points. The balance of 1429 tons was issued for refugees and to GVN ministries for sale to civil servants.

GVN has 16 fixed distribution stations and four mobile teams selling rice to private civilians. This is an increase of two fixed points and two mobile teams since February 9.

* * *

On February 10, half of the 16 fixed rice distribution stations received and sold 400 kg. of frozen pork, the first instance of frozen pork to the public at official prices since Tet. . . It is expected that 30 tons of frozen fish will be flown into Saigon by Air Viet-Nam from Rach Gia in Kien Giang Province on February 12 and 13. . . Eighteen tons of foodstuffs are being flown from Saigon to CTZ II today; 15 tons to follow tomorrow.

* * *

Saigon electric power is now in an excellent reserve condition. The 12,500 kw gas turbine plant at Thu-Duc reported yesterday as down for probably two weeks was repaired yesterday and is now operational on a standby basis. Emergency procurement of spares to complete repairs is going forward.

* * *

USAID staff are now working full time with the Directorate of Reconstruction and Urban Planning on designs for construction of new permanent type low cost housing for devastated areas. Yesterday 5 sites in Saigon were selected for future construction of low cost housing. Working drawings and specifications are already being drawn up.

CUMULATIVE REPORT OF DEAD, INJURED, MISSING, FEBRUARY 12, 1968

Saigon

No alterations from report given in SPECIAL BULLETIN No. 4.

Field

Dead

No alterations from report given in SPECIAL BULLETIN No. 4

Injured

5 (3 returned to duty; 2 hospitalized)

Unaccounted for 4

MORE ON TEMPORARY DUTY OFFICERS FOR LIVING CENTERS

SPECIAL BULLETIN No. 3 announced establishment of a Temporary Duty Officer system in all USAID multiple housing units. Wardens have now been designated in the 52 apartments which house 702 people (USAID 574, CORDS 128), and in the 13 hotels, 512 people (USAID 359, CORDS 153). Wardens for other housing, i.e., villas, guest houses, etc. (201 people), are now being designated.

All personnel are again informed that there is 24-hour telephone coverage in the office of ADA USAID I. Telephones are PTT 93083 x5600 or x5609, or USAID x5600 or x5609. Emergency numbers at CORDS are PTT 93084 x5466 or x5584.

Personnel in apartments or hotels should route all emergency requests through their respective Wardens or designees only.

Responsibility for Warden assignments, duties, etc., is assigned to Walter M. Moore, Chief Warden. Mr. Moore is temporarily working out of Mr. Reyerson's office in Embassy Housing, Norodom Compound, Embassy telephone 457. He is assisted by Jay Cravens (AGR, 5605), James Riley (IND 5551), Don Culverwell (IND 5551), and Sherwood Williams (AMA).

COMMISSARY STOCKS NORMAL

The Commissary reported this morning that all stocks of staple items imported from the US are at normal levels or above. Some shortages of local produce are in effect, but these will be relieved as soon as deliveries are resumed.

VOLUNTEER WORKERS AT COMMISSARY COMMENDED

The USAID Information Center learned this morning that volunteer workers have been giving valuable service at the Commissary. Saturday, 9 volunteers reported for work, and Sunday there were 15. "All these people have done a wonderful job," was the comment of one of the military supervisors when interviewed yesterday. "We will probably continue to need volunteers for a while until our regular staff can return to normal working hours," he added.

SECURITY IMPROVING IN SAIGON

PSD reports only two or three attacks against Saigon police centers Sunday evening, according to Charles D. O'Brien, PSD chief. This would indicate an improvement in the security situation in the city.

SAIGON PORT ACTIVITY

As of 1800 yesterday (February 11, 1968)

Number of ships in port - 14

Number of ships at Cap St. Jacques - 6

Short tons discharged in the past 24 hours - 2,993

Number of short tons of cargo remaining in ships including
Cap St. Jacques - 76,749.

MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Additional workers are needed in the Commissary and more volunteers are requested to assist there as stock handlers to keep shelves filled.

Typists are needed for various offices, as well as workers to handle jobs in the reproduction branch.

Although, at the moment, sufficient help is available to handle driving assignments, it is essential that a backlog of individuals be maintained for driving cars, buses, or heavy-duty trucks, in order to meet sudden emergency needs. Additional volunteers are requested. Please state your preference or special aptitude for each type of vehicle.

Volunteers may call USAID x5272, and register with Miss Doris Loechner. Names will be listed under preferred categories of work, and volunteers will be called as they are needed. Individuals may also register with their own divisions if anyone there has been designated to handle placement of volunteer workers.

AIR TRAFFIC AT TAN-SON-NHUT, FEBRUARY 12, 1968

Pan American Flight 819 arrived 0900 and departed for Singapore 1030.

Air Viet-Nam Special Flights were as follows:

Dep. for Singapore 1030

Arr. from Hong Kong 1130

Arr. from Bangkok 1145 & 1400

Dep. for Hong Kong 1300

Thai International, Cathay-Pacific, and Royal Air Camboge anticipate resuming operations February 13, 1968.

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO VIET-NAM

USAID Free World Assistance issued a status report February 11, 1968 tallying relief offers made to Viet-Nam by 20 nations and international agencies. The following offers of assistance under way were listed in that report:

CHINA. Five thousand tons of rice have been donated for refugee relief. The GVN has requested this rice be shipped to Danang.

ITALY. A contribution of 15 million lire (ca. \$24,000) has been offered for relief of refugees.

JAPAN. A first shipment of 12,460 lb. of relief supplies collected by the GVN Embassy in Tokyo arrived in Saigon February 10 by USAF aircraft.

LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES AND INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF RED CROSS.

One hundred thousand Swiss francs (ca. \$23,000) have been sent by the International Committee of the Red Cross to its Saigon representative for emergency assistance.

UNICEF. In answer to a request from the UNICEF Saigon representative, UNICEF/NY has authorized immediate assistance totaling \$100,000 including some local procurement and some imports by air or sea. Another \$10,000 for local expenditures have been authorized.

UNITED KINGDOM. \$250,000 for emergency aid have been granted by the United Kingdom. This is intended to meet urgent medical and sanitary needs of refugees and can finance personnel, equipment and supplies. Dr. J. M. Liston, Chief Medical Advisor, is being sent to VN to make an on-the-spot assessment regarding use of funds.

Following the GVN appeal the British aid agency, ODM, received treasury permission to cable authorization to the UK Embassy/Saigon to purchase \$20,000 of emergency supplies of any type required for its pediatric team's use. The pediatric team will be increased to 18 members: 7 doctors, 9 nurses, 1 radiographer, and 1 lab technician, plus considerable additional equipment.

BLOOD DONOR CAMPAIGN INTENSIFIED

American USAID employees who wish to donate blood needed in the present emergency may volunteer on Wednesday, February 14, and Thursday, February 15 between 0900 and 1300. Donations will be made at the Embassy Dispensary, in the Ly Hotel, 6 Chien-Si Circle (Duy-Tan and Tran-Quy-Cap Streets).

The dispensary will handle an average of 10 donors an hour. To arrange for an appointment, please call the Information Center, Ext. 5273. Appointments will not be handled at the Dispensary.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OFFERS MEAL SERVICE

In a telephone interview, this morning, Gilbert Donner, manager of the International House, announced the following schedule of services:

1030 - 1230 Varied menu in the Dining Room

0900 - 1700 Grill service, Main Floor restaurant

The Gift Shop also is open for limited service from 0900 - 1700.

COMMISSARY AND PX HOURS

	<u>PX</u>	<u>Commissary</u>
Cholon	1000 - 1600	1000 - 1400
Brink	1100 - 1700	
Meyerkord	1000 - 1600	
Tan-Son-Nhut	1100 - 1700	

CHECK CASHING HOURS

USAID I, II	0930 - 1130
Mondial	0930 - 1130
Embassy	0900 - 1100

No afternoon hours until changes in curfew permit.

Medical services remain the same as announced in SPECIAL BULLETIN No. 2, February 10, 1968.

GIA-DINH RESTRICTIONS RELAXED;
NEW CURFEW HOURS FOR OTHER DISTRICTS

Effective today, restrictions in Gia-Dinh have been relaxed. Curfew hours there are given as 1400 - 0730 as a result of improved security.

In Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4 the new hours are 1700 - 0730; in all other districts, 1500 - 0730.

New curfew hours apply to Vietnamese only.

Distribution D

Validation DD

To date there have been no reported disease outbreaks of epidemic proportions. Immunizations for cholera and plague are being administered in the refugee areas.

* * *

MACV reports that as of midnight February 6 a total of 688 Vietnamese civilians had been admitted to various U.S. military hospitals throughout Viet-Nam. Casualties admitted to Saigon hospitals now aggregate 4087--an increase of 323 in the past 24 hours.

* * *

Saigon District Health Centers in Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4 are functioning and report no unusual incidence of disease. Health Centers in Districts 5, 6, 7, and 8 are not staffed as of today as prefecture health officer does not consider them sufficiently secure.

* * *

Saigon sanitation removal is much improved with 33 of 36 Saigon refuse trucks working yesterday.

* * *

USAID Engineering made a metropolitan Saigon area survey by helicopter to assess damage, burned areas, utility installations, bridges, etc. Damage, while widespread, was reported to be not so bad as was originally feared. Devastated slum areas present an opportunity for rebuilding with more suitable housing.

* * *

To replace housing destroyed in the emergency, Reconstruction and Urban Planning Directorate envisions early construction of 10,000 dwelling units in the Saigon area at a selling price of \$VN 250,000 per unit. Designs will include power and water for each unit. Buildings are tentatively planned to be three stories high.

* * *

Saigon water system continues to operate satisfactorily. During the past week, average daily consumption for Metropolitan Saigon has been 45 million gallons daily compared to normal consumption of 63 million gallons per day.

USAID engineers attribute reduced consumption to curtailment of industry and commerce. If required, system could deliver water at peak daily rate of 80 million gallons.

* * *

VOLUNTEERS:

The Director urges employees to continue to volunteer for emergency work where office work schedules permit. Division chiefs and office heads are urged to review their operations, and to encourage those not now fully employed in priority work to volunteer for emergency duty. The need for volunteer assistance in the following categories additional to already enrolled volunteers is still great.

- Secretaries (2 now needed)
- Typists (6 now needed)
- Teletype operator (1 needed)
- Reproduction Room workers (10 now needed)
- Photographers (2 needed)
- Newswriters (2 needed)
- Oil truck driver (1 needed)
- Car drivers (2 needed)

A special need for key punch operators has developed; operators are needed for both afternoon and all day service. Anyone qualified as a key punch operator is requested to volunteer.

RETAIL PRICES, FEBRUARY 12, 1968

Prices fell substantially today, from the February 10 level. This was especially true for protein foods due to the recent and continuing sale of frozen pork and frozen chicken. Vegetable prices also fell as deliveries from Gia-Dinh area increased. No road deliveries were reported from Dalat, the Delta or Vung-Tau.

Most of the Dalat cabbage is coming from Ho-Nai.

The number of buyers and sellers continues to increase in the Saigon Central Market.

RETAIL PRICES, FEBRUARY 13, 1968

Price movements were mixed February 13. Rice and vegetable prices fell, but protein food prices rose, probably because Vietnamese and Chinese celebrate the Lantern Festival on February 13. It has also been noted that many of the hogs and chicken currently being marketed are younger than those that would be marketed in "normal" times. Cholon market prices remain 10-15% above Saigon prices. The interior of the Saigon Central Market is still closed.

Buses are now operating from Vinh-Long and My-Tho to Saigon.

Selected Prices -- all quantities 1 kg. unless otherwise indicated.

	<u>Jan. 22</u>	<u>Feb. 12</u>	<u>Feb. 13</u>
Rice - Nang-huong/100 kg.	\$3400	VN\$5500	VN\$5000
Soc-nau	2450	4500	4000
No. 1/25% brokens	2100	4000	3600
U.S. remilled medium grain	2300	4000	3500
Lean Pork	350	450	550
Pork Bellies	230	280-300	350-400
Fish - Ca Tre	250	500	500
Chicken	260	300	350
Beef Steak	250	350	350
Nuoc Mam - jar	150	180	180
Duck Eggs - each	8.5	15	16
Condensed Milk - can	38	--	60
Brown Sugar	26	28	28
Cabbage - Dalat	35	150	130-150
Cabbage - local	17	70-80	70-80
Bindweed	18	40	30
Cucumbers	27	50	50
Onion Shoots	20	160	150
Bananas	22	40	50
Stick Beans	40	90	90

BLOOD DONOR CAMPAIGN

American USAID employees who wish to donate blood needed in the present emergency may volunteer on Wednesday, February 14, and Thursday, February 15 between 0900 and 1300. Donations will be made at the Embassy Dispensary, in the Ly Hotel, 6 Chien-Si Circle (Duy-Tan and Tran-Quy-Cap Streets).

The dispensary will handle an average of 10 donors an hour. To arrange for an appointment, please call the Information Center, Ext. 5273. Appointments will not be handled at the Dispensary.

RELIEF ACTIVITIES INCREASING

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees reported February 13, 1968 122 refugee centers in operation in Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh. The total number of individuals added has increased steadily to more than 375,000.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Refugees</u>	<u>Refugee Centers</u>
Saigon	158,217	85
Gia-Dinh	88,845	37
Other Provinces	128,739*	
Totals	375,791	122

* CORDS Reported 190,514.

Relief Commodities Distributed

Totals as of 1800 hrs., 12 February 1968

Rice	429 tons
Rice balls (1 kg., cooked)	1,926 ea.
Canned milk	58,346 cans
Canned fish	63,585 cans
Nuoc Mam	17,686 ltr.
Bread	27,503 loaves
Bed mats	49,080 ea.
Blankets	11,448 ea.
Aluminum utensils	7,716 sets
Water & refuse containers	2,399 ea.

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO VIET-NAM

The status reported on international assistance to Viet-Nam issued from USAID Free World Assistance was updated on February 13, 1968. Three new offers of assistance from Malaysia, the Philippines, and Turkey have been received. This brings to 23 the total of nations and international agencies who have responded to the GVN's call for emergency aid.

TRANSPORTATION TO WORK

Effective, Wednesday, February 14th, all Motor Pool pick-ups will begin as close to 0800 as possible.

VIETNAMESE PAY ROLL SCHEDULE

Monday morning, February 18, 1968 will be a normal pay day for Vietnamese employees of USAID, Embassy and JUSPAO. Vietnamese employees of USAID who are usually paid on Monday morning will be paid according to the normal schedule at the usual locations.

USAID local employees who are usually paid Monday afternoon, will be paid on Tuesday morning at Mondial Hotel, USAID I and II. It is anticipated that the Mondial Hotel and USAID II pay runs will begin at 0930 and USAID I pay run at 1045 or 1100.

American supervisors at USAID are requested to inform their Vietnamese employees of the pay schedule for next week.

AMERICAN DRIVERS PLEASE NOTE

Several American employees of USAID, whose offices are in USAID I and Mondial, have been driving USAID cars to and from work. These drivers are requested to turn in their car keys to their dispatchers each morning as soon as they arrive at their respective buildings. Keys may be picked up again at 1230 for the afternoon and evening trips.

Compliance with this request will eliminate some transportation problems that have been troubling dispatchers at the above-mentioned buildings.

RESOLUTION OF CVT REGARDING VIET-CONG ATTACK

WHEREAS, the Viet-Cong armed forces have infiltrated into the Saigon, Cholon and Gia-Dinh areas and provincial capitals during the New Year truce, and

WHEREAS, the crowded quarters in which the laboring people live have suddenly become the hiding places of the Viet-Cong and the battle lines in their fight against the armed forces of the Republic of Viet-Nam, and

WHEREAS, the workers and their families have suddenly become the tragic victims of the war in the cities, and

WHEREAS, the innate purpose of the CVT is to criticize war, to carry out peace by social projects based on friendship -- these aim to assure the freedom of human beings in the scope of the community -- now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vietnamese Confederation of Labor, by action taken in an irregular meeting at the CVT Headquarters on February 2, 1968, does hereby

CONDEMN the cruel actions of the communists who rise in war while a truce is in effect;

URGENTLY APPEAL to all the cadres and members, both men and women, in the entire country to compose themselves and close the ranks in these dark days;

URGENTLY REQUEST the government to apply all appropriate measures to protect the lives and property of the population and restore public security as far as possible.

/s/ Chairman Tran-Quoc-Buu

/s/ Sec.-Gen. Tran-Huu-Quyen

AIR TRAFFIC AT TAN-SON-NHUT, 13 FEBRUARY 1968

<u>Carrier</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Departure</u>	<u>Origin or Destination</u>
Pan American	1030	1420	Dest. US via Manila
Air Viet-Nam	1030		Singapore
	1115		Hong Kong
		1130	Bangkok
		1200	Hong Kong
Air Laos	1200	1230	Vientiane
Cathay Pacific	Flights Cancelled		

Airlines have made no advance announcements of future flights.

SNACK BAR HOURS EXTENDED

It was announced Tuesday afternoon that the Snack Bars at USAID I and II will operate from 0900 to 1400 daily until further notice.

reported to any. Medicine and equipment re-supply operations continue satisfactorily.

* * *

Rice stock withdrawals and distribution to public agencies continued at about the previous day's satisfactory levels.

Somewhat of a breakthrough was finally achieved yesterday in getting commercial channels opened up with 340 tons being sold to commercial dealers.

* * *

A total of 4.8 tons of frozen pork were sold to the Public at the GVN's distribution centers. A return to commercial sales is anticipated in the next few days.

* * *

Fortunately, flour, corn meal, cooking oil, dried milk, rolled oats, Corn-Soya-Milk, bulgar and beans are available in very substantial quantities in Saigon for issue to voluntary agencies and Ministry of Refugees. Stock-piles of these commodities are being built up at Air America's Tan-Son-Nhut warehouse for air shipment to provinces.

* * *

The Saigon Port situation: there were 29 ships in hold-waiting status as follows:

- 18 military ships holding offshore areas (Manila and elsewhere)
- 6 military ships holding at Cap St. Jacques
- 5 commercial ships holding at Cap St. Jacques

Fourteen ships are still being discharged in the commercial port areas (5 rice ships, 5 ships with mixed commercial/AID/military cargoes, and 4 with commercial cargoes). The rate of discharge in the commercial port (3,000 tons continues to be about half of normal.

