

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Orientation Activities Branch

Session 16-64-F

VIETNAM SPECIAL EXTENDED PROGRAM

The attached schedule sets forth the AID Vietnam Special Extended Program for the period September 28 through October 9, 1964.

AID/Washington staff members are invited to attend any of the presentations. Attendance and participation is encouraged.

It has been our experience, however, that a number of schedule changes become necessary. Therefore, personnel expecting to attend a particular lecture should check with the Orientation Activities Branch (182 X 8177 or DUDLEY 3-8177) to be sure no change has occurred.

VIETNAM SPECIAL EXTENDED PROGRAM

Concept of Program

This program of two weeks duration is intended to serve as an introduction for new personnel to the ten-month special program. An attempt will be made to familiarize them with the nature of the AID program in general and the policies and conditions of work which will apply to them in Vietnam, the unique opportunities and real difficulties that exist there, and the program which has been formulated by our government to achieve its objectives.

Teaching techniques will be varied and will include lectures, panel discussions, role playing, total group discussions and group problem solving processes utilizing reference materials, case studies, films and tapes, and evaluation procedures throughout the course.

Although no effort will be made to strengthen the technical competence of trainees in basic disciplines, it is assumed that each person to be effective in his assignment will need to be thoughtful, self-reliant, and proficient in guiding individuals and groups in problem solving. In consequence, an effort will be made to involve each participant as fully as possible in all aspects of the program. Members will be encouraged to assume leadership roles and to question ideas that are presented. As a means of strengthening critical thinking, questions regarding why and how will be encouraged and theoretical as well as operational understandings will be sought.

In order that participants may be encouraged to engage as fully as possible in self-study procedures, source materials will be provided on each topic and outside readings will be assigned. Supplementary reference material consisting of books, reports, films, tapes, and maps will also be provided in the library, and individuals will be expected to use these during free time in the evenings and on weekends. To further assist each participant to formulate and carry out self-study plans for himself, staff members will be available to offer counsel and guidance.

It is recognized that the program is quite full and only through intensive application will it be possible to cover the content in the limited time available. For this reason, the most effective teaching techniques will be employed and class members will be expected to be regular in attendance, active participants in all phases of the program, and faithful in the discharge of responsibilities assumed.