

July 3, 1973

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To : Dr. Robert M. Martin  
Chief of Party, UH Team

From : *John W. Rantala*  
John W. Rantala  
Procurement & Logistics Officer, UH Team

Subject: Monthly Report June, 1973

A monthly reporting procedure was established during the December 1972 visit of our UH Campus Coordinator, Dr. Teruo Ihara. The procedure called for the Secondary Education Advisors to submit reports to myself and Dr. Jane Fultz. I was to summarize the construction, maintenance and logistics comments into one report along with my additional comments. Dr. Fultz was to summarize the curriculum implementation comments of the Secondary Education Advisors and Curriculum Advisors along with her additional comments.

Members of the team have repeatedly pointed out the duplication of effort. Some of the team also feels that summarization occasionally deletes items of creditable importance. There is no question but what summarization destroys the individuality of each report.

The scheduled (January 1973) phasing out of the Procurement and Logistics position will necessitate a change in the reporting procedure. I would like to suggest that the reporting procedure be reviewed at our next UH Team Meeting.

The following comments are quotations except as identified.

Fa Ngum School Savannakhet - Reported by Francis K.J. Wong, SEA/UH

Activities and Accomplishments:

1. The French Technical School delivered the last of the school furniture on June 13, completing their contract.
2. Furniture to replace those sent down to Pakse is presently being assembled by the French Technical School.
3. Crossarms have been placed on most of the concrete power poles. EDL has decided to use the steel braces and bolts provided by EDU so it won't be necessary to order the right size. EDL has also agreed to use the 22 kw insulators available in Vientiane so electricity to the school by October looks very promising.

(PLO Comment)

FMB/PWR Section is being requested to pack 220 insulators for shipment. The insulators must be packed 5 to a box each box weighing 77 lbs and requiring 4.2 cu.ft. of shipping space. The total shipment will weigh 3500 lbs and require 189 cu.ft. of shipping space. This is approx 1/3 of a truck load so some waiting time will be encountered as TRP contracts for full loads only.

4. The school tractor was driven to PEMA to repair a broken hydraulic lever arm. After repairs, the tractor was driven to PJD where the furrower implement was picked up and brought to school. Fa Ngum extends its thanks to Jack Primmer, PEMA, for his assistance.
5. OIGC has arranged to haul 1200 cubic meters of rice hulls to the school for the Agriculture program. This quantity should be enough to improve soil fertility on three of the six terraces. The rice hulls will be spread out and turned under with the harrower implement of the school tractor.
6. Work on the Lao kitchen is about 50% completed. The old sinks have been removed and the tables and chairs have been built. Commodities from Vientiane have not yet arrived so the completion date has to be moved up.
7. The MOE has begun construction on the Director's home on the campus. Completion should be before the start of the new school year. I am negotiating with EDL to get electric power to the Director's home.

Fa Ngum School Phone Hong - Reported by Ah Chong Zane, SEA/UH

Activities and Accomplishments:

1. The 30" corrugated culvert was installed with the assistance of the agriculture students and teachers. All the over lapping joints were painted with asphalt to prevent rusting. The end that protrudes over the bank is supported by a 2" pipe brace embedded in concrete. The end that protrudes in the reservoir is embedded in concrete and fastened with 2 long 3/8" bolts. This was also done to the center section of the culvert.
2. The new 2" plastic pipe line for irrigation water was installed by the agriculture students and teachers. This line will deliver water from the reservoir to the 5,000 gallon tank by an electric pump which we hope to install next month. The installation of the electric pump was delayed because there was a shortage of conduits of the proper size. At present, a 7 HP gasoline pump is used for pumping water. The concrete base for the electric pump has been constructed and the trench for the conduits dug.
3. The typewriters and adding machines have been cleaned and oiled for storage during the summer. Mr. Savang and selected students did a good job. This year the repairs of the machines were kept to a minimum.
4. For landscaping, three Norfolk pines were planted near the front fence and colorful bouganvillias along the chain link fence. It is hoped that with proper care these plants will grow and add to the beauty of the campus.

