

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 3, 1973

TO : Mr. Norman W. Green, Chief, EDU
FROM : James A. Colman, Teacher Education Advisor
SUBJECT: Teacher Training Monthly Report for September, 1973

Problem:

Nothing significant to report.

Progress:

Sam Thong School transfer to Ban Nam Moh was accomplished. The staff and the basic furniture have been transferred to the new site 207. Trucks moving the furniture took four days because road conditions were bad. This furniture will require repair and refinishing because they were damaged during the move. Activity Plan for relocation of Sam Thong School was approved during the month and by the last week of the month, material and workers were on the job, making alterations and improvements. A sewing class using the hospital building transferred to education was temporarily suspended until a new classroom for the sewing class is constructed.

The health clinic in operation at the hospital site was relocated in a village house by the village leader. Medical supplies stored in the hospital were relocated. Several months of hard work will be required to have the school in total operation. An agriculture program for Sam Thong students has been planned. Food scarcity will make the agriculture program a center of activity for the staff and students.

ENI Directors' conference on September 20-21 brought together this year's staff. Directors of three schools are new. Anticipated problems during the next year were the topics used during the conference. Student stipend was one of the biggest problems discussed. Directors insisted students could not exist on K8,000 per month with prices of rice and food what they are in Laos. Student stipends were raised to K12,000 in Luang Prabang and K10,000 in all other ENI schools in Laos. The stipend increased 50% in Luang Prabang and 25% in all other parts of Laos. Cost of living is making stipend to students an increasing burden to RLG. Budget support by RLG is increasing for education costs, but not replacing of USAID support as planned.

Thai language has been conducted by Thai instructors to potential participants during August and September. Final examination scores were 5 A's (90-100) 8 B's (80-90), 9 C's (70-80) out of 22 students. Participants are scheduled for entrance to Thai schools during May of 1974. PIO/Ps will be prepared for Local Training Department to send to Thailand.

Dong Dok administration reorganization required reorganizing of physical facilities. The ENI school, now grades seven to thirteen, make it the same as all other secondary schools. Dormitories were relocated, classrooms were developed in the old dormitory buildings. This allowed the first cycle to have all of their classes in one area and all of secondary classes in another area. Walls were constructed of bamboo mats. Blackboards were made from plywood. Program change and staff change demand many plant changes each year. Costs and work required for changes continually increase. ENI present organization as a secondary school will help stabilize future programs. A stabilized staff in the future will save money and work.

New Directors of ENI Pakse, ENI Vientiane, and ENI Vang Vieng, were instated during September. Vacancies at these schools were caused by transfers of staff in the Ministry. ENI Vientiane Director was last year from Lycee Pakse. The ENI Vientiane will be one of the largest schools in Laos with over 1700 students enrolled. The ENI Vang Vieng, a two year program (7th and 8th grade), Director came from the ESP. ENI Pakse Director came from the ENI Savannakhet staff. Directors assigned are qualified and will contribute to the improvement of Teacher Training.

City water system was connected to the ENI Pakse system during the month of September. The city water system will allow the elimination of operation of a water pump and the maintaining of two water towers. The city water system will reduce the operational cost and maintenance work required at this school. ENI Pakse now has city utilities of both power and water. One of the objectives of the project is to connect larger ENI schools with city utilities. Dong Dok water and Savannakhet water and power are the last utilities yet to be connected to school operations.

Maintenance training during August and September came to a close. One ENI member from each school participated in this maintenance training program. Maintenance in each school is difficult because maintenance skills have not been developed to meet the needs. Maintenance supervision should be reduced because of this training.

AACTE Contract concluded on September 28, 1973, with the departure of Dr. Lawrence J. Levy. AACTE Contract ran from September 1971 to September 1973 to develop a plan for the future of the College of Education. A college plan is very appropriate with the college becoming a part of Higher Education. The Director of Higher Education, Mr. Khamtanh Chanthala, is one of the most capable educators to profit from the AACTE Contract effort.

Activity Plan approval hit a new high during September. Eight APs received approval from the Program Office. Teacher Training work can progress with schools starting in October because of this administrative accomplishment.

Summer work programs were concluded at each ENI campus during September. One hundred fifty students and eight supervisors worked for two months to carry out maintenance and improvement programs. Training took place for all students in different skills needed to carry out the work. The program is as good as the supervisor in charge of directing the work.

The Science Training Project conducted in July produced the beginning of material for a teacher trainers handbook. Dr. Porter, IVS Science Advisor, has devoted most of his summer time to organizing the science material in booklet form to be distributed to the schools. Teachers' interest is high and from the ENI science staff. Science material development for teachers training will be continued during the year by Dr. Porter and Mr. Al Inverson. All science materials are being developed in the Lao language. Dr. Porter has started education material development through coordinating ENI science teachers work in developing methods of science instruction. Education material is the most critical need. The IVS role as a teacher is changing to a larger role of influencing trainers in methods and educational material used. Educational material development and training teacher trainers will have a much larger multiple effect than classroom instruction.

EDU/TT:JAColman:sd