

Compliments **DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS**

VIETNAM CONFLICT MAP

including

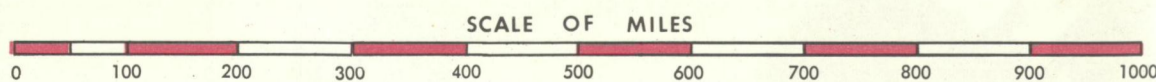
**CONTINENT AND SPECIAL MAPS - ALSO INDEXES
AND CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS SINCE WORLD WAR II**



C. S. Hammond and Company



ECONOMIC MAP OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

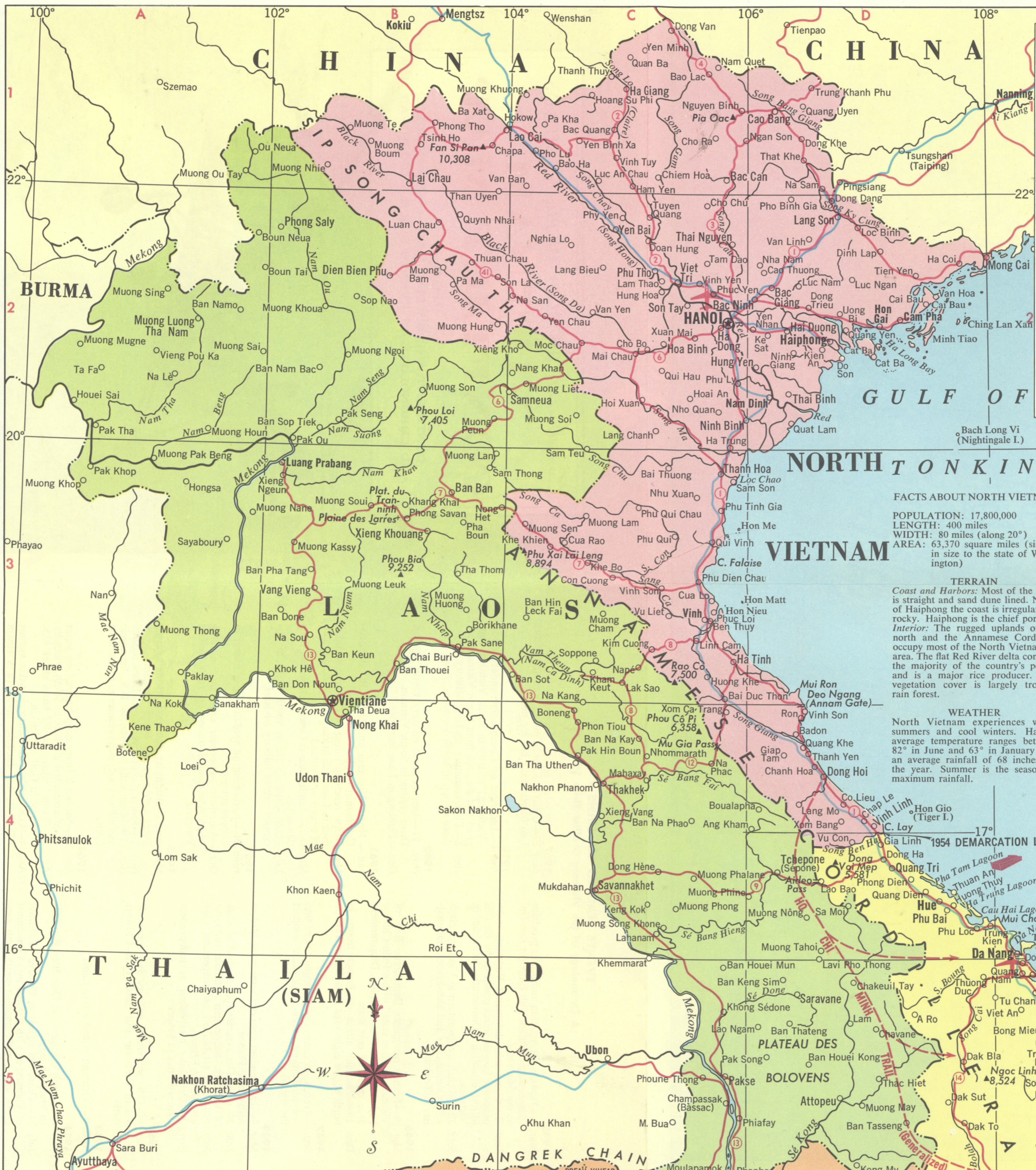


- National Capitals★
- Cities●
- International Boundaries—
- Int'l Boundaries In Dispute—
- Internal Boundaries—
- Selected Roads—
- Major Railroads—
- Railroads Under Construction—

