

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT FIELD UNIT
ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
APO 143, San Francisco, California

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JUN 1 1963

Mr. Robert C. Phelps
Advanced Research Projects Agency
Office of the Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Bob:

Reference your letter VI 61 of 7 May 63, Dog Breeding Center.

Bill Lynch was correct in his report that there is a lack of enthusiasm in MAAG concerning the activity result of the Military Dog Breeding Center. Not to bore you with a great deal of background, I have taken the "bull by the horns" and had a formal meeting with Colonel Jacobson, Chief O&T, MAAG, on 27 May concerning the Military Dog Breeding Center. I informed him that I thought:

- a. the Dog Breeding Center should be terminated by 15 July 63;
- b. that the adult dog population (6 Dobermans, 6 Shepherds, 2 Bloodhounds) should be turned over to the Dog Training Center at Tan Thuy Ha.

I further called to Colonel Jacobson's attention that in following through the action indicated above, he (MAAG) would have to make the necessary arrangements to receive and support such dogs and the Dog Training Center at Tan Thuy Ha. On 1 June, by formal correspondence from this office, MAAG was officially informed of the above contemplated action. I hope to get their response in the next few days. In the meantime, I coordinated the above action with Colonel Trach and he agrees that the CDTC-V should get out of running the Dog Breeding Center, but he felt that the Center should be turned over to RVNAF to serve as a replacement center for dogs. I informed him this would have to be worked out with RVNAF and MAAG. Trach now has the ball on the RVNAF side and Colonel Jacobson on the MAAG side.

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In the meantime, in order to avoid a "population explosion" no more breeding. It is hoped that we will be out of the dog business by the end of June and Kothmann can be sent home at the end of his TDY in the middle of July, and lastly, the final report can be written and published between now and then.

Respectfully,



VITO S. PEDONE
Colonel, USAF
Chief



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SUBJECT: Military Dog Breeding

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TO: Chief
Organisation and Training Division
Military Assistance Advisory Group, Vietnam
APO 143, San Francisco, California

1. This was a military dog population of approximately 100 dogs which were maintained at the Dog Training Center at Tan Thuy Ha. It is requested that you be notified to receive and support subject dogs at the Dog Training Center at Tan Thuy Ha.

1. The original intention of the Dog Breeding Program was as follows:

"Problem: To provide a regular source of acclimatized dogs at low cost to replace and augment the military dogs which are performing patrol, tracking and sentry duties in the Republic of Vietnam.

2. The Military Dog Breeding Center now consists of six Dobermans, six Shepherds, and two Bloodhounds, all adult dogs. Since the inception of the program in June 1961 to the present, it has cost the Department of Defense approximately \$35,000 to \$40,000.

3. As per discussions with Colonel Jacobson, Chief, Organisation and Training Division, the MAAG, the U. S. Advisors at the Dog Training Center at Tan Thuy Ha are of the opinion that dogs should be 18 to 20 months old before being placed in the training program. Some dogs of approximately one year old have been transferred to the Training Center. It was the general observation on the part of the U. S. Advisors that it would have been better if these dogs had not been transferred until they were 18 months old.

4. As it was agreed in conference held with Colonel Pedone, Chief, OSD/ARPA R&D Field Unit, and Colonel Jacobson, on 27 May 1963, the OSD/ARPA Field Unit intends to recommend to higher

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authorities the following:

a. That the Dog Breeding Center be terminated by 1 July 1963;

b. That the adult dog population as given above (6 Dobermans, 6 Shepherds, 2 Bloodhounds) be turned over to the Dog Training Center at Tan Thuy Ha.

5. Request your coordination on this proposal. It is further requested arrangements be made to receive and support subject dogs at the Dog Training Center at Tan Thuy Ha.

VITO S. PEDONE
Colonel, USAF
Chief