USAID has reactivated its importer task force which last year coped successfully with expediting discharge operations at the port. The Task Force will notify importers of cargo arrivals and encourage and assist them in removals to avoid storage in the port.

* * *

USAID and Electricity of Viet-Nam (EOV) are making special efforts to bring into operation five new 2100-kilowatt diesel generators recently installed at Khanh-Hoi in the Port area. Final check-outs will have been completed in about ten days.

RETAIL PRICES, FEBRUARY 14, 1968

Most prices were unchanged or lower from yesterday. Fish and shrimp prices fell as new shipments were received by truck from Vung-Tau and by boat from Nha-Trang. Gia-Dinh and adjacent provinces continue to supply the bulk of foodstuffs to the Saigon-Cholon markets.

According to market sources, a convoy of military trucks recently brought food from the Delta to Saigon, but the food went to military, hospital and other priority users and none reached local markets. Although the inside of the Saigon Central Market remains closed, the stands inside the Tan-Dinh and Thai-Binh markets have reopened.

Selected Prices -- all quantities 1 kg. unless otherwise indicated.

	<u>January 22</u>	<u>February 14</u>
Rice - Nang-huong/100 kg.	VN\$3400	VN\$5000
Soc-nau	2450	4000
No. 1/25% brokens	2100	3500
U.S. remilled medium grain	2300	3500
Lean Pork	350	500
Pork Bellies	230	350-400
Fish - Ca Tre	250	350
Chicken	260	350
Beefsteak	250	350
Shrimp	130	250
Nuoc Mam - jar	150	180
Duck Eggs - each	8.5	15
Condensed Milk - can	38	55
Brown Sugar	26	28
Cabbage - Dalat	35	120
Cabbage - local	17	80
Bindweed	18	28
Cucumbers	27	45
Onion Shoots	20	150
Bananas - bunch	22	50
Stick Beans	40	90

BUDDHIST INSTITUTE COMMUNIQUE

The following is a complete text of the communique dated February 2, 1968 signed by the Ven. Thich-Thieu-Tuong, President of the Buddhist Institute for the Propagation of the Faith.

To the dignitaries of the Buddhist Association and to Buddhists of the Nation:

Starting the night before Tet, the enemy, taking advantage of the truce, infiltrated the cities to massacre the inhabitants and destroy their possessions. As a result of this spectacle, the Institute has

taken the following decisions:

- 1) The Buddhist Association denounces the inhumane and barbaric actions of the Viet-Cong.
- 2) Requests the representative committees of the Buddhist Association and Buddhists, to keep calm and alert in order to assist the governmental authorities to re-establish order and security, and alleviate the injuries caused during the course of the attacks.
- 3) Pray that our country and the world will soon be liberated from the Communist yoke and that the people will be less miserable.
- 4) Request the people to participate actively in the blood donation campaigns to serve the victims and the soldiers injured in the attacks.

/s/ The Ven. Thich-Thien-Tuong

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE INCREASING

The USAID Free World Assistance Office reported on February 14th that 23 nations and international agencies have volunteered money and/or aid in response to the GVN call. The free world nations include: Austria, Australia, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, and the Vatican. The League of Red Cross Societies and International Committee of the Red Cross, UNICEF and WHO complete the present list.

Two shipments of supplies already have been received in Saigon with another due on February 14th.

GVN is giving consideration to a UNICEF/WHO/LICROSS proposal to organize mobile teams for administration of disaster relief and the distribution of emergency aid supplies.

AMERICAN DRIVERS URGED TO ABIDE BY LOCAL TRAFFIC LAWS AND REGULATIONS

The American Embassy has issued an administrative operations notice requesting all members of the American community to observe carefully all traffic laws and regulations.

American volunteer drivers serving during the emergency and all personnel who regularly drive either personal or official vehicles are reminded of their obligation.

VIETNAMESE YOUTH ACTIVE IN RELIEF WORK

More than 25 youth organizations, representing several thousand young people of Saigon, have volunteered their services and are sponsoring and staffing some 30 refugee centers in Saigon/Gia-Dinh.

The University Student Relief Committee was the first volunteer agency to organize efforts to aid victims of the Tet VC attacks on Saigon and Cholon. The Committee immediately mobilized 500 Saigon University students and opened five refugee centers to care for more than 10,000 displaced persons.

MORE VOLUNTEER WORKERS NEEDED

Assistance in the following areas is urgently needed, and qualified persons are urged to offer their services. Please call USAID Ext. 5272 and sign up for the kind of work you can perform.

- 6 Typists
- 1 Teletype operator
- 2 Photographers
- 2 News writers
- 2 Key punch operators
- 2 Translators
- 2 Drivers -- Vietnamese

VICE PRESIDENT KY HEADS "OPERATION RECOVERY"; ARVN, REVOLUTIONARY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTING

By action of the "Operation Recovery Committee" under Vice President Nguyen-Cao-Ky, Col. Do-Kien-Nhieu has been named special deputy to Dr. Que, Minister of Social Welfare and Refugees. He will be responsible for refugee camp operations in the Saigon/Gia-Dinh area. Under the plan for refugee camp operations, approved by the "Operation Recovery Committee", a 3-man Revolutionary Development Cadre team will be assigned to each camp. A Pacification Committee, similar to those operating in rural areas, will be established in each district of the Saigon/Gia-Dinh area under the direction of an ARVN major. This officer will have all district camp operations under his control.

It is anticipated that the Revolutionary Development Cadre teams will have responsibility for camp operations for about 15-30 days. ARVN then will assume responsibility. Within 60 days, after resettlement of "temporary refugees," full responsibility for the refugee centers will be returned to the personnel of the Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees.

Meanwhile, the 10-man Inspectorate for Refugee Camps in the Saigon/Gia-Dinh area, recently appointed by Dr. Que, will continue to make daily inspections of the camps. The Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees will continue to be the central coordinating body for refugee operations. The

assistance of the Revolutionary Development Teams and the ARVN during this initial period will release Ministry personnel to establish their operations and to devote attention to Refugee and Social Welfare operations throughout the country.

**BLOOD DONOR APPEALS ANSWERED IN FORCE:
MRS. BUNKER MAKES FIRST CONTRIBUTION**

Mrs. Ellsworth Bunker, wife of the American Ambassador to the Republic of Viet-Nam, opened the current blood collection program Wednesday morning by giving the first 500-cc donation. From then until 1230, 41 donors were received.

Capt. William O'Riordan, US Army Medical Corps, stated that donors came in a steady stream. "We had to turn down only three, for various reasons -- an unusually low percentage of rejections," he added.

When asked about the origin of the blood collection campaign Captain O'Riordan replied, "At first, the US Army had not intended to take part in it. So many requests for help were received, however, that Col. Ralph Wells determined the availability of equipment and personnel and the possibility of our assisting. By Sunday, 11 February, it was decided that we would organize this operation." No one could estimate the quantities of blood required by the various hospitals, Captain O'Riordan added. "They need every drop they can get."

All blood collected in this drive will be given to the 4 public hospitals in Saigon. None of it will go to American installations.

Captain O'Riordan stated further that all equipment and personnel are being furnished by the 17th Field Hospital, US Army. Operations are being carried on in the facilities of the American Embassy Dispensary, at the Ly Hotel, Chien-Si Circle.

Wednesday, 70 members of the US Marines stationed in Saigon volunteered blood contributions. The US Navy will be represented on Thursday by a large group.

More donors are needed. American personnel are encouraged to make appointments for Friday, 16 February, and can be accommodated from 0900 to 1430, provided they have not eaten within 4 hours prior to their appointment. Coffee and fruit juice are permitted, but no food should be eaten until after giving blood.

Appointments are made by calling USAID Ext. 5273. No arrangements are made at the Dispensary.

Besides providing equipment and medical personnel, the 17th Field Hospital also furnishes sandwiches, snacks, and beverages for donors.

RELIEF ACTIVITIES

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees reports that on 13 February 1968 the number of temporary refugees markedly diminished.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Number of Refugees</u>	<u>Number of Centers</u>
Saigon-Cholon	145,342	77
Gia-Dinh	<u>78,666</u>	<u>40</u>
Totals	224,008	117

Centers had dropped since 12 February from 122 to 117, and the total number of refugees in the area had diminished by 23,757. This reduction in number seeking assistance may indicate that many have been able to return to the site of their former homes. The reduction in the Saigon-Cholon area was greater than in Gia-Dinh; but the most conspicuous improvement took place in Gia-Dinh where the Don Bosco school reported a drop from 17,000 to 8,000 refugees.

RELIEF COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTED

Totals as of 1800 hrs., 13 February 1968

Rice	553 tons
Rice balls (1 kg. cooked)	2,229 ea.
Canned milk	72,162 cans
Canned fish	77,112 cans
Canned meat	53,222 cans
Nuoc Mam	23,430 ltr.
Bread	30,218 loaves
Bed mats	59,763 ea.
Blankets	19,358 ea.
Aluminum utensils	10,042 sets
Water and refuse containers	2,521 ea.
Mosquito nets	3,500 ea.

Contributions in piasters rose from 5,965,750 VN 12 February to 6,669,650 VN.

SNACK BAR HOURS, USAID I and II: 0900 - 1400

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE HOURS:

Dining Room	1030 - 1230
Grill	0900 - 1700

COMMISSARY AND PX HOURS

	<u>PX</u>	<u>Commissary</u>
Cholon	1000 - 1600	1000 - 1400
Brink	1100 - 1700	
Meyerkord	1000 - 1600	
Tan-Son-Nhut	0900 - 1300	

Distribution: D, G

Validated: DD

SUMMARY OF PRESIDENT THIEU'S ADDRESS

TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, FEBRUARY 9, 1968

President Thieu opened his speech by emphasizing the joint responsibility of the executive and legislative branches "before history." Thanking the Assembly for support given him, he declared his willingness to work with the Assembly members and to hear and give consideration to their advice.

The President then gave a detailed account of the military situation, noting that the Communists had made an all-out effort with the objective of strengthening their position in possible negotiations, and warned that they will retain a capability for offensive action during 1968.

Describing the pre-Tet Communist build-up in I Corps, which forced the GVN and its Allies to limit their observance of the Tet truce, Thieu emphasized the Communist violation of their own announced truce. He then reviewed the post-Tet developments.

VC Hoped to Overthrow Government

According to President Thieu, the goal of the VC offensive was overthrow of the GVN, followed by a move toward negotiations with the NFL and establishment of an "Allied Peoples' Front" as had appeared in Hue. Their failure resulted from refusal of the people to provide the expected support. He also sounded a warning of future enemy activities: guerilla operations near cities, sabotage of lines of communication and transportation, new major military fronts in order to achieve their political aims, and more difficulties for the people and the government.

February 15, 1968

In the face of this situation, the GVN is forced to take a number of strong and effective measures:

1. Martial law throughout the nation
2. ARVN and FVMAF counter-attacks
3. Movement of large numbers of people to secure areas
4. Assistance to war victims
5. Closing of places of entertainment
6. Renewed appeals to VC to return under the Chieu-Hoi program
7. Limitations on traffic and controls on the press.

Emergency measures will be withdrawn when security is restored.

The President noted that the Central Assistance Committee has been established under the chairmanship of Vice-President Ky, and that steps are being taken to restore security. He emphasized that emergency measures now in effect are necessary for protection of the people, and reviewed the activities under way to assist victims of the recent offensive.

"We Must Build Democracy"

President Thieu admitted that the measures he outlined before the Assembly "do violate freedom and democracy to some extent," thus making the task of the Government even more difficult. The will of the GVN, however, has been strengthened through expressions of support by Assembly members and various political and religious groups.

"Our struggle against the Communists will be useless if we are unable to construct democracy," declared the President. He again emphasized the need for cooperation between the legislature and the executive branch in terms of both moral support and concrete activities. Although the Government is forced to apply harsh measures it is determined to limit them as much as possible and to apply the Constitution to the Maximum extent.

February 15, 1968

Referring to his State of the Nation Message, President Thieu reaffirmed the GVN intention to "build democracy, seek a solution to the war, and construct the nation."

Thieu pointed out that certain unusual steps must be taken to step up mobilization: some discharges will be postponed; men with five years of service or less will be recalled; civil servants 45 years of age and younger and students 17 and older will receive military training. He urged the Assembly to approve the 1968 National Budget as quickly as possible, and to permit him to promulgate decrees in the area of economy and finance for one year.

Expresses Sympathy and Gratitude

Speaking to the people of the nation, the President expressed his personal sympathy for them in their present plight, and his deep gratitude for their continued support. He extended his thanks to political and religious leaders for the cooperation of their respective groups with the GVN, especially in their efforts to assist war victims. He also declared the gratitude of the GVN and himself for the assistance of Viet-Nam's allies, and appealed for even stronger support from them.

Denouncing the rumor of American connivance with the VC as a piece of totally false propaganda, he warned the Allies against believing that a halt in the bombing of North Viet-Nam would bring us any closer to peace. "On the contrary," he declared, "bombing should be intensified to break down Hanoi's stubbornness."

February 15, 1968

Viet-Nam Fighting for World Peace

President Thieu declared that the Vietnamese people are fighting for world peace and freedom, not alone for their own immediate interests. He appealed to the Allies to help in conveying clearly to Hanoi the position of the Government of Viet-Nam: Hanoi must halt its aggression; restoration of peace must be brought about by the efforts of both governments-- North and South; the GVN is ready to meet with NVN representatives to work out a solution.

Closing his address with an appeal for national unity, he once more asked for the assistance and support of the National Assembly.

Rice distribution continues at a very satisfactory level. A total of 1654 metric tons was distributed to ARVN troops, ARVN dependents, Government employees, and to the general public. The number of commercial outlets receiving rice for sale to the general public increased from 65 outlets of February 12 to 127 outlets on February 13. This represents only about 15% of the total number of outlets in the Cholon/Saigon area, but represents an estimated 40% of the outlets in Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4.

* * *

There were 11.6 metric tons of pork distributed through the Government-operated sales points to the general public in Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4 on February 13 compared with 4.8 tons of pork the day before. There were 4.2 metric tons of frozen chicken distributed to military dependents and civil servants.

* * *

The electric power generating plants continue to be capable of supplying total demands of the greater Saigon area. . . Water consumption in Saigon increased to 50 million gallons but is still below the 63 million gallon normal consumption rate. No difficulty is foreseen in increasing supply back to normal rates. . . Telecommunication services both long distance and local continue to approach normal. The main P&T office is open for public service; mail and telegram deliveries are no longer backlogged; Telex and press wire services are normal. . . Port facilities at Da-Nang, Qui-Nhon, Nha-Trang, Ba-Ngoi and Cam-Ranh have not been damaged according to the Officer in Charge of Construction, U. S. Navy. . . Tan-Son-Nhut Airport is now open for commercial operations between 0800 and 1230 hours. Air Viet-Nam passenger and cargo flights have been resumed. . . With 13 garbage trucks beginning collections today in Cholon and 39 trucks operating in Saigon, sanitation is almost back to normal.

* * *

USAID technical advisory assistance is now being furnished to the GVN for development of site plans for new housing in 5 housing areas burned out in Saigon and Cholon. MACV Air Reconnaissance is furnishing new aerial photos and mosaics covering the burned out sites for planning use.

Although the GVN Directorate of Reconstruction is concentrating on Saigon first, similar reconstruction will be required in My-Tho, Ben-Tre, Vinh-Long, Chau-Doc, Soc-Trang, Bac-Lieu, Can-Tho, Phu-Vinh and possible other cities.

* * *

In the field of education, Saigon schools have not yet reopened. No school buildings were destroyed although some were damaged. On February 11 25 percent of the teachers reported for duty and it is understood that the number has been increasing daily. Four schools in Saigon are being used as refugee centers under the direction of the Minister for Refugees and Social Welfare. School reopening is expected in 2 or 3 days. The Ministry of Education has requested provincial and city education chiefs to report on the status of their school plants and staff.

VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES SET UP EMERGENCY RELIEF COMMITTEE

Reproduced below is a letter received by USAID Director MacDonald:

February 14, 1968

Dear Mr. Director:

We wish to inform you that a Committee has been formed among the Local Employees of USAID, CORDS, EMBASSY, and JUSPAO for the relief of victims of the recent treacherous attacks by the Viet-Cong.

Following are members of the above Committee:

Mr. Nguyen-Nhu-Ba, ADFM	Chairman
Mr. Nguyen-Duc-Dat, LABOR	Vice-Chairman
Mrs. Nguyen-Thi-Hanh, ADFM	Secretary
Mrs. Nguyen-Thi-Tuyet, LOG	Controller
Mr. Bui-Ta-Khanh, AGR	-id-
Mr. Tran-Thanh-Triet, ENG	-id-
Mr. Nguyen-Van-Sinh	Liaison Officer
CREDIT UNION	and Treasurer

The Committee is in charge of collecting and distributing gifts received, either in cash or in kind, from the Local Employees of the above agencies. The Committee has also made an appeal for the donors of blood.

Collections will be made through the representatives appointed by the Committee at the various units of the Agencies.

The proceeds will go to the victim employees and the balance, if any, will be turned over to the GVN Central Relief Committee.

Report of the collections and distributions will be widely distributed.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ Nguyen-Nhu-Ba, Chairman
Emergency Relief Committee of
Local Employees, USAID, CORDS,
EMBASSY, JUSPAO--Ext. 5444

Mr. D. G. MacDonald
Director of USAID
Saigon

USAID EMPLOYEES OPERATE CREDIT UNION

December 1961 marked a significant milestone for Vietnamese employees of USAID with the establishment of the Quang-Trung Credit Union. Sponsored by Paul Borreson, then USAID Controller, the Credit Union was set up to "extend mutual help to members in need of financial assistance" by providing a source of ready credit. It also offers opportunity for depositing cash in a savings plan bearing interest at attractive rates. Original officers were Phan-Van-Tr chairman, and Nhiem-Van-Minh, secretary. The CU is now headed by Mr. Nguyen-Nhu-Ba, chairman, and Miss Nguyen-Thi-Hanh, secretary.

