Methodist Whereh³ Plans 5 Shipments to 2 Vietnams

WASHINGTON, Nov 2 (UPI) — The United Methodist Church's board for global ministries has approved a project to send medicine, food and "reconstruction tools" to North and South Vietnam, according to church officials. At the same time, the Board also endorsed Congressional legislation to remove current barriers on aid to the two Vietnams.

The aid to Vietnam will come through Methodist participation in a new program called "Friendshipment," in which a number of peace, civic and church groups are seeking "to meet concrete needs of people in Vietnam through sending...a shipment of needed supplies."

Under current law, trade with Vietnam is prohibited, although some exceptions are made for humanitarian aid. The American Friends Service Committee has already announced that it would defy the Government and ship to Vietnam items for reconstruction for which the United States Government has refused to grant it export licenses.