

Office of Technical Cooperation

August 11, 1959

Dear Mr. Sheinbaum:

We are referring to your letter of July 20 in which we are informed that Messrs. Rundlett and Liem would arrive San Juan on August 7 on EAL 801.

To this date, we have not learned of the participants been in Puerto Rico.

Please advise soonest whether there have been any changes in their itinerary in order to so inform our Police Department.

Looking forward to the participants visit, I remain

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM VARGAS
Training Officer

Mr. Stanley K. Sheinbaum
Coordinator, Vietnam Project
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

WV/sd]

August 13, 1959

Mr. William Vargas
Training Officer
Office of Technical Cooperation
Department of State
San Juan, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Vargas:

We received your letter of August 11th this morning. We feel sure that Mr. Rundlett has been at the Palace Hotel as indicated in our letter of July 28th.

Mr. Rundlett and Lieutenant Do Thanh Liem had already left East Lansing for the Denver conference of the Associated Police Communications Officers when we received your letter of July 23rd. Unfortunately, Mr. Rundlett did not receive copies of our correspondence. Therefore, he was unaware of the necessity to contact you.

The only communication we have had from Mr. Rundlett since his arrival in Puerto Rico (presumably on August 17th) indicates that he and Lieutenant Liem will be leaving on August 15th.

I am sorry that our lack of communications prevented you from meeting Mr. Rundlett and Lieutenant Liem.

Sincerely yours,

Elsie Cunningham
Participant Program Director

EMC:nm

cc: Stanley T. Gabis
Lyman Rundlett

TO: Stanley T. Gabis
FROM: Elsie Cunningham
DATE: August 11, 1959
SUBJECT: Rundlett

The alternatives to Mr. Rundlett's telegram are:

1. Authorize Rundlett travel but no subsistence for trip to Albany. See note 3 - memo June 1.
2. Authorize travel and subsistence for Rundlett to accompany Liem to Albany.
3. To my knowledge, no arrangements have been made for this Albany trip. However, if Liem leaves Puerto Rico, which I would second Rundlett's recommendation, there are five weeks unaccounted for in his itinerary and some of this time might well be spent with the State Police in Albany.
4. I have already requested an interpreter to accompany Liem from September 18th. This was the date originally set to end his six week's stay in Puerto Rico.

August 14, 1959

TO: Stanley T. Gabis
FROM: Elsie Cunningham
SUBJECT: Arrangements for Lt. Liem

I recommend that you send a telegram to Mr. Rundlett at the Ambassador Hotel, 14th and K streets, Washington, D.C., giving the following information:

- a) Deputy Inspector Glasheen is on vacation until December.
- b) The Communication Section at the State Police Headquarters in Albany was unaware of any program for Lt. Liem and the Sergeant that Larry Baril talked to this afternoon indicated that he, too, would not be available after Monday.

Therefore we have arranged a program through Jim Evans at the Michigan State Police, East Lansing post, beginning Tuesday, August 18th through August the 28th.

We will be expecting Lt. Liem sometime on Monday.

EC:kc

August 14, 1959

Mr. Lyman Rundlett
Ambassador Hotel
14th and K Streets
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Rundlett:

Please find enclosed a draft of the letter we are intending to send to the New York State Police. If you do not have a particular hotel in mind, perhaps it might be convenient and agreeable for Lt. Liem to stay at the International Center which is located at 26 Willett Street in Albany. Usually the rooms are reserved in advance. For your information I am enclosing a thermofax copy of the letter from Mr. Blackburn who is the host there.

May I remind you that the same problem exists if Lt. Liem stays longer than three weeks in any city of reduced per diem. In this case the per diem would be \$8.

Sincerely yours,

Elsie Cunningham
Participant Program Director

EC:k

Encl.: 4

cc.: Baril

TO: Howard Waltman
FROM: Elsie Cunningham
DATE: August 18, 1959
SUBJECT: Lieutenant Do Thanh Liem (#263)

On Monday morning the enclosed cable was received from Mr. Rundlett in Puerto Rico. We had already sent the cable to Puerto Rico suggesting that Liem return to East Lansing to observe at the State Police Post here, rather than go to Albany as suggested by Rundlett.

In a letter received from Mr. Gilbert (communications expert - Detroit), the next morning, he gave a rather complete program outline including four to six weeks with the New York State Police. On trying to contact the individual named by Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Baril ascertained that this gentleman was on vacation and would not return until September. Therefore, Lieutenant Liem will be in East Lansing for approximately two weeks at the State Police. During this period we will write to the appropriate heads of the agencies arranging his visits. This will serve to put it in the proper chain of command and also notify them of the exact time of Lt. Liem's visit.

Please find enclosed a copy of the tentative itinerary I have worked up for Liem.