Present membership is near the 900 mark -- approximately 35% of the regular Vietnamese staff of USAID. Capital totaled approximately 3,000,000\$VN at the end of 1967, with the participation averaging about 3000\$VN per member. Shares may be purchased in units of 100\$VN through payroll deductions. Interest on shares is paid at the rate of 6%-8% annually. Employees of ADA lead in total value of shares held, while the EDU staff boasts the highest proportionate membership with 80% participation.

Loans are made to members at 1% per month, compared to the 5% monthly charge levied by commercial banks in Saigon. The maximum amount that may be borrowed is based on a member's salary, the lump sum payable to him upon separation from USAID, and his total deposits at the time of application. Although the rapid rise of inflation in the past few years has tended to reduce the real value of interest earned on shares held, members feel that participation in the CU is worthwhile. A large majority of members have, in fact, utilized the loan feature.

Employees of each division elect a representative to the CU whose function is coordination of participation, in terms of loans, share purchases, and all other aspects.

The Credit Union, besides offering savings and loan opportunities to members, also purchases a variety of commodities for re-sale to members at official prices -- another money-saving feature. The CU is under GVN supervision through the Directorate of Cooperatives and Credit.

VIETNAMESE PAY ROLL SCHEDULE

Monday morning, February 19, 1968, will be a normal pay day for Vietnamese employees of USAID, EMBASSY and JUSPAO. Vietnamese employees of USAID who are usually paid on Monday morning will be paid according to the normal schedule at the usual locations.

USAID local employees who are usually paid Monday afternoon, will be paid on Tuesday morning at Mondial Hotel, USAID I and II. It is anticipated that the Mondial Hotel and USAID II pay runs will begin at 0930 and USAID I pay run at 1045 or 1100.

American supervisors at USAID are requested to inform their Vietnamese employees of the pay schedule for next week.

In Thailand, vegetables, fruits, and condensed milk have been collected and flown to Viet-Nam (value: 200,000 \$VN)

RELIEF ACTIVITIES INCREASING

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees reported February 14, 1968 122 centers in operation in the Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh area; the increase accounts for 5 more centers in the area and 21,082 more refugees than reported in SPECIAL BULLETIN 7.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Refugees</u>	<u>Refugee Centers</u>
Saigon/Cholon	146,011	78
Gia-Dinh	79,969	44
Totals	225,980	122

Reports from other provinces will be reported when more complete information becomes available.

Relief commodities distributed to Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh (totals as of 1800 hours, 14 February 1968).

Rice	583 tons
Rice balls (1 kg., cooked)	2,429 ea.
Canned milk	77,410 ea.
Canned fish	79,088 ea.
Canned meat (pate)	52,337 ea.
Nuoc Mam	25,792 ltr.
Bread	41,441 loaves
Salt	58.25 kg.
Pop tarts	20 cases
Bed mats	62,052 ea.
Blankets	19,358 ea.
Aluminum utensils	10,216 sets
Water & refuse containers	2,554 ea.
Cloth	5,000 meters
Mosquito nets	3,490 ea.
Tents	4 ea.
Pick & shovel	20 sets
Clothing	8 bags

Relief commodities distributed in Region I

Bed mats	400 ea.
Blankets	400 ea.
Mosquito nets	400 ea.
Canned milk	1,920 cans
Canned meat (pate)	4,000 cans
Blankets for Hue	1,000 ea.

Relief commodities distributed to Region III

Rice	65.3	tons
Canned milk	2,880	cans
Canned fish	1,000	cans
Canned meat (pate)	240	cans
Nuoc Mam	960	ltr.
Bed mats	5,000	ea.
Aluminum utensils	2,000	sets
Paper blankets	7,000	ea.
Cloth	5,000	meters

AIR TRAFFIC AT TAN-SON-NHUT, 15 FEBRUARY 1968

Curfew at Tan-Son-Nhut runs 1400 to 0800. Pan Am flights will arrive as scheduled within the non-curfew hours as will CPA, which is now scheduled four times a week.

Carrier	Arrival	Departure	Origin or Destination
Pan American 819	0845		from U.S.A.
		0930	to Singapore
Pan American 002	1220		from Bangkok
		1340	to U.S.A.
Air Viet-Nam (All special flights)	1130		from Singapore
	1110		from Bangkok
	1215		from Hong Kong
Cathay Pacific	1000		from Hong Kong
		1045	to Hong Kong

FOOD DONOR CAMPAIGN SUCCESSFUL

A report from the Embassy Dispensary indicated that the blood donor campaign resulted in the collection of more than 100 units by 1300 Thursday, February.

"We would like to have 150 donors before we stop collecting," Dr. William Riordan stated, "in order to fill the collection units we have on hand."

Thursday morning's operation was highlighted by the arrival of a large group of US Marines and 12 representatives of the Australian Embassy. Some prospective donors were disappointed when they learned that their blood was unacceptable because of a history of malaria, hepatitis, or other ailments. Persons who have volunteered should know that their proffered help is fully appreciated.

CURRENT STATUS OF GVN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
REPORTED BY ADPA, FEBRUARY 14, 1968

The following presents an up dated picture of GVN Governmental Operations, which were first reported on in SPECIAL BULLETIN No. 3:

Revenue operations: All branches of Customs are now manned--about 80 percent in Saigon; Tan-Son-Nhut commercial operations are being increasingly restored, and the harbor operations are rapidly returning to normal. Customs declarations are at about 20 percent of the normal level. All tax offices in the Saigon area, except Gia-Dinh, are operating with about 50 - 60 percent of personnel.

Reports from the Ministry of Interior indicate activity by local government units is getting underway slowly. Principal concern continues security.

The National Institute of Administration campus is disrupted, as it has been cordoned off, and is now partially occupied by military engineers. Both a special seminar for prospective province chiefs and the opening of the National Defense College have been postponed for the time being.

The City of Saigon's administrative apparatus continues to be shared between the Central Reconstruction Committee which remains in charge of resource allocations and the Mayor who acts as the executive officer. Although water and power services are functioning normally, bus transportation has not yet been restored.

RETAIL PRICES, FEBRUARY 15, 1968

Retail prices fell again on February 15. Rice prices continued their downward trend as substantial stocks of rice were available. Vegetable prices fell as deliveries increased. The area supplying foodstuffs to Saigon expanded as travel restrictions were eased and transportation became more available and less hazardous. Saigon has received to date very few shipments from the Delta or Dalat. Market prices in Cholon continued slightly higher than prices in Saigon.

Selected Prices -- all quantities 1 kg. unless otherwise indicated.

	<u>January 22</u>	<u>February 15</u>
Rice-Nang-Huong/100 Kg.	VN\$3400	VN\$5000
Soc-nau	2450	3800
No. 1/25% brokens	2100	3200
U. S. remilled medium grain	2300	3200
Bread	50	80
Lean Pork	350	500
Pork Bellies	230	350
Fish - Ca Tre	250	350
Chicken	260	300
Beefsteak	250	300
Shrimp	130	250
Nuoc Mam - jar	150	180
Fuck Eggs - each	8.5	15
Condensed Milk - can	38	55
Brown Sugar	26	28
Cabbage - Palat	35	110
Cabbage - local	17	60
Bindweed	18	24
Cucumbers	27	40
Onion Shoots	20	100
Bananas - bunch	22	45
Stick Beans	40	80

LAY THAT PISTOL DOWN, BOY AND WITH CARE!

Two recent incidents involving firearms point up, **emphatically**, the need for extreme care in handling weapons of all kinds. In one case, a weapon was fired accidentally inside a downtown hotel room. The bullet passed through the door, hitting an air conditioner one floor above, across the air shaft. In the second incident, a weapon was dropped on the floor, which accidentally discharged it. By fortunate coincidence, neither event resulted in personal injury or serious property damage.

In an effort to prevent further accidents of this kind -- with their possible tragic aftermath -- the following precautions are urged upon all persons with firearms in their possession:

1. Be absolutely sure that you are thoroughly familiar with the piece. If you have any doubt about any feature of design, operation, and/or care of the weapon, consult a qualified person for information and instruction before attempting to clean, oil, load, or fire it. Qualified assistance is available from a number of sources: US Military Police, US Marine Guard, PSD personnel, ex-servicemen employed by US Government agencies, and many individuals who have had wide experience with firearms.

2. When carrying a loaded weapon, be sure there is no cartridge in the chamber. Before entering any building, clear the weapon of all ammunition. While outdoors, be sure the safety catch is "on". Under all circumstances, **NEVER POINT THE WEAPON AT ANYONE**, except in the event of a genuine need for self-defense.
3. If it becomes necessary to fire your weapon, be certain there is no obstruction in the barrel. A plugged barrel can produce some startling results -- if you live to observe them!

Most important of all -- if you are not familiar with a weapon of any kind, **LEAVE IT ALONE!** You'll be doing yourself -- and others -- a great favor.

Owners of firearms are reminded that US Mission Policies & Procedures, #15-602, dated 2-1-66, sets forth conditions for registration of personally owned weapons. Any individual may register one rifle or shotgun and one pistol or revolver. Application forms are available at the American Embassy. Shipping & Travel Section, Old Embassy Annex, 4, Vo-Di-Nguy.

CURFEW HOURS RELAXED

Curfew hours for Vietnamese have been extended, effective February 16th throughout Saigon/Gia-Dinh as follows:

Saigon, Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and parts of 5*:	1900 - 0730
Remaining parts of 5*	1700 - 0730
Districts 6, 7, 8, & 9:	1500 - 0730
Gia-Dinh, areas bordering Saigon:	1700 - 0730
Gia-Dinh, all other areas:	24 hour curfew

* These parts have not been identified

GVN working hours: 0830 - 1400

Curfew hours for Americans have been extended, effective February 15th to 1900 - 0730.

COMMISSARY AND PX HOURS

	PX	Commissary
Cholon	1000 - 1600	1000 - 1400
Brink	1100 - 1700	
Meyerkard	1000 - 1600	
Tan-Son-Nhut	0900 - 1300	

Distribution: D, G

Validated: DD

2. When carrying a loaded weapon, be sure there is no cartridge in the chamber. Before entering any building, clear the weapon of all ammunition. While outdoors, be sure the safety catch is "on". Under all circumstances, **NEVER POINT THE WEAPON AT ANYONE**, except in the event of a genuine need for self-defense.
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GVN working hours: 0830 - 1400

Curfew hours for Americans have been extended, effective February 15th to 1900 - 0730.

COMMISSARY AND PX HOURS

	PX	Commissary
Cholon	1000 - 1600	1000 - 1400
Brink	1100 - 1700	
Meyerkord	1000 - 1600	
Tan-Son-Nhut	0900 - 1300	

Distribution: D, G

Validated: DD

GVN operations in Bien-Hoa are rapidly returning to normal with most service chiefs on the job. Refugees are being serviced daily with food and shelter. An assessment of damage to housing is being made and building commodities will be issued.

The Chairman of the Prime Minister's Central Committee for Administrative Improvement is moving ahead on initiating the pilot management survey of Phong-Dinh Province.

The Ministry of Veterans Affairs plans to accelerate benefit payments to widows and orphans of soldiers killed in recent attacks and to stockpile medical supplies at an enlarged dispensary.

The reaction of youth to the more stringent draft measures has been positive, and the number volunteering has increased.

The Ministry of Labor has established special programs during the emergency to survey damage to factories and resources, to establish an employment service for refugees, and is proposing to construct one hundred additional housing units at their Bien-Hoa housing project. The Ministry's relief activities include the provision of shelter for refugees at the Gia-Jinh Training Center, rice sales to Ministry employees, grants to its needy employees, and an establishment of an emergency dispensary to assist the population living in the area around the Ministry.

* * *

The Vietnamese Confederation of Labor (CVL) has established an emergency relief program and is selling, at official prices, rice, Nuoc-Mam, and condensed milk purchased from the government. The CVL is also distributing free rice to needy members whose homes have been destroyed and has organized a program to distribute fish, meat, and vegetables as soon as they become available.

* * *

Admissions to Saigon/Gia-Dinh hospitals dropped to their lowest levels since January 31, with only 49 admitted during the past 24 hours. To date, 4327 casualties have been admitted, with 1066 remaining and 247 dead.

* * *

In order to avoid duplicating requisitions for medical supplies received through Ministry of Health, Directorate of Logistics channels, and through CORUS/Saigon, the Chief Health Officers in the four Regions/CTZs have been instructed to coordinate all medicine and vaccine requisitions from the provinces. Distribution will be made to the Region/CTZ Chief Health Officers who have resources for holding vaccines, evaluating requirements, assigning priorities, and delivering vaccines to the provinces.

* * *

All refugees have been removed from MOH hospital grounds in Saigon. Strenuous efforts are being made to return Cho-Ray and Tu-Du hospitals to normal working conditions.

Some 60 refugee areas were visited on February 14 by MOH-USAID teams. Ten "camps" were found empty of refugees. It now appears that the number of refugee areas and the total number of refugees were overestimated or are now rapidly disbanding.

* * *

The Saigon sanitation picture is improving daily. The burning of refuse in city streets is diminishing. DDT dusting and rodent poisoning will be started in the Saigon port area in the next few days. . . No excessive number of dead rats are reported anywhere in Saigon/Cholon area.

USAID-FINANCED PERSONNEL
(Including those assigned to CORDS)

CUMULATIVE REPORT OF DEAD, INJURED, MISSING
16 February 1968

Saigon

Dead	None
Injured	2 (1 evacuated, 1 released from hospital)
Unaccounted for	2

Field

Dead

John T. McCarthy, CORDS/PSD, Nha-Trang
Claude L. Curtice, CORDS/NLD, Danang (deceased, not by hostile action)
Jeffrey S. Lundstedt, CORDS, Hue
Kermit J. Krause, CORDS/LOG, Hue
Robert R. Little, CORDS, Hue
Thomas M. Gompertz, CORDS/NLD, Hue
Hugh C. Lobit, CORDS/NLD, Vinh Long
Albert A. Farkas, CORDS/PSD, Vinh Long (Previously reported as seriously wounded, died Third Field Hospital, February 15, 1968)

Injured	4 (1 evacuated, 3 returned to duty)
Unaccounted for	4

CURFEW HOURS CHANGED

By 1200 hrs., 16 February, the latest information on curfew hours was:

Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and the part of 5 north of Cong-Hoa: 1900 - 0730
Districts 6, 7, 8, 9, and the part of 5 south of Cong-Hoa: 1700 - 0730
Areas in Gia-Dinh bordering on Saigon: 1700 - 0730
Other areas of Gia-Dinh Province: 24-hrs.

American personnel are to continue to observe the 1900 - 0730 restriction.

AIR TRAFFIC AT TAN-SON-NHUT, FEBRUARY 16, 1968

<u>Carrier</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Departure</u>	<u>Origin or Destination</u>
Pan American 819	from for	1030 1140	U.S.A. Singapore
Air Viet-Nam	from for for	1210 1100 1315	Bangkok Bangkok Hong Kong
China Airlines	from for	1315 1415	Taipei Taipei
Air France	from for	1200 1305	Bangkok Manila

RETAIL PRICES, FEBRUARY 16, 1968

Ken Masuda, ECON, reported that retail prices were basically unchanged on February 16.

Transportation between Can-Tho and Saigon is still difficult, but some foodstuffs have nonetheless arrived from the Delta.

Selected Prices -- all quantities 1 kg. unless otherwise indicated.

	<u>January 22</u>	<u>February 15</u>	<u>February 16</u>
Rice - Nang-Huong/100 kg.	VN\$3400	VN\$5000	VN\$4500
Soc-nau	2450	3800	4000
#1/25% brokens	2100	3200	3100
U.S. remilled medium grain	2300	3200	3300
Bread	50	80	80
Lean Pork	350	500	550
Pork Bellies	230	350	300
Fish - Ca Tre	250	350	350
Chicken	260	300	300
Beefsteak	250	300	350
Shrimp	130	250	250
Nuoc-Mam - jar	150	180	160-180
Duch Eggs - each	8.5	15	14
Condensed Milk - can	38	55	50-60
Brown Sugar	26	28	28
Cabbage - Dalat	35	110	120
Cabbage - local	17	60	70
Bindweed	18	24	25
Cucumbers	27	40	45
Onion Shoots	20	100	70
Bananas - bunch	22	45	40
Stick Beans	40	80	80

RELIEF ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Refugee centers in the Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh area report declining numbers of refugees requiring assistance. In other provinces, however, as more areas report, the totals increase. The following tabulations were given by the Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees, as of 1800 hrs., 15 February 1968:

<u>Location</u>	<u>No. of Centers</u>	<u>No. of Refugees</u>	<u>Change</u>
Saigon/Cholon	85	138,273	-18,620
Gia-Dinh	43	66,600	- 9,003
Totals	128	204,873	-27,623

Situation in Other Provinces

	<u>Totals</u> <u>14 Feb.</u>	<u>Additions</u> <u>15 Feb.</u>	<u>Cumulative</u> <u>Total, 15 Feb.</u>
Refugees	225,747	1,189	226,936
Dead	1,566	63	1,629
Wounded	5,606	34	5,640
Homes Destroyed	23,889	157	24,046

DEMAND FOR VOLUNTEERS DIMINISHING

Regular staff is again on board at the Commissary and PX. No weekend volunteers will be required.

As of February 17, for other offices no requests for volunteers are unfilled.

COMMISSARY AND PX HOURS FOR THE WEEKEND

	<u>PX</u>	<u>Commissary</u>
Cholon	0900 - 1600	1000 - 1400
*Brink	1000 - 1700	
Meyerkord	0900 - 1600	
Tan-Son-Nhut	0900 - 1500	

*Effective 19 February, closing time will be 1800.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE WEEKEND HOURS OF SERVICE

Gilbert Donner, manager of International House, announced the following schedule of hours for the weekend:

Dining Room	1100 1330
Grill	0800 - 1830
Gift Shop	1030 - 1530

If curfew restrictions are relaxed during the weekend, hours of service will be extended accordingly.

BRINK PX SCHEDULED TO CLOSE PERMANENTLY

The Viet-Nam Regional Exchange office has announced that the Brink PX store will close permanently at 1800 on 29 February. Other exchange operations will continue unchanged.

SNACK BAR HOURS

USAID I & II snack bars will operate Saturday, 17 February, on regular hours. Both snack bars will be closed Sunday, 18 February.

