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OFFICE OF THE SENIOR ADVISOR
 QUANG NAM SECTOR
 ADVISORY TEAM #1, MACV
 APO 96337

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 N. Miller

MACTN-QNS

2 September 1966

SUBJECT: Special Joint Report on Revolutionary Development

TO: Office of the Deputy Ambassador
 American Embassy
 Saigon, Vietnam

1. (U) In compliance with Joint Directive 1-66, MACJ33, 10 March 1966, Subject: Preparation of Revolutionary Development Reports, the following report for Quang Nam Province is submitted for the month ending 31 August 1966

2. (C) REVOLUTIONARY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

a. On 8 August the Province Chief, Dr. Nguyen Huu Chi moved with his provincial section chiefs to the National Priority Area. A command post was established at Mieu Bong hamlet from 8 to 19 August. The purpose of the visit was to give the staff first hand knowledge of the National Priority Area, to spark their interest in making the Revolutionary Development Program work effectively, and to show the people of the area the interest of the provincial administration toward the successful accomplishment of the program. During the 10 day period the Province Chief and staff visited 9 hamlets to observe the progress of various projects and talk to the administrators and people. During the visits it was noted that cadre teams lacked sound leadership and discipline.

b. Revolutionary Development projects under Self Help, Hamlet Schools, and Irrigation programs showed progress during the month. The enthusiasm of hamlet officials for schools has been dampened by the sudden application of a 14% construction tax (20,000 \$VN per 2 room school). USAID is attempting to determine the origin and authority for this un-advertised tax.

c. The number of refugees in Quang Nam, now approaching 100,000, has nearly doubled since June. This has created problems for the displaced person and the agencies which try to help them. The situation is clearly beyond the capacity of GVN to handle. USAID and other civic action and welfare agencies are focussing efforts on the problem. As the 3rd Marine Division TAOR expands and consolidation continues, the refugee problem is expected to increase.

3. (C) POLITICAL/PSYCHOLOGICAL

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a. The Province Chief's prolonged visit to the National Priority Area provided the opportunity for many people to meet Dr. Chi for the first time. Dr. Chi also stayed in Dai Loc District for 2 days visiting with local officials and notables. Dr. Chi is determined to make periodic visits to all outlying areas.

b. The Sector Commander, Lt Col Nguyen Tho Lap, continues to make regular visits to hamlets throughout the sector. Due to Lt Col Lap's extreme desire to serve the people of Quang Nam he is known and respected by many people, especially in the National Priority Area.

c. Preparations for the 11 September election continue and campaigning has commenced with considerable fervor. Reports have been received that Buddhist extremists have met with the Viet Cong to jointly plan an anti-election campaign. Reports also indicate that Buddhists are assisting voters with registration so that the registrations will be faulty and the voter disqualified. ARVN, RF/PF and National Police are expected to be largely committed to security missions for the election.

d. In Operation HT 147 conducted in Hieu Nhon and Duy Xuyen Districts during the period 20 to 27 August considerable progress in psychological operations and civic action was displayed by the ARVN units involved. Considerable efforts were made by Lt Col Nguyen Tho Lap, commanding Officer 51st Infantry Regiment to assist in the resettlement of some 225 refugee families. The refugees were provided transportation, food and medical attention. VIS personnel also provided entertainment for the refugees.

4. (C) SECURITY

a. Friendly Military.

(1) RVNAF:

(a) No longer does any unit of the 51st Infantry Regiment perform a static security mission. The 2nd Battalion and 4th Battalion are each assigned areas of operation in which they conduct mobile operations such as patrols, ambushes and County Fairs. The 4th Battalion continues to operate in the National Priority Area. The 1st Battalion operates throughout the sector and 3rd Battalion continues training at Duc My Training Center.

(b) Seven major operations were conducted by ARVN, RF/PF and Junk Fleet units during August.

(2) FMAR:

(a) Elements of the 3rd Marine Division continued to conduct search and destroy operations in Dai Loc, Hien San, Duc Duc, Duy Xuyen and Hieu Nhon Districts in conjunction with RVNAF units. In Dai Loc District the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines conducted offensive operations against VC main force units and bases of operations.

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(b) United States Marine Corps Engineer units continued to improve the road between Hieu Duc, Dai Loc and Duc Duc Districts. Oil is now being placed on the road north of the Thu Bon River. Plans are to make the entire road a Class 60 all weather road prior to the rainy season.

(c) The 1st Battalion, 1st Marines in Dien Ban and Hieu Nhon Districts has established subordinate unit boundaries that follow village and hamlet boundaries. This has improved coordination and working relations with local officials.

b. Viet Cong and NVA Forces: VC activities along Highway #1 continued to show an increase during August. Indications are that the Viet-Cong will increase harassment and assassination activities throughout the province during the pre-election period. There were 8 VC initiated incidents in the National Priority Area during August. The increase in this area is felt to be due to increased provincial activity and the coming election.

c. VC Political and Security Infrastructure: No significant change.

5. (C) ECONOMIC

There have been no significant changes noted. As August ended the fall rice harvest began on a small scale with no indications of a GVN rice harvest protection plan being implemented. Some actions have been taken by the Province Chief and Sector Commander to establish a rice harvest protection plan but progress is very slow.

6. (U) PROVINCIAL RESOURCES

a. RF/PF/Self Defense Forces: One Regional Force Company was formed and started training at the Hoa Cam Training Center during August. The unit consists of 31 previously trained personnel and 106 new recruits.

b. Rural Construction Cadre Teams: No change.

c. Technical Cadre: No change.

d. Provincial Administrative Personnel and Organization:

(1) Captain Nguyen Dinh Chat was replaced by Mr. Tran Danh San as Chief, Revolutionary Development Committee. Mr. San was a training assistant at the Vung Tau National Training Center and has intimate knowledge of organization, functioning and mission of the cadre program. Mr. San appears to be an energetic, capable administrator who works closely with U.S. personnel.

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(2) Major Cao Khac Nhat was replaced by Captain Nguyen Hoa Phung as Chief, Revolutionary Development Administration and Planning. Captain Phung gives the initial impression that he is a capable administrator and will work closely with U.S. Advisory personnel.

7. (C) REQUIRED ACTION

While Mr. Bui Van Nhi remains the Provincial Chieu Hoi Chief no progress can be expected on this program. This individual lacks all motivation toward the program which is reflected in the administration and operation of the provincial center. In the near future 1967 budget planning will begin and any money programmed for the 1967 Quang Nam Chieu Hoi program can be considered as wasted. To insure an effective 1967 Chieu Hoi program in Quang Nam, this ineffective individual must be removed immediately so that 1967 plans can be made.

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Mr. Robert J. Kelly did not contribute to or sign this report since he was in the United States during the preparation.

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