setting up an office of foreign workers aimed at controlling and limiting the number of foreign workers in order to protect the interest of the Vietnamese workers.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have just presented to you the actual situation in Vietnam, the national policy and the program of action for 1968 as well as the urgent tasks in the first half of the year.

I shall now explain the proposed budget for fiscal year 1968* required for the implementation of the above mentioned programs.

The preparation of this budget was urged by two contradictory considerations:

The first one is the pressure of the war. The ever increasing expenditures for Defense and Pacification have seriously perturbed the economy of the country. On one hand, the Government must intensify its war efforts and efforts to preserve the national security, on the other, it must draft manpower and resources from other areas to support the above efforts and concurrently to fight the inflationary pressures caused by the war. The 1968 budget has been prepared in accordance with the anti-inflation program begun since the devaluation of the piaster on June 18, 1966.

The second consideration is the need for economic development. We cannot just focus on the present with its fierce war raging on, and not have in mind the reconstruction and development of the Nation once peace is restored.

* The GVN fiscal year begins 1 January and ends December 31.
Considering the above, I shall successively point out the highlights of the estimated expenditures and revenues of the proposed budget.

The total estimated expenditures for 1968 is 95 billion piasters. Compared with 83 billions in 1967, there is an increase of 12 billions. The rate of increase of the estimated 1968 expenditures is 14%, compared to 51% in 1967.

To point out the relative importance of our Nation's programs at the present time, the expenditures can be classified as follows:

- Expenditures related to the war, such as Defense, Security...
- Expenditures reserved for Cultural, Economic and Social programs.
- Expenditures for the various reconstruction and development programs.

The expenditures related to the war increase by 14 billions or 28%.

These allocations take up 66% of the total estimated expenditures of the 1968 budget, compared with 56% in 1967. This increase aims at strengthening the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam with an additional 62,000 soldiers and about 3,000 civilian employees. Besides, all training, logistics, psychological warfare programs will be strongly carried out to create favorable conditions for the efforts to preserve national security and restore Peace.

The 1968 estimated Cultural, Economic and Social Expenditures increase by 3.8 billions or 26%. They take up 20% of the total expenditures of the 1968 budget, compared with 18% in 1967.

In this domain, we have first to consider the Cultural and Education, and the Health branches. Our main objective is to develop agencies, train more technicians and cadres of all levels to broaden our activities in the cities as well as in the rural areas, especially those concerning technical education, popular education, and rural health.
Next, are the economic and financial programs. Their importance does not reflect in the funds allocated to the concerned ministries but in the investment or development projects undertaken with private capital, and under the guidance of these Ministries.

The credits allocated to the various Reconstruction and Development programs increase by 2 billions, or 25%, as compared with the 1967 figures.

The expenditures take up 10% of the total estimated expenditures in 1968, as was the case in 1967.

The allocations for this year's Revolutionary Development program increase by 76% over 1967. The main objectives of this program are to continue to gather the people and build hamlets. 800 additional New Life Hamlets and 1,600 pacified Hamlets will be completed in 1968.

The continuing war raises many urgent social problems which are solved through various urgent or long-range programs of the Ministry of Refugees and Social Welfare. The increase in spending mostly concerns the Government's projects to resettle permanently about 400,000 refugees in the coming year. Besides, there are the programs, both political and social, of the Ministries of Open-Arms and Ethnic Development. All these programs aim at restoring a normal life in the national community for ethnic minorities and returnees. Through the 1968 estimated military and civilian expenditures, the Government shows its determination to:

- Strengthen the fighting efforts of the whole people.
- Reduce to the minimum all administrative operating expenditures.
- Set up the foundation for the reconstruction and development programs in the postwar years.

I shall hereafter present the estimated revenues of the proposed Budget.
Total revenues for 1968 are estimated at 70 billion piasters; compared with 66 billion in 1967 there is an increase of 4 billion. The rate of increase of the 1968 estimated revenues is 6%, a very small increase compared with the 73% increase of 1967.

These estimated revenues consist of 44 billion, from the National resources and 26 billions from the Counterpart Funds.

With regard to the National resources, compared with the 36 billion piasters revenues in 1967, the estimated 1968 revenues increase by 8%.

The majority of these revenues are brought about by imports: custom duties added with perequation taxes amount to 22 billion piasters, that is 50% of the total revenues from the National resources. Progress in the collection of other taxes is not satisfactory.

As for Revenues from the Counterpart Funds, the Commercial Import Program will bring to the Counterpart Funds an estimated revenue of 26 billion piasters. This figure has decreased by 4 billion compared with 1967, because in fiscal year 1968 the imports under American Aid program tend to decrease while the imports with GVN dollars are increasing.

It is worth mentioning that this is the first time since 1962 that the estimated revenues from the national resources, with a record ratio of 63%, exceeds the revenues from the Counterpart Funds which represent only 37% of the total budget revenues.

To sum up, with the total estimated expenditures at 95 billion piasters and the total estimated revenues at 70 billion piasters, the net deficit of the 1968 national budget will be 25 billion piasters.

Compared with the 17 billion piasters gap of 1967, this year's budget deficit is too high. This recalls the 1965 gap of 26.7 billion piasters which caused a serious inflation in the first months of 1966 and which forced the government to decide the devaluation of the piaster.
Under the actual circumstances, the Government cannot cut any spendings which will lessen the war efforts; all other expenditures have already been reduced to the minimum level.

As for Budget Revenues, despite all the Government efforts to fully collect the existing taxes, the revenues from the National Resources do not even make up half of the total Budget expenditures.

All of us must accept still more sacrifices and contribute more to our national expenditures in order to gradually reestablish the Budget equilibrium.

During this fiscal year, the Government will probably have to submit to the National Assembly to vote on a certain number of measures aiming at increasing Budget Revenues to cope with the heavy inflationary pressures in order to avoid the necessity of resorting to the extreme solution of devaluing the piaster once more.

I am convinced that you are all well aware of the general economic and financial situation, and that you will, without delay, pass the entire Budget I have just presented in order to enable the Government to implement immediately its program of action. Furthermore, I also wish that you would respond to the Government's proposals and explain clearly to your constituents that the task of stabilizing the economy is not the sole responsibility of the Government but also a common duty of all the people to safeguard the national economy.

Mr. President of the Senate,
Mr. President of the House,
Distinguished Senators and Representatives,

I have made a frank and factual report on the problems related to the actual situation of the country, the National Policy, the Government's program of actions, and the proposed budget for 1968 as well as its explanation. In order to strictly implement this program of action so as...
to deal with the difficult situation of our country, the Government must have the means, and the most urgent and vital one is the budget. Therefore, I ask the National Assembly to approve the proposed budget for fiscal year 1968 in a short period of time in order for the Government to carry out immediately its planned programs.

The Government is fully aware of the national situation; it is also conscious of its responsibility as well as the dangers and results of inflation when it submits the Budget. The first draft has shown 113 billion for the expenditures. The Executive power has had to reduce sharply the expenditures to arrive at the actual figure. With such a strict proposal, any further cut will make it impossible for us to avoid the disastrous influences on the nation's activities.

Furthermore, because of the war, the economic and social situation of the country is still experiencing many difficulties and challenges, thus requiring timely and efficient measures. Depending on the circumstances, the Government will likely ask the National Assembly to approve a certain number of proposals aiming at reforming the fiscal system, the objective of which is to guarantee the economic and social stabilization and development.

Concerning the problem of ending the war, the Government urges the National Assembly to respond favorably to the efforts in mobilizing financial and human resources so as to soon restore peace to the nation.

Finally, to materialize the aspirations for a truly democratic life of the whole population, the Government asks the National Assembly to lend a hand to the Executive power in achieving the democratic institutions as prescribed by the Constitution. In that spirit, the Government will draft the bills concerning the status of political parties, the status of the press to forward to the National Assembly in the days to come. Bills concerning the Supreme Court, the Inspectorate, the Council of Magistrates, the Council of Economic and Social Affairs, the Council of Cultural and Educational Affairs, the Council of Ethnic Minorities will also successively be sent to the National Assembly.
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The success or failure of the national objectives do not depend entirely on the Government or the Executive power, but also on you as representatives of the Legislative, as well as the entire population.

