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JPRS L/8328

12 March 1979

TRANSLATIONS ON VIETNAM  
(FOUO 3/79)



ASIA



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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

INFORMATION ON VIETNAMESE MILITARY UNITS

The following information on Vietnamese military units was extracted from Vietnamese press sources published in Hanoi, unless otherwise indicated. Unit designators and subordination are as they appear in the original source. The remarks include a brief summary of the salient information available in the news item.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Post 193, People's Armed Public Security Forces	Located at Huu Nghi Quan [Friendship Gate], Cao Lang Province. (DOC LAF 29 Nov 78 p 1)
Dong Hieu Self Defense Regt, Nghe Tinh Province	Recently activated. Photo of activation ceremony shows unit anti-aircraft weapons. (DOC LAF 13 Dec 78 p 1)
16th Gp, 7th MR	Unit's literary, reading activities noted. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 8 Jan 79 p 2)
Dong Nai Gp, Cuu Long Air Force	Photos show unit aircraft and rockets. Equipped with U.S. fighter aircraft and armed helicopters. Unit pilots and mechanics overcome difficulties in mastering strange equipment. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 8 & 9 Jan 79 p 3)
12 Gp	Unit member's letter on party theory published in source. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 8 Jan 79 p 3)
Chien Thang Gp	" " " "
2nd Gp	Engaged invading Cambodians north of the Van Co Dong River in Tay Ninh Province in the end of Dec 78. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 9 Jan 79 p 3)

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Dong Bang Gp	Held conference to examine results of building basic level units. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 10 Jan 79 p 1)
32nd Gp, Economic Construction Forces, 5th MR 40th Regt	Exploiting the Kon Ha Nung State Forest south of Highway 5 in Gia Lai - Kon Tum Province about 25 kilometers south of Kon Plong, near Nghia Binh Province. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 10 & 11 Jan 79 p 2)
1st Regt, 9th MR	Completed training phase, provided border and coastal defense and raised crops. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 11 Jan 79 p 1)
2nd Bn, 4th Regt	Commander: Trần Văn Dũng; Political Officer: Xuân. Commander commended for leadership qualities in combat against Cambodians. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 11 Jan 79 p 3)
15th Co, 102nd Gp, Camp Administration and Construction Department	Unit member's productivity commended. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 11 Jan 79 p 3)
M02 Regt, Rear Services General Department	Unit tailor commended. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 11 Jan 79 p 3)
9017th Air Force Gp	Good living conditions described. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 11 Jan 79 p 3)
198th Gp, Sapper Forces	Emulation activities noted. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 12 Jan 79 p 3)
2nd Bn, U Minh Gp, 9th MR	Political Officer: Nguyễn Văn Điệp. Unit heroes exploits against Cambodians recounted. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 12 Jan 79 p 3)
8th Bn, Dac To Gp	Unit member's exploits against Cambodians reported. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 12 Jan 79 p 3)
8th Bn, Quan Tien Phong Div	Photo of unit members crossing through barbed wire obstacle. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 12 Jan 79 p 3)
41st Gp	Unit members interviewed about unit activities. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 12 Jan 79 p 3)

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Tan Trao Gp, People's Armed Public Security Forces 2nd Bn 3rd Bn -19th Bn	Recently security duties have more than doubled.  -the Group's training unit. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 12 Jan 79 p 3)
3rd Bn, 4th Regt	Commander: Trần Đức Minh, age 27. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 Jan 79 p 3)
55th Regt	Commander of the 3rd Bn, 4th Regt came from this unit. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 Jan 79 p 3)
10th Det, 23rd Cao Lang Gp	On border defense duty. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 Jan 79 p 3)
21st Armored Gp	Report on training of new unit members, all of whom are from provinces of North Vietnam. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 Jan 79 p 7)
333rd Gp, 5th MR	Data on self support farming provided. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 16 Jan 79 p 2)
Thu Do [Capital] Regt 8th Bn -Binh Ca Bn	Proper spirit of unit extolled.  -Deputy Battalion Commander and Political Officer: Vũ Tường Long. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 16 Jan 79 p 3)
Le Loi Gp, 4th MR	Good marksmanship results noted. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 17 Jan 79 p 1)
1st Gp, 3rd MR	" " " "
"X" Gp 5th Bn, 27th Regt	Political Officer: Lieutenant Colonel Trần Văn Thứ. Disciplinary action taken against delinquent unit member. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 17 Jan 79 p 2)
06 Gp	Fought against Cambodians in the Dac Lac Province area. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 17 Jan 79 p 3)
5th Co, 74th Gp, POL Department	Work on oil pipeline reported. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 17 Jan 79 p 3)



