

PRESS RELEASE



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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1964.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, announced today the Canadian Government's decision to provide \$15,000 in emergency relief assistance to victims of recent floods in central Vietnam.

Earlier, Prime Minister Pearson forwarded the following message of sympathy to Prime Minister Huong of South Vietnam:

"Reports of recent flood disasters in central Vietnam have been a source of deep regret to me and my colleagues in the Canadian Government. On behalf of the Canadian Government and the people of Canada I wish to convey to you and to the people directly affected by this tragedy an expression of our sympathy in the loss of life and the destruction suffered as a result of this disaster".

The floods in central Vietnam, resulting from two typhoons and heavy rains, have been the worst that that country has known in almost a century; thousands of persons have lost their lives and many more have been left homeless. In addition to loss of life, the population of the area affected have lost the current rice crop and most of their livestock.

The funds now made available by the Canadian Government will be used for the purpose of relief supplies to be selected on the basis of recommendations from the Canadian Red Cross. These supplies will be sent to Vietnam as soon as possible.