I believe in your strong patriotism, and I eagerly expect a close cooperation between the Legislative and Executive in order for us to gather more strength and reduce difficulties in our first steps toward building Democracy. I strongly urge the understanding and the sense of duty of all groups and classes, the Army, the People, the Cadres, the Government so as to soon achieve our task to safeguard and rebuild the nation. I earnestly call upon the understanding and the support of all the people in the Free World to share the sufferings and sacrifices that we have to endure for our Independence and Freedom. Furthermore, I ask them to give us full support and help us in our Mission to assure the survival of Vietnam and to contribute to the consolidation of world peace.

Let us pray for an independent, unified, democratic, progressive, and everlasting Vietnam fatherland.

Thank you.
Mr. President of the Senate;
Mr. President of the House;
Distinguished Senators and Representatives;
Ladies and Gentlemen;

I am very pleased to come here today once again to present to you the situation of our country in the past few days.

I have always liked to present the truth, to put forward all my findings with a full sense of responsibility, and honestly propose to you what I consider as useful for the nation and for me to fulfill my mission. On the other hand, I shall always frankly and cooperatively welcome any recommendations to the Government from the National Assembly.

I have always thought that, whether we are the Executive or Legislative powers, we both are the organisms of a unique Republic of Vietnam. Whether Executive or Legislative, we are carrying the mandate of the Nation, and we are also responsible for the survival of the Nation in this critical stage of our history. All of us should be brave to accept our responsibility and actively support each other in order to fulfill our mission.

I should remark here that on February 3, the Presidents of the Senate and the House cooperated with us to review the situation and decide on very urgent measures to cope effectively with the situation. And in the following days, the Secretariats of the two Houses along with the Senators and Representatives as individuals leaders of political groups, chairmen of committees, have shown a strong understanding and cooperation with the Executive branch. They have strongly condemned the Communist activities, warmly supported our efforts and the anti-communist spirit of the people, encouraged the soldiers; and made many constructive and useful recommendations. I sincerely praise your actions. I think that you have contributed much in the big and decisive victories that our Armed Forces and our people have gained and shall continue to gain in the future. I shall present to you now, all the events in the past few days, the measures that the Executive branch have implemented and the actions being carried out so that you and the people can be fully aware.

Mess. Presidents,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In my State of the Nation message before the National Assembly on January 25, 1968 I made the following remark concerning the general situation:

"When the Regional Forces cannot support efficiently the guerrillas and when the main core units are isolated from the Regional Forces their mutual
support no longer exists, thus their general offensive can no longer be realized.

But I also warned you of a final effort of the Communists to use all their propaganda means, and along with the military efforts which had taken place in the first days of Tet south of the Demilitarized Zone and some places in the highlands, they have increased their mortar attacks at the utmost in many places throughout the territory.

I also remarked that:

"Until North Vietnam has to bow totally to decide whether to negotiate or end the war, they still are able to increase their military and sabotage efforts, at least in the course of this year."

There are two reasons for the Communists' actions, one is that they can no longer achieve a total military and political victory, and the other is that they are forced to the point where they should end the war. Thus, the problem is that they do not want to end the war in total defeat, but they must have at least some victories to use as bargains at the negotiation table.

For this reason the Communists decided to launch a general offensive leading to a general uprising at a time they thought as most favorable.

Before launching the "general offensive" during the Tet truce, the enemy has initiated the battle at the Demilitarized Zone by marshalling several NVA Divisions, threatening the Khe-Sanh and Quang-Tri area, and determining to obtain a military victory in this area.

After returning from my visit to this region, I have presented that situation in my Tet address to the Vietnamese People.

- In only one day, January 29, the Communists have violated 37 times the truce they themselves proposed.

- At the same time, evidence showed that the NVA had really prepared to attack the provinces south of the Demilitarized Zone, especially the area around Khe-Sanh and the Laotian border; they also reinforced their supply to support the attack.

- So, the Government of Vietnam and its allies decided effective January 29, not to observe the Tet truce in I Corps Area and the territory south of the city of Vinh.

- In fact, the Communists launched their "general offensive" in I and II Corps Areas during the night of January 29, and in the Capital City, the III and IV Corps Areas during the night of January 30, aiming primarily at seizing power at the local level, and then seizing power throughout South Vietnam.
Following is the development of the situation in various Corps since January 29: During the night of January 29, the aggressors shelled and attacked simultaneously a number of our provincial chief towns and airports in I and II Corps Areas.

They have infiltrated into, and attacked, the cities of Kontum, Qui-Nhon, Pleiku, Nha-Trang, Darlac, Hoi-An, and at the same time shelled the airport of Da-Nang, the 23rd Division Hqs. at Ban-Me-Thuot, the 24th Special Sector Hqs. at Kontum.

The above facts have shown that the Communists have violated the Tet truce, with premeditation and preparation. After the Communists' attack against the civilian population, the Government of Vietnam and its allies were forced to cancel completely the truce, effective 3 p.m. January 30 throughout the territory.

In conjunction with their activities in I and II Corps Areas during the night of January 30, the enemy began to infiltrate into and attacked the Capital City, the Chief towns in III and IV Corps Areas.

At about 2 a.m. January 30, the enemy simultaneously infiltrated into, attacked, and shelled a number of civilian and military installations, such as the Tan Son Nhat Air Base, the Joint General Staff Hqs., the Navy Hqs., the Artillery camp at Go-Vap, Quang-Trung Training Center, the Armor Camp, the Saigon Radio Station, the Independence Palace, the U.S. Embassy, etc...

In the III Corps Area, the enemy has shelled the 3rd Corps Hqs. at Bien Hoa, the Bien Hoa Air Base, the Long Binh Camp, the 25th Division Hqs. at Hau Nghia, the Trang Bang District. They also infiltrated into the provincial chief towns of Binh Duong and Phuoc Tuy.

In the IV Corps Area, the enemy has shelled, attacked, or infiltrated into the provincial chief towns of My Tho, Rach Gia, Soc Trang, Can Tho, An Xuyen, Vinh Long, Kien Hoa, Vinh Binh and Chau Doc.

While the enemy deployed their efforts in the Capital City, the III Corps and IV Corps Areas, they also attacked and shelled, in the I Corps Area, the Duy Xuyen District (Quang Nam), the 1st Division Hqs. at Hue, the Dong Da Training Center at Phu Bai, the 7th Armor Regiment at An Goo, the 3rd Infantry Regiment located at North of Hue, the Non Nuoc Airport (Quang Nam), the outpost at the Hai Van Pass, Quang Ngai City, the Tam Ky District, the 6th Infantry Regiment Hqs., the Sub-Sectors of Quang Tri, Darlac, Kontum and Pleiku.

On February 1, the enemy attacked the provincial chief towns of Binh Duong, Ba Ria, and maintained their pressures on Pleiku, Kontum, Chau Doc, Thua Thien and Darlac.
This has been the development of the enemy's major activities during the first 3 days of the Communist's "general offensive".

During the days which followed, the enemy's activities decreased and were no longer impetuous and coordinated as seen in the first 3 days.

However, the enemy tried to maintain their pressures on Hue; they desperately defended the area inside the "Citadelle", burned the POL depot, occupied the city jail, released 2000 prisoners and destroyed one span of the Truong Tien Bridge. At the same time, the Communists increased their shelling and harassing in the IV Corps Area where Route No. 4 was damaged in several locations.

On February 5, the Khe Sanh Camp was again under enemy attack.

On February 7, the Communists utilized, for the first time, armored vehicles originating from the Laotian territory and attacked the CIDG Camp at Lang Vei on route No. 9, near the Khe Sanh Camp. In the afternoon of February 7, the Lang Vei Camp was lost to the enemy.

As of this morning, in several areas of the territory, the enemy still continued their shelling on a certain number of our installations.

