## New Zealand's Aid May Rise By Peter Harvey

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SYDNEY, Feb. 28 - New|green light to increased forces Zealand is planning substan-in South Vietnam.

tial increases in its military They expect that the batcontribution to the war in talion now in Malaysia will be South Vietnam, authoritative sent to Vietnam to be joined sources in Wellington said later by the squadron of jet this week.

ister Keith Holyoake has con-troops manning a battery of firmed last night that his gov-artillery pieces.) ernment had begun negotia- New Zealand is not alone in tions with Britain Australia planning to step up its miliand Malaysia on possible in-tary effort in South Vietnam. creases in New Zealand's mili- Canberra is also increasing its tary aid to South Vietnam.

ment when reporters asked gle fighters in Vietnam, plus a him if the consultations in-squadron of Caribou transcluded reference to the pos-port aircraft and a squadron sible redeployment of infantry of Huey helicopters. units from the New Zealand inet had decided on priorities force up to some 6200 men. that necessitated consultation Australia is also sending a lia, Britain adn Malaysia.

points to an increase within class missile destroyers the next eight to ten months. HMAS Hobart-to duty off At present, New Zealand has South Vietnam with the U.S. an infantry battalion, compris- 7th fleet about the middle of ing some 800 highly-trained this year. officers and men, serving with support units.

Observers in Wellington be- now serving in Malaysia with lieve the Holyoake adminis- the Commonwealth Strategic tration will soon give the Reserve.

bombers. (New Zealand now New Zealand's Prime Min-has in Vietnam only 150

commitment. Australia now Holyoake refused to com- has some 4500 top-notch jun-

Within the next few regiment currestly serving months, Australia will have with the British Common-another battalion in Vietnam wealth Strategic Reserve in which, together with support Malaysia, but he said his Cab- units, will bring its ground

with New Zealand Strategic squadron of Canberra jet Reserve partners - Austra-bombers to Vietnam, while the Royal Australian Navy is Information from New Zea-dispatching one of its ultraland government sources modern Charles F. Adams

The battalion augmenting the Commonwealth Strategic Australian forces in Vietnam Reserve in Malaysia, as well will be sent from Australia as a squadron of Canberra jet despite the belief of some ofbombers and various logistic ficials that the government should just shift the battalion