

and temporary housing. Finally, because of the magnitude of the problem, we are contacting relevant international organizations to discuss what other measures can be taken to assist in the alleviation of this sad situation. Although, therefore, we are fully aware that we cannot exercise political influence in the tragic events that now envelope the region, we can take steps on the humanitarian level to assist those who are suffering.

I should like, finally, to take this occasion to provide some details on the situation of Canadians now in Viet-Nam. Of the approximately 80 Canadians registered with our Embassy in Saigon, a group which consists primarily of missionaries and employees of organizations with similar objectives, over half of the group are located in the Saigon area. Twelve Canadians who were working in Kontum and Pleiku provinces were able to move to safer areas before those provinces were given up by the forces of the Republic of Viet-Nam. Canadians in other dangerous areas such as Danang, Qui Nhon, Nha Trang, Dalat and Long Xuyen have now either left for Saigon or are preparing to do so within the next few days. Finally, I might add that we are developing contingency plans in the event that it becomes necessary to assist Canadians to leave Saigon or other areas of the country.