In Hue, our armed forces and our allies have reoccupied most of the important installations; the enemy's activities were reported to be sporadic and only in the outskirt of the city.

In Saigon, the mop-up operations are continuing successfully.

In summary, the enemy's "general offensive" plan has completely been broken by our armed forces and our people, due to the quick and effective reaction of our friendly and allied forces and also due to the valuable cooperation of the population. Our friendly and allied forces continually launched their operations to sweep, pursue and destroy the enemy, inflicting heavy casualties to them in all fields and pushing them out of towns and cities.

However, because of their military defeat, the enemy dispersed themselves into small groups; concealed in populated areas to shell us and to continue their sniper fire; destroyed public facilities such as bridges, power plants, hospitals; burned the population's houses in the cities and in the refugees' camps, in order to cause maximum damage to the civilian population before their withdrawal.

The cumulative casualty figures for the period January 29 - February 9 are as follows:

- 57 -
Friendly forces.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ARVN and National Police</th>
<th>Allied</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Killed</td>
<td>1609</td>
<td>741</td>
<td>2350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wounded</td>
<td>4987</td>
<td>3883</td>
<td>8870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weapons lost</td>
<td>404</td>
<td></td>
<td>404</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enemy forces.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Killed</td>
<td>25,436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detained</td>
<td>5,911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returnees</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weapons lost</td>
<td>6,944</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If we analyze the enemy's activities during the past days, we observe that their "general offensive" plan had been prepared a long time ago, aiming at the following military and political objectives:

The main military objective of the Communists was to achieve a "general offensive" leading to a "general uprising".

But since their main military objective was not obtained, they are now aiming at their secondary objective which is to support the guerilla organizations in the areas surrounding the cities, and to use the guerillas to pin down our forces.

Their military objective was also to expand their controlled areas, to diminish ours, in order to collect more resources for their war needs on one hand, and to blockade the economy in the cities, on the other.

The main political objective of the Communists is an uprising of the population, aiming at overthrowing our constitutional Government in order to establish a so-called "revolutionary" government which advocated the withdrawal from South Vietnam of U.S. and Free World Forces, and the negotiation with the NLF to impose the total domination of Communist Hanoi on South Vietnam. This "revolutionary" government is hidden behind a "Unified Front for the People for Democracy and Peace" that the Communists had begun to establish at Hue and Saigon immediately after the Tet truce aggression.

The enemy's plan consists of two phases:

**Phase 1:** To use Commando groups, sabotage groups, in combination with the militia, to attack and occupy secretly and surprisingly our strategic administrative and military headquarters and our radio stations, if they exist.
Phase 2: To use radio broadcasting and armed propaganda groups in order to instigate the population for mass manifestations whose scheme is peace, coalition and overthrow of the government while their main regular and regional forces complete the military objectives. The Communists also advocated the arming of the population in the cities in order that their "general offensive" had the nature of an uprising movement of the population against the government. The Communists also aimed primarily at attacking the GVN and ARVN, and only had the intention to pin down our allied forces in their actual positions by shelling and harassing actions.

The Communist Plan has been carried out by the enemy who adopted the following strategy and tactics:

**Strategy:** Employ all available forces to attack at all places, in the view of:

- Forcing the friendly forces to defend Saigon and the provincial chief towns.
- Seizing the power in some localities, if possible, to create conditions of negotiation.
- Annihilating our Revolutionary Development program.

**Tactics:**

- Secretly infiltrate weapons and ammunitions into Saigon and provincial chief towns on the occasion of Tet.
- Commando and sabotage units, dispersed into small groups, infiltrated by all means into the marshalling areas where they received weapons and immediately attacked the assigned targets.
- Occupy the above targets by raids or strong attacks. Defend and wait for reinforcement, then attack again.
- If the Communists fail in both phases 1 and 2, they shall and commit sabotage to withdraw.

X X

The Communist's error in the "general offensive".

The Communists have misjudged that the actual situation is "riper than ever" for them to launch a "general offensive" and incite a "general
uprising" of the population.

The reason for this is, on one hand, the Communists thought that the population was ready to listen to their propaganda and, on the other hand, they have miscalculated our fighting potential. Because of those serious and basic errors, the Communists have failed badly in their general offensive scheme. The facts have shown that our armed forces have courageously fought and broken the back of their general offensive and at the same time the population has demonstrated their anti-communist spirit and their non-cooperation with the enemy; instead, the population has closely cooperated with the government and the armed forces.

In brief, defeated in their scheme of a general offensive and a general uprising, the enemy is now forced to withdraw its main forces from the cities. But they will unfold their conspiracy to support, organize, and arm the guerillas in order to pin down our main forces. They might maintain a number of units to help the guerillas harass the cities and shrink our controlled areas, and blockade our economy.

The enemy main forces might repeat their attacks in order to forge advantageous positions whereby they reserve the initiative. At the same time, they will pin down and gradually destroy our forces, secure and widen their controlled areas, block our pincer strategy, namely the search-and-destroy operations and the Revolutionary Development Program.

In conjunction with the above activities, the enemy might launch an armed insurgency in the rural areas. The guerillas, with the help of their local forces, will simultaneously attack the districts, hamlets, and New Life Hamlets. This "point" - and - "faces" strategy will be carried out by Communists in a selected number of weak provinces or vital bases.

In summary, after the failure of their general offensive, the enemy will:

First, maintain guerillas around the cities, so as to continue their shelling, harassing, and propaganda, and also to pin down a number of our units. At the same time they will try at the utmost to destroy the communication links to create difficulties to our supply system and our economy.

Second, launch some all-out battles, possibly in the Demilitarized Zone, the Highlands, in order to obtain some important military victories which might be used as political pressure. If they can not succeed, they will at least be able to pin down a sizeable number of our units and allied forces in the areas far from the populated delta, forcing us to abandon other places, and creating difficulties for our Revolutionary Development Program.

Third, try to reoccupy a part of the rural areas which they have lost to our Revolutionary Development Program in the past few years, in order to have resources and manpower to replace their combat losses and to continue
the fighting.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the recent general offensive of the Communists the population have suffered heavy casualties.

The inhumane aim of the Communists was to invade the populated areas, herd the population and use them as shield for their attacks or their retreat, fight from house to house in order to cause the destruction of the population's properties and raise difficulties for the Government.

Our Armed Forces were particularly cautious in preserving the lives and properties of the population and kept a slow pace of progress in order to avoid unnecessary and excessive destruction.

However, to counter the inhumane destruction of the Communists who set fire to the houses and took advantage of the confusion to retreat, or opened fire onto the population, our Armed Forces had to resort to drastic measures to expel them out of the populated areas in order to protect the lives of the soldiers and the population.

As of the afternoon of February 8, the interim record of civilian casualties in 31 provinces and the Capital is:

- 3,071 dead
- 7,945 wounded
- 189,650 refugees
- 21,089 houses heavily damaged
- 1,500 houses lightly damaged.

The casualties figures for the Saigon-Gia Dinh area stand at 129,008 refugees, 9,000 houses heavily damaged. The most heavily hit areas are: Pham The Hien (8th Precinct), Rach Lo Gom (7th Precinct), Binh Tien (6th Precinct).

So far, Kien Hoa province has suffered the most. However, we cannot yet assess the damages of Thua Thien and Hue.

Besides the above civilian casualties, the soldiers' families living in dependents quarters in the Saigon-Gia Dinh area (Xom Moi - Go Vap) and the other cities have been mercilessly murdered by the Communists.

As examples of the blood-thirsty Communists' barbarism we can cite the case of two armor officers and their families:

- Lieutenant-Colonel Huynh Ngoc Diep, his old mother, wife, and two children;
- Lieutenant-Colonel Nguyen Tuan, his wife and six children, have been assassinated to the last without regards to innocent children.

- Moreover, the interim record shows 360 military dependents dead and 400 wounded, over 1,000 military houses burned. In most places the destruction was total.

