**PUBLIC OF VIETNAM**

Secretariat of State for Land Property and Agrarian Reform

**Saigon, November 24, 1955**

**No. 1380-DTCC/55/VF**

**SUBJECT:** Program for the Cultivation of a 77,000 ha. Area of Land

**Perimeter:** Bassac-Canal Long-Xuyen Rach
Gia (Nui Sa) - Canal Song Cai
Be to That Not - Road Rach-Giang Rieng including a zone of a total superficy of 150,000 ha.

The surveys executed by the Ministry for Agrarian Reform show the available land areas as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For B.CN-IA Province</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Village of Phi-Thong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Hong-Tho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Tan-Hiep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Tan-Noi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Thanh-Dong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Tho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Giuc-Tuong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Thanh-Ruong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Thanh-Loi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Thanh-Hoa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For LONG-XUYEN: Province</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Village of Thanh-Coi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Thanh-Phu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Dinh-Ly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Vinh Chanh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL:** 77,000 Ha
When the Agrarian Reform Services (especially cadastral and Topography Surveys) will be on hand for the execution of this project, we believe it possible to obtain an additional superfic of approximately 10 to 15,000 Ha.

Formerly these first class lands were cultivated. They were simply wasted on account of insecurity and mostly for lack of means of exploitation.

SOCIAL AIM - to achieve permanent settlement of refugees who will become farmers under the provisions of Ordinance 29-a, dated April 25, 1955.

ECONOMIC AIM - Each farmer will benefit from the attribution of a farm lease contract for 3 Ha; plot of land. The income will be sufficient to support a family of 5 persons without taking into account the income resulting from market gardening and fishing (food products).

At the rate of 80 "gia" of paddy per hectare (relatively low figure), the anticipated production will be of:

\[ 80 \text{ gia/Ha.} \times 77,000 = 6,160,000 \text{ gia} \]

or

\[ 6,160,000 \times 20 \text{ Kgs.} = 123,200 \text{ tons} \]

At the average price in 1955 for rice, VN$50 per gia, the production will represent an amount of:

\[ 6,160,000 \times 50 = VN$303,000,000 \]

not counting the income from various foods (vivrier) which are very important.
It is deemed advisable to draw the attention on the provisions of Ordinance No. 7, of February 5, 1955, exempting the farmer from paying the farm rental for the first year of exploitation. This will tend to increase the refugees' income for the first year.

**RESPONSIBLE MINISTRIES**

The carrying out of this program devolves on the Services for Planning under the jurisdiction of the Presidency and on the Ministry of Agrarian Reform, with the aid of the technical services of Public Works and Agriculture.

The Commissariat General for Refugees will take charge of all social matters concerning to the refugees.

We present hereinafter, on separate sheets, the time table of work and the various chapters of the budget of this program.
The carrying out of this project allows to definitely resettle 100,000 refugees who will be housed in 20,000 "paillotes".

The establishment of 5 centers comprising 5 villages is anticipated. Each center will group 4,000 paillotes, each village 800 paillotes.

Furthermore, will be created:

10 infirmaries in masonry work
10 maternity hospitals ibid
10 schools ibid
10 communal halls made of wood.

These constructions have been provided for in this project under Chapter: 'Installation works. They will add to those existing in the area.

Their location is mentioned on the attached map of the area. The infirmary and the maternity, as well as the school and the communal hall will be built close to the market.

The agricultural and propaganda agents will be chosen among the cadres for land reform who had been formed since July 1955, and which will be increased according to the needs.

The male nurses, midwives, and elementary school teachers will be supplied by the ministerial services.
A. TECHNICAL ORGANIZATION

Ploughing will be done with tractors.

Two technicians, agricultural and mechanized farming experts will directly supervise:

1. **Central Workshop** consisting in a shop foreman fully qualified to repair all equipment.

   He will be assisted by:
   1. Blacksmith
   1. Lathe-turner
   1. Welder

   He supervises five jeeps fully equipped as mobile workshops to maintain tractors in good working order in the field (since the area on which the tractors will operate is very wide, small repairs should be done on the spot to save time and fuel).

   Each jeep will be manned by two teams consisting of:
   1. Mechanic
   1. Assistant in charge of maintenance and good operating condition of 10 tractors.

II. **10 Teams of Operators:**

   Each team consist of:
   1. Responsible Chief operator
   9. Operators
   plus 10 assistants. Each machine needs one assistant to adjust the ploughs according to land level and to clean up the plough's discs.

