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HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES MILITARY ASSISTANCE COMMAND, VIETNAM
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96222



MACJOIR

21 February 1969

MEMORANDUM TO: Senior Advisor, I CTZ
Senior Advisor, II CTZ
Senior Advisor, III CTZ
Senior Advisor, IV CTZ

SUBJECT: Implementation of the 1969 PD Plan

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1. As you know the Central Pacification and Development Council (CPDC) made a number of policy decisions and offered considerable guidance during its trips to the CTZs in late January for the purpose of reviewing the 1969 Plans. In addition, President Thieu offered general comments on pacification and gave specific guidance in many cases during his trips to the CTZs in early February.

2. Since unwritten guidance tends to be forgotten or eventually confused, the CPDC has prepared a circular to the field which summarizes the policy guidance and decisions of the President and CPDC. It is intended to serve as a written reminder of what constitutes current policy.

3. A translation of the CPDC circular is furnished for your information. Since this is a translation of a Vietnamese document, you will find the translation somewhat stilted in certain portions. We have left the translation as literal as possible, consistent with adequate communication of the policies involved. I recommend that you give this document the widest possible dissemination.

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Republic of Vietnam
Prime Minister's Office
Central Pacification and Development Council

No. 142/PTHT/BDXD/CT/KH

Circular

SUBJECT: Implementation of the 1969 PD Plan

REFERENCE: PD Plan of the CPDC, dated 15 December 1968

This circular makes the following points.

- Reminds the provinces and cities throughout the country of the President's directives pertaining to Pacification and Development in 1969.
- Confirms the decisions made by the CPDC during the reviews of province PD plans.
- Gives additional answers to questions raised by the provinces.
- Guides the provinces in implementing their 1969 PD plans

A. The President's directives pertaining to Pacification and Development in 1969: During his inspection trips to the CTZ's in early February 1969 the President issued directives relating to the 1969 PD plan to government and army cadres at all levels. The directives consisted of the following points:

1) The RVN Government successfully controls more than 6,800 hamlets and more than 13 million people. We have no reason, however, to stop at this point. We must continue our work because 1969 is the decisive year in both the military and political fields.

We must build democracy, reform society, and end the war. To successfully achieve our objectives, we need good organization and effective leadership for the people.

Of primary importance to the success of our national objectives, local authorities must make a maximum effort to accomplish their assigned missions with the pledged full support of the Central Government.

We must carry out the PD plan with the same degree of aggressiveness shown during the APC and prevent, at any cost, the enemy's return to areas

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under our control. If the VC attack in order to influence the Paris talks, we will fight to remain in the hamlets in order not to lose any of our pacification achievements.

2) The 1969 PD Plan is broken down into two phases:

- Phase I: From 1 February to 30 June 1969
- Phase II: From 1 July to 31 December 1969

The CPDC will establish requirements for each province and CTZ which must be accomplished by late June 1969.

Late in June 1969 the President will again inspect provincial PD operations and, depending upon the political and military situation, he will probably launch another campaign to begin in July 1969.

The provinces should complete plans for a 2nd phase to last 3 months rather than six. In summary, during 1969 we must:

- Finish uncompleted work from the 1968 plan.
- Finish uncompleted work from the Accelerated Pacification Campaign.
- Complete the 1969 plan.

3) In 1969 we have to confront a political struggle. In order to gain victory in this struggle we must strictly implement the principle of the "Community Spirit".

The important factor here is to instill in the people a sense of responsibility for their community for it is the people themselves who must actively combat the Communists.

The people must participate in all activities to defend and develop themselves.

The population must actively participate in the elections of village and hamlet governments and in self-help projects. The people make the decision as to what they want and they furnish whatever work is involved in implementation. Thus, the government only gives guidance.

Implementation of the program requires close cooperation between every governmental echelon under the leadership of the Central Government.

Effective liaison must be established from the Central Government down to

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the lowest levels. Regular inspections are necessary to insure proper follow-up.

The government should avoid previous errors, and beware that we don't follow the form but miss the substance. We must be absolutely honest and accurate in our reporting.

4) It is necessary to exploit victories already won. The province chiefs should make known their requirements to US Commanders and request their support of both military and civil operations. In 1969 we should utilize allied forces support to the maximum, because this support will not be available in the future.

5) In 1969 we must concentrate all our efforts to win in the political and military fields.