Following are the measures that the Government had taken in order to protect the lives and properties of the population:

a/ Martial Law has been promulgated over the whole territory of the Republic of Vietnam.

b/ The Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces and police together with the Allied Forces have strongly and successfully counter-attacked in the Capital and the cities under Communist attack. At the present time the Republic of Vietnam and Allied Forces are in control of the situation everywhere.

c/ There still are a number of Communists scattered in the populated areas keeping on terrorizing, assassinating, indoctrinating the population and burning houses; our forces must therefore carefully clear every block, every hamlet in order to gradually bring back order and reduce as much as possible the damages to the population.

d/ The population in the fighting zones have been evacuated to secure areas with the active help of the civilian organizations such as the Red Cross, the religious, civic action, popular, youth, students groups.

e/ Providing the refugees with shelter, medical assistance and supply.

f/ Shortening the curfew hours progressively in order to bring back a normal life to the cities.

g/ Restricting traffic by day and night, and in the areas where the Communists are still hiding:

- Control traffic and pedestrians.
- Prohibit any gatherings and strikes.
- Close the public recreation facilities.
- In Gia Dinh alone except for the center of town, the 24 hour curfew is still in effect.

- Thanks to the strict control measures and the discipline of the population, security and order have been quickly restored.
h/ Moreover, with the support and cooperation of the population, the Armed Forces and police have arrested an important number of hiding communists and seized many weapons.

Using the Open Arms policy, the Government has exhorted through propaganda leaflets the Communists to come back to the National side.

i/ Security measures being enforced:

- Restrict the traffic from outside into the Capital, control the people in the streets;

- Continue the search and clear operations and police operations in the areas where suspected Communists are still hiding.

- Continue the military operations to relieve the enemy pressure on the Capital and cities under Communist attack (Hue - Dalat).

j/ Measures in order to preserve security:

On account of the situation, the military authorities have been given the power to enforce the necessary measures to protect public security and order. Therefore, there are many restrictions on traffic, gathering, public recreation and the freedom of the press. Civilians must turn all weapons and ammunition into the Authorities, infringements of national order and security will be dealt with by the Military Courts under emergency procedure. However, thanks to the gradual restoration of security, the curfew hours have been shortened depending on the areas. If the population cooperates in soon restoring total security, the Government will progressively lift the above restrictions and end the Martial Law enforced on the whole country.

Committee for the Relief of War Victims.

On February 3, 1966 I have signed a decree establishing the Committees for the Relief of War Victims on the central as well as the regional level, and the Vice-President has been appointed to organize and direct those Committees.

In the Corps areas, the Capital, the provinces and cities, upon necessity, a local Committee will be formed.

The assignments of these Committees are:

- immediate relief for the war victims;

- help them back to a normal life;

- solve the supply problem;
- reinforce the self-defense system of the population.

As of February 9, 1968, 31 out of the 48 provinces and cities (except the Capital) have formed local Committees, and started operation.

**War victims relief and refugee operations:**

As of yesterday afternoon, the refugees figures are:

- 63,954 in 52 temporary shelters for the Saigon area;
- 65,554 in 24 temporary shelters in Gia Dinh;

In every temporary shelter, there are RD, Civic Action, Medical, Information and Psy-War cadres living right with the refugees to assist them.

In the future more refugee camps will be created depending on the needs.

As of yesterday afternoon the total of funds and materials provided by the relief and Social Welfare Ministry to the relief centers in the whole country, amounts to:

- 46,000,000 piasters;
- 2,004 tons of rice;
- 27,158 mats;
- 7,450 blankets;
- 24,967 condensed milk cans;
- 34,483 cans of fish;
- 8,000 cans of meat;
- 7,348 liters of nuoc-mam;
- 3,224 cooking sets;

The official and private organizations in response to the Government appeal have sent to the Relief and Social Welfare Ministry 1,495,195 piasters and goods such as rice, cloth, used garments.

To the population of the Capital, water is an essential daily need and the Government has succeeded in maintaining the water supply.

With regards to the food supply, the stocks of staple products such as
rice, sugar, meat, will last 2 to 3 months.

With regards to public health, in the Saigon - Gia Dinh area, the medical organisations have vaccinated over 10,000 people, sprayed DDT at the refugees' temporary shelter, purified drinking water for the Capital.

The Information and Psy-War efforts have been pushed at a fast pace; 25,000,000 leaflets of all sorts have been dropped including proselyting leaflets for enemies and civilians. 105 aerial information broadcast sorties were made.

Although the National Broadcasting Center had been heavily damaged by the Communist attack and is under repair, the radio broadcast all over the country is being assured through the National and Armed Forces Network and the population all over the country is regularly informed.

The few local radio stations which had momentarily ceased broadcasting in the first days have now resumed operations.

Mess. Presidents,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have just presented to you the Communist activities and conspiracies as well as our measures to cope with them. Throughout this presentation you have realized that in the actual challenge we are in full control of the situation. Here also you can realize that the Communists have used up all their available capability and unfold all their cruel plans with the hope to force advantageous positions in the military and political fields.

To cope with such an impetuous and fierce enemy, we should use up all our energy and enforce all measures considered as essential to assure success.

With regard to our efforts, we have gained good results in the past few days. As for spirit, the Executive and Legislative powers, the whole population, the Government and the Army, all have shown a unanimous and closed solidarity. Concerning our capability, all groups and classes of the society have contributed all their energy in the common effort of the nation, from destroying the enemy by weapons to encouraging and assisting the victims of war.

Concerning the measures which were enforced, you have realized that the Government had to strongly implement all the measures considered as essential but, also the Government had to restrain itself into applying only the measures considered as indispensable in dealing with the enemy.

As I have told you and the people many times, our situation is extremely critical. We have to fight the Communists to safeguard Independence and
Freedom but we also have to build at any cost a truly democratic regime. Though they are related, the two duties mentioned above differ in many points. Our anticomunist movement will be useless if we cannot build a free and truly democratic regime. On the other hand, if we let ourselves be tied by the perspective of Democracy and Freedom, if we dare not implement the appropriate measures, then the Communists will exploit it as a useful means for them to expand their aggression and terror campaigns, thus bringing the danger of a Communist dictatorship nearer to us and rendering impossible a true Democracy and Freedom.

The Government itself had fully realized those difficulties, and for that reason, it had both to be energetic and to restrain itself. However, I am deeply encouraged when I realize that the Senators and Representatives are fully aware of that critical situation. In the heavy task of dealing with the actual critical situation, I am very confident due to your understanding, support, and frank cooperation in the first minutes and throughout the past few days. Until now, all the Communists' efforts have failed in all places. However, the result of this offensive can still be felt for a long time. As I have pointed out, the Communists are still able to repeat their conspiracy in 1968. In the face of this situation, I believe that the understanding and cooperation of all the powers and groups of the Nation, particularly between the Executive and Legislative powers, need to be consolidated and developed so as to be increasingly lasting and strong. I strongly urge all of us to contribute the most of our efforts in consolidating and developing this spirit of understanding and cooperation.

I sincerely expect the cooperation between the Executive and Legislative powers, first as a moral support in principle and last materialized into legislative acts, with a decisive and direct influence on the situation.

The cruel and reckless attacks of the Communists have shown us more clearly the immediate dangers which need to be solved; and they also show us the demands we should fulfill.

For this reason, the Government had to decide immediately on a number of Security measures aiming at dealing energetically and directly with the situation, preventing the disaster from spreading, and also at protecting the people effectively and safeguarding the national order and security.

Those measures are a strict minimum for a war time; they were not fully enforced in the past because the situation did not necessitate a strict enforcement.

Apparently, they somewhat violate the rights of Freedom and Democracy. However, the reality of the past days makes us realize that if we do not have those measures, the situation will become so critical that it will
be hard to reassert our control.

All of us strongly believe and actively fight for Freedom and Democracy, but, above all, we need to safeguard this Nation, and to maintain our constitutional regime. If we cannot safeguard the Nation or maintain our constitutional regime, and if we let the Communists unfold their conspiracy, then all the proclamations on Freedom and Democracy will simply be useless.