III. **A Team of 10 Supervisors:**

   Each supervisor will control the movements of 10 tractors on the work site in order to avoid getting the machines bogged.
B. ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

The Administrative Office is composed of:

- 2 Secretary-bookkeepers
- 2 Typists

It receives every day at 06:00 p.m. the daily memorandum slips kept by:

- The store-keepers (incoming and outgoing slip)
- The tractor operators (machine checking slip)
- The supervisors (statement of supervisors' performance rating)
- The Foreman of the central workshop,
- The drivers: the drivers of the 5 trucks, 10 Jeeps, and 5 Motor-boats,
- The doctor having at his disposal 3 male nurses

This Administrative Office has to send to the Technical Achievements Control Department (Ministry of Agrarian Reform):

1º/ Every week (Saturday afternoon), a detailed report on the activities of the various sections of the mechanized farming center;

2º/ On the 1st of the month, the statement of salaries and expenditures for the coming month so as to receive on the 27th of the month the funds necessary to pay the salaries on the 28th of each month.

It controls and coordinates the activities of the drivers by issuing outgoing slips for each vehicle or motor-boat, it indicates the purpose and the duration of the use of vehicles.
TIME TABLE

From December 1st to December 10, 1955

Research Mission at Mong-Tho and Tan-Hiep of the
Agrarian Reform Ministry
Orders for appliances
Orders for fuel, lubricants
Recruitment of personnel
Purchase of various materials
Acceptance of equipment ordered.

December 15

Erection of shelters and buildings
Transportation of equipment to work site

From January 15, 1956 to May 15, 1956 - latest date allowed for
floating rice
Preparation of the land
Burning the herbs
Ploughing, crushing. But the work may, in the best
conditions, be completed by the end of April

June

Removing of equipment to another location
Repairing of machines; equipment’s maintenance

From June to September - Utilization of tractors to prepare the
land for paddy to be planted out in another area
ESTIMATES FOR STARTING OPERATIONS

1/ Research Mission

A research mission composed of:

3 Agricultural experts of the Agrarian Reform Ministry
4 Experts in mechanized farming
1 Mechanic
1 Supervisor

The members making a squad (11 persons) of the Cadastral and Topographic Survey

This research mission will go to Rach-Gia, Long-Xuyen and will remain there 10 days (from December 1st to December 10) to carry on preliminary surveys concerning the purchase of appropriate machines. It will appoint the location for the future centers for rational distribution of the machines.

On account of the 10 days necessary for the survey and the number of representatives and experts, this mission will require 100,000.00.

2/ Starting Operations

From December 10 to December 31, 1955 -

We have at our disposal 4 Engineers specialized in mechanized farming, and we'll detach 2 of them for the implementation of the program.
In addition, it is advisable to recruit:

4 other specialists in mechanized farming
2 secretary-bookkeepers
15 drivers for the Jeeps and trucks
10 Chief operators

i.e. an expense of $150,000.00

Total to carry forward $250,000.00
3°/- TRANSPORTATION OF THE EQUIPMENT ON THE WORK SITE

For the transportation of the equipment on the work site (such as, tractors, agricultural implements and the equipment of the Mechanized Farming Center), it is advisable to reckon on: 600,000.00

4°/- TRAVELING EXPENSES

To enable the cadresmen (trained personnel) to go from Saigon to Rach-Gia - Long-Xuyen and vice-versa for the various sections.

TOTAL: 100,000.00

TOTAL: 950,000.00
MONTHLY SALARIES OF THE PERSONNEL OF THE CENTER

MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL.
- 2 Engineers .......................................................... 24,000
- 2 Technicians (agricultural and mechanized farming experts) 10,000 per month 20,000

OFFICE PERSONNEL.
- 2 Typists ................................................................. 2,500 5,000
- 2 Accountants ......................................................... 4,000 8,000
- 2 Warehousemen ......................................................... 3,000 6,000

QUALIFIED PERSONNEL.
- 10 Chief Operators .................................................. 4,000 40,000
- 10 Supervisors ......................................................... 3,000 30,000
- 50 Operators ............................................................ 3,000 27,000
- 100 Assistants ......................................................... 3,000 30,000
- 5 Stand-by operators .................................................. 3,000 15,000
- 5 Stand-by assistants .................................................. 2,000 10,000

WORKS OF PERSONNEL.
- 1 Foreman ............................................................... 7,000 7,000
- 10 Mechanics ........................................................... 4,000 40,000
- 10 Assistant-mechanics ................................................. 2,500 25,000
- 1 Turner ................................................................. 3,000 3,000
- 1 Blacksmith ............................................................. 3,000 3,000
- 1 Torder ................................................................. 3,000 3,000

DRIVERS.
- 5 Truck drivers ....................................................... 3,000 15,000
- 10 Jeep drivers .......................................................... 3,000 30,000
- 10 Motorbike operators ................................................. 2,500 12,500

