

MEMORANDUM

TO : BM/SGN

DATE: 10 November 1969

FROM : SZ/DAD

REF. No. SZDAD/69/111

SUBJECT: DANANG Station Monthly Report for October 1969

GENERAL

No significant incidents of hostile activity were reported during October, but according to Embassy sources, large scale attacks are anticipated prior to the end of the year.

Although the Danang Air Base curfew remains constant, the city curfew was reduced one hour and is now effective from 2200 to 0600 hours daily. Since the RMD late shift is scheduled from 1200 to 2100 hours, there is time for personnel to return home without curfew difficulties.

Nine Southern Air Transport flights transited Danang during the month, but no difficulties were experienced; all were ferry departures.

The station air conditioner situation is still critical; four units failed during the month due to burned out fan motors. One unit, received from Tainan, developed this problem after only three days operation. Local repair capability has made it possible to maintain a full complement of air conditioners in the old hostel and essential offices but nine units are presently inoperative. Two units in the worst condition were shipped to Saigon for repair.

Preliminary discussions were held with the local Customs Authorities regarding inspection of transiting international flights. Arrangements for providing them with advance notification of these flights were made. It was admitted, however, that at the present time, there are insufficient customs personnel available to inspect all flights. The possibility of being authorized to load and off-load cargo on these flights at Danang was mentioned and not rejected, but an official decision on this matter must await future meetings.

LEGAL

The operation of the terminal snack-bar has shown a great deal of improvement under the management of Sergeant Dobbs. If his position becomes definitely permanent, it may prove advantageous to draw up a formal agreement with the Danang NCO club to outline the responsibilities of both parties.

CUSTOMER RELATIONS

An impasse was reached with both local customer representatives concerning the assignment of aircraft numbers to specific flights. Although more efficient aircraft scheduling would accrue from Flight Operations assigning actual tail numbers, the Embassy customer maintains that their agreement with AID assigns two PC-6 and one 204B aircraft for Embassy use and

control. In order to facilitate this control, according to the Embassy, it is necessary that the aircraft be assigned by tail number. Use of any of these aircraft on a non-Embassy flight requires prior permission. It is also claimed by both customers that tail number assignments are necessary to specify which customer is responsible for the payment of maintenance ferry flights.

Problems would be encountered when ferry flights are required or when all Danang Based aircraft might be scheduled at the same time when one or more is not available. Resolution of this situation is pending discussions with the respective customers in Saigon.

FACILITIES

The AID customer has indicated that Saigon is favorably disposed towards providing funds for the Danang Terminal Renovation and Paving Projects. Expedited company approval of these facility improvements has been requested. Due to the fact that the cost estimates for these projects are based largely on contractor bids, significant delays will create problems since both contractors maintain that rising costs will require upward price revisions if contracts are not signed in the near future.

An informal agreement was reached with USAF Power Production whereby they will continue to supply a generator for station use even though commercial power is available. In turn, commercial power will be supplied to the snack-bar during periods of generator failure.

It has been decided to accomplish the installation of the new transmitter antenna mast through in-house efforts. Verbal approval for erecting the mast has been obtained from the VNAF, and written confirmation is expected in early November. Most of the excavation for the mast footing has been completed. Due to the curing time required for the concrete footing, this installation will not be operational until December.

FISCAL

Minor problems are encountered with the station time clock whenever commercial power is being utilized due to the difference in current frequency (50 Hertz). Although the clock runs slow during these periods, 60 Hertz generator power is available most of the time.

██████████ payroll for the month totaled: ██████████

Petty cash expenditures for the month totaled: 20,601\$VN

OPERATIONS

Total revenue flight time increased 19+11 as compared to the previous month. Although weather was responsible for a great many flight cancellations with substantial revenue losses, these were offset by a significant increase in overall Embassy requirements and the temporary assignment

of one DHC-4 aircraft. The Embassy customer does forecast increased 204B flying and AID has mentioned there is a very remote possibility of an additional PC-6 being requested for Danang.

The following is a breakdown of flight time generated by this station during October:

VN-41/AID	871+10
VN-41/Embassy	202+32
0005	Nil
0069	Nil
Non-Revenue	13+30
Total	1,087+12

Revenue losses for the month were as follows:

Weather	63+25
Maintenance	17+15
Customer Cancellations	5+30
Total	86+10

Hostel occupancy factors were 86.45% and 31.97% for the Old and New hostels respectively.

COMMUNICATIONS

No problems were encountered during the month with the [REDACTED] remote VHF/UHF. All ground radio transmitters were transferred to the RMD lean-to. Although some reception difficulties were reported by SGH on HF, the problem was corrected by the middle of the month.

Incoming and outgoing messages totaled 2210 and 1642 respectively.

TRAFFIC

Overall Traffic workload continues to remain fairly constant with no significant deviations from the previous reporting period. No Continental Air Services or USAF aircraft were handled during the month.

Passenger and cargo statistics for the month are as follows:

	<u>Passengers In</u>	<u>Passengers Out</u>	<u>Cargo In</u>	<u>Cargo Out</u>
VN-41/AID	3,072	2,670	330,788	284,120
VN-41/Embassy	505	615	3,987	7,689
0005	0	6	Nil	Nil
AAM	94	106	12,043.3	22,870.3
TOTAL	3,671	3,397	346,818.3	314,679.3

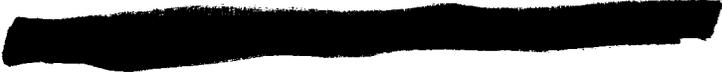
SECURITY

It was learned from the VNAF Security Officer that requests for local personnel to remain on the air base after the established curfew (1900 hours) might be approved if operating circumstances warrant same. Such an approval for a few GTD drivers may be requested to avoid problems with late workshift transportation.

PERSONNEL

Delays in obtaining extensions of stay for third country national personnel may create serious problems in the coming months since many air base passes are expiring. These passes will not be renewed without written evidence that application has been made for an extension of stay which in turn, will not be accepted without a work permit. It is understood that no Danang employee presently has a valid work permit.

The personnel breakdown at Danang station at the close of business, 31 October, was as follows:



Permanent	5	21	14	83
Pre-Process	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0
Daily hire	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (123)	5	21	14	83

TECHNICAL SERVICES

RMD handled a total of 640 arriving and 646 departing flights during the month, 20 more of each than experienced in September. Flight delays attributable to maintenance decreased slightly for a total of 4. Four outstation recoveries were necessary, 2 involving DHC-4 aircraft. Two Number 1 services were performed on PC-6 aircraft; the remaining four Number 1 and two Number 2 services were performed on 204B aircraft. No engine or propeller changes were required during the month.

HGMD expended a total of 864 manhours of which 479 were utilized in hostel maintenance and painting the Station Manager's residence. Additional ceiling fans were installed in the rear rooms of the old hostel to provide some additional air circulation in the event of air conditioner failures.

From a visit by MPEMD/TNN it was learned that a rebuilt Caterpillar engine will be shipped to Danang to replace the engine installed in the 75 KVA generator. It will not, therefore, be necessary to attempt an overhaul on the present unit.

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Routine requisitions from NSA are presently encountering delays due to higher priority customers, but urgent items have been handled by the time consuming but expeditious walk-thru method.

Original Signed by
WINSTON C. CAMBRE
Winston C. Cambre

cc: file