As I have presented, the Government will strongly enforce every necessary measure, but it also will strictly restrain itself applying the essential measures to a sufficient degree in dealing with the situation. It is in that spirit that the measures mentioned above have been decided upon.

And I am once more deeply encouraged by the unanimous approval of the Senate and the House.

I am fully aware that we have a Constitution; the minimum measures necessary to cope with a critical situation of the Nation do not mean that the Constitution is no longer in use.

On the contrary, those measures are indispensable to the Government in stabilizing the situation, the confidence of the people so as to restore as soon as possible normal life for the people and to protect and enforce the Constitution.

With regards to Defense, in order for us to deal effectively and in a timely manner with the situation, it is natural to increase the number of our soldiers as planned earlier, but now we have to proceed rapidly in order to meet the demand of the war. For this reason, the Ministry of Defense will have to strictly enforce the Partial Mobilization Law, promptly carry out the draft call so as to fulfill our plan ahead of schedule.

Along with those laws, the Ministry of Defense will have to enforce the following measures:

- Delay the discharge of military personnel of all ranks except those discharged on grounds of health;
- Strengthen in every aspect the defense forces by immediately recalling the veterans with less than 5 years of service and still in the mobilization are brackets;
- Draft all young men under the partial mobilization age brackets sooner than originally scheduled.

Besides, the following 2 programs of urgent actions will also be carried out: they are the military training program for students and civil servants;
All civil servants from 45 years of age down will receive a special military training and will be armed to help the Army in order to protect their offices, or they will be civil defense cadres at their residing places so as to guide the people, secure their safe-being in their respective wards in case of natural disaster and political turmoil, and to be able to command a civilian fighting force, thus protecting the life and fortunes of the citizens.

All schoolboys, students from 17 years of age up will receive a military training program in conjunction with their academic curriculum so that, when the circumstances require they will be ready to fight with the soldiers; and in the future, upon graduation, they will become reserve officers of the Army.

All the programs I have mentioned above have been outlined in the Government's program of actions which I have submitted to you earlier in my State of the Nation on January 25, 1968.

Now, on account of the situation and the urgent demand I sincerely hope that you will approve those measures in order for the Government to thoroughly implement them.

Concerning the implementation of the National Policy and the Government's program of actions which I submitted before the National Assembly in my address of January 25, I want to confirm again today the decision of the Government to continue the strict implementation of the program in all aspects: Building of Democracy - Solving the war, and Reforming the Society despite the critical condition which our nation is undergoing. However, I need your total support in order to solve the actual difficulties created by the political turmoil, as well as the major difficulties we will have to face in the beginning of this decisive year. Thus, your prompt approval of the budget for fiscal year 1968 is highly needed so as to give the Government the necessary means to carry out the urgent programs and solve immediately the existing problems.

I wish to fix the end of February as the deadline for you to pass the proposed budget for 1968.

Besides, due to the special situation in this decisive year and in addition to the problems created today as well as in the near future by the determined and maximum efforts put forth by the enemy to strive toward the final victory, the urgent and special needs to increase our war potential in every field will arise and could be met if and only if the Government has all the means, ready and sufficient, to deal with those problems in an efficient manner.

Thus, I would like to request the National Assembly to especially empower the Executive to decide and promulgate by Decree - Laws all the economic and financial measures considered indispensable, for a period of one year.
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I had carefully explained this point in the part dealing with the Budget appropriations, in my State of the Nation Message of January 25. Then, I had called upon your understanding to approve the 1968 Budget in a short time. At the same time, I had also warned you that, on account of the war, the social and economic situation of the country will require efficient and urgent measures and therefore, the Government will likely request the National Assembly to approve a certain number of fiscal measures, in order to ensure the stability and the development of the National Economy and Society.

Furthermore, I am sure that the current situation and the difficulties which will arise in the months to come are strong arguments in favor of my special requests mentioned above.

Even though these special powers are vested upon the Executive branch by the National Assembly, I always believe in the mutual understanding and close cooperation between the Executive and Legislative branches. My policy is to maintain consultations between the Executive and Legislative branches prior to the promulgation of any measures.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have just made a sincere and factual report on the situation of the country and concurrently, I also have proposed some measures which I sincerely hope will receive your earnest and wholehearted support.

To my fellow country men, especially to those living in the areas which were under the Communist attacks, I would like to take this opportunity to convey to you all my sincere condolence.

I pray for those innocent war victims and sincerely wish to share the burden with those who have suffered, and those who were separated from their loved ones.

The Communists often claim that they are fighting for the welfare of the population. Their propaganda could not convince anyone and their actions during the last few days incriminated themselves. They have shown their true color. The Communists did not care for the traditional Tet ceremony. While everyone, every family long for a reunion, the Communists did not hesitate to destroy the cities, the populated areas, and to murder the population. They have used the promise for a truce during Tet to fit their scheme to work toward a surprise victory.

They disregarded their promise and did not care about their moral responsibility. Moreover, after they have failed in their attacks, with none of the military and political objectives attained, they had killed without reserve, set fire and destroyed all they could, and they did not care
about the interest of the population. This is another proof that the Government and the Army are not the only enemies of the Communists. The population is also considered by them as their enemy.

The treacherous actions by the Communists are to be incriminated and objected. The high morale and discipline of our population are to be commended. Everywhere, the population have disregarded all temptations and plots offered or forced upon them by the Communists; they have behaved admirably; they have well observed discipline and they have not once cooperated with the enemy, and have given a hand to the Government and the Army in their mission of eradicating the enemy. In many places, especially in Saigon, the population organized into groups to serve as Civil Defense. That great spirit is to be commended and encouraged to develop.

I urgently call upon the population to cooperate closely with the Authority and the Armed Forces, to observe the strict discipline measures, so that we can make a forward stride toward our victory, so that the Communists' plots will not occur again. Then, the population will not have to bear again the hardships caused by the treacherous Communists.

Throughout the recent events, besides the mutual understanding and close cooperation between the Executive and Legislative branches, between the Government and the Population, I also would like to commend various religious, social, political organizations and personalities of all social strata. With their differences left aside, the above organizations and personalities have either proclaimed their condemnation or actually contributed their efforts in the close cooperation with the officials, they have helped in trying to solve the current and urgent problems which have arisen, especially the problem of helping the war victims.

The Government sincerely wishes to remember those generous acts and calls upon the population to work toward the important national efforts.

Our Nation belongs to us, all of us, and in the difficult time ahead, we have no right to waste our resources, especially, we should not, for a minor difference, stand aside and wait. We should contribute to the best of our ability to the service of the Nation and the Population.

To the Allied Forces and civilian organizations which have helped efficiently the Government and the RVNAF in their efforts to destroy the enemy as well as to help our people during the last few days, I would like to express the gratitude of the Nation and my own.

One of the Communist propaganda themes was that the U.S. Army had helped the Communists in trying to force the formation of a Coalition Government. That theme is an often used, malicious tactic which aims to break the monolithic bloc formed by our forces and those of our Allies.
To the Allies who have sent their troops to fight in Vietnam, I would like to convey my deepest gratitude for their understanding and their solid and staunch support in helping us to preserve our independence and our democratic regime. I certainly hope that the recent Communists' actions will help our Allies as well as other Nations, the world over, to recognize the actual nature and the objectives of the Communists.

The more they get to know the nature and the objectives of the Communists, the more our Allies and other freedom loving countries will understand and approve the firm and resolute position of our country. We have to deal firmly with the enemy not because we are belligerent, but because the Communists are a stubborn and malicious enemy. For them what they have been calling as Peace is a trump card in their war strategy. An example is the recent Tet truce. They have transformed it into the bloodiest campaign ever.

I wish to call upon the Allies and other freedom loving Nations to size up the difficulties our Nation is encountering and to understand the position of the Republic of Vietnam. I hope that they all will support wholeheartedly our position in any situation which may come up.