Distribution: D,G

Validated: DD

Refuse collection in Saigon continues to improve with limited collection begun on February 15 in Districts 6 and 8. USAID's Engineering Division has detailed a maintenance crew with one mobile repair truck to assist in keeping operational all trucks being used for garbage collection.

* * *

The electric power system for the Saigon Metropolitan area is continuing to operate satisfactorily, with current demand being met easily. Reconstruction work is continuing on the 66-kV transmission lines in secure areas.

With regard to water treatment facilities, new chlorinators for an emergency standby well water system have arrived.

The Saigon post and telecommunications situation remains normal. New telephone installation orders are being processed.

* * *

The Directorate General for Reconstruction and Urban Planning, with USAID support, completed plans and specifications for 800 low-cost housing units. Bid submissions will be requested within the month. . . USAID was informed by Tectonics Asia that this engineering firm will present VN\$1,000,000 worth of architectural and engineering services to the GVN available immediately. The presentation ceremony is scheduled to take place in Vice President Ky's office.

* * *

The Central Government Management Staff is cooperating with the Ministry of Interior in getting GVN field personnel back to their posts from Saigon.

* * *

Partial bus service was restored on February 14, with 24 buses serving 3 lines. Service to Cholon via Tran-Fung-Dao terminated at Tong-Doc-Phuong; the Phu-Nhuan service terminated at Le-Van-Duyet, Gia-Dinh; and the Go-Vap service terminated at Gia-Dinh Province Headquarters. On February 15, the Trung-Minh-Giang line was opened, and a total of 32 buses were in service. Service on all lines is limited to non-curfew hours.

* * *

Emergency shipments are being received in increasing quantities and USAID's Free World Assistance Office is doing its best to coordinate off-loading and warehousing of items. The national Red Cross societies are becoming increasingly active.

AIR TRAFFIC AT TAN-SON-NHUT, 17 FEBRUARY 1968

<u>Carrier</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Departure</u>	<u>Origin or Destination</u>
Air Viet-Nam (All special flights)	1105 1315 1415	0930 1415 1415	to Singapore from Bangkok from Hong Kong from Singapore to Hong Kong & Taipei to Bangkok
Cathay Pacific	1000	1030	from Hong Kong to Hong Kong
Pan American	1015	1150	from U.S.A. to Singapore
Royal Air Camboge	1115	1200	from Phnom Penh to Phnom Penh
Thai International	1640	1720	from Bangkok to Bangkok
Air France	1720	1810	from Tokyo to Paris

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO VIET-NAM;
HIGHLIGHTS OF FEBRUARY 16 STATUS REPORT

In international assistance to Viet-Nam to date, more than US\$2 million has been contributed by foreign governments, as well as by international agencies and welfare organizations.

The Ministry of Public Works has issued an appeal to diplomatic missions in Saigon regarding requirements of the GVN public housing program involving construction of two refugee housing developments to be completed within eight months. The appeal requested building materials of all kinds, including cement and rebar.

CHECK CASHING HOURS FOR MONDAY, 19 FEBRUARY

USAID I & II & MONDIAL	0930 - 1130 1500 - 1700
EMBASSY	0900 - 1100

+++++
MEDICAL SERVICES -- As announced in SPECIAL BULLETIN No. 2, 10 February
+++++

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SEES NO MAJOR CHANGE IN OPERATIONS;
WILL CONTINUE TO IMPLEMENT ITS CURRENT PROGRAMS

Information from the Ministry of Education, GVN, indicates that no major changes in its program are in prospect. Material losses in terms of buildings, facilities, and equipment will force some shifting of budget expenditures to permit replacement of essential items. Within these limitations, planned programs will continue to receive scheduled attention and support.

RESULTS OF BLOOD DONOR CAMPAIGN - A SUCCESS

One hundred twenty-five units of blood were donated by members of the U.S. and Australian communities in a two and one-half day period (February 14 - 16) at the Embassy Health Unit. Members of the staff of the U.S. Army's 17th Field Hospital carried out the collection under the supervision of Capt. William O'Riordan, U. S. Medical Corps, assisted by volunteers from the Mission

Blood donors came from the units listed below. In addition to these donors many other people offered to give blood but could not be accepted for medical reasons.

The blood was delivered on February 18 to the Central Blood Bank of the Ministry of Health.

Agency Unit	Donors
American Embassy, Marine Security Guard	47
USAID	44
American Embassy	11
Australian Embassy	5
CORDS	4
GAO	3
HQ, MACV	2
JUSPAO	2
716th Military Police Battalion	2
Army Nurse Corps	1
Cooperative League of the U.S.	1
No Unit listed	3
	<u>125</u>

COMMISSARY AND PX HOURS FOR THE WEEKEND

	<u>PX</u>	<u>Commissary</u>
Cholon	0900 - 1600	1000 - 1400
*Brink	1000 - 1700	
Meyerkord	0900 - 1600	
Tan-Son-Nhut	0900 - 1500	

*Effective 19 February, closing time will be 1900.

Distribution: D, G

Validated: DD

With the gradual return of the metropolitan Saigon area to normal conditions, electric power demand rose to a hostility-period peak on February 1 of about 83.5 megawatts. The generating plant remains capable of providing all the power demanded.

The Saigon Water system continues to operate satisfactorily and can meet all demands.

The Saigon Post and Telecommunications (P&T) operations remain normal. CORDS has requested U.S. Army signal units to assist the P&T in making emergency repairs in provincial areas.

A report on conditions of utilities in Region II is as follows:
(1) power and water plants for Ban-Me-Thuot were not damaged; power distribution and outside telephone systems, however, sustained 30 percent damage;
(2) power and water systems for Pleiku remained undamaged; (3) power, water, and telephone systems at Nha-Trang remained undamaged; and (4) no damage was reported to the utility systems at Cam-Ranh Bay City.

* * *

In a meeting on February 16 with the Minister of Public Works, the Director General for Reconstruction and Urban Planning revealed plans to build 12,000 dwelling units of low cost housing in Saigon within the next eight months. Work has already begun on clearing two of the many sites to be used.

Of these 6000 will be conventional construction by Vietnamese contractors and the remaining 6000 will be built by others not yet determined. Various methods of prefabrication are being developed for the Saigon area will be sent to all regions upon completion of plans by the Directorate of Reconstruction and Urban Planning.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Embassy Dispensary is now located in Ly Hotel, 6 Chien-Si Circle (Duy-Tan). It offers routine medical services on the schedule appearing below. All USAID personnel should use this facility, rather than the 17th Field Hospital.

Hours of operation:

Monday - Friday: 0900 - 1000 by appointment, physical examinations
0900 - 1800 Immunizations
1000 - 1230 Sick Call
1430 - 1500 by appointment
1530 - 1800 Sick Call
Saturday & Sunday: 1000 - 1200 Sick Call

The 17th Field Hospital, 263 Tran-Hung-Dao, maintains outpatient services; it offers emergency medical and surgical services. The schedule appears below:

Outpatient services: Daily, 0730 - 1800
Emergency services: Daily, 1800 - 0730

USAID personnel should call on the 17th Field Hospital only in event of genuine emergency.

EMERGENCY VOLUNTEER SERVICES

The Emergency Volunteer Section of the USAID Information Center has handled 120 volunteers to February 19th. A total of 1000 man days in 20 categories of emergency services were volunteered. A partial listing of assignments included sanitation workers, rice handlers, photographers, typists, drivers, and commissary workers.

The Volunteer Section also handled blood donor appointments during the campaign organized by the 17th Field Hospital, February 14 - 16. This campaign achieved its goal of arranging for 125 donors.

ATTENTION VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES

All USAID/CORDS employees who work in the Saigon/Cholon area have been notified by radio or other means to report for work. Those employees who have not reported since February 12, 1968, are being contacted by representatives of their respective offices.

Employees not on holiday or already-approved leave during the period from January 31, 1968, to February 10, 1968, have been excused from work when they have not reported for duty. Some employees have also been excused from work after reporting for duty during this period in light of curfew restrictions, personal emergencies related to the recent VC attacks, and/or transportation problems. Most personnel are now accounted for.

Beginning on February 11, 1968, those employees not accounted for and/or not approved leave will be reported AWOL on the Time & Attendance Reports until their whereabouts and reasons for their absences are determined by their supervisors. At that time, supervisors are responsible for deciding whether the AWOL status remains for the days already reported or whether the AWOL status should be changed to excused absence. All such changes will require the submission of "Correction" Time & Attendance Reports.

When an employee is "excused from work," his pay continues, and his leave is not charged.

VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES EMERGENCY RELIEF COMMITTEE

According to latest reports received by the Committee from its Representatives at various units of USAID, CORDS, EMBASSY, and JUSPAO, the collection of gifts to relieve the victims of recent attacks by the Viet-Cong is proceeding in a very satisfactory manner. Thanks to all.

The Committee has appointed the following representatives to collect gifts and report on losses suffered by employees:

Representative's Name	Organization	Office Phone
Truong-Thien-An	P.M.O.	5825
Ho-Phuoc-An	ADFM	5338
Chu-Ngoc-Tu-Anh	BMO	5454
Ha-Thi-Anh	ECON	5587
Nguyen-Ngoc-Anh	PER-L	5973
Le-Ngoc-Chau	JUSPAO	22875
Truong-The-Chuong	JUSPAO	22170
Vu-Trong-Dao	CORDS/REF	5467
Vu-Thuc-Lao	ENG	
Nguyen-Thi-Hanh	ADFM	5769
Nguyen-Minh-Hoang	MOTOR TOOL	5447
Tran-Van-Khai	ADFM	5278
Bui-Ta-Khanh	AGR.	5644
Le-Cong-Kinh	GSO	
Bui-Du-Long	IDD	5551
Nguyen-Duc-Long	MOTOR POOL	5639
Nguyen-Thi-Au-Mai	C&R	5076
Phung-Duong-Minh	PROG.	5543
Simone H. My	EMBASSY	265
Pham-Thi-Nghia	EMBASSY	310
Tran-Cam-Nguyen	EMBASSY	327
Nguyen-Thi-Ngoc	ADFM	5475
Doan-Phuc	CORDS/MSD	5565
Nguyen-Thi-Mai-Phuong	PAD	5464
Pham-Ngoc-Quant	JUSPAO	92026
Nguyen-Minh-Quang	RURAL WATER	23835
Dao-Trong-Quy	EMBASSY	
Truong-Roul	MOTOR POOL	5639
Trinh-Van-Sic	ADFM	5444
Tran-Van-Son	CORDS/PSD	5341
Le-Thi-Suong	CORDS/PSD	
Nguyen-Van-Tan	MOTOR POOL	5662
Pham-Thi-Tam	ADA	5609
Nguyen-Hung-Thinh	MAB	5755
Chau-Bao-Toan	EDU	5511
Phan-Van-Tri	NRECA	5518
Mai-Tuyet-Trinh	MAD	5751
Duong-Phat-Tuong	EMBASSY	352
Nguyen-Thi-Tuyet	LOG	5434
Vo-Thi-Ty	LABOR	5852
Tran-Thanh-Triet	ENG.	5630
Vo-Thi-Cam-Van	MID-EAM	5583

If any Unit does not yet have a Representative, please report to Mr. Nguyen-Nhu-Ba, Chairman of the Committee, AFPM, 85 Le-Van-Duyet (4th floor), Ext. 5444, 5657, 5658.

CURFEW HOURS

Curfew for Vietnamese personnel:

Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and the part of 5 east of Cong-Hoa: 1900 - 0700
Districts 6, 7, 8, 9, and the part of 5 west of Cong-Hoa: 1700 - 0700
Areas in Gia-Dinh bordering on Saigon: 1700 - 0700

Curfew for American personnel: 1900 - 0700

COMMISSARY AND PX HOURS

	<u>PX</u>	<u>Commissary</u>
Cholon	0900 - 1600	1000 - 1600
*Brink	1000 - 1800	
Meyerkord	0900 - 1600	

*Will close permanently 29 February at end of business day.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE HOURS OF SERVICE

Dining Room 1100 - 1330
Grill 0800 - 1830
Gift Shop 1030 - 1530

SNACK BAR HOURS

USAID I & II snack bar hours: 0830 - 1500

AIR TRAFFIC AT TAN-SON-NHUT, 18 FEBRUARY 1968

<u>Carrier</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Departure</u>	<u>Origin or Destination</u>
Air Viet-Nam (All Special Flights)	1215 1330 1330	1215 1400	to Hong Kong from Hong Kong from Bangkok from Hong Kong to Bangkok
Air France #190	1500		from Bangkok

Distribution: D, G

Validated: DIR.

24-HOUR DUTY ROSTER

FEBRUARY 17 THROUGH 23, 1968

HOURS	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
0830 to 1230	McConnell	Millard	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell
1230 to 1330	Millard*	Millard*	Olmstead*	Olmstead*	Olmstead*	Olmstead*	Olmstead*
1330 to 1730	Millard*	Millard*	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell
1730 to 1830	Millard*	Millard*	Olmstead*	Olmstead*	Olmstead*	Olmstead*	Olmstead*
1830 to 0830	Tavener	Tavener	Tavener	Tavener	Tavener	Tavener	Tavener

The Duty Officer can be reached on USAID extensions 5609 or 5600 or PTT 93083, extensions 5609 or 5600, except when marked with an asterisk (*).

* The Duty Officer should be called on USAID extensions 5640 or 5300, or PTT 93083, extensions 5640 or 5300.

HOME ADDRESSES

Mr. Harry Tavener--323 Troung Minh Gian, Bldg. A, Apt. 6, Ph. 5292

Mr. M. B. Olmstead--242 Pasteur, Ph. 24794

Mr. Robert Millard--Excelsior Hotel, Ph. 23066/20709

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

EDUCATION SITUATION REPORT

By decree of the Ministry of Education all schools remain closed until local conditions improve. Selected schools have been decreed as refugee centers. These include institutions at elementary, secondary and higher levels, technical schools, agricultural schools, normal schools, and parts of the University of Saigon. Provincial Education Service Chiefs and principals or directors of schools have been placed in charge of the refugee programs.

In providing for refugee needs, the Minister of Education recommended operation as follows in school/refugee centers. The principal or director of each school is in charge of refugee operations. He is to be assisted by 5 committees of teachers: Committee on Housing - checks family records and assigns living space; Committee on Health - takes charge of general health conditions in the center and assists Ministry of Health personnel with distribution of medicine, and vaccines; Committee on Supplies - distributes commodities; Committee on Security - works with cadres from Ministry of Revolutionary Development in maintaining the safety of the center; Committee on Information - disseminates information and directives.

USAID and CORDS are assisting the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Rural Development in initiating a survey of damage to school facilities, buildings, and equipment which will serve as a basis in planning for reconstruction.

The elementary education picture for the nation is still fragmentary. The following information is, however, reported about the Saigon system:

Twenty school buildings are presently being used as refugee centers. The center at Le-Van-Duyet school, 94 Plan-Dinh-Phung provides for 1000 families. The auditorium, with a capacity of 150 people, houses 33 families. To these 33 families, 27 babies were born during the first week of the attacks.

On February 16 the Saigon Superintendent of Schools reported that 1360, or slightly more than 50% of the 2529 teachers employed in Saigon public elementary schools have reported for work. The number killed, injured or missing is not yet known.

All secondary schools also were closed by ministerial order. Like elementary schools, most secondary schools are being used either as refugee centers or have been forced to remain closed because of security conditions.

The Universities of Saigon and Van-Hanh have organized Faculties and staff members into working committees to help those in need as a result of the national emergency. The Rectors, Deans, and staff members have pledged their support to the central government, both orally and in writing. University administrators have called on students to assist in meeting the needs of the people. The committees include Health and Medical Care, Social Relief and coordination of all activities conforming with government practices and regulations.

The Health and Medical Care Committee is composed of staff members from the following Faculties: Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, and Science. The Social Relief Committee is composed of staff members from the Faculties of Pedagogy, Law, Letters, Buddhist and Oriental Studies, Social Studies, and Architecture. The Central Committee is made up from the Administrative Staff and representatives from the various Faculties in both institutions.

Various project activities include distribution of rice, milk, medical supplies and first-aid equipment, and other necessities of life.

The University of Saigon, Van-Hanh University, and the University of Dalat escaped severe physical damage.

Official reports thus far received from the University of Can-Tho tell of considerable damage. The science laboratories and the library were largely demolished, while the roofs of two other buildings were damaged by shellfire. A number of houses owned by university personnel were reported damaged.

No official word has yet been received from the University of Hue concerning its staff and physical facilities. Unofficial word indicates extensive destruction of property.

REGION IV EDUCATION ADVISORY TEAM ASSISTS GVN OFFICIALS IN REACTIVATING SA-DEC PROVINCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Elementary schools in Sa-Dec Province and city have been operating since Tuesday, 13 February, as the result of efforts by GVN officials and USAID Education Advisors in Region IV. In an interview with the SPECIAL BULLETIN staff, Dr. Harold Penstone reported on the education situation there since the VC Tet offensive.

Following a conference with the Provincial Education Chief and other GVN officials, the Regional Education Advisory Team, led by Dr. D. J. Hays, assisted in organizing the re-opening of the elementary schools. By utilizing mobile public address units, the population was informed of the plan to reopen the schools on 13 February. "Public response to this announcement was heartening," Dr. Penstone said. "We estimated that, on the 13th, at least 85% of the city children and approximately 65% of rural pupils were in their classes. By the morning of the 14th, classrooms were practically

filled." The feeling of USAID Advisors and GVN officials was that this response was an emphatic indication of the public's confidence in the security of the area.

Sa-Dec city is the site of the ARVN 9th Infantry Division, and two US military advisory teams. River Patrol Boats of the US Navy also are based there. An estimated force of 20 to 30 VC troops attacked the city, gaining entry for a brief period. Defense forces overcame them in a short time, however, and order was restored quickly.

"Schools throughout the province were practically undamaged," according to Dr. Penstone, "except for a few bullet holes." Apparently, the VC attackers had no opportunity for acts of vandalism, such as were experienced in other parts of the country.

When asked to describe the organization of the program to put children back in school, Dr. Penstone said, "Our senior education advisor, Dr. D. J. Hays, was instrumental in this. Adopting a philosophy of 'Let's get back on the horse after having been thrown off!' he met with the Provincial and ARVN officials to discuss the situation and work out means of solving the problems. As a result of this meeting," he continued, "we were able to start the program almost immediately."

