

# • FOREIGN SERVICE INSTITUTE

## VIET-NAM TRAINING CENTER

OFFICE OF CIVIL OPERATIONS PROGRAM

VIET-NAM AREA STUDIES



APRIL 17 - MAY 5, 1967

D E P A R T M E N T O F S T A T E

VIETNAM TRAINING CENTER

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April 17 - May 5, 1967

WEEK I

Monday, April 17, 1967

0900 - 1015 ALL SECTIONS: Welcome to OCO Vietnam Training Course - Mr. Robert Komer, Special Assistant to the President

1030 - 1100 ALL SECTIONS: Outline of Course and Course Objectives - Course Coordinator

Scope: General course program and objectives; the intensive nature of the course, examination of content; emphasis on seminar approach and class participation. Expectation that trainee will think problems through, keeping historic background in mind and value system of the Vietnamese people; the discarding of pre-judgements and assumptions held solely within the American context.

1100 - 1115 ALL SECTIONS: Course Arrangements - Course Chairman (Class will be divided into three sections: A, B, and C meeting in combined and separate sessions.)

1115 - 1300 SECTIONS A & B: Geography of Vietnam (C) - Mr. James Halpin  
Scope: Physical and human geography, its peoples, climate, natural resources, transportation arteries: special attention will be given to regional differences in peoples and terrain as affecting military and political-economic strategy of the enemy and allies. (To be illustrated.)

1115 - 1300 SECTION C: Film - "Why Vietnam"

1400 - 1630 ALL SECTIONS: Vietnam in Perspective - Dr. Kenneth P. Landon, Director, Center for South and Southeast Asia Studies, American University

Scope: Socio-political problems in context of historic background; geopolitical significance in Southeast Asia.

1600 - 1730 Parallel Reading Assignments - OCO Library

Tuesday, April 18, 1967

0900 - 1100

Early Vietnam History, An Analysis

SECTION A: Dr. Truong Buu Lam, Research Associate,  
Cornell University

SECTIONS B & C: Dr. Joseph Buttinger, Library of Political  
Studies, New York

Scope: An analysis of recurring factors and trends in  
Vietnamese history with emphasis on relations with China,  
regionalism, and the development of a Vietnamese national  
identity.

1115 - 1200

ALL SECTIONS: Film - "End of an Empire"

1200 - 1300

Reading and Study period - OCO Library

1330 - 1530

SECTION C: Geography of Vietnam (C) - Mr. James Halpin

1400 - 1615

Roots of Vietnamese Nationalism

SECTION A: Dr. Buttinger

SECTION B: Dr. Lam

Scope: Factors underlying rise of Vietnamese nationalism;  
nationalist writers during colonial period; early political  
parties and their legacies.

1615 - 1730

SECTIONS A & B: Film - "Why Vietnam"

Wednesday, April 19, 1967

0900 - 1100 Religions and Philosophical Traditions of Vietnam  
SECTION A: Dr. Robert C. Lester, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion, American University  
SECTION B: Dr. Kenneth P. Morgan, Professor of Religion, Colgate University  
Scope: Major religions of Vietnam and basic doctrines; religious practices and rituals among the people.

0900 - 1100 SECTION C: Roots of Vietnamese Nationalism - Dr. Lam

1115 - 1215 ALL SECTIONS: Film - "The Agony of Vietnam"

1215 - 1300 Reading and Study - OCO Library

1400 - 1615 SECTION C: Religions and Philosophical Traditions in Vietnam - Dr. Robert Lester, American University

1400 - 1600 SECTION A: Seminar: Struggle for Vietnamese National Identity - Dr. Lam

1400 - 1600 SECTION B: Seminar: Religious Practices in Vietnam - Dr. Kenneth Morgan

1630 - 1730 Reading and Study - OCO Library

Thursday, April 20, 1967

0900 - 1115

**ALL SECTIONS: The French Period in Vietnam History -**  
**Dr. I. Milton Sacks, Professor of Politics, Brandeis**  
**University**

**Scope:** History of French involvement and colonial policies in Indo-China. Vietminh declaration of independence, Bao Dai Occupation by Chinese and British. Negotiations between French and Vietminh and their breakdown. Development of Vietminh apparatus. Indo-China War. Dien Bien Phu.

1130 - 1230

**ALL SECTIONS: Film - "The Quiet War"**

1230 - 1300

**Reading and Study Period**

1400 - 1630

**ALL SECTIONS: History of Vietnam: Geneva Conference to Present - Dr. I. Milton Sacks**

**Scope:** Ngo Dinh Diem's administration. Diem's handling of the crises of nation-building: internal security, resettlement of refugees from the North, Bao Dai, government legitimacy, broadening support for government, building government services, defense against external aggression, and developing economy. Geneva Conference on Laos, 1961-62, and its implications for Vietnam. Coup d'etat of November, 1963. Rise and fall of Khanh. After Khanh.

