TRANSLATION

GENERAL COMMISSARIAT FOR REFUGEES

Resettlement Section

No 9-Ex

Memorandum on the implementation of Resettlement Projects

It has been decided to base the whole resettlement program on a system of refugee centers, each center having its own administrative organization and budget. Several centers have already been surveyed, their plans and budgets have been approved and nevertheless implementation of the program lags; operations are at a standstill.

A careful scrutiny of the projects shows three main difficulties:

- financial difficulties
- lack of technical personnel
- lack of equipment

I. Financial difficulties

The greatest part of the funds which can be used by the Commissariat for Refugees for resettlement come from Foreign Aid. The organization of Foreign Aid procedure is ruled by decree No 34 PTT/VF of January 21, 1955. The regulations of this decree are flexible enough to allow for the shortening of the excessive delays required for obligation of funds under normal administrative procedures.

To this end, the National Committee for Foreign Aid should be requested to authorize the establishment, in each province which has a refugee center, of a revolving fund from which all emergency expenditures related to project proposals could be met. (article 49 of Decree No 39 PTT/VF of January 21, 1955)

In this way, the "Régisseur comptable" of these revolving funds could pay without undue delay -- in the form of checks drawn on the "Trésor" -- expenditures such as the salaries of the temporary personnel paid on special pay-sheets (feuilles d'attache) and of services and procurements, after due certification by the General Commissariat (article 45 of above mentioned decree) and visa "Bon à payer" from the General Administrator for Foreign Aid.

In order to ensure maximum efficiency, the "Régisseurs comptables" should be selected from Comigal personnel and detached to a center where they would, in addition to their duties as administrators of the funds, assume the functions of assistants to the Center Chiefs in charge of project implementation.
The functioning of each center would therefore be assured by:

a. The existence of its own budget. This budget is established after a study conducted by the Resettlement Section. It is reviewed and approved by the General Commissioner after the consent of the financing foreign technical missions has been secured, and transmitted to the General Administrator for Foreign Aid.

b. By the establishment of a revolving fund — this revolving fund is provided by the Province Chief in his capacity as deputy authorizing officer for the funds designated by the Administrator for Foreign Aid.

c. By a close cooperation between the General Commissariat for Refugees, the Province Chief and the Center Chief under whose authority the "Régisseur Comptable" is placed.

d. By adequate control of funds — control documents being submitted to the General Commissariat for certification of services rendered.

II. Shortage of technicians

The competent commissions concerned has estimated that 20 refugee centers and three survey, study and control teams should be established. Of these 20 centers, 13 are contiguous (such as Bia and Gia Kiem), and 7 will be made up of separate groups (as in Thudamot).

Besides the technicians needed for the establishment of these centers and for the survey and study teams, some technicians should be provided for special fields of activities (fisheries, village industry specialists, rural hydraulics) as well as for personnel needed as "cadres" for the five groups of mechanical equipment.

Foreign technicians will be recruited abroad and Vietnamese technicians will be recruited in Vietnam.

a. Foreign technicians

150,000 US$ and 10,000,000 IGS have been included in USNM's budget for this purpose. This allows for about 70 technicians.

One or two teams, answering Magr. Chi's appeal, are ready to leave Rome. On the other hand USNM is negotiating recruitment of 46 Japanese and Filipino technicians.

It is an urgent necessity that the status of this personnel should be defined. It seems that the easiest procedure would consist of asking the foreign technical mission taking the responsibility of recruiting this personnel to assume the costs involved and to detach the technicians for a given length of time to the General Commissariat.
b. Vietnamese technicians

The General Commissariat meets great difficulties in the recruitment of these technicians on account of limitations imposed by the texts regulating the hiring of Public officials, which do not provide for these exceptional circumstances. This can be solved by making use of the basic texts regulating Foreign Aid procedure.

Article 32 of Decree No.39 F'T of January 21, 1955 stipulates that contract personnel and daily labourers whose services are recognized as necessary for the running of services in charge of Foreign Aid administration must be recruited and paid "under conditions as close as possible" to those applied for Public officials.

It would therefore be sufficient to convene the Special Commission provided for in the same article in order to establish the status of the Vietnamese personnel contemplated.

It is to be noted that these appointments will be made only for a limited period, on a temporary and revocable basis, and that, whenever conditions will permit it, it will be advisable to recruit on the field (especially so for "cadres" such as supervisors and agents de culture).

Deviations from the usual rules applying to all Public Services will have to be admitted particularly in regard to the hiring of Public Officials (compulsory recruitment of veterans, diplomas, classification, etc...)

c. Specialists needed.

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III. Lack of equipment

In order to organize the centers, they should be provided from the start not only with proper "cadres" of personnel, but also with the minimum planned equipment. Measures should be taken to that effect and steps taken for procurement of the following items:

a. Agricultural implements

75,000 hoes -- 75,000 coupe-coupe -- 60,000 had sickles -- 25,000 axes -- 60,000 shovels -- 60,000 pickaxes -- 60,000 pitchforks -- 7,000 all purpose saws -- 1,000 ribbon saws -- 1,500 miners' bars.

It is very important that these tools should be suited to the special requirements of Vietnamese cultivators, who do not use tools with which they are not familiar. They must also be of good quality; bad results have been obtained with locally made tools.

b. Vehicles

That equipment was to be taken from French Army equipment to be returned to MAAG. A first delivery was made after verbal agreement. Since MAAG did not ratify these agreements everything seems to have stopped. This problem requires an urgent solution. The most urgent needs are the following:

100 2 to 3 tons trucks
20 light lorries "trou terrains"
20 ambulances
40 Jeeps

c. Tractors

Procurement of 5 groups of tractors -- 3 for highland work and 2 for lowlands -- is urgently needed.

Concerning this, special attention should be given to the setting up of the school of mechanics and bulldozer operators which is being established in Bia. If the personnel needed to staff the groups of mechanical equipment would be selected among young refugee volunteers, trained personnel which is unobtainable otherwise would thus be ready in good time.

Medical equipment

There will be 13 contiguous centers, each of which will have a 50 bed infirmary, and 7 centers made up of separate groups. The question of medical supplies for these groups has still to be settled.

Fertilizer and Seeds -- pour mémoire

In summary, the studies conducted on the organization of refugees in groups and centers having their own budget, their own plan of action and
and the necessary technical personnel and equipment shows clearly that the method is satisfactory and that refugees are approving it.

The condition for its successful implementation is a suitable administrative organization to be created at the Commissariat level.

It is imperative that we follow up the beginnings which we have made, otherwise failure will be inevitable.

September 26, 1955

J. Le Fichon
Expert
COMIGAL
II. CHANNELING OF EXPENDITURES

PROVINCE CHIEF

2nd visas
Pay sheets
Working out of charges for services

CENTER CHIEF

1st visas
Pay sheets
Working out of charges for services

GENERAL ADMINISTRATOR A.E.A.

Controls and transmits for visa to Inspector General (art. 41)

INSPECTOR GENERAL A.E.

Last visa return (art. 41)

COMIGAL

Certification for services rendered