

ADMINISTRATION IN P.M.S.

After an intensive study of the PMS administration through various forms of Government, the writer of this report would like to suggest some changes in the administration of the PMS people as well as the relations between the Government, especially the Vietnamese people, and these minority groups.

The PMS was the last area of Vietnam to come under the control of the national Government. Up to 1946 the PMS which had been a closely guarded reserved of the French was transferred to the Royal domaine of Bao-Dai. It was then governed by a delegation which was headed by the Chief of the Imperial Cabinet. A Frenchman was his deputy who, in reality, was the "big boss" in all matters concerning the PMS. The Financial service has been existed from the Imperial Cabinet time but the services of Economic and social affairs, of Administration and Legislation were not created until July 12, 1955. Ordinance No. 21 of March 21, 1955, annexed all the plateaux and the crown land to the National territory of Vietnam and put them under the Management of the National Government.

Mr. Ton That Hoi was then made délégué. The total population of the four provinces - Kontum, Darlac, Dong Nai Thủ Đức, Pleiku - and the Municipality of Dalat is between six and seven hundred thousand people divided into two groups: The mountainous Tribes estimated at about five to six hundred thousand, and the Vietnamese at 80-100 thousand. The area covers fifty seven thousand square kilometers at an altitude of 400 to 1200 meters. Approximately two thirds of the land is "red earth" which is the most fertile soil in Vietnam.

There are many legal problems which hinder the efficient operation of the Délégué. Most are due to the special nature of the PMS which has until very recently been under special control and regulations. Only a few new regulations have been issued concerning the authority and organization of the delegation while most of the administrative laws and regulations date way back 1912 and earlier.

This short history of the PMS shows that the National Government has almost completely forgotten the people living in the PMS. Vietnam is now a fully independent country, the unification of all her peoples is more than important. These mountainous peoples are now Vietnamese. They have to be put on the same level as any other Vietnamese and enjoy the same privileges. The present government delegation system to administer the PMS is too complicated. There are too many bureaus and offices which have overlapping duties and responsibilities. This will result in inefficiency and too-much-time-consuming.

Up to now the Central government has dumped the problem into the lap of the regional government who nevertheless is quite willing to accept it and has forgotten about it. This "overdecentralization", if continued, will lead to nowhere if not to complete disunification and hate between the Vietnamese and these minority group peoples.

Therefore decentralization is more than recommended.

The Government delegation for PMS consists of a central office in Saigon. Saigon is so chosen because, according to the report of Oct. 27/1955 of Mrrs. Walter MODE, MSU Deputy Advisor for Field Administration, and Wayne W. SNYDER, MSU specialist in Economic Administration, it is as easy for the Province Chief of Djiring to communicate with Saigon as it is with Dalat; the same is true with the other three provinces of BanMeThuot, Pleiku, and Kontum.

The délégué is the chief executive. The main purpose of that office is to give assistance to the province chiefs as well as to the Secretaries of State in all matters concerning the PMS.

Headquarters Organization. - The Central Office will be in Saigon instead of Dalat, a mountain resort where things pass in good time. It consists of the office of the délégué and 4 staff divisions - Management and Program Research, Administration, Community Services, and Resources - which are each under an Assistant Délegué. Its work is divided among a number of branches, each concerned formulate policies, procedures, and standards, develop plans, review operations and coordinate activities related to the function described for each.

Office of the Délegué. - The Délegué is responsible for the direction and supervision of all the activities of the Delegation, and directly responsible to the Secretary of State for Interior. He is assisted by four délégués - Management and Program Research staff, Administration, Community Services and resources.

Assistant Délegués

A./ Management and Program Research Staff. The Management and Program Research Staff:

- 1) provides staff assistance in the planning, developing and coordinating of organization and procedures, and of all bureauwide program activities.
- 2) reviews and coordinates reporting activities and administrative issuances of the Delegation.
- 3) gathers and presents statistical and other information necessary for management purposes.
- 4) conducts the information activities of the Delegation.