1630 - 1730

**Reading and Study - OCO Library**

Friday, April 21, 1967

0900 - 1100 ALL SECTIONS: Cultural Background to Present Day Problems - Dr. Jacques May, National Institute of Health (long time resident of French Indo-China)  
Scope: Historic cultural and sociological factors relating to present day problems as viewed by long time resident of Vietnam.

1115 - 1215 ALL SECTIONS: Film - "Vietnam: How the People Feel About the War"

1215 - 1300 Reading and Study

1400 - 1530 SECTIONS A & B: Contemporary Aspects of Vietnamese Religious Leadership and Movements (C) - Mr. David Engel, Office of Research and Analysis for East Asia, Department of State

1400 - 1530 SECTION C: Mr. James Rosenthal, Diplomat-in-residence, Faculty of the United States Military Academy

1530 - 1700 ALL SECTIONS: Seminar: Discussion: Messrs. Engel and Rosenthal

Saturday, April 22, 1967

Individual Study - OCO training facilities will be open for use

WEEK II

Monday, April 24, 1967

0900 - 1000 SECTION A: Film - "Mekong, River of Asia" (A color film on Economic Development Project for Southeast Asia)

0900 - 1100 SECTION B: Ethnic Minorities of Vietnam Highlands - Commander Robert Mole, U. S. Navy

Scope: Anthropological view of the ethnic minorities of South Vietnam with special attention to the Montagnards. History, ethnology, social structure, religion, customs and taboos.

0900 - 1100 SECTION C: Basics of Rural Development - Dr. Gerald F. Winfield, OCO Training Staff

Scope: An examination of the major types of change, the factors that determine them, and the institutions involved in rural development with special emphasis on the inter-relations between them.

1000 - 1200 SECTION A: Economy of Vietnam - Dr. John Bennett, Office of Development Planning, Agency for International Development, Department of State

Scope: Current state of development of Vietnam's economy: resources, economic structure, regional difference; future prospects.

1100 - 1240 SECTION B: Para-Military Aspects: the Montagnards - Mr. David Nuttle

1400 - 1615 ALL SECTIONS: Case Study of Mekong Delta Province - Mr. William R. Warne, Vietnam Working Group

Scope: The role of the USAID Provincial Representative in Mekong Delta area; political military climate in which provincial representative works, programs, problems and opportunities; lessons learned.

1630 - 1730 ALL SECTIONS: Film - "Operation Montagnard"

Tuesday, April 25, 1967

0900 - 1000 ALL SECTIONS: Film - "How to Fight a Guerilla War"

1000 - 1200 Communist Revolutionary Warfare in Vietnam  
SECTION A: Sir Robert Thompson, Winsford England - Former Chief, British Advisory Mission, Vietnam

SECTION C: Dr. George G. K. Tanham, Deputy to Vice-President, Rand Corporation, Washington, D. C.

Scope: Examination of origins and tactics of revolutionary warfare in Vietnam, Chinese legacy, Vietnamese adoption and refinement, present application; advantages and weaknesses of the Revolutionaries.

1000 - 1200 SECTION B: Economy of Vietnam - Dr. John Bennett

1400 - 1700 ALL SECTIONS: Seminar: Combating Communist Revolutionary Warfare - Dr. George G. K. Tanham and Sir Robert Thompson

1900 - 2100 Evening Session: Discussion with Sir Robert Thompson - Attendance Required

Wednesday, April 26, 1967

0900 - 1045 SECTION A: Ethnic Minorities in Vietnam: Highlands - Commander Robert Mole, U. S. Navy

0900 - 1100 SECTION B: Foreign Aid Development and Vietnamese Administration - Dr. John Montgomery, Harvard Graduate School of Public Administration

Scope: Purposes and policies of U. S. foreign aid; foreign aid and the modernization process; Vietnamese administrative system capabilities.

0900 - 1030 SECTION C: Rural Vietnam Under Insurgency - Professor John C. Donnell, Department of Political Science, Temple University

Scope: An examination of the urban-rural gap characterized by the Western-oriented bourgeoisie, which supplies most of the civil and military leadership, and the tradition-oriented peasantry. Contrasting attitudes toward politics and social change. GVN efforts to bridge the gap and develop political support in the villages, based on cadre teams and local security and resettlement programs including agrovilles, strategic hamlets and the new "revolutionary development" plan. The impact of protracted conflict on peasant communities, including combat operations and GVN and Viet Cong political appeals and population controls. The circular linkage between the development of national political leadership and rural pacification.

