

MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE
EAST LANSING

OFFICE OF
COMPTROLLER AND TREASURER

September 21, 1954

MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. May
From: Mr. Pierson
Subject: Mission to Indo-China.

This is a report on the present status of arrangements with FOA to send a survey team to Indo-China within the next week or so.

Information at hand indicates that Mr. Salter of FOA left the following message with Mrs. Beck, substituting for Miss Jameyson in President Hannah's office, on September 2. President Hannah was on vacation at the time.

"He is anxious to work out a program between American Universities and FOA. At the recommendation of Mr. Fischel in Indo-China he would like to know if MSC is interested in sending four men to Indo-China as consultants. He stipulated the following conditions: they be kept on the College payroll, the Government will pay for their transportation and a subsidy for maintenance, they must be ready to leave immediately and be gone for 3 weeks to a month. One man from each of the following fields: public administration, police administration, public finance, and journalism (they requested someone from journalism but Mr. Salter is of the opinion they meant Public Information Administrator). He asks that you take this into consideration immediately on his return and call Russell Andrus at ST 3-6400, Ext. 3375, on September 8, with a decision. Mr. Andrus will be waiting for the call."

On President Hannah's return, he requested Dean Wyngarden to obtain more information about the proposed survey. Mr. Andrus was the contact person in Washington at that time. He stated to Dean Wyngarden that it was the general policy to keep members of survey teams from colleges and universities on the college payrolls for a month. He indicated that if the survey should require more than a month, FOA would put the members of the survey team on a consultation basis. Dean Wyngarden said he was not sure whether or not such a change would be retroactive to the first month. My guess is that it would not be. I further understand that any consultation fees would be paid directly to the men involved. Mr. Andrus stated that transportation overseas would be furnished at Government expense, meaning that the tickets would be purchased by FOA and delivered to the travelers. They would be expected to arrange for their meals, lodging and other maintenance expenses on a reimbursable basis at a rate of



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\$10.00 per day in this country and \$6.00 per day in foreign countries. No mention was made of any special provisions for life, accident or health insurance.

Dean Wyngarden asked Mr. Andrus for a letter of authorization for our staff members to travel under these terms but was told there would not be time to put through such a letter. Mr. Andrus requested that they proceed on the mission on the basis of this oral statement of FOA's "policy".

Dean Wyngarden referred to the fact that he had called you some time ago to request you to handle contract arrangements. I am of the opinion now that he was referring to the terms of a contract covering a possible mission to Indo-China after the completion of a survey. Apparently he did not consider it necessary to have a written contract covering the survey itself. I think he was aware that this office had raised a question about the propriety of the College's contributing approximately a month of time by four staff members without reimbursement for either the direct or the indirect costs to the College.



MRP/vs