

24
24 November 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MISSION LIAISON GROUP


SUBJECT : Rural Construction Cadre (RCC) Statute.

1. A draft statute for Rural Reconstruction Cadre was verbally approved by the Minister, General Thang, on 23 November. A copy of this draft is Inclosure 1. It has not been determined whether General Thang himself will sign the decree, or whether this will be done by Marshal Ky.

2. Many of the administrative details in earlier drafts have been superseded by corresponding provisions in the General Statute for Cadre (#1900 URRP/CT) approved 5 November. A brief description of the duties of development cadre has been added, various administrative and descriptive passages slightly rephrased, and a degree of added flexibility introduced, but there is no positive evidence of any substantive change in thinking since the first drafts seen by the Mission Liaison Group.

3. Your working group feels that the proposed statute, despite its defects, can be the basis for substantial improvements in the pacification cadre program. It feels also that much more needs to be done if this potential is to be realized. Evaluations of the draft statute, and of requirements for future action, have been prepared individually by working group members from each agency. These, with one exception which is substantially similar to that of Mr Holbrooke, are Inclosures 2 through 5. They merit study.

4. Decisions on the organization, training, employment, and support of Rural Construction Cadre remain to be made.


Bohannan
Chairman, CWG/MLG