

Hanoi Appeals for Aid

By Jean Thoraval
Agence France-Presse

HANOI, April 3 North Vietnam appealed today to "the entire world" to come to the aid of the people in the "liberated" zones of South Vietnam.

In a statement to journalists, the Foreign Ministry said it hoped that "the governments and peoples of the whole world who believe in peace and justice," as well as international organizations, would respond to an appeal by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam for "urgent aid to the population of the South to reduce the every day difficulties of life caused by looting and forced evacuation."

It was the first time that North Vietnam had transmitted an appeal of the Vietcong's political arm to international organizations.

The appeal came at a time when a delegation from the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) was visiting Hanoi. Reliable sources said the U.N. agency might offer credits for building schools in territory occupied by the Vietcong in South Vietnam.

North Vietnam also assailed the U.S. government for trying to involve "certain governments and international organizations in the plan for evacuating the population."

The Foreign Ministry said the U.S. government "has brought pressure on the U.N. secretary general to ask him to take part in the schemings which consist of forcing the population to evacuate" the territory taken over by Communist forces.

Other news services reported the following:

The International Red Cross said in Geneva that the Vietcong had asked the Red Cross and UNICEF for \$2 million for clothing, drugs and food for residents of the occupied territory.

The Red Cross said it would respond as quickly as possible. A fund appeal was made on March 25, and so far 12 national Red Cross societies have pledged more than \$4 million, the Red Cross said.

It said the Red Cross of the Vietcong's Provisional Revolutionary Government granted \$200,000 for food and medicines.

The Vietcong told UNICEF that there are now six million more people in its territory, including two million children. It said one million were refugees from areas controlled by the Saigon government. It requested top priority for cloth to make children's clothes, drugs and fortified foods.

In Stockholm, Foreign Aid Minister Gertrud Sigurdson

said Sweden would provide \$3 million worth of wheat, milk, medicine and other necessities to PRG.

In Geneva, the U.N. High Commission for Refugees said reports that the commission was sending aid to the South through the North Vietnamese government was erroneous. A spokesman said the aid was sent to representatives of the PRG in Hanoi, but the North Vietnamese government was not involved.

Meanwhile, throughout the world there was an out-

to Vietcong-Held Area

pouring of offers of aid for Indochina's refugees.

In Frankfurt, a DC-10 chartered by the West German government took off for Saigon with 18 tons of general supplies and with orders to bring back refugees who want to be evacuated. Two Boeing 707s are scheduled to make similar flights later in the week.

Canadian Immigration Minister Robert Andras said to visa applications from Vietnam and Cambodia and

would not expel anyone from those two countries from Canada for any reason "as long as the present situation continued.

He added that the adoption of Indochinese children by Canadians would be made easier.

In Paris, the French government announced that it was sending an emergency military medical team to Saigon and was opening a special credit account for the French-run Grall Hospital there which will treat ill and injured refugees.

Australian Prime Minister Gough Whitlam announced in Canberra that Australia was contributing about \$1.4 million to the U.N. refugee commission for work in Indochina. Approval was given for the use of Australian air force planes to transport Vietnamese families.

The Danish government said it hoped to grant an interest-free loan of about \$27 million to North Vietnam. It announced that they were raising money for Vietnamese refugees.