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PRP Activities Vs. GVN Land Reform Program

Duyen Hai district, Camau province

June 1970

-----FULL TRANSLATION-----

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CA MAU PROVINCE ((VC Region 3))  
THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE,  
DUYEN HAI DISTRICT

((Marginal note:))  
10 Jul 70  
((End of marginal note.))

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM  
INDEPENDENCE, DEMOCRACY, PEACE, AND NEUTRALITY

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Minutes of the regular meeting of the People's Revolutionary Committee,  
Duyen Hai District, held at 0800 hours on 19 Jun 70.

I. DECLARATION FOR THE MEETING.

The purpose of the meeting was to review past activities, study policies of higher echelons, and examine the district committee's activity plan for Jul 70.

II. PARTICIPANTS.

Present: Chairman <sup>2</sup>Duong HUU Kinh; Deputy Chairman in charge of finance-economy affairs, LA VAN NGOAN; Deputy Chairman in charge of military affairs, <sup>1</sup>LAM TAN BUI; Acting Secretary, HUYNH THIEN HUNG; member in charge of security, PHAN MINH CHANH; member in charge of public health and social relief, HUYNH THI KIEM; district production cadre, <sup>1</sup>LE VAN PHAI; Administrative Office Chief, <sup>1</sup>LE MINH CHIEU; and representative of Quach Pham B Village People's Revolutionary Committee, SAU QUOC.

Absent:

Member in charge of information and cultural ((section)), <sup>1</sup>DOAI PHUOC XEM; member in charge of education, <sup>1</sup>LE MINH TUAN.

Other participants:

Representative of district Farmers' ((Association)), <sup>1</sup>MUOI DO.

Representative of province Women's ((Association)), <sup>1</sup>MIEU SUDNG.

III. PRESIDIUM.

a. Chairman, <sup>2</sup>Duong HUU Kinh

b. Secretary, <sup>1</sup>LE MINH CHIEU.

IV. MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

A. Study of our policy:

1. The committee studied Directive 07/CT-UB, which calls for motivating the people to conceal rice to prevent enemy theft.

After a briefing by the acting secretary, the committee unanimously resolved the following measures:

Because of his many failures, the enemy has tried to launch counteroffensives against us in every field. Emphasis was placed on attacking rural areas to collect rice to balance his budget and prolong the war. This has resulted in famine for the people and has limited our war potential. Therefore, cadre of various branches must concentrate all efforts on providing the people with proper guidance to defeat the enemy in his immediate and long-range schemes. We must immediately solve all economic problems to maintain our government. Furthermore, we must practice thrift and motivate the farmers to unite and increase farm production. Branches must work out self-sufficiency production plans to meet expenditures and help increase the production movement of farmers.

((Marginal note:))

R - inform all E's of the paragraph concerning challenge of emulation, which appeared at the end of the minutes of the meeting.

R

/S/ ((Illegible))

((End of marginal note.))

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Measures to be taken:

To more effectively motivate the people, villages should inventory the amount of rice on hand, and explain to the people the enemy plan to seize their rice.

<sup>A</sup> Duyen Hai District is required to prevent their rice from being seized by the enemy.

2. The committee also studied Directive 08/CT-VB which concerns the implementation of rural unity and the land reform policy of the NFLSVN.

The people were motivated to stay in their areas and participate in farm work to oppose relocation into enemy resettlement centers. Furthermore, the people's guerrilla warfare movement liberated Nam Can Sub-Sector, defeated the enemy accelerated pacification program, and seized control of land.

The farmers in coastal areas were organized into communal living, relying on rice fields for farm production.

Adequate food was provided for the people in spite of a famine in 1966-67.

Weak points:

The people failed to understand the cunning enemy scheme and our concern for economy. Specific plans were not worked out to assist the people in preparing seed, farm implements, and land for cultivation.

Because of the intensity of the war, the people in villages and hamlets abandoned their land and rice fields in Tan An, Vien An, and Kinh Nam of Quach Van Pham B Village ((possibly of VC Duyen Hai District)).

Some villages and hamlets failed to set examples in carrying out policies concerning subletting, buying, and renting land. This caused many problems in implementing direct participation in farming. As a result, there was a lack of unity among the people and village and hamlet cadre.

