

From: Washington

2.00 Red ex
December 4, 1954

Subject: American Red Cross Offer to Train Vietnamese
Red Cross Officials in the United States

Saigon USFOTO A- 235

The letter quoted below from the American Red Cross suggests that one or more Vietnamese Red Cross officials might be brought to the United States under the FOA program to study American Red Cross operations. There are very few Vietnamese trained in this field, and the ARC offer might help to provide this badly needed training for the Vietnamese. USOM's views on the American Red Cross offer are requested.

(Dated November 19, 1954)

"Dear Bill:

" There appeared in yesterday's New York Times a front page story titled "BIG ASIAN AID RISE PLANNED BY F.O.A." The story, among other things, stated:

"The greatest difficulty encountered by the F.O.A. in assisting the Vietnamese Government is the lack of trained Vietnamese. To alleviate this situation, the F.O.A. is sending about 100 Vietnamese to the United States for training in public administration, organization of police, financial management, public information program organization and the like".

"As you know, the American Red Cross is very interested in helping to develop a strong Red Cross Society in Vietnam. To achieve this objective it had been our intention to send a representative to that country to serve as technical advisor to the Vietnamese Red Cross. At the present time, however, this position is being filled by a representative of the Swiss Red Cross Society who temporarily is serving as the delegate of the League of Red Cross Societies. It is anticipated that upon his departure for Switzerland in mid-December his duties and responsibilities will be turned over to a delegate of the Australian Red Cross.

"It may be that our objective of making available to the Vietnamese Red Cross Society the know-how developed by the American Red Cross can be achieved through a study visit here by one or more officials of the Vietnamese Red Cross Society as part of the Foreign Operations Administration program referred to in the New York Times article.

Copy in 285 Training, see

"Would it be possible for you to explore this matter in our behalf."

Sincerely,

Mr. William H. McCabon
Executive Director
Advisory Committee on Voluntary
Foreign Aid, F.O.A.,
Washington, D.C.

/s/ Gaile Galub
Assistant Director
Office of International
Relations

STASSEN