All efforts must be concentrated on the following four main activities:

- PD Plan
- Complete village and hamlet governments to promote an effective administration in the basic structure by both increasing personnel and training village and hamlet officials.
- Organizing village and hamlet government elections.
- Helping poor people by the land reform program, and by helping them to acquire property.

The government can best win the people's confidence by effective service. When the people have confidence in the government they will support it.

The most important thing to do in 1969 is to win the support of the people.

6) Pacification and development will be carried out simultaneously. We must demonstrate to the people that in addition to completing the establishment of village, hamlet governments, we also give special attention to raising the standard of living.

7) This figure of 90% must be those people who have participated in village, hamlet elections and they must actually live in the villages and hamlets under our protection.

The provinces must make surveys and complete their lists of villages and hamlets prior to the end of February 1969. The lists must be in accordance

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with actual situation on the ground, i.e., the village will be moved to where the villagers are if the latter evacuated collectively, otherwise the name of the village will be deleted. Those villages or hamlets that are underpopulated can be merged into the adjacent ones.

8) Insure accuracy in reporting census figures, particularly in cities and provincial and district capitals. The PSDF members must assist in the collection of information concerning the population.

9) The CFZ should have sufficient courage to arm the people. The PSDF must be developed, and we should encourage people who are not in the compulsory age of PSDF service to join the PSDF. The PSDF group must be prepared to give supplementary strength to RF and PF.

B. Confirmation of the decisions by the CPDC:

The CPDC is aware of the difficulties encountered by the provinces. Although the provincial plans still need supplementation, the CPDC gave approval to most of the plans recommended by the provinces.

I. Eight objectives:

1) Provide security for 90% of the population in late 1969 and exercise national sovereignty in the entire country.

11) "90% of the population" means "90% of the population" but not 90% of the population of each province. So, if possible, every province is requested to make its effort to control 100% of the population. Those provinces that are faced with difficulties and lack resources may control a smaller percentage. However, they should make every effort to attain the maximum goal.

12) "Provide security for 90% of the population" means that we must establish authority in the villages and hamlets in which 90% of the population lives.

13) We should not relocate people because relocation will result in the following disadvantages:

- A political error and causes unnecessary abandonment of territory.
- The refugees will be a burden on the provinces' relief resources.

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Living conditions become difficult for those we relocate.

In the event relocation is needed, the province must report it to the CPDC but will not relocate the people until approval is received from the CPDC.

14) The Province and City PD plans will be broken down into two phases:

- First phase: From 1 February to 30 June 1969.
- Second phase: From 1 July to 31 December 1969.

15) To maintain the momentum of the APC, the province will make every effort to pacify the maximum number of D, E and V hamlets during the first phase. Pacification goals as planned by the CPDC were based on the available forces in the provinces.

During the 2nd phase the province will pacify the remaining hamlets in order to bring 90% of the national population under our control by late 1969. Also during the 2nd phase, provinces that have no D, E or V hamlets will consolidate and improve the security situation of the B and C hamlets. (See further details in Annex "A").

16) The village is the target while the hamlet is the area of activity.

17) D, E and V hamlets will be pacified first.

18) Target villages will be selected first from 1st and 2nd priority areas.

19) Security forces used in PD operations must be deployed down to the hamlets of target villages.

RDC groups must be properly deployed in target villages on the basis of one group per village, and the RDC group will remain in the village indefinitely.

Arrangements will be made to permit RD cadres to serve in their native villages.

20) Target villages will receive resource support.

2. Destroy 33,000 VCI by the end of 1969.

21) Regarding the "Phung Hoang" campaign, the province should provide for close coordination among friendly agencies and should make full use of the reported intelligence.

22) The most important point is that personnel of all branches must avoid wrong doing and resultant resentment among the population.

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23) All Intelligence Coordination centers, particularly the DIOCC, must intensify their activities.

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24) The provincial plan must follow the targets and precedence prescribed in Annex II of the CPDC Guidelines.

e. Increase the strength of PSDF to 2,000,000 members and issue 400,000 weapons.

31) The province is required to:

- meet the goal of PSDF strength and issue weapons as determined by the CTZ.
- Organize PSDF within refugee resettlement camps.
- Continuously train PSDF members.

32) Immediately recruit 5 PSDF cadres for the provincial capital and 3 for each district.

33) Determine missions of existing PSDF.

34) Pay PSDF death allowances as soon as possible.

