

October 29, 1973

To : Dr. Robert Martin, Chief of Party, UN Team
 signed in draft
 From : Arthur Crisfield, Linguist Advisor, UN Team
 Subject: Monthly Report for October, 1973

Problems:

How much time should be allocated to the different tasks of the linguist in accordance with their priorities?

There seems to be a tendency to substitute the textbook for the curriculum in some areas.

Activities:

I have had several meetings with the Lao language teachers at Vientiane. A tremendous amount of curricular planning is yet to be done for the second cycle.

I am presently editing the Working book of Lao characters and the Stanley Tools filmstrips on characteristics of certain Lao words with Mr. Saykham.

Editing activities have been curtailed due to the return of Mr. Thong and Mr. Thong Inh to the classroom.

My visit to Luang Prabang on October 19 was very useful. Teaching activities were discussed with the Director, Mr. Thong, to co-ordinate some of the activities of other language departments.

Recommendations:

We should assess the demand the various departments of the language are having and decide how we can be most effective in meeting the requirements of the contract in line with the demands in Laos.

To my knowledge, no Lao-English dictionary exists. Preparing one could be one contribution of permanent value to Laos. It would be invaluable for both counterparts. I recommend that funds be made available to hire at least one Lao and one English of English and Lao to work on the dictionary. We help prepare an Lao-English-Lao dictionary.

EDU/SE:AGC:asfi:ak