

091 INDO-CHINA (MISCELLANEOUS)
SWNCC

MISCELLANEOUS SUBSECTION

Armorclad[®]

Made in U. S. A. T. M. Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.
U. S. Patents No. 1,370,424 -- 1,511,268 -- 1,544,818
British Patent No. 224,787

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091 INDO-CHINA (MISCELLANEOUS)
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LIST OF PAPERSFILE NO. 091 Indo-China, MISCELLANEOUS

Serial No.	From	Date	To	Synopsis
1	Col. Fair	12/9/45	JCS	Re: Request of Annamite Residents Association for Mediation by U.S.
2	Gen. McFarland	12/17/45	SWNCC	Memo re: Request of Annamite Residents Association in China for Mediation by U. S. in Indo-China.
3	James Clement Dunn	12/18/45	Sec. of State	Re: Request of Annamite Residents XXXXXXXX Association in China for Mediation by U. S. in Indo-China.
4	Sec. Reid Mr. Matthews	3/14/46 3/7/46	JCS SWNCC	Note No. 167 of Mar. 7, 46 from French Embassy - French and English translations Re: Relief of Chinese Forces in Northern Indochina by French Forces.
5	Col. Peck Mr. Matthews Gen. McFarland	JCS 4/6/46 4/5/46 4/4/46	SWNCC Sec. of State SWNCC	Re: Relief by French forces of Chinese Troops occupying North Indo-China (cable WARX 83227)
6	Act. Sec. State	4 Dec. 47	Sec. Forrestal	Re: At Batavia meeting of Security Council's Cmte of Good Offices expression of gratitude to US Govt. for ship removing obstacle in the way of the pacific settlement of the dispute between the Netherlands and the Republic on Indonesia.

SANACC

091 Indo-China
Misc
cross

In reply refer to
SPA

Dear Mr. Secretary:

At a recent meeting in Batavia of the Security Council's Committee of Good Offices, it formally expressed its gratitude to the United States Government for having placed a ship at its disposal, thereby, as the Committee expressed it, removing one of the obstacles in the way of the pacific settlement of the dispute between the Netherlands and the Republic of Indonesia.

I would like to add the appreciation of the State Department to that of the Committee for the prompt action taken by the Navy in dispatching the (USS RENVILLE to Batavia). It is a substantial contribution to the efforts of the Security Council to obtain a peaceful settlement of the Indonesian problem.

Sincerely yours,

Acting Secretary

SWNCC SECRETARIAT

- State Member _____
- Army Member _____
- Navy Member _____
- Ass't State Member _____
- Ass't Army Member _____
- Ass't Navy Member _____
- Executive _____
- Ass't Exec. Secretary _____
- State Adm. Assistant _____
- Army Adm. Assistant _____
- Navy Adm. Assistant _____
- File _____

The Honorable
James V. Forrestal,
Secretary of Defense.

IS:HFBancroft:mlh
SPA:DRusk:lyn
December 4, 1947

FE MJR S/S-CR

6

C S 3024
Indo China
Misc

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

SECRET

6 April 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARIES, STATE-WAR-NAVY
COORDINATING COMMITTEE:

Subject: Relief by French forces of Chinese
Troops occupying North Indo-China.

Reference: a. SWN-4017.
b. SM-5442.

Enclosure: WARX 83227 (Apr 46) Copy No. 50.

The Enclosure is forwarded for your information.

	SWNCC	<i>add</i>
Colonel A. D. Reid	-----	<i>add</i>
Commo. B. L. Austin	-----	
Mr. R. E. Cox	-----	
Colonel Schulson	-----	
Comdr. Richardson	-----	
Mr. H. W. Moseley	-----	
Mr. J. P. Gardiner	-----	
Lt. Col. V. F. Field	-----	
Major H. W. Karbel	-----	
1st Lt. T. W. Weiner	-----	
Ens. F. Whiteside	-----	
File	-----	

[Signature]
C. R. PECK,
Colonel, Infantry,
Executive Secretary.

APR 8 1946



2518 COORDINATING
OFFICE

SECRET

(5)

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
OUTGOING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED. HANDLE AS SECRET CORRESPONDENCE
PER PARAS 51 (i) and 60 (a). AR 380-5.

Joint Chiefs of Staff
Col C R Peck, Inf, WD Ex 77500

4 April 1946

CINCPAC Tokyo Japan

COMBENCHINA, Shanghai, China.

Number: WARX 83227

Book message to MacArthur and Wedemeyer from the Joint
Chiefs of Staff.