Southeast Asia has been called a tropical treasure house. In more peaceful times it has helped feed populous Asia and stocked the warehouses of the world with spices, rubber, tea, copra, hemp and important metals. The picture still applies to some degree, but two decades of war, revolution and the political instability of the new governments have wrought major changes. Agriculture continues to engage over three-quarters of the population. The rich river basins and coastal plains are rice surplus areas with plantation crops such as rubber, tea and coffee to be found on the upland plateaus. Unfortunately, yields per acre are low and production of export commodities has not been enough to pay for goods from abroad. Mineral resources are still abundant, but except for oil and tin, deposits have not been fully developed. Coal is scarce and generally of low quality. A new element in the economic picture is the attempt to develop local industry and attain some degree of self-sufficiency for the new nations. Progress has been made, notably in Singapore, the Philippines, Taiwan and North Vietnam, but it is doubtful if the industrialization of either growing Communist China or of westernized Japan can be duplicated in Southeast Asia. But the economic destiny of the area is being shaped by more than local forces. Today's evaluation is being changed by tomorrow's headlines.

- NORTH VIETNAM**
- Song Da (Black) (river) ... B 2
 - Song Gam (river) ... C 1
 - Song Giang (river) ... D 4
 - Song Hong (Red) (river) ... C 2
 - Song Ky Cung (river) ... D 2
 - Song Lo (river) ... C 1
 - Song Ma (river) ... C 2
 - Tiger (Hon Gio) (is.) ... D 4
 - Tonkin (gulf) ... D 3
- CITIES and TOWNS**
- Bac Can ... C 1
 - Bac Giang ... D 2
 - Bac Ninh ... C 2
 - Bac Quang ... C 1
 - Badon ... D 4
 - Bai Duc Thon ... C 3
 - Bai Thuong ... C 3
 - Bao Ha ... C 1
 - Bao Lac ... C 1
 - Ba Xat ... C 1
 - Ben Thuy ... C 1
 - Cai Bau ... D 2
 - Cam Pha ... D 2
 - Cao Bang ... D 1
 - Cao Thuong ... D 2
 - Cat Ba ... D 2
 - Chanh Hoa ... D 2
 - Chapa ... B 1
 - Chap Le ... D 4
 - Chiem Hoa ... C 1
 - Cho Bo ... C 2
 - Cho Chu ... C 2
 - Cho Ra ... C 1
 - Co Lieu ... C 3
 - Con Cuong ... C 3
 - Cua Lo ... C 3
 - Cua Rao ... C 3
 - Dien Bien Phu ... B 2
 - Dinh Lap ... B 2
 - Doan Hung ... D 2
 - Dong Dang ... D 2
 - Dong Hai ... D 1
 - Dong Khe ... D 1
 - Dong Trieu ... D 2
 - Dong Van ... C 1
 - Do Son ... D 2
 - Giap Tam ... D 4
 - Ha Coi ... D 2
 - Ha Dong ... D 2
 - Ha Giang ... D 2
 - Haiphong ... D 2
 - Ham Yen ... C 1
 - Hanoi (cap.) ... C 3
 - Ha Tinh ... C 3
 - Ha Trung ... C 3
 - Hoai Binh ... C 3
 - Hoai An ... C 3
 - Hoang Su Phi ... C 1
 - Hoi Xuan ... C 2
 - Hon Gai ... D 2
 - Hung Hoa ... D 2
 - Hung Yen ... C 3
 - Huong Khe ... C 3
 - Ke Sat ... C 3
 - Khe Bo ... C 3
 - Khe Khiem ... C 3
 - Kien An ... D 2
 - Kim Cuong ... C 2
 - Lai Chau ... B 1
 - Lam Thao ... C 2
 - Lang Bieu ... C 2
 - Lang Chanh ... C 4
 - Lang Mo ... C 4
 - Lang Son ... D 5
 - Lao Cai ... D 1
 - Linh Cam ... C 3
 - Loc Binh ... D 2
 - Luan Chau ... B 2
 - Luc An Chau ... C 2
 - Luc Nam ... C 2
 - Luc Ngan ... C 2
 - Mai Chau ... C 2
 - Moc Chau ... C 2
 - Mong Cai ... C 2
 - Muong Bam ... B 2
 - Muong Boum ... B 2
 - Muong Hung ... B 2
 - Muong Khuong ... B 2
 - Muong Lam ... C 3
 - Muong Nhie ... B 1
 - Muong Sen ... C 3
 - Muong Te ... B 1
 - Nam Dinh ... C 2
 - Nam Son ... C 2
 - Na Sam ... C 2
 - Ngan Son ... C 2
 - Nghia Lo ... C 2
 - Nguyen Binh ... C 1
 - Nha Nam ... C 2
 - Nhu Quan ... C 2
 - Ninh Binh ... C 2
 - Ninh Giang ... C 2
 - Pa Kha ... C 1
 - Pha Ma ... C 1
 - Pho Binh Gia ... D 2
 - Pho Lu ... C 1
 - Phong Tho ... B 1
 - Phuc Lo ... C 3
 - Phuc Yen ... C 3
 - Phu Dien Chau ... C 3
 - Phu Ly ... C 3
 - Phu Qui ... C 3
 - Phu Qui Chau ... C 3
 - Phu Tho ... C 3
 - Phu Tinh Gia ... C 3
 - Phy Yen ... C 2
 - Quan Ba ... D 4
 - Quang Khe ... D 4
 - Quang Uyen ... D 2
 - Quat Lam ... D 2
 - Qui Hau ... C 2
 - Qui Vinh ... C 2
 - Ron ... C 2
 - Sa Mai ... C 2
 - Son La ... C 2
 - Son Tay ... C 2
 - Tam Dao ... C 2
 - Thai Binh ... D 2
 - Thai Nguyen ... C 2
 - Thanh Hoa ... C 3
 - Thanh Thuy ... C 3
 - Thanh Yen ... D 4
 - Than Uyen ... B 2
 - That Khe ... D 1
 - Tuan Chau ... B 2
 - Tien Yen ... D 2
 - Trung Khanh Phu ... D 1
 - Tsinh Ho ... B 1
 - Tuyen Quang ... C 2
 - Uong Bi ... D 4
 - Van Ban ... D 2
 - Van Hoa ... D 2
 - Van Linh ... D 2
 - Van Yen ... C 2
 - Viet Tri ... C 2
 - Vinh ... C 3