Re-opening the schools evidently sparked a wave of confidence and enthusiasm in the public, according to Penstone. "The market is now open, restaurants are doing business, the curfew has been lifted during daylight hours, and people on the streets seem to be their usual happy selves again."

"The failure of the VC to win the cooperation of the people of Sa-Dec is a powerful indication that they totally misjudged the temper of the South Vietnamese," Dr. Penstone declared. He also noted that civil servants in the province have requested that arms be issued to them so that they might take part in repelling future attacks. These requests have been granted in a limited number of instances. "This spirit of wanting to participate, actively, and to cooperate with the Government, has spread to much of the populace in general," he continued, "although arms are being issued to only selected civil servants at this time."

Following their re-opening, Dr. Penstone visited each of the schools in Sa-Dec city, where he met favorable reception. "Teachers and students alike, were enthusiastic about returning to school," he recounted. "There are about 90 classrooms in all, averaging some 60 pupils each. Operating on a single-shift basis, they provide approximately four hours of schooling each day."

Commenting on the general educational conditions, Dr. Penstone noted that, although none of the secondary schools had opened, the reason is that most of the teachers had left on holiday visits to families in other areas, and had been unable to return to Sa-Dec. "In respect to the textbook situation, we find ourselves in good shape, overall," he declared. "Of course, we

are a bit short of some titles, but we know this condition exists throughout the country, and we are doing the best we can in the face of it."

Dr. Penstone had come to Saigon to purchase commodities required for an education program in Region IV.

may be realized. The Minister of Public Works personally outlined the scheme in a special meeting at the Foreign Ministry attended by Diplomatic Chiefs of Missions and heads of various international and welfare agencies.

NEW POWER PLANT FOR USAID I GOES INTO OPERATION

USAID I is being supplied with electricity by a new generating plant just completed and put into operation on 19 February. Throughout this week, it will supply offices at #71 and #85 Le-Van-Duyet while its operation is being evaluated. When the installation has been proved satisfactory, offices in #87 and the Annex will be cut into the system.

Tom Cross, Chief, Electrical Branch/GSO, pointed out the savings to be realized by USAID in the operation of this new installation. "The actual cost of generating power will be 2.48 cents per kilowatt-hour," he stated. "This amounts to approximately a 45% saving over the 4.45 cent rate the Mission pays for municipal power at this time," he added. Each USAID building will be supplied by the new plant, but may be switched to municipal lines at any time, if necessary. Thus, the city system is, in effect, the standby power source.

When asked about the cost of the new generating plant, Cross stated that the two generating units had been obtained through excess property sources in France when US military bases were closed out there, last year. Their replacement value exceeds \$200,000. Total installation costs, including construction and necessary control and distribution equipment was \$33,000. The new plant has released four smaller generators with a total output of 525 kw.

CHECK CASHING HOURS FOR TUESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY

USAID I, II	0930 - 1130
	1500 - 1700
Mondial	0930 - 1130
Embassy	0900 - 1100

AIR TRAFFIC AT TAN-SON-NHUT, 19 FEBRUARY 1968

<u>Carrier</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Departure</u>	<u>Origin or Destination</u>
Air Viet-Nam (Special Flights)	1230 1330	1400	from Bangkok from Hong Kong to Hong Kong
Pan American #819	1300	1330	from USA via Guam to Singapore
Royal Air Cambodge	1230		from Phnom Pe:

RETAIL PRICES, FEBRUARY 19, 1968

Food prices fell substantially over the weekend. On February 19, prices averaged about 20% lower than on February 16.

Shrimp and fresh-water fish have come by truck from Sa-Dec and Ca-Mau. Large quantities of vegetables have also been received.

The Saigon Central Market opened Sunday and most of the vendors previously set up outside of the market have moved inside.

Selected prices - all quantities 1 kg. unless otherwise indicated.

	<u>Jan. 22</u>	<u>Feb. 16</u>	<u>Feb. 19</u>
Rice - Nang-Huong/100 kg.	VN\$3400	4500	3800
Soc-nau	2450	4000	3000
No. 1/25% brokens	2100	3100	2500
U.S. remilled medium grain	2300	3300	2800
Lean Pork	350	550	400
Pork Bellies	230	300	300
Fish - Ca Tre	250	350	300
Chicken	260	300	270
Beefsteak	250	350	320
Shrimp	130	250	150
Nuoc-Mam - jar	150	160-180	160
Duck Eggs - each	8.5	14	13
Condensed Milk - can	38	50-60	45-50
Brown Sugar	26	28	27
Cabbage - Dalat	35	120	60
Cabbage - local	17	70	30
Bindweed	18	25	18
Cucumbers	27	45	30
Onion Shoots	20	70	50
Bananas - bunch	22	40	30
Stick Beans	40	80	60

RELIEF AND REFUGEE SITUATION SUMMARIZED

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees reported the following information as of 1800 hrs. 18 February:

Area Reporting	<u>REFUGEES</u>			Latest Change
	<u>Reporting Date</u>			
	<u>2/14</u>	<u>2/15</u>	<u>2/18</u>	
Saigon/Cholon	146,011	138,273	140,167	+ 1,894
Gia-Dinh	79,969	66,600	60,310	- 6,290
All other provinces	225,747	226,936	323,957	+97,021

CIVILIAN CASUALTIES & DAMAGE

Killed	5,158
Wounded	7,304
Houses destroyed	27,587

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Received 2/18/68	VN\$ 112,350
Prior receipts	<u>14,671,715</u>
Total to date	VN\$14,784,065

RELIEF COMMODITIES

Distribution of relief commodities continues in Saigon/Gia-Dinh, III CTZ, Hue, Da-Nang, Quang-Nam, Quang-Tin, and Quang-Ngai.

DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF FUNDS

The Ministry reports that relief funds have been distributed by GVN as follows:

Initial grants	48,000,000\$VN
By Prime Minister's office	100,000,000
To 15 most seriously affected provinces and III CTZ	15,500,000
Additional grants to 4 hard-hit provinces	<u>10,000,000</u>
Total to 2/18/68	173,500,000\$VN

WARDEN SYSTEM APPOINTMENTS

USAID Wardens have been designated in the following hotels:

		USAID Ext.
Excelsior	Wong, A., GSO	5913
Ly	Antrillo, T., GSO	5870
Astor	Newman, R., ADA	5356
Embassy	White, W., GSO	5232
69 Hai-Ba- Trung	Moseley, ENG.	5862
Regina	Being selected	
22 Vo-Tanh	Allen, R., ECON	5561
Park	Duerbeck, W., GSO	5913
New Saigon	Butler, G., MID	5931
Oscar	Pond, R., GSO	5922
Eden Roc	Billingsley, P., GSO	5913

Apartment house wardens are:

<u>Address</u>	<u>Warden</u>	<u>Assistant</u>
1 Duy Tan	Garmany/CIP/5622	
80 Ba Huyen Than Quan	London/ECON/5587	
36 Ter Cach Mang	Brill/PH/M/L/5656	
5 Cao Thang	May/LOG/6-270/334	
192 Cong Ly	Partch/GSO/5943	Riordan/PA/5547
195 Cong Ly	Short/LOG/6-270/334	Sims/ENG/5632
274 Cong Ly	Stewart/PH/5656	
6 Cong Truong Chien Si	O'Connell/AGR/5636	
14 Doan Cong Buu	Sales/FWA/5595	
58 Doan Thi Diem	Rose/PA/5546/5547	
86 Doan Thi Diem	Chimento/LOG/5530	Hood/GSO/5578
61 Duy Tan	Cooper/AGR/5645	Ritchie/5543
22 Gia Long	Miley/LOG/5555	Lindell/PS/5532
26 Gia Long	Weden/FFF/5441	Sullivan/PS/5377
35/37/39 Gia Long	Williams/LOG/6-334/270	Marinelli/5331
49/1 Ho Bieu Chanh	Anderson/LAB/5851	
196 Hong Thap Tu	Teil/PROG/5431/5665	Schulman/5431
466 Hong Thap Tu	Jaffe/LAB/7-313	Markwith/EDU 5487
10 Ky Dong	Hook/CIP/5576	Fowler/NLD/5440
1 Mac Dinh Chi	Hill/PE/5449/5543	Snyder/ED/5513
40 E Ngo Duc Ke	Merricks/ADA/5491	Hoey/IND/5551
72/10 Nguyen Dinh Chieu	Burnett/ENG/5610/5634	McCarthy/PER-L 5971
		St. Jacques/ENG 5610/5634

104 Nguyen Hue	Perinciolo/LOG/TMB 6-334/270
4 Nguyen Hoang	Hardy/CAAG/25301
135 Nguyen Hue	Johnson/LOG/SMB/5613
16/18/20 Nguyen Phi Khanh	Combs/FM/5569
33 Nguyen Van Trang	Maupin/ENG/23835/24351 Treasreau/FM 5631
191 Pham Ngu Lao	Dornsife/LOG/5929
99/101 Phan Dinh Phung	Decrouez/CIP/5363 Barnes/EXSEC 5640
148 Phan Dinh Phung	Palmer/LOG/TMB 6-334/270
498 Phan Dinh Phung	Lewis/ENG/5946/6355 Hester/TRV/5071
230 Phan Thanh Giang	Dickens/EDU/5512/91289 MacDonald/ICEX
3 Phan Van Dat	Andruch/ADA/5751 Armstrong/DA 5360
6 Phung Khac Khoan	Schleicher/LOG/5660 Umhoefer/PA 5546
323 Truong Minh Giang	Lamaster/LOG/5530 Syverson/AGR 5605
8 Tu Do	Graham/PE/5370
181 Tu Do	Coppola/PE/5443 Marlette/PH/M 5656
213 Tu Do	Korba/CIP/5363 Crist/CORDS
3/6 Tu Duc	Trowbridge/AGR/5605 Berrett/FM/5277
12 Tu Duc	Frost/MID/5931
136 Bis Yen Do	Duff/AGR/5549
16/1 Hoang Dieu	McClelland/ENG/24351/23835 Atkins/GAO/T-4226 Swanson/ENG/ 41562

Designation of Wardens or personnel to contact in emergency situations for villas and housing other than hotels and the above apartments is under way. Individuals in such housing will receive information on this within the next few days. Meanwhile, for any emergencies, residents of villas, etc., should contact any of the above-named Wardens in closest proximity to their own address.

COMMISSARY AND PX HOURS

	PX	Commissary
Cholon	0900 - 1600	1000 - 1600
*Brink	1000 - 1800	
Meyerkord	0900 - 1600	

*Will close permanently 29 February at end of business day.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE HOURS OF SERVICE

Grill Room	0800 - 1900
Dining Room	1030 - 1330

SPECIAL BULLETIN No. 13, the next issue, will appear Thursday, February 22.

Distribution D, G

Validated DD

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO VIET-NAM

In response to the emergency appeal for assistance announced by Vice-President Ky on February 6th, 28 nations and 3 international agencies have come forward with offers of aid and assistance.

USAID Free World Assistance has volunteered to assist the GVN in coordinating this international effort and issues daily a cumulative status report reflecting actual receipt of aid and new developments. From the report dated February 17th, the following tally of assistance received to date is taken.

AUSTRALIA. The Australian Government is donating approximately 540 tons of corrugated iron, worth \$110,000 for emergency roofing. A small consignment is being sent by the supply ship JEPARIT, with the balance aboard a second ship due to arrive at Vung-Tau at the end of February.

An airshipment of the following vaccines arrived February 12, and has been sent to the MOH warehouse at Phu-Tho: 50,000 doses anti-cholera; 50,000 doses anti-typhoid; and 1,750 doses anti-plague.

CHINA. 5,000 tons of rice have been donated for Vietnamese refugee relief. GVN has requested the rice be shipped to Danang (possible via MSTs).

Madame Chiang Kai-shek has launched a campaign for donation of clothes for war refugees; collection centers have been set up in Taiwan. So far, 1,170,518 pieces of clothing have been donated, as well as 60 dozen towels, 41 cases of soap, 576 bolts of cloth and more than \$25,000 in cash.

The Chinese community of Saigon has contributed \$VN200,000 for emergency relief.

GERMANY. The Bureau of International Social Help (BISH) has two tons of pharmaceuticals ready at Frankfurt to be flown to Viet-Nam and is considering further assistance through the private sector.

The Managing Director of BISH departed Germany on February 19 for Bangkok and Saigon; while in Bangkok he will arrange for onward airshipment to Viet-Nam of supplies flown by Lufthansa to Bangkok, and possible purchase of foodstuffs for the BISH emergency program in Viet-Nam.

ITALY. A contribution of 15,000,000 lire (\$24,000) has been made for the relief of refugees. The Government is coordinating with the Italian Red Cross in a further response to the GVN appeal, and expects to airship on space available basis within the next few days an unknown quantity of food, cotton cloth, and urgently needed items.

Pharmaceuticals are being donated by Italian manufacturers; an airshipment of 20,000 anti-typhoid doses and 1,800 doses assorted anti-biotics, has

already been dispatched, air freight paid by the local Vietnamese community. More medicines are promised.

JAPAN. Six tons of relief supplies collected by the GVN Embassy in Tokyo were received in Saigon on February 10 by USAF plane. Shipment included: 1500 lbs. vermicelli and dehydrated cooked rice; 4400 lbs. powdered milk; 2800 lbs. of dried food; and limited quantity of medicines.

The Government has contributed 7,000,000 yen (\$20,000).

LICROSS and ICRC (League of Red Cross Societies and International Committee of the Red Cross). ICRC has contributed 100,000 Swiss Francs (\$23,000) for emergency assistance.

A special LICROSS Representative arrived in Saigon from Geneva on February 12.

The following responses have been received thus far to the ICRC/LICROSS appeal:

Swedish Red Cross	\$ 9,700
Norwegian Red Cross	14,000
Canadian Red Cross	15,000
World Council of Churches	10,000
OXFAM Canada	10,000
	<u>\$58,700</u>

The Malaysian Red Cross, in response to the LICROSS appeal, announced on February 14, the redirection to Viet-Nam of the following supplies received from sister Red Cross Societies:

- Two drums multivitamin tablets
- Two bales material (Indian Red Cross Society)
- Two boxes 72-bottle anacin tablets (American Red Cross)
- Two cartons of towels (Japanese Red Cross)
- One carton of children's clothing (Canadian Red Cross)
- Four cartons local clothing
- Two cases ferrous gluconate (Australian Red Cross Society)

The Vietnamese Red Cross is attempting to send these supplies to Saigon via Air Viet-Nam.

MALAYSIA. The Prime Minister has handed to the GVN Ambassador a check for 30,000 Malaysian dollars (\$10,000), the value of anti-typhoid (20,000 doses) and anti-cholera (140,000 doses) which the GOM is presenting to Viet-Nam.

PHILIPPINES. President Marcos has re-activated OPERATION PAKIKISMA to undertake relief and assistance for Viet-Nam and has asked government civic groups to solicit assistance from local sources.

The Vietnamese Embassy on February 8 received 500 kilos of food and some construction materials.

The Government has additionally contributed \$5,000 in food stuffs. The first shipment of 13,000 lbs. sent free by Pan American, arrived at Saigon February 17, consisted of rice, sugar, condensed milk, canned goods, clothes and medicines.

SINGAPORE. The GVN Consulate has shipped 130 cases of clothing, food and supplies and two cases of vaccines to Saigon via Air Viet-Nam, and transmitted \$1,200, donated by the Singapore populace. The Government has requested various charitable organizations to make vigorous response to the Vietnamese appeal.

TURKEY. A gift from the Ministry of Health of 100 liters each of anti-cholera and anti-typhoid serum, arrived in Saigon February 15, transported free by Pan American and has been put in the MOH warehouse at Phu-Tho.

In addition, the GVN Embassy, from a collection made with Turkey, has bought 1,200 bottles of penicillin.

UNICEF. UNICEF has authorized immediate assistance totalling \$100,000, including local procurement and imports by sea and air, and another \$10,000 for local expenditures.

UNICEF has authorized: (a) airshipment to Bangkok and on-shipping to Saigon of 200 DDS kits to which are added 50 vials penicillin and 10 boxes fish oil capsules per kit; (b) diversion of 300 tons of skim milk and 25 tons of soap to Viet-Nam; (c) handling Swiss Government offer of 20 tons of whole milk; (d) 40,000 blankets; (e) ready-to-eat food to be purchased locally or possibly in Bangkok.

The Bangkok Regional Office is preparing to ship immediately 100 tons of skim milk powder and 25 tons of soap to Viet-Nam, and reports it can obtain a contribution of 500 tons of Thai rice within three weeks.

UNICEF Headquarters has agreed to replace supplies which UNICEF/Saigon released from stocks in Saigon, i.e., 86 tons of skim milk, soap, drug and dietary supplement supplies, and cotton shirting.

UNICEF/Saigon donated 145 tons of CSM (cornmeal, soy, milkpowder) for refugee relief, and procured 2 sets of milk kitchen equipment; UNICEF/Saigon is prepared to meet small requests from its \$5,000 contingency fund.

UNITED KINGDOM. The British have announced a 250,000 sterling emergency grant (\$450,000) intended to meet urgent medical and sanitation needs of refugees and other victims of recent attacks, and to finance personnel, equipment and supplies. Substantial government financed supplies are being flown to Viet-Nam from Singapore; these include: 51,000 units plague vaccine; 10,000 units cholera vaccine; 10,000 TAB; 10,000 units typhus; 200 bottles 400cc blood plasma; 40,000 streptomycin tablets; 20,000 chloramphenicol; 300,000 meomycin; 100,000 penicillin; one ton fully-equipped ambulance and one or two trucks; 400 pounds DDT; 280 pounds chlorine; 100,000 water purification tablets; 9 refrigerators for vaccine; one emergency generator; disinfectant; walkie-talkie equipment, and latrine hand tools.

The British Chief Medical Advisor arrived in Viet-Nam to make an on-the-spot assessment re: use of funds.

The Government has authorized the UK Embassy/Saigon to purchase 20,000 sterling (\$36,000) of emergency supplies of any type required for the British pediatric team's use. Recruitment has been initiated to increase the pediatric team to 26 members.