1. Further to WARX 99991, CX 58690 and CFBX 25699,
combined Chiefs of Staff have informed Franch through their
Military Attache in Washington that:

a. There is no objection to the relief of Chinese
troops in North French Indo-China by French forces since
the combined Chiefs of Staff consider that such arrange-
ments are a matter for determination between Governments
of France and China.

b. The French Military commander in Indo-China
should act as a medium for French Government for coord-
ination with the SCAP on matters related to the repatri-
ation of Japanese from that country, and that the Chinese
Supreme Commander and Admiral Mountbatten should be re-
lieved of duties and responsibilities for disarmament
and evacuation of Japanese in Indo-China.

c. It is most desirable to have the French command-
er in Indo-China conform to present repatriation schedules
which envisage the completion of the evacuation of the
Japanese from northern Indo-China by 15 April.

2. The combined Chiefs of Staff have requested that
the French instruct their commander with regard to:

CM-OUT-83227 (Apr 46)

SECRET

50

COPY NO.

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
OUTGOING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET

Number: WARX 83227

Page 2.

- a. Transfer of the above-mentioned duties.
 - b. Adhering to present repatriation schedules for northern Indo-China.
3. The British are instructing the Supreme Allied Commander Southeast Asia Command to make necessary arrangements with French Commander in Indo-China for transfer of his repatriation responsibilities to the French. You will be informed as to effective date.
4. The Joint Chiefs of Staff desire that COMGENCHINA pass to the Generalissimo such of the above as is appropriate.
5. Arrangements regarding retention of U.S. Liaison team in Indo-China in connection with facilitating Chinese Army moves should be made by COMGENCHINA directly with Chinese and French as part of detailed arrangements for withdrawal of Chinese Forces.

End.

Note: CX 58690 is CM-IN-2285 (11 Mar 46)
CFBX 25699 is CM-IN-3413 (15 Mar 46)

ORIGINATOR: JC/S

DISTRIBUTION: Adm Leahy; CG AAF; OPD (State); G-2;
Adm Nimitz; C of S

CM-OUT-83227 (Apr 46) DTG 042154Z ajb

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SECRET

091 Encls -
China
MOC.SWN-4117
8 April 1946

VFF:aj

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

Subject: Relief by French Forces of Chinese Troops
Occupying North Indo-China.

Reference: SWN-4017.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff have advised the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee as follows:

"On 28 March 1946 the Joint Chiefs of Staff approved the recommendations in J. C. S. 1200/18 and presented Enclosure "A" thereto to the Combined Chiefs of Staff as C. C. S. 951/1.

"On 3 April 1946 the Combined Chiefs of Staff approved C. C. S. 951/1, and the memorandum in the Enclosure thereto (Appendix to Enclosure "A" to J. C. S. 1200/18) was forwarded to the French Military Attache.

"Pursuant to the approval by the Combined Chiefs of Staff of C. C. S. 951/1, the message in Enclosure "B" to J. C. S. 1200/18 was dispatched to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers and the Commanding General, U.S. Forces, China Theater.

"Pursuant to the instructions of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, it is requested that the enclosed copy of J. C. S. 1200/18 be furnished to the Department of State for such use as the Department may wish to make of it in replying to the French Embassy's note No. 167 of 7 March 1946 (Enclosure "C" to J. C. S. 1200/18)."

For the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee:

H. FREEMAN MATTHEWS,
Acting Chairman

Enclosure:

Copy No. 61, J. C. S. 1200/18

COPY FOR SWMCC FILE

SECRET

5



THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

SECRET

SM-5442
4 April 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE STATE-WAR-NAVY COORDINATING COMMITTEE:

Subject: Relief by French forces of
Chinese troops occupying
North Indo-China.

Reference: SWN-4017.

Enclosure: J.C.S. 1200/18 (Copy No. 61).

On 28 March 1946 the Joint Chiefs of Staff approved the recommendations in J.C.S. 1200/18 and presented Enclosure "A" thereto to the Combined Chiefs of Staff as C.C.S. 951/1.

On 3 April 1946 the Combined Chiefs of Staff approved C.C.S. 951/1, and the memorandum in the Enclosure thereto (Appendix to Enclosure "A" to J.C.S. 1200/18) was forwarded to the French Military Attache.

Pursuant to the approval by the Combined Chiefs of Staff of C.C.S. 951/1, the message in Enclosure "B" to J.C.S. 1200/18 was dispatched to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers and the Commanding General, U.S. Forces, China Theater.

Pursuant to the instructions of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, it is requested that the enclosed copy of J.C.S. 1200/18 be furnished to the Department of State for such use as the Department may wish to make of it in replying to the French Embassy's note No. 167 of 7 March 1946 (Enclosure "C" to J.C.S. 1200/18).

