

PROJECTS FOR VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

SUGGESTIONS FOR ASSISTANCE TO VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

General Background

As of August 31, 1966, Vietnamese Government statistics report 592,660 refugees living in temporary shelters. This number is over and above some 231,675 refugees who have been able to return to their original villages with the restoration of security and approximately 530,000 people who have been resettled, some only marginally, since the beginning of the current refugee problem in late 1954. Roughly sixty to seventy per cent of those reported in temporary shelters are living in refugee camps. The remainder have been absorbed into the population of district and provincial towns where they are living with other families. In addition to these refugees, there is a large but undetermined number of people who are legitimately refugees, but who have never registered as such and who are not, therefore, reflected in official statistics.

Refugees are to be found in every province of Vietnam, though the largest numbers are concentrated in the maritime provinces of Regions I and II, particularly Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Phu Yen and Binh Dinh. There is a disproportionate number of women and children among the refugee population with relatively few men of productive working age. The refugees can be divided into three main categories: (1) those fleeing actual or feared Viet Cong harassment, (2) those with a priori reasons for rejecting Communism (religious, political, or economic), and (3) those caught in the crossfire of war.

The basic objective of Government refugee policy is the early return of the refugees to their original villages. This is in line with the desires of the refugees who are mainly farmers. Although refugee status is intended to be temporary, pending return to the village, security conditions have forced many to remain in crowded camps with inadequate housing and sanitation for nearly two years. This situation will probably continue until hostilities have ceased. In many of the camps an unhealthy aura of apathy and inactivity increasingly characterizes daily life.

Although the refugee problem in Vietnam is a direct result of the political and military struggle now taking place, it constitutes an essentially apolitical area of assistance. Because of the nature of the war, most of the refugees come from rural areas which have been fought over for the better part of twenty-five years. Their loyalties tend to be toward family and village, and most seek sanctuary in Government areas because greater security is to be found there and not for political reasons.

Refugee Assistance Projects

The project descriptions which follow are based on specific requests for refugee assistance from a number of provinces. While they represent a broad spectrum of the needs of refugee communities, each project is directed to a specific problem and can be considered individually. Many of the proposals are flexible, or multiple projects, and can be adapted to available resources. The projects were developed with consideration for: (1) the varied and changing character of the refugee problem, (2) realistic social and economic goals, (3) a reasonable per capita cost in relationship to total assistance requirements, and (4) the level and type of assistance currently available.

Minimum emergency needs of the refugees for food and shelter are presently being met by Government and international assistance. But as yet, little has been done to achieve viable resettlement for those refugees for whom return to their original villages is impossible. Resettlement means more than a place to live and food - it means reintegration, the reconstruction of economic structures, social relationships and institutions necessary for an orderly and productive life. The projects which follow are directed toward this objective.

A number of the refugee employment and village industry projects are proposed as cooperatives. The use of cooperatives in Vietnam has several advantages aside from the fact that it would be administratively and economically difficult to provide private capital in the refugee situation. Vietnam has a long history of cooperative enterprise. Traditional village economic and social structure was cooperative in nature with strong family ties and village identity. Much of the village land was owned and used communally. This tradition persists, and in Vietnam today there is a rapidly developing cooperative movement based on strong legal support which provides preferential treatment for cooperatives. These factors, together with the refugees' current experience and need for economic assistance, provide a favorable milieu for the development of cooperatives. It should be noted, nonetheless, that the development of effective cooperatives is not automatic. Guidance and technical advice will be required. These, however, are available, and several refugee cooperatives have already progressed well beyond the pilot stage.

The budgets presented with each project are in skeletal form. Though more detailed information is available for most of the projects, additional budget analysis will probably be required before the projects can be fully implemented.

PROJECT TITLE: BAMBOO PRODUCTS COOPERATIVE

PROVINCES: Quang Tin and Quang Nam

DESCRIPTION:

In Quang Tin and Quang Nam many refugee communities, remote from the urban areas, face unusually bleak employment opportunities. Extensive stands of bamboo are found in these areas which could be exploited by the refugees for a bamboo products industry. The introduction of some basic types of machinery such as bamboo splitters and power saws along with technical support and training would enable the refugees to produce a variety of bamboo products in large quantities. The immediate demand for bamboo products is large, but the potential use of bamboo in such industries as paper manufacture and construction is almost unlimited.

Considerable effort has already been directed toward determining the potentialities of a bamboo products industry. At the present time, there is a great demand for school equipment such as benches, desks and tables, which could be made from bamboo. Prefabricated house frames and wall panels have been designed with a view to helping meet the vast temporary housing requirements. An array of articles ranging from fencing to such things as brooms, blinds, matches and incense sticks can be constructed from bamboo. Industrial uses of bamboo include pressed board, flooring, water pipe, concrete reinforcing material, and packing baskets.

BUDGET:

Machinery and equipment for two bamboo cooperatives at \$25,000 per cooperative	Total	\$ 50,000
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NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

An estimated 4,000 refugees will be directly employed by these cooperatives.

PROJECT TITLE: BEE CULTURE AND HONEY PROCESSING COOPERATIVE

PROVINCE: Quang Nam

DESCRIPTION:

Two features are common to the refugee problem in Vietnam: (1) scarcity of secure land, and (2) lack of trained manpower. Projects therefore must be conceived which will support the refugees within their confined areas and which can be carried out by a labor force consisting predominantly of women, children and old people.

A bee culture and honey processing project will meet the above requirements. After thorough investigation, Quang Nam Province has been found to be a promising site for such a project. It is a province of foothills and meadows with many year-round flowering plants - a suitable environment for a bee culture and honey industry.