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Song Thao Engineer Gp	Report on 1978 training activities. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 17 Jan 79 p 3)
12th Gp, Truong Son Forces Unit 515 Unit 509	1978 training, self support farming goals met. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 18 Jan 79 pp 1, 4)
15th Gp	Commander: Trương Quốc Đ...Located in Quang Ninh[?] Province among the Van Kieu and Pa-Co tribal groups. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 18 Jan 79 p 2)
1st Infantry Gp, 9th MR	Fought against Cambodians. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 18 Jan 79 p 3)
Song Thao Engineer Gp	Conducted river crossing training on the Red River. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 18 Jan 79 p 3)
5th Co, 73rd Bn, 84th Gp	Located in Quang Binh Province. Unit member writes letter on training. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 18 Jan 79 p 3)
Chien Thang Div	Combat operation reported. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 19 Jan 79 p 1)
Song Gianh Anti Aircraft Artillery Gp, 4th MR	Photos show unit members in technical training. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 19 Jan 79 p 1)
9th Bn, 41st Gp	A Lai Chau Province local unit. Recently harvested 7 tons of paddy. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 19 Jan 79 p 1)
B752 General Depot, Materials Department, Technical General Department	Self support farming of subsidiary crops reported. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 19 Jan 79 p 1)
109th Military Hospital	Raising medicinal plants. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 19 Jan 79 p 1)
12th Co, 44th Infantry Gp	Company's achievements range from brick making to marksmanship training. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 19 Jan 79 p 3)
3rd Bn, 30th Infantry Gp	Report of unit members' heroic deeds in combat with Cambodians in An Giang Province. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 19 Jan 79 p 3)

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18th Gp, Kien Giang Province	Editorially commended for maintaining good health of personnel. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 17 Jan 79 p 1)
95th Gp, 5th MR	" " " "
673rd Gp, Huong Giang Corp	" " " "
441st Gp, 4th MR	" " " "
CSO: 4209	

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

INFORMATION ON VIETNAMESE MILITARY UNITS

The following information on Vietnamese military units was extracted from Vietnamese press sources published in Hanoi, unless otherwise indicated, Unit designators and subordination are as they appear in the original source. The remarks include a brief summary of the salient information available in the news items.

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
175th Military Hospital	Located in Ho Chi Minh City. Handling military wounded. (Ho Chi Minh City TIN SANG 14 Dec 78 p 3)
195th Gp	A Ho Chi Minh City unit. Commended for accomplishments in 1978. (Ho Chi Minh City TIN SANG 30 Dec 78 p 7)
477th Gp	Training unit at the Basic Training School. (Ho Chi Minh City TIN SANG 7 Jan 79 p 1)
285th Gp	Assigned to the defense of Ho Chi Minh City. (Ho Chi Minh City TIN SANG 10 Jan 79 p 1)
Can Le Regt	During July 1978 this unit fought elements of the Cambodian 260th Division, local elements from the 505th Independent Region and Snoul District in the Mt. Kennedy--Bu Dop Forest area of Song Be Province. (VAN NGHE QUAN DOI Dec 78 p 5)
Post 749, People's Armed Public Security Forces	Near Cambodia along Highway 13. (VAN NGHE QUAN DOI Dec 78 p 126)