APR 4 1946

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:



A. J. McFarland
A. J. McFARLAND,
Brigadier General, U.S. Army,
Secretary.

STATE WAR & NAVY COORDINATING
COMMITTEE

SECRET

2496

HWK:lmm

091 *French Indo-China*
Misc
BWH-4017
14 March 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF:

Subject: Relief of Chinese Forces in Northern Indochina by French Forces.

Attached is a copy of a memorandum by the Acting State Member, SWNCC forwarding a copy of Note No. 167 dated 7 March 1946 and a translation of an agreement from the French Embassy in the United States.

It is requested that the Joint Chiefs of Staff, if they find no objection from a military point of view, take such action as is deemed appropriate.

A. D. REID,
Secretary

Enclosures

- a. Memo by Acting State Mbr, SWNCC
- b. Note No. 167
- c. Translation of agreement

SWNCC FILE

①

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON



MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARIAT OF THE
STATE-WAR-NAVY COORDINATING COMMITTEE.

There is enclosed herewith a copy, in translation, of note no. 167 of March 7, 1946 from the French Embassy seeking the approval of the Combined Chiefs of Staff to an agreement entered into between French and Chinese representatives looking toward the replacement by French forces of the Chinese troops now occupying that part of Indo-China lying north of the sixteenth parallel. A copy of the agreement in question, in the original French ~~are~~ also enclosed.

The State Department perceives no objection to complying with the French request. It will be appreciated if the enclosed papers can be forwarded directly to the Joint Chiefs of Staff with the request that the latter, if they find no objection to the proposal on military grounds, take appropriate action.

H. Freeman Matthews
H. Freeman Matthews
Acting State Member
State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee

3 Encls
A - Note No. 167
C - Translation of Agreement
B - Agreement in original French.

TRANSLATION

French Embassy

in the United States

Washington March 7, 1946

No. 167

The French Embassy in the United States presents its compliments to the Department of State and has the honor to invite the latter's special attention to the following question.

The Foreign Minister of the Government of the Chinese Republic and the French Ambassador at ChungKing signed several agreements touching on Franco-Chinese relations on February 28 last. Among these agreements is an exchange of letters relative to the relief of Chinese forces in Northern Indochina by French forces. This exchange of letters specifies that the relief shall take place between the first and fifteenth of March and shall have ended on March 31 at the latest.

Following this exchange of letters conversations immediately took place between the Military Delegate of the Admiral High Commissioner of France in Indochina, Commander-in-Chief of French troops in Indochina, and a representative of the Chinese General Staff with a view to concluding an implementation agreement in which the conditions under which this movement was to take place would be specified. These conversations were finished and had resulted in the drafting of an agreement whose terms had been definitely settled in the evening of March 1 when, at the moment of signature, the representative

②

-2-

the representative of the Chinese General Staff requested that there be added to the agreement a clause stipulating that the evacuation of ~~French~~^{Chinese} troops be subject to the approval of the Supreme Commander of the Allied powers in the Pacific Theater. The Chinese representative added that the Chinese General Staff had requested this approval but that General MacArthur had replied that he had no power of decision in this question and was obliged to submit it to the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

By order of his Government the French Ambassador has the honor to request the Department of State to be good enough to intercede most urgently with the American representative on the Combined Chiefs of Staff with a view to hastening as much as possible the latter's approval to the aforementioned agreement, whose text is an enclosure to the present note.

The French Embassy avails itself of the present note to renew to the Department of State the assurances of its highest consideration.

(4)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
CENTRAL TRANSLATING DIVISION

[TRANSLATION]

TC No. 22074

General agreement between the representative of the Chinese General Staff and the military delegate of the High Commissioner of France in Indo-China concerning the relief of the Chinese troops by French troops in Indo-China north of the 16th parallel.

In application of the exchange of letters relative to the relief of the Chinese troops by French troops in North Indo-China, under date of February 28, 1946, the present general staff agreements have been concluded in Chungking between General NTEH SHUN, representing the Chinese general staff, and Colonel CREPIN, military delegate of the Admiral High Commissioner of France in Indo-China, Commander in Chief of the French troops in Indo-China.

These working agreements will be immediately communicated to the commanders of the Chinese and French troops in North Indo-China.

These Authorities will complete these agreements by arrangements of detail with a view to assuring the practical execution of the relief under the best conditions.

Article I - Timetable of the relief.

Section I: In conformity with the agreements concluded between the Chinese and French Governments, the relief of the Chinese troops by French troops in North Indo-China is to begin between the 1st and the 15th of March and is to be terminated by March 31st at the latest.

Within

(4)

(2)

Within the schedule mentioned above and by reason of the contingencies imposed by land and sea transportation, the tides, etc., the exact dates of the arrival of the French troops will be made known in due time to the local Chinese command by the French command.