- SOUTH VIETNAM**
- CITIES and TOWNS**
- An Bien ... C 8
 - An Hoa ... D 7
 - An Khe ... E 6
 - An Lao ... E 5
 - An Loc ... D 7
 - An Phuoc ... E 7
 - A Ro ... C 8
 - Bac Lieu (Vinh Loi) ... C 8
 - Ba Dong ... E 5
 - Ba Gia ... C 3
 - Ban Don ... E 6
 - Ba Ngoi (Cam Lam) ... E 7
 - Ban Me Thuot ... E 6
 - Baria (Phuoc Le) ... D 7
 - Ba Tri ... D 7
 - Ben Cat ... D 7
 - Ben Luc ... D 7
 - Ben Tre (Truc Giang) ... D 7
 - Bien Hoa ... D 7
 - Binh Dinh ... E 6
 - Binh Khe ... E 5
 - Binh Lam ... D 7
 - Binh Son ... E 5
 - Binh Thanh ... E 5
 - Bong Mieu ... E 6
 - Bong Son ... D 7
 - Bu Dop ... D 6
 - Cai Be ... C 7
 - Cai Con ... C 8
 - Cai Nuooc ... C 8
 - Ca Mau (Quan Long) ... C 8
 - Cam Lam ... E 7
 - Can Na ... D 7
 - Can Duc ... D 7
 - Can Gio ... D 7
 - Can Tho ... D 7
 - Cao Lanh ... C 7
 - Cau Ke ... D 8
 - Chau Phu ... C 7
 - Cheo Reo ... E 6
 - Cho Ben ... D 7
 - Cho Gao ... D 7
 - Cho Moi ... D 7
 - Chua Chan ... D 7
 - Chu Lai ... E 2
 - Con Son ... D 8
 - Cu Chi ... D 7
 - Dai Ngai ... D 8
 - Dak Bia ... D 5
 - Dak Sut ... D 5
 - Dak To ... D 5
 - Da Lat ... E 7
 - Dam Doi ... C 8
 - Da Nang ... D 4
 - Dien Khanh ... E 6
 - Di Linh ... D 7
 - Dinh Dien Hieu Van ... D 7
 - Don Duong ... E 7
 - Dong Ha ... D 4
 - Dong Nghe ... E 4
 - Dong Xoai ... D 7
 - Don Maitre ... D 6
 - Duc Co ... D 6
 - Duc Hoa ... D 7
 - Duong Dong ... D 7
 - Muong Lam ... C 3
 - Gia Dinh ... D 4
 - Gia Linh ... D 4
 - Gia Nghia ... D 6
 - Giang Thanh ... C 7
 - Giong Rieng ... C 8
 - Go Cong ... D 7
 - Go Dau Ha ... D 7
 - Go Quao ... C 8
 - Hai Ninh ... E 7
 - Ham Tan ... D 7
 - Ha Tien ... C 7
 - Ho Da ... E 5
 - Hoai An ... E 5
 - Hoi An ... E 5
 - Hon Chong ... C 7
 - Hong Ngu ... C 7
 - Hue ... D 4
 - Huong Thuy ... D 4
 - Kannack ... E 5
 - Katun ... D 7
 - Khanh Hoa (Dien Khanh) ... E 6
 - Khanh Hoi ... E 7
 - Khanh Hung (Soc Trang) ... C 8
 - Kinh Duc ... D 7
 - Kontum ... E 5
 - Lac Thien ... E 6
 - Lao Bao ... D 6
 - Le Triang ... D 6
 - Loc Ninh ... C 8
 - Long My ... C 8
 - Long Phu ... E 8
 - Long Phuoc ... E 7
 - Long Thanh ... D 7
 - Qui Vinh ... C 3
 - Quyinh Nhai ... B 2
 - Ron ... D 4
 - M'Drak ... D 7
 - Mo Cay ... E 5
 - Moc Hoa ... C 7
 - Mo Duc ... E 5
 - Mui Ne ... E 7
 - My Tho ... D 7
 - Nam Can ... C 8
 - Nghia Hanh ... C 7
 - Nha Bang ... C 7
 - Nha Be ... D 7
 - Nha Trang ... E 6
 - Ninh Chu ... E 7
 - Ninh Hoa ... E 6
 - Ninh Thinh ... E 6
 - O Mor ... D 7
 - Phan Rang ... E 7
 - Phan Thiet ... D 7
 - Phong Dien ... D 4
 - Phu Bai ... E 5
 - Phu Cat ... D 4
 - Phu Cuong ... D 7
 - Phu Khe ... E 6
 - Phu Loc ... C 8
 - Phu My ... D 7



