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# SOUTH VIETNAM

OFFICIAL STANDARD NAMES

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UNITED STATES BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

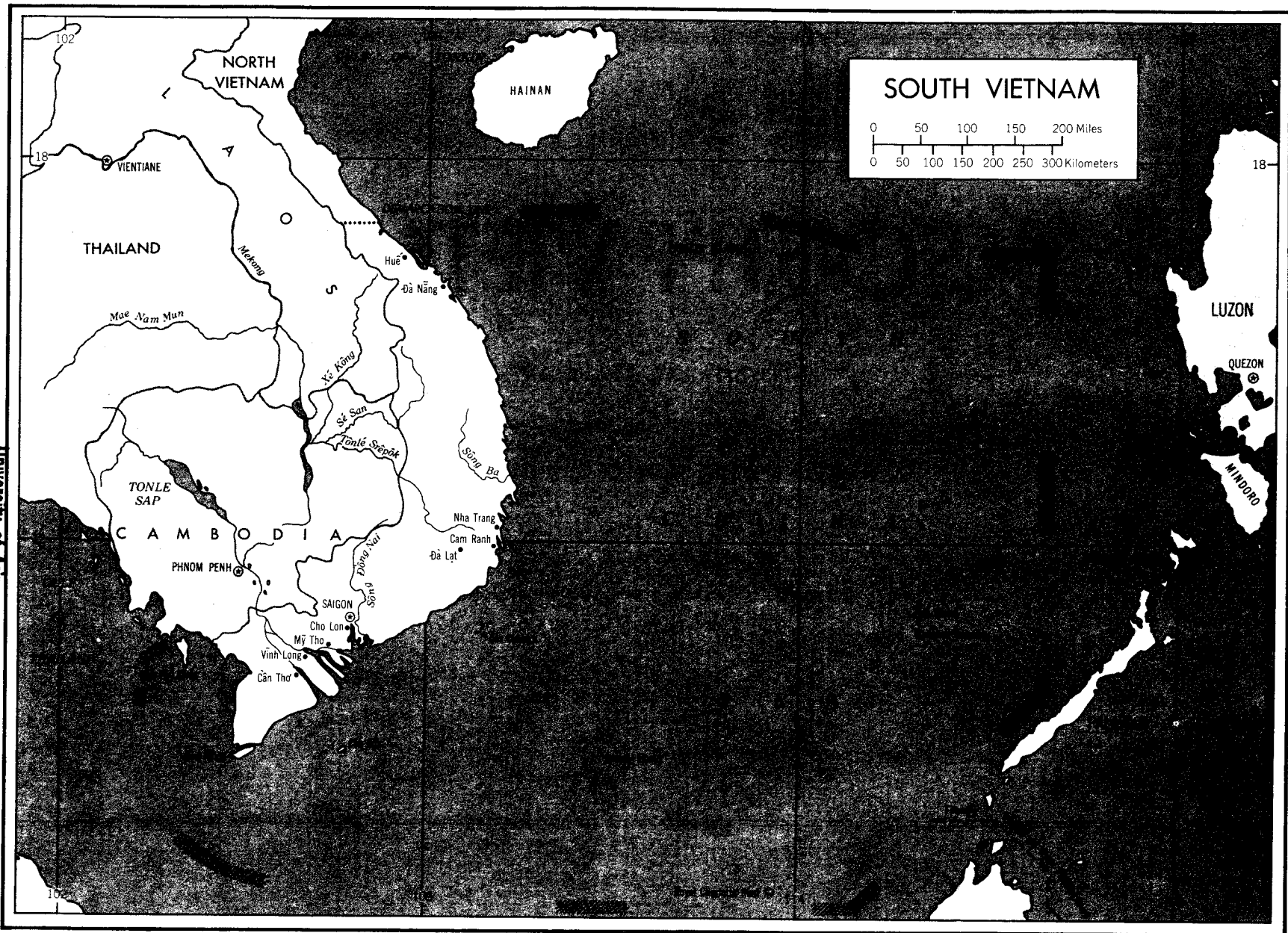
Prepared in the

Geographic Names Division, U.S. Army Topographic Command

Washington, D.C. 20315, May 1971

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# FOREWORD

This gazetteer contains about 24,000 entries for places and features in two lists: South Vietnam, 23,500 entries, and the South China Sea, 500 entries. The entries include standard names approved by the Board on Geographic Names and unapproved variant names, the latter printed in *italics* and cross-referenced to the standard names. *Users of the gazetteer should always refer to main entries for approved names.*