Quang Nam is also a province with a refugee population of 90,000, mainly crowded into twenty-seven different locations where there is little land for cultivation. Beekeeping would offer the refugees a means of livelihood within the presently limited land areas. Women can be trained and can pass on their skills to their children. Eventually large numbers of people could participate in this type of enterprise and entire refugee communities could derive their livelihood from the initiation of such a project. A successful beekeeping and honey producing industry could have far-ranging consequences for the economy of Vietnam because a potential export market exists to other countries in Southeast Asia.

However, it should be noted the project is experimental and will require care and strong technical support over a period of time. The project would give an excellent opportunity for a foreign team to perform a service of lasting benefit. The initial high expenditure would be amply repaid because the project offers concrete possibilities to provide a sound livelihood for refugees both in their present and future circumstances.

BUDGET:

Initial funds for research and implementation of the pilot project	\$ 25,000
Funds for the purchase of stock, technical facilities and processing equipment	<u>60,000</u>
Total Cost	\$ 85,000

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

Five hundred full-time refugee employees and 300 part-time employees would benefit from the project. Several thousands could become engaged in private apiaary activities when the project has been launched successfully. Once the project is proved in Quang Nam, it could be extended to other provinces.

PROVINCES: Quang Tin and Binh Dinh

DESCRIPTION:

The Provinces of Quang Tin and Binh Dinh possess extensive clay deposits of high quality which are as yet largely unexploited. Investigations indicate that in both provinces the formation of a brick and tile cooperative would be feasible and potentially successful. Large refugee settlements are located in the immediate vicinity of the clay deposits, but otherwise adequate employment opportunities do not exist. There is not sufficient land to permit the refugees to subsist from farming. A brick and tile cooperative would therefore alleviate the present situation of the refugees.

Brick and tile are traditional building materials throughout Vietnam, even though housing in much of the country consists of bamboo and thatch structures. The country is gradually experiencing an advance in rural and urban development in which many persons aspire to build more permanent housing. In addition, there is a substantial growth in industry. Both factors insure an increasing demand for brick and tile.

The skills required for brick and tile manufacture are rudimentary so that each cooperative would only need one supervisory technician. In addition to the extraction and refining equipment, the molds and the kilns, two trucks would be required for each cooperative. One truck would be used for transporting raw clay to the cooperative and the other for transporting finished brick or tile to construction sites or other markets.

Buildings for the cooperative would be constructed under self-help projects for which materials will be locally available. The Government of Vietnam will provide low interest loans for initial capitalization of the cooperatives and furnish technical guidance.

BUDGET:

Extraction and refining equipment	\$ 5,000
Molds and kilns	7,000
Two trucks	<u>8,000</u>
Sub-Total	\$ 20,000
Total cost for two cooperatives	\$ 40,000

Direct employment for 150 refugee families in each cooperative.
Associated employment would probably result for approximately 500 persons
per cooperative.

PROJECT TITLE: COMMUNITY CENTERS FOR TEMPORARY REFUGEE CONCENTRATIONS

PROVINCES: Northern and Central Provinces

DESCRIPTION:

Emergency needs of refugees for food and shelter have now, for the most part, been met. One of the most urgent requirements now is for social welfare programs in refugee communities to combat idleness, develop constructive community attitudes, strengthen family life, and, in general, prepare refugees for the more long-range task of reconstruction and resettlement.

Fifty community center buildings have been acquired by the Government for use in refugee camps. Funds are needed for the purchase of day care equipment for training refugee women to conduct day care programs, and for equipment and training material not covered by other programs. These requirements are important to the effective operation of the community centers.

This assistance would enable these centers to develop local leadership and provide a variety of needed adult education and child care programs. A central aspect of the community development program is to answer the special needs of refugees by methods which stimulate their participation in both the planning and operation of programs. The training and guidance which this project will provide are keys to the successful development of community development programs.

BUDGET:

\$1,500 for each of fifty community centers, as follows:

- a. \$500 for training.
- b. \$500 for improvement of center facilities.
- c. \$500 emergency fund for family assistance.

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

75,000

PROJECT TITLE: DISPENSARY EQUIPMENT KITS

DESCRIPTION:

Medical services in Vietnam are rendered under adverse conditions not usually encountered in most other countries. Lack of potable water, cramped quarters and often a complete absence of electricity are only the more obvious unfavorable conditions which are typical of medical services in Vietnam.

There is a need for simple and sturdy medical equipment for use under the difficult conditions common in rural dispensaries and refugee camp clinics. Items such as gasoline-powered sterilizers, refrigerators, lamps, and such basic medical equipment as scissors, forceps, hemostats, scalpels, clamps, etc., are needed. A basic dispensary equipment kit is currently under design to supply the deficiencies of the typical rural dispensary. It will emphasize simplicity, durability and basic medical needs.

BUDGET:

100 medical kits at \$2,000 each kit	Total	\$ 200,000
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NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

At least 100,000 refugees will be assisted by this program.

PROJECT TITLE: EUCALYPTUS OIL COOPERATIVES

PROVINCES: Quang Tri and Binh Dinh

DESCRIPTION:

In Quang Tri and Binh Dinh Provinces eucalyptus trees grow near areas of refugee concentration. The most numerous groves in Quang Tri are close to a small but particularly impoverished refugee hamlet. In Binh Dinh refugees are concentrated near eucalyptus groves in several locations.

Refugees in Quang Tri and the outlying areas of Binh Dinh have little or no opportunity for reasonable employment. There is a market for eucalyptus oil in the growing pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries. With proper equipment refugees in Quang Tri and Binh Dinh could extract and process eucalyptus oil for commercial use.

The cost of extraction and processing equipment is not high, but it is beyond the present means of the refugees. This project suggests the establishment of two eucalyptus production and marketing cooperatives. Assistance in establishing the cooperatives, and particularly for developing the technical aspects, is available from a firm of handicraft and cottage industry experts working with the Special Commissioner for Refugees. Funds are required for extraction and processing equipment. It is expected that the cooperatives will be self-supporting once they are organized and in production.