VIETNAM AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

0 50 100 150 200
SCALE OF MILES

0 50 100 150 200
SCALE OF KILOMETRES

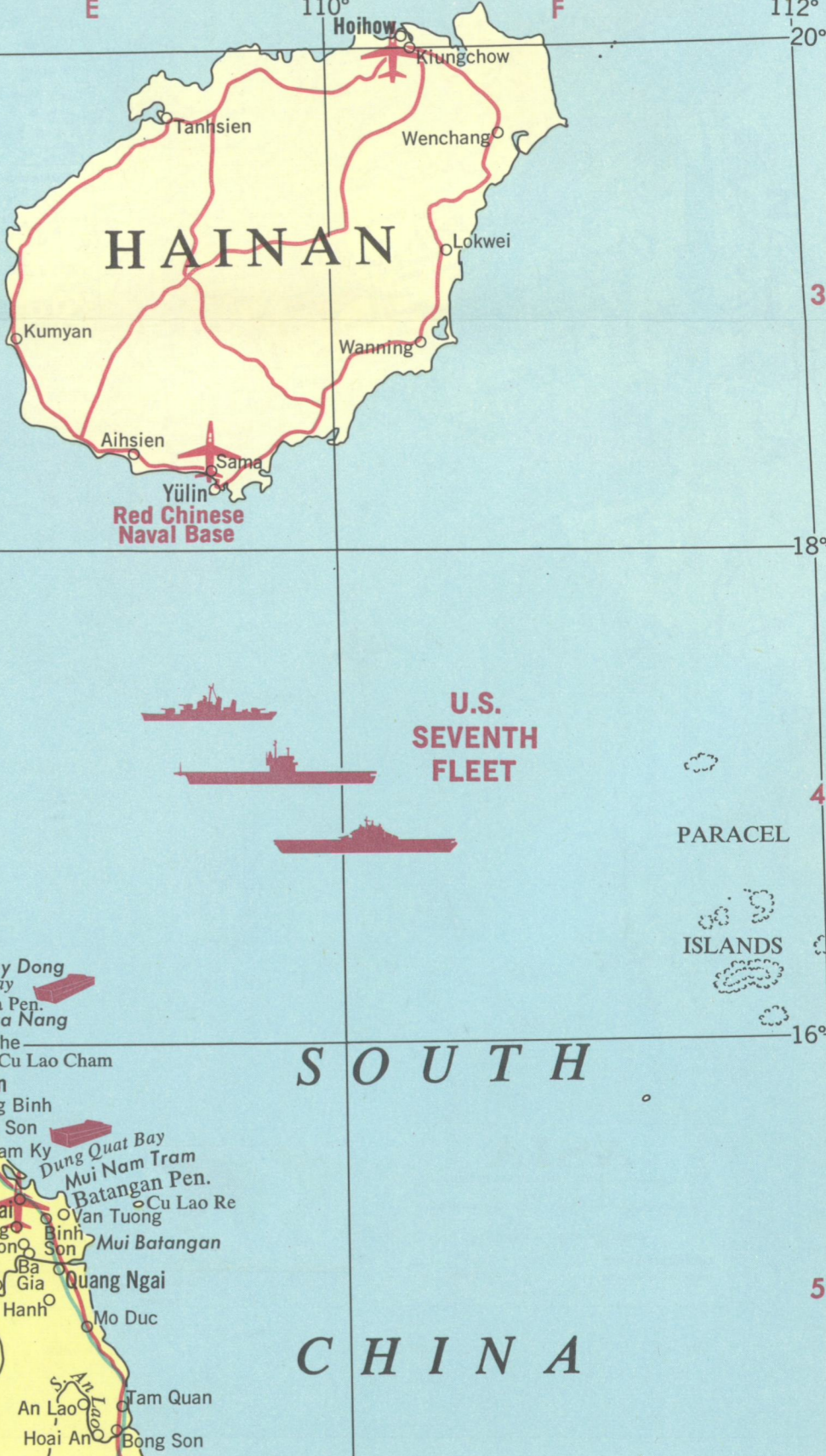
- Capitals of Countries.....
- International Boundaries.....
- Canals.....
- Falls and Rapids.....
- Railroads.....
- Major Roads.....
- Road Numbers.....
- Major Airbases.....
- U.S. Marine and Army Landings 1965.....

FACTS ABOUT NORTH VIETNAM

POPULATION: 17,800,000
 LENGTH: 400 miles
 WIDTH: 80 miles (along 20°)
 AREA: 63,370 square miles (similar in size to the state of Washington)

TERRAIN
 Coast and Harbors: Most of the coast is straight and sand dune lined. North of Haiphong the coast is irregular and rocky. Haiphong is the chief port.
 Interior: The rugged uplands of the north and the Annamese Cordillera occupy most of the North Vietnamese area. The flat Red River delta contains the majority of the country's people and is a major rice producer. The vegetation cover is largely tropical rain forest.

WEATHER
 North Vietnam experiences warm summers and cool winters. Hanoi's average temperature ranges between 82° in June and 63° in January with an average rainfall of 68 inches for the year. Summer is the season of maximum rainfall.



Vinh Son	.....D 4	Phu My	.....E 5
Vinh Son	.....D 4	Phuoc Binh	.....E 6
Vinh Tuy	.....C 1	Phuoc Le	.....D 7
