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Field Service,
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Oct. 9, 1956

Monthly Meeting of Provincial Delegates
at Comigal.

FIELD REPORT No. PS - 1664

On October 4th., I attended the above meeting. It was described at the beginning, by the Commissioner General as possibly the last such meeting to be held. He further stated that a "big change" is scheduled for Comigal by October 26. Comigal will either terminate or be completely revamped. No change is expected in the field and the Provincial Delegates will continue to function as instructed to-date.

The original status of Comigal as an autonomous agency has served its purpose and although it was to end by July '56, it was maintained because of delays in completing its work. The remaining work of Comigal will be transferred to the Central Government.

The Commissioner also stated that "worthy" personnel will be assigned to reliable posts in the Central Government but that "dishonest" and others, whose files are "loaded with charges" will be eliminated in accordance with instructions received from the office of the President.

After the above introductory remarks, the Commissioner General discussed the following subjects;

A. Anti-communism campaign will be extended to include Refugee Villages.

B. The 5-family platoon system will be extended to include the Refugee Villages.

C. The above program will be directed by a Mobil team composed of Representatives of the Central Government, Comigal and Catholic leaders.

D. Popular Education classes will be extended to all Refugee Villages.

The program for the above activities will begin about October 15, in the Province of Cholon and will serve as a test model for carrying out similar activities in the rest of all South Vietnam.

The Commissioner ordered the Provincial Delegates to start some sort of program immediately to prevent, and expose Viet-Cong infiltration, into the Religious, Youth and Labor groups under their jurisdiction.

Subproject revisions were requested at the earliest possible and lists of all refugees to be relocated to Pleiku were asked for.

Many questions and answers concerning individual project problems were asked and discussed as an explanation of outstanding instructions.

The Provincial Delegates were instructed to institute immediate action looking toward the full integration of the Refugee Villages into the local governments. A Government's Delegate will visit each Province shortly to undertake a full study of the action necessary to bring about this objective, problems such as Village budgets will be taken up and a general meeting with the assembly leaders and various Committees will be called by the Chiefs of Province in furthering this effort.

The question concerning the non-delivery of Sewing-machines, small animals and tools were placed definitely on the USOM's door-step.

Some incomprehensible statements were made concerning the delays in releasing funds but no mention was made of the reasons for the delays. Another advance will be made to the subprojects in Tay Ninh Province, but no reason or excuse was given for the *Non-* release of the second instalment.

The full meeting ended at noon and the Commissioner informed the gathering that the afternoon session would be for Vietnamese officials only.