

C/ Lit
Muller

IDA

CONFIDENTIAL

Da Nang City Report
(RGS-MACCORDS-01-67)
Period Ending 30 June 1968

1. Status of Revolutionary Development Plan.

Activities under the Revolutionary Development Plan have continued to gain momentum during this period, and it now appears certain that the projected work will be completed well within the year time period. Further interpretations of the decrees re-establishing the administrative structure of The City are forthcoming and the lines of authority and responsibility are becoming more distinct. This development will afford a clearer view of the work of the various Services of The City and make possible smoother and more efficient carrying out of the Revolutionary Development Plan. Both funded and unfunded self-help projects are progressing at an acceptable rate under a system of clearances for such projects through the District Chiefs and The Office of The Mayor.

2. Project PAINTOFF.

The administration and control of the Revolutionary Development Cadre and Teams has not been resolved during the month of June as was expected. The City Officials have not yet received any notice of official change in the status of these teams from the National Government Revolutionary Development Ministry, and therefore have taken no steps to take over any of the responsibility for administering or controlling the activities of The Cadre or Teams. This matter is creating a vacuum in the pacification efforts of the Revolutionary Development Cadre and Teams who are still in Phuong in The City, but functioning without adequate direction or supervision. The level of the productive service of these cadre and groups leaves a great deal to be desired at this point in time.

It is suggested that, if the Revolutionary Development-type cadre are to be effective in their work in The City, it is essential that the administration and control of such individuals and teams must be a part of The City Government, and the cadre especially trained to work in the urban situation. At this time neither of these factors exist, and the work which might be accomplished by these cadre and teams is not being realized. In fact, having the cadre and teams remain in The City without definite understanding of the Vietnamese officials, both in The City and in Quang Nam Province, is having a very bad effect on the cadre and the people they are supposedly designated to serve.

During this period several conferences have been held with the Youth Affairs Advisor, ICML. Progress is being made toward expanding the local youth activities. Among the youth activities of particular note is a project in which the youth of Da Nang (about 150, mostly high school students) have gone to Hue and assisted in the cleanup of school areas and the construction

This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws, the transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

CONFIDENTIAL

104
72-135-584

CONFIDENTIAL

of school furniture, using lumber furnished through the Civic Action Division of the Naval Support Activity in DaNang. It is expected that, through such programs and projects, it will be possible to discover youth leaders who will make strides toward the expansion of youth activities in The City.

Arrangements have been completed to have a general discussion meeting on youth affairs with the CORDS, ICZ, Youth Affairs Advisor and the teachers and Youth Affairs officials and workers on The City. The primary object of the discussion is to afford an opportunity for the CORDS Youth Affairs Advisor to become acquainted with the people working in education and youth affairs in The City, and to give these potential leaders an opportunity to know the advisor and what his range of services is.

The number of refugees in refugee Phuong in The City remains stable at 7,994. It is calculated that the number of displaced persons now residing in The City is in excess of 25,000 and is steadily, though slowly, increasing.

19 Chien Hoi are reported for the month of June.

3. Political/Psychological.

The psychological effects of the continued attacks on Saigon is a depressing register. In the light of the limitations of Free-World military activities which appear to be minimal retaliation to most of the Vietnamese with whom this office comes in contact. Locally, there does not appear to be much fluctuation in the reactions to events in The City. The appearance of officials of the National Government on several occasions during the month has probably been most beneficial in making the people more aware of the existence of the offices in the National Government and the functions of those offices in service to the people at all levels.

4. Security.

Security has continued at a high level during the month of June. The curfew is presently 2000 to 0600, and enforcement appears to have tightened up some--although not to a high standard.

5. Economics.

Commodities remain in ample supply for the local markets and price fluctuations have not been particularly notable. The present curfew is not as hard on commerce as it has been--more morning hours are desirable. There is a shortage of metal roofing due to the great demand of the past five months. Indications are that the lack of this supply may have some adverse effect on the carrying out of some construction work.

An ICZ Economics Adviser has communicated with this office during the month of June indicating that some concerted effort will be put into studies of the areas of industrial and commercial development of The City and its environs within a short time. This is a field of work where it is suggested

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

that a full-time advisor be assigned to the CORDS Danang staff for the specific purpose of investigating and advising in the exploitation of the potentials of The City and the immediate surrounding Khu and Phuong.

6. City Resources in Support of Pacification.

The Danang Civil Defense Organization is proving to fall short of the normally accepted scope of "Civil Defense" activities. At this time there is no plan or action to establish evacuation procedures, aid stations, communications facilities, firefighting units, or rescue forces. To date the only training and activity have been in arming individuals and patrolling the phuong and khu. There has been good "community response" to the idea of Civil Defense so it has an added value factor of bringing people closer together than they would have been without the civil defense duty experiences together.