5. Mr. Noi Laosri, generator operator, contract was renewed for another year.
6. One of the two janitors that resigned last month returned to work.
7. Purchased and installed a new spring for the electric welder ground clamp.
8. Purchased spark plug to replace broken one on the gasoline water pump.
9. The inventory for commodities has been completed by Mr. Douang, bursar, and will be signed by Mr. Noupit and SEA before submitting to USAID/EDU. Office. The format for the inventory was approved by Thomas Liston, USAID/EDU and PLO Advisor.

Problems:

1. Some time during the period from June 22 to 28, 6 Victor adding machines, manually operated, were stolen from the storeroom located in the typing classroom on the second floor of the new classroom building.

The police has been notified by Mr. Noupit and the premises have been checked. The case is now under investigation.

(PLO Comment)

Mr. Zane has been requested to secure the Phone Hong RIC Police Report for submission in making our less report to USAID.

2. The Dempster pump is not pumping water properly although PWD came in April to repair and service the pump. With the school now on vacation and no students around, it is highly recommended that action be taken to immediately resolve this water problem before school begins.
3. It is also imperative that the well near the bamboo grove be tested and put into operation to increase the potable water supply.

(PLO Comment)

GSA San Francisco has confirmed by telegram that two Dempster reciprocating pumps ordered March 9, 1973 are in process of procurement. We expect to install one on the new Phone Hong well and the other on the new Vientiane well.

4. There is a short circuit in one of the electric wires in the auditorium building which has caused the burning of 4 large ceiling lights. A qualified electrician should be assigned to check out this problem and repair the circuit.
5. The school in Phone Hong during the summer has a security problem. Many times there is no one on the campus during the day. With all the commodities located in the school, there is always the temptation for someone to steal. It is recommended that this problem be brought to the attention of MOE and to have one or more guards hired to protect the loss of commodities and also to prevent vandalism on the school buildings.

## Fa Ngum School Luang Prabang - Reported by Shozun Yamauchi, SEA/JH

Construction:

1. Phase II. The contractor is aiming to complete all his Phase II and IIA work by the end of July. Ahl and Datu, OICC/VTE, and Carlson, PWD/TVE, made an inspection visit accompanied by Bewetz, PWD/LP, on the 27th. Ahl expressed concern over the possible damage to the 2-story bldg. foundations if erosion cannot be checked with sodding and rain gutters. He suggested concrete riprap structures as the best possible solution to protect any filled ground from shifting and eroding.
2. 6-Inch Plastic Line. As soon as the leaks in the line are repaired by OICJ and the contractor, PWD will test the line at 70 psi for 10 days, the minimum standard recommended for a potable plastic installation. It is imperative that OICC be kept on the site until this trouble-prone line is tested and pronounced acceptable.
3. Phase I Plumbing. PWD/LP helped re-install the science room faucets and repair the leaky P-traps under AP No. LP-3-045. Much work remain to be done by the original contractor, but progress is delayed because there install no running water in the buildings.
4. Electrical Work. Jamora, Elec. Eng./OICC, completed all work in the wood shop and tested out four faulty heating units in the HE electric range. John will look for replacement units in Vientiane.
5. John Rantala helped train Mr. Thanh anda custodian to remove and install louver hardware in preparation for the summer work program. Mr. Thanh will supervise the replacement of 100 sets of faulty louvers with student workers. Mr. Rantala also started fabricating a welding table and a forge for the metal shop class to begin in October. He spent the 25th to 27th in LP.

## Fa Ngum School Vientiane - Reported by Hartwell Blake, SEA/JH

Activities and Accomplishments:

1. Fa Ngum Phone Hong. John Deere Tractor price quotations on parts have finally been received, after a month's wait. A Form 288 will now be issued.

(PLO Comment)

The 288 (Purchase Request) for the parts was placed on June 28, 1973 for purchase from John Deere Thailand Ltd., Bangkok, Thailand.

