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U.S. Economic Bomb In Viet Nam May Be Dood

By MALCOLM W. BROWNE
SAIGON (AP) — The United States has lighted the fuse of an economic time bomb under President Ngo Dinh Diem's regime in South Viet Nam, but the bomb may never go off.

Since Aug. 21, the U.S. has halted its commercial import program, at least partially to show indignation over the smashing of Buddhist pagodas by government police that day.

The program represents about half the total economic aid the U.S. pours into South Viet Nam indirectly. It pays about 70 per cent of the defence budget.

If the Saigon government starts dipping into dollar reserves to offset the loss of American aid, the country will exhaust those reserves in about one year, U.S. aid mission officials estimate. This could mean a general economic collapse and possibly the end of the Diem government.

Some South Vietnamese opin-

Yank Shipping Demand Holds Up Wheat Sale

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Commerce Secretary Luther H. Hodges predicted Tuesday that sagging over American shipping rates will not kill sale of U.S. wheat to grain-short Communist Countries. But he second U.S. wheat to grain-short Communist Countries. But he second U.S. wheat to grain-short Communist Countries.

"If that were true I think we would have seen something after the commencing of the program was stopped in August," Lodge said this week.

"So far, nothing has happened. Furthermore, I think a coup right now is unlikely."

Surprisingly South Viet Nam's foreign exchange reserve, which now stands at \$168,000,000, has actually increased since the U.S. aid cut. The country has sold rice and other commodities to fill the treasury. Experts say this trend cannot continue.

In theory, the economic pressure should become intense soon.

But American economists say the lever is bound to be less than 100-per-cent effective.

"For one thing, it depends on what other nations do," U.S. economist said. "Japan and France, to name a couple, are expected to kick in some aid here."

In a wartime plan, the Vietnamese said they still can be used for paying salaries and running the country.

Finally, the main American weakness is psychological. South Viet Nam, as well as a lot of America's other allies, know perfectly well that the United States has an enormous stake here. We can't let this country go to the Communists and, without American aid, it would. This is the level in us, and it's an effective one. Saigon is certain America is not going to use off its nose to spite its eye.

"We're in a dangerous poker game with the Diem government right now," an American official said. "Both sides hold their cards and the pot is full. The danger for all of us is that the Communist Viet Cong may hold the fifth ace."



AT MILITIA CONFERENCE

Senior officers from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island militia units met in Halifax over the weekend at the first annual conference for N.S.-P.E.I. Area in discussion plans for the training year just begun. Chairman of the meeting was Col. W.H. Collins, commander of the area. Other officers in attendance explained duties and guided planning. Shown above in an informal Col. Collins and Lt.-Col. E.G. MacLeod, Charlottetown.

Births, Deaths, Marriages

BIRTHS

SHERRY — At the Prince County Hospital on Oct. 8, 1963, to Mr. and Mrs. Sherry, Albany, daughter, Paula Irene.

MOASE — At the South Peel Hospital, Cooksville, Ontario on October 21st, to Mr. and Mrs. William Moase, (nee Dorothy MacIsaac), a son, William Donald, A. brother for David.

McGONNELL — Nandi and Peter are happy to announce the arrival of their daughter, Mary Melissa Ann, at the Prince County Hospital, Oct. 17, 1963. Weight 7 lbs., 2 ozs.

BAKER — At the Stour's Hospital on Oct. 1st, 1963, to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Baker, Lakeville, a daughter, Sheila Krista Mae, weight 7 lbs. 9 ozs. a sister for Roberta and Carolyn.

ENGAGEMENTS

BROWN — MacDOUGALL — Mr. and Mrs. T.G. Brown wish to announce the engagement of their only daughter, Alana Gayle, to LAC George MacDougall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick MacDougall, Shelburne, N.S. The marriage will take place Saturday, November 16, at 10 a.m. in St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church, Summerside.

MacLEOD — LOCKE — Mr. and Mrs. Joseph MacLeod, Dartington, wish to announce the engagement of their youngest daughter Effie MacLeod, to LAC Winston Locke, son of Mrs. Rebecca Randall, St. John's, Newfoundland. Marriage to take place October 26, at 2:30 p.m. in the Protestant Chapel, RCAF Station, Summerside.

HAYES — CUDMORE — Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred A. Hayes, Charlottetown, wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Carol Diane to William Warren Cudmore, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Wilfred Cudmore, Charlottetown. Marriage will take place November 11, 1963.

DEATHS

HOWLETT — At the P.E.I. Hospital, Monday, Oct. 21, 1963. Mrs. Roy Howlett of Annandale in her 84th year. Resting at the MacLean Funeral Home where a short service will hold today commencing at 12:30 p.m. then to Annandale Baptist Church for funeral service commencing at 3:30 p.m. Interment will be in the Annandale cemetery.

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APPLICATIONS

Will be accepted for the position of janitor-bar steward up and until Oct. 29th, 1963. Applicants must be able to supply references regarding character and state experience and salary expected when applying. Address applications to the Secretary-Manager of the Royal Canadian Legion, Kensington, P.E.I.

OPPORTUNITY

HALIFAX COUNTY PLANNER NAMED

HALIFAX (CP) — Walter A. G. Snook, 37, of Truro, has been appointed director of planning for the county of Halifax.

Mr. Snook was director of city planning and executive director of the urban renewal authority in Bangor, Me., for the last five years. Before that he spent eight years on the planning staff of the city of Halifax.

County planning board chairman Frank Roche, who announced the appointment, said Mr. Snook would begin his duties in December.

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CANADA AIDS CEYLON

COLOMBO (AP) — Canada has stepped in to finance a Ceylon airport project after a United States aid offer fell through. Canadian high commissioner James George told Finance Minister E. Hangarath Thursday that his country will give Ceylon \$3,400,000 as a gift to pay for runway extensions and a new terminal building at Katunayake Airport, Ceylon's largest airfield 23 miles northwest of Colombo.

COUP UNLIKELY

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Figures Given On Population Of World In '61

UNITED NATIONS (CP) — The world's total population at the middle of 1961 was 3,069,000,000, an increase of 61,000,000 from 1960, a United Nations study of world population figures shows.

The Demographic Yearbook 1962, compiled by the statistical office of the U.N.'s department of economic and social affairs, shows that Africa, not including the Soviet Union, had the largest population increase during the period.

Asian population in that year increased by 26,000,000 to a total of 1,711,000,000. North and South America showed a combined increase of 11,000,000 a total of 422,000,000.

In separate tables the report showed Canada's population at July 1, 1961, as 18,260,000.

Farm Machinery Prices Watched By Federal Gov't

OTTAWA (CP) — The government is taking a "long look" at the price of farm machinery, Agriculture Minister Hoy informed the Commons Tuesday when asked whether some of his recent remarks on the subject represent government policy.

McBain (PC-21st) had asked whether government legislation is planned and whether the Commons agriculture committee will be asked to renew its 1961 work on farm-machinery prices.

Mr. Hoy said a solution will solve an important problem. In the past he has suggested farm-pooling operations to help keep machine costs down.

"We're looking for all kinds of help," he said of the committee study proposal.

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