South Vietnam is that part of the Republic of Vietnam south of the "Demarcation Line" at approximately 17° north latitude. The area of the South China Sea for which names are included in this gazetteer is that part between 5° and 21° north latitude, west and north of the territorial limits of the Philippines and Sabah, respectively, and limited on the west by the coasts of Hainan and Vietnam and the 105th meridian of east longitude. This area includes the Paracel Islands, Pratas Island, the Dangerous Ground, and numerous other islands, reefs, and banks.

The names in this gazetteer supersede those in all previous Board lists for the areas concerned.

The map scale of name coverage for South Vietnam is approximately 1:250,000; the scale of coverage for the South China Sea is about 1:1,000,000, with coverage at larger scales for some areas. Entries include the names of first- and second-order administrative divisions, populated places of all sizes, various other cultural entities, and a variety of physical features.

Most of the entities can be identified and located by the approved name or a recognizable variant of the approved name on one or more of the following sources:

1. *Joint Operations Graphic* (Ground), Series 1501, U.S. Department of Defense agencies, 1:250,000, 1966-67. (Vietnamese mainland)
2. *Vietnam 1:50,000*, Series L7014, Army Map Service (now U.S. Army Topographic Command), 1965-70. (Vietnamese mainland)

3. Navy hydrographic charts, U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office, various dates and scales. (South China Sea and Vietnamese coast)

## Interpretation of entries

It has been necessary to express in code numbers and letters some of the information in the gazetteer in order to accommodate it to the machine method of tabulation.

Name.—Approved standard names and unapproved variant names appear in the first column. The variant names are always cross-referenced to the standard names by use of the word "see." Where part of a name is underlined, the use of the part not underlined is optional. Where two or more names are approved for a feature the usage of each is indicated in parentheses. Names containing generic elements preceding the specific term (except names of populated places) are alphabetized by the specific part; thus Dak Akoi, the name of a stream, is listed as Akoi, Dak and Dang Bo Long, a mountain, is listed as Bo Long, Dang.

All separate words should be capitalized with the exception of particles such as *đi*, *đến*, *từ*, *và*, *le*, *la*, *l'*, *les*, *de*, *d'*, and *à*. In words of French origin the apostrophe should be followed by an uppercase letter, elsewhere by a lowercase letter, for example: Île de l'Ouest; B'sum Bla.

In Vietnamese names the barred d (Đ, đ) and the following standard vowel symbols appear:

i e a o u y	ê â ô	ơ ư	ă
í é á ó ú ý	é á ó	ớ ú	á
ĩ ã õ ã ã ã ã	ẽ ã õ	õ ữ	ã
ỉ ẻ ả ỏ ử ỷ	ẻ ả ỏ	ỏ ử	ả
ì è à ò ù ÿ	è à ò	ờ ù	à
ị ẹ ạ ọ ụ ỵ	ệ â ô	ơ ư	ã

This gazetteer uses the combinations é, á, ó and è, à, ò in standard names throughout. Vietnamese usage also permits the use of ê, â, ô and ẽ, ả, õ in their stead, respectively.

French words appear as in standard French orthography, and should include where appropriate the standard diacritical marks, acute (´), circumflex (ˆ), grave (`), dieresis (¨),

and cedilla (¸), in both uppercase and lowercase print. These diacritical marks, several of those cited in the table above, and the digraph œ, also appear sporadically in words of Cambodian (Khmer), Cham, Lao, and Upland Khmer origin.

**Designation.**—The second column contains designations or abbreviations of designations, as listed below. Since practically all geographic terms have varied meanings, the senses in which the designator terms are used and the range of features to which they are applied in *this gazetteer* are stated in the list to reduce ambiguity. The distinctions that can be made in a given gazetteer will vary with the quality of the maps of the area and with the nature of the entities that are named. In South Vietnam some of the features do not fit precisely into the categories used to designate them and others could be designated in two or more ways.