Section II:

The Chinese General Staff agrees to the utilization of the greater part of the port of Haiphong. The port of Hongay will similarly be used after agreement with the local Chinese authorities.

Article II - REARMAMENT OF THE CITADEL OF HANOI

The French military authorities are authorized to land on the field of GIALAM, 12 hours before the arrival of the French troops in Hanoi, 12 airplanes transporting arms destined for the rearmament of the French troops of the citadel of Hanoi.

The transportation of arms to the citadel will be assured by the French, it being understood that the Chinese troops will prepare the normal security on the field of GIALAM, as well as on the road from the airport to the citadel before the relief.

Article III - METHOD OF THE RELIEF

Section I In each of the zones where the relief will take place, the responsibility for order will be incumbent on the French troops from the time of the arrival of sufficient French elements. This moment will be determined by a local agreement, between the Chinese command and the French command. Whatever the circumstances, the responsibility for order will be incumbent on the French troops in all the territories of North Indo-China from the 16th parallel beginning on March 31.

Section 2:

The Chinese military authorities promise to cause

(3)

the evacuation as rapidly as possible by their troops, of every zone where French troops charged with relieving the Chinese troops have arrived. The Chinese military authorities promise to cause the evacuation by the Chinese troops of all of North Indo-China as rapidly as possible beginning on March 31. In all cases, those elements which are supposed to move by sea but which have not been able to embark after the relief will be stationed in a body in a zone close to the embarkation points, such zone to be determined by local agreement.

Section 3. In each local relief, the protection of the Chinese and French population will initially be incumbent on the Chinese army, which will be expected to maintain the troops necessary for that purpose until the arrival of sufficient French elements. This applies very particularly to the following localities: Hanoi, Haiphong, Hongay, Nam Dinh, Vinh, Hué.

Section 4:

The stationing, in due time, of the French advance detachments and base detachments will be authorized in the ports and on the airfields.

Section 5:

The principal bridges and ferryboats on the routes which are to be used by the French troops for the relief shall be kept in good condition and shall be guarded until the relief. [*]

[*] (Translator's note: the text has "gradés" (graded) which is probably meant to be "gradés" (guarded)

gardés

④

(4)

Section 6:

The Chinese troops will relinquish to the French troops the principal installations and buildings for military use and for the use of the command or the commissariat such as administrative buildings, hospitals, banks, residences of the Governor General, Governors and residents, radio transmitting stations, railway stations, port installations, including those of Gialam Bachmai, Tourane, in the condition in which they are at the present time.

Section 7: Questions relative to the Japanese prisoners of war will be decided according to the directives of General Mac Arthur.

Section 8:

From this time, permanent authorization is accorded to all French transport or liaison planes to use the fields of North Indo-China. The Chinese authorities will be kept informed of the movements of the planes and the planes' papers will be communicated to them.

Section 9:

Persons under Chinese jurisdiction have created in North Indo-China since the 10th of August self-protection groups in order to defend themselves against disorderly elements.

The list of these units shall immediately be furnished by the Chinese military authorities to the French military authorities of Hanoi. The latter promise to look with favor on the maintenance of these units in those zones where pacification might not be complete. The French military authorities will dissolve these units only after obtaining the agreement of the local Chinese liaison officers.

(5)

Section 10

In cases where Chinese troops leaving Indo-China are not in a position to remove the total amount of Japanese war material, the French military authorities will assure the guarding and the preservation of that material pending its removal, which is to be accomplished as rapidly as possible.

The return of the war material taken from the French by the Japanese and regained by the Chinese army will be the subject of a subsequent exchange of letters.

Done in Chungking, March 1, 1946./.



Accord général entre le représentant de L'Etat-Major chinois et le Délégué militaire du Haut-Commissaire de la France en Indochine concernant la relève des troupes chinoises par les troupes françaises en Indochine au nord du 16ème parallèle.

En application de l'échange de lettres relatif à la relève des troupes chinoises par les troupes françaises en Indochine du Nord, en date du 28 février 1946, les présents accords d'états-majors ont été conclus à Tchungking entre le Général NTEH SHUN, représentant l'Etat-Major général chinois et le Colonel CREPIN, Délégué militaire de l'Amiral Haut-Commissaire de la France en Indochine, Commandant en Chef des troupes françaises d'Indochine.

Ces accords d'application seront immédiatement communiqués aux commandants des troupes chinoises et françaises en Indochine du Nord.

Ces Autorités compléteront ces accords par des arrangements de détail en vue d'assurer l'exécution pratique de la relève dans les meilleures conditions.

Article I- Horaire de la relève.

