

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : Mr. Norman W. Green, Chief, EDU DATE: May 7, 1973

FROM : James A. Colman, Teacher Education Advisor

SUBJECT: Teacher Training Monthly Report for April, 1973

Problems:

The increase in commodity costs and devaluation of local currency has depleted Teacher Training funds two months early. Both dollars and kip are assigned for use or are spent.

Accomplishments:

A meeting was held on the Pakse campus with Mr. Ouat Ourachit, Director of ENI Pakse, and Dr. Veo Vanh Homsombath, Director of Teacher Training, regarding complaints of the quality of food served in the dining hall. Because of the cost of food and the difficulty in buying food, the dining hall was closed. The students at Pakse come from two locations, the hills and the plains. They have had difficulty living together so the dormitories were also closed. For the remainder of this year until June 15, 1973, there are 20 boys and less than 10 girls remaining on campus. Dr. Veo said his policy is to close all kitchens and all dormitories on all campuses. Dr. Veo remarked that the Fa Ngum schools have proved, you can operate a school without housing and feeding students. One problem in Teacher Training has been spending all of their time, money, and energies on housing and feeding students when we should be working on improving education of the Teacher Training program. Next year, dormitories will be used as libraries, classrooms, clinics, and auditoriums.

At the Luang Prabang ENI, a Home Economics program was observed. Two classrooms were used for cooking and sewing. They were simple but well organized. The girls were cooking and sewing. The Home Economics teacher attended last summer's Fa Ngum Home Economics Training. The teacher is a worker in a girls' dorm. It appears if the teacher is motivated, a degree is not necessary to carry on a good program.