Measures to be taken: Based on the situation in Quách Văn Pham B Village, the meeting set forth some solutions for the problems as follows:

1. Hai Thā's case: Hai Thā had to pay 60,000\$ SVN to cultivate a 50 cong ((one cong equals 1/10th of a hectare)) land area which he reserved for his son. Through information of the local authority, he requested to be authorized possession of the land and requested that the former owner refrain from making improvements because he could not afford to pay for them. This case is to be settled as follows: His request will be approved. He will use a part of his profit to pay the former owner. He will continue to pay on his debt in coming harvest seasons, if necessary. If he refuses to take possession of the land or moves to another area, the land will automatically fall under the management of the local authority without compensation to the owner.

2. Ba Doan's case: He is an old man and serves as a full-time guerrilla. Therefore, he has not been able to farm his land. His land has been cultivated for him by relatives and he has been receiving a share of the total production. This case is considered indirect cultivation and must be approved in advance by the farmer household.

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3. Miss Thục is not authorized to receive income from the land she rented to Sáu Chái. This land is now under management of the local authority. Profits from this land should be given to Sáu Chái by the local authority.

4. The collection of profits from the land of Ngô Thiên Cán remains unchanged. A division of the land into lots is not approved.

5. In Kinh Nam, where the enemy conducted attacks and the people fled to another area, the village authority must persuade the people to return to their homes and continue farming. Those who are not able to work or do not want to farm must give the land back to the local authorities so that it can be assigned to others. In conjunction with summoning the people back to their former homes, the village authority must motivate those remaining in the village to reconstruct the canal banks to prevent sea water from flowing into the rice fields of those who have left. These people must return to protect their land and participate in farm work. The district People's Revolutionary Committee will provide a leader for these farmers.

3 ((sic)). The committee studied Directive 10/CT-UB which concerns the initiation of an emulation movement to defeat the US aggressors.

Through review and evaluation, it was decided that the district emulation movement has accomplished promising results. Since early 1969, the district revolutionary movement has lost its momentum because of the following causes:

Most of the cadre have not been satisfied with awards received from the province emulation board. As a result, the spirit of emulation has decreased day after day.

Even though the settlement of above problems was late, the movement was stepped up considerably.

Some cadre did their best regardless of whether they received awards.

The above causes were also due to the failure of the cadre to fully understand the significance of the emulation task.

Measures to be taken: To properly implement the above missions, cadre should uphold the spirit of emulation in branches and agencies in local areas to promote the people's emulation movement. The participants should enthusiastically respond to the emulation movement in accordance with Directive 10/CTUB to emulate as follows:

((Marginal note:))

Criteria for emulation of the ((People's Revolutionary)) Committee of Duyen Hai District. ((End of marginal note.))

The People's Revolutionary Committee of Duyen Hai District challenged other district committees of the province to emulate the following:

1. Establish revolutionary committees from district through village and hamlet levels in accordance with the resolution.
2. Actions are to be taken in compliance with the revolutionary government policy.
3. Work procedure must ensure periodic meetings and must adhere to the proper channels of requesting instructions from and submitting reports to ((higher echelons)).

The district unit and security ((section)) challenged the others to emulate as follows:

1. Carry out effective combat activities in support of the spontaneous uprising stage in liberated and enemy ((RVN)) controlled areas.
2. Strengthen organization, develop forces and submit reports on meetings to village committees.
3. Establish self-sufficiency in three months.

District farmers challenged the district signal, cultural, and educational sections to emulate as follows:

((Marginal note:))

Inform all B's ((of the emulation measures)).

Send reports to TVKC ((sic)) and the province agency. ((End of marginal note)).

1. Establish revolutionary machinery in all districts, villages, and hamlets.

2. Regularly report on our routine activities.

Quách Văn Ph<sup>1</sup>am B Village People's Revolutionary Committee had adopted an emulation campaign in Nam Can Village, aimed at the following points:

From now to Dec 70, Quách Văn Ph<sup>1</sup>am B Village ((possibly VC Duyen Hai District)) should strive to completely liberate Cai Keo and Nam Can ((Villages)) and strategic Xóm Lớn Hamlet. After that, these two villages must try to organize the people and use them to motivate others.

Lines of communication in hamlets and villages must be successfully maintained. The transportation task must also be carried out in accordance with prescribed regulations.

In addition to the emulation campaign in compliance with Directive 10/CTUB, the People's Revolutionary Committee of Tan An and Vien An Villages volunteered to fulfil the following:

Motivate the people to participate in a three-pronged attack.

Indoctrinate the people and consolidate liberated rural areas.

Establish communication units in villages and hamlets and properly implement the transportation task in compliance with prescribed regulations.