Section I: Conformément aux accords conclus entre les Gouvernements chinois et français, la relève des troupes chinoises, par les troupes françaises en Indochine du Nord doit commencer entre le 1er et le 15 mars et être terminée au plus tard le 31 mars. A l'intérieur de l'horaire ci-dessus et en raison des contingences imposées par les transports terrestres et maritimes, les marées, etc.. les dates exactes d'arrivée des troupes françaises seront précisées en temps utile au commandement chinois local par le commandement français.

Section II:

L'Etat-Major chinois est d'accord pour l'utilisation de la plus grande

-2-

partie du port de Haiphong. Le port de Hongay sera également utilisé après accord avec les autorités chinoises locales.

Article II- REARMEMENT DE LA CITADELLE DE HANOI

Les autorités militaires françaises sont autorisées à faire atterrir sur le terrain de GIALAM, 12 heures avant l'arrivée des troupes françaises à Hanoi, 12 avions transportant les armes destinées au réarmement des troupes françaises de la citadelle de Hanoi.

Le transport des armes à la citadelle sera assuré par les Français étant entendu que les troupes chinoises prépareront la sécurité normale sur le terrain de GIALAM, comme sur la route de l'aérodrome à la citadelle avant la relève.

ARTICLE III- MODALITE DE LA RELEVE

Section I Dans chacune des zones où s'effectuera la relève, la responsabilité de l'ordre incombera aux troupes françaises dès l'arrivée d'éléments français suffisants. Ce moment sera déterminé par accord local, entre le commandement chinois et le commandement français. En tout état de cause, la responsabilité de l'ordre incombera aux troupes françaises dans la totalité des territoires de l'Indochine du Nord du 16ème parallèle à partir du 31 mars.

Section 2:

Les autorités militaires chinoises s'engagent à faire évacuer le plus rapidement possible par leurs troupes, toute zone où seraient arrivées les troupes françaises chargées de relever les troupes chinoises. Les autorités militaires chinoises s'engagent à faire évacuer par les troupes chinoises l'ensemble de l'Indochine du Nord le plus rapidement possible à partir du 31 mars. Toutefois les éléments qui, devant faire mouvement par mer, n'auraient pas pu s'embarquer après la

-3-

relève, se regrouperont dans une zone de stationnement à proximité des ponts d'embarquement, définie par entente locale.

Section 3. Dans chaque relève locale, la protection des populations chinoises et françaises incombe initialement à l'armée chinoise, qui devra maintenir à cet effet les troupes nécessaires jusqu'à l'arrivée d'éléments français suffisants. Ceci s'applique tout particulièrement aux localités suivantes: Hanoi, Haiphong, Hongay, Nam Dinh, Vinh, Hue.

Section 4:

La mise en place, en temps voulu, de détachements précurseurs et de détachements de base français, sera autorisée dans les ports et sur les aérodromes.

Section 5:

Les ponts principaux et les bacs sur les routes qui doivent être utilisés par les troupes françaises pour la relève, seront maintenus en bon état et gradés jusqu'à la relève.

Section 6:

Les troupes chinoises remettront aux troupes françaises les installations et les bâtiments principaux à usage militaire et de commandement ou de l'intendance tels que bâtiments administratifs, hopitaux, banques, Hotels du Gouverneur général, des Gouverneurs et résidents, posts d'émissions radiophoniques, gares, installations portuaires dont ceux de Gialam Bachmai, Tourane, dans l'état où ils se trouvent actuellement.

Section 7: Les questions relatives aux prisonniers de guerre japonais seront réglées conformément aux directives du Général MacArthur.

-4-

Section 8:

Dès maintenant, l'autorisation permanente est accordée à tous avions français de transport ou de liaison d'utiliser les terrains d'Indochine du Nord. Les autorités chinoises seront tenues au courant des déplacements des appareils et recevront communication du manifeste de bord.

Section 9:

Les ressortissants chinois ont créé en Indochine du Nord depuis le 10 août des groupes d'auto-protection pour se défendre contre les éléments de désordre.

La liste de ces unités sera dès maintenant fournie par les autorités militaires chinoises aux autorités militaires françaises de Hanoi. Ces dernières s'engagent à examiner avec bienveillance le maintien de ces unités dans les zones où la pacification ne serait pas totale. Les autorités militaires françaises ne dissoudront ces unités qu'après avoir l'accord des officiers de liaison chinois locaux.

Section 10.

Au cas où troupes chinoises quittant l'Indochine ne devront pas emmener la totalité du matériel de guerre japonais les autorités militaires françaises assureront la garde et la conservation dudit matériel en attendant l'enlèvement qui devra être fait aussi rapidement que possible.

La rétrocession du matériel de guerre pris aux Français par les Japonais et récupéré par l'armée chinoise fera l'objet d'un échange de lettres ultérieur.

Fait à TchongKing, le 1er mars 1946./.