ADMD first-order administrative division (*tỉnh, đô thành, thành phố, thị xã*); second-order administrative division (*quận*)

ANCH anchorage (place within a harbor or roadstead where ships may anchor)

ATOL atoll (ring of coral islands enclosing a protected lagoon)

BAR sandbar (deposit of water-borne sand at or below the water level)

BAY bay

BCH beach (deposit of sand or other unconsolidated material along a shore)

BGHT bight (open body of water forming a slight recession in a coastline)

BNKM marine bank (an elevation of the sea floor located on a continental or island shelf and over which the depth of water is relatively shallow but sufficient for safe surface navigation; includes submerged atolls)

CAPE cape (seaward end of a projection of land of such position and size as to affect the course of ships)

CHNM marine channel (channel between coastal islands, reefs, or shoals; between an offshore feature and the mainland; or through a shallow marine waterbody)

CHNS stream channel (separately named lesser channel around an island or bar in a stream)

CNL canal (general or undifferentiated purpose)

CNLI irrigation canal

CNLN navigation canal (includes some suitable only for small boats)

COVE cove (small bay)

CRKT tidal creek (watercourse tidal in all or most of its length; usually short, without extensive tributary drainage areas, and located in coastal marsh or other wetland)

CTY country

DLTA delta (land formed by the deposition of alluvium at the mouth of a stream, commonly in the form of a triangle or Greek letter *delta*)

ENTR entrance (opening from the sea into a lagoon, bay, or harbor)

EST plantation (large commercialized agricultural landholding with associated dwellings and other facilities, having unified ownership and management but requiring more than a one-family labor force, and specializing in a single tropical or subtropical cash crop)

FLL waterfall

FLTT tidal flat (coastal area alternately submerged and exposed by tide)

FRST forest

FT fort (military post with or without fortification; some may be abandoned or no longer have a military function)

GULF gulf (large, broad waterbody indenting a coast)

HLL hill (landform of moderate relief, moderate elevation, and small summit area)

HLLS hills

ISL island

ISLP	land-tied island (former island joined to the mainland by natural processes of deposition)	PLN	plain (landform of low relief, slope, and elevation)
ISLS	islands	PND	pond (small inland waterbody)
KNLU	knoll (undersea elevation rising less than 1,000 meters, or 500 fathoms, from the sea floor and of limited extent across the summit)	PNDI	intermittent pond
LCTY	locality (minor area or place of unspecified or mixed character and indefinite boundaries)	PPL	populated place (city, town, village, settlement or dispersed rural community; includes planned or other special settlements and plantation villages). Frequently two or more separate settlements with the same name occur in the same vicinity. The aforementioned map Series L7014 differentiates these by appending to the name an Arabic numeral in parentheses, a Roman numeral, or an uppercase letter. These numerals and letters have been included in the listed names but their use is optional, since they are not actually parts of names.
LGN	lagoon (waterbody along a coast, largely or wholly cut off from the sea by a barrier beach or other depositional feature)	PPLQ	abandoned village
LGNX	section of lagoon	PPLW	destroyed village
LK	lake	PPLX	section of populated place (part of a city or contiguous urbanized area named as an entity but having no known administrative status)
LKI	intermittent lake (seasonal waterbody which becomes a lake during periods of rain but which dries up or becomes a marsh or waterhole during the dry season)	PT	point (minor projection of land, or its extremity, into a waterbody)
LKS	lakes	RDGE	ridge (elongated, relatively narrow relief feature with a more or less continuous crest)
MRS	marsh (wetland characterized by grasses or bush vegetation and few or no trees; may include one or more permanent or intermittent waterbodies surrounded by marsh but not separately named)	RESF	forest reserve
MT	mountain (landform of conspicuous relief, moderate to high elevation, and small summit area)	RF	reef(s) (offshore consolidated rock hazard to navigation with a least depth of twenty meters, or ten fathoms, or less)
MTS	mountains, mountain range	RGN	region (large area recognized as an entity by reason of the unity of its history, people, landscape, or other condition or combination of conditions)
PASS	pass (way over or between mountains or other high land)	RKSW	rocks in water
PCLI	independent political entity (republic)	RKW	rock in water (individual rock of such character and importance as to be identified by name, situated either above or below the surface of a body of water; often associated with reefs but separately named)
PEN	peninsula (area of land projecting into and largely, but not entirely, surrounded by water)	RPDS	rapids (may include some waterfalls not distinguished from rapids)
PGDA	pagoda (Buddhist shrine or memorial, usually tower-like and surmounted by a spire; locally identified by the terms <i>chùa</i> or <i>wat</i> )		
PK	peak (separately named summit on a more extensive elevation)		
PLAT	plateau (extensive elevated area of flat to rolling surface; may exhibit considerable local relief due to dissection or the presence of hills or mountains rising above the general surface level)		

