

Nation seeks money, technology

Vietnam opening again to West

Associated Press
Written for Canadian Press
HANOI, Vietnam — Vietnam is slowly opening its doors to the West as the government in Hanoi seeks money and technology for postwar reconstruction.

"We have just and reasonable policies," Deputy Foreign Minister Phan Hien said in an interview. "Today, we have need of aid and we shall not refuse it, wherever it comes from, so long as it has no political ties whatsoever."

In the bar of the Thang Loi Hotel, the drinkers are certain to include Soviet technicians, East German women and Polish engineers. But increasingly there are Westerners: a French ship owner, an Australian wool salesman, a British industrialist, perhaps a Canadian oilman.

Vietnam appears to have identified Canada as an immediate source of assistance. The recent invitation to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to film a report on life in both North and South Vietnam was seen by diplomats here as the opening shot in Hanoi's wooing of the Ottawa government.

Similar approaches also are being made to West Germany and Norway.

The Vietnamese "have no alternative but to go for a period of economic recovery," commented one longtime diplomatic observer here. "The people in the North are looking for some improvements in their way of life and the government knows it."

The economy is based more on muscle-power than machines.

At a construction site for the city's flood defenses, workers haul dirt from the river bank to the dikes in baskets suspended from poles across their shoulders.

In the countryside, commune workers stand for hours rhythmically swinging a wooden bucket to scoop water from a canal into the rice paddy. Highways are dotted with heavily-laden carts, each pulled by a peasant.

In the North most food is rationed. The system seems to ensure that a basic supply of essential foods is available to the people at low prices at state stores. At times there are shortages. But at most times there also is additional food on the free market, although prices there for meat, bread or sugar are as much as five times the official level.

Wages are low, although the government is experimenting with productivity bonuses for workers in priority industries. Some of the wealthiest men in Vietnam today are coal miners digging open-cast coal for export to Japan. But those who have money find few things available to buy.

"Certainly our men could afford refrigerators or television sets," the manager at the Ha Tu mine said. "But such things are not available at present."

A visitor to Saigon senses a certain amount of fear among the southerners. They appear to be afraid to be seen talking to foreigners. Many say they will not mail letters to friends abroad in case their loyalty to the new regime should be questioned.

In private conversations, the few that this visitor was able to meet spoke of escape.

Minor campaign problems have plagued Sen. Mondale

By JAMES GERSTENZANG
Associated Press
LOS ANGELES — The candidate was ready to meet dozens of Mexican-American children eating their breakfasts in a special community center program. But when he arrived, most of the children weren't there.

It was typical of what can go wrong in a campaign — and it was just one of a number of things, all minor, that have plagued Sen. Walter F. Mondale since the Democratic vice presidential candidate arrived in California late Saturday night, midway through his first major campaign trip.

Aides say part of the problem is that Jimmy Carter had no base from a primary campaign on which to

draw for his general election campaign in California. Carter was trounced by Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. in the state's primary in June and never put together a strong organization.

Local staff members said they viewed Mondale's visit here as a dry run for future trips — and a chance to work the kinks out of the campaign machinery.

The case of the absent children developed at the Centro Latino in San Francisco's outer Mission district, before Mondale flew to Sacramento Tuesday for a meeting with Brown and then flew here.

When Mondale and his motorcade pulled up to the community center, there were only a dozen youngsters in the entire breakfast area.

Plates of scrambled egg sandwiches and glasses of orange juice went untouched on the rows of empty tables as the candidate patted one child's tummy while posing for photographers, then chatted with community leaders. Mondale has been active in the Senate in work on children's programs.

An official explained that the low turnout was the result of school registration falling on the same day as the senator's visit.

Another problem occurred on Monday, when reporters showed up at 9 a.m. in a small restaurant for a meeting between the senator and labor leaders. The union men showed up at 9:30, Mondale at 10. Everyone had been given a different time for the meeting.

A stationwagon carrying reporters to Mondale's appearances failed three times to start, and a truck carrying baggage to the airport had to be given an emergency start.

The private meeting between Brown and Mondale was to be followed by an open discussion of the closed session in a large briefing room. But instead, Brown decided to hold a news conference with the senator in a crowded corridor outside his office where little could be heard or seen.

Mondale said in the impromptu session that he was "very, very heartened by the fact that we have the most unified campaign in many, many years in California under Gov. Brown's leadership. We have a unity that is unprecedented."

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Sentenced on other charges

Harrises face Hearst kidnap trial

Associated Press
LOS ANGELES — Emily and William Harris, sentenced to 11 years to life in prison, now face a trial in Northern California for the kidnaping of newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst.

The two Symbionese Liberation Army members remained at the Hall of Justice jail here after their sentencing yesterday for kidnaping, robbery and car theft. Authorities said they would be moved to Alameda County later this week for trial on a 19-count complaint stemming from the Feb. 4, 1974, Hearst kidnaping.

The Harrises showed no reaction when Superior Court Judge Mark Brandler urged that they spend a long time in prison. Under California law, he was not permitted to set exact limits on the sentences, and the couple could be released after a short time as six years and eight months.

"It is this court's recommendation to the Adult Authority . . . that the defendants serve an additional and lengthy period of confinement in the state prison," Brandler said.

Harris, 31, and Mrs. Harris, 29, who already had been jailed for nearly one year, delivered impassioned speeches before their sen-

tences were announced. But neither asked for leniency as they took turns speaking from a lectern turned toward spectators and reporters seated behind bulletproof glass.

"I am a revolutionary, and I do not lose hope for the future," said Emily Harris.

"I'm not too impressed by the system of justice," said William Harris.

The charges stemmed from a May 16, 1974, robbery and shooting at an Inglewood sporting goods store and the commandeering of two automobiles for an escape. Miss Hearst has admitted spraying the store with gunfire to help the Harrises flee.

Miss Hearst, an absent co-defendant in the Los Angeles trial, will be tried next January on the same charges that were lodged here against the Harrises. She also awaits sentencing later this month on a San Francisco bank robbery conviction.

The most serious Harris conviction was first-degree robbery, which carries a penalty of five years to life in prison. The two kidnaping convictions carry terms of one to 25 years, and a series of firearm violations added another possible five years to the minimum. Brandler said the sentences would run concurrently.

Chief defense attorney Leonard Weinglass termed the sentences excessive. "For two people who have no prior record, who didn't injure anyone or cause any property damage, the possibility of life is somewhat harsh."

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