While this project is designed to relieve wartime hardships and provide economic viability for several refugee villages, it could also constitute the basis for a general expansion of the eucalyptus oil industry. With proper, not indiscriminate, exploitation there are sufficient stands of eucalyptus trees in Vietnam to meet expanding domestic requirements and for export as well.

BUDGET:

Equipment for two eucalyptus oil extracting and processing cooperatives at \$500 each: Total - \$1,000.

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

An estimated 300 refugees will be directly employed by the first two cooperatives.

PROJECT TITLE: FAMILY AND CHILD WELFARE WORKERS FOR CHILDREN'S INSTITUTIONS

LOCATION: Saigon and Environs

DESCRIPTION:

The children of Vietnam are often the innocent victims of war. Some have seen one or both parents killed and their homes devastated. They face growing up in a confused and divided world. Some refugee families facing severe economic privation turn to children's institutions for help. There are now seventy-seven orphanages registered with the Ministry of Social Welfare caring for some 10,000 children. In addition, there are many more day care centers throughout Vietnam. In practice, institutions often provide both boarding care and day nursery services. The Ministry of Social Welfare has determined that fifty-seven per cent of the children under care in so-called orphanages have one or both parents living, while another eighteen per cent have close relatives who maintain some contact. These children's institutions are grossly inadequate in both basic facilities and trained staff to handle the increasing problems of child care.

In planning to meet the needs of these children, Vietnam is at the crossroads. One road leads to increasing the number of orphanage boarding facilities with the danger that the family ties of these children will become even more tenuous. In Korea, for example, during the fourteen years following the cessation of hostilities, the orphanage population grew from 600 to some 65,000 as foreign philanthropy placed a premium on orphanage care which tragically supported an increasing wave of child abandonment.

A second road in planning, however, leads toward strengthening of present facilities and developing additional day-care and family support programs. The Ministry of Social Welfare and the voluntary agencies are lending their support to this second approach.

Child and Family Welfare Workers are needed for assignment to large existing institutions in Saigon and environs to advise on improvement of basic facilities and develop family and community services for children.

BUDGET:

Each unit:

1 Family and Child Welfare Worker	?
Salary and Transportation	\$ 12,000
Institutional Improvement Fund	13,000
Family Support Fund (emergency assistance, self-help)	<u>10,000</u>
Total	\$ 35,000

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

Each worker could assist one or two institutions serving up to a total of 600 children, many or most of whom are refugees.

PROJECT TITLE: FARM MACHINERY COOPERATIVE

PROVINCES: Gia Dinh, Thua Thien, Ninh Thuan and Khanh Hoa

DESCRIPTION:

The agricultural economy of South Vietnam is based largely on rice production. Yet the land is fertile and suitable for the raising of many different types of agricultural products. The introduction of farm machinery in Vietnam would facilitate diversification of crops and contribute to eventual productive changes in the economy.

The majority of the refugees are farmers, and while waiting in temporary camps for return to their villages, they could be profitably employed in learning new agricultural techniques and the use of simple power farm machinery. The Government can provide technical assistance for training in the use of the equipment.

Small power hand tractors have been used successfully in Japan, Taiwan and other Asian countries. The provision of such hand tractors to refugees could form the nucleus of a farm machinery cooperative. After training and on return to their villages the refugee farmers could increase their production and income by bringing more land under cultivation and by introducing new varieties of plants.

BUDGET:

Four equipment cooperatives would be formed, each with twenty hand tractors at a unit cost of \$300; \$6,000 would be therefore required for each cooperative.

Total Cost	\$ 24,000
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NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

Sixty refugee families or 300 people would comprise one cooperative. The number of people affected by the total project will be 1,200 persons.

PROJECT TITLE: HEALTH EDUCATION KITS FOR COMMUNITY CENTERS AND
SCHOOLS SERVING REFUGEES

DESCRIPTION:

Most of the common illnesses in the crowded refugee settlements stem from almost complete ignorance of modern techniques of preventative medicine. Lack of understanding of the cause of disease, poor sanitary practices, polluted water, unsanitary food preparation, failure to use soap and water, improper diet, and a lack of acceptance of modern medical practices all contribute to camp health problems. The bulk of minor health problems and many of the more dangerous infectious diseases encountered by medical personnel working in refugee camps could be eliminated by the continued application of a few simple techniques. This problem is basically one of mass education.

The provision of a simple health demonstration kit which could be used in hamlet and refugee schools and in adult education classes in community centers is badly needed. These kits would contain simple printed educational material, visual aids, soap, towels and basic medicines sufficient for a class of twenty persons. They would be designed to disseminate information about the cause of disease and would provide the materials necessary for continued participation in and demonstration of basic health practices. In the case of school children, the health instruction and demonstration could become a part of regular class routine.

BUDGET:

400 health education kits at \$25 each	Total \$ 10,000
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NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

Instructional material for 8,000 persons.

PROJECT TITLE: HEAVY DUTY IRRIGATION PUMPS

PROVINCES: Specific Areas of Need in Regions I, II and III

DESCRIPTION:

In numerous areas of Regions I, II and III, circumstances have forced refugees to cluster at locations that would otherwise not attract large populations. Several of these refugee concentrations, while near rivers and streams, are nevertheless on land that produces a crop only during the rainy season. The challenge is to provide irrigation during the dry season which will increase the number of yearly crops two or three fold. A classic example of what can be done is an irrigation dam and adjoining canal system in Phu Yen Province which permits over 100,000 people to work paddy lands throughout the year. However, that approach is not suited to areas where sunken river and stream beds prohibit the easy diversion of fresh water to semi-arid lands. The missing requirement in these instances is a suitable mechanical method to lift the water in sufficient quantities to provide irrigation. Several of the refugee concentrations in the central coastal provinces could effectively utilize heavy duty irrigation pumps for this purpose. Tools and a first round of spare parts would also be needed. In one district along the Da Rang River in Region II, an estimated 4,000 highland and lowland refugees would be able to triple the number of crops with the introduction of two heavy duty pumps. The Government would provide tools and cement for canal construction.