The Government of the Republic of Vietnam wishes to assert its staunch and solid position. I have requested a few governments and some important personalities to find the most efficient way to transmit to Hanoi my standpoints. They are:

1. As a leader elected by the people of the South I call upon the moral responsibility of the North Vietnamese government to cease its aggression, to put an end to the long sufferrance of the Vietnamese nation, in the South as well as in the North.

2. The Vietnam problem ought to be solved by the North and South government themselves.

3. I stand ready to meet the Hanoi government to discuss the peace restoration whenever Hanoi gives some indication of its goodwill.

Up to this day, there is no result whatsoever.

However, through their ever blatant and increasingly overt aggression and their treacherous attempts during the Tet truce all over South Vietnam, the Communists from the North have shown that they still nurture the hope for a total victory, military as well as well political in South Vietnam or at least for a few military successes to use them as a bargain at a conference table in exchange for some political concessions.

As long as the Communists do not change their mind and their treacherous practices, I feel that the Allies:
1. Should not trust the peace declarations of the Communists.

2. Should not fall into the Communists' trap which is to stop our self defense actions, especially to stop the bombing in the North, then to suffer heavier casualties and drag the war further instead of moving toward peace.

3. Should, on the contrary, keep on punishing the stubborn aggressors to open their eyes.

4. Should keep on showing our good will for peace, keep on opening the door for peace, for the Communists will not move toward a frank and honest peace until they realize that they can no longer win militarily and their forces are totally depleted.

Finally, to help the numerous war victims during the recent communist attacks, I also wish to call upon the various organizations all over the world, for their intense help, to relieve the hardship borne by the population. I would like to call attention to the fact that the Republic of Vietnam has been supporting a heavy load in the preservation of world peace. What we are fighting in Vietnam, we are fighting not only to preserve our Nation from falling into the Communists' hands, we are also fighting for the interest of Democracy to prevent the Communists' expansion in the World.

Mr. President of the Senate,  
Mr. President of the House,  
Distinguished Senators and Representatives,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the history of our long and arduous struggle against the war supported and directed by the North Viets, the first few days of the new lunar year which we have endured can be counted as the most decisive and glorious days ever.

By decisive, I mean this: It is the first time that the Communists have committed all their full armed forces in their general offensive all over the country. The attacks are daring, foolhardy and they are characterized by a last surge of efforts, without regard for casualties.

By glorious, I mean this: In this decisive and strenuous challenge, we have, one one hand, blunted the enemy military spearheads, destroyed the great part of the enemy main forces. On the other hand, we have developed within the Population, the Army, an unified and solid spirit of cooperation which is aimed at fighting against the common enemy and to preserve the Nation.

The military victories and successes since January 30, 1968 are tremendous. Nevertheless, the political achievements are also important, by all means. In this challenge, all of us, the Executive and the Legislative Branches, the Government and the Population, the Soldiers and the Civilians, we have shown our solidarity, our unyielding, unshaken spirit and determination. We all know how to concentrate all our efforts, we are ready to accept our
responsibilities and if needed even sacrifice our lives. All of our efforts are concentrated toward the destruction of the enemy, and the protection of the Second Republic.

The close cooperation between the Executive and the Legislative branches, between the Population the Government and the Army, during the decisive recent fights is an encouraging sign to be based upon to guide our future efforts. That sign also indicates that the cause of our struggle is clearer than ever. This also indicates that the young and growing Second Republic is strong enough to withstand and to overcome victoriously the attacks in all fields.

In that spirit, I would like to ask you to pray with me for the solidarity of the whole population on their road toward an early and total victory over the Communists' aggression.

Thank you.
Arrete No. 261-ND/Th.T/CS of March 5, 1968, determining organization and functions of the Directorate General of Civil Service

THE PRIME MINISTER,

Considering the Constitution of April 1st, 1967;

Considering Decree No. 5-a/TT/SL dated November 9, 1967 defining the composition of the Government;

Considering Decree No. 6-SL/Th.T/VP dated November 17, 1967 establishing the Directorate General of Civil Service;

A R R E T E S:

Art. 1 - The organization and functions of the Directorate General of Civil Service are determined as follows:

Art. 2 - The Directorate General of Civil Service is in charge of all matters concerning Personnel Administration and Legislation for public agencies throughout the country:

- studying and submitting to the Prime Minister proposals on personnel policy, measures for Civil Service improvement relating to personnel management and any method to increase employees' productivity;

- making survey and proposals on principles and basic regulations of personnel management;

- giving agreement to Ministries in the organization of cadres;

- administering common cadres personnel, technical cadres of category A and cadres attached to the Prime Minister's Office;
- following-up and controlling the personnel management in all ministries to secure conformity in the application of law and regulations;

- planning and submitting personnel training programs; organizing general training Courses for personnel of all categories and specific training courses for administrative employees;

- encouraging technical agencies in the training field;

- making survey on relations among offices, between public agencies with the people, and submitting proposed improvement measures to the Prime Minister;

- keeping personnel files and establishing statistics on all personnel throughout the country.

Art. 3 - The Director General for Civil Service is assisted by a Deputy General who will replace him in his absence.

Art. 4 - The Directorate General of Civil Service is composed of the following:

- Private Secretary Bureau
- Administrative and Accounting Service
- Research and Legislation Directorate
- Personnel Administration Directorate
- Training and Public Relations Directorate
- Records and Statistics Service.

I. Private Secretary Bureau:

Art. 5 - The Private Secretary Bureau is headed by a chief of Bureau and has the following functions:

- receiving and dispatching confidential correspondence,
- examining particular matters,
- centralizing and submitting confidential correspondence for signature,
- keeping classified records.

II. Administrative and Accounting Service:

Art. 6 - The Administrative and Accounting Service headed
by a Chief of Service, is composed of 3 Bureaus and a typing Pool, with these functions:

Correspondence Bureau:
- receives, dispatches ordinary correspondence,
- gives information to the public,

Administrative Bureau:
- performs all general administrative operations relating to the Directorate General
- assures internal security
- centralizes and submits ordinary correspondence for signature
- makes arrangements for and follows-up the publication of basic texts prepared by the Directorate General after they have been approved or signed
- reviews newspapers and gets in touch with other Directorates and Services to answer all inquiries relating to the Directorate General
- makes reports on the activities of the Directorate General

serves as liaison between the Directorate General and other agencies.

Personnel and Accounting Bureau:
- administers the Directorate General's Employees and keeps their personnel records
- provides all the usual administrative services such as budgeting, salary, material, inventory, properties and vehicles, supply and social works.

Typing Pool:
- attached to the Chief of Service, is in charge of typing
and mimeographing all drafts of the Directorate General.

III. Research and Legislation Directorate:

Art. 7 - The Research and Legislation Directorate is headed by a Director, classified as a Director in charge of several Services.

It involves a number of specialists, assistant specialists and a library manager with these tasks:

- studying civil service policy, drafting programs and plans for policy implementation,

- collecting and studying civil service system data of foreign countries to implement the best points into the Vietnamese Civil Service System,

- drafting, revising interpreting laws and rules applied to all career and non-career personnel, including war veterans, their children or widows, war handicapped persons, and members of recognized ethnic minority groups,

- cooperating with government lawyers or with the agency delegated to plead legal matters concerning the direct administered personnel of the Directorate General; examining appeals and grievances relating to Civil Service,

- organizing and managing the Directorate General's Library.

Art. 8 - The library is run by a librarian having the position of a Bureau Chief.

IV. Personnel Administration Directorate:

Art. 9 - The Personnel Administration Directorate administers common cadres, technical cadres of category A and special cadres attached to the Prime Minister's Office; controls the management of technical cadres personnel from category B1 down and non-career personnel assumed by Ministries.
This Directorate headed by a Director, is composed of
3 Services with these functions:

Art. 10 - Common cadres Service

This Service is divided into three Bureaus:

Bureaus 1 and 2: administer common cadres personnel
(except disciplinary actions and promotions).

Bureau 3: assumes disciplinary actions and promotions
for all common cadres personnel:
- organizes competitive examinations to recruit common
cadres employees.

