

ATSWS-DI

SUBJECT: POI for Special AID Course

TO: Mr. Bruskin

USASWS AID Liaison
Representative

FROM: DI

DATE: 7 August 1964 GMT NO. 1
Lt Col Craig/lh/49225

1. A second working copy Program of Instruction for the AID Viet-Nam Provincial Officers Training Program at U.S. Army Special Warfare School is forwarded herewith for further study and planning.

2. Changes incorporated into the attached POI were based on discussions with AID representatives in the POI meeting held in Washington, D.C. on 23 July.

3. Requests made in the above meeting have been met in nearly all instances in the new POI. The changes which could not be incorporated for reasons stated below do not appear to be especially significant:

a. Request was made for AID students to intermingle and attend classes with MATA students to the maximum extent. The new POI is specifically designed to facilitate this concept. Obviously, the two requirements, one to change the scope and time for AID subjects and, the second, to hold joint classes with MATA are not compatible. Therefore, the classes listed which are given to MATA must coincide with the MATA program.

b. The personnel situation at the Special Warfare School, which was indicated earlier as bad, continues unimproved. With the short lead time to the first class and present School commitments, extensive rewrites meeting acceptable School standards are not practical.

c. We concur that the counterinsurgency command post exercise should be reoriented from the mythical country of "Belle Terre" to Viet-Nam and should be revised to include more AID type projects and requirements. However, the revision would require a large number of School instructor man-days even with AID assistance. Therefore, the following is proposed for the two and a half day exercise:

(1) For the class beginning in November only, use the present "Belle Terre" setting with present material modified to include more AID activities. Utilize a team of AID personnel integrated into faculty control of the CPX. The theory and doctrine can be taught adequately using "Belle Terre" under these conditions. This arrangement further will acquaint the AID team with the mechanics and administration of the CPX. The disadvantage is the loss of the fringe benefits of learning more about the actual situation in Viet-Nam.

(2) The necessary conversion to a Viet-Nam environment of training aids, maps, area studies, assessments, organizational data, canned messages, overlays, student requirements, and printed material be accomplished by the AID team with necessary assistance by local instructors.

(3) For subsequent classes, operate the CPX as a Vietnamese Province Rehabilitation exercise with the CPX being administered by AID personnel with Special Warfare School assistance.

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4. The following additional comments are made concerning the new POI:

a. Further study indicates that the request for basic intelligence can be adequately covered by homework reading. Formal classroom instruction in this subject is not considered necessary.

b. The subject, "Psychological Aspects of Population and Resources Control" is important but can be covered adequately in the subject, "Developing National Unity". The length of this subject has been reduced to eliminate material considered too basic for the AID group.

c. As requested by you, some subjects, which were deleted during the Washington meeting, have since been replaced because of the cancellation of the PSI A-703 course.

d. Considerable military field activity has been added which will be conducted concurrently with MATA student instruction. Included is a helicopter flight to a defended Vietnamese village with live firing from tactical field positions; parachute operations (with airborne qualified MATA students making parachute jumps); raids, ambushes, and immediate action battle drills; land navigation in a Vietnamese type environment; survival and escape from a POW camp and resisting interrogation; and participation in day and night operations in a "Republic of Viet-Nam" rifle company in the seizure and search of a Viet Cong village, ambush, and parachute operations.

e. Present plans anticipate an average class day of seven hours five days per week with three to four hours homework each evening. The POI lists more hours than could be covered in a course of five weeks duration. This is done intentionally to assure that, should cancellation of aircraft support, firing ranges, etc., occur, approved instruction would be immediately ready for implementation. A list will be prepared giving, in order of priority, those subjects to be deleted should scheduling not allow presentation of the full POI. This procedure is designed also to allow the addition of pure AID instruction by AID representatives to include additional Environmental Improvement or any other subject desired not now included in the POI.

f. The sequence of scheduling will of necessity vary from the optimum because AID class dates will not coincide with MATA class dates completely. Because of the organization of the individual classes, however, this should not seriously detract from either course.

g. The plans and programs should be finalized as quickly as practical. Adequate lead time is essential if the first class is to be effectively administered. (No later than 15 Sept).

5. It is felt that Special Warfare planning up to this point has been accomplished somewhat in a vacuum. Before continuing further, the following is needed to make our activities more meaningful:

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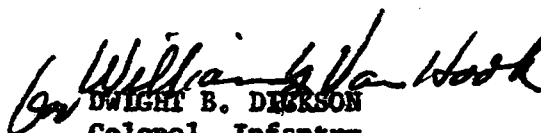
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a. Detailed information on the background, education, training, age, personality, and experience of students to be assigned.

b. Programs of Instructions for all other courses to be presented. Although some general information has been furnished, more is needed to examine overlap, duplication, and gaps. (20 copies of each needed.)

c. Lesson manuscripts or class outlines for individual subjects to be taught (4 copies desired).

d. Detailed job description, list of duties, functions, responsibilities, and authority of positions to be filled in Viet-Nam by students.


Dwight B. Dickson
Colonel, Infantry
Dir of Instruction

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