

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
VIETNAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Wesley R. Fishel DATE: July 25, 1957
Chief Advisor
FROM: Milton Hagelberg and Florence Tenenbaum
SUBJECT: Visit with Mr. Dam, July 25, 1957

We met with Mr. Dam at his office Thursday morning, July 25, at 10 a.m. We were very cordially received and Mr. Dam brought us up-to-date on the plans for the Colombo Conference.

As a result of the meeting, the following facts and impressions were gathered:

1. It appears that the French Mission is providing 21 Citroens (DS-19 models) for the use of the chiefs of the delegations.
2. They have requested, through the British Embassy, that 12 English typists be provided. Mr. Dam feels that these have been committed, together with other specialized staff members.
3. We were provided with a copy of the "Notes for the Information of Visiting Delegates" and a copy of the "Questionnaire". These have been mailed to the various countries.
4. Upon being asked how we might help them, Mr. Dam indicated three possible areas: (1) telecommunications; (2) conference hall; and (3) training receptionists and telephone operators "to make them speak fluently English".
5. Mr. Dam made the suggestion that we visit with Mr. Tham of PTT regarding the telephone layout.

We left the office and Mr. Dam took us to the Chamber of Commerce Building where the Colombo Conference will be held. We were shown the blueprints for the remodeling of the building, and were extremely pleased to find it so well planned and the progress of the remodeling well underway. It appears it will be finished on schedule, about September 15. Mr. Dam said that he would provide us with at least two copies of the blueprints.

Dr. Wesley R. Fishel

July 25, 1957

As a result of our visit, we are concerned about the following:

1. Just what will be our participation in telecommunications, in the training of receptionists and telephone operators, and in other areas?
2. What commitments have been actually made by the United Kingdom and other countries?

One way to resolve these questions would be to have the Vietnamese put in writing to us their specific requests for assistance. In line with this, Mr. Khanh was scheduled to have a meeting this afternoon with Mr. Dam to discuss these matters.

MH:mw