

MEMORANDUM

TO : BM/SGN

DATE: 07 June, 1969

FROM : A/SZDNG

REF. No. SZDNG/69/055

SUBJECT: DANANG Station Monthly Report for May, 1969

GENERAL

During the month of May there were approximately five occasions in which the city of DaNang received hostile fire from enemy rockets. None of these incidents were of sufficient intensity to merit detailed reporting, but they do point out Viet Cong's continued capability to launch such attacks. The increased enemy activity anticipated prior to Ho-Chi-Minh's and Buddha's birthdates failed to materialize, therefore plans for night stand-by crews at the airbase were cancelled.

A curfew exemption for our essential personnel was received from the Office of the Mayor of DaNang, but it was in the form of one approved list. The requests for curfew exemptions were so numerous that the issuance of individual passes was precluded, but other than a few TCN employees being stopped at check points, no serious curfew incidents were reported. The American Consul advised they would offer all possible assistance should any personnel be arrested as a result of a curfew violation.

The number of Southern Air Transport flights into DaNang increased from April, totaling eight round trip and three one way missions. All these flights were met by representatives from F&D, Operations and Traffic even though there were several arrivals during curfew and the early morning hours. None of these personnel ever failed to report for work as scheduled due to handling these flights but there were generalized complaints as to their efforts going seemingly unrewarded.

One outstation recovery was necessary; on 27 May VTB 3728G sustained damage to both propellers during a landing at Hoi-An, approximately 15 miles south of DaNang. Efforts to have the aircraft lifted back to DaNang that evening by helicopter were discontinued due to high surface winds. Repairs were made the following day, which included changing both propellers and one engine; the aircraft was flown to DaNang for further inspection, and subsequently ferried to Saigon.

LEGAL

The lease for the company hostel [REDACTED] was renewed during to the month for an additional year. A supplementary agreement was negotiated for a fifteen thousand piaster annual rent reduction for the duration of the contract which deleted the requirement for the lessor to repaint the building at least every two years. Past experience seems to indicate it would be next to impossible to enforce the painting provisions of the lease contract at other than renewal time.

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CUSTOMER RELATIONS

The VN-41 customer has expressed particular satisfaction over the performance of 204B number two services at DaNang, the expeditious arrival of a VTB to replace 3728G (arrived the evening of the above incident), and our parking of C46 and C47 scheduled passenger flights adjacent to the boarding gate rather than on the back ramp. It was not possible to perform the third number two service required on the VN-41 assigned 204B at DaNang during the month, but since a replacement aircraft arrived in time to permit an uninterrupted flight schedule, no strong complaints over the ferry expense were received.

The 4395 customer continues to be far more reasonable and understanding of the problems involved in the operation, and those which do develop can usually be resolved on the local level.

FACILITIES

Contractor construction of the lean-to extension to the nose hangar commenced on 16 May, and by the end of the month, work representing twenty per cent of the bid price was completed. The lean-to components were all received from Nha-Trang and to date the contractor has not expressed any disenchantment as to the obvious amount of materials which will be required in addition to the basic framework and siding.

The requirement for a reliable source of electrical power is becoming more and more apparent. The USAF supplied 100 KVA generator was inoperative on several occasions, and was shut down the greater part of a day in two instances. The third generator in six weeks was installed, each successive unit seeming less reliable than the one it replaced. These power failures are more than just an inconvenience since all routine work ceases for the duration due to lack of interior lighting in the Operations/Administration building. A pro forma Ad for the installation and distribution of city power to the facility has been submitted and expeditious approval of this project would be most appreciated.

FISCAL

The use of a time clock for timekeeping purposes was deferred until at least 16 June due to the time clock received being a 50 cycle unit which is incompatible with the 60 cycle electricity presently available. Minor problems of the instruction booklet printed in Japanese, and company timecards which are too wide to fit the time clock slot will be more easily resolved. The clock is being shipped to Saigon for possible modification or further shipment to Japan for conversion to 60 cycles.

██████████ payroll for the month totaled: ██████████
Petty cash expenditures for the month totaled: 56,235\$VN

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OPERATIONS

Revenue flight time increased over the previous reporting period for the first time this year. VN-41 and 4395 flying increased 87+41 hours and 5+33 hours respectively over April. Revenue losses during May were down considerably from April for a total of 5+30 hours as compared to 27+25 hours.

The following is the breakdown of flight time generated by this station during May:

AID/VN-41	-----	839+06
4395	-----	312+08
0005	-----	Nil
Non-Revenue	-----	4+48
Total	-----	<u>1,156+02</u>

Revenue losses for the month are broken down as follows:

Maintenance	-----	3+30
Customer Cancellations	-----	2+00
Weather	-----	Nil
Other	-----	Nil
Total	-----	<u>5+30</u>

COMMUNICATIONS

The Motorola remote UHF/VHF system seems to be becoming more and more reliable with experience; it was out of service on eight occasions during the month. The use of the station VHF as a back up unit has minimized difficulties during the above periods.

Incoming and outgoing messages totaled 2402 and 1648 respectively.

TRAFFIC

The only significant problem encountered during the month was the decrease of the passenger seat allocation on Flight 12 to eight for this station. Consequently it may prove more difficult to move company personnel from DMG to NHA as this flight provides the most frequency between these two points travelling southbound.

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TRAFFIC (Cont'd)

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>
VM-41	2,705	3,023	225,466 lbs	329,665 lbs
4395	569	758	11,820	14,027
0005	3	2	Nil	Nil
Ferry	29	29	Nil	Nil
AAM	139	137	29,502	32,387
TOTAL	<u>3,445</u>	<u>3,949</u>	<u>266,788 lbs</u>	<u>376,079 lbs</u>

Eleven Continental Air Service and fourteen USAF caribou flights were handled by this department during May.

SECURITY

Based on the recommendation of the Security Team Survey conducted during May, the VM-41 customer has verbally approved the upgrading of two Ground Services UTM positions to guard slots to provide overnight guard surveillance of the COMDS warehouse. Written confirmation of this approval is expected shortly.

An NSE was submitted requesting authorization for the position of Guard Supervisor, which if approved, will provide effective direction and supervision of the security effort at this station which is presently lacking.

PERSONNEL

A change in processing procedures at Saigon has shown some signs of relieving the backlog of visa and extension of stay applications for DaNang personnel. The problem has become less serious than that which prevailed during April.

The personnel breakdown for DaNang station during May is as follows:



Permanent	4	16	33	106
Temporary	1	0	0	0
Pre-Process	0	0	0	11
Daily Hire	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (171)	5	16	33	117

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TECHNICAL SERVICES

RMD handled a total of 683 arriving and 684 departing flights, of which only 5 of the latter were delayed due to maintenance. The VTB 3728G recovery accounted for the only engine change and two of a total of three propeller changes. Ten heavy services were performed, including three 204B number two services which were supported by TCS personnel from Saigon. With the exception of 28G, no aircraft were delayed due to being grounded for parts.

RMD expended a total of 1478 manhours, of which 268 were utilized in hostel maintenance and painting. The cylinder head discrepancy on the GMC truck was remedied when a serviceable head was obtained from local sources. This vehicle should be back in service during the early part of June.

A more detailed examination of each NSA invoice is planned so that a large outstanding credit balance can be reconciled with their fiscal office. Assurances have been given by NSA that this problem will be rectified in the May invoice.

Original Signed by
WINSTON C. CAMBRE
Winston C. Cambre

cc: file