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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Newton B. Knox

DATE: 21 July 1962

FROM : Rufus C. Phillips, Acting Assistant Director for Rural Affairs, Counter-insurgency

Rufus

SUBJECT: Suggested Continuing Actions in Support of Counter-Insurgency

1. Suggest circulate to Trueheart Committee, for their info, the latest revision of the Phu Yen sub-project agreement. (Major Price would like to have a copy)

2. Suggest develop a simple set of instructions for implementing the hamlet self-help program. These instructions must establish a system wherein the hamlet, not the provincial government, will decide what project it wishes to undertake.

3. Suggest have Kay Garner go to key provinces to pick up their Montagnard programs if the Province Chiefs are slow in responding to Colonel Cao's requests.

4. On Quang Ngai - the important factor is that the people are completely impoverished and something must be done which has an immediate impact on their well-being. Too much has been asked of these people already. The strategic hamlets they have built have not worked. We must therefore help the Government restore some measure of confidence and faith in the Government on their part. Payment in rice for all labor involved in constructing the strategic hamlets is definitely recommended as well as some emergency relief for the most hard hit areas.

One of the main problems in Quang Ngai is a lack of irrigation which would permit two good rice crops per year. There are two practical solutions to this problem -- dams and canals, and windmill pumps. It is recommended that for the former the Chinese irrigation team be borrowed and placed in the province as soon as possible. The Province Chief has stated that he would welcome their assistance.

On windmills, it is recommended that immediate technical assistance be borrowed from Thailand, or other source, for building locally constructed windmill pumps and that these be set up in Quang Ngai on an experimental basis as soon as possible.

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5. Suggest we continue to press MAC/V on a case by case basis to make MAAG Sector Advisors the USOM representatives in the field.

6. Suggest add hamlet self-help development projects to Operation Sunrise.

7. Suggest try to make the Phu Yen project revision operative as soon as possible, both for effect in that province and for experience to be applied elsewhere. Time is very important here.

8. Trueheart would like to have the Binh Dinh project agreement developed in draft for the Binh Dinh project as soon as possible. Do we have some way of classifying these agreements?

9. Suggest you begin select and groom an IVS man for Quang Ngai as soon as possible and get him up there during the preparatory phase. Believe Tom Luche could best handle Vinh Binh and Vinh Long.

10. Suggest that Agriculture not wait for the arrival of the cement to initiate the hog raising program. We can buy cement locally with piasters.

11. Would suggest a follow-up on most of Bert Fraleigh's ideas, except the ~~CARE~~ fishing boat program.

12. Thanks for all your cooperation and invaluable assistance.

cc: Mr. Fippin

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