Vinh Yen	.....C 2	Phuoc Long	.....D 8
Vu Con	.....D 5	Phuoc Vinh	.....D 7
Vu Liet	.....C 3	Phu Rieng	.....D 7
Xom Bang	.....D 4	Phu Son	.....D 8
Xuan Mai	.....C 4	Pleiku	.....D 6
Yen Bai	.....C 2	Pleime	.....D 6
Yen Binh Xa	.....C 1	Plei Nong	.....D 5
Yen Chau	.....C 2	Quang Dien	.....D 4
Yen Minh	.....C 1	Quan Nam	.....E 5
Yen Nhan	.....D 2	Quang Ngai	.....E 5
		Quang Tri	.....E 4
		Quan Long	.....C 8
		Qui Nhon	.....E 6
		Rach Gia	.....C 7
		Sa Dec	.....C 7
		Saigon (cap.)	.....D 7
		Soc Trang	.....C 8
		Song Be (Phuoc Binh)	.....D 7
		Song Chau	.....D 7
		Song Pha	.....E 7
		Son Ha	.....E 7
		Suoi Dau	.....E 6
		Ta Lai	.....D 7
		Tam Ky	.....E 5
		Tam Quan	.....E 5
		Tan An	.....D 7
		Tan Chau	.....C 7
		Tanh Linh	.....D 7
		Tan Uyen	.....D 7
		Tay Ninh	.....D 7
		Thang Binh	.....E 5
		Thanh Hung	.....C 8
		Thot Not	.....C 7
		Thuan An	.....D 4
		Thu Duc	.....D 7
		Thuong Duc	.....D 5
		Thu Thua	.....D 7
		To Bong	.....E 6
		Tra Bong	.....E 5
		Tra Cu	.....D 8
		Tra On	.....D 8
		Tri Ton	.....C 7
		Truc Giang	.....C 3
		Trung Kien	.....D 7
		Tu Chan Nong Son	.....E 5
		Tuy An	.....E 6
		Tuy Hoa	.....E 6
		Van Gia	.....E 6
		Van Tuong	.....E 5
		Viet An	.....E 5
		Vinh Chau	.....E 8
		Vinh Hao	.....E 7
		Vinh Loi	.....C 8
		Vinh Long	.....C 7
		Vinh Tuy	.....C 8
		Vi Thanh	.....C 8