B. Division of Administration. The Division of Administration is subdivided into these following branches;

- 1) Budget and finance branch conducts staff activities related to all financial management.
- 2) Credit branch conducts staff activities related to providing loans, aids the PMS people, obtaining credit from other governmental and non-governmental sources for financing developmental activities, and furnishes them advice and guidance in credit and other modern business practices.
- 3) Branch of Personnel conducts staff activities related to personnel management including classification, wage board administration, recruitment and placement, training, employee and labor relations.
- 4) Branch of buildings and utilities, provides architectural, engineering, and construction services in the design and construction of buildings and for water, sewer, electrical systems.
- 5) Branch of property and supply conducts staff activities related to property acquisition, distribution, storage, and utilization of buildings and utilities.

C. Division of Community Services. The Division of Community Services, under the Assistant Délégué provides general staff direction, coordination, and control of activities which involve welfare and Education of the PMS people, tribal affairs, and law enforcement. Due to the involvement in welfare, the Division also exercises certain liaison responsibilities in connection with the PMS health activities. The division is subdivided into 4 branches:

- 1) The branch of Education conducts staff activities to provide educational opportunities to meet the needs of the PMS children.
- 2) The Branch of law and Order conducts activities related to the maintenance of law and order on PMS Regions and the regulation of trading activities.
- 3) The Branch of Tribal Affairs. This Branch will last until certain degree of assimilation of the mountainous people to the Vietnamese life is achieved. This degree of assimilation will be later determined by the Central Government. This branch is mainly responsible for various inter and intra-tribal affairs during the period of transition and assimilation.
- 4) The Branch of Welfare conducts staff activities to provide social services for needy PMS persons, including financial and other assistance prevention of delinquency, child and family welfare.

D. Division of Resources. The Division of Resources under the assistant délégué provides general staff direction, coordination, and control of activities related to the development conservation, and utilization of the PMS resources. It is subdivided into 4 branches:

- 1) The Branch of Forestry conducts staff activities related to the management and protection of forest land and timber resources including the preparation and execution of sustained yield management plans for merchantable timber; fire and pest protection; maintenance of favorable conditions for water yield and stream flow.

- 2) The Branch of Land Operations conducts staff activities related to soil and moisture conservation operations; management and conservation of range and wildlife resources; design, construction, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects, improvement of farm and home management practices;
- 3) The branch of realty conducts staff activities related to providing an adequate land base for PMS use; combining scattered holdings of individuals and groups into economic units in order to facilitate conservation and utilization, conserving and promoting the development of mineral resources; regulation the alienation of land; granting of rights-of-way; and protecting titles and claims.
- 4) The Branch of Roads conducts staff activities related to the location, construction, and maintenance of roads, and road systems on PMS lands.

Special Committee

A special committee will be set up for special matters.

Provinces or areas. - The Government delegation for PMS will work closely with the five chiefs of provinces (Dalat as a municipality). The province chiefs look toward the delegation as an advisory group on PMS technical problems. I believe that projects and problems would be presented sooner and solution found faster if the government delegation is directly responsible for technical affairs in the PMS. These 5 province chiefs have the same duties (See Page 9, Report "Recommendations concerning the Department of Interior, the Regions and Provinces by Michigan State University, Vietnam Technical Assistance Project in Saigon, Vietnam, and

Assistance Project in Saigon, Vietnam, on January 14, 1956.) as any others but must be given more direct responsibility and authority on all ^{notices} concerning the PMS, except for technical advices which must necessarily come from the government delegation for PMS in Saigon as well as the concerned department. They are not capable of accepting total interest in their provinces under the present set up where all final authority lies off in Dalat. To involve them in all the affairs of their provinces, they must be given the authority to carry out those responsibilities.

Instead of having decrees, arrêtés, and orders sent to the chiefs of provinces by messengers as at present, it is recommended to have a monthly or tri-monthly meeting (depending on the amount of business to be done) between délégué, four assistant délégués and five province chiefs. During the meeting all techniques, recommendations, programs, methods of carrying out decrees will be discussed.

Recommendations and programs presented by the delegation with the cooperation of the province chiefs will be automatically approved by the concerned department, and handed out with all necessary helps to the province chiefs for execution.

Any individual village problem could be consulted the appropriate Division of the Delegation by the province chief himself or anybody or any committee sent by him at any time.

The district- Canton - Village system will be kept. These administrative units be organized and functioned on the same pattern of the Vietnamese. This will help bringing faster the assimilation of the PMS people into the Vietnamese life.

General Recommendations.

