

Scale Of Viet Cong Attacks Surprising To McNamara

By EDWIN Q. WHITE
SAIGON (AP)—U.S. Defence Secretary Robert S. McNamara said here he is surprised by the intensity and scale of enemy attacks in recent weeks in the war in South Viet Nam. He added that he feels the Viet Cong guerrillas, in turn, have been surprised at the price in casualties they have had to pay.

Then after telling this to correspondents at Saigon's international airport, he conferred with U.S. and South Vietnamese officials on the savage enemy attack Saturday that ruined a South Vietnamese regiment on a rubber plantation 45 miles northwest of Saigon.

McNamara spent five hours with briefing officers. In addition to the plantation battle, the secretary also was briefed by experts on enemy strength, logistics, pacification and political questions, a U.S. mission spokesman said.

MAY INCREASE TROOPS
This is McNamara's 7th visit to South Viet Nam since 1962. It comes amid speculation in Saigon that the United States may increase its number of military personnel in South Viet Nam to 300,000 from the present 165,000.

Neither McNamara nor his spokesmen would discuss these reports. They called the visit a routine one to gather first-hand information and that no hard recommendations to President Johnson are expected to result.

McNamara was accompanied by Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, chairman of the U.S. joint chiefs of staff.

The defence secretary declined to speculate on what action might be taken to stop the flow of enemy material and men through neighboring Laos and Cambodia into South Viet Nam. He said, however, that "their actions will require counter-actions."

Radio Hanoi said the Viet Cong high command has protested to the International Control Commission on Viet Nam against the visit by McNamara and Wheeler. The commission is made up of representatives of Canada, India and Poland.

The broadcast quoted the protest as saying the visit "clearly constitutes a new, extremely serious step in the U.S. scheme to step up its war of aggression in Viet Nam." It added that each previous McNamara visit "has been associated with fresh U.S. efforts to intensify the war further."

Canada Seen Able To Afford Health And Education Costs

OTTAWA (CP)—Mr. Justice Emmett M. Hall, chairman of the royal commission that recommended a national health services plan for Canada, said here the economy can afford increased health and education costs at the same time.

Justice Hall, a member of the Supreme Court of Canada, said at the opening of a four-day working conference on the implications of health care that a study of personal and public spending in other fields bears out this opinion.

"There cannot and must not be any question of conflict or of priority between the needs of better education and those of good health," he said.

"The economy of Canada is strong enough to carry concurrently these two essential companion services."

His royal commission report recommended a comprehensive

program of health services paid out of taxes, or partially from lotteries, should be available to all Canadians.

"The citizen must not only be educated, he must be healthy physically and mentally, otherwise much of the vast sums spent on education will not bring the rewards in human well-being and national prosperity which their expenditures are aimed to achieve."

The conference brings together about 300 delegates from 21 national organizations representing major church, business, farm, labor student, welfare and women's organization.

It will discuss health services in Canada, and is expected to cover the performance of existing medical and health care programs as well as government proposals concerning public medical schemes.

Newsprint Demand Increase Forecast By Association

MONTREAL (CP)—A possibility of temporary tight newsprint supply and an increase in demand of 300,000 tons in 1966 was forecast here in a survey by the Newsprint Association of Canada.

The survey said the market in the United States and Canada was buoyant in 1965, and it predicted a further increase in 1966.

It said newsprint demand increased by 600,000 tons in the U.S. in 1964, and indications are that it will have increased by a further 400,000 tons this year.

It said the increase of 1,000,000 tons in two years reflects recovery from the effects of "U.S. newspaper strikes in 1963, but has also been curtailed by similar strikes in 1964 and 1965."

The survey shows Canadian consumption in 1965 is 5.4 per cent ahead of last year, com-

pared with a gain of 5.1 per cent in the U.S.

But the Canadian increase partly reflected recovery of demand curtailed by a seven-month strike at the Montreal newspaper *La Presse* last year.

In 1965, the association said, Canadian mills operated at 91.8 per cent of capacity, producing 7,800,000 tons of a possible maximum capacity of 8,500,000.

In 1966, newsprint production would rise to 8,000,000 tons, with an increase in total capacity, because of new machinery, to 8,750,000 tons.

EXPORTS TO GO UP
The association estimated 6,135,000 tons would be exported to the U.S. this year, an increase of 8.6 per cent; 1,085,000 tons to other countries, a decrease of 2.3 per cent, and 530,000 tons would be retained in Canada, an estimated year-end increase of 5.5 per cent.

The survey estimated total world capacity at 19,900,000 tons, indicating mills will have capacity this year, increasing to 80 per cent in 1966.

It estimated only brief periods of peak seasonal demand which could mean a short-term lightening of supply.