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33rd Gp, 5th MR	Activities of unit entertainment troupe noted. (VAN NGHE QUA N DOI Dec 78 p 132)
65th Gp	Self support farming goals for 1979 given. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 22 Jan 79 p 1)
8th Navy GP Vessel 24 Vessel 14 Vessel 41 Vessel 22	Exceeded fish catch for 1978. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 22 and 23 Jan 79 p 2)
3rd Navy Gp	Exceeded fish catch for 1978. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 22 and 23 Jan 79 p 2)
186th Regt, Chien Thang Div	Photo of unit 122mm gun crew members. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 22 Jan 79 p 3)
61st Gp, Hanoi Forces	Located outside the dikes. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 22 Jan 79 p 3)
6th Bn, Song Da GP	Improvement in discipline of this [Hanoi based (?)] Unit noted. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 22 Jan 79 p 3)
1st Gp, 3rd MR	A recruit training unit. During end of 1978 and beginning of 1979 was ordered to train 2nd trainee group in 1/3 the time needed for the previous trainee group. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 22 Jan 79 p 3)
Song Da Missile Gp	Photo of two missiles on launchers. (NHAN DAN 23 Jan 79 p 3)
Haiphong Air Defense Div	State of training described. (NHAN DAN 23 Jan 79 p 3)
Song Gianh Regt, 4th MR	Performing economic construction in coordination with combat readiness. (NHAN DAN 23 Jan 79 p 3)
5th Bn, 104th Regt, 3rd MR	Self support farming results given. (NHAN DAN 23 Jan 79 p 3)
3rd Bn, 073rd Armored Gp	Photo of tank No 818. Unit morale extolled. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 23 Jan 79 p 1)

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4th Regt, Son La Province	Commended for cultural and political activities. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 23 Jan 79 p 2)
Ha Son Binh Province Military Command Bong Sen Self Defense Regt Route 16 Construction Corporation Self Defense Regt	Engineer elements of subordinate units commended for accomplishments. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 23 Jan 79 p 2)
5th Gp, Camp Management and Construction Department	Surpassed 1978 production goals. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 23 Jan 79 p 3)
POL Binh Tram 170	Self support farming results noted. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 24 Jan 79 p 1)
Binh Tram 169	Self support farming results noted. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 24 Jan 79 p 1)
871st Gp, Political General Department	Self support farming results noted. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 24 Jan 79 p 1)
47th Gp	Elements of this Hanoi based unit commended for combat readiness. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 24 Jan 79 p 1)
Signal Forces	
-Lam Son Gp	-Constructed and repaired 150 km pole line.
-Nam Lien Gp	-Constructed and repaired more than 400km of line in support of front line fighting units
-Hai Van Gp	-During January moved nearly 30 tons of mail.
-Vien Thong Gp	-Surpassed communications norms. (NHAN DAN 24 Jan 79 p 1)
Sao Vang Gp, 1st MR 12th Gp 2nd Gp 41st Gp 68th Gp	Improvement in combat readiness reported. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 24 Jan 79 p 3)
1st Bn, 44th Infantry Gp	Political Officer: Le The Tuy. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 24 Jan 79 p 3)
115th Military Hospital	Located in Ho Chi Minh City. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 24 Jan 79 p 3)

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Post 793, Peoples Armed Public Security Forces, Dong Thap Province	Recent recipient of a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 25 Jan 79 p 1)
3rd Co, People's Armed Public Security Forces, Long An Province	Recent recipient of a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 25 Jan 79 p 1)
Post 155, People's Armed Public Security Forces, Ha Tuyen Province	Recent recipient of a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 25 Jan 79 p 1)
Post 133, People's Armed Public Security Forces, Hoang Lien Son Province	Recent recipient of a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 25 Jan 79 p 1)
Unit 86, POL Department, Rear Services General Department a	Unit increases storage capacity. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 25 Jan 79 p 1)
Navy Zone "N" 8th Bn 61st Bn	Training activities of subordinate units reported. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 25 Jan 79 p 1)
Song Lo Engineer Gp Unit N.20	River crossing exercise, self support farming and salvage activities reported. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 25 Jan 79 p 1)
50th Anti Aircraft Artillery Gp, 4th MR	Political Officer: Nguyen Van Th.... Recently involved in economic construction in western Nghe Tinh Province. Presently has elements in combat ready positions. Armament includes 37mm guns. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 25 Jan 79 p 3)
4th Anti Aircraft Artillery Co, 81st Gp, Thai Binh Province	Recently scored well in training. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 25 Jan 79 p 3)
28th Bn, 86th Gp, Economic Construction General Department	Battalion Commander: Tran Hanh. Unit commended for high state of readiness. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 25 Jan 79 p 3)
95th Regt, 09th Gp, 5th MR	Recently awarded a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 1)
2nd Gp, 7th MR	Recently awarded a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 1)
Vinh Quang Gp, Huong Giang Corps	Recently awarded a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 1)

