

Special Deputy for Refugee Affairs
Community Development Division
Resettlement Plan for PMS

1 October 1961

I have reviewed Miss Chan's plan for resettling Refugees and Evacuees in PMS areas of Vietnam. The plan in many respects is a good one and certainly reflects a great deal of thinking on the part of Miss Chan, but it does not reveal the extent of participation contributed by agriculture, public health and sanitation, public works, and education technicians.

The plan is designed to cover a period of one year and is not as costly in terms of numbers of Refugees to be served during the period of 12 months, as is the 3-month plan now being used by the National Government. On the other hand, however, it is in many respects similar to the various individual Resettlement plans proposed by the different Refugee Commissioners and other Governmental Officials.

Numerous separate and distinct Resettlement Plans are not the solution; the realistic approach to the problem is to establish a "global" National Government Plan which will be flexible enough to meet the emergency needs of Refugees and Evacuees and extend to them, in any given or selected area, the opportunity for permanent resettlement and rehabilitation. This type of collective plan of operation would include all areas south of the 17th parallel and will be meaningful to the Refugees and Evacuees and to the Government both now and in the future.

In view of the Mission's current study to establish the framework for a National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Plan which will allow the Government to integrate and fully utilize all of the available human and natural resources in all areas of South Vietnam; it is recommended that the Mission not approve individual Resettlement Plans unless they be incorporated into one over-all scheme.

It is further recommended that any plan the Mission supports be designed and implemented to enable Refugees and Evacuees to contribute to their own resettlement and rehabilitation and that areas selected for their resettlement offer gainful employment.

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