MEDICAL PERSONNEL.
- 1 Doctor ................................................................. 10,000
- 3 Male nurses ............................................................ 10,300
- Reserve: 10% for work efficiency bonuses 782,000

TOTAL: 391,200
i.e. for 4 months: 391,200 × 4 = 3,444,000.
- 11 -

MOTOR FUEL and LUBRICANT

Monthly needs

On the basis of 100 tractors working 10 hours a day; hourly consumption 10 liters

- Diesel oil: 91 x 10 x 100 .................................................. 919,000.00$
- Gasoline for starting: 17,000 liters ........................................ 76,000.00$
- Grease: 6,000 kg ............................................................... 174,000.00$
- Lubricant: 69,000 liters .................................................... 1,020,000.00$
- Gasoline for 5 trucks: 13,000 liters ..................................... 61,000.00$
- Gasoline for 10 jeeps: 20,000 liters .................................... 90,000.00$
- Gasoline for motor-boats .................................................. 13,500.00$
- Kerosene: 3,500 liters ...................................................... 24,500.00$
- Transport charges at the rate of $0.50 per liter
  351,300 l. x 0.50 ..................................................... 231,040.00$
  6,000 l. x 0.50 ..................................................... 4,800.00$

Total ................................................................. 2,564,940.00$

i.e. for 4 months: 10,257,360.00$
### FLOWING EQUIPMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Mobile workshops</td>
<td>1,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Central workshop</td>
<td>2,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimate for the repair of tractors and agricultural equipment</td>
<td>2,500,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheds: 400,000 x 10</td>
<td>4,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tractors: 20 caterpillars</td>
<td>7,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 wheeled tractors</td>
<td>10,400,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 Sets of metallic wheels</td>
<td>4,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural machines:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 Flows with 12 discs</td>
<td>1,750,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Flows with 7 discs</td>
<td>750,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 Pulverizers with discs (32 discs)</td>
<td>2,100,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>35,500,000.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantity</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6 Wheeler - drive jeeps with trailers for the 5 mobile-workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jeeps Willys with trailers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Low platform trucks or trucks with trailer for the transport of caterpillars as well as fuel and lubricants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Motor-boats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Typewriters</td>
<td></td>
<td>12,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Pressure lamps</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 Hurricane lamps</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Electric torches</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 Tables for 10 persons</td>
<td></td>
<td>15,750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 Benches</td>
<td></td>
<td>13,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Meeting - table and chairs</td>
<td></td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Desks for typist</td>
<td></td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Desks for secretary</td>
<td></td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Desks for expert</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Desk for Chief of Center</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office furniture and supplies for</td>
<td></td>
<td>50,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>administrative office of center</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodging for the personnel of center</td>
<td></td>
<td>400,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Electric generating sets</td>
<td></td>
<td>100,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Transmitting-receiving radio set</td>
<td></td>
<td>200,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 Pickaxes</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 Shovels</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 Sickles</td>
<td></td>
<td>7,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>828,100.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
M E D I C A L S U P P L I E S

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicines (for 4 months)</td>
<td>$80,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premises, Furniture</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incidentals</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$97,000.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- 4 bâa per ha. (Nang Trich mid-season -
harvest in December - also named Tau Hut)
white variety of the "Domaine de l'Ouest
77,000 x 4 x 60®.-----------------------------18,420,000®.-
- 5, are parts for the tractors
- Maintenance of the equipment
- Fuel, lubricant, kerosene, grease,
- Qualified personnel,
- Labor .......................................................... 7,000,000.00 $
INSTALLATION WORK AND LOANS FOR STARTING OPERATIONS

1°/ Buildings
- Individual houses: 2,000$ (1) x 20,000 .................. 40,000,000$
- Masonry public buildings at 200,000$
  per unit (10 infirmaries and 10 maternities)........ 4,000,000$
- Masonry school buildings............................. 2,000,000$
- Community Hall-wood construction at 20,000$
  per unit, 10 units.................................. 20,000,000$
- Construction of 5 masonry markets.................. 50,000,000$

2°/ Loans for Starting Operations (Life Annuity)

Mosquito Nets:
- 2 mosquito nets per family at
  150$ each: 150 x 2 x 20,000.......................... 6,000,000$
- Essential medicines.................................. 500,000$

Subsistence:
1,000$ per family: 1,000$ x 20,000..................... 20,000,000$
- Purchase of essential utensils:
  Water jar, cooking-pot: 200$ per
  family 200 x 20,000.................................. 4,000,000$
- Farming implements 300$ per family:
  300 x 20,000........................................ 6,000,000$

3°/ Work:
- Miscellaneous work (road and earthwork)............. 4,500,000$
- Low-powered hydraulic pumps
  (50 pumps)