RSTN railroad station (building used for the transaction of railroad business, located beside a railroad track at a point where trains regularly stop to take on and discharge passengers or freight)

RSTP railroad stop (place without a station building where trains stop for passengers or freight)

RSTQ abandoned railroad station

RSV reservoir (large artificially impounded body of water)

SEA sea

SEAX section of sea (i.e., Dangerous Ground in the South China Sea)

SHOL shoal(s) (offshore hazard to navigation with a least depth of twenty meters, or ten fathoms, or less, composed of unconsolidated material)

SMT seamount (elevation rising 1,000 meters, or 500 fathoms, or more from the sea floor, and of limited extent across the summit)

SPUR spur (short sloping ridge extending laterally from a mountain or other elevation)

STM stream (river or other running fresh waterbody, perennial in all or a part of its course)

STMA anabranch (lesser stream that leaves the main stream and rejoins it after following a separate course for a considerable distance)

STMD distributary (secondary watercourse carrying part of the drainage of a larger stream into another waterbody; characteristic of deltas)

STMI intermittent stream (stream, no part of which is indicated as perennial)

STMM stream mouth

STMX section of stream (separately named part of a stream, not delimited by significant confluences)

TMPL temple

TMT tablemount (seamount having a comparatively smooth flat top)

TNLR railroad tunnel

TRGU trough (long depression of the sea floor, normally wider and shallower than a trench)

WTCB deltaic watercourse (lesser watercourse connecting distributaries or other drainage features on a delta)

Latitude and longitude.—Coordinates, in the third and fourth columns, are for finding purposes only. They were generally read to the nearest minute. For precise location, large-scale maps should be used. Coordinates were read at the map symbol for populated places and other entities occupying limited sites, at the mouths or lower ends of streams, at the summits of mountains and hills, at the extremities of capes and points, near the center of areas, and at the midpoints of most other features.

Coordinates on some maps are expressed in grads with longitude based on Paris rather than on degrees and minutes with longitude based on Greenwich. To convert grads into degrees and minutes, multiply by .9 and convert hundredths of degrees to minutes. Add 2°20' to convert Paris longitude to Greenwich longitude. To convert degrees and minutes into grads, change minutes to hundredths of degrees and multiply by 1.11. In the case of longitude based on Greenwich, first convert to the meridian of Paris by subtracting 2°20'.

Area number.—The number in the fifth column indicates the first-order administrative unit in which the place or feature is located, as listed below.

South Vietnam is divided into 55 first-order administrative divisions, eleven of which (Cam Ranh, Cần Thơ, Đà Lạt, Đà Nẵng, Huế, Mỹ Tho, Nha Trang, Qui Nhơn, Rạch Giá, Sài Gòn, and Vũng Tàu) are essentially urban in character. For convenience of reference, the eleven urban divisions are combined with the rural divisions in which they are geographically located (see numbers 465.42, 465.05, 465.32, 465.46, 465.47, 465.11, 465.42, 465.44, 465.04, 465.14, and 465.16, respectively). The general number for South Vietnam (465.00) is used for international features and for features common to two or more subordinate units. The number 913.60 identifies features located in the South China Sea.

