

Three-Year Plan for Counterinsurgency

This Three-Year Support Plan for Counterinsurgency is based on the RVN's Strategic Hamlet Program in which a total of 10,500 strategic hamlets will be completed before the end of FY 1965.

For purposes of actual field implementation, it covers the period from January 1, 1963 to December 31, 1965. Dollar budget requirements are listed by fiscal year from FY 1963 through FY 1965, while piaster requirements are listed by calendar year from CY 1963 to CY 1965, to correspond with field needs as well as RVN practices.

The Plan seeks to concentrate USOM/RVN resources for maximum political, social and economic impact on local peoples through the media of provincial and other local level plans. At the same time, it aims to increase and strengthen those central government services and programs which directly reach and benefit local people.

It is designed to promote rapid improvement in local living standards, enabling the establishment of local, social and technical services and viable, freely-elected hamlet and village governments willingly maintained by the local people governed.

The Plan has been developed in two sections, each consisting of several major categories. The first section is for activities implemented through provincial and lower-level governments and the second section is for activities developed for rural peoples and implemented from National Government levels. Each sectional category comprises related projects supporting particular phases of the Strategic Hamlet Program. The first major category in the first, or local government section — Hamlet Establishment — consists of projects relating directly to the construction, organization and formation of the strategic hamlets and is given heavy emphasis in calendar years 1963 and 1964. As strategic hamlets are completed under the Hamlet Establishment category, the project activities of this section's second major category — Hamlet Development — will immediately be added with increasing emphasis in 1964 and 1965. These Hamlet Development activities will reach completed strategic hamlets through Provincial Development Councils with funds and material resources made available through Provincial Governments and their technical services. Special attention will be given to providing resources and funds directly to elected hamlet councils for capital investment at local level to provide permanent, productive local revenue sources for financing continuing local government services and administration.

The third major category in this section — Special Programs — includes activities implemented at both national and local government levels such as the Returnee Program, Emergency Relief, etc.

The first category in the second section consists of — Strategic Hamlet Plans Nationally Administered — while the second and last category consists of — Operational Support — activities for the Plan.

It is believed that full and effective implementation of the Plan will generate greatly increased US and DRV attention and activity for rural improvement. At the same time, it should provide the firm political, social and economic base in rural Vietnam from which favorable, annual growth rates can be expected thereafter with decreasing amounts of foreign economic grant assistance. However, in the years after 1965 it will still be necessary for the DRV and its allies to give priority attention to rural peoples and their problems to insure that their rising expectations are met and their organizational, administrative and productive abilities are fully recognized and utilized as the major development force in the country.