PART III
CORRECTIONS CENTERS PROJECT

Project Purpose

This project assists the Government of Vietnam to strengthen and improve the administrative, operational, physical, hygienic, and professional standards of civil prisons in Vietnam.

Background

At the request of the Government of Vietnam, U.S. assistance and advice, through the Public Safety program, to the GVN Directorate of Corrections was initiated in 1963. From 1963 through 1967, one U.S. Public Safety Advisor advised the DOC on a part-time basis in addition to his other duties. U.S. fund support for this period was $37,000 for commodities in support of vocational training programs to prepare prisoners for release to society. In 1967, U.S. assistance and advice to the DOC was increased by assigning Public Safety Prison Advisors full-time and providing an increase in allocation of funds. By 1971, nine full-time Public Safety Advisors (including six personnel from the U.S. Bureau of Prisons) were working with the DOC.

Project Scope, Goals and Targets

The DOC operates four national prisons, 37 provincial prisons, and one juvenile correction center. Persons confined to these facilities are convicted or detained awaiting trial under established Vietnamese laws and decrees. U.S. assistance is designed to assist the GVN to develop a humane corrections system, providing acceptable standards in living conditions, food, sanitation, health, welfare, and vocational training, while providing sufficient spaces and security for inmates.

Conditions expected at the termination of this project at the end of 1973 include a penal system providing proper prison administration, including humane treatment that recognizes the physical well being of individuals; an improved system at Con Son Prison, including facilities, to improve living conditions of sentenced hard core subversive and habitual criminals; regularly scheduled professional medical care for inmates; an adequate nutrient diet; and means for segregating juvenile offenders from hardened criminals. Activity targets include increase in GVN prison staff from 1,010 to 2,044; basic training for new staff members and refresher training for 500 old staff members; implementation of a uniform prisoner rehabilitation program; conduct of animal husbandry and agricultural programs; and implementation of a national parole system.
Recent Progress

Significant improvements, particularly in the fields of sanitation, health, and housing, have been realized. There has been major progress in alleviating crowded prison conditions and in separating inmates by sex and crime categories. As a result of assistance provided, prisoners are now better fed, housed and medically treated than they were two years ago. This is reflected in the fact that the overall monthly inmate mortality rate dropped to .30 per thousand in 1971 as compared with 1.56 per thousand in 1967. According to reports of the GVN as of January 1972, the total prisoner population in all facilities of the Directorate of Corrections system was 28,255. Facilities for 36,923 inmates now exist as compared to 33,435 in 1969. On the average, approximately 3,620 prisoners are released monthly from the DOC system. Viet Cong attacks prior to 1968 freed 4,826 prisoners. Due to greatly improved security, no prisoner releases by attack have occurred since.

Specific progress during 1971 includes major renovation at Con Son and Dalat Juvenile Reformatory and normal renovation and maintenance continued at the other centers; increase of prison staff from 1,010 to 1,077; an assessment made of all prison medical facilities resulting in renovation and improvement of medical and sanitation facilities at 23 centers which raised them to acceptable standards. Improvements were also made to kitchens, water systems, latrine and sewage systems. Seventy per cent of all centers participated in a program resulting in the relocation of nearly 4,000 prisoners from province to national correction centers to relieve overcrowding and provide better security; 52 key officials received training, 11 of whom were trained abroad; and 9% of the remaining DOC staff received formal training, either locally or abroad; the vocational training program was upgraded and every correction center now has at least one and most have several such programs; and the draft of a proposed GVN plan for parole/conditional release was prepared and staffed and is now under review by concerned ministries (see Chart 10).

Inputs to Corrections Project

United States

Two U.S. direct hire and six PASA advisors (Participating Agency Service Agreement with Federal Bureau of Prisons), and one military advisor were programmed for FY 1972. Two U.S. direct hire and three PASA advisors are programmed for FY 1973. These advisors will assist the GVN Directorate of Corrections in establishing penal improvements throughout the correction system. One of the direct hire positions is occupied by a medical doctor who will continue to assist and advise a counterpart doctor from the GVN in all medical areas of the correction program.

Total AID fund support for this project is $399,000 (authorized) for FY 1972 and $155,000 (requested) for FY 1973, for personnel, participant training and commodity support in educational, vocational, agricultural and animal husbandry areas.
Government of Vietnam

GVN proposes to commit VN$897 million (U.S. equivalent, $2.1 million) in CY 1972 and VN$988 million (U.S. equivalent, $2.4 million) in CY 1973.

Other Resources

Small contributions of medical items, clothing, food, piasters, and other commodities have been received from time to time from other donors. It is expected that these contributions will continue during FY 1972 and FY 1973.
NATIONAL POLICE MANPOWER

Chart 3

NATIONAL POLICE
DEGREE ISSUED 1962

STRENGTH

GOAL

CIVIL GUARD TRANSFERRED
DEC 1960


FEBRUARY 1972
NATIONAL POLICE COMMAND

NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION ORGANIZATION

COMMANDER/NATIONAL POLICE COMMAND

JUDICIAL POLICE BLOC

CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE & INVESTIGATION SERVICE

NARCOTICS BUREAU

REGIONAL POLICE COMMAND

JUDICIAL POLICE SERVICE

CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE & INVESTIGATION BUREAU

NARCOTICS SECTION

PROVINCE POLICE COMMAND

JUDICIAL POLICE BUREAU

CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE & INVESTIGATION SECTION

NARCOTICS SUB-SECTION

--- TECHNICAL STAFF & SUPPORT CO-ORDINATION

--- OPERATIONAL CONTROL

(OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF ALL POLICE BELOW NATIONAL LEVEL RESTS WITH LOCAL APPOINTED OR ELECTED OFFICIALS.)

Chart 5
NATIONAL IDENTITY REGISTRATION PROJECT (VIETNAM)

Chart 6

- COAL
- ACHIEVEMENT

OCT-DEC 1968: 344,213
1969: 2,704,113
1970: 3,903,012
TOTAL 1971 CUMULATIVE: 9,416,915
PROJECT GOAL: 10,500,000

FEBRUARY 1972
VIETNAM PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

TOTAL UNITS: 51,504

VILLAGE HAMLET RADIO SYSTEM: 34,972
POLICE SYSTEM: 12,409
OTHER: 4,304
TOTAL LOSSES (V.C.) 1961 - 1971: 3,505

FEBRUARY 1972