

*Projects - Vietnam*

MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE  
EAST LANSING

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND ARTS  
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

2 APRIL 1956

PRESIDENT J. A. HANNAH  
319 ADMINISTRATION BLDG.  
CAMPUS

DEAR PRESIDENT HANNAH:

I AM TRANSMITTING ATTACHED THE  
LATEST MONTHLY REPORT OF THE MSU GROUP IN  
SAIGON.

SINCERELY,

*Milton E. Muelder*  
MILTON E. MUELDER  
DEAN

MEM:DED  
ATT-1

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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
President's Office

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
Vietnam Advisory Team  
Saigon

Office of the Chief Advisor

March 5, 1956

TO: USOM, MSU

FROM: Dr. Ralph Smuckler, Acting Chief Advisor, MSUG

SUBJECT: Monthly Report of the Michigan State University Group

Deans Milton Muelder and Clifford Erickson of Michigan State University spent the first nine days of February with the MSUG in Saigon. Their visit was marked with briefing sessions, conferences, and visitations as well as a very full schedule of evening receptions and dinners. By February 9 the Deans had an excellent overall view of the Group's work, and MSUG had benefitted considerably by their suggestions and observations.

The following are the major developments in the MSU program during February 1956:

Police Project

1. During the month of February the Police Team had the pleasure of briefing and showing our various activities to Messrs. Engle and Roseman of ICA/W, Deans Muelder and Erickson of MSU, Mr. Paul Lawrence, USA Treasury representative for the Far East stationed in Hong Kong, and Mr. Eric Lambert, British Police Advisor for the Far East stationed in Singapore. All these parties observed the various schools in operation and had interviews with the different Vietnamese police officials.
2. All members of the Saigon-Cholon Police Department have now been finger-printed, bringing to about 5,000 the number of fingerprint sets that are classified, checked, and now awaiting the balance of the 8x8 files and the 3x5 files that are enroute from the States.
3. All members of the Police Team have been kept very busy this month preparing the following reports:
  - a. The deliniation of the mission and responsibilities of each of the enforcement agencies in Vietnam. This report has been requested by the Vietnamese Government as a guide for them as they progress in the reorganization of their police services.
  - b. A report for Mr. Barrows to Washington on the Vietnamese piaster budget for each of the enforcement agencies of Vietnam.
  - c. A revised factual equipment list for all the enforcement agencies for the U.S. Department of Defense.

The representatives of the Police Team made field trips during which specific budgetary data was gathered from four cities. One "Sub-project Agreement" for equipping the Civil Guard was completed and returned to USOM.

4. Howard Hoyt made a trip to Bangkok on February 23 at the invitation of the Thailand police to review their organization, their training facilities, and inspect their capabilities of furnishing aid to the Vietnamese police in different areas.

Institute Program

A. General:

1. The comprehensive plan submitted by the Institute for its progressive development during the next three years has been translated into English and carefully studied. MSU staff at the Institute have drawn up recommendations as to what parts of the plan they believe desirable and practicable, have added their own ideas, and submitted proposals to the Chief Advisor regarding the roles of American aid and Vietnamese contributions, respectively, in the Institute's development.
2. Bids have been received on the construction of five quonset huts. A meeting among representatives of the Institute, MSU, and USOM has been set for the first week in March, in order to make final decisions.

B. Day Degree Program:

1. The new semester of the day degree program began on February 16, with a formal ceremonial opening in which the Chief Advisor and MSU Institute staff participated.
2. Teaching assignments in the day school are as follows: Dr. Hunter, Economic Matieres; Dr. Wickert, Personnel Administration; Dr. Dorsey, Organization and Methods; and Dr. Fox, Introduction to Public Administration.
3. Dr. Hunter is making good progress on his book of problems in Economics, which is now being translated into Vietnamese and typed. Drs. Dorsey and Fox are continuing to have public administration materials translated from English into French and Vietnamese for students' reading assignments.