PHYSICAL FEATURES

Annamese Cordillera (range)	.....C 3
Annam Gate (Deo)	.....C 8
Ngang (pass)	.....D 3
Bach Long Vi (isl.)	.....D 2
Black (river)	.....E 7
Cai Bau (isl.)	.....D 2
Cat Ba (isl.)	.....D 2
Ching Lan Xan (isl.)	.....D 2
Claire (Song Lo) (river)	.....C 1
Deo Ngang (pass)	.....D 3
Falaise (cape)	.....C 3
Ha Long (bay)	.....D 2
Hon Gio (isl.)	.....D 4
Hon Mat (isl.)	.....D 3
Hon Me (isl.)	.....D 3
Hon Nieu (isl.)	.....C 3
Lay (cape)	.....D 4
Loc Chao (river)	.....D 3
Mu Gia (pass)	.....C 4
Mui Ron (cape)	.....D 3
Nightingale (Bach Long Vi) (isl.)	.....D 2
Phu Xai Lai Leng (mt.)	.....C 3
Pia Oac (mt.)	.....C 3
Rao Co (mt.)	.....C 3
Red (river)	.....C 2
Sip Song Chau Thai (range)	.....B 2
Song Bang Giang (river)	.....D 1
Song Ben Hai (river)	.....D 5
Song Ca (river)	.....C 3
Song Cau (river)	.....C 2
Song Chau (river)	.....C 1
Song Chu (river)	.....C 3
Song Con (river)	.....C 3



FACTS ABOUT SOUTH VIETNAM

POPULATION: 15,715,000
 LENGTH: 585 miles
 WIDTH: 100 miles (Cambodian border to Nha Trang)
 AREA: 65,726 square miles (similar in size to the state of Washington)

TERRAIN

Coast and Harbors: Long stretches of the coast are straight sandy beaches. Saigon, Nha Trang, Qui Nhon and Da Nang are the main ports. Cam Ranh Bay is a deep and well sheltered harbor of great strategic importance. Interior: The northern portion is dominated by the rugged Annamese Cordillera mountain chain with fertile deltas along the coast. The central area consists of a vast plateau. The south is dominated by the Mekong delta and plains, one of the world's richest rice-growing regions. Tropical rain forest is the chief vegetation form.

WEATHER

The climate is hot and humid with temperatures averaging around 80° throughout the year. The highland areas are somewhat cooler. Saigon's annual rainfall amounts to 79 inches. The summer monsoon winds bring most of the rain.



