

O - Mr. William B. Macomber, Jr.

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O/FSI/VTC - Ogden Williams
Coordinator

Training of State Officers Being Designated for Viet-Nam

In accordance with recent decisions, the Viet-Nam Training Center will soon be receiving State Department officers designated for duty with CORDS Viet-Nam. We recently discussed their training with Ambassador Sullivan and indicated at that time that the Province Senior Advisor candidate (FSO-3, FSO-4) should receive the six week Basic Course plus three weeks of special training for their positions as Province Senior Advisors.

The more junior officers (FSO-5, FSO-6) will be serving as District Senior Advisor in Viet-Nam and should receive the District Course which comprises the Basic Course (six weeks) plus District Course* (twelve weeks) for a total of eighteen weeks. Officers at the FSO-6 level and below should, unless CORDS Viet-Nam changes its requirements, receive long-term language training. It was stipulated when the Department decided not to put new officers into the program that this would not mean a discontinuance of long-term language.

I learned with considerable consternation yesterday that various personnel officers in State and AID had decided that Province Senior Advisor training would be seven weeks and apparently made no provision at all for language training. I am quite sure that this does not meet the requirements of the situation or of CORDS Viet-Nam and would invite your attention to this matter before it goes any further down the wrong track.

cc: Mr. Jones
Mr. Quaid

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HES:

*In later conversations with Jacobson in Saigon, it was suggested by us that 5's and 6's be District Senior Advisors (18 weeks), with the 49-week course for 7's and 8's.

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