C. Evening Certificate Program:

1. Contrary to a commonly made prediction that enrollment in the evening program would decline sharply after the first month or two, attendance has held up splendidly.
2. Dr. Jumper, now teaching Introduction to Public Administration in the evening school, is leaving Vietnam during the first week in March; he taught his last class on February 27. Beginning March 5, Dr. Fox will take over the section which Dr. Jumper has been teaching.

D. Library:

1. A brief Handbook has been prepared for students on use of the library. During the first week of the new semester the library staff instructed students on how to use their Handbook and the card catalog. Small

identification cards have been issued to each student to insure against unauthorized use of the library.

2. Physical needs of the library are gradually being met. New fluorescent lights have been installed, and the business office of the Institute has asked for bids both on the work necessary to make usable a small balcony in the library and on the conversion of a small dwelling outside the library into a workshop.

E. In-Service Training:

For the most part the month of February was devoted to organizing to implement the decisions of the mid-January meeting of the Inter-Department Council on In-Service Training. Within MSUG a series of discussions were held in which it was worked out that MSUG would try to meet the growing demands made on it for in-service training assistance by the following temporary procedures: (1) lending qualified personnel from other MSUG programs to the in-service training section, as needed; (2) transferring a qualified specialist or two to in-service training when and if possible; and (3) calling on East Lansing for consultants of certain specific types.

F. Presidency Project:

Further discussion with M. Thêm on the draft decree submitted in January resulted in an agreement to re-write the draft. The points at issue were not substantive, but concerned the inclusion of details in the first draft which could more properly be included in supplementary instructions. The draft is accordingly being re-written.

G. Participant Program:

The Vietnamese side of the participant program is being handled this year by the Direction du Plan, which, since its transfer to the Presidency, has been given responsibility for central control and coordination of all programs engaged in the sending of Vietnamese personnel abroad for training and education. A proposal for the procedure in selecting MSU participants was prepared and submitted to the Presidency during the month. Discussions are to begin today with the appropriate officials in the planning agency.

H. Economics Section:

Work has begun on a price control recommendation requested by the President. It is contemplated that this will be finished before the end of this month. A committee of three, Shelby, Dorsey, and Hunter, chairman, is working on the report.

Field Administration Project

1. The French translation of the "Recommendations on the Department of Interior, the Regions and Provinces" was sent to the President and the various national departments on February 20. Meetings with the Secretary of State for Interior and other interested parties are scheduled for March.

2. Our entire staff made field trips to interview and study local administration of four departments: Agriculture, Agrarian Reform, Education, and Civic Action. This work involved 217 interviews in provinces, districts, cantons, and villages in all three regions of the country. In addition to the field study, working arrangements were concluded with the four departments, and conferences were held with the staff of each one.
3. Roland Haney was assigned the responsibility for reviewing the implementation of the recommendations submitted to COMIGAL in our reports dated August 6 and September 20, 1955 stressing internal reorganization and decentralization of operations. As anticipated in the work plan, a series of interviews was conducted at COMIGAL from February 21-26, six months after the preparation of our report dated August 6, to measure the extent to which our recommendations had been put into practice. Principal results were:
  - a. Appointment by COMIGAL of field personnel on February 9: nine Provincial Delegates (or Field Officers), seven Planning Officers, and eight Center Chiefs (or Executive Officers).
  - b. Issuance by COMIGAL of a circular instruction to its field personnel on February 24 defining the role of the Provincial Delegate, Planning Officer, and Center Chief and indicating their relations with the Province Chief and the provincial technical services.

Executive Office

1. Members of MSU staff are now all housed in MSU-owned or leased property. Air conditioning has been installed in each of our houses. There has been some delay in making these units operational due to difficulty in securing proper electric meters. It is expected that these machines will be in operation by March 20. The contract has been let for painting the nine Duy Tan apartments. Two have been finished as of this date.
2. Two motor bikes have been added to the MSU transportation pool. One is to be used by the maintenance section, the other by the messenger. The nine MSU vehicles operated at a per kilometer cost of two piastres during the month of February. Total kilometers driven was 20,755. Provisions have been made to assure seven vehicles for local operational needs at all times. This has necessitated contacting a local car rental agency who will provide cars when field operations take more than two MSU-owned cars out of the city.