The following are approved names for certain of the above named first-order administrative divisions which

were created so recently as to preclude inclusion in the body of this gazetteer:

<u>Cần Thơ</u> , Thị Xã .....	ADMD	10°02'N	105°47'E	465.05
<u>Mỹ Tho</u> , Thị Xã .....	ADMD	10°21'N	106°21'E	465.11
<u>Nha Trang</u> , Thị Xã .....	ADMD	12°15'N	109°11'E	465.42
<u>Qui Nhơn</u> , Thị Xã .....	ADMD	13°46'N	109°14'E	465.44
<u>Rạch Giá</u> , Thị Xã .....	ADMD	10°01'N	105°05'E	465.04

465.00 Vietnam (General)	
465.01 Bạc Liêu	
465.02 An Xuyên	
465.03 Ba Xuyên	
465.04 Kiên Giang (includes Đảo Phú Quốc and Rạch Giá)	
465.05 Phong Dinh and Cần Thơ	
465.06 Vĩnh Bình	
465.07 An Giang	465.27 Hậu Nghĩa
465.08 Vĩnh Long	465.28 Phú Bôn
465.09 Kiến Hòa	465.29 Quảng Tín
465.10 Kiến Phong	465.30 Lâm Đồng
465.11 Định Tường and Mỹ Tho	465.31 Quảng Đức
465.12 Kiến Tường	465.32 Tuyên Đức and Đà Lạt
465.13 Long An	465.33 Darlac
465.14 Gia Định and Sài Gòn (includes Côn Sơn)	465.34 Pleiku
465.15 Biên Hòa	465.35 Kontum
465.16 Phước Tuy and Vũng Tàu	465.40 Bình Thuận
465.17 Tây Ninh	465.41 Ninh Thuận
465.18 Bình Dương	465.42 Khánh Hòa, Nha Trang and Cam Ranh
465.19 Chương Thiện	465.43 Phú Yên
465.20 Long Khánh	465.44 Bình Định and Qui Nhơn
465.21 Bình Tuy	465.45 Quảng Ngãi
465.22 Bình Long	465.46 Quảng Nam and Đà Nẵng
465.23 Phước Long	465.47 Thừa Thiên and Huế
465.24 Sa Đéc	465.48 Quảng Trị
465.25 Châu Đốc	
465.26 Gò Công	

Glossary of generic terms.—The following terms occur in the standard names listed in the gazetteer. The meanings given include those supported by application to features named in the gazetteer, whether or not these meanings are given in dictionaries. Entries marked Cam, Ch, Fr, L, M, and UKh are of Cambodian, Cham, French, Lao, Malay, and Upland Khmer origin, respectively. The terms Cham, Lao, and Upland Khmer refer to related groups of languages and dialects, rather than to single languages. Terms not identified are Vietnamese.

ao .....	bay
bãi .....	beach, floodplain
baie (Fr) .....	bay
banc (Fr) .....	shoal, marine bank
bán đảo .....	peninsula
barre (Fr) .....	sandbar
bàu .....	pond, intermittent pond, lagoon, marsh, lake(s)
bến .....	bay
benom (UKh) .....	mountain
biển .....	lake
b'nam, b'nom, b'nôm (UKh) .....	mountain(s), hill, peak, lake
bol (UKh) .....	mountain, ridge, peak
bonom (UKh) .....	mountain
bưng (Cam) .....	lake, stream
cao nguyên .....	plateau, mountain
cap (Fr) .....	cape, mountain
chaîne (Fr) .....	mountain range
chi (Ch) .....	mountain, hill, spur
chóp .....	hill
chư (Ch) .....	mountain, hill, peak, mountain range
chùa .....	pagoda
chur (Ch) .....	marsh
co, coc (UKh) .....	mountain, peak
col (Fr) .....	pass
còn .....	island