RECEIVED
AUG 25 1959
MICH. STATE UNIVERSITY
VIETNAM PROJECT

30 French Place
Skowhegan, Maine
August 24, 1959

Mr. Stanley Gabis, Co-ordinator
Vietnam Project
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Stan,

It is with regret that I submit my resignation from the Vietnam Project. I greatly dislike leaving a job unfinished. However, I am certain that Mr. Hemmye is fully qualified to carry on the communications project to a successful conclusion. Should he have any problems with which I can assist, I shall be pleased to consult with him by mail. If the Chief Advisor at any time feels that my presence is required, I am sure that arrangements for short visits on a consulting basis can be arranged with my new employer, the Westrex Corporation, 111 Eighth Ave., New York 11, New York.

My reasons for resigning from this project are due entirely to personal family problems. At my new assignment I shall be able to have my entire family together. In view of the problems which arose during my last tour in Saigon I feel that this is of prime importance.

Enclosed are the unused portions of my return ticket to Saigon as well as that of Mrs. Rundlett. You will note that I did not use air travel beyond New Orleans. If the amount allowed has not been used, I would like to submit a voucher for travel by private automobile from New Orleans to Skowhegan, Maine. The portions of this ticket covering travel from Waterville, Maine to New York and Detroit were used on the recent trip to Denver and San Juan and replaced by a new ticket issued by College Travel Office.

Also enclosed is a complete itinerary of my recent trip to Denver and San Juan, showing all costs, hotel bills and ticket stubs and unused portions of ticket.

I understand from Stan Sheinbaum that I may have to reimburse MSU for my trip to the US on compassionate leave in 1958. He offered to try to get this waived on the basis that Hemmye, a faculty man is on the job and my presence is not necessary. I will appreciate anything you can do in the matter. Please let me have an accounting as soon as possible of any money I will have to reimburse to MSU.

Sincerely,

L. M. Rundlett

TO: Howard Waltman
FROM: Elsie Cunningham
DATE: August 21, 1959
SUBJECT: Lieutenant Do Thanh Lien # 268

In discussing his trip to Puerto Rico with Lieutenant Lien, I was not too surprised to learn that he felt that Rundlett had rigged the whole trip just so that he himself could visit Puerto Rico. From the technical standpoint, there was little, if anything, to be learned.

In addition, the language barrier was evidenced by the fact that no one but the chief communications officer spoke English. On one occasion Lien waited five hours in the communications office without having anyone speak to him since both the chief and Rundlett were not available.

I think that the damage done by this trip to Puerto Rico is somewhat less due to the fact that Rundlett has resigned from the Vietnam Project. Of course, it was Rundlett who recommended this trip and none of us were in a position to contradict him. However, in spite of his technical competence, perhaps we should have investigated more thoroughly his suggestion that Lien must go to Puerto Rico.

I hope that we can now proceed smoothly with Lieutenant Lien's program and erase the negative impression that came as a result of this mistake.

EC:dc

cc.: Ralph Turner
Arthur Brandstatter
Larry Beril

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EAST LANSING

VIETNAM PROJECT • OFFICE OF COORDINATOR

August 25, 1969

To: Howard Waltman
From: Stan Gabis
Subject: Lt. Do Thanh Lien

Lt. Lien's trip to Puerto Rico turned out to be unsuccessful. From the technical point of view there was little that he could learn. In addition, the language barrier was rather severe resulting in some considerable inconvenience.

I have discussed this matter with Larry Baril as well as Elsie because I feel that this is a type of mistake that must be avoided in the future. Baril recommends that whenever an itinerary is developed in Vietnam it should be considered "suggested" and subject to review by the Coordinator's office. This has been the established practice. Elsie feels that despite the technical competence of Sundlett, who recommended this trip, we should have investigated more thoroughly his suggestion that Lt. Lien go to Puerto Rico. Lt. Lien is now in East Lansing working with the Michigan State Police. We hope that we can now proceed smoothly with Lt. Lien's program and erase the negative impression created by the Puerto Rico visit. Fortunately, Lt. Lien is quite understanding.

SMU/ap

cc: Brandstatter
Turner
Baril
Cunningham ✓

TO: Stanley T. Gabis
FROM: Elsie Cunningham
DATE: September 3, 1959
SUBJECT: Lyman Rundlett

In checking over the travel expenses submitted by Mr. Lyman Rundlett, I find that there is no authorization for his two day stopover in New York City August 5th to August 7th. According to the information we received from the APCO, (copy attached) their meeting was expected to last through August 6th. The flights on the attached itinerary were reserved by College Travel Office for Mr. Rundlett and Lieutenant Liem and do not indicate any stopover in New York City. The travel authorization covered the period from July 26th to August 11th. Therefore, I do not believe we are responsible for per diem expenses incurred after August 11th.