It is recommended

A. Administration

- 1) That all PMS people become Vietnamese citizens.
- 2) That Dalat be considered as a city like Saigon, with a special bureau dealing with PMS problems.
- 3) That the government delegation for the PMS be dissolved as soon as the assimilation being complete.

B. Agriculture

- 1) That the government delegation for PMS division of Resources would set up free agricultural Advisory Service, the duties of which are to answer various agricultural problems, and to teach new techniques and methods: soil conservation, irrigation, growing...
- 2) That an Agrarian Reform team be formed by the delegation to go to all villages.
- 3) That a cooperative center be created to buy and sell (or barter) various production goods such as rice, salt... in each or every two or three villages.

C. Budget and Finance.

- 1) That each village have to have its own budget.
- 2) And so be each canton, district, and province.
- 3) That up to a certain specific amount of money the village, canton, district, or province could draw with only the consentment of the respective council.
- 4) That all administrative personnels from the village level up to the district level be paid, and paid with the provincial budget.

- 5) That less formalities for payment be made to increase efficiency and reduce complaints.
- 6) That a faster system of monthly salary payment and hiring personnel be adopted.

D. Breeding.

That Breeding be encouraged to increase general wealth in the PMS.

E. Communications.

That mountainous roads be improved. They will be divided into sections which will be put under the care and responsibilities of the surrounding villages.

F. Education.

- 1) That all PMS people have to know the Vietnamese language. All PMS illiterate adults have to go through the Popular Education program, and all children the compulsory education.
- 2) That full scholarships be awarded to capable students to continue further their studies.
- 3) That compulsory education schools be opened in every village.
- 4) That teachers be rotated every 2 years for four years.

After that period request to stay in one place could be made.

G. Forestry.

See Branch of Forestry, Division of Resources, Government delegation for PMS.

H. Health.

- 1) That more nurses be trained in order to get at least one in each village.
- 2) That more medicine be available.
- 3) That inspection by a health officer be made often and regularly.
- 4) That every effort be made to improve the general health condition in the PMS regions.

I. Information.

- 1) That better information and propaganda be made. The provincial Information bureau should open information halls in every village.
- 2) That the information hall be used both as reading room and library.

J. Industry and handicraft.

- 1) That local handicrafts be encouraged
- 2) That small industries such as timber, paper, fish..., be set up. This could be done by encouraging and helping businessmen and industrialists in Saigon.

K. Law enforcement, Surete, police, army.

- 1) That same laws and regulations for the Vietnamese be adopted.
- 2) That Sureté and police be directly under the control of the chiefs of province.
- 3) That the gendarmerie be dissolved .
- 4) That the Army be a separate unit directly under the control and responsibilities of the unit commander, and

indirectly under the Province chief.

- 5) That the Civil Guard be directly under the province chiefs. Its duties: Guarding public buildings as well as escorting.
- 6) That cases between Vietnamese, or between Vietnamese and PMS, people, or between PMS people, be tried on the same court, and in case of dissatisfaction, could be brought to any higher court.

The Central Government and the country of Vietnam have now only one but one basis need: to involve themselves in each other's affairs. After 80 years of slavery, the Vietnamese people had to go through so much sufferings. Many attempts to divide the people and their aspirations had been made by the French, any furthering of this system now is predetermined to lead to disunited and unstable leadership and undefined goals. The PMS does not need a special body to represent its views anymore than the sect areas of the Cao Dai or the Hoa Hao but what it really needs is help, truthful help. Vietnam must be reunited and integrated into one social and economic entity, indivisible and united towards its future role as a republic built upon solidarity of purpose, not divided into special treatment areas of quasi-autonomous goals and purposes.

