

April 30, 1973

To : Mr. Hunter A. Fitzgerald, CEA/National

From : Miss Lee Engler, CEA/Program *Lee Engler*

Subject : Monthly Report for April 1973

Problems

No new significant problems.

Local In-Service Training

The draft activity proposal to train and qualify CREC and Refugee teachers as regular teachers has received signatures (54) of approval from RIG and USAID officials in all provinces where courses will be conducted. The AP was submitted for approval to the Director of Primary Education. Qualifications of military teachers in Ban Houei Sai are being considered for their conversion to CREC teachers and integration in the training program.

A detailed plan for allotment and distribution of materials and supplies for the twenty-six courses, a report of funding requirements for each course, a schedule of visits by the CE staff and MoE officials, an evaluative checklist, an appraisal of testing measures, and an analysis of reporting procedures are being prepared to reinforce operation of the workshops.

Participant Training

In their report submitted to MoE and USAID, the supervisor and testing trainees, who completed six months' study and observation in Thailand, expressed satisfaction with the training activity, in particular with new knowledge in guidance and educational psychology, curriculum development, modern math concepts, classroom group work in science and other subject matter, and relating teaching content to the child's environment. These trainees will be instructors in the summer courses and will have opportunities to share their new knowledge and skills.

The trainees on vacation from study in Thailand enrolled in English and Mathematics classes arranged by HRDD/PT and LT. A review of the training status of the four-year participants in primary education was completed and a report submitted to EDU and HRDD/PT. Further consideration is being given to their third-year program, which emphasizes their major field of study, to assure that every effort is made to obtain the type and scope of training as outlined in the PIOPs.

Coordination in Primary Education and Teacher Training

To increase educational opportunity for ethnic minorities by training personnel from minority groups who will return to their village to teach--that was the agreement of educational officials with their Deputy Director General at the PSI Conference this year. Now, through guidelines in a ministerial decree, PSIs and Normal School Directors are planning cooperatively to recruit trainees from ethnic groups, beginning with entrance examinations at the end of the current school year.

Certain practices in pre-service training of primary school teachers have been brought up by PSIs for discussion and improvement with Teacher Training officials--such as course content, the practice teaching program, making and using teaching aids for primary school classes, and content of entrance examinations. Following suggestion from the Chief/EDU, the CEA/P briefly analyzed with the TT Advisor the availability and potential use of primary education program materials in the training of teachers, in particular the principles and objectives outlined in the National Education Reform Act of 1962; primary school curricular objectives, outlines and revisions; primary school regulations, revised in 1972; and the teacher journal.

Other Honors

The Functional Literacy Project, conducted by the Department of Primary and Adult Education, received support as follows:

1. UNESCO Clubs of Holland - \$5,000 for supplies and equipment
2. Asia Foundation - 1,200,000 Kip to buy books for literacy libraries
3. American Women's Club - 500 reams of paper to print booklets.

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