

Projects Vietnam

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE • EAST LANSING

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ARTS • OFFICE OF THE DEAN

JUNE 8, 1956

PRESIDENT JOHN A. HANNAH
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
CAMPUS

DEAR PRESIDENT HANNAH :

ATTACHED IS THE LATEST MONTHLY REPORT OF
THE MICHIGAN STATE EDUCATION GROUP IN
SAIGON.

SINCERELY,

Milton E. Muelder

MILTON E. MUELDER, DEAN
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ARTS

MEM:EP

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JUN 11 1956

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
President's Office

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Vietnam Advisory Team
Saigon

May 7 1956 RECEIVED

Office of the Chief Advisor

TO: USOM, MSU

JUN 11 1956

FROM: Dr. Wesley R. Fishel, Chief Advisor, MSUG

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
President's Office

SUBJECT: Monthly Report of the Michigan State University Group

A reorganization of MSUG took place late in the month as a recognition of several personnel changes and the forthcoming expansion of the Group's activities. Drs. Hunter and Dorsey are scheduled to return to the campus early in May, and Dr. Ralph Smuckler, originally scheduled to return in May, will remain in Saigon until late Fall. The new organization provides for an Assistant Chief Advisor, Dr. Smuckler, and four program divisions in addition to the Executive Office. The Chief of the Police Division is Howard Hoyt; Chief of Field Administration, Walter Mode; Chief of National Institute, Guy Fox; and Chief of In-Service Training, Frederic Wickert.

During the month of April, the MSUG American staff totaled 29 with 71 local employees and 5 contract employees.

Police Project

1. After conferences with Vietnamese Police officials and the MSU Police Team during the month of April, the President transferred the former French military Camp des Mares to the Civil Police forces of Vietnam. This camp, which is located in Saigon, is to be used as general headquarters for the Vietnamese Bureau of Identification, National Police Academy, the central fingerprint and record files, the crime laboratory and central motor pool. Actual transfer of the property took place April 30, 1956.
2. The Municipal Police have completed arrangements for two training courses to be given by the National Army and the Department of Information. One course will train Saigon-Cholon police officers in the repair and maintenance of weapons; the other will train a small group in radio maintenance and repair. Both of these courses will begin early in May.
3. The training of commando squads of Saigon-Cholon police in riot control formations has continued during the month. It is believed they have advanced sufficiently to be able to make efficient use of this training in case of necessity. A report on "riots and unlawful assembly" is nearing completion. It will be translated into Vietnamese and submitted to the Municipal Police, and it will cover anticipating and preventing riots, mob psychology, elements of the mob, quelling riots and dispersing unlawful assembled and general police tactics regarding riots.
4. The Government temporarily discontinued Civil Guard training at Quantrung in order to train Army personnel. More than 10,000 Civil Guardsmen have received basic training at Quantrung to date, and we hope to renew this

training soon. It is interesting to note that the Civil Guard Platoon which distinguished itself by capturing Ba Cut on April 13th had recently completed training at Quantrung. Furthermore, the captain who lead the platoon had undergone training in the Leadership Course at Quantrung.

5. Renewed traffic control activity in Saigon-Cholon has resulted in progress on a training film for traffic officers, intersection lane painting on an experimental basis, and additional traffic counts which will be used in deciding on traffic signal equipment.
6. During the month the final draft of the report on a recommended police organization for the Republic of Vietnam has been completed. It is now in the process of being translated into French and will be available for distribution in the very near future.
7. Four sub-project agreements for police equipment have now been completed and submitted to USOM. These agreements relate to equipment needs of the Civil Guard, municipal police, V.B.I., and the training school.

Field Administration

1. Work in the Departments of Education, Agriculture, Agrarian Reform, and the Civic Action Commission continued. With one exception, reports on the field studies are being prepared while central office surveys are proceeding as scheduled. The one exception is Civic Action where a recent major reorganization has slowed down completion of MSUG field work.
2. Relating to the implementation of past reports, we have been encouraged by the action of the Presidency toward speeding up work in the Refugee Commission. Both the President and the Commissioner General have recently issued letters to Province Chiefs and other officials which should stimulate administrative improvement and harmony in the field. We are continuing to collect information for our six-month review of our work with the Refugee Commission.
3. In the Department of Interior, a decree was issued by the Secretary of State providing for a study commission to recommend changes in the internal boundaries of Vietnam. This commission, which we recommended to the Secretary, will be composed of the Secretary of State for Interior or his representative, a representative from the Presidency, and three representatives from each region of the country. Mr. Nguyen-huu-Chau, Secretary of State at the Presidency and Acting Secretary for Interior since the appointment of Mr. Bui van Thinh as Ambassador to Japan, has reaffirmed the desirability of this study commission and has indicated that the first meeting will be convened in a few weeks.
4. Initial contacts have been established with other American agencies concerned with our forthcoming survey of the Department of Information and Youth. Following interviews in U.S.I.S. and the USOM Program Support Division, we will develop a definite research plan.

5. During the first week in April, Mr. Roland Haney visited the ICA-sponsored project in Manila which supports the Government Survey and Reorganization Commission for the Philippine Republic. This visit to Kroeger and Associates, the contracting agency, was very useful in that much of their work has been similar to ours in Vietnam and our exchange of information had been incomplete to date.

Institute Program

1. On April 12 the Institute held an inaugural ceremony. The President of the Republic, other Vietnamese dignitaries, foreign ambassadors, including those of the United States, Great Britain, and Japan, were present. Mr. Thong conducted the distinguished visitors on a tour of the Institute. Publications, pictures, and charts representing the work or activities of MSU staff were among the materials on display.
2. New building plans which would provide office, classroom, and dormitory space have been developed and now await Presidential approval.
3. A Vietnamese translation of Dr. Hunter's book of problems in economics is virtually complete. Drs. Dorsey and Fox continued their work on readings for student use.
4. In the Economics area, the report to the President on economic control measures was finished and is now being translated and reproduced. Mr. Snyder did a supplement to his payments procedures report and gave lectures on both at USOM. Mr. Cole cooperated in the tax collectors school as an aide to Dr. Lindholm.
5. On April 24 the first meeting of librarians of the Saigon area was held at the home of Mrs. Alubowicz. Seventeen librarians representing twelve libraries were present. Professional topics and means of cooperation were discussed. A permanent association is planned. Each participant agreed to distribute to other libraries a list of periodicals in his library. Eventually, it is expected that a union catalog will be compiled.
6. A small public opinion survey was conducted among Institute students by the Research Division. This survey on the role of women in Vietnam was conducted for training and experimental reasons. It is hoped that a similar survey can be conducted in the Saigon-Cholon area.

In-Service Training

1. A training course for tax collector supervisors for almost all provincial tax offices was completed during the month.
2. Plans for the Presidential lecture series to be given during May and June to middle and high level civil servants were developed during the month. The series will consist of ten special lectures on administration by MSUG members and will be given under Presidential and National Institute sponsorship.

3. Mr. Vu Uyen Van, who is in charge of the in-service training program of the Institute, was taken on a very successful one-week inspection tour of the training program of the Philippine Government.
4. Courses in stenography and records management were in the planning stage. Mrs. Lindholm is now assigned to secretarial training on a full-time basis and is making necessary contacts and developing plans in this area.

Executive Office

Normal activity continued in all phases of Executive Office work. During this month increased energies were devoted to personnel and housing in view of the forthcoming expansion of the group. The accounting section has had a particularly heavy burden.

The financial balance sheet for April follows.