The various services (departments) of The City involved in pacification are undergoing some realignment of their responsibilities under the new administrative organization plans which will probably enhance their effectiveness in time. The services most directly engaged in pacification activities--Social Welfare and Youth Affairs--will probably experience some expansion of their responsibilities which will become effective at an early date to the general benefit of the program.

7. The City Administrative Personnel and Organization.

During this period the rank of The Mayor was advanced to full Colonel. The new administrative decrees have not yet been interpreted in their entirety for the local officials, but indications are that this will be accomplished after conferences in Saigon in the near future which will deal with the authorities and responsibilities of the various positions in autonomous city government throughout the country.

This point is not specifically one of municipal administration as it deals with the administration of the hospital facilities in The City, but considerable difficulty is being experienced in the development of hospital facilities at both the Medical and Surgical Hospitals. Structures and facilities planning is absolutely non-existent, and the efforts of various advisory personnel at CORDS have had absolutely no influence on the decisions of the Medical Chief in charge of these two institutions. The primary area of lack is that of structures planning and location selection. The waste of space at the two hospital sites is stifling the expansion possibilities of these institutions. And the primary cause for this situation is the almost total lack of administrative ability on the part of the Hospital Administrator and the Medical Chief. It is suggested that consideration be given the introduction of a development and administration plan which will separate the medical and surgical functions from the Facility Development and Administration (housekeeping) functions of the hospitals. Under such a plan of operation, it might be possible to develop facilities in an orderly manner and construct simple interconnected hospital facilities which would lend themselves to the rendering of maximum services on a consistent basis. In the past ten months over a dozen structures have been placed on the hospitals grounds without any

CONFIDENTIAL

-3-

CONFIDENTIAL

planning for the use of the facility or its relationship to an ultimate facilities plan. One of the outstanding misjudgments in the use of the hospital sites in the past month has been the building of living quarters on the hospital grounds for nurses and their families to use--in spite of the crowded state of these sites in both building and people. A qualified hospital administrator employed to serve both hospitals could minimize the waste of the valuable space at these sites by both structure planning and the prevention of the use of this property for personal use as quarters for persons not required to reside at the location of their work.

8. TRAINING.

Not applicable.

9. Required Actions.

Adequate staffing of CORDS, Daring. C

Introduction through the Ministry of Health of a plan to separate the development and administration functions from the medical and surgical functions of the local hospitals. C

Clarification through the Ministry of Revolutionary Development of the status of the Revolutionary Development Cadre and Team now located in The City. A

10. Special Problems

The disposal of waste in and around The City of Daring has obviously been a problem for several years. The City Waste Disposal Site has been a gross sanitation problem for three or four years, and it is getting to a point where some direct action must be taken to prevent an overwhelming situation from developing. There is absolutely no effort made on the part of the local government to make a sanitary operation of the waste disposal.

It is estimated that up to 80% of the waste generated in The City comes from American and other Free World forces. And up to this time, only sporadic attempts have been made to clean up this area. No effort has been made to make it a sanitary operation on a permanent basis.

It is suggested that consideration be given the establishment of a sanitary fill and cover operation under the direction of a CORDS Sanitary Advisor, and that the following be provided to make this service effective:

a. Chain link fence entirely around the waste disposal site--to keep people out and waste in.

b. A bulldozer of sufficient size to compact the waste and distribute cover lifts of laterite or other compactable topping.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

c. Sufficient dump trucks or prime earth movers to transport cover dirt from the mixing sites to the waste disposal site in sufficient quantities to cover each day's waste deposit.

d. A qualified waste disposal site manager to control the deposits of waste.

e. Police sufficient to keep people out of the area 24 hours a day.

It is further suggested that a proposal for waste disposal fees for commercial waste removal and disposal companies and individuals be authorized and legalized in order that some means of funding the costs of these operations might be developed. And that the Ministry of Health be encouraged to issue decrees dealing with the sanitary storage, removal, and disposal of waste in The City to prevent the dumping of waste at places other than recognized and authorized waste disposal sites.

This problem is created largely by the American presence, and it appears a very legitimate expense and service that the U.S. and other Free World Nations here might assume without fear of criticism. And proper sanitary disposal of waste generated by normal operations is essential to the health of The City people and the health and well being of all the Free World Nationals living and working here.

Hugh T. Henry
HUGH T. HENRY
Senior Municipal Advisor
CORDS, Danang

CONFIDENTIAL