591 Indo-China

SWN-3640 HWK:oz
18 December 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

Subject: Request of Annamite Residents' Association in
China for Mediation by United States in Indo-
China.

The enclosure, a letter from the Annamite Residents' Association, Shanghai, China, dated 5 November 1945, is forwarded to the Department of State at the request of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

For the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee:

JAMES CLEMENT DUNN,
Chairman

Incl.
Cpy ltr fm ARA

SWNOC FILE

(3)

COPY

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

AG 091 (5 Nov 45)GS

APO 500
9 December 1945

SUBJECT: Request of Annamite Residents' Association for
Mediation by United States.

TO : Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington 25, D. C.

Transmitted is a letter dated 5 November 1945, from
the Annamite Residents' Association, Shanghai, China. No
action or acknowledgement of receipt is being made from here.

FOR THE SUPREME COMMANDER:

/s/ Harold Fair

HAROLD FAIR,
Lt. Col, AGD,
Asst Adjutant General.

1 Incl: As indicated above.

COPY

ANNAMITE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
412. HBIENG YENG LU. (EX. NOI ALBERT)
TEL. 73985
Shanghai-China

November 5th, 1945

His Excellency, General Douglas A. MacArthur,
c/o American Embassy,
Tokyo - Japan.

Excellency,

We, the Annamite Residents' Association in China, which has a membership of over ten thousand compatriots, beg to invite the immediate action of the United States" offered mediation in settling the pending Indochina question, expressing our willingness to accept, next to independence, international control as a step towards complete independence, in order to maintain peace and order in Indochina, which is being disturbed by further coming of French troops and extension of French military operations.

Before making our appeal for the liberty and independence of our country, which has a territory of more than 700,000 square miles and a population of over 25 millions, we must congratulate the American people upon their victory of liberty and justice over aggression and imperialism, and thank the Government of the United States for its sponsoring and establishing the Charter of the United Nations, which provides equal rights and self-determination for oppressed peoples.

We are glad to read in the newspapers that the President of the United States believes in the eventual return of sovereign rights and self-government to all peoples who have been deprived of them by force and that the Secretary of State objects to the use of lend-lease weapons by the French in their present military aggression at Saigon, Indochina; and the Chief of the Far Eastern Division of the State Department, although failing to question the sovereignty of the French in Indochina, has offered his good offices for mediation. It is to our great regret that fair-minded Americans do not know the fact that France never had sovereignty, but only imposed protection over all Indochina; which is composed of five parts; namely, Tonkin, Annam, Cochinchina, Laos and Cambodia. We must make it clear that Tonkin, Annam and Cochinchina, all inhabited by Annamites, are together called Viet-Nam by the native people. According to the Treaty of 1863 between the Kingdom of Viet-Nam and the

- 2 -

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As international publicists have observed, there are four probable ways of settling the Indochina question:

1°) Restoration of French Colonial rule, as desired by the French imperialists.

2°) Complete independence, as desired by the Annamite nationalists.

3°) International control for a number of years before complete independence.

4°) Maintenance of status quo, leaving complete independence for the northern part, namely, Tonkin, Annam and Laos, and restoration of French rule in the southern part, especially Cambodia.

We beg to point out frankly that the restoration of French colonial rule over all Indochina, as intended by the French, will only lead to further bloodshed and endless warfare there, which will disturb peace in the Far East, and cannot be tolerated by non-imperialistic and peace-loving nations of the world, especially the great United States and the neighboring Republic of China. So the first suggested settlement cannot be allowed to take place, for it is not only against the wishes of the Indochinese people, but also against permanent peace of the world, as stipulated in the Charter of United Nations. The Viet-Nam people who inhabitate Tonkin, Annam and Cochinchina and constitute 80% of the total population of Indochina, are

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confident that they are capable of complete independence, as we were an independent state before the French invasion. France imposed imperialistic protection over our country in 1885, only after a war with us as well as a war with China. The late World War has proved that France cannot even protect herself against her neighbour; how can she and why should she protect a nation of entirely different race and culture, almost ten thousand miles away, in the other half of the world. French Colonial rule is despotic and corrupt and against the interests and wishes of the native people. The so-called French protection has only destroyed our civilization, exploited our resources and enslaved our people, and we cannot endure any more.

During the World War France never fought the Japanese, nor reconquered any part of Indochina before the surrender of Japan. So the case is different as regards the United States and Great Britain in the Philippines and Burma, respectively, both of which had been reconquered during the war. Besides, the American rule in the Philippines is beneficent to the natives and desired by most of the people. If the United States is willing to let the Philippines free in 1946, why should France try to reconquer Indochina, after the war is over, and disturb peace in the Far East? From the viewpoint of history, civilization and actual conditions, the Indochinese, especially the Annamites, deserve liberty and independence, just as well as, if not better than, the Filipinos and the Koreans.