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73rd Armored Gp, Tay Nguyen Corps	Recently awarded a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 1)
113th Gp, Special Forces	Recently awarded a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 1)
1st Mobile Signal Bn, Signal Command	Recently awarded a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 1)
239th Gp, Engineer Command	Recently awarded a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 1)
918th Regt, Air Force	Recently awarded a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 1)
335th Regt, 24th Gp, 78th Corps [sic]	Recently awarded a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 1)
179th Regt, Haiphong Command	Recently awarded a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 1)
Factory 51, Technical General Department	Recently awarded a Presidential Citation. (NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 1)
Signal Forces	
-Thong Nhat Signal Gp	-Recently completed the installation of a 12 channel carrier system and organized dozens of mobile teams to improve wire communications to front line units.
-1st Mobile Bn	-completed a 150km wire line ahead of schedule.
-6th Bn	-recently installed three buried cables, 5 overhead cables and 6 antenna arrays in difficult locations.
-Hai Van Signal Gp	-expedited movement of mail.
Station A.19	
Station A.20	
Station A.45	
-Lam Son Gp	-completed a new 98km wire line and improved 383 km of wire line. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 1)
Song Lam B Gp	Photo of unit minstrels. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 3)
73rd Tay Nguyen Gp	Self support farming efforts noted. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 26 Jan 79 p 2)

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6th Bn, Tat Thang Artillery Brig	Photo shows unit members manning wire guided anti tank missiles system. (DAI DOAN KET 23 Dec 78 p 9)
5th Gp Unit 174	Has fought Cambodians since Dec 77 at Xa Mat, Ca Tum, Loc Ninh and Highway 13. Tran Van Dung and Nguyen Ngoc Minh are battalion commanders in this group. (DAI DOAN KET 16 Dec 78 p 9)
35th Gp	A construction unit. Formerly performed low level work on the Ho Chi Minh Trail. Presently performing technically higher level work on the road from Luong Son town to the Electric Power Plant on the Da River. (LAO DONG 21 Dec 78 p 4)
213th Regt	This unit operates and defends the Na Duong Coal Mine in Cao Lang Province near the Chinese border. (LAO DONG 21 Dec 78 p 5)
135th Border Defense Post, Hoang Lien Son Province	Photo of mounted patrol. (DOC LAP 27 Dec 78 p 1)
860th Gp, 5th MR	Unit members participate in athletic meet. (THE DUC THE THAO 23 Dec 78 p 2)
Bac Son Gp	Photo of patrol on border defense mis- sion. (TIEN PHONG 19-25 Dec 78 p 4)
1st Navy Gp, 1st Fleet	Physical fitness activities noted. (THE DUC THE THAO 6 Jan 79 p 2)
Tay Do Gp, 9th MR	Photo of unit patrol. (TIEN PHONG 26 Dec-1 Jan 79 p 3)
80th Signal Gp, 4th MR	Photo of two unit members. (TIEN PHONG 17-23 Jan 79 p 10)
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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

JETRO VIEWS ON JAPAN-VIETNAM TRADE, VIETNAM ENERGY

Tokyo NIPPON-BETONAMU BOEKI NO KAKUDAI KINCHO O MEZASHITE in Japanese  
Mar 78 pp 51-74

[Excerpts] V. Expansion of Imports From Vietnam and Problems Therewith

1. Agricultural Sector

Rice is still the largest crop in Vietnam's agricultural production. As is commonly known, however, Japan has a surplus supply of rice and uses a different type of rice for food. Furthermore, it seems that for the present Vietnam would have difficulty constantly diverting a sizeable amount of rice into exports.

One of Vietnam's agricultural products other than rice is coffee. Some 1,861 tons of coffee were imported by Japan in 1976, and 664 tons were imported in 1977. All of this was unroasted coffee beans. Vietnamese coffee, however, is used in blends and is not sold as Vietnamese coffee; furthermore, because the market price of coffee fluctuates sharply, more time will be needed to expand and stabilize coffee imports.