General Total 91,500,000$

(1) Estimates given by local authorities:
the wood and thatch will be purchased in the vicinity of An-Bien.
- Estimated starting cost .............................................. $950,000
- Salaries ................................................................. $3,400,000
- Ploughing Equipment ................................................ $35,500,000
- Miscellaneous Equipment .......................................... $823,100
- Transportation Equipment ......................................... $3,600,000
- Medical Supplies ..................................................... $87,000
- Seeds ................................................................. $13,400,000
- Motor Fuel and Lubricants ....................................... $10,257,000
- Repair upon Completion of Season ............................. $7,000,000
- Financial Estimates ................................................ $91,500,000

171,697,660

plus 10% security mar. in for

incidentals

17,169,720

TOTAL 188,866,380

THAT IS: 188,866,380
**EXPENDITURES SCHEDULE**

### DECEMBER 1955
- Estimated Starting Cost: 950,000
- Purchase of Ploughing Equipment: 35,500,000
- Purchase of Vehicles: 3,600,000
- Purchase of Miscellaneous Equipment: 828,100
- Medical Supplies: 97,000

10% Security Margin: 40,975,100

### JANUARY 1956
- Salaries: 792,000
- Fuel and Lubricants: 2,564,340
  (1) Work Efficiency Bonuses: 79,200

10% Security Margin: 3,435,540

### FEBRUARY 1956
- Salaries: 792,000
- Fuel and Lubricants: 2,564,340
  (1) Work Efficiency Bonuses: 79,200

10% Security Margin: 3,435,540

### MARCH 1956
- Salaries: 792,000
- Fuel and Lubricants: 2,564,340
  (1) Work Efficiency Bonuses: 79,200

10% Security Margin: 3,435,540

### APRIL 1956
- Salaries: 792,000
- Fuel and Lubricants: 2,564,340
  (1) Work Efficiency Bonuses: 79,200
- Financial Estimates, Installation, Starting: 91,500,000
- Seeds: 18,575,000

10% Security Margin: 113,415,540

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Estimated Starting Cost</td>
<td>950,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Purchase of Ploughing Equipment</td>
<td>35,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Purchase of Vehicles</td>
<td>3,600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Purchase of Miscellaneous Equipment</td>
<td>828,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medical Supplies</td>
<td>97,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10% Security Margin</td>
<td>40,975,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>792,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fuel and Lubricants</td>
<td>2,564,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Work Efficiency Bonuses</td>
<td>79,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10% Security Margin</td>
<td>3,435,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>792,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fuel and Lubricants</td>
<td>2,564,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Work Efficiency Bonuses</td>
<td>79,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10% Security Margin</td>
<td>3,435,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>792,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fuel and Lubricants</td>
<td>2,564,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Work Efficiency Bonuses</td>
<td>79,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10% Security Margin</td>
<td>3,435,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>792,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fuel and Lubricants</td>
<td>2,564,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Work Efficiency Bonuses</td>
<td>79,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Financial Estimates, Installation, Starting</td>
<td>91,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seeds</td>
<td>18,575,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10% Security Margin</td>
<td>113,415,540</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---
MAY - JUNE 1956

- Repair upon completion of season 7,000,000
   plus 10% Security margin 700,000

= 7,700,000
CONCLUSION

ACTUAL COST OF PROGRAM

In pursuance of the Decree No. 29-a establishing the emergency loan system by the "Credit Populaire Agricole", which provides for each family a loan of 1,500$ for the construction of a "millote" and 500$ per hectare of semi-direct cultivation we have (on the 1959 credit):

\[
\begin{align*}
1,500 & \times 20,000 = 30,000,000 \\
500 & \times 2 \text{ ha.} \times 20,000 = 20,000,000 \\
\hline
50,000,000
\end{align*}
\]

The capital invested will therefore be:

\[128,866,106 - 60,000,000 = 128,866,106\]

But given that on this budget, the recoverable equipment represents a value of:

- Equipment \[35,500,000\]
- Miscellaneous Equipment \[828,100\]
- Transportation Equipment \[3,600,000\]

\[39,928,100\]

The actual cost of the program will be:

\[128,866,106 - 39,928,100 = 88,938,006\]

plus 15% for incidentals \[102,000,000\]

\[204,938,006\]
The implementation of the present project permits the establishment of a cordon of security which will be placed at the extreme west-end of the Longsouyen, Rachgia area (at the extreme limit of the arable land (1) beyond which are located the flooded land and forest of the Tram area.

The carrying out of a second project called the "Caman Project" will allow us to set up a second cordon of security.

We will thus have created two security zones which facilitate the pacification work in the west.

(1) On the Longsouyen-Rachgia canal and on the canal from Song Caibe to Thoinot.

(2) Actually under study and which will be developed on the Rachien-Caman axis.