

July 31, 1967

TO: Mr. Chester Brown, IVS/COP, Vte.
THRU: Dwane E. Hammer, AAC/LP *DEH*
FROM: Joanne Augspurger
SUBJECT: Monthly Report for the month of July, 1967

The home economics activities for the month of July consisted predominantly of writing the home economics activity plan, completing a training program in the construction of baby clothes in Ban Watane, and the preparation for and beginning of a training program in the construction of baby clothes in Ban Muong Phiang.

I. Home Economics Activity Plan in Clothing Construction

The home economics activity plan is completed and will be submitted to the Sayaboury and Vientiane officials as soon as the Lao translation is completed. The IG home agents have made a functional contribution to the writing of this activity plan. They understand and approve of what is written into the activity plan, therefore, they should be cooperative in conducting this program during the next two years.

II. Completion of the Training Program in the Construction of Baby Clothes in Ban Watane

The training program in Ban Watane came to an anti-climatic ending on July 6. The students completed their sewing with the same apathetic attitude that they began the program six weeks ago. A graduation ceremony was not held because of the lack of interest shown by the students.

III. Preparation for and beginning of the training program in Ban Muong Phiang

A. Preparation:

Three meetings were held with the RIG home agents, the chief agriculture agent, and IVS home economist to discuss how future home economics training programs should be conducted in order to avoid the same type of problems that were encountered in Ban Watane. (Described in my June monthly report.) The improvements decided upon were:

1. To write a new contract that explains more fully the requirements of the training program in the construction of baby clothes.

2. To have the assistant cluster manager, Iaha Bouarith, present when the training program is initially introduced, to help explain the program and give authorization to the program.
3. To more strictly enforce the requirements of the new contract.
4. To have the home agents use more demonstrations when they are teaching and require that the women listen.
5. To have the home agents make a sample baby shirt and baby bib stitched as perfectly as possible. The students can then use these as examples of what their finished products should resemble.

To date all of these improvements have been completed and are making a significant change in the present program being conducted in Muong Phiang.

B. Training Program in Muong Phiang

Thus far the training program in Muong Phiang is much improved over the training program in San Latane. The students have met the requirements of the contract, they are attentive, and their finished products are more attractive than the finished products in San Latane. The one weakness in this program is that there are only three students in the class. This is due to the rice planting and the students having their babies. (All the students are pregnant because this training program is part of the Maternal and Child Care Training Program.) Aside from the low attendance, the class is progressing very favorably.

IV. Other Activities

Dick and Judy Stuckey (IVS/ DU) visited us for five days. We enjoyed orienting them to the activities of IVS'ers doing rural development work.

V. Proposed Activities for Next Month

A. Vacation

- B. Preparation for a training program in blouse construction to be conducted in Muong Phiang during September.

DIST:

Mr. Khantoua Phansoung, Provincial Chief of Agriculture, Sby.
 Mr. Millson Lane, Provincial Agriculture Advisor, Sby.
 Mrs. Theathong, Director of LG Home Economics Extension
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