A Disaster Relief Committee, consisting of 5 principal voluntary agencies (British Red Cross, OXFAM, Save the Children Fund, Christian Aid, and War on Want) has undertaken a TV appeal for Viet-Nam aid. Contributions to date total over 100,000 sterling (\$180,000) and are expected to reach 200,000 sterling (\$360,000). The Committee has authorized initial expenditures of 40,000 sterling, one-half available immediately at the discretion of the British Ambassador, Saigon, the remaining 20,000 sterling for purchase of canned meat, milk and other supplies from Singapore.

VATICAN. The Vatican has contributed \$20,000 to CARITAS for emergency relief in Viet-Nam.

WHO. WHO/Geneva is prepared to send 400,000 doses anti-cholera vaccine, 100,000 anti-typhoid, 300,000 doses DTC, 300,000 capsules tetracycline and 300,000 chloramphenicol.

VIETNAMESE CITIZENS ABROAD.

In Belgium - Students are donating blood.

In Burma - The Vietnamese Consul General in Rangoon has collected \$VN10,000.

In Thailand - Vegetable, fruits, and condensed milk have been collected and flown to Viet-Nam (Value: \$VN200,000).

SPECIAL BULLETIN

US AID MISSION TO VIETNAM

NUMBER: 13

DATE: February 22, 1968

EXCERPTS FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DAILY REPORT OF USAID ACTIVITIES
TO THE AMBASSADOR, REPORTS DATED 19 AND 20 FEBRUARY.

Greater Saigon area hospitals reported a significant increase in casualty admissions 17 February, numbering 357 with 21 deaths. This reflected increased VC harassment--particularly the fighting in Gia-Dinh and around Tan-Son-Nhut. Total civilian casualties in Saigon during the Tet offensive, as reported by the hospitals, now stands at 4976 admissions, with 1066 remaining and 282 dead.

There is no unusual incidence of disease reported in the greater Saigon area. Immunizations against cholera (120,000+), plague (30,000+) and small-pox (40,000+) continue with military Medical Civic Action Program, Saigon Prefecture, and Ministry of Health teams all working.

The overall sanitation picture in Saigon is improving. The Prefecture sanitation service had over 1000 personnel at work 18 February. At the end of last week there were 58 garbage trucks operating with a personnel complement of 363 collectors including supervisors. In addition, 13 contract garbage trucks were in service--principally at work in the market areas. Also at work were 583 sweepers.

* * *

In Region I, although the situation in Hue is not clear, there is no evidence of unusual epidemic disease. Two wards in the hospital in Hue have been opened and are functioning; several Vietnamese physicians have been able to return and are working. At Danang, there are still over 1000 patients in the Danang Civil hospital, most being war casualties. In the past three days 50,000 doses of plague vaccine have been delivered to Region I.

* * *

On 17 February, the Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees invited bids for temporary dwelling units to be built with self-help labor to be provided by families who will occupy the units, working under the direction of skilled contract artisans.

Self-help housing is planned for the burnt out areas of Districts 7 and 8. The plan calls for the Government to level rubble and lay out streets (which could also serve as fire-breaks). Money and/or materials will be made available to families to build their own homes.

The low-cost housing design plans developed by the GVN Directorate of Reconstruction and Urban Planning have been forwarded to Regions I, II, and I

* * *

The Ministry of Public Works received bids on 17 February from Vietnamese contractors for the 800 low cost housing units to be built in Cholon on a site bounded by Ba-Hat, Nguyen-Duy and Vinh-Vien Streets. . . The Secretary-General of the Ministry is evaluating these bids and is expected to make an award in one week.

The Minister of Public Works held a meeting on 17 February with 15 out-of-country construction firms to plan the construction of at least 11,000 dwelling units in Saigon in the next eight months (representatives of USAID and the Chinese and Korean Embassies were also present). The Minister distributed the drawings of the buildings for which Vietnamese contractors had already submitted bids. It was decided that in-country prefabrication would be appropriate to construction of the 11,000 additional units. Construction firms were asked to submit their proposals. Proposals are to include an outline of the contractor's system of construction as well as costs.

* * *

A total of 653 tons of rice was distributed 18 February. A total of 1008 metric tons of rice was distributed on 19 February. Some distribution was made to Districts 7 and 8 in Saigon.

* * *

Sales were made 18 and 19 February from the GSO supermarket at follows:

	<u>18 Feb.</u>	<u>19 Feb.</u>
Chicken	2,256 each	1,800 each
Duck eggs	5,000 each	4,000 each
Frozen pork	3.4 tons	4.3 tons
Vegetables	1.4 tons	1.9 tons
Sugar	4.0 tons	

* * *

GVN pay policy for employees absent during the emergency period will be liberal. If those not reporting for work during the emergency explain satisfactorily the reason for their absences, they will be paid.

VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES' EMERGENCY RELIEF COMMITTEE
CALLS FOR DEPOSIT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

The Committee requests all its representatives as listed in SPECIAL BULLETIN No. 11, 19 February, to turn over any cash donations received to one of the following Committee members before 23 February, 1800 hours:

Mrs. Nguyen-Thi-Hanh, ADFM, 5, Bui-Thi-Xuan, Ext. 5769.

Mr. Nguyen-Van-Sinh, CREDIT UNION, 179, Le-Van-Duyet, Ext. 5750.

Collections should be accompanied by 1) a listing signed by the donor and 2) a report of losses suffered by employees. Representatives will receive receipts for cash turned over to the Committee.

A meeting will be held shortly thereafter to finalize the proceeds, assess the total losses suffered by employees, and to discuss distribution of the proceeds. The Committee will be glad to invite all its Representatives to attend this meeting. The Committee also takes this opportunity to thank them for their cooperation.

STORK GETS ASSIST FROM TELECOM EMPLOYEES;
"JUST ANOTHER INCIDENT" THEY SAY

"There are two Vietnamese women here, asking for help. One of them is pregnant and is in difficulty! What'll I do?"

Time: 0300 Sunday, 18 February, Place: USAID's telephone dial center office. Cast of Characters: Jim Mundy, Chief, TELECOM BR/ADA; Nguyen-Huu-Vinh, a first-year student at Saigon Medical School, and night switchboard operator; Ron Jacobson, an American residing near Tan-Son-Nhut Airbase, which was undergoing attack at that moment, on the phone and asking for help.

Mundy, accustomed to handling emergency calls, calmly asked his caller for additional information and then proceeded to swing into action. Calling the 3rd Field Hospital, he learned that casualties from the action at the Tan-Son-Nhut Airbase were taking the complete attention of hospital personnel, and no aid could be given. Similarly, the 17th Field Hospital was handling emergency cases. A doctor there, however, could take time to give instructions via telephone.

Vinh, proficient in English, was able to take the Doctor's instructions, translate them into Vietnamese, and relay them to the pregnant woman's companion who performed midwife services with sufficient skill to deliver twin babies before the startled Jacobson.

"We had a lot of emergency calls during the Tet disturbances," Mundy recalled, during an interview with a SPECIAL BULLETIN reporter, "and this

was just one more in a long list. Fortunately, it had a happy ending. The next day," he continues, "Jacobson called me to report that the mother and babies had been admitted to the 7th Day Adventist Hospital, and both are getting along fine."

PLEASE SHARE THE WHEELS

Every American to whom a USAID vehicle has been assigned is obliged to share it with other Americans living at or near his place of residence. Please be on the alert, therefore, for other passengers -- at your residence or office, or walking to work.

AIR TRAFFIC AT TAN-SON-NHUT

<u>Carrier</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Departure</u>	<u>Origin or Destination</u>
20 February 1968			
Air Viet-Nam (All Special Flights)	0900 1000 1215	1240 1400 1315	from Bangkok from Singapore to Singapore from Hong Kong to Hong Kong - Taipei to Phnom Penh - Bangkok
Cathay Pacific	Cancelled		from Hong Kong
Air Royal Laos	1200	1300	from Vietiane to Vietiane
Thai International	1930	2020	from Bangkok to Bangkok
21 February 1968			
Air Viet-Nam (All Special Flights)	1105 1200 1300	1215 1300 1400	from Bangkok from Singapore to Hong Kong from Taipei - Hong Kong to Singapore to Bangkok
Air France #192	1245	1335	from Bangkok to Hong Kong & Tokyo
Pan American	1215	1310	from Singapore to U.S.

IMMUNIZATIONS FOR USAID VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES

Cholera and plague immunizations are available, without charge, at the following hospitals and dispensaries:

District	Name	Phone	Location
1	Y Viện Tân Định	20783	338 Hai-Bà-Trung
2	Chẩn Y Viện Võ-Tánh	-	Góc đường Võ-Tánh Chí Hòa
3	Chẩn Y Viện Ng.-văn-Tập	-	9 và 10 Trương-Tân-Bửu
	Chẩn Y Viện Tr.-Minh-Giảng	-	114 Trương-Minh-Giảng
	Y Viện Chí Hòa	25160	Góc Lê-văn-Duyệt và Tô-H-T
	Chẩn Y Viện Vườn Chuối	92567	104 Cư Xá Đô Thành
	Chẩn Y Viện Ngã-Bảy	-	Hẻm 384 Lý-Thái-Tổ
4	Y Viện Khánh-Hội	21501	Góc đường Hoàng-Diệu và LQH
	Chẩn Y Viện Vĩnh-Hội	24241	Đường Nguyễn-Khoái
	Chẩn Y Viện Bến-Vân-Dôn	24234	65 Bến-Vân-Dôn
	Chẩn Y Viện Xóm Chiếu	-	Đường Tôn-Thất-Thuyết
5	Y Viện Chợ-Lớn	37877	211 Đại Lộ Hồng-Bàng
	Chẩn Y Viện Tân Kiên	-	Đình-Tân-Kiến ĐL Trần-H-Dạo
	Chẩn Y Viện Phú-Thọ	38107	Góc Tr-Q-Toàn và Lãnh-B-Thần
	Chẩn Y Viện Ng.-Tri-Phương	36867	18 Công Trường Ng.-Tri-Phươn
	Chẩn Y Viện Sư-Vạn-Hạnh	37729	29 Đường Sư-Vạn-Hạnh
6	Y Viện Phú Lâm	36280	371 Đường Lục-Tĩnh
	Chẩn Y Viện Bình Thới	-	Ngang số 280 đường Phú-Thọ
	Chẩn Y Viện Bình Tây	-	147 Lê-Quang-Hiến
7	Y Viện Rạch Cát	37310	Đường Mê-Cốc
	Chẩn Y Viện Bình Đông	36274	184 Bến-Nguyên-Duy
8	Y Viện Xóm Củi	37848	253 Đường Tùng-Thiên-Vương
	Chẩn Y Viện Chánh Hưng	-	14 Bến-Nguyên-Duy
	Chẩn Y Viện Phạm-Thế-Hiến	-	33 Phạm-Thế-Hiến
9	Chẩn Y Viện An Khánh	-	Thủ Thiêm

VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES EMERGENCY RELIEF COMMITTEE ADDS MEMBERS

Appointment of the following new representatives increases the total membership of the emergency relief committee to 46:

Han-cam-Duong, ADFM, x5304; Bui-sy-Gia, ADPH, x5829; Vu-thi-Kim-Quy, FRR-A, x5063; and Nguyen-dinh-Xuyen, LOG, x5929.

The new representatives will collect gifts and report on employees' losses.

HOURS OF SERVICE

<u>Cashiers:</u>	USAID I & II	0930 - 1130
		1500 - 1700
	Mondial	0930 - 1130
	Embassy (effective 2/23/68)	0900 - 1100
		1430 - 1630
<u>Snack Bars:</u>	USAID I & II	0830 - 1500
<u>International House</u>	Grill	0700 - 1900
	Dining Room	1100 - 1330
	Gift Shop	1000 - 1800
<u>Commissary:</u>	Cholon	1000 - 1600
<u>PX's:</u>	Cholon	1000 - 1600
	Meyerkord	1000 - 1600
	Brink	1000 - 1800*
	Tan-Son-Nhut	1000 - 1700

*Closing permanently 2/29/68 at 1800.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

SOCIAL WELFARE AND REFUGEES' SITUATION REPORT

Under the leadership of the Minister of Social Welfare and Refugees, Dr. Nguyen-Phuc-Que, relief operations for the victims of the Tet offensive began on 1 February just 29 hours after the first onslaught, while fighting was still going on in many places throughout the City. Because of difficulties in communications and transportation and because of the numbers of people involved, first attention was given by the Ministry to the Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh area. Throughout the country, relief operations in the first instance were very much decentralized, with each local community establishing its own program.

The build-up of refugees in the Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh area was rapid -- 85,335 reported on 8 February (the day of the first consolidated statistical report), building up to 247,062 by 13 February. The number has now fallen off to 193,949 (21 February). Displaced persons fall into three categories: 1) those whose homes and possessions have been destroyed, 2) those whose homes were located in insecure areas and therefore sought refuge elsewhere, and 3) those who could not obtain or could not afford to buy food. The reduction in the number of refugees may be accounted for by improving security in neighborhoods and normalizing of economic conditions, with employment returning to previous levels, food becoming more available, and decreasing food prices. It has been estimated that the number of persons whose homes were destroyed and who, thus, will constitute a continuing refugee problem, is in the range of 25,000 to 35,000 in the Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh area.

The extent of disruption in the lives of the people of Saigon, however, is only partially reflected in official statistics of displaced persons. Many families in secure areas have provided and are continuing to provide shelter and food to families and friends driven from their homes by the VC offensive.

Reports on action statistics from provinces have from the beginning been delayed by communications problems. The number of refugees reported in the Provinces (exclusive of Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh) as of 20 February was 415,339. Although this figure is still mounting, it is expected to fall off quite sharply as conditions throughout the country return to relative normalcy, except in I Corps, where on-going major military activity will probably continue to produce refugees.

Of tremendous assistance to the Government in meeting the needs of displaced people was the response of the people themselves. Voluntary cash contributions for the relief of victims began to pour into the Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees before any organized appeal was made. Although these contributions, in some cases, represented organizational donations, the overwhelming majority came from individual donors. As of 21 February, contributions amounted to VN\$25,241,765. Even more important, perhaps, have been the literally thousands of hours of volunteer work contributed by members of Vietnamese student groups, youth groups, religious organizations,

labor unions, social groups, fraternal organizations, and educational associations. Without this assistance distribution of relief commodities would have constituted an almost insurmountable problem.

Coordination of governmental action in response to the Tet onslaught has been notable. President Thieu appointed The National Recovery Committee on 3 February to be chaired by Vice President Ky. Through this Committee the full resources of the Government have been brought to bear upon the recovery program. The Ministry of Health has been assigned responsibility for sanitation in refugee camps. Teams of Revolutionary Development cadre have been assigned to the Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees for the management of the refugee camps, releasing personnel to re-establish on-going Ministry programs.

The National Recovery Committee has also given leadership to a coordinated rebuilding program. The Ministry of Public Works will construct housing to be sold to refugees on liberal terms while the Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees will provide temporary housing (occupancy estimated at 8 - 12 months), and work with other groups in the development of "self-help" housing. The destruction of relatively large sections in urban areas throughout the country has provided an opportunity for rebuilding with better designed and more substantial housing. According to present plans, families whose homes were destroyed will be granted a housing allowance which will constitute the down-payment on one of the government housing units. The remaining payment will be amortized over a 10 - 15 year period (depending on the size of the family) in small monthly installments. Each eligible family participating in the "self-help" housing program will be provided with 20 sheets of metal roofing, 15 bags of cement, and a cash grant of VN\$5000 for constructing their own houses.

Plans have already been made to build temporary housing for refugees on vacant land near Petrus-Ky. A total of 2000 units will be built at this site and other sites are being selected. Permanent Government housing will be built in burned-out areas in Districts 2, 3, 5, and 6 where land is presently being leveled for this purpose. Self-help housing will be located in Districts 7 and 8 and in the Nga-Tu-Hang-Xanh section of Gia-Dinh.

Refugees (whether adults or children) whose homes were destroyed are eligible for a six-month rice allowance of 500 gms. of rice a day.

Families who were only temporarily displaced from their homes have been provided with available emergency rations in refugee centers. Specific food items which have been distributed have been regularly reported in the SPECIAL BULLETIN. Quantities of bed mats, blankets, mosquito nets, and clothing have also been distributed.

Distribution D, G

Validated DD

SPECIAL BULLETIN

US AID MISSION TO VIETNAM

NUMBER: 14

DATE: February 24, 1968

EXCERPTS FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DAILY REPORT OF USAID ACTIVITIES
TO THE AMBASSADOR, REPORTS DATED 21 AND 22 FEBRUARY

A total of 1,424 metric tons of rice was distributed on 20 February, and a total of 1,411 on 21 February as follows:

	<u>Feb. 20</u>	<u>Feb. 21</u>
Government Offices	524	681
Dealers in Saigon, districts 1-5, 7 & 8	382	452
Dealers in Gia-Dinh	214	252
Provinces	214	26
Labor Organizations	50	-
Caritas	40	-
	<u>1,424 M/T</u>	<u>1,411 M/T</u>

* * *

Sales from the GSO supermarket on 20 - 21 February were as follows:

	<u>Feb. 20</u>	<u>Feb. 21</u>
Frozen Pork	3.2 M/T	3.9 M/T
Vegetables	2.3 M/T	2.1 M/T
Sugar	4.0 M/T	4.0 M/T
Chicken	2,412 each	1,872 each
Duck Eggs	5,160 each	8,000 each

* * *

Electric power demand reached a high of 86.3 megawatts on 20 February. . . . The power situation in Saigon continues to be adequate and satisfactory. Work is continuing on consolidation of early reports of damage to provincial and rural electric systems to obtain a general estimate of damage suffered.

The Saigon water facilities are operating satisfactorily.

The Post and Telegraph services are continuing satisfactorily. Numerous breaks in cable sheathing resulting from gunfire have been repaired.

Civil Aviation operations for commercial air traffic are limited but meeting demand.

The railway is continuing repair work on tracks and bridges.

* * *

Saigon/Gia-Dinh hospitals report that 116 civilians with war-related injuries were admitted 21 February. Casualties are declining as Saigon suburb fighting slackens. Total admissions to Saigon hospitals now stand at 5224, with 1028 remaining and 288 dead.