Next to complete independence, we are, however, willing to accept international control, as announced by our leaders at Hanoi, not long ago, in order to prove our ability for self-government, as well for the sake of world peace. But international control must be limited to a certain period, say five or ten years. This is somewhat in accord with the Chinese proposal at Dumbarton Oaks Conference. We hope that the United States and China, and even Soviet Russia and Great Britain, will sponsor for this kind of settlement, for it is the only compromise that the Viet-Nam people are willing to accept. We can never accept French rule again, no matter under what disguise.

General DeGaulle once said that Indochina will have a new status, under the French Republic, just as Canada or Australia in the British Commonwealth of Nations. But he ignored the fact that the Indochinese are an Oriental people, quite different from the French in race, culture, tradition and outlook; while the English, Canadians and Australians are all Anglo-Saxons and speak the same mother tongue. We Indochinese can never become French, nor the French can become Indochinese. The Viet-Nam people are closely related to the Chinese in race and culture and their country was an integral part of China for over a

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thousand years, therefore highly civilized and capable of self-government. We want to be independent to preserve our own civilization and do not care to become French protégées anymore. Let the French mind their own business and leave the Indochinese alone.

But if France refuses to agree to international control of Indochina for a definite period, it proves that imperialistic France wants to enslave us again, and for an indefinite time. DeGaulle, D'Argenlieu, Leclerc, etc.....are all die-hard imperialists who are trying to fool the world. Then we must beseech the democratic and peace-loving nations of the world, especially the great United States and the neighboring Republic of China, and even Soviet Russia and Great Britain, to help us in our struggle for liberty, democracy and independence; for an independent Viet-Nam is a sure guarantee of permanent peace and security in the Far East.

Even though we cannot help leaving, for the time being, southern Indochina, especially Cambodia, in the hands of the French, we can never allow northern Indochina, namely, Tonkin, Annam and Laos, now in the hands of Chinese troops, to fall again into the shackles of our French oppressors. As Declared by our leaders, "the Annamites prefer to die rather than to live under French rule again; Indochina will be a land of freedom or a land of corpses". French troops must leave Indochina, including Saigon and must not reconquer our country by force.

The fact is that there has never been French sovereignty over the Kingdom of Viet-Nam, which was only a protectorate and not a colony or territory of the French. As stated above, both Viet-Nam and Cambodia had in the world war declared their independence of the French. And now the Provisional Government at Hanoi has re-affirmed this act of independence and is working for a democratic form of government. We are sure that the coming elections of the people will give unanimous approval. In the period of emancipation of oppressed peoples, are the French imperialists allowed to employ military force to reconquer Indochina, against the wishes of the Indochinese people and against the very first Article of the Charter of the United Nations?

This is certainly an acid test whether the newly ratified Charter of the United Nations is a sure guarantee of equal rights and self-determination for oppressed peoples; and whether the newly created international Organization will seek effective measures to stop aggression and disturbance of peace in Far Eastern Asia. Otherwise the hypocritical French may politely refuse the American offer of mediation, but will harshly whip the Indochinese into submission.

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Trusting that the above will receive Your Excellency's favorable consideration and that this appeal will be given attention in your international discussions, we voicing the true wishes and aspirations of the Annamese people, earnestly request the United States Government to stand up, for the sake of peace, justice and humanity, and initiate mediation between the French Government and the Viet-Nam Provisional Government at Hanoi, in order to stop further aggression and the use of military force, and to bring about joint international control as a step toward independence, over all Indochina so that peace and order may be maintained in the Far East, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, which is now a part of international law, and the only hope of small and weak peoples over the world, we beg the honor to be