BUDGET:

Ten heavy duty pumps and engines (at least 20 h.p.) at \$2,000 each, with pipe and accessory equipment. Total: \$20,000.

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

Depending on locations eventually selected, an estimated 15,000 to 25,000 refugees will benefit directly.

PROJECT TITLE: HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT

PROVINCE: Binh Dinh - An Khe District

DESCRIPTION:

In many areas of South Vietnam there is a tremendous need for health facilities, particularly in those areas ravaged by the war. The district of An Khe in Binh Dinh Province is such an area where there is a high concentration of refugees. A new hospital will be completed in the near future but there is a great need for basic medical equipment. Due to the demands of the war, these items are in short supply. The type of equipment needed is basic heavy-duty hospital items such as sterilizers, surgical equipment, glassware and a generator. The Vietnamese Ministry of Public Health will provide medicines and other supplies.

BUDGET:

Hospital equipment

Total \$ 15,000

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

9,500 refugees will be affected by this project.

PROJECT TITLE: ICE PLANT COOPERATIVES

PROVINCES: Quang Tri, Quang Nam, Binh Dinh and Khanh Hoa

DESCRIPTION:

Fishing has been pursued for generations by many of the villagers living along the coasts of Vietnam. While large numbers of fish are caught and sold in local markets, the equipment, methods, and organization of the Vietnamese fishing industry are primitive. And, although the fishing grounds are abundant and productive, at the present time there is little organization for effective marketing.

Ice plants located near fishing centers could form the basis of an expanded fishing industry with more efficient methods and more modern equipment. Ice plants have been requested for the four coastal provinces of Quang Tri, Quang Nam, Binh Dinh and Khanh Hoa where ice for fish preservation is in demand and where clusters of unemployed refugees provide a ready labor market. The ice plants would be located near population centers where they would supply ice for other commercial uses and avoid complete dependence on the fishing industry with its seasonal variations.

Self-contained ice plants with power equipment and adequate storage facilities are available through commercial channels. The plants would be organized on a cooperative basis using refugee labor. In addition to the employment opportunities provided by the plants themselves, the stimulus given to fishing and other commercial enterprises will, it is believed, provide considerable employment opportunities for additional numbers of refugees.

BUDGET:

Four ice plants for Quang Tri, Quang Nam, Binh Dinh and Khanh Hoa at \$60,000 per plant

Total	\$ 240,000
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NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

Direct employment for 200 families.

Indirect employment for 10,000 persons.

PROJECT TITLE: IRRIGATION PROJECT FOR TAY NINH

PROVINCE: Tay Ninh

DESCRIPTION:

As of September 1966, more than seventy per cent of the some 38,000 refugees in Tay Ninh Province are unemployed or under-employed. While many refugees have garden plots, most of these are on marginal land and too small to be productive. Consequently many refugees are barely able to subsist.

Farming throughout the area is retarded by prolonged dry spells and lack of proper irrigation systems. Studies have indicated that the introduction of systematic irrigation and water storage would substantially improve crop production in Tay Ninh. Irrigation networks serving large areas of the province could be created by using the manpower available among the unemployed refugees.

The benefits of this project would be to:

1. Enable the refugees to farm more productively their small plots of land.
2. Provide employment for large numbers of refugees who are depressed and idle.
3. Allow year-round farming which would improve the economic outlook in the area for both refugee and non-refugee farmers.

While material and technical direction for an irrigation project in Tay Ninh can be made available from existing sources, it is unlikely that the labor costs for the project could be budgeted by the Government for several years. One hundred thousand dollars would provide sufficient funds to employ refugee labor and to purchase special equipment such as control gate mechanisms.

The project has far-ranging consequences. A province that has historically been reliant upon food imports could become self-sufficient and even produce surpluses for the over-populated urban areas in the capital city of Saigon, only thirty miles away.

BUDGET:

Labor force and supplementary special equipment
for the irrigation of 4,000 hectares of crop land Total \$ 100,000

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

Employment for a work force of 5,000 refugees and eventual benefit
to 4,000 refugee families (approximately 20,000 persons).

PROJECT TITLE: MOTORS FOR FISHING BOATS

PROVINCE: Quang Tri

HAMLET: Xuan Khanh

DESCRIPTION:

The coastal waters from Xuan Khanh hamlet north to the demilitarized zone have been declared off limits to fishermen. This area was a traditional fishing ground for fishermen whose villages dot this area of the coast. In recompense, however, the Government has aided the fishermen in making use of waters to the south, and a refugee fishing village has been constructed at Xuan Khanh. The Provincial Fisheries Service is offering technical advice and material support, but the problem is that there are simply too many fishermen in too limited a fishing area.

Xuan Khanh presently offers refuge for 608 refugee families comprising more than 3,100 persons, and more are coming daily. With their traditional productive fishing areas closed these people are being forced to range further out to sea. This requires more time in transit and allows less time for fishing. None of the boats are mechanically powered and fishing beyond the coastal area is hazardous during the monsoon months.

The provision of inboard diesel engines for the fishing hamlet would enable the fishermen to increase their catch appreciably, diminish the hazards of sea, and offer increased employment to other fishermen.

Ten boats have been found to be strong enough for these engines and their owners seem particularly resourceful. Preliminary investigation indicates that the owners would require additional crews. Each boat powered by one of the engines would be organized on a share basis, with the owner additionally recompensed for his greater initial contribution.

With the diesel-powered boats utilizing the outlying fishing grounds the present fishing area would be less crowded and other families would indirectly benefit.