Art. 11 - Technical cadres Service:
- administers technical cadres personnel of category A
and cadres attached to the Prime Minister's Office.

This Service is divided into 2 Bureaus: Bureaus 4 and 5.

Art. 12 - Control Service:
- follows-up and controls personnel management performed
by Ministries to assure conformity in the application of
personnel management regulations.

This service is divided into 3 Bureaus:

Bureau 6: recruitment and appointments.

Bureau 7: admittance into cadre, conversion of rank, of
cadre, leaves and transfers.

Bureau 8: promotions, disciplinary actions, compensation,
resignation, retirement and maintenance in Service.

V. Training and Public Relations Directorate:

Art. 13 - This Directorate is headed by a Director, classi-
ified as a Director in charge of several services, and
assisted by a number of specialists and assistant specialists with these functions:

a. **Pre-entry and In-Service Training:**

- Planning employee training programs to meet immediate and future needs;

- Organizing general training courses for civil servants and specific training courses for common cadres personnel;

- Keeping liaison with University Faculties and Professional Institutions to recommend them to teach subjects necessary to students who want to enter the civil service, cooperating with the National Institute of Administration to insure the maximum utilization of facilities to meet training requirements of Ministries;

- Assisting Ministries in determining their training needs, and establishing training programs responsive to these needs;

- Keeping coordination with the Directorate General of Planning to follow-up the utilization of Foreign Aid facilities in the training field;

- Collaborating with the Culture and Education Ministry for employees training in foreign countries.

b. **Public Relations:**

- Studying policy and measures to improve relations among agencies, and between public offices with the public;

- In charge of all matters concerning Union or Associations of employees;

- Making surveys in helping government employees substantially: supply, housing, mutual credits, loans, health protection, social activities, sound recreation, etc...
Art. 14 - The number of specialists and assistant specialists mentioned in Articles 7 and 13 above is fixed at 5 specialists and 5 assistants for the Research and Legislation Directorate, 4 specialists and 4 assistants for the training and Public Relations Directorate.

This number can be increased if required by Civil Service needs.

Art. 15 - Specialists will get the position allowances of Service Chief; assistant specialists will get the position allowances of Bureau Chiefs as in the Prime Minister's Office.

VI. Records and Statistics Service:

Art. 16 - The Records and Statistics Service is responsible for keeping personnel files of all employees throughout the country, establishing statistics on all personnel, keeping archives. It is directed by a Chief of Service and divided into 2 Bureaus:

1. Bureau of Records: keeps personnel files of all employees and keeps up-to-date these files; keeps all records of the Directorate General.

2. Bureau of Statistics: maintains personnel fiches of all employees; establishes statistics and makes reports every three months as to the total number of employees, categories and other necessary details.

Art. 17 - Ministers, Secretaries of State, Under Secretaries and the Director General for Civil Service are in charge of the execution of this Arrete, as far as their respective duties are concerned.

Saigon, March 5, 1968

s/ Nguyen van Loc
Pseudonym: Son Khanh - Nguyen Tu Viet

Profession: Lawyer

Date and place of birth: August 21, 1922 in Long Chau, Vinh Long Province (South Vietnam)

Education:
- Licentiate of Law, Montpellier, 1954
- Graduated from Institute of Administration and Finance, Montpellier, 1955

Marital status: Married, 2 sons

Former positions:
- Lawyer at Saigon Court of Appeal, since 1955
- Lecturer at National Institute of Administration, since 1955
- Chairman of Army-People Council, November 1966
- Vice Chairman of Committee for Drafting Electoral Laws, May 1966
- Commissioner for Information, Political Affairs Committee of the Army-People Council, since July 1966

Associations, Clubs, Unions:
- Board member of the Saigon Bar Association
- Chief of Information Section of War Victims Relief Committee (Vietnam Red Cross)
- Advisor of the Union for Human and Civil Rights of Vietnam
- Secretary General of the Inter-School Association

Publications:
- Giai Cap (Social Classes), novel, Song Chung, Saigon, 1948
- Tan Binh (Remnants), novel, Saigon, 1948
- Loan (Rebellion), novel, Saigon, 1949
- Bong Ngay Xanh (Youthful Days), collected poems, Saigon, 1960
- Dien Dan Tu Do (Free Tribune), collected poems, 1966
CHAIRMAN, PRIME MINISTER'S COMMITTEE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM

and

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATION RECTOR

Dr. NGUYEN VAN BONG

Profession: University Professor

Date and place of birth: June 2, 1929, Go Cong (South Vietnam)

Religion: Buddhist

Education:
- Doctor of Law, Paris, 1960
- Agregé in Public Law, Paris, 1962

Marital status: Married, 3 children

Other current positions:
- Assistant Dean, Faculty of Law, Saigon University, 1962
- Member, Council of Notables, 1964

Publications:
- Luat Hien Phap va Chinh Tri Hoc (Constitutional Law and Political Science), Saigon, 1967
- Frequent newspaper and magazine articles on Government reform.
SECRETARY OF STATE

IN CHARGE OF RELATIONS WITH THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Professor NGUYEN VAN TUONG

Profession: University Professor

Date and place of birth: May 5, 1931, Saigon (South Vietnam)

Education:
- Doctor of Law, Saigon University, 1965

Marital status: Married, 3 children

Former positions:
- Officer, RVNAF, 1951-1958
- Executive Officer, National Assembly, 1958-1963
- General Manager, Council of Notables, 1963-1964
- Director of Cabinet, Prime Minister's Office, 1964-1965
- Deputy Commissioner General of Interior, 1965-1966
- Professor of Political and Administrative Sciences, National Institute of Administration, Saigon 1966-1967
- Special Commissioner for Administrative Affairs, July 1966 to November 9, 1967

Decorations:
- Chuong My Boi Tinh (Merit Medal) 1st Class

Publications:
- Doctoral dissertation La Democratie en Asie
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Dr. TRAN VAN DO

Profession: Doctor of Medicine

Date and place of birth: November 15, 1903, Phu Ly (North Vietnam)

Education:
- Doctor of Medicine, Paris University, France, 1931

Marital status: Married, 1 child

Former positions:
- Director, Military Medical Corps, 1951-1954
- Leader of Viet Nam Delegation to Geneva Conference, 1954
- Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Ngo dinh Diem Government, 1954-1955
- Deputy Prime Minister in the Phan huy Quat Government, 1965

Present position:
- Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Nguyen cap Ky government, June 1965; consecutively in the Nguyen van Loc government, 9 November 1966

Associations, Clubs, Unions:
- President, Anti Tuberculosis League, since 1956
- President, Vietnamese Medical Association, since 1957
- President, Association for Assistance to Flood Victims in Central Vietnam, 1964
- Honorary Chairman, Vietnam Veterans Association
- Honorary Chairman, Association for the Protection of Orphans
DEFENSE

Lt General NGUYEN VAN VY

Profession: Military Officer

Date and place of birth: January 16, 1916 at Hanoi

Religion: Buddhist

Education:

- Baccalaureate, II Part, Hanoi 1938
- Studies of Economy and Social Welfare, Hanoi University, 1940
- Graduated Chief of Staff, Paris, 1951

Marital status: Married, 6 children

Former positions:

- Chief of Military Cabinet for Chief of State Bao Dai
- Commander of Coastal Regions
- Concurrently General Inspector of Military Expenses and Chief of the General Joint Staff, ARVN
- Political exile in France 1954-1963
- Chief of Quang Trung Training Center
- Chief of the Central Training Center
- Chief of General Joint Staff ARVN
Profession: Military Officer (Lieutenant General) RVNAF

Date and place of birth: November 11, 1918, Cao Bang (North Vietnam)

Religion: Buddhist

Education:
- Baccaulaureate, II Part, Albert Sarraut High School, Hanoi
- Graduate, Tong Officers School, North Vietnam, 1940
- Graduate, Higher School of Staff, Paris, 1953
- Graduate, Staff and Command College, Fort Leavenworth, USA, 1958