35) Plan the utilization of PSDF to replace PF in secure areas so the PF can be used elsewhere.

36) The PSDF must be organized and developed in the entire province and not only in the target villages.

4. Establishment of local governments in all the villages of the nation.

41) The elections of village and hamlet governments should be organized as soon as possible. To the extent possible, all villages with appointed officials will hold elections in March.

42) The following elements will be encouraged to run in the elections:

- Local people of good reputation who are nationalist, capable and of good will.
- Service men from Regular Forces and RF/PF who have already had over two years of service, and RD cadres.

43) Carefully examine records pertaining to candidates in order to prevent VC elements from running in the elections.

44) Study and submit solutions to the Ministry of Interior concerning the problem of uninhabited villages and hamlets.

45) Create favorable conditions for the return of refugees to their home villages and hamlets and encourage them to do so.

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Hamlet governments must return to their villages or hamlets only after security troops have been inserted.

40) Training of village and hamlet cadres must be properly planned and implemented.

5. Rally 20,000 Chieu Hoi

51) The service is required to:

- Use third-party inducement in Chieu Hoi activities
- Closely coordinate the information, psywar, and Chieu Hoi services.
- Make full use of broadcasting, leaflets, air planes, etc.
- Appeal to families having VC relatives
- Adequately defend Chieu Hoi villages and centers
- Help ralliers to find employment
- Help resettle ralliers in secure hamlets
- Establish a liaison system between ex-ralliers and Chieu Hoi services

52) Armed propaganda teams must be targeted in D, E and V hamlets.

53) Provide sufficient instructors and set up training programs.

6. Reduce the number of refugees to less than 1,000,000 and resettle

300,000 war-refugees.

61) Place more importance on the returning of war-refugees to their home villages rather than resettlement.

62) Quickly pay all emergency payments to war-victims and closely control the payments and relief donations.

63) Improve sanitation and facilities at temporary and permanent resettlement camps.

7. Increase information and propaganda efforts:

71) Information and propaganda activities must closely follow the Provincial PD plan.

72) Coordinate activities of the information, Chieu Hoi, Psywar and RD Cadres in villages and hamlets.

8. Rural Economy

81) Due to the limitation of the 1969 funds reserved for province development, the province should carefully plan and request funds only for priority

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projects. It is not necessary to have projects for all programs and it is possible to place emphasis on one or two programs.

82) The Central authorities are contacting province representatives to talk over the province development projects. The province will prepare technical dossiers for each project with approval of the province council and send them to the CPDC.

83) The province should study a plan to reduce resource checkpoints and to simplify control and administrative procedures as much as possible.

84) Farmer associations should be consolidated and developed.

85) The province will make every effort to meet agricultural production requirements.

86) The province will make every effort to implement its portion of the land reform plan that will be initiated throughout the country.

II. Coordination Instructions:

1) According to its geographical and security situation, the province should coordinate with adjacent provinces to prepare plans and forward them to their CTZ Headquarters. CTZ Headquarters will issue orders confirming those plans so as to prevent the enemy from taking advantage of gaps between provinces.

2) RDC groups assigned to villages should coordinate closely with RF or PF to receive protection.

III. Duties of the Province Pacification and Development Council:

1) In order to obtain the most favorable results from the pacification and development plans, the province and district PD councils and their current affairs committees should hold regular and Ad Hoc meetings to review past activities, make timely corrections and revise the plan to keep it current.

In addition, support, control and visits conducted by district and province officials are essential to the morale of troops and cadres operating in villages and hamlets.

2) Coordination with US Advisors in local areas is most important for the implementation of the plans. In particular, close coordination and accurate information are essential for the preparation of the Hamlet Evaluation Report (HES).

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Pacification and Development is essential for the survival of the people, and the Government has given top priority to the program. All provinces are requested to correctly implement their PD plans in order to achieve our goals.

Saigon 15 February 1969
/S/ Huynh Van Dao
1st Minister/Prime Minister's Office
Concurrently Secretary General, CPDC

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A list of target/hamlets and population schedule for the 1st half-year of 1969.

DISTRIBUTION:

- Province Chiefs and Mayors, Chairmen of Province and City PDC's throughout the country
"FOR ACTION"
- CTZ Commanders, Chairmen of CTZ. PDC's
"FOR INFORMATION"
- Ministers, members of CPDC
"FOR INFORMATION"

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(1 February - 30 June 1969)

Population National Goals for 1st Half-Year

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