Rubber was previously the dominant export of South Vietnam, but rubber production was heavily damaged in the war. The trees in existing plantations are reportedly old enough to be due for replacement. Japan imported 1,211 tons of Vietnamese natural rubber in 1976 and 744 tons (640,000 dollars) in 1977.

Vietnamese corn drew attention in March 1977 when Zenno signed a contract with the Vietnamese (VINAGRO-COOP, Vietnam Federation of Agricultural Production Marketing Cooperatives) to cooperate in the development of corn production. In this project, Zenno was to invest 1.5 billion yen to cultivate corn in a hilly area 100 km north of Hanoi, and the Japanese side was to take the produced corn at the prevailing international market price. Some 1,000 hectares of cultivated land were under development and a harvest of about 2,000 tons had been predicted. In August, however, the project was suspended at the request of the Vietnamese side. Since Zenno imports about 1 million tons of corn annually from the United States and elsewhere,

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to obtain even 2,000 tons would be insignificant, but corn is a product for which Zenno relies entirely on overseas sources and Vietnam could become a source of production and supply.

Sunflower is one of the crops for which cultivation in Vietnam is well suited. Cultivation of sunflowers is possible in part of the central highlands and in the Mekong Delta as a second crop after wet season rice. The oil taken from sunflowers is said to be good for the body and ideal as a food because it is made up almost wholly of unsaturated fats.

Vietnam also has an abundance of tropical fruits. Bananas and pineapples can be shipped throughout the year. For purposes of exporting to Japan, out-competing products of other countries and earning foreign exchange, however, the Vietnamese products have some drawbacks in taste and shape. The pineapples, for example, have a high sugar content and are small. Currently, pineapples are being grown in the mountains and bananas in the valleys in Lao Cai and Phu Tho and efforts are being made to increase production. In the export market, however, there is sharp competition from neighboring countries in both bananas and pineapples. Consequently, it will be necessary to improve the type of product for export, to make prices competitive by raising productivity, and to make marketing efforts appropriate to the export market in packaging, naming, and so forth.

Lastly, we would like to make some mention of vegetables. Nearly all vegetables produced in Japan can be produced in Vietnam. Furthermore, Japan relies on imports for many of its vegetables in the form of dried or frozen vegetables. The Vietnamese Government, too, wants these exports and vegetables are reportedly being exported to the Soviet Union (Siberia) and Europe. Tomatoes, cucumbers, pumpkins and cabbages are being sent to Siberia and this trade is fairly well established. Dried vegetables (garlic and onions) are sent to Europe and it seems that export contracts for a fairly large volume have been received from Europe. In addition, processed pepper products which are produced near Hanoi are sent to Eastern Europe. Vietnam, then, is actually exporting types of vegetables. For the present however, it seems that at least for northern Vietnam, it would be very difficult to export products other than these.

The above is a rough survey of the possibilities for expanding exports in the agricultural sector and, although we can indicate sufficient future possibilities, each of the products presents various problems for the present. Regrettably, we have to say that expanding exports to Japan will not be easy. Vietnam ranges from tropical to subtropical and there are few crops, including cash crops, which Vietnam cannot grow. It is said to have the best land in the world for raising sugar cane and other such crops. Quantitatively, however, it will lag behind in competition with products of other countries in every case. In short, large scale production on a commercial basis is not being carried on. Furthermore, in the north there seems to be very little room for development of large scale production. Consequently, we can probably say that if Vietnam tries to gain foreign

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reserves from exports in the agricultural sector, it will depend on agricultural development of the south.

There are, then, long range prospects for import of agricultural products from Vietnam; but, at present, Vietnam is in a transitional period and it seems that such imports would be rather difficult for the time being. Therefore, since Vietnam is one of the few tropical agricultural countries among the socialist countries, it will probably continue to export to the Soviet Union, the Eastern European countries, etc. These countries, unlike Japan, are not so stringent about quality and standards, and are easier export targets for Vietnam.