cư (Ch) .....	mountain, hill, peak, spur	île(s), îlot(s) (Fr) ...	island(s)
cửa .....	stream mouth, entrance, marine channel, bay	kăkan (UKh) .....	mountain, hill
cù lao .....	island	karum (UKh) .....	stream
da (UKh) .....	stream, intermittent stream	khe .....	stream, distributary
đá .....	mountain, peak	khé (UKh) .....	peak, mountain
dak, đak (UKh) ...	stream, intermittent stream, stream section	khé .....	stream
đầm .....	cove, bay, section of a lagoon, lagoon, lake	khê .....	stream
dan (UKh) .....	mountain, ridge	kinh .....	canal, irrigation canal, navigation canal
dang, đang, đàng (UKh) .....	hill, mountain	ko (UKh) .....	mountain
đảo .....	island	kong, kông (UKh) .	mountain, hill
dar (UKh) .....	stream	kron, krông (Ch) ..	stream
dãy, dãy núi .....	hills, mountains, mountain range	lac (Fr) .....	lake
đèo .....	pass	lạch .....	marine channel
điền .....	temple	lung .....	stream, irrigation canal
dinh điền .....	agricultural station, agricultural estate	miếu .....	temple
đồn .....	fort, military post	m'neun (UKh) .....	mountain, peak
đồn điền .....	plantation	m'non (UKh) .....	ridge
dong, đông, động (UKh) .....	hill, mountain, peak, ridge	mont (Fr) .....	hill, mountain
dòng .....	marsh, plain	montagnes (Fr) ...	hills
đồng bằng .....	plain	mũi .....	point, cape, rock in water, mountain
đô thành .....	first-order administrative division	mương .....	irrigation canal, stream
đường .....	stream	ngả .....	irrigation canal, stream
ea (Ch) .....	stream, intermittent stream, stream section, anabranh, lake, intermittent lake	ngoc, ngok (UKh) .	peak, mountain, hill, ridge
ga, ga xép .....	railroad station	nông trường .....	agricultural village
hầm .....	tunnel	nor (UKh) .....	mountain
hauts-fonds (Fr) ...	shoals	núi .....	hill, mountain, peak, ridge
hồ .....	lake	nước .....	stream
hòn .....	island(s), rock(s) in water, land-tied island, point, peak, hill, mountain	o (Cam) .....	stream
ia (Ch) .....	stream, intermittent stream, lake, intermittent lake	passe (Fr) .....	marine channel
		phá .....	lagoon
		phnom (Cam) .....	hill, mountain
		phou (L) .....	mountain
		pointe (Fr) .....	point
		poulo (M) .....	island(s)
		prêk (Cam) .....	stream, intermittent stream
		prey (Cam) .....	forest



presqu'île (Fr) .....	peninsula	thác .....	waterfall, rapids
quận .....	second-order administrative division	thành phố .....	first-order administrative division
quần đảo .....	islands	thị xã .....	first-order administrative division
rạch .....	stream, intermittent stream, stream section, anabranh, distributary, stream channel, navigation canal, marine channel, tidal creek, deltaic watercourse, irrigation canal	tiêu (Ch) .....	mountain
rào .....	stream	tỉnh .....	first-order administrative division
récif (Fr) .....	reef	tioh (Ch) .....	mountain
réserve forestière (Fr) .....	forest reserve	tong (Ch) .....	stream
roche (Fr) .....	rock in water, hill	trạm .....	railroad station
rocher (Fr) .....	rock(s) in water	vàm .....	tidal creek, stream mouth, distributary
rừng .....	forest	vịnh .....	bay, bight, cove
sé .....	stream	vũng .....	bay, bight, lake
sommet (Fr) .....	peak	wat (Cam) .....	pagoda
sơn .....	mountain	xé .....	stream
sông .....	stream, intermittent stream, stream section, anabranh, distributary, stream channel, navigation canal, tidal creek	xèo .....	stream
stœng, stung (Cam) .....	stream	xép .....	anabranh
suối .....	stream, intermittent stream, irrigation canal, stream section	ya (Ch) .....	stream
tắc .....	stream	yan (Ch) .....	mountain
tam (UKh) .....	stream	yok, yôk (UKh) ...	hill(s), mountain, peak
		youk, yuk (UKh) ..	hill, mountain, peak

#### Reporting of errors

It is requested that all who use this gazetteer aid in its correction for future printings by reporting errors to the Board on Geographic Names, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. A statement of the source of the correct information will be helpful.

Geographic names or their spellings do not necessarily reflect recognition of the political status of an area by the United States Government.