

TO : Mr. J. L. Staff, D-2
THRU : S.J. Stone, A2/Construction
FROM : E.N. Gabb, IFA/Lahanam
SUBJECT : Monthly Report, July 1967

CONSTRUCTION :

Work has been slow on most of the self-help construction projects this month because everyone is planting rice. The saw-mill has been operating all month although logging has been slow. No new projects were started. Carpenter training has continued with good success. The villagers at Lahanam have been sporadic in making roofing tiles but we expect them to catch up next month. Plans are formulating for construction projects next dry season. Activity plans are being submitted for several projects this month. The Chao Muong is anxious to get the bridge construction work planned as soon as possible.

AGRICULTURE :

The two IR-8 demonstrations have been started and transplanting is complete on site # 2. Transplanting will be completed on site # 1 by August 11. Many problems have been encountered with the demonstrations because the agents have had little experience with this kind of work and they know very little about the use of fertilizer or proper soil preparation. ADO fertilizer sales have not materialized. A shortage of rainfall is really hurting the crops and will reach serious proportions if relief doesn't come soon.

WELL :

An Activity Plan has been submitted for a drilled well program in Lahanam under the new pump purchase policy. It is still too early to tell what the response will be from the villagers in all areas. Dug wells will be started again next season in those areas where it is possible to dig by hand.

HOME ECONOMICS :

A sewing program was started this month with some encouraging results. Discussions are underway now to develop a more comprehensive program to include cooking, sanitation, gardening, sewing, and maternal and child care.

PUBLIC HEALTH :

Dong Doc Maj and Nakala dispensaries were opened this month

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With the assignment of two (2) helios plans are being made for the construction of two more dispensaries in the Tanium-Sanhak area next year.

INFORMATION PROGRAM :

The first issue of the cluster newspaper will be ready for distribution about August 25. Movies have been cancelled this month because USIS recalled all of the equipment. We hope to get started again next month.

GENERAL :

The three summer students are teaching French, Lao and math at the Groupe Scolaire. A sports program is being planned now. The Chao Muong returned from his training program and trip to Thailand full of new ideas and enthusiastic about ag programs. His return makes program implementation much easier.

The bridge into Lahanam hasn't fallen down yet but it may anytime. The idea to install culverts had to be abandoned because it would create a flood hazard.

Security has been good with no incidents this reporting period.

Contact has been maintained with the Forward Area at Ban Houei Mun. Plans have been made for the program there next dry season. Medical supplies were shipped into BHM to assist the RIG medic with a serious dysentery and malaria problem.

Except for the shortage of one vehicle there have been no major problems during the reporting period. I am happy to report the remarkable improvement in Field Support Services.