There is no unusual incidence of disease in the Saigon area. Health care in all refugee collection areas in Saigon has been made the responsibility of the Prefecture medical chief.

The Saigon Prefecture medical chief reports that the District 9 dispensary is now open. . . The Cho-Ray Nursing School is scheduled to reopen 26 February.

Immunizations to 22 February administered in Saigon/Gia-Dinh area are:

Cholera	187,305
Plague	57,609
Smallpox	80,447

Vaccines for cholera, plague, and smallpox remain in adequate supply for national needs. Cholera shots have been boosted greatly by Free World donations.

* * *

As of 19 February, the Medical Depot had shipped the following medical equipment and supplies:

Region I	71.4 S/T
Region II	19.3 S/T
Region III	10.0 S/T
Region IV	41.5 S/T
Saigon	24.1 S/T

* * *

EMERGENCY WARDEN AND PERSONNEL LOCATOR PROGRAM

Appointment of wardens to serve in emergency situations has been announced by USAID for every hotel, apartment building, and other living center housing three or more USAID employees. Villas occupied by fewer than three persons will come under the responsibility of wardens serving in need by larger buildings. Residents of such villas have been informed of the names and locations of their wardens. Buildings housing Americans other than USAID staff come under the jurisdiction of other agencies.

USAID wardens are, where necessary, provided with communications equipment, including radios. Those who have radios must follow the established procedures for routine check with duty officers. In a few instances, these procedures have not been followed, thus weakening the program. This requirement applies to the networks.

As a by-product of the locator study being conducted, an accurate directory of USAID/Saigon personnel is in preparation. This will show the organizational assignment, office phone number, residence address, and residence telephone, if any, for each individual. All offices and divisions are urged to be prompt in reporting any personnel changes occurring within their respective organizations. The current study has revealed a number of failures to report such changes.

Effective Monday, 26 February, information and/or questions relative to the Warden and Locator program should be directed to the office of J. A. McConnell, ADA, USAID Ext. 5600/5609.

USAID TECHNICIAN MEETS GI SON AFTER VC ACTION

Walter E. Pierce, Jr., serving as a Forestry Advisor with ADID/AGR, had a happy reunion with PFC Walter E. Pierce, III, recently. Both had left their Edison, Georgia, home early in December, bound for Viet-Nam, taking separate transportation at Los Angeles.

"We had been together in Saigon for Christmas," Mr. Pierce stated, "but had not seen each other again until just before the Tet attacks." The younger man, serving near Saigon called his father and arranged to meet late in the afternoon of Tuesday 30 January. "We were just returning from a mission along the Saigon River and were cleaning our weapons," he related. "I was more or less expecting my father to show up, and sure enough -- a little later he came through the gate!"

The next day, PFC Pierce's company was called into action against the VC in the Saigon area. "I had some anxious moments," the elder Pierce interjected, "as I was sure my son was out there. A CBS correspondent had told me he'd seen Gene, and that he was OK, but I just couldn't be sure."

Mr. Pierce is assisting in the field of saw mill and plywood manufacturing operations. "I have owned and operated sawmills and veneer and plywood plants all my life," he stated. "I sold out and retired about three years ago, but when I heard about this job opening I decided to accept the challenge it offered," he continued. This advisor sees "plenty of room for improvement" in the wood products industry in Viet-Nam, and is confident that "we can do a good job" of assisting in development of the industry.

PFC Pierce expects to be assigned to a public relations job in his battalion, and hopes to resume his studies in journalism upon his return to the States. "I attended Andrew College, in Cuthbert, Georgia," he said, "and I want to prepare for professional work in public relations. It's a fascinating field," he declared with enthusiasm. "I'm planning to return to college as soon as my tour of duty ends."

RETAIL FOOD PRICES, FEBRUARY 22, 1968

Food prices, in general, declined slightly between 19 February and 22 February, reflecting improved transportation from the outlying provinces.

Transport of lean pork, however, continued to move slowly, with a resultant rise in price.

Selected Prices -- all quantities 1 kg. unless otherwise indicated.

	<u>January 22</u>	<u>February 19</u>	<u>February 22</u>
Rice - Nang-huong/100 kg.	VN\$3400	VN\$3800	VN\$3800
Soc-nau	2450	3000	2900
No. 1/25% brokens	2100	2500	2500
U.S. remilled medium grain	2300	2800	2500
Lean Pork	350	400	450
Pork-Bellies	230	300	300
Fish-Catre	250	300	250
Chicken	260	270	260
Beefsteak	250	320	320
Shrimp	130	150	130
Nuoc-Mam - jar	150	160	160
Duck Eggs - each	8.5	13	13
Condensed Milk - can	38	45-50	50
Brown Sugar	26	27	27
Cabbage - Dalat	35	60	40
Cabbage - local	17	30	20
Bindweed	18	18	15
Cucumbers	27	30	30
Onion Shoots	20	50	40
Bananas - bunch	22	30	40
Stick Beans	40	60	70

RELIEF AND REFUGEE SITUATION SUMMARIZED

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees reported the following information 23 February:

REFUGEES

Area Reporting	Reporting Date	
	<u>2/18</u>	<u>2/23</u>
Saigon/Cholon	140,167	144,481
Gia-Dinh	60,310	76,088
All other provinces	323,957	422,226

CIVILIAN CASUALTIES & DAMAGE

Killed	5,438
Wounded	9,395
Houses destroyed	42,750

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Total to date: \$VN 32,744,680

U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX INFORMATION

Federal income tax forms and information pamphlets are available at the Consular Section of the Embassy, 4 Thong-Nhut, Saigon. Office hours are: weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and from 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

A representative of the Internal Revenue Service, Mr. W. A. Voyzey, will be visiting Saigon from March 25, through March 29, 1968, for the purpose of assisting residents of Viet-Nam on complicated United States income tax problems. You may make an appointment with him during that period by calling the Consular Section receptionist, PTT 91750, Extension 460, if you have tax questions that cannot be answered by reference to guides available in the Consular Section. Mr. Voyzey's office will be located in the Consular Section while he is in Saigon.

SAIGON AREA EXCHANGE ANNOUNCES
CLOSING OF BRINKS FX

"Brinks Exchange will close PERMANENTLY at the end of normal operating hours on 29 February 1968," stated Major George W. Goetz, Commander, Saigon Area Exchange, in a memo dated 16 February. All other Exchange operations in the Saigon/Cholon/Tan-Son-Nhut areas will continue on normal operating hours.

Customers on duty in metropolitan Saigon/Cholon are encouraged to utilize the Cholon Exchange which offers complete service.

HOURS OF SERVICE

<u>International</u>	Grill	0700 - 1900
<u>House</u>	Dining Room	1100 - 1330
	Gift Shop	1000 - 1800
<u>Commissary:</u>	Cholon	1000 - 1600
<u>PX's</u>	Cholon	1000 - 1600
	Meyerkord	1000 - 1600
	Brink	1000 - 1800*
	Tan-Son-Nhut	1000 - 1700

*Closing permanently 2/29/68 at 1800.

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24-HOUR DUTY ROSTER

FEBRUARY 24 THROUGH MARCH 1, 1968

HOURS	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
0830 to 1230	McConnell	Millard*	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell
1230 to 1330	Millard	Millard*			(No Coverage)		
1330 to 1730	Millard*	Millard*	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell
1730 to 1830	Millard*	Millard*	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell	McConnell
1830 to 0830	Milton*	Milton*	Milton	Milton	Milton	Milton	Milton

The Duty Officer can be reached on USAID extensions 5609 or 5600 or PTT 93083, extensions 5609 or 5600, except when market with an asterisk (*).

* The Duty Officer should be called on USAID extensions 5640 or 5300, or PTT 93083, extensions 5640 or 5300.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SPECIAL BULLETIN

US AID MISSION TO VIETNAM

NUMBER: 15

DATE: February 27, 1968

EXCERPTS FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DAILY REPORT OF USAID ACTIVITIES
TO THE AMBASSADOR, FEBRUARY 24, 1968

Admissions of civilians with war-related injuries to Saigon area hospitals, 23 February, was 98. To date, 5365 have been admitted. The number remaining continues to fall -- 864 remaining now -- down from 941 the day before.

* * *

There continues to be no reports of plague and cholera in the Saigon area. Refugee collection areas are being constantly surveyed. Sanitary conditions have improved. Immunizations are being given for protection against plague, cholera, and smallpox.

* * *

The long working hours and conscientious efforts by the Post & Telecommunications personnel during the recent crisis have resulted in more efficient service. Field trips are being made and emergency supplies are being prepared for shipment.

* * *

GVN workers are returning in increasing numbers and are generally maintaining an 0800 to 1600 hours work schedule.

Approximately 90% of the entire City staff is back on duty working the same hours as Ministry personnel.

Forty-five buses are operating on four lines between the hours of 0700 and 1600 in two shifts. One of the two Cholon routes remains closed. It is believed that the low bus fares (VN \$6) are bringing down the Lambro (three-wheeled motorbuses) fares which are now only double pre-TET attack levels. They were trebled in early February.

VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES EMERGENCY RELIEF COMMITTEE MEETS

The Committee and its representatives, will meet on Wednesday, 28 February at 1000 hours in the Situation Room, USAID I. The Committee will report on relief contributions to date, and discuss means of using its resources to assist those employees suffering losses during the Tet offensive.

* + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + *
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+ The next issue of the SPECIAL BULLETIN, No. 16, +
* will appear on Saturday, 2 March. Subsequent *
+ publication dates will be announced. +
*
+ The office of the SPECIAL BULLETIN has moved to +
* Room 413, USAID I. The new telephone number is *
+ USAID Ext. 5504. +
*
+
* + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + * + *

USAID VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES ACCOUNTED FOR;
RELIEF FUNDS IN PLANNING STAGE

With the exception of about 30 individuals, all of USAID's Vietnamese employees either have returned to their work or have been accounted for in some other manner, according to Jack A. McConnell, Deputy Associate Director for Administration. "We are happy that there have been relatively few reports of personal injury or property loss," he stated.

Several inquiries have come to the headquarters offices regarding possible contributions by USAID American personnel to organized funds for employee relief. Commenting on these inquiries, Mr. McConnell pointed out that USAID is now investigating the total needs of Vietnamese staff for assistance. "In about a week to ten days," he continues, "we will report on losses suffered by our Vietnamese employees. Individuals desiring to give financial assistance will have an opportunity to contribute to funds now being organized," he concluded.

RETAIL PRICES, FEBRUARY 26, 1968

Prices were mixed 26 February. The price level was virtually unchanged from 22 February. Rice and pork prices fell as large quantities of imported rice and frozen pork were available. The Saigon/Cholon slaughterhouse reopened, but with only a limited number of animals available for processing.

IMMUNIZATIONS FOR USAID/VIETNAMESE AND TCN EMPLOYEES

Supervisors are urged to inform their Vietnamese and TCN employees that cholera and plague immunizations are available, without charge, at the following hospitals and dispensaries:

| District | Name | Phone | Location |
|----------|----------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Y Viện Tân Định | 20783 | 338 Hai-Bà-Trung |
| 2 | Chẩn Y Viện Võ-Tánh | - | Góc đường Võ-Tánh Chí Hòa |
| 3 | Chẩn Y Viện Ng.-văn-Tập | - | 9 và 10 Trương-Tấn-Bửu |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Tr.-Minh-Giang | - | 114 Trương-Minh-Giang |
| | Y Viện Chí Hòa | 25160 | Góc Lê-văn-Duyệt và Tô-H-T |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Vườn Chuối | 92567 | 104 Cư Xá Đô Thành |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Ngá-Bảy | - | Hẻm 384 Lý-Thái-Tổ |
| 4 | Y Viện Khánh-Hội | 21501 | Góc đường Hoàng-Diệu và LQH |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Vĩnh-Hội | 24241 | Đường Nguyễn-Khoái |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Bến-Vân-Dôn | 24234 | 65 Bến-Vân-Dôn |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Xóm Chiếu | - | Đường Tôn-Thất-Thuyết |
| 5 | Y Viện Chợ-Lớn | 37877 | 211 Đại Lộ Hồng-Bàng |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Tân Kiên | - | Đình-Tân-Kiến ĐL Trần-H-Đạo |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Phú-Thọ | 38107 | Góc Tr-Q-Toàn và Lanh-B-Thắng |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Ng.-Tri-Phương | 36867 | 18 Công Trường Ng.-Tri-Phương |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Sư-Vạn-Hạnh | 37729 | 29 Đường Sư-Vạn-Hạnh |
| 6 | Y Viện Phú Lâm | 36280 | 371 Đường Lục-Tĩnh |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Bình Thới | - | Ngang số 280 đường Phú-Thọ |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Bình Tây | - | 147 Lê-Quang-Hiền |
| 7 | Y Viện Rạch Cát | 37310 | Đường Mê-Cốc |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Bình Đông | 36274 | 184 Bến-Nguyên-Duy |
| 8 | Y Viện Xóm Củi | 37848 | 253 Đường Tùng-Thiện-Vương |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Chánh Hưng | - | 14 Bến-Nguyên-Duy |
| | Chẩn Y Viện Phạm-Thế-Hiền | - | 93 Phạm-Thế-Hiền |
| 9 | Chẩn Y Viện An Khánh | - | Thủ Thiêm |

TRAFFIC AT TAN-SON-NHUT AIRPORT CONTINUES
UNDER CURFEW CONDITIONS

Continuing curfew restrictions restrict commercial air traffic at the Tan-Son-Nhut commercial air terminal to the 0800 - 1500 period, daily. Operations between 2000 and 0800 are limited to military flights, exclusively. All commercial flights are operating on special schedules until normal hours can be resumed. Flight schedules for today and Saturday appear below.

Air Traffic at Tan-Son-Nhut

27 February 1968

| <u>Carrier</u> | <u>Arr.</u> | <u>Dep.</u> | <u>Origin or Destination</u> |
|----------------|--------------|----------------------|---|
| Air Viet-Nam | 1105
1230 | 1210
1215
1330 | Bangkok
Hong Kong
Vientiane
Hong Kong
Bangkok |
| Pan American | 0800 | 0845 | USA
Singapore |
| China Airlines | 1300 | 1400 | Taipei
Taipei |

2 March 1968

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| Air Viet-Nam | 1100
1105
1305 | 1000
1215
1415
1630 | Singapore
Bangkok
Hong Kong
Vientiane
Hong Kong/Taipei
Bangkok
Singapore |
| Pan American | 1015 | 1150 | USA |
| Cathay Pacific | C A N C E L L E D | | |
| Thai International | F L I G H T S S U S P E N D E D U N T I L
3 M a r c h 1 9 6 8 | | |

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SPECIAL BULLETIN

US AID MISSION TO VIETNAM

NUMBER: 16

DATE: March 2, 1968

EXCERPTS FROM DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO THE AMBASSADOR, 28 FEBRUARY 1968

The Minister of Health informed the National Recovery Committee on 27 February that the International Red Cross had offered to provide a mobile 150-bed hospital for Hue.

The Foreign Minister is sending a circular letter to all diplomatic missions in Saigon reminding them of the appeal on 17 February by the Minister of Public Works for assistance in a housing reconstruction program in Saigon. The Foreign Ministry letter lists the type of building materials required and also suggests that prospective donors construct separate housing compounds.

Offers of assistance and delivery of money, equipment, supplies, and other forms of help continue to pour in.

* * *

Rice sales in Saigon, District 6, are expected to start 28 February.

* * *

Recent GSO supermarket sales were as follows:

| | <u>Feb. 23</u> | <u>Feb. 26</u> | <u>Feb. 27</u> |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Frozen pork (tons) | 3.3 | 6.8 | 4.2 |
| Chicken (tons) | 2.7 | 2.5 | 1.8 |
| Sugar (tons) | 4.0 | --- | 4.0 |
| Vegetables (tons) | 1.9 | 1.5 | 1.2 |
| Duck eggs (each) | 7,000 | 7,000 | 3,120 |

* * *

The generation and transmission of electric power in the metropolitan Saigon area continues satisfactorily with commercial activity on the increase.

Provincial and rural power facilities are under continuing analysis and repair. Reconstruction assistance is being provided.

* * *

Mobile generators and single side band radios are being requested to provide emergency connections until regular telephone service can be restored.

* * *

On 24 February, USAID engineering personnel met with the GVN Minister of Public Works and other Ministry personnel regarding the GVN program for reconstruction housing. The following developments were reported:

- (a) 10 proposals for construction have been received to date;
- (b) construction contracts have been awarded, on the basis of VN\$270,000 per dwelling unit, for contractors to build 250 units and 1,000 units at two Saigon sites;
- (c) the Minh-Mang site is cleared and ready for construction;
- (d) these 3 sites are currently designated for ultimate construction of 4,000 dwelling units.

The Directorate General of Reconstruction & Urban Planning continues to prepare site plans for the 12 devastated areas in the Saigon/Cholon/Gia-Dinh area with the assistance of USAID engineering personnel. Additional proposals from out-of-country contractors are continuing to come in for the design and construction of replacement housing.

* * *

Saigon area hospitals have admitted a total of 5573 civilians with "war-related injuries" since 31 January. The number of patients remaining in hospitals continues to decline. As of 28 February only 795 remained. Deaths have totaled 300.

EMERGENCY RELIEF COMMITTEE REPORTS CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

Nguyen-Nhu-Ba, Chairman of the Vietnamese Employees Emergency Relief Committee, reported receipts totalling VN\$363,670 by Friday, 23 February. At a meeting of the Committee, 28 February, Mr. Ba pointed out that this amount represented only the initial response to the Committee's appeal. Contributions will be solicited for an indefinite period.

Reports of casualties and losses up to 28 February, resulting from the VC Tet offensive, show 88 Vietnamese employees of USAID, CORDS, Embassy, and JUSPAO have suffered losses ranging from death to property damage.

The Committee has developed a "point index" to serve as a base for determining extent of assistance to be granted to any employee. Points will be given as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Death of an employee | 5 points |
| Injury to an employee | 4 points |
| Property loss or damage | 3 points |
| Death in employee's family | 2 points |
| Injury to employee's family member | 1 point |

The point count for the 88 affected employees totalled 302. Initial compensation from first receipts will amount to approximately VN\$1000 per index point.