Marital status: Married, 6 children

Former positions:
- Commander, IV Military District - 1955-1958
- Chief of Staff, Special Military Staff, Defense Ministry, 1959-1960
- Deputy Chief of Joint General Staff for Logistics Affairs, 1961-62
- Commander, 22nd Infantry Division, 1963-1964
- Director, Directorate of Military Security - 1965
- Minister of Information and Psychological Warfare in the Phan tuy Quat Government, from February to June 1965
- Chief of Staff, RVNAF, 1965-1966

Decorations:
- Commander of National Order of Vietnam, 1955
- Knight of National Order of Vietnam, 1952
- Officer of National Order of Vietnam, 1955
- Grand Officer of the National Order of Vietnam, 1964
- Army Distinguished Service Order, 1st class
- Chuong My (Merit), 1st class, 1964
- 4 Citations, Armed Forces level
- 1 Citation, Corps level with Gallantry Cross

Special Remarks:
- new Ministry combines National Police and Local government affairs
- announced program places equal emphasis on security and provincial administrative reform.
JUSTICE
Judge HUYNH DUỐC BUU

Profession: Lawyer

Date and place of birth: April 15, 1917, in Quang Tri, Central Vietnam

Religion: Catholic

Education:
- Licentiate in Law, Hanoi, 1952

Marital status: Married, 6 children

Former positions:
- Director of Tay Ho Private School, Da Nang, 1952-1954
- Da Nang City Counsellor, 1953-1954
- Chief of Cabinet, Ministry of Interior, 1954
- Director of Political Affairs, Ministry of Interior, 1955
- Judge in Pleiku, Kontum, Central Vietnam, 1955-1960
- Substitute Presiding Judge, Tribunal of the First Instance, Saigon, 1960-1965
- Vice Chairman of the People/Military Council, 1966-1967
- Chairman of the Committee for Drafting Electoral Laws, 1967.
ECOMOY

Engineer TRUONG THAI TON

Profession: Agronomist

Date and place of birth: November 30, 1925, Saigon

Education:
- Degree Agronomy Engineer, Toulouse, France - 1956

Religion: Buddhist

Marital status: Married, 5 children

Former positions:
- Specialist at the Directorate General of Planning, 1956-1959
- Specialist at the Directorate General for Budget and Foreign Aid, 1959
- Technical Director, Sugar Companies of Minh Duong, Tuy Hoa, Quang Ngai - 1959-1961
- Director of Program, Directorate General of Budget and Foreign Aid, 1962-1963
- Assistant to the Minister of Finance, concurrently, Chairman Sugar Companies Minh Duong, Tuy Hoa, Quang Ngai, 1964
- Commissioner General of Economy and Finance, 1965
- Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister, 1966.
FINANCE

Mr. LUU VAN TINH

Profession: Public Administrator

Date and place of birth: April 14, 1915, Co Cong, South Vietnam

Religion: Confucian

Marital status: Married, 2 children

Former positions:
- Customs Clerk, 1940-1945
- Senior Clerk, Residence of France in Cambodia, 1945-1948
- Assistant Administrator, Government of Vietnam, Saigon, 1948-61
- Administrator, Super Class - Director General for Budget and Foreign Aid, 1961-1963
- Commissioner of Finance, 1963-1964
- Director General of Budget and Foreign Aid, 1965-1967

Special Remarks:
- serves concurrently as Director General of Budget and Foreign Aid, in which capacity he reports directly to the President.
EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Dr. TANG KIM DONG

Profession: Lawyer

Date and place of birth: March 16, 1930 at Long Xuyen, South Vietnam

Religion: Confucian

Education:
- Degree - Doctor of Law, Paris
- Advanced Studies on Sciences/Economics/Social Sciences, Paris, 1958

Marital status: Married, 1 child

Former positions:
- Specialist, National Bank of Vietnam
- Professor, Faculty of Law, Saigon
- Professor, NLA, Saigon
- Dean of Faculty of Law and Social Sciences, Can Tho University
- Member of the Board, National Bank of Vietnam
REVOLUTIONARY DEVELOPMENT

Lt. General NGUYEN BAO TRI

Profession: Military Officer

Date and place of birth: Born 1929 in Hanoi

Religion: Catholic

Marital status: Married, 2 children

Former positions:
- Private Schools, 1940-1950
- Military Training Course (Session I, in Nam Dinh), 1951
- Director of Vietnam Military Academy and Editor of the Military Review, 1952-1965
- Commissioner General of Information and Open Arms, 1965-1967

Publications:
- Mien Cao Nguyen: Cac Sac Toc Thuong (The Highlands - The Ethnic Minorities)
- Vai Tro Quan Doi o Cac Nuoc A Phi (The Role of the Army in the Asian-African Nations)
- Canh Tan Trong Lien Tuc Lich Su (The Renovation in the Continuity of History)
OPEN ARMS

Mr. NGUYEN XUAN PHONG

Profession: Public Administrator

Date and place of birth: February 4, 1936, Ben Tre, South Vietnam

Education:
- Graduate of Oxford (London) in Political Sciences

Marital status: Bachelor

Former positions:
- Esso Technician
- Commissioner of Labor in Ky Government
- Special Assistant to Prime Minister Ky
- Commissioner of Social Welfare in the Ky Government.
PUBLIC WORKS

Engineer BUU DON

Profession: Civil Engineer

Date and place of birth: December 23, 1935 at Hue, Central Vietnam

Religion: Buddhist

Education:
- Government Civil Engineer (Ponts & Chaussees), Paris, 1958
- Engineer, School of Petroleum Refinery and Motors, Paris, 1958

Marital status: Married, 1 child

Former positions:
- Chief of Service, Ministry of Public Works, 1960-1963
- Chief of Service, in charge of Oil Refinery, Ministry of Economy, 1963
- Assistant Director General of Planning, 1964-1965
- Director General of Highways, Ministry of Public Works, 1966-1967
COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORTATION

Engineer LUONG THE SIEU

Profession: Civil Engineer

Date and place of birth: March 3, 1934, Bentre (Kien Hoa) South Vietnam

Education:
- Government Civil Engineer - Ingenieur des Ponts-et-Chaussees, Paris, 1960

Religion: Confucian

Marital status: Single

Former positions:
- Engineer, An Hoa-Nong Son Industrial Complex, 1961-1966
- Technical Director, An Hoa Nong Son Industrial Complex, 1966-1967
VETERANS AFFAIRS

Dr. NGUYEN TAN HONG

Profession: Doctor of Medicine

Date and place of birth: January 13, 1922, Ha Dong (North Vietnam)

Religion: Buddhist

Education:
- Doctor of Medicine, Hanoi University, 1951
- Attended the Flight Surgeon Course at Randolph Air Force Base Texas, 1956

Former positions:
- Army Medical Corps (1st Lieutenant), 1951
- Senior Doctor, 20th Battalion, 1951
- Senior Doctor, 75th Battalion, 1953
- Physician (Captain) concurrently Assistant to Senior Surgeon Vo Tanh Military Hospital, 1953-1954
- Physician, Chi Lang Military Hospital, 1954-1955
- Senior Surgeon, Nguyen Hue and Giai Phong Operations, 1955
- Senior Surgeon, Air Force Hospital, 1956
- Senior Surgeon, Flight Personnel Medical Center, 1957
- Senior Surgeon (Major) RVN Air Force, 1959
- Lieutenant Colonel, September 1964
- Commissioner for Youth and Sports in the Phan huy Quat Government, February 1965
- Commissioner for Veterans Affairs in the Nguyen cao Ky Government, March 1, 1966-November 1967

Decorations, Awards:
- Knight of the National Order of Vietnam
- Air Force Distinguished Service Order, 2nd Class
- Gallantry Cross with Golden Star
- Gallantry Cross with Silver Star
- Armed Forces Honor Medal
- Staff Service Honor Medal, 1st Class
- Technical Service Honor Medal
- Good Conduct Medal
- Vietnam Campaign Medal (1949-1954 and 1960)
- Armed Forces Service Medal