Branches, groups, and district Party Committee echelon members must carefully study the directive concerning the emulation campaign to provide effective leadership if they have been absent from a meeting.

B. Review of the past missions:

1. Farm production in 1970.

The emulation campaign of Quách Văn Ph<sup>1</sup>am B Village was initiated in hamlets, but results were not reported in this campaign. For instance, in this year, B<sup>1</sup>ao D<sup>1</sup>ia Hamlet built a perimeter around 100 cong ((one cong equals 1/10th of a hectare)) of cultivated land. And at the same time, some villages prepared to plant rice. Enough farm implements were issued to farmers. In Nam C<sup>1</sup>an ((Village)), where farmers had been motivated to participate in farm work, this task was successfully implemented although many difficulties were encountered in accomplishing it.

We obtained the following results in Nam C<sup>1</sup>an, B<sup>1</sup>i M<sup>1</sup>at, and Nga V<sup>1</sup>at Hamlets:

Protection task for irrigation.

Constructed the edge of the ((canal)): 133 workdays

Dug a drainage system : 4 workdays

Dug a main ditch : 84 workdays

Dug a supplementary ditch : 270 workdays

Land for cultivation in 1970:

Cultivated for 68 workdays and spent 333 workdays tilling land.

Cultivated for 322 workdays in mountainous areas.

Rice seed was prepared for the 1970 season (only a small number of transplanted rice seedling were counted).

((Sowed)) other types of cereals for 100 workdays.

((Transplanted)) rice seedling in 130 công.

Mutual aid:

Thirteen farmers rented 75 công for cultivation.

The farmers were given 35 gia ((one gia equals 36 kilograms)) of rice seed for farmers.

These were some results of farm production which were reported during the meeting. To better implement the above mentioned task, the district Party Committee members and the village Party Committee should fully assess land management and farm production in order to prepare for the coming meeting.

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2. Commendation:

Commendations in May and Jun 1970:

Awards granted for the movement.

One certificate of commendation and six letters of appreciation were granted by the province.

The district granted 21 letters of appreciation to groups and 13 others to individuals.

Awards granted for the policy:

((Commendations)) granted for families persuading relatives to join ((VC)) ranks 95-37 ((sic; possibly 95 families, 37 relatives)).

Granted 95 ((possibly letters of appreciation)) for families who had relatives that were killed.

3. War invalids:

There were 81 war invalids in the district. Two died and one defected to the enemy.

Referring to the above mentioned war invalids, the district examination council classified and sent 77 men to the province examination council for approval. However, only 24 men were approved (six others were not classified).

Particularly in May ((70)), 13 war invalids were classified by the district examination council in compliance with the following different categories:

Category 1: 1 man

Category 2: 2 men

Category 3: 5 men

Poor persons were not classified: 4 men ((possibly one died)) as in previous months, because the deputy chief of the district war invalid section was transferred to the district Party Committee.

4. A recapitulation report on the revolutionary government's missions from 20 May to 20 Jun ((70)).

Comments on the revolutionary government's missions:

Strengths:

In general, we fully comprehended the important missions of the revolutionary government and knew how to provide effective leadership for cadre and soldiers. For this reason, our organizations were consolidated and working procedures were improved. Command levels provided good leadership in helping the people defeat the US forces for national salvation.

The people had more confidence in the revolutionary government. The relationship between cadre at all echelons improved considerably.

Although the enemy conducted fierce operations against villages, the Party Committee consolidated our organizations and worked closely with the people to successfully implement all plans drafted by the revolutionary government.

Weaknesses:

A number of specialized cadre were still weak. Organization of the revolutionary machinery at all echelons was not effective. In addition, our forces were not strengthened qualitatively and quantitatively. Therefore, the Party Committee's leadership was poor.

The district Party Committee failed to control activities of various branches. As a result, these branches received no support from the committee in carrying out missions.

c. ((sic)) Approval of a one-month activity plan.

d. ((sic)) Assignment of missions.

Lê Minh Tuấn, in charge of Năm Căn Village.

Lâm Tân Bửu<sup>2</sup>, in charge of Quách Văn Phẩm B Village  
((possibly of VC Duyên Hải District)).

After the meeting, Huỳnh Thiên Hùng must provide  
instructions for Tân An and Viên An Villages.

V. THIS MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 1500 HRS, 20 JUN 70.

**Secretary**

/s/ LÊ MINH CHIẾU

-----**END OF TRANSLATION**-----