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: Gov. delegation for PMS :
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: Ass. Délégué :
: Management and :
: Program Research: :
: Staff :

: Ass. Délégué :
: Administration :
: :

: Budget and :
: Finance :

: Credit :

: Personnel :

: Buildings and :
: Utilities :

: Property and :
: Supply :

: Ass. Délégué :
: Community :
: Services :
: :

: Education :

: Law and :
: order :

: Tribal :
: affairs :

: Welfare :

: Ass. Délégué :
: Resources :
: :

: Forestry :

: Land :

: Realty :

: Roads :

: PRESIDENT of the :
: :
: REPUBLIC :
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: DEPARTMENTS :
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: DEPARTMENT for :
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: P.M.S :
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: P.M.S :
: PROVINCE :
: CHIEFS :
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GOVERNMENT
DELEGATION FOR PMS

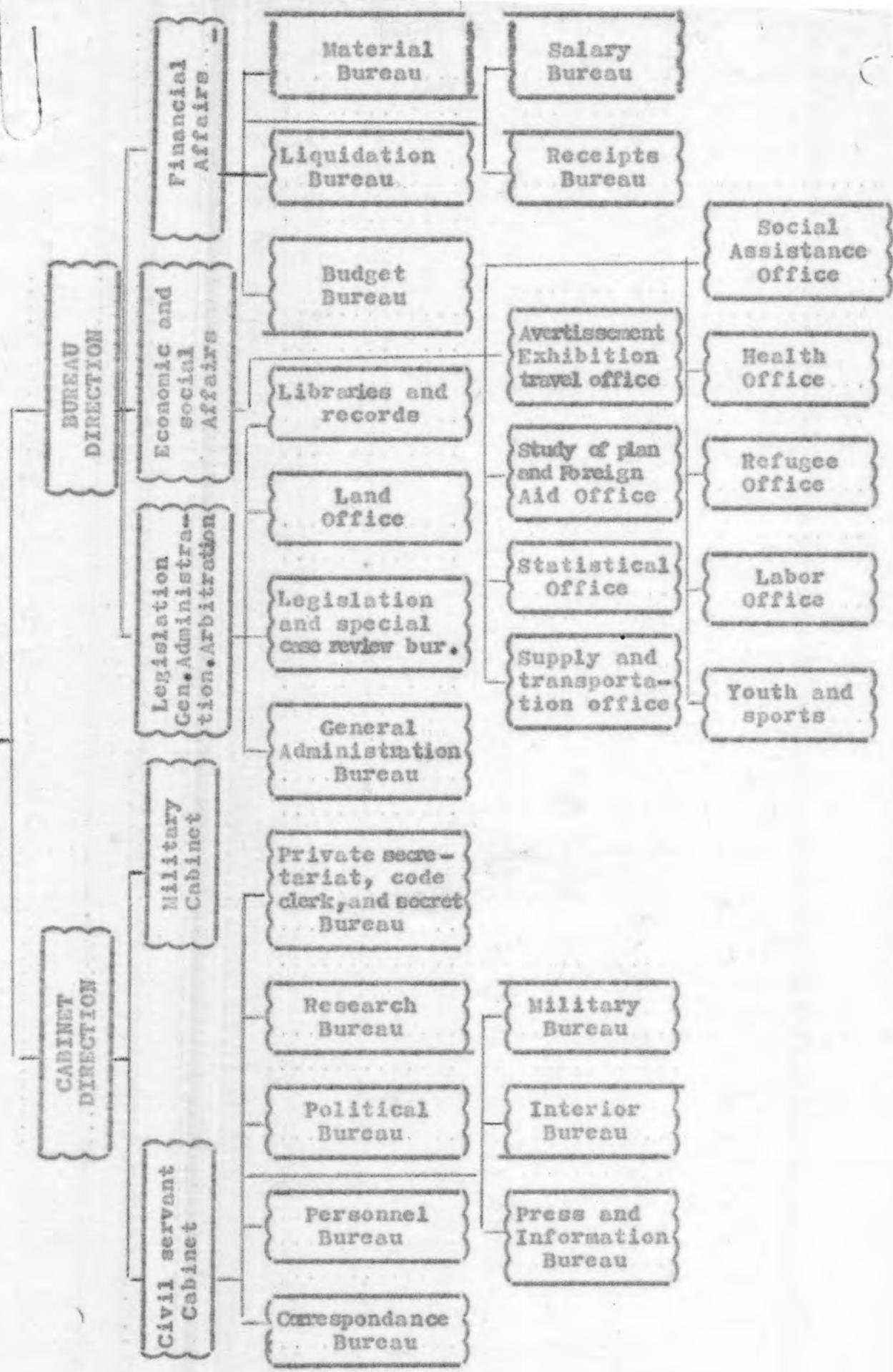


Chart of the present Government Delegation for P.M.S.