

August 3, 1970

To : Norman W. Green, Chief, Education Division

From : Dan Cox, Chief, Teacher Training Branch

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Problems:

The ENI Vientiane school farm, in spite of considerable USAID input of equipment, supplies and advisory services, continues to fall far short of expected performance in all planning, demonstration, operational and record keeping areas.

*Is Henry aware of this? what's the problem?*

AGR personnel are helping us evaluate the farm program at Dong Dok. A plan to improve ag activities will be integrated with the general program now underway to uplift administration and operations at Km. 9. *newG*

Progress:

1. An organized approach has been established this report period to embark upon a massive plan for the refurbishing of the buildings and grounds at the Dong Dok campus. A top level meeting has been called by the Inspector General of the Ministry of Education to review the problem and to delegate responsibilities for maintenance improvement. In the meantime, a force of 50 teacher training students (AP - 70/3) are employed for ten weeks to begin the work of restoring the campus to some semblance of acceptable appearance.
2. AP No. 70/7 provided in-service training for 99 student teacher supervisors. The workshop was for the entire month of July and was directed by the Director of the Pakse ENI. The purpose of this workshop was to review and standardize the student teaching course.
3. AP No. 69/3 and amendment 4 for the printing of 15 professional education textbooks made a small advance by us having received 10,000 copies of the 4th title, Discipline of the Student Teacher. Distribution of these were also made to the ENIs.
4. APs 71-001 and 002 for the construction of Poultry and Swine facilities at the ENIs at Savannakhet and Pakse obtained mission approval and implementation began. Amendment No. 1 for ENI furniture construction also received final mission approval and construction bids were solicited by SMB.

5. A draft PIO/T for a contract advisor to assist with the development of the proposed College of Education was prepared and forwarded to the Program Office.

Construction:

1. Contract No. 63008-70-C-0240 for the construction of a science building and a demonstration school for the Pakse ENI is now 21% complete.
2. Contracts 0239 and 0237 for a 12-room classroom building, men's dormitory, demonstration school and an agriculture/maintenance building at the Savannakhet ENI are now at 76% and 36% complete.
3. According to OICG, work is in progress on preparation of the working drawings for the three story Luang Prabang campus building but will not be completed until September 1.
4. AP 70/5 for the Self-Help construction of ENI Directors' houses at Ban Keun and Kene Thao is on schedule as is AP 69/15 for a classroom office building at ENI Vang Vieng.

Contract No. AIDc-1110 (IVS)

*What is this?*

The few IVS volunteers who remained in country this summer are pushing the summer student work programs or readying facilities and instructional materials for the opening of school in October. Unfortunately, IVS/Education was not able to meet its obligation of providing supervision for the summer work program at the Dong Dok campus. The ACOP/Education joined the first group of new volunteers at their two week course of TEFL at Singapore. This group should arrive in country in early August to begin Lao Language instruction.

Miscellaneous:

1. The Teacher Training Project Manager's counterpart, Dr. Somphou, returned from a three week work and vacation trip to Paris.
2. Administrative changes of RIG teacher training personnel are planned as follows:
  1. Dr. Tenh Teso from directing the ESP and assigned to be Dean of the Faculty of Law.
  2. Dr. Veovanh Homombath, who was recently awarded a Doctorate degree from France, has been named as Director of ESP.

3. Mr. Boun Nhang, Director of Vientiane ENI, and Mr. Phansy Aphay, Director of the Luang Prabang ENI, will exchange assignments.
4. Mr. Oudone Varinthasack, Director of the Pakse, is schedule to change positions, however, definite plans are not yet firm.
3. An office memorandum from the Laos Resident Auditor, dated 23 June to EDU announced that Mr. McGann, would conduct a project audit. Mr. McGann consulted us early in the reporting month and reviewed the audit approach. Appropriate RLG introductions were made and assistance provided.
4. Twenty-four project participants were processed and departed for short term training in Thailand.

The FY 1971 project participant training calendar was prepared with MD.

5. One field trip was made; Mr. Thomas to Kene Thao.
6. The Ministry of Education/Teacher Training announced that beginning with the 1970-71 school year that all Teacher Training schools would adopt a five point grading scale ( A - B - C - D - E). There has been some resistance from the French teachers to this conversion.

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