

Political Change in Vietnam: An Insider's Perspective (5/26/06)

A NOTE ON “PMU 18”

In the course of this conversation between SEAF Director Don Emmerson and Amb. Ton-nu-thi Ninh, she mentions “PMU 18.” The reference is to Project Management Unit 18, a bureau inside Vietnam’s transportation ministry that handled road construction and other infrastructure projects, and to a 2006 scandal in which the bureau was linked to accusations of large-scale corruption. The affair received extensive press coverage in Vietnam and led to the resignation of the transport minister and the arrest of his deputy. More information on this topic may be obtained by entering “pmu 18 vietnam” into an appropriate search engine.