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Vo DatD 7	Hon Tre (isl.)E 6	Song Vam Co Tay (river)D 7	Kompong TrabekC 7	Sre UmbellB 7	Samit (point)B 7	Boun TaiB 2	Muong SonB 2	ThakhekC 4
Vung Liem	.....D 7	la Drang (river)	.....D 6	South China (sea)	.....F 5	Kompong Tralach	.....C 7	Stung Treng	.....D 6	Se San (river)	.....D 6	Chakeuil Tay	.....D 5	Muong Song Khone	.....C 4	Tha Thom	.....B 3
Vung Tau	.....D 7	Joncs (plain)	.....C 7	Kontum (plateau)	.....D 6	Phum Kompong Kdey	.....C 6	Siam (gulf)	.....A 7	Siam (gulf)	.....A 7	Chavane	.....D 5	Muong Soui	.....B 3	Vang Vieng	.....B 3
Xuan Loc	.....D 7	Lagan (point)	.....E 7	Kratie	.....E 6	Mimot	.....D 7	Stung Chikreng (riv.)	.....C 6	Srepok (river)	.....D 6	Chavane	.....D 5	Muong Taho	.....D 4	Vieng POU KA	.....D 2
Xuyen Moc	.....D 7	Lang Bian (mts.)	.....E 6	Kraochmar	.....C 6	Moung	.....C 7	Stung Porong (riv.)	.....C 6	Dong Hene	.....C 4	Houei Sai	.....A 2	Muong Thong	.....A 3	Vientiane (cap.)	.....B 4
		Mang Yang (pass)	.....E 6	Lomphat	.....D 6	Phum Samit	.....C 7	Stung Sang Ke (riv.)	.....B 6	Houei Sai	.....A 2	Keng Kok	.....C 4	Na Kang	.....C 3	Xiang Kho	.....B 2
		Mekong, Mouths of the (delta)	.....D 8	Melouprey	.....C 6	Phum Samit	.....C 7	Stung Sen (river)	.....C 6	Keng Kok	.....C 4	Kham Keut	.....C 3	Na Kok	.....C 4	Xiang Khouang	.....B 3
		Mui Bai Bung (point)	.....C 8	Phnom Penh (cap.)	.....C 7	Phum Samit	.....C 7	Stung Sraung (river)	.....B 5	Kham Keut	.....C 3	Luong	.....C 6	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3	Xiang Ngeun	.....B 3
		Mui Batangan (cape)	.....E 5	Poipect	.....C 7	Phum Samit	.....C 7	Stung Staung (riv.)	.....C 6	Nang Khan	.....C 2	Nap	.....C 3	Luong	.....C 6	Xiang Vang	.....C 4
		Mui Cai Ban (cape)	.....C 7	Prey Veng	.....C 7	Phum Samit	.....C 7	Tang Krasang	.....C 6	Khok He	.....B 3	Nam Pha	.....C 4	Na Sou	.....C 3		
		Mui Chon May Dong (cape)	.....E 4	Pursat	.....D 6	Phum Smach	.....C 5	Tang Paloch	.....C 7	Khong	.....C 5	Nam Pha	.....C 4	Nhommarath	.....C 4		
		Mui Da Nang (cape)	.....E 4	Rach Gia	.....C 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5	Tasay	.....B 7	Khong Sedone	.....C 5	Nong Het	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Mui Da Vaich (cape)	.....E 7	Saint Jacques	.....C 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5	Thmar Puok	.....B 6	Kong My	.....C 5	Ou Neua	.....A 1	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Mui Dinh (cape)	.....E 7	Saint Jacques (cape)	.....D 8	Phum Smach	.....C 5	Trapeang Chong	.....B 6	Lak Sao	.....D 5	Pak Hin Boun	.....C 4	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Mui Ke Ga (cape)	.....E 7	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5	Trapeang Kraleng	.....B 7	Lam	.....D 5	Paklay	.....C 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Mui Nam Tram (cape)	.....E 5	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5	Tukchok	.....B 6	Lao Ngam	.....C 5	Luang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Mui Ong Dien (cape)	.....E 6	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5	Tuk Meas	.....C 7	Lavi Pho Thong	.....D 5	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Mui Vung Tau (cape)	.....D 7	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5	Veal Renh	.....B 7	Luang Prabang	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Mui Yen (cape)	.....E 6	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5	Virachei (Voene Sai)	.....D 6	Nap Du	.....C 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Ngoc Linh (mt.)	.....E 5	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Nui Vong Phu (mts.)	.....E 6	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Padaran (Mui Dinh) (range)	.....C 8	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Poulo Condore (Con Son) (isls.)	.....D 8	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Poulo Dama (isls.)	.....D 8	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Saint Jacques (cape)	.....D 8	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Song An Lao (river)	.....E 5	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Song Ba (river)	.....E 6	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Song Be (river)	.....D 7	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Song Ben Hai (river)	.....D 5	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Song Boung (river)	.....D 5	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Song Cai (river)	.....D 5	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Song Dong Nai (riv.)	.....D 7	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Song Hau Giang (riv.)	.....C 7	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Song Sai Gon (river)	.....D 7	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Song Tien Giang (riv.)	.....C 7	Saigon	.....D 7	Phum Smach	.....C 5			Nang Phan	.....B 3	Muang Prabang	.....B 3	Nam Tha, Muong	.....C 3		
		Song Vam Co Dong (river)D 7	SaigonD 7	Phum SmachC 5			Nang PhanB 3	Muang PrabangB 3	Nam Tha, MuongC 3		
				SaigonD 7	Phum SmachC 5			Nang PhanB 3	Muang PrabangB 3	Nam Tha, MuongC 3		



