

STAFF MEETING
October 13, 1961

RECEIVED



PRESENT: Messrs. Fox, Donoghue, Emery, Hades, Joiner, Maynard
ABSENT: Adkins (in BanMeThuot)

OCT 27 1961
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
President's Office

At the USOM staff meeting, Baron noted Milton Taylor had recommended reappraisal of property in Saigon. This is shortly to be undertaken, with the assistance of a contract group.

At MSUG, Fox welcomed Charles Joiner, who arrived from East Lansing October 10 to replace Finkle as an Academic Instruction Specialist.

In a meeting with Thong yesterday, Fox raised the question of Library and maintenance personnel. Thong is still reluctant to act on Ian's recommendations that the library clerks be paid from counterpart funds, thus allowing hiring of added maintenance staff. He will ask Suu to confer further with Ian as to the definite position of the Budget Directorate. Although not contained in the 5-year plan, he envisions expansion of the Library into a center for Asian documents. Assuming smooth operation of the relocated library by that time, it is hoped Miss Ti can leave for the States by March.

On Library book orders, the probable cut-off will be around December 1. We are awaiting a firm deadline from East Lansing.

Fox also discussed distribution of the Giau-Woodruff My Thuan study with Thong; Maynard will meet with him this week on the subject. If we can be assured of its wide distribution, we would prefer Dang's proposal that the NIA handle the processes and keep us informed. As to other publications, Mrs. Pike and Mrs. Berges have pointed out the need for editing Zaslaff's report and Donoghue recommends they both be utilized for this purpose, as a competent team. Maynard will also follow up on the Finkle Vinh Long study, now in Dang's hands for review and delayed thereby. The Rector has kindly furnished us with a copy of a September 23 confidential letter from Director of Information The asking that Thong "intervene with MSUG with a view to definitely holding up" distribution of the Donoghue-Phuc Tmy Thuan village study. Khoi is seeking (discreetly) to get an informal agreement on its release; failing this, Fox and Donoghue will meet with Tho.

Fox and Maynard reported on the second meeting on a press and information training program, held yesterday, and attended by the Acting Director General of the Vietnam Press, Truong Bui Khanh (Nguyen^{T.M.} leaves today for the States), and members of his staff; the Director General of Information; the Director of Press and Information; Zimmerman, USIS; Rogers, Dien's public relations advisor; Thong, Dang and others from the NIA. A committee had been appointed and furnished an outline of a two-part program: 1) seminars for provincial information chiefs and 2) pre-service training of cadres at the NIA. It is planned to institute the first portion as soon as possible, for a period of six to eight weeks; a

committee will work out the details. Consisting of some of next year's NIA graduates, it would be open to outsiders (such as a Shell Company employee for whom such training is desired) if the maximum of 30 is not reached. Next year's volunteers from among 3rd-year students will be sought--or, if necessary, students will be selected--for the second phase. This would be a part of the Press and Information Section of the NIA. Thus, by 1963 a cadre for provincial information activities will have been created. Cooperation of the Fonction Publique will be solicited to insure graduates' being properly utilized. At the next meeting--for which a new committee was appointed--available resources (funds and instructors) will be explored. Fox' and Maynard's chief concern is whether the NIA should be involved at all in pre-service training, especially in view of the drafting of Sum, the only faculty member trained in this field. However, the first two years of training would be spent almost entirely on regular course work, with internship and specialized curriculum in the third year. At this point MSUG can make no commitments. Although the Vietnamese indicate technical assistance will be required, it is likely that financial aid, for equipment and the like, is the prime desire.

At the above meeting the Director General of Information commented he has eight NIA graduates in his agency and has found them very satisfactory.

Fox and Donoghue will leave October 20 to attend the EROPA Conference in Tokyo, returning November 4. Thong and Khanh are presently slated to attend, with possibly two others from the NIA.

Maynard noted completion of the second basic training officers' course this week, with about 22 participants. Another is planned early next year for provincial training officers. He called attention to the 5-year plan, which includes a cadre in the field of inservice training. At present there is no follow-up and it is hoped to get the Fonction Publique's cooperation for their proper utilization.

The NIA is beginning preparation of 1962 fiscal year ProAgs 080 and 226. Maynard sketched the complications arising from inclusion in the latter of projects involving both the Fonction Publique and the NIA. Knox, USOM/PAD, will attempt to correct the situation next year by segregation of the two agencies' programs, either by combining the NIA portion with the present 080 or creating separate ProAgs for each. Maynard will follow through on this.

Security conditions were discussed. MAAG's work week has been extended to include Saturday mornings.

On the subject of both office and staff quarters, Emery reported signing leases for the three apartments at 4 Nguyen Hoang. Donoghue moved there yesterday; Joiner and Weaver will soon follow. The lease on the fourth apartment (for Maynard) will probably be signed next week. Delays in completion of the NIA, especially lack of power, make it appear unlikely we can vacate 137 Pasteur before December, unless temporary arrangements are made--to accommodate GVN in its urgent need for office space. Meanwhile, Hanes prefers to withhold rent payment until we surrender possession.

Recorded/Weaver