

DRAFTED: June 4, 1965

INITIALED:

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR

THROUGH: EXSEC

SUBJECT: Internship for Twenty Graduate Students in Vietnam

The Country Team has approved a people-to-people program whereby American university groups and other private voluntary associations could establish ties with similar groups ⁱⁿ ~~at~~ hamlets and villages throughout the Vietnamese countryside with an aim to showing the Vietnamese people the direct concern and involvement of American people in their welfare and future as well as the awareness of the American people in the plight of their Vietnamese friends. In accordance with this objective, it is planned to select 20 American university graduate students who have been or plan to be active in the establishment of such close people-to-people ties and who can be the nucleus of what is hoped to be an expanding person-to-person program.

The students will be ~~px~~ working with private voluntary relief organizations and with AID personnel ~~xxxx~~ at the province and hamlet level, assisting in the distribution of relief ~~x~~ supplies and in the implementation phases of ~~xxxxxx~~ agricultural, health, and educational projects. The experience is designed to be of material assistance to the activities of voluntary and government organizations, ~~#~~ both Vietnamese and American in Vietnam, as well as to provide the selected individuals with first-hand knowledge of American commitment and effort there and the extent of acceptance and support by the Vietnamese people.

Selection Methods. The students will be ~~xxxx~~selected jointly by AID and officials of ~~MxxxxxxxSxxxx~~ Michigan State University which will be operating under a contract ~~xxxxxx~~ signed with AID to carry out the program. Those selected

will be:

- a. Male graduate students *21 years or over.*
- b. Have occupied significant leadership positions in student organizations
- c. Be admitted to graduate schools and be planning to continue their educations next fall, in most cases in the social sciences.
- d. Be mature and well-balanced as well as being highly motivated to profit by the exposure to the Vietnamese situation and by the type of individual which would be expected to provide balanced view at U.S. campuses on their return and situation as it exists in Vietnam.

Arrangements. The students ~~wk~~ would be paid no salary but would receive necessary transportation and per diem at the standard rate. They would also be covered by means of the contract under appropriate medical, accident, and ~~life~~ life insurance policies. *(16 in DC + SGN ; 8 in Prov)*

To select the students, Professor Wesley Fischell, *Chairman of The Board* ~~Executive Director of~~ the ~~American~~ Friends of Vietnam Committee, will be working for the next three weeks with Far East Bureau officials to arrange for invitational travel, interviews, screening, and selection. It is expected that approximately 40 ~~sm~~ students will be brought to Washington for detailed screening and paneling in order to select the twenty/~~who~~ who ~~wikixhm~~ are to go.

Appropriate ~~mm~~ publicity is being arranged by the Information Staff and a program coordinator *(Ron Rogers)* has been sent to Vietnam to work with Mission officials on setting up detailed work assignments and orientation. ~~the Frontal Command in Saigon~~

Orientation and Departure. The Office of Personnel Administration has prepared a special one-week orientation course which will begin on June 21. The students are expected to leave for Vietnam on June 25 where a one-week field orientation will begin immediately upon their arrival on June 28. They will return to the United States on or about September 10.

Walter G. Stoneman
Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Far East

Concurrences: DRopa:White House _____
WFischell; Michigan State _____
ABennett, FE/CO _____
WMazzocco, FE/VN _____

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