Your Excellency's most respectfully,

Nguyen Huu Hien
President of the Annamite Residents'
Association

/s/ N. H. Hien

Doan Huu

Secretary of the Association

/s/ Doan Huu



THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

SM-4487
17 December 1945

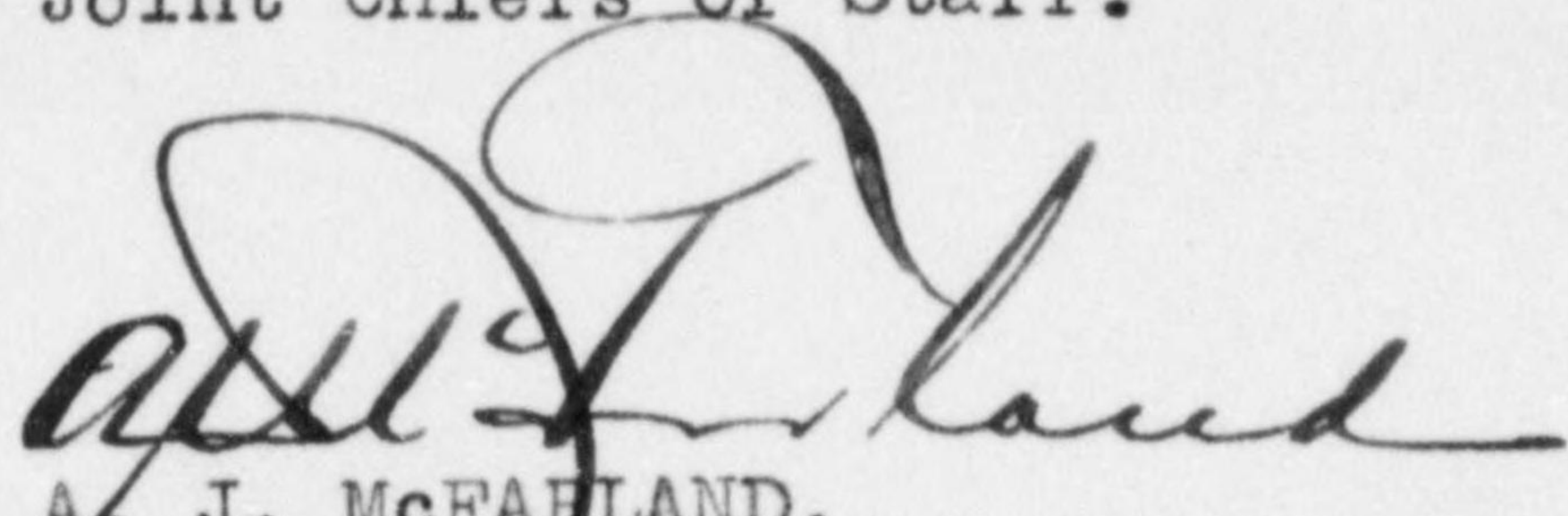
MEMORANDUM FOR THE STATE-WAR-NAVY COORDINATING COMMITTEE:

Subject: Request of Annamite Residents' Association in China for Mediation by United States in Indo-China.

Enclosure: Letter from the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, dated 9 December 1945, transmitting letter dated 5 November 1945 from the Annamite Residents' Association, Shanghai, China.

The enclosure is forwarded with the request that it be transmitted to the Department of State.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:


A. J. McFARLAND,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.,
Secretary.

DEC 18 1945



WAR & NAVY COORDINATING
1530

add

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COPY

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

AG 091 (5 Nov 45)GS

APO 500
9 December 1945

SUBJECT: Request of Annamite Residents' Association for
Mediation by United States.

TO : Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington 25, D. C.

Transmitted is a letter dated 5 November 1945, from
the Annamite Residents' Association, Shanghai, China. No
action or acknowledgement of receipt is being made from here.

FOR THE SUPREME COMMANDER:

/s/ Harold Fair

HAROLD FAIR,
Lt. Col, AGD,
Asst Adjutant General.

1 Incl: As indicated above.

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ANNAMITE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
412, HSIENG YENG LU. (EX. ROI ALBERT)
TEL. 73985
Shanghai-China

COPY

November 5th, 1945

His Excellency, General Douglas A. MacArthur,
c/o American Embassy,
Tokyo - Japan.

Excellency,

We, the Annamite Residents' Association in China, which has a membership of over ten thousand compatriots, beg to invite the immediate action of the United States" offered mediation in settling the pending Indochina question, expressing our willingness to accept, next to independence, international control as a step towards complete independence, in order to maintain peace and order in Indochina, which is being disturbed by further coming of French troops and extension of French military operations.

Before making our appeal for the liberty and independence of our country, which has a territory of more than 700,000 square miles and a population of over 25 millions, we must congratulate the American people upon their victory of liberty and justice over aggression and imperialism, and thank the Government of the United States for its sponsoring and establishing the Charter of the United Nations, which provides equal rights and self-determination for oppressed peoples.

We are glad to read in the newspapers that the President of the United States believes in the eventual return of sovereign rights and self-government to all peoples who have been deprived of them by force and that the Secretary of State objects to the use of lend-lease weapons by the French in their present military aggression at Saigon, Indochina; and the Chief of the Far Eastern Division of the State Department, although failing to question the sovereignty of the French in Indochina, has offered his good offices for mediation. It is to our great regret that fair-minded Americans do not know the fact that France never had sovereignty, but only imposed protection over all Indochina; which is composed of five parts; namely, Tonkin, Annam, Cochinchina, Laos and Cambodia. We must make it clear that Tonkin, Annam and Cochinchina, all inhabited by Annamites, are together called Viet-Nam by the native people. According to the Treaty of 1863 between the Kingdom of Viet-Nam and the

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