As the supply of fish increases, subsidiary activities would expand: that is, packing and marketing, the fish sauce (nuoc mam) industry and the ice plant projects. There is extensive demand for fish, particularly in the district capital. The provision of these engines, then, can be seen to have far-ranging benefits.

BUDGET:

10 engines (10 h.p. diesel) at \$1,000 each	Total	\$ 10,000
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NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

70 families (350 people) would benefit directly.

Approximately 2,750 persons would benefit indirectly since the present fishing ground would be less crowded. Also, additional refugees would be able to find employment in expanded subsidiary activities.

PROJECT TITLE: MULTI-PURPOSE ASSISTANCE TEAMS
PROVINCES: Areas of Heavy Refugee Concentration

DESCRIPTION:

Some 500,000 refugees have fled their land and are clustered in temporary shelters around provincial and district centers of Regions I and II. These are families, for the most part, who will, at the cessation of hostilities, return home and rebuild from the devastation of war. The basic needs of these refugees for food and shelter are now being met. One important task, however, is to provide them with assistance to make the best of life in crowded temporary shelters, to develop home or cottage industries, to impart skills to equip them for the eventual task of returning to their villages and rebuild, or to settling elsewhere when conditions permit.

Because of the shortage of trained personnel, outside help in the form of personnel for multi-purpose refugee assistance teams is needed to carry out this job. Team composition would vary in accordance with the problems of a given area, but an ideal multi-purpose team might include the following skill components:

1. Middle-level skill training, including agriculture, construction and mechanical skills.
2. Basic health education and sanitation.
3. Child and family welfare, including stimulating primary education, youth activities, and assistance with commodity preparation and distribution.
4. Community development, including self-help projects and work for food projects.
5. Agriculture, including animal husbandry, camp gardens, truck gardening, and training in farm shop activities.

Vietnam is a land of limitless resources, both human and natural. A first step in preparing for peace, when these resources can be fully developed, is to work with refugees now in temporary shelters to stir them out of their understandable lethargy; improve camp conditions and develop good concepts of sanitation and hygiene; teach the refugees to grow new crops and improve the yield of traditional ones; work with the needs of the children and teach them basic skills they will need in the future.

There are six multi-purpose refugee assistance teams now working in Vietnam. Another eight to twelve teams are needed.

BUDGET:

Estimated cost of multi-purpose team, four to six members:

Salaries and Transportation	\$ 65,000
Equipment and Supplies	25,000
Family or Community Self-Help Funds	5,000
Contingency	<u>5,000</u>
Total	\$ 100,000

NUMBER OF REFUGEES ATTENDED:

One refugee team can work in an area encompassing 5,000 to 10,000 refugees.

PROJECT TITLE: PIG RAISING

PROVINCE: Quang Ngai

DESCRIPTION:

Quang Ngai Province has requested a pig-raising project for 500 of its most needy refugees. There are at present twenty-eight refugee camps clustered around the provincial capital. Land is scarce, and there are only minimal employment possibilities in the area. The refugees subsist on small plots of land which, even under the best of conditions, cannot offer families a decent standard of living. Lacking sufficient land, capital, and employment opportunities, they have become largely dependent on relief payments. Stagnation and demoralization are the end products of such an existence.

In light of the foregoing conditions, a pig-raising project has been recommended. Pig raising has proved successful in Vietnam and the Government Animal Husbandry Provincial Service is prepared to provide technical advice and supervision. Women and children can easily tend the pigs, leaving the men free for other work when available. The Government will provide the means and materials for the construction of shelters on a self-help basis, and feed will be provided by Food for Peace on the same basis.

The pigs can be purchased in Vietnam. A continual demand for pigs has resulted in improved marketing facilities and improved stock. The demand for pork is increasing and it draws high prices. Since the refugees for whom this project is intended live in or near the provincial capital they should have no difficulty in selling their stock.

The pig-raising project is intended to be self-generating after the initial distribution. For each refugee camp a program for breeding the pigs will be supervised by the Animal Husbandry Service.

BUDGET:

Piglets for 500 families	Total	\$ 10,000
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NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

500 families (2,500 persons)

PROJECT TITLE: PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT KITS

PROVINCES: Northern and Central Provinces with Large Concentrations of Refugees

DESCRIPTION:

Of the more than one-half million refugees currently living in temporary shelters, some 300,000 of them are children. The rigors of refugee life and the crowded conditions of most refugee camps create conditions in which young children have little opportunity for play. The need for play and games has not been appreciated to any large extent in Vietnam. In a few observed cases, however, where playground areas were created by civic action teams, the acceptance and enthusiasm for this activity was startling. Given the trials and difficulties of the average refugee family and the crowded conditions of most camps, it must be taken as an accepted fact that there is a deep need for more organized play areas for children. The beneficial influence on the personalities and morale of the children will be important for their future.

One hundred playground kits will, it is believed, have an impact on refugee communities far out of proportion to their cost.

BUDGET:

100 kits at \$100 each

Total \$ 10,000

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

15,000 children.

PROJECT TITLE: POTTERY MAKING COOPERATIVES

PROVINCES: Chau Doc and Binh Dinh

DESCRIPTION:

A number of refugee communities in Chau Doc and Binh Dinh Provinces are presently engaged in the production of simple pottery. However, because techniques are primitive, output is very low and the resulting income affords them only a marginal existence.

These refugees possess basic skills and interest but lack the resources required for the purchase of simple machinery to expand their production. The formation of a cooperative for purchase of machinery could create, with some technical support, a thriving handicraft industry for these refugee groups. The introduction of such simple devices as a well-balanced pottery wheel and the use of varied glazes would considerably improve the quantity and quality of their product.