1045 - 1300 SECTION C: Viet Cong Organization and Motivation - Professor Donnell

Scope: The crucial role of the cadre in the movement. Principal techniques and appeals used by Viet Cong recruiters, illustrating the typical reliance on combined coercion and voluntarism. Political and psychological control methods used in military and civil units and their varying effectiveness. The role of women. Major factors in desertions from the Viet Cong. Some Viet Cong vulnerabilities.

1100 - 1230 SECTION A: Para-Military Aspects: the Montagnards - Mr. David Nuttle

1130 - 1230 SECTION B: Film - "The American Commitment"

1400 - 1630 SECTIONS A & C: Foreign Aid Development and Vietnamese Administration - Dr. John Montgomery

1400 - 1630 SECTION B: Seminar: Political Warfare in Vietnam -  
Sir Robert Thompson and Dr. John Donnell

1630 - 1730 Reading and Study - OCO Library

Thursday, April 27, 1967

0900 - 1000 SECTION A: Film - "The American Commitment"

0900 - 1030 SECTION B: Rural Vietnam Under Insurgency - Dr. Donnell

0900 - 1045 SECTION C: Ethnic Minorities in Vietnam: Highlands - Commander Mole

1045 - 1300 SECTION B: Viet Cong Organization and Motivation - Dr. Donnell

1100 - 1230 SECTION C: Para-Military Aspects: the Montagnards - Mr. Nuttle

1400 - 1700 SECTION B: Case Studies of the Viet Cong - Professor Donnell  
Scope: Examination of various studies of Viet Cong captives and defectors; class participation

1400 - 1600 SECTIONS A & C: Discussion: Comparative Insurgencies in Southeast Asia - Sir Robert Thompson

Friday, April 28, 1967

0900 - 1030 SECTION A: Rural Vietnam Under Insurgency - Dr. Donnell

0900 - 1130 SECTION B & C: Briefing for Province Control: Pacification Exercise - Course Chairmen and others to be announced

1045 - 1300 SECTION A: Viet Cong Organization and Motivation - Dr. Donnell

1140 - 1240 SECTION B & C: Film - "Vietnam, The Other War"

1400 - 1630 SECTION A: Case Studies of the Viet Cong - Dr. Donnell

1400 - 1730 SECTION B & C: Province Control: Pacification Exercise

--One province will be the scene, and class members will take enemy and friendly roles.

1. Historical background of province
2. Enemy forces - strengths - village infrastructure
3. Economic - social factors
4. Military factors - base area proximity, local militia, etc.
5. Psychological factors
6. Impact Aid Projects - Population involvement
7. Intelligence, etc.
8. Summary and critique

Saturday, April 29, 1967

Individual Study - OCO training facilities will be open for use

WEEK III

Monday, May 1, 1967

0900 - 1000 SECTION A: Film - "Vietnam, the Other War"

1000 - 1200 ALL SECTIONS: Seminar: Revolutionary Development in Vietnam - Part I - Mr. Richard Holbrooke, Office of the Special Assistant to the President  
  
Scope: Organization of the Office of Civil Operations - broad view of programs and objectives.

1200 - 1300 Reading and Study

1400 - 1700 ALL SECTIONS: Seminar: Revolutionary Development in Vietnam - Part II - Mr. Everett Bumgardner, Mr. Bert Fraleigh, OCO Training Staff.

Tuesday, May 2, 1967

0900 - 1100 ALL SECTIONS: The Military Situation in Vietnam (C) - Colonel Harold Moore, Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense, Far East Region, Department of Defense

1115 - 1215 ALL SECTIONS: Film - "I am a Soldier"

1215 - 1300 Reading and Study

1400 - 1600 ALL SECTIONS: North Vietnam - Political and Economic Developments Since 1954 (C) - Mr. Richard Smyser, Vietnam Working Group, Department of State  
Scope: Rise of Ho Chi Minh and the North Vietnamese regime; the role of the Lao Dong party; internal policies, international relations, economic and military potential of the DRV.

1900 - 2100 ALL SECTIONS: Evening Study Program  
Mr. Hoang Van Chi, Author: From Colonialism to Communism: A Case History of North Vietnam  
Attendance Required

Wednesday, May 3, 1967

0900 - 1000 ALL SECTIONS: Film - 'North Vietnamese President Ho Chi Minh'

1000 - 1200 SECTIONS A & B: China and Vietnam - Professor Harold C. Hinton, Department of Political Science, George Washington University

Scope: Traditional goals of Chinese foreign policy; historical background of Sino-Vietnamese relations; Communist Chinese policies and actions vis-a-vis Vietnam as a testing ground of ideological, diplomatic and military objectives; relations with North Vietnam, assessment of Chinese Communist role in 1965-66.