## 2. Forestry Sector

High quality pine lumber was produced in the area around Dalat in southern Vietnam and had one of the south's main products for export to Japan before the liberation. Japan's first imports of this item after the liberation were in 1977. Since the policy adopted by the Vietnamese Government regarding lumber exports says that Vietnam will export locally milled lumber, the pine lumber imported by Japan has also become locally sawed lumber rather than logs. The advantage of pine lumber for construction is the beauty of the wood's grain. Furthermore, for this wood to be used in construction requires milling methods tailored for distribution of the wood in the domestic Japanese market. Since the Vietnamese side gives little consideration to this point, there are serious problems in dealing with them. Consequently, it would be possible to realize imports of a fairly large volume of pine lumber if the Vietnamese side would allow exportation of logs; but, there are milling facilities in the production area, and the Vietnamese side seems strongly intent on trying to raise the added value of the primary product before exporting it.

In addition to pine, Vietnam produces a great deal of tropical lumber. Vietnam's forests, however, suffered considerable damage in the war and pieces of steel are imbedded in the trunks of many of the older trees. Furthermore, it is hard to say that the facilities are in place for felling and loading this kind of lumber. Nevertheless, the demand for tropical lumber in Japan is high and Japan imports a great deal of lumber from Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. Consequently, it is fully conceivable that, if conditions are right in the future Japan could import this lumber from Vietnam, too. Therefore, the types of tropical lumber produced in southern Vietnam are listed below for reference purposes.

Vietnamese name	Scientific name	Production (Board feet)		Density	Notes
		1941	1952		
TRAC	Dalbergia cochinchinensis	84,756	298,284	1,10	Rosewood: Dark striped pattern in reddish wood. Beautiful luster. Highly demanded as a cabinet wood.
CAM LAI	Dalbergia bariensis	466,158	2,772	0,97	Rosewood: Dark striped pattern in a reddish purple wood. Beautiful luster. Suitable as cabinet wood. Also called "Purple Heart."
DANG HUONG (May Doux)	Petrocarpus pedatus	1,017,072	76,320	0,79	Rosewood: Reddish or bright red wood. Used for cabinets.
CAM THI	Diopyros siamensis	10,170	-	0,84	White with dark stripe pattern. In high demand for inlay, interiors, and carving.
SON	Melanorphanes laccifera	25,426	1,544	0,86	Mahogany: Most suitable as cabinet wood. Can also be used for inlay, interior, and (PAFURINGU). Scientifically different from mahogany.
MUN	Diopyros mur	4,662	-	1,30	Dark ivory color. Used in carving, inlay, etc.
MUONG	Cassia Siamca	29,664	-	1,12	Dark color with yellow or tan stripes. Also known as "partridge wood." High quality furniture.
HUYNH DUONG	Disoxylon loureiri	84,756	-	0,79	Sandal wood. Yellowish tan, rare and expensive.
RA HUONG	Cinnamomum camphora	14,408	-	0,80	Aromatic camphorwood. Used in high quality boxes.
PEMOU	Fokienia Hodginsii	18,463	-	0,47	Highly aromatic wood. Used in high quality boxes. Rose-yellow.

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Vietnamese name	Scientific name	Production (Board feet)		Density	Notes
		1941	1952		
SAMOU	Cunningamia sinensis	30,088	-	0.45	Highly aromatic. Used in jewelry boxes, etc. Rose-yellow.
LIM	Erythrophlaeum fordii	11,442,060	2,925	0.90	Reddish tan. Material for railroad ties, construction.
NGHIEN	Pentace tonkinensis	1,514,590	-	1.10	Reddish tan. Posts, railroad ties, sculpture.
CAMXE	Xylia dolabriformis	1,313,718	198,856	1.14	Reddish tan. Used in construction, boats, railroad ties.
CA CHAC	Shorea obtusa	59,329	87,881	1.05	Reddish tan. Used in construction (posts, beams).
SEN	Bassia posquierei	254,268	140,381	0.95	Reddish tan. Used in construction, cabinets, and boat building.
SAO	Hopea odorata Hopea dealbate	4,661,580	5,507,950	0.71	Yellow. Turns tan in the open air. Used for cabinets, ties, boats.
KIEN KIEN	Hopearei	1,363,724	21,200	0.87	Yellowish tan. Turns tan immediately when exposed to air. Can be used for all construction purposes. Mostly used in cabinets, boats, yachts.
GO MAT	Sindora cochinchinensis	2,246,034	249,736	0.87	Yellowish color. Turns reddish tan if exposed to air. Beautiful luster; suitable for antiques, also used in construction.
XOAY	Dialum cochinchinensis	199,177	1,892	1.15	Dark brownish red. Used in construction.
LAN TAU	Vatica divers	1,440,852	-	0.89	Bright yellow. Used for ties, cabinets, boats.

