

MINUTES OF MEETING ON LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

August 6, 1970

Participants: Mr. Ferris Randall
Mr. Sidney Matthews
Mr. Robert Birkhimer
Dr. H. B. Jacobini
Dr. Nguyen Dinh Hoa
Mr. Dan Whitfield

This meeting was called at the request of Dr. John King as a continuation of the meeting of the library committee on July 31, 1970. Mr. Randall referred the group to the letter from Mr. Cecil Hobbs dated July 1, 1970 which suggested an agenda for a meeting of the library committee.

The problem of securing materials from North Vietnam was discussed at which time Mr. Birkhimer pointed out that Morris Library does have a license to import from North Vietnam. A blanket order has never been given for fear of being deluged with propaganda. Dr. Hoa agreed to give Mr. Birkhimer:

- a) The names of three publishing houses in Hanoi which produce only scholarly works. Blanket orders can then be issued for these materials.
- b) The titles of North Vietnamese Journals which should be ordered.
- c) A list of titles to be ordered.

The discussion then turned to the Coedes Collection and the problem of how to duplicate his holdings on Vietnam. Mr. Randall pointed out that xeroxing is not necessarily always the answer. It was also pointed out that this material would not be available for some time because of crating and shipping time, and processing time at the Australian National Library. It was then agreed that the Center for Vietnamese Studies would supply Mr. Birkhimer with a list of the 650 titles on Vietnam. These will then be ordered or advertised.

Mr. Whitfield then asked about the several persons with whom the Center has had contact, most of whom have a background in library science. Mr. Randall stated that now that Mr. Ray is in place, he would have less hesitation about hiring someone with a library background. However, he felt it would be much more appropriate if the library made contact with the individuals.

Accordingly, Mr. Whitfield agreed to send to Mr. Randall the names and addresses of all candidates who have contacted the Center.

Continuing the discussion of ordering, the question of searching and ordering from the listings of the New York Public Library's oriental collection or waiting for the forthcoming listings of the Library of Congress was debated. The consensus was that the New York Public Library's listings should be searched, even though most of the titles will be duplicated in the LC listings. The Center staff agreed to have Mr. Ray's assistant start on this.