These refugee communities are located in provinces which have large market potentials for durable, inexpensive household pottery. Binh Dinh is a coastal province with several urban centers. Chau Doc, while located off the main channels of traffic in the Delta, is contiguous to An Giang Province, one of the hubs of commerce in the area and enjoying the most secure conditions of any province in the region. It is even conceivable that the products of the cooperatives might be considered for export. Both refugee communities are located near clay which is suitable for high quality pottery.

BUDGET:

Machinery for four cooperatives at \$3,500 each	Total \$ 14,000
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NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

An estimated 800 refugee families (approximately 4,000 persons) could directly benefit from the four cooperatives.

PROJECT TITLE: PRODUCE TRANSPORTATION COOPERATIVES
PROVINCES: Quang Tin, Binh Dinh, Bien Hoa, Khanh Hoa

DESCRIPTION:

Most Vietnamese refugee settlements are clustered around the more secure district and provincial towns. Whenever it is possible, the refugees are provided with small plots of land sufficient to grow vegetables for home consumption and for sale in the markets of the cities and towns near the refugee settlements. These truck farming plots have proved to be an important source of income to many refugee communities. With proper seeds, methods, and fertilizer the production of these refugee gardens can be substantially increased.

One of the primary limiting factors on the income derived by the refugee from these gardens is the shortage of transportation. It is necessary to move produce from the refugee community to the markets several times a day. Because of the war situation, transportation is scarce and expensive and becomes a major limiting condition on income derived from refugee gardens.

The formation of refugee community transportation cooperatives would help to alleviate this condition. The cooperatives would be equipped with inexpensive, simple and economical equipment capable of carrying reasonably bulky loads. In addition, an initial stock of spare parts and basic maintenance tools should be provided. The beneficial effect of such cooperatives would be to:

1. Provide additional employment for refugees.
2. Provide cheaper and consistent transportation for the produce from refugee gardens to markets, thereby:
 - a. Allowing refugees to realize greater profit from gardens.
 - b. Stimulating the refugees to expand production of vegetables.
3. Provide training for a number of refugees.
4. Increase the present short supply of truck garden produce available in urban markets.

It is recommended that these transportation cooperatives be equipped with Tri-Lambrettas or similar vehicles. This type of vehicle is commonly used in Vietnam and, consequently, the maintenance problem is vastly simplified. The Tri-Lambretta has the following additional advantages:

1. It is economical to operate and maintain.
2. It can carry large loads.
3. Repair parts are commonly available in Vietnam.

These transportation cooperatives could be developed to carry people as well as produce, depending on the requirements of the refugees in the area served. The Government of Vietnam is prepared to provide technical assistance and basic mechanical training to get the cooperatives started.

BUDGET:

Each of five cooperatives would be equipped with four vehicles at approximately \$1,200 each. Estimated cost of tools and repair parts would be \$500 for each cooperative.

Total for each cooperative - \$5,300. Total \$26,500

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

Each cooperative would be staffed approximately as follows:

Drivers	6
Mechanics	1
Dispatchers	1
Manager	1
Secretary Accountant	1
Laborers	<u>6</u>
Total	16

Five cooperatives would directly employ eighty persons.

Each cooperative should be able to serve the garden transportation requirements of 200 families or 1,000 refugees.

Total refugees affected: 5,080.

PROJECT TITLE: REFUGEE HEALTH AND SANITATION TEAMS

PROVINCES: Areas of Heavy Refugee Concentration

DESCRIPTION:

The sanitation and hygiene practices of the typical farm family are not compatible with the crowded conditions of temporary refugee shelters. With over 500,000 refugees clustered in some 330 temporary settlements, the fear of epidemics from improper disposal of waste material, polluted drinking water and lack of general cleanliness is ever present.

Under current conditions, top priority must be given to sanitation and health education. In Vietnam, however, where medical doctors are scarce and have a primary mission of meeting hospital medical needs, the district health services are short-staffed and over-extended.

During the past year outside medical groups have come to Vietnam and have been able to have an immediate impact on rural health problems in some provinces. However, the plight of the refugees requires special attention, and the answer lies in recruiting health and sanitation teams for specific refugee areas to work in close collaboration with district medical services which can handle serious medical problems but are unable to do an effective job in health education and camp sanitation.

A refugee health team would be ideally composed of one physician and two medical corpsmen, one with special training in camp sanitation. The team would practice curative medicine, camp sanitation, immunization, and preventive medicine, including organizing classes in health education and basic maternal child care.

BUDGET:

Salaries and inter-country transportation:

One Physician and two Corpsmen	\$ 25,000
Equipment and Supplies	10,000
Contingency	<u>5,000</u>
Total	\$ 40,000

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

Each health and sanitation team would be able to reach 6,000 to 12,000 refugees in temporary settlements.

PROJECT TITLE: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

DESCRIPTION:

A large but undetermined number of refugees will be unable to return to their original villeges in the foreseeable future and will require resettlement in new, essentially agricultural areas. Several resettlement projects are now in various stages of development.

The areas of high population concentration in Vietnam are in the Delta and along the coast. This concentration has been intensified by war and urban drift. At the same time, however, there is virgin territory in secure areas awaiting agricultural development.

Refugees eager to move out from the stultifying atmosphere of temporary camps are available to develop this new territory. Vietnam will remain for years to come a predominantly agricultural nation which will need to develop additional land if it is to feed a growing population and resume exporting food to other nations in the Far East not as well endowed.

Resettlement projects provide an opportunity for a sound investment in the future. Based on experiences to date, it is estimated that \$50,000 can supplement assistance supplied by the Government of Vietnam to accomplish the resettlement of 1,000 refugees or 200 families.

Families resettling are given an initial grant, approximately \$30 by the Government and a six months supply of rice to tide them over until new land is productive. Cement and building materials are available for home and community building construction. However, there is special need for farm tools, seeds, fertilizer, pesticides, and pumps to give the resettler the necessary equipment to open up new areas for cultivation. Equipment for community centers and similar facilities is also needed.