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3. Marine Products Sector

In the marine products sector, large quantities of shrimp are already being imported. Shrimp have long been plentiful in Vietnamese waters and prior to the liberation shrimp ranked with lumber as one of the main items among Japanese imports from South Vietnam. However, because of insufficient refrigeration facilities and insufficient care in shipping in Vietnam, the shrimp actually bring a low price in the Japanese market. For example, in Japan shrimp are sized by the number of shrimp to the pound and trading is based on this sizing, but it is said that many of the shrimp which are sent from Vietnam are not of uniform size. In such cases, they are traded for as if of the smallest size and the price they bring has to be low. It is said that because of this many of the shrimp are diverted for use in processing or peeling. If this point were corrected and freshness were ensured, import of a considerable volume of shrimp could be expected.

In northern Vietnam research on raising prawns is also being carried on with the cooperation of a Japanese enterprise. The possibility of imports developing from this later on has been reported.

In addition to shrimp there are many kinds of fish in Vietnamese waters. For example, it is reported that many kinds of fish liked by the Japanese, such as horse mackerel, sea bream, Spanish mackerel, and fugu swim through Vietnam's waters. Consequently, it seems that there is a future possibility of importing these fish and processed products, such as smoked products, as well.

4. Mine Products

It goes without saying that the main import in the mining products sector is anthracite coal. Last year 900,000 tons were imported by Japan and this accounted for an overwhelming percentage of imports from Vietnam. This year, however, because of a reduced rate of operation in the steel industry due to the recession, and because of competition from other countries' products, it is doubtful we will be able to import as much as last year. One obstacle has been the fact that because the economics of Vietnamese anthracite coal imports are based on the mark, their price has not dropped as much as the price of other countries' products have dropped for Japan because of the high yen.

As indicated in the survey in the report of the Vietnam Committee in 1977, "The Current State of Vietnam's Economic Development," Vietnam has many mineral resources besides anthracite coal. As is commonly known, one resource considered promising is oil. After many twists and turns over development policy following the liberation, prospecting contracts were signed with Deminex of West Germany, Agip of Italy and Elf Aquitaine of France for development of oil fields offshore from the Mekong and it seems this development will finally start moving in earnest beginning this spring. Since a group from Exxon and Mobil successfully discovered an oil field

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offshore from the Mekong in 1974, the venture is regarded as very promising. Japan, too, is trying to participate actively in the development; it is expected that participation in the development will probably be realized through a credit formula. This is the method by which the Japanese side implemented its part in oil development in Sakhalin; that is, up to 50 percent of the amount produced is to be exported to Japan and a set amount is to be handed over at a discount as payment of the interest while another set amount goes toward repayment of the financing. In any case, the main recipient of exports of crude oil taken from the oil fields offshore from the Mekong will undoubtedly be Japan. If large scale oil fields are discovered and it becomes possible to export large quantities of crude oil to Japan, Vietnam's exports to Japan will expand suddenly. Of course, it has been pointed out that there are still many unknowns and there is much work to be done and, consequently, optimism is not necessarily possible. Since, however, the balance in world demand for crude oil will, in the long run, inevitably tend to be tighter, the people involved on the Japanese side hold great hopes for this oil.

Besides oil, phosphate rock is also regarded as a promising resource because world demand for it is tight; it is hoped that phosphate rock will be developed with Japanese cooperation.

## The Trend of Anthracite Coal Imports

<u>Year</u>	<u>Volume (MT)</u>	<u>Average Price per Ton (Yen)</u>
1977	896,144	14,121-
1976	565,215	14,234-
1975	503,654	13,255-
1974	667,094	11,891-
1973	191,890	7,290-
1972	67,411	6,538-
1971	410,664	8,131-
1970	226,975	7,132-
1969	251,565	6,873-
1968	286,729	6,892-
1967	256,404	5,914-

Source--Customs statistics.

