

IXth CHRONICLE OF PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

(July 1, 1974 — June 30, 1975)

Section II — Chronicle of Elections

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM

Date of Elections: April 6, 1975

Purpose of Elections

Elections were held for all the members of Parliament on the normal expiry of their term of office.

Characteristics of Parliament

The unicameral Parliament of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam, the National Assembly, is composed of 424 members elected for 4 years. This total increased by 4 since the previous general elections held in April 1971.

Electoral System

All citizens at least 18 years old are entitled to vote, with the exception of the insane and persons deprived of this right by law or court decision.

Electoral registers are compiled at the constituency level and revised before each election. Voting is not compulsory.

All qualified electors at least 21 years of age are eligible to be elected to the National Assembly. Candidates are nominated at least 30 days prior to the election date by individuals, parties or social organizations which are members of the country's Viet-Nam Fatherland Front.

Deputies are chosen within the country's 85 electoral constituencies on the basis of an absolute majority system, with each elector voting for as many candidates as there are seats to be filled in the constituency. If, within a constituency, not enough candidates to fill the available seats obtain an absolute majority vote on the first ballot, or if less than an absolute majority of the total number of registered electors have voted, a second ballot is held within 15 days. On this second ballot a simple majority of votes is sufficient for a candidate to be elected.

By-elections are held to fill parliamentary seats which become vacant between general elections.

General Political Considerations and Conduct of the Elections

In accordance with the Electoral Law, the date of the elections for the fifth National Assembly was set more than two months in advance. Previous general elections had been held in 1946, 1960, 1964 and April 1971.

Candidates for Parliament were nominated chiefly by the Viet-Nam Fatherland Front, the political Organization which unites the country's three political parties (Viet-Nam Workers' Party (*Lao-Dong*), Socialist Party and Democratic Party) and State organizations.

Subsequent to the elections, a new Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Pham Van Dong was formed on June 6.

Statistics

1. Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the National Assembly

Number of registered voters.	10,855,644
Voters.	10,667,171 (98.26 %)
Blank or void ballot papers.	105,807
Valid votes.	10,561,364

Political Group	Number of Seats
Viet-Nam Fatherland Front	424

2. Distribution of Deputies according to Professional Category

Intellelectuals.	93
Workers.	93
Peasants.	90
Others (military and political officials, artisans, representatives of various religious faiths)	148
	424

3. Distribution of Deputies according to Sex

Men.	287
Women.	137
	424

4. Distribution of Deputies according to Age Group

21-35 years.	142
Over 35.	<u>282</u>
	424

PUBLICATIONS OF THE CIDP

Unless otherwise indicated, the publications mentioned below are obtainable from the Inter-Parliamentary Bureau, Place du Petit-Saconnex, 1211 Geneva 28 (Switzerland).

PARLIAMENTS. — A Comparative Study on the Structure and Functioning of Representative Institutions in Fifty-Five Countries (New revised edition). Preface by Mr. G. Codacci-Pisanelli and Mr. A. de Blonay. Pp. 346 (1966). French edition also available. On sale in bookshops and, for members of the Union, at the Inter-Parliamentary Bureau. Sw. Fr. 25.—

SERIES " REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS "

1. Present-Day Problems of Parliament.
Reports and Debates. Introductory reports and verbatim record of the debates of the 1st International Symposium held in Geneva from November 4 to 6, 1965. In the original language, English or French. Pp. 250 (out of print).
2. The Role of Parliament in the Elaboration and Control of Economic Development Plans.
Mimeographed brochure, English and French. Pp. 50 (out of print).
3. Parliament and its Means of Contact with Public Opinion through the Press, Radio and Television.
Reports and Debates. Introductory reports and verbatim record of the debates of the 2nd International Symposium held in Geneva from December 5 to 7, 1968. In the original language, English or French. Pp. 316. » 15.—
4. The Member of Parliament: his Requirements for Information in the Modern World.
Proceedings of the 3rd International Symposium, held in Geneva from January 18 to 20, 1973.
Two mimeographed volumes which contain:
 1. Verbatim record of reports and debates, in the original language (English or French), each statement followed by a brief summary in the other language; list of participants; index of speakers.
 2. *Synthesis of Results of the International Inquiry on the MP's Means of Information* — a revised version of the analysis prepared by the International Centre for Parliamentary Documentation, containing detailed comparative data in textual form with 13 tables, based on replies received from 39 countries. Sections on Parliamentary Libraries; Documentation, Study and Research Services; Experts; Procedures which contribute to informing MPs; Inspecting and Supervisory Bodies; Selective Bibliography (by country).
Both volumes. » 25.—

CHRONICLE OF PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

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| I. July 1, 1966 — June 30, 1967 | |
| Bilingual edition (English-French). | » 7.— |
| II. July 1, 1967 — June 30, 1968 * | » 10.— |
| III. July 1, 1968 — June 30, 1969 * | » 15.— |
| IV. July 1, 1969 — June 30, 1970 * | » 30.— |
| V. July 1, 1970 — June 30, 1971 * | » 30.— |
| VI. July 1, 1971 — June 30, 1972 * | » 30.— |
| VII. July 1, 1972 — June 30, 1973 * | » 30.— |
| VIII. July 1, 1973 — June 30, 1974 * | » 30.— |
| IX. July 1, 1974 — June 30, 1975 * | » 30.— |

* French edition also available.