BUDGET:

Tools and equipment	\$50,000
To settle 1,000 refugees	(\$250 per family)

PROJECT TITLE: SAWMILL COOPERATIVES

PROVINCES: Quang Tri, Binh Dinh, Binh Duong and Phu Quoc Island

DESCRIPTION:

Nearly seventy per cent of Vietnam is covered with forests. Many refugee communities containing large numbers of unemployed persons are in close proximity to these forested areas. At the same time the shortage of sawed lumber has exerted a depressing influence on the construction industry. The exploitation of these forest resources by refugee labor is hampered by the lack of proper equipment and methods. Production of lumber by means of simple hand tools does not provide a reasonable income for workers. Introduction of modern sawmill equipment could enable many refugees to become self-sustaining. The formation of cooperatives with proper technical assistance and training in modern lumbering methods will help to create economically viable communities in areas where refugee labor is available. Mills will be organized in locations where they will have ready markets and will stimulate local industries.

Charcoal production, boat building and housing construction are only a few of the enterprises which will directly benefit by this project. At Phu Quoc Island, for instance, it is estimated that the rate of fishing boat construction will be more than doubled by the establishment of a sawmill.

BUDGET:

Modern machinery for six sawmill cooperatives at \$5,000 each.

Total \$ 30,000 .

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

Each cooperative would provide employment for over 100 families.

PROJECT TITLE: **SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION FOR REFUGEE YOUTH**

DESCRIPTION:

The future of any nation lies with its youth and their development, and Vietnam is no exception to this rule. In recent years the Vietnamese Government has placed increasing emphasis on the development of new educational facilities, especially in rural areas, which were previously sadly neglected. This program has logically concentrated on primary education in the form of hamlet schools.

An extension of this policy is the Government-sponsored program of providing primary education in the form of temporary classrooms for refugee children.

The establishment of secondary school facilities has not kept pace with the expansion of primary education. Most secondary schools are located in provincial capitals and do not have adequate boarding facilities for students from rural areas. Transportation to and from provincial capitals has been seriously curtailed by wartime conditions. With accelerated urbanization including the influx of refugees, the cost of housing in provincial centers has become prohibitive for most rural and refugee students. In many towns student housing is almost unavailable at any price.

The result of these several factors is that secondary school education becomes almost impossible for most refugee children. This situation is particularly unfortunate in that refugee communities, more than most others, will need strong, resourceful and trained leadership in the years ahead. Tragic as the refugee concentrations are, they do offer an excellent opportunity to identify talented refugee children with leadership potential.

This project calls for establishing 100 secondary school scholarships of four years each. In addition, funds to expand student dormitory and restaurant facilities are requested. The scholarships would be for refugee students, broadly defined. Additional dormitory and restaurant facilities would be available to all secondary school students.

BUDGET:

100 four-year scholarships at \$1,000 each	\$ 100,000
Expansion of secondary school dormitory and restaurant facilities	<u>50,000</u>
Total	\$ 150,000

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

100 students.

PROJECT TITLE: SPORTS EQUIPMENT FOR REFUGEE YOUTH

PROVINCES: Provinces with Large Refugee Settlements

DESCRIPTION:

There are active and developing programs for youth in Vietnam. Although Provincial Youth Services have personnel for an effective program they lack the sports equipment to undertake projects at the village level and particularly in refugee camps where the need is perhaps greatest.

Life in a temporary refugee camp, while hard for all ages, is particularly trying for children in their early teens. A sports equipment project is therefore intended to combat the demoralizing effects of refugee camp life for the youth by giving them the opportunity to engage in organized sports. These activities will stimulate cooperative group spirit and wholesome recreation, and at the same time provide an outlet for unspent energies.

Under the project sports equipment kits would be provided to 100 temporary refugee camps. The kits would include volleyballs and nets; soccer balls; basketballs, hoops and backboards; and badminton sets. The Provincial Youth Service will provide instruction and supervision in the use of equipment. Playing fields will be laid out in each location under self-help arrangements. The International Voluntary Service has indicated a particular interest in helping in this project.

BUDGET:

100 sport kits at \$50 each	Total \$ 5,000
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NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

7,500 young people.

PROJECT TITLE: STRING MOP HANDICRAFT COOPERATIVE

PROVINCES: Bien Hoa, Gia Dinh, Saigon (2)

DESCRIPTION:

There is a growing demand for long-handled string mops in the urban centers of Vietnam. At present the supply is short. Until recently these mops have not been locally produced. Cooperatives for making string mops have been suggested for several refugee centers which have easy access to the urban markets. The majority of the refugees in these centers are women, children, and old people and it is difficult for them to support themselves from the land alone. Furthermore, good land is particularly scarce around these refugee camps.

One string mop handicraft cooperative has already been started in Bien Hoa as a pilot project. The cooperative employs 125 persons. The process of making string mops is quite simple. A coarse cotton is used. This cotton is a by-product of cotton spinning mills and can be purchased at a very reasonable price. The mop handle is made of bamboo. The cooperative employees spin the cotton by hand. The "strings" so produced are then joined together and fastened onto the handle by a simple machine. The machine itself is constructed from inexpensive materials.

String mop handicraft cooperatives should be self-sustaining within a short time. The money requested in this proposal is essentially for capital investment to buy cotton until the time when the cooperative shall have made sufficient profits to buy its own. Some money is also necessary for purchasing the materials for the assembly machines.

The government will provide cement and roofing for the cooperative building. Technical assistance in the production and marketing of mops is available.

BUDGET:

25 assembly machines	\$ 375
Cotton	<u>625</u>
	\$ 1,000 per cooperative
4 cooperatives	Total 4,000

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

125 refugees directly occupied per cooperative.

Four cooperatives - 500 refugees.

