

*EVACUATION of Radio Equip. N.Y. LAND*  
*Philco, G.E.*  
UNITED STATES OPERATIONS MISSION TO VIETNAM

Feb. 10, 1955  
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FIELD TRIP AND INSPECTION REPORT

To: Chief, Program Support Division

From: R. C. Trout

Purpose of Trip: Utilization of the Radio Equipment at Radio Haiphong.

Length of Stay: January 26 thru January 29 and February 1 thru February 6, 1955

Personnel Participating: Mr. Ray C. Trout, Philco Contract Engineer

Personnel Contacted: Mr. Roger Ackley, USOM Field Service  
Lt. Col. Jones, MAAG, USA  
Major Ralph Walker, MAAG USAF  
Lt. Col. Croizat, MAAG USMC  
Mr. Austin, USIS  
Mr. Franklin, USIS  
Mr. Nhung, Director of Radio Haiphong  
Col. Riner, Chief of Civil Affairs for Haiphong  
Major Ehrat, Asst. to Col. Riner for Radio Transmission Equipment.

The writer arrived in Haiphong on January 26 via Air Vietnam. The writer then promptly prepared a list of Radio Haiphong equipment, by serial number, and submitted this list to Col. Riner for evacuation approval. Col. Riner indicated at that point that approval of the equipment would be forthcoming on the 29th of January and that French air transportation could be obtained. The writer was contacted on the 28th of January by Major Ehrat and was informed at that time that the equipment list supplied to Col. Riner has been listed as a public utility at the Phu Lo Conference and had been requested returned to Hanoi by the Viet Minh: (The Phu Lo commission was convened on Oct. 4, 1954 and consisted of representatives from France, Vietnam and the Viet Minh who were to list items to be considered Public Utilities in Hanoi which included a total of 137 different installations in Hanoi). Major Ehrat indicated that if the Viet Minh opposed the removal of Radio Haiphong equipment that the issue would have to be resolved by the ICC. He implied that this could be a long time period but that if a request, substantiated by the proper procurement and shipping documents, was made for only the RCA 1 KW Transmitter and the 5 KW motor generator that a speedy approval could be obtained by the proper agencies concerned.

The writer, at this point, returned to Saigon via Air Vietnam to discuss the proposal of Major Ehrat and obtain the proper documents discussed by Major Ehrat.

The documents were presented to Major Ehrat on 2 February at a conference attended by Mr. Nhung, the Major and the writer. The sub-

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Evacuation approval was obtained from proper authorities on the evening of February 4. This authorization requested a 5-day advance notice before evacuation and is signed by General Cogney. Evacuation date will be determined at a future date.

Observations while in Haiphong:

Radio Saigon proved to be very popular in North Vietnam. Radio Haiphong was second in popularity and Radio Hanoi third. Radio Hanoi programming is very repetitious.

Short wave reception is good, many people prefer short wave reception due to variety of stations.

Medium wave reception from Radio Saigon occurs intermittently at Hanoi. The 5 KW transmitter at Phu Tho should improve this situation.

To secure a large medium wave audience in North Vietnam, it will be necessary to improve the programming of Radio Vietnam so that the listening audience will prefer the Radio Vietnam Programs and will abandon short wave reception.

F The most popular programs are news and music programs. It is the writers opinion that the radio station with the latest news releases and frequent news releases will have the greatest listening audience.

Estimates of radio receivers in the north run as high as 150,000. Note: Above comments are based on conversations with various Vietnamese persons from Haiphong and Hanoi.

Due to the fluid situation in Haiphong at the present time, all equipment that is to be evacuated should be done so rapidly. This situation will change after the conference on 1 March between the French, ICC, and Viet Minh on evacuation of equipment.

C Since evacuation policy is not on a concrete basis the evacuation approval obtained for the RCA Transmitter may not be valid after a two or three week time lapse or will require additional effort.