

"7" Chron

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: Bui Diem
Colonel Lieu, Director of Police
Colonel Tri, Agriculture
General Khanh, Governor of Saigon
Tam Ly Chien, Minister of Info and Psywar
General Lansdale
Rufus Phillips
Henry Miller

DATE: September 25 at Dinner at Bui Diem's House

The discussions ranged back and forth over a series of subjects spearheaded most often by Colonel Lieu, a dynamic individual almost to the point of being un-Vietnamese.

Slum Clearance: Areas of VC infection in the Saigon area will not be cleared out as long as the current slums are allowed to remain. Low rent housing must be built in their place and the ministry of public works has been asked for plans. They have had an architect on the project for two months but have not come up with any plans yet. Another approach to the rapidly increasing size of Saigon is the establishment of satellite villages on the perimeter which they recommend for serious consideration.

The group, particularly General Khanh was taken with the Liberty Well program as originated in the Philippines under Magsaysay (and utilized in Laos) and would like to see it developed here.

Veteran's Housing: The housing development idea then went to Military housing and the practice of housing ARVN dependents with the division. They said that currently it takes seven months to prepare a division to move and that to move one division logistically there are four divisions to move.....three divisions of dependents. Their proposal was a program for dependent housing which the government would build and the officer or soldier would pay for during the term of his service. The house would be built or bought in whatever part of the country the individual wished and the dependents would stay in the house...there would be no dependents with the army. ARVN personnel would get 15 days leave every six months to go home, and compassionate leave when there was a death or illness, etc. They also deplored the schooling or lack of schooling available for dependents and proposed the establishment of adequate schools for dependents particularly when enough were grouped in an area close enough to justify the establishment of a special school.

This photocopy may not be further reproduced or distributed without the specific authorization of the Hoover Institution Archives.

HOOVER INSTITUTION
ON WAR, REVOLUTION AND PEACE
Sanford, California 94131-4000



NOTICE: THIS MATERIAL MAY
BE PROTECTED BY COPYRIGHT
LAW (TITLE 17, U.S. CODE)

Page 2.

They recommended against the present "Cadet System" of schooling which raised the kids to be soldiers when the parents of many of them did not want them to be soldiers, but doctors, lawyers, businessmen, etc.

Colonel Lieu was particularly concerned about "protecting the younger generation" from the practices of graft, corruption, lack of integrity, etc., which is rampant in Viet-Nam. He said that his generation has five more years of service to give and should use that in shepherding the next generation.

They expressed concern over the students at the University of Hue...the fact that they didn't have enough and the right kind of books, that they were subject to Communist influences, and that they were very limited in their scope of thought and knowledge because they had never been outside the area or overseas. He recommended more and better texts in Vietnamese...many more American instructors, and trips overseas for the students, particularly to the U.S. Those who do go overseas not go to France and are influenced by the Communists.

With regard to the Province Chief and the Provincial Council of Quang Tri, Lieu said elections had been held too fast with not enough time to screen the candidates. General Lansdale described surprise inspections by Magsaysay. Khanh and Lieu were interested in this idea as a way of keeping government on its toes without having large corps of inspectors. Lieu took off on functionaires, civil servants as saying they don't care....not working for their government but selfishly. There is a need to start out with people having a new philosophy, even though inexperienced. All concerned unhappy about this particular state of affairs.

HLMiller:lck

This photocopy may not be further reproduced or distributed without the specific authorization of the Hoover Institution Archives.

HOOVER INSTITUTION
ON WAR, REVOLUTION AND PEACE
Stanford, California 94305-5080



NOTICE: THIS MATERIAL MAY
BE PROTECTED BY COPYRIGHT
LAW (TITLE 17, U.S. CODE)