

203  
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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
VIETNAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

~~DO NOT~~ Return

TO : Howard W. Hoyt

DATE : 9 March 1957

FROM : Jack E. Ryan *JER*

SUBJECT : Meeting at the Palace on the Subject of Police Communications.

1. A meeting was held at the Palace under the auspices of Mr. Vu-Thinh-Huan, Assistant to the Minister of Interior in charge of internal security, for the purpose of discussing participation of the civil law enforcement agencies of Viet-Nam in the communications net proposed by USOM. This meeting was attended by Mr. Raymond Trout, USOM Communications Advisor, Colonel Pham-Xuan-Chieu, Director General of the VBI, a Civil Guard Captain in charge of Civil Guard communications, Mr. Ray Babineau, and the writer.

2. A French translation of the USOM Project was obtained from Mr. Trout, and thirty (30) copies are being stenciled by our MSU staff for distribution at the Palace, to the heads of the VBI and Civil Guard organizations. An English translation will be obtained for our records.

3. This meeting lasted for approximately an hour and a half, and appeared to be of benefit to the Vietnamese. Great interest was expressed by these individuals in the potentials of the proposed USOM Communications Project.

4. At Mr. Trout's request, Mr. Huan directed Colonel Chieu and the Civil Guard Communications Officer to prepare estimates of their respective communications needs, in terms of the USOM proposal, and submit to the Director of the Vietnamese PTT as soon as possible.

5. According to Mr. Trout, providing sufficient interest is shown in this communications system, construction will begin in January of 1958. It is estimated that communications between Saigon and Tourane via Kontum, Pleiku and BanMeThuot will be completed prior to July 1st, 1959. The entire system, involving communications between all sites of provincial government and Saigon should be completed sometime during 1960. This particular system calls for a series of microwave stations to be utilized in transmitting both voice and teletype messages via facilities available to the public, as well as via leased lines.

6. It is estimated that this system will cost the American Foreign Aid Program a sum of 15 million dollars. It is believed that sufficient use of this system by the Vietnamese will permit sufficient revenues to enable the PTT to operate and maintain the system in the future.

7. Further developments will be reported as they become known.

JER/mmd