It predicts there will be enough demand for newsprint in the years ahead to make use of nearly 1,000,000 tons from eight new machines proposed in the southern and western U.S., and a little more than 1,000,000 tons from proposed Canadian mills.

The latter figure includes about 475,000 tons which could be available from continuous operation of all mills in B.C.

The estimated newsprint consumption total of the non-Communist world in 1965 is 17,200,043 tons and 17,923,370 tons in 1966.

Communist bloc estimates are 1,269,000 for 1965 and 1,393,000 in 1966; for total world consumption in 1965 of 18,469,043 tons and 19,316,370 tons in 1966.

United States Trade Balance Is Shrinking

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. balance of trade continued to shrink in October as imports soared 12 per cent, commerce department figures showed.

Exports increased by only two per cent.

October imports amounted to \$2,002,000,000 on a seasonally adjusted basis and exports were \$2,348,600,000.

The favorable U.S. balance of trade—the amount by which exports exceed imports—has been a plus item in the U.S. balance of payments and has helped offset the flow of dollars abroad in other areas.

Imports usually rise rapidly during a prosperous period because of vigorous buying by consumers. A commerce department official said last week that foreign trade probably would reach a record high, but that the trade surplus would decline to about \$5,500,000,000 from \$6,900,000,000.

For the first 10 months of the year, exports were at an annual rate of slightly less than \$26,000,000,000 while imports were approximately \$20,800,000,000—indicating a trade surplus of about \$5,200,000,000.

The official said exports were expected to increase about \$600,000,000 this year compared with an unusually large gain of \$3,200,000,000 in 1964.

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VIENNA, Australia (AP)—Robert Jan Verbelen, a 54-year-old former Belgian colonel in Hitler's SS (elite guard), went on trial Monday charged with being an accomplice in the wartime murder of seven Belgian resistance heroes. Verbelen pleaded innocent. He said he had only relayed orders from the German military commander for Belgium.

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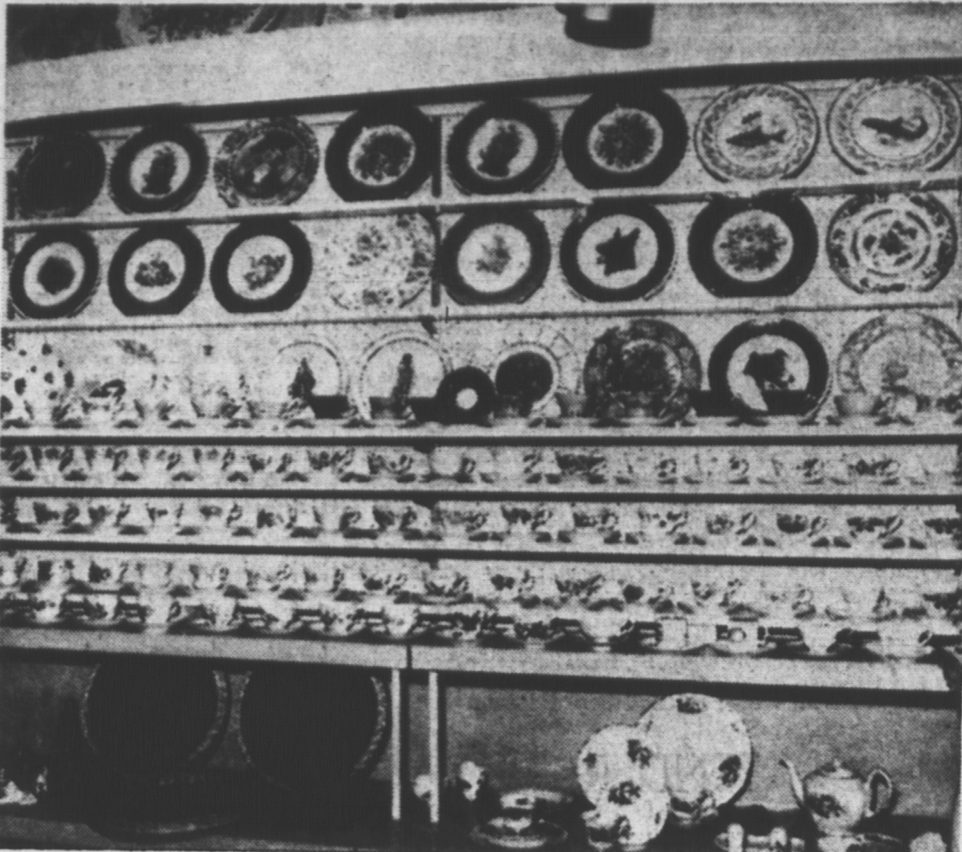
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