PROJECT TITLE: SUMMER STUDENT EMPLOYMENT IN REFUGEE CAMPS

DESCRIPTION:

During the months of May, June, July, August and September, Vietnamese students are available to work with refugees. Examples of kinds of things which the students can and have done are: teaching classes to children not attending school, construction of needed facilities such as small roads or cement wash areas fenced to keep animals out, the distribution of relief assistance, and leading recreational programs for children so that parents are free to carry out needed tasks in the village.

Objectives of the summer employment program would be to: (1) provide technical assistance to existing programs, (2) provide students with both summer employment and on-the-job training in practical skills, (3) demonstrate to the refugees that other Vietnamese are interested in helping them solve their problems and overcome the apathy that exists in refugee centers, and (4) help bridge the undesirable gap between urban and rural in Vietnam.

Up to ten students would be hired to work in a given refugee area. These would be divided approximately as follows:

- 2 Teachers
- 1 Health worker
- 1 Recreational worker
- 5 Construction workers
- 1 Team leader who could work directly
in one of the above specialities

Refugee students, whenever available, would be given preference in hiring. Each student would receive a maximum of 5,000 \$VN per month and be responsible for his own living expenses. It is estimated that about twenty-five teams could be used during the summer of 1967.

The International Voluntary Services would recruit students for the program, assist in setting up projects and provide technical assistance to the students in carrying out their work.

BUDGET:

10 student workers, three months at 5,000 \$VN per month	\$VN 150,000
Cost of materials for use by the team members	\$VN <u>15,000</u>
Total Cost Per Team	\$VN 165,000
Total Cost Per Team in Dollars	\$ 1,400
Cost for 25 Teams	\$ 35,000

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

Between 50,000 and 75,000 refugees will be reached by the student teams.

PROJECT TITLE: URBAN COMMUNITY CENTERS

LOCATION: SAIGON

DESCRIPTION:

One of the most challenging problems in Asia today is to develop new patterns of social welfare to buttress families against the stresses and strains brought about by industrial growth and cultural change which strikes at the heart of traditional family life.

In Vietnam these problems can be seen most clearly in the capital city of Saigon which has grown in the past 20 years from one-half million to some two and one-half million people. Since 1962, it is estimated that between 200,000 and 250,000 refugees have entered Saigon in search of security and employment in a rapidly expanding industrial complex. The population explosion and the fast pace of life in the cities' crowded, often squalid conditions, has created severe social problems particularly among the refugees who have not been able to adapt to the demands of city living. During the day, children of all ages roam the streets unattended; elderly people can be seen squatting on any street corner, often begging for survival. At night, because of the lack of the housing, many families sleep in doorways and out on sidewalks. Perhaps the breakdown in family controls can be seen most vividly in the increase of delinquent teenagers who traffic in all forms of violence and vice in the city.

A pattern of social and community centers is being developed to meet some of these complex problems. In some cases these are sponsored by the Government, in other instances by concerned private groups and by Vietnamese labor unions. It is felt that the best course of action is a direct approach to individual families through neighborhood centers.

Six community centers, each to serve a population of 4,000 to 8,000 people are requested for critical slum areas. These centers would be operated by private welfare organizations and/or associations in close coordination with local government officials. The major functions of the centers would be to evaluate the needs of a neighborhood; carry out a direct service program on behalf of families and their children; serve as a catalyst and organizer of outside resources and services; and work toward a goal of helping a neighborhood plan for the solution of its own social and community problems.

There are many volunteer groups interested in helping at the neighborhood level, including students, boy scouts, and women's associations. However, experience has shown that the successful operation of a neighborhood program requires a knowledgeable staff, on salary, who can survey problems, provide direct service, organize community programs such as recreational services, and organize local leadership.

BUDGET:

Cost of each Center - \$30,000

Salaries for five Vietnamese social workers for two year period - \$1,800 each	\$18,000
Family assistance - used as emergency relief or self-help	5,000
Building or renovation costs of Center Building	5,000
Program - Recreational Equipment - Education Materials, etc.	<u>2,000</u>
Total per Center	\$30,000
Six Centers	\$180,000

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

Six community centers would directly serve some 30,000 people in slum areas of Saigon urgently needing help. The development of community centers will also add impetus to a growing awareness of the need to work directly with people and to enlist their assistance in solving their own social problems.

PROJECT TITLE: VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR THE REFUGEE CENTERS

PROVINCES: Provinces of High Refugee Concentration

DESCRIPTION:

There is a critical need for vocational training and adult education programs for the refugees. In general, the refugees have not been able to acquire as high a level of education as non-refugees. The vocational training program is intended to enable the refugees to better compete for jobs in the growing industrial markets. Formerly, middle-level skills were passed on from father to son and the technology but little improved. Not only are many fathers now removed from their sons, but the demands of the day require a more developed technology.

The vocational training program is primarily directed at the young men in their late teens who, because of the scarcity of land, have been forced away from a career in agriculture. As the population in the rural areas begins to shift to the urban areas, new and different demands are placed on the individual. Essentially more is asked of him, he is expected to have those skills attuned to urban life, but at the moment he is unprepared and merely swells the ranks of the unemployed and contributes to the growth of the city slums.

The vocational training program suggested will include instruction in: building construction, carpentry, masonry, gas engine maintenance and repair, bicycle maintenance and repair, sewing and tailoring, and leather working.

Twenty buildings for vocational training and adult education centers have been provided by the Government. Courses will also be held in hamlet schools in areas of refugee concentration.

BUDGET:

50 full-time Vietnamese vocational training and adult education teachers			
Two-year salary - \$2,400 each	Sub-Total		\$ 120,000
Equipment for twenty centers - \$500 for each center			
	Sub-Total		<u>10,000</u>
	Grand Total		\$ 130,000

NUMBER OF REFUGEES AFFECTED:

5,000 refugee students directly affected.