As contributions continue to be received and reports on losses become more complete, additional compensation will be distributed by the Committee. It is also hoped that a contribution can be made to the national relief effort being handled through the Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees.

At the same meeting, Dr. Dorothy N. Glenn, of ADPH, reported the opening of a permanent blood bank at Saigon Emergency Hospital. Located on Le-Loi Boulevard, opposite the Central Market, the blood bank will be open seven days a week from 0930 - 1130 to accept donations. The Committee urges all Vietnamese employees to donate blood at this Collection Center. American and TCN personnel also are encouraged to give blood there. An American staff is on duty daily.

A circular letter will be sent to all Vietnamese, TCN, and American employees of USAID, CORDS, Embassy, and JUSPAO with details concerning the blood donor campaign, scheduling of appointments, and transportation to the hospital.

INTER-UNIVERSITY COUNCIL FOR REFUGEES NAMED

It was announced on 29 February that the Inter-University Council for Refugees is made up of the following:

Steering Committee

Co-Chairman:

Dr. Tran-Quang-De, Rector, University of Saigon
Venerable Thich-Minh-Chau, Rector,
Van-Hanh University
Dr. Pham-Hoang-Ho, Rector, Can-Tho University

Secretary-General:

Nguyen-Van-Luong

Members: Various Deans

Sub-Committees

Relief
Sanitation
Reconstruction
Public Relations

Chairmen

Vu-Quoc-Thong
Dr. Tran-Vy
Architect Nguyen-Van-Nhac
Nguyen-Van-Hung

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO VIET-NAM

During the past week Canada and New Zealand have announced emergency assistance to Viet-Nam. Canada has approved \$100,000 for food aid, and further emergency relief is awaiting Treasury approval. New Zealand is sending \$11,318 in food and emergency supplies. The Council of Relief Services Overseas, a private New Zealand organization, is furnishing a like amount of supplies.

Relief shipments continue to arrive in Viet-Nam. Two airshipments of supplies have been received from Malaysia, a third is expected March 5. Japan will send a second shipment in early March.

To date, some 23 countries and international organizations have contributed emergency assistance to Viet-Nam. An additional 11 countries have indicated their intention to supply some form of aid.

RELIEF AND REFUGEE SITUATION SUMMARIZED

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees reports the following information:

| <u>Refugees</u> | <u>Reporting Date</u> | |
|---|-----------------------|----------------|
| | <u>2/23</u> | <u>2/29</u> |
| Saigon/Cholon | 144,481 | 172,679 |
| Gia-Dinh | 76,088 | 68,391 |
| All other provinces | 422,226 | 473,402 |
| <u>Civilian Casualties & Damage</u> | | |
| Killed | 5,438 | 6,623 |
| Wounded | 9,395 | 11,569 |
| Houses destroyed | 42,750 | 51,152 |
| <u>Financial Contributions</u> | | |
| | \$VN32,744,680 | \$VN61,745,450 |

MINISTER ANNOUNCES SCHOOL RE-OPENING

Prof. Tang-Kin-Dong, Minister of Education, announced on 29 February that the University of Saigon, Van-Hanh University, and all post-secondary schools will re-open on Monday, 11 March. Secondary schools, both public and private, will resume their programs on 1 April.

Schools where buildings have been damaged severely will re-open as soon as facilities can be provided.

AMBASSADOR'S COMMITTEE TO ANNOUNCE
CIVILIAN RELIEF CAMPAIGN

Ambassador Bunker heads a committee which will conduct a campaign for voluntary contributions by civilian members of the American community in Saigon, both Mission staff members and private individuals, to aid in the relief and recovery effort for victims of the VC/NVA Tet aggression. Contributions will be invited both for general relief among the Vietnamese population and for assistance to those Vietnamese employees of the U.S. Mission who have suffered substantial loss.

The American Voluntary Agencies will be involved in the general effort. Details of the campaign and procedures for making contributions will be announced early next week.

RETAIL PRICES, 29 FEBRUARY 1968

Retail prices were unchanged or lower 29 February. Fish and shrimp prices fell as shipments from the Delta and Vung-Tau increased. Market sources say that rice prices are likely to fall in the near future as deliveries from the Delta are expected.

Selected Prices -- all quantities 1 kg. unless otherwise indicated.

| | <u>Jan. 22</u> | <u>Feb. 26</u> | <u>Feb. 29</u> |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Rice - Nang-huong/100 kg. | VN\$3400 | 3600 | 3600 |
| Soc-nau | 2450 | 2700 | 2700 |
| No. 1/25% brokens | 2100 | 2500 | 2500 |
| U.S. remilled medium grain | 2300 | 2500 | 2500 |
| Lean Pork | 350 | 400 | 400 |
| Pork Bellies | 230 | 280 | 260 |
| Fish - Ca Tre | 250 | 300 | 240 |
| Chicken | 260 | 260 | 260 |
| Beefsteak | 250 | 300 | 300 |
| Shrimp | 130 | 180 | 150 |
| Nuoc Mam - jar | 150 | 160 | 160 |
| Duck eggs - each | 8.5 | 11 | 11 |
| Condensed Milk - can | 38 | 55 | 50 |
| Brown Sugar | 26 | 26 | 26 |
| Cabbage - Dalat | 35 | 25 | 25 |
| Cabbage - local | 17 | 25 | 25 |
| Bindweed | 18 | 22 | 22 |
| Cucumbers | 27 | 25 | 25 |
| Onion Shoots | 20 | 30 | 30 |
| Bananas - bunch | 22 | 25 | 20 |
| Stick Beans | 40 | 30 | 30 |

THE SAIGON SERENADE (WITH SINCERE APOLOGIES
TO COLE PORTER AND HIS PUBLISHERS)

Night and day, there goes a gun.
Was it an incoming round, or an outgoing one?
Whether near to me or far,
Makes no difference, rocket, where you are --
I think of you, day and night.

Night and day, under the hide of me,
There's an oh, such a hungry wond'ring
thund'ring inside of me!
Did a roaring cannon's boom
Break the silence of my lonely room?
I wonder who . . .*

The "tick, tick, tock of the stately clock" is said to have inspired Cole Porter's great song. Who knows but that he might have turned out something like the above lines if he, like some of us, had wondered about these strange sounds that reverberate throughout the stilly Saigon nights?

Most of the noises are of the Free World Forces' making: air-strikes, gun-ships, artillery, and ground action. They sound more frequent and closer to us than pre-Tet activities simply because they are more frequent and a little closer. They seem louder, not only because of their proximity, but also because the unaccustomed curfew-quiet of the city's streets provides an effective echo-chamber. Essentially, they are the same sounds we've been living with and sleeping through for a long time.

Certain of the current night-sounds must remain unexplained -- however frustrating that may be. Wonder though we may, our curiosity is as nothing when compared to Charlie's. While we might find details interesting, the enemy would find them useful -- and that's not the kind of aid we're here for!

The strains of the "Saigon Serenade" are designed to upset the enemy's rest and slumbers -- not yours. So, let's just let him do the worrying!

* Paraphrased by Elinor Green, CORDS

CHOLERA "SHOT" REQUIREMENTS CHANGED

Cholera immunization requirements have been altered, according to an announcement by the Embassy Dispensary. Cholera "shots" now must be renewed every six months; the four-month requirement no longer applies. This change applies, also, to personnel traveling to Bangkok from Saigon.

The requirement for plague remains at three months, and for smallpox, one year.

NGUYEN-HUE RESIDENTS RESPOND
TO EMERGENCY SITUATION

Emergencies are noted for inspiring individuals and groups to heights of selfless devotion to the welfare of their less fortunate neighbors. An account of this kind of performance recently came to the attention of the SPECIAL BULLETIN. It is reported here as representative of the general attitude among the members of the American community during the early days of the VC attack on Saigon, and the weeks following:

Residents of Nguyen-Hue area billets responded promptly on the morning of Wednesday, 31 January, shortly after the launching of the initial attacks was announced. Volunteers, including both men and women of USAID, pitched in to man the kitchen at the McCarthy BOQ as soon as it was learned that Vietnamese employees were unable to report for duty. A cafeteria service was set up, dish-washing crews organized, and "maid service" provided to keep the billet operating at somewhere near normal for almost two weeks.

On that first day, also, they organized a spontaneous campaign to enlist blood donors. Under the leadership of Dr. Dorothy N. Glenn, PH, 85 units of blood were donated at the Saigon Emergency Hospital on 31 January. On the following day, an additional 84 units were given, for a two-day total of 169. Residents of the Oscar, Excelsior, and other USAID residential units in the area, plus several employees of JUSPAO offices on Nguyen-Hue, were the principal donors. Because of uncertain security donors were transported, under armed guard, from the Nguyen-Hue area to the Hospital, where the blood was collected for the benefit of Vietnamese wounded.

Four new employees who had arrived on Tuesday, 30 January, were among the early volunteers. Three were accepted as blood donors. The fourth, ineligible because of a history of hepatitis, served as a recruiter for other donors.

Dr. Dai, head of the Saigon Emergency Hospital voiced the gratitude of the Hospital staff by sending posters to the Oscar and Excelsior Hotels carrying expressions of appreciation and pictures of patients who had received blood.

GSO PLEASED BY PERFORMANCE OF
NEW USAID POWER PLANT

"These new generators are performing better than we had expected," declared Tom Cross when queried about the new power plant at USAID I. The Chief of the GSO Electrical Branch continued his enthusiastic comments, saying that the equipment is proving to be "very economical to operate" while requiring a minimum of attention.

Although the announced connection of #87 Le-Van-Duyet and the USAID Annex to the new electrical system has not yet been effected, it will be made soon. "We're having a few minor transformer difficulties," he said, "but we expect to solve these problems and make the final change-over soon."

THE UNSUNG AMERICANS

An editorial from the WASHINGTON POST, 15 February 1968

It is one of the many anomalies of Viet-Nam that the richest lode of expertise and first-hand experience in all the complexities of a war against insurgency lies buried beneath layers of bureaucracy, beyond the reach of the men who make the policy. It is to be found in the far reaches of the countryside, among the hundreds of civilian field representatives of such assorted agencies as the USIA, AID, and the State Department. In other wars, those with the lowest rank could be faulted for seeing only a slice of the battlefield. In this war, the underlings work among the people and see it all because the people, who are the same everywhere, are what the war is all about. The average "pacification" worker, whatever agency he works for, is likely to speak Vietnamese and to be as knowledgeable in stringing barbed wire defenses as in well-digging or dealing diplomatically with a hamlet chief. He is also likely to be living dangerously amidst an unseen enemy.

Just how dangerously is all to vividly dramatized in the latest casualty reports on the Viet-Cong offensive of the past two weeks. In that span, at least eight civilian officials were killed; two were captured, including the U.S. provincial representative in Hue; eleven are missing; and ten were wounded, six of them seriously. Five young members of the International Voluntary Service, a private "Peace Corps" under contract to AID, are also missing. This is a small tally, all but lost alongside the military casualty reports, but it speaks volumes about the Viet-Nam war.

It tells of a struggle in which civilian officials are as much combatants as men in uniform-for these are only the worst, not the first civilian casualties. It offers a measure, too, of the damage inflicted by the latest Viet-Cong offensive, however impermanent the enemy's military gains. For if this many American "pacification" workers were caught up in the fighting, a much larger number of their South Vietnamese co-workers must be casualties, too. Whole programs, it is reckoned, must now be patiently re-assembled and reinstalled.

Perhaps most important, these casualties among civilian workers are a sharp reminder of where the ultimate problem lies. Our attention now is riveted to the ebb and flow of military battle; official reassurances rest on "the best military advice"; by the body count, we are told, enemy forces are "failing" everywhere. Sooner or later, however, it is all going to come down, once again, to the people and their security and to the question of how to counter terror with the appeal of a strong and active Saigon government. This is the part of the struggle nobody thinks enough about until the AID men and USIA officials and young Foreign Service Officers who are waging it, and trying to get the South Vietnamese to wage it more vigorously, are caught up in the conventional fighting and become casualties of war.

HOURS OF SERVICE

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| <u>Cashiers:</u> | USAID I & II, and | 0930 - 1130 |
| | Mondial | 1500 - 1700 |
| | Embassy | 0900 - 1100
1430 - 1630 |
| <u>Snack Bars:</u> | USAID I & II | 0830 - 1500 |
| <u>International House</u> | Grill | 0700 - 1900 |
| | Dining Room | 1130 - 1400 |
| | Piano Bar | 1200 - 1900 |
| | Gift Shop | 1000 - 1800 |
| <u>Commissary:</u> | Cholon | 1000 - 1600 |
| <u>PX's:</u> | Cholon | 1000 - 1600 |
| | Meyerkord | 1000 - 1600 |
| | Tan-Son-Nhut | 1000 - 1900 |
| | Brinks | Closed Permanently |

All PX retail outlets at Tan-Son-Nhut, MACV, and MACV Annex will be closed for inventory on 5 March 1968. This will not affect operations of other PX retail facilities.

EMBASSY ANNOUNCES CORRECTION

American Embassy Administrative Operations Notice No. 605, dated February 19, 1968 sets forth official USAID policy governing administrative leave during the emergency period. The referenced Notice supersedes instructions concerning administrative leave given in SPECIAL BULLETIN No. 11, dated February 19th.

The Embassy Notice permits automatic granting of administrative leave through close of business February 20, 1968, instead of February 10, 1968 as previously announced.

Distribution D, G

Validated DD

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SPECIAL BULLETIN

US AID MISSION TO VIETNAM

NUMBER: 17

DATE: March 9, 1968

COMBINED AMERICAN DISASTER RELIEF CAMPAIGN OPENS

The Ambassador will announce early in the week of 10 March details on two emergency relief funds. The appeal will be directed at Americans in both the official and business communities.

One fund will aid Vietnamese employees of American agencies who suffered losses; the other will go to assist in general relief activities country-wide.

Mr. Robert E. Culbertson, Honorary chairman, will head up collection activities on behalf of the Ambassador within USAID. The Embassy will issue notices giving full information concerning both funds and details touching collection of contributions.

USAID WARDEN GROUP MEETS

Meeting last week to assess their system and procedures, USAID building wardens reviewed communications procedures and other aspects of their program. In their first month of operations the communications network has been established through close coordination between USAID and CORDS.

Bulletin boards soon will be installed in USAID living centers to provide a medium through which wardens can relay information and instruction to occupants. Posters, notices, and other official information will be displayed on these boards.

First-aid kits will be placed in living centers and wardens have been instructed in their use. In addition, a limited number of field surgical kits will be issued to Wardens. These kits are for use only by qualified individuals with medical or surgical training. Wardens may pick up their kits, along with the first posters, in Room 413, USAID I, during regular working hours on 15 March.

EMERGENCY RELIEF COMMITTEE REPORTS INITIAL GIFT CAMPAIGN RESPONSE

Phase I of the campaign conducted by the Vietnamese Employees Emergency Relief Committee will be completed on 12 March. The initial drive for funds netted a total of VN\$363,670, of which VN\$305,000 have been granted to victims of the VC Tet aggression. On 5, 6, and 7 March, according to Mr. Nguyen-Nhu-Ba, chairman, grants of VN\$72,000, VN\$97,000, and VN\$136,000 were made. A balance of VN\$58,670 remains to be distributed during Phase II.

In addition to soliciting funds and other gifts, the Committee is appealing for blood donors. Initial responses indicate that the number of donors may reach several hundred. The first group -- seven Vietnamese and American employees -- reported Saturday, 9 March, to the permanent blood bank at Saigon Emergency Hospital. Others will follow.

Operating daily, 0930 - 1130, the blood bank is under direct supervision by American medical personnel. The hospital is located on Le-Loi, opposite the Central Market.

RELIEF AND REFUGEE SITUATION SUMMARIZED

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees reports the following information:

| Refugees | Reporting Date | | |
|---|----------------|------------|------------|
| | 2/23 | 2/29 | 3/5 |
| Saigon/Cholon | 144,481 | 172,679 | 144,721 |
| Gia-Dinh | 76,088 | 68,391 | 61,274 |
| All other provinces | 422,226 | 473,402 | 423,068 |
| <u>Civilian Casualties & Damage</u> | | | |
| Killed | 5,438 | 6,623 | 6,578* |
| Wounded | 9,395 | 11,569 | 10,375* |
| Houses destroyed | 42,750 | 51,152 | 40,005* |
| <u>Financial Contributions</u> | | | |
| \$VN | 32,744,680 | 61,745,450 | 73,670,913 |

*Corrected figures reflecting more complete reporting from provinces

Effective 11 March, administrative responsibility for refugee relief in the Saigon/Cholon area will be turned over to the Saigon Prefecture. Previously, it had been handled by the Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees.

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Refugees announced results of a preliminary census of houses destroyed in the Saigon/Cholon area:

| District | Houses Destroyed | Families Displaced |
|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| 2 | 43 | No report |
| 3 | 847 | 1,260 |
| 5 | 5,049 | 6,445 |
| 6 | 7,849 | 7,849 |
| 7 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| 8 | 2,720 | 2,720 |
| Totals | 18,508 | 20,274 |

The above statistics are subject to refinement, as reporting becomes more complete.

24-HOUR DUTY ROSTER

MARCH 9 THROUGH MARCH 15, 1968

| HOURS | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|-----------------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| 0830 to
1230 | McConnell | Millard | McConnell | McConnell | McConnell | McConnell | McConnell |
| 1230 to
1330 | Millard | Millard | | | (No Coverage) | | |
| 1330 to
1730 | Millard | Millard | McConnell | McConnell | McConnell | McConnell | McConnell |
| 1730 to
1830 | Millard | Millard | McConnell | McConnell | McConnell | McConnell | McConnell |
| 1830 to
0830 | McBryde | McBryde | McBryde | McBryde | McBryde | McBryde | McBryde |

The Duty Officer can be reached on USAID extensions 5609 or 5600 or PTT 93083, extensions 5609 or 5600, except when marked with an asterisk (*).

* The Duty Officer should be called on USAID extensions 5640 or 5300, or PTT 93083, extensions 5640 or 5300.

HOME ADDRESSES

Mr. Robert Millard--Excelsior Hotel, Ph. 23066/20709

Mr. Stewart McBryde--148 Phan-Dinh-Phung, Apt. 12. No phone