1000 - 1200 SECTION C: Dr. Richard Walker, University of South Carolina

1200 - 1300 Reading and study period

1400 - 1700 ALL SECTIONS: Psychological Dimension of Vietnam Conflict (C) Dr. Robert Delaney and Course Chairman

Scope: A discussion of techniques, themes and objectives: GVN-US psychological operations in North and South Vietnam.

1900 - 2030 ALL SECTIONS: Film - "700 Million" (On Communist China)

Thursday, May 4, 1967

0900 - 1100      Political Forces and Personalities in Vietnam (C)  
                    SECTION A & B: Mr. George Carver  
                    SECTION C: Mr. Robert Miller, Vietnam Working Group,  
                    Department of State  
1115 - 1215      ALL SECTIONS: Film - "It's a Mad, Mad War"  
1400 - 1630      ALL SECTIONS: Understanding the Vietnamese People -  
                    Mr. Dolf Droke, Training Staff, Agency for International  
                    Development  
Scope: Discussion of public opinion in South Vietnam,  
including attitudes and opinions of the various groups  
that make up Vietnam society with particular reference to  
GVN, the Viet Cong and foreigners.  
1630 - 1730      Reading and Study Period

Friday, May 5, 1967

0900 - 1000 ALL SECTIONS: Course Summary - Course Chairmen.  
Discussion in respective seminar rooms.

1000 - 1130 ALL SECTIONS: Vietnam Policy - H. E. Bui Diem, Ambassador  
of Vietnam

1140 - 1300 ALL SECTIONS: Final Examination

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Minimum Required Readings

The following readings, to be found in the library or in your course kits, are listed generally in the order of lecture topics and are required course reading. Reading and study periods have been scheduled for completion of reading assignments. The final examination will be based on these assignments and the content of the lectures.

In addition, a more complete Vietnam bibliography is included in your kits.

WEEK I

U.S. Army, Area Handbook for Vietnam, pp. 31-63 (early history and ethnic groups)

Maps of Vietnam (series to be distributed)

Cady, J., Southeast Asia: Its Historical Development, pp. 51-61;  
260-284; 406-433; 546-562

Lancaster, R., Emancipation of French Indo-China, pp. 60-90

\_\_\_\_\_, "The Buddhists: The Problem and the Promise," Asia Journal

Hickey, Village in Viet-Nam, pp. 82-213

Asia - Vietnam: Evolution of the Crisis - (Journal of Asia Society) -  
"Cultural Background of Present Problems" by Paul Mus

Welch, Holmes, Parting of the Way (or Taoism) - suggested

Higgins, Marguerite, Our Vietnam Nightmare, Chap. 3

Pike, Douglas, The Viet Cong - (suggested reading during 3-week course)

Shaplen, The Lost Revolution - (suggested reading during 3-week course)

Carver, George, "The Real Revolution in South Vietnam"

## WEEK II

Mecklin, J., Mission in Torment, Chaps. III and IV

Hendry, The Small World of Khanh Hau, pp. 233-247

Tanham, George K. (Warne, Young and Nighswonger), War Without Guns - American Civilians in Rural Viet-Nam

Truong Chinh, Primer for Revolt, The Communist Takeover in Vietnam - Chaps. I, II, VI, and VII

Tanham, G. K., Communist Revolutionary Warfare

Thompson, Sir Robert, Defeating Communist Insurgency (suggested)

Browne, Malcome, The New Face of War (especially Chaps. IX and X)

## WEEK III

"The Geneva Accords," Committee on Foreign Relations, U. S. Senate. Background Information Relating to Southeast Asia and Viet-Nam, pp. 28-42; 58-61; or in Vietnam Reader, Raskin, M. and Fall, B. in library.

Pattern for Peace in Southeast Asia: address by President Johnson, Johns Hopkins University, April 17, 1965

U. S. Department of State, "Agression from the North" 1965 White Paper on Viet-Nam

Komer, Robert, "The Other War in Vietnam," a progress report to the President

Fall, The Two Vietnams, pp. 81-128

\_\_\_\_\_, Vietnam Witness (suggested)

Hoang Van Chi, From Colonialism to Communism, A Case History of North Viet-Nam, pp. 163-235

Carver, George, "The Faceless Viet Cong"

Hinton, H. C., Communist China and World Politics, Chaps. IX and XIII

"The Vietnamese Peasant: His Value System" (R-138-65 USIA/IRS)

Supplemental Reading List of Newly Arrived Books

Crawford, Ann Caddell, Customs and Culture of Vietnam

Galula, David, Counter-Insurgency Warfare

Mao Tse-Tung, Basic Tactics

Sciglano, Robert, South Vietnam: Nation Under Stress