## 5. Light Industry

As is shown by the fact that the majority of imports from Vietnam are primary products, it will not be easy to expand imports in the light industrial sector. Many people point to Vietnam's technological backwardness as the reason for this. For example, in the field of electronics, Vietnam will have to compete with products from Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong; but, in the opinion of experts, Vietnam is about 15 years behind

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these countries. Furthermore, a broad base of related industries is needed to support production of exports in such fields and this still has not been sufficiently built up in Vietnam. The Vietnamese, however, are said to have a fairly high level of ability to learn technology and it seems quite possible that with technological cooperation from Japan, they will overcome these technological difficulties in a short time.

Another thing that is frequently pointed out is that the Vietnamese are insufficiently aware of export marketing to expand their exports into Western markets. This is something which is not limited to Vietnam but inevitably occurs in the trade systems of socialist countries. In many cases they do not easily grasp the idea of giving real consideration to quality, packaging, delivery dates, trademarks, volume and other standards, of winning in competition in the export market, and of encouraging a willingness to buy on the part of the consumer. This is no surprise since, in the past Vietnam's external trade has been mainly trade with socialist countries and Vietnam has no experience of actually having expanded its exports to market economy countries. It would, however, be desirable to use every opportunity to approach the Vietnamese side so that their understanding of the Japanese market will gradually be increased.

Due to such factors as these, the best way for Japan to expand imports of light industrial products from Vietnam would be for the Japanese side to introduce technology and to give financial aid. There is, for example, the reverse consignment processing formula; this was implemented several years ago in connection with "tie-dyed fabrics." In the current situation, it would seem desirable to put effort into expanding imports by this formula. Another idea which has been brought up not only in textiles but in the electronics field as well is for Japan to supply the parts, Vietnam to put them together, and the Japanese side to take the products.

If this arrangement makes further progress, it is also fully conceivable that investments would be made from Japan and products accepted under a joint enterprise format. The Vietnamese side also hopes for investments in their export industry and, legally, it is possible for the Japanese side to provide 100 percent of the capital. Under this formula, it is possible to clear all of the obstacles on the Vietnamese side in connection with technology, export marketing, capital and so forth; this would contribute greatly to expanding exports in this sector. At present, however, there are problems such as a lack of information and some time will be required before expansion can be realized.



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## 6. Energy in Vietnam. Resources:

Primary energy consumption shows the following trends. (Unit: percent)

	1973 (South)	1975 (North)	1976 (Entire country)
Coal	0.0	39.0	40.0
Oil	74.4	12.0	26.4
Water Power Plants	0.2 24.4	4.0 45.0	1.1 32.5

In the future, however, oil and gas will have to play an extremely important role in the various sectors of the economy. In the industrial sector, unless a considerable number of factories can change their basic fuel to coal, the demand for petroleum products will be increasingly greater and by 1980 may be twice what it was in 1975. In the transportation sector, Vietnam plans to reduce the rate of motor vehicle use, increase the proportion of railroad and river shipments and expand the means of volume transport; but because overall demand continues to grow, Vietnam cannot decrease oil consumption. Conversely, if mechanization continues in the agriculture and fisheries sectors, these sectors will come to constitute a considerably great percentage of the demand for petroleum products. Thus, it is estimated that national demand in 1985 will be three times that of 1975 and in 1990 will be six times the 1975 demand.

In order to develop oil enough to meet this domestic demand and to be able to allocate oil for export as well, it is necessary to immediately determine policies on such areas as exploration, confirmation of underground reserves, and refining and processing of petroleum. An appropriate policy on international cooperation must be worked out in connection with oil development on the basis of the principle of mutual equality. The petroleum and gas industry is a large scale industry which requires complex technology, ranges over many fields and demands heavy investment. Vietnam is approaching oil development with the policy that in the initial stages it will handle by itself those areas it is capable of handling, but will promote development by concluding service contracts with foreign enterprises and over the next several years will expand as far as possible the areas it can handle on its own.

The composition of future energy demand will depend on the state of development of the national economy, but, as shown below, hydroelectric power and coal are considered important.

	1980	1985	1990
Coal	49.5	49.7	38.3
Water Power	4.0	6.8	11.1
Oil	27.1	28.0	26.8
Plants	19.4	15.0	21.8
Atomic Energy	-	.5	2.0

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