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EVENTS LEADING TO CRISIS

A Chronology of the Vietnam Conflict Since 1945

1945

- Mar. 9—Japanese occupation authorities proclaim independent Vietnam with Emperor Bao Dai as nominal ruler.
- Sept. 2—Communist dominated Vietminh Independence League seizes power under Ho Chi Minh; establish "Democratic Republic of Vietnam."
- Sept. 22—French troops return to Vietnam, clash with Communists and anti-French nationalists in Tonkin.

1946

- Mar. 6—France recognizes Democratic Rep. of Vietnam as "free state" within Indo-Chinese Federation and French Union. Disagreement over status of new state.
- Dec. 19—Vietminh attack on French troops in north begins eight-year Indo-China War.

1947

- Sept.—French, in control of principal towns and communications, seek nationalist support through Bao Dai.

1949

- Mar. 8—Independent state of Vietnam established with ties to France.
- June 14—Bao Dai assumes role as chief of state of Vietnam; nationalists withhold support.
- July 19—Laos established as independent state with ties to France.
- Nov. 8—Cambodia established as independent state with ties to France.

1950

- May 8—U.S. announces military and economic aid to Vietnam and other Indo-Chinese states.

1953

- April 9—Vietminh extend war to Laos.

1954

- May 7—French stronghold at Dien Bien Phu falls to Vietminh assault.
- July 21—Cease-fire signed at Geneva. Partition of Vietnam at 17th parallel into Communist north and anti-Communist south with proviso of free elections in 1956.
- Sept. 8—Southeast Asia Defense Treaty (SEATO) signed to prevent further Communist expansion in Asia.

1955

- Oct. 26—Republic of Vietnam established in South Vietnam with Ngo Dinh Diem as president. U.S. promises aid.

1956

- May 8—Free elections to reunify the two Vietnams postponed.
- April—Last French troops in Vietnam leave. U.S. military advisors help train South Vietnamese army.

1957

- May 29—Crisis in Laos as pro-Communist Pathet Lao forces make bid for power.

1959

- April—Increase of Communist underground (Vietcong) activity in South Vietnam, supplied and directed from North Vietnam.
- July 8—First casualties to U.S. Military Assistance Group in South Vietnam.

1960

- Nov. 11—Unsuccessful military revolt against Diem regime in South Vietnam.
- Dec.—Fighting in Laos increases.

1961

- Jan.—North Vietnam and U.S.S.R. aid pro-Communist rebels in Laos.
- Mar.—U.S. reacts to threat of Communist takeover in Laos with increased aid and dispatch of troops to Thailand.
- May-Dec.—Conference at Geneva on ending Lao-tian crisis.
- July—U.S. steps up aid to South Vietnam; increases role of military advisors.

1962

- June 11—Agreement on coalition government in Laos announced.
- Oct.—American helicopter units now moving South Vietnamese troops on raids against Vietcong.

1963

- May-Aug.—Buddhist demonstrations against Diem government in South Vietnam.
- Nov. 1—Military coup overthrows Diem regime.
- Nov. 19—Cambodia renounces U.S. economic and military aid; moves closer to Communist China.

1964

- Jan. 30—Second military coup begins long series of governmental changes in South Vietnam.
- Aug. 2—North Vietnamese PT boats attack U.S. destroyer in Gulf of Tonkin.
- Aug. 4—U.S. carries out retaliatory strikes against PT boats and facilities in North Vietnam after second attack on U.S. ships.

1965

- Feb. 7—U.S. planes begin bombing raids north of 17th parallel in retaliation for Vietcong attack on U.S. base at Pleiku.
- Mar.—U.S. commits combat troops to active support of South Vietnamese forces.
- June 18—First of B-52 bomber raids from Guam against Vietcong concentrations.
- July 28—President Johnson announces increase of American forces in South Vietnam to 125,000.
- Aug. 29—Battle at Van Tuong, first major involvement of U.S. ground troops against Vietcong.