Electric water pump and pipeline construction began on 16 June 1973. Mr. Souvath Khamvongsay and 30 volunteer agriculture students dug a 70-meter long ditch for the 2-inch plastic pipeline on that rainy Saturday afternoon.

2. Fa Ngum Savannakhet. OIGG soil-hauling contract has been cancelled in lieu of a rice hull contract. Messrs. Francis Wong, SEA, Wayland Redmond, OIGG, and H. Blake met on Friday, 22 June 1973, to confirm the new rice hull contract. The operation is expected to begin on 26 June 1973.
3. Fruit Tree Seedling Project. SEA Luang Prabang, Shozun Yamauchi, Dr. Butler and H. Blake met on Friday, 22 June 1973, to discuss funds to purchase fruit tree seedlings from reliable Thai nurseries. (Three thousand dollars (\$3,000) was requested by MB in March, 1973, to be included in our dollar budget for 1973-1974.) Dr. Butler did state that the sum of \$3,000 was included in his budget, but not specifically ear-marked for fruit trees.

Since Savannakhet, Luang Prabang and Phone Hong will have farm irrigation water supply, the production of fruit trees on a small scale for instruction and grafting is most desirable, citrus trees in particular. There are no quality fruit trees here in Laos, therefore necessitating purchases from Thailand.

4. Activity Plan for Fa Ngum School Improvement Summer Work Project, 2 July to 21 September 1973, complete with all signatures, was submitted on or about 11 June 1973, to Education Division. There is every indication that the AP will be approved; consequently, school authorities have been informed to alert the personnel to be hired.

#### Problems:

1. Water is still critical at Fa Ngum Vientiane! Mr. Louis L. Fittro, Chief, Water Resources Branch, will meet with SEA Vientiane H. Blake, sometime early next week to further discuss the possibility of attempting another well. Site location is an important factor.

#### (PIO Comment)

It is Mr. Shozun Yamauchi's opinion that fairly salty (brackish) water could be use for agriculture and fish ponds. This possibility should be explored fully before we request another well. It is the opinion of Mr. Fittro that the chances of striking a salt free well in the Fa Ngum Vientiane School area are very slim.

The present well that is used for potable water has a saline count of 300 parts per million in the peak of the dry season. The count decreases with the on set of the rainy season. It is very likely that the saline count of the new well may also drop. Inview of this possibility it would be desireable to run another test in late August or early September. If the well could be used for only agriculture and fish ponds the present critical situation could be eased.

Curriculum Advisor Comments

There are occasions when the Curriculum Advisors make comments relating to construction, maintenance, procurement or logistics. I have in most cases included such comments in my report.

Iwao Kumabe (quoted)

Other Activities:

1. Master inventory file for all typewriters and other equipment at Vientiane, Phone Hong, Savannakhet and Luang Prabang is nearly completed. After completion, will discuss with Mr. Don about it.
2. Helped business teacher with the instruction in typewriter maintenance in her third year typing class.
3. A mimeoscope was constructed and delivered to Phone Hong. Cost was \$7.50, which I consider very reasonable.
4. Received 6 student abacuses and one large instructional abacus which were ordered last month. One of the student abacus is to replace the one sent to Phone Hong and the other 5 to be held in reserve. The large abacus is to replace the missing abacus here.

According to Mr. Yamauchi, 36 abacuses were sent to Luang Prabang by error. Requested Mr. Yamauchi to sent them back to Vientiane.

5. Repaired typewriters at Fa Ngum Vientiane. Sent one out to be repaired. Cost: K3,500.

Dorothy Heisele (quoted)

Problems:

1. Plumbing in the Lao House is still not complete. Hopefully this problem can be taken care of under the summer work program.

William Rankin (quoted)

Other Activities:

1. Turned in tool list to Rantala to restock woodshop and ordered a part for jigsaw. However, I recommend that no new tools be given to the shop until a responsible and capable teacher is hired for that area, because many tools are disappearing due to teacher carelessness.

(PIO Comment)

All the replacement tools for metal work 107 items costing \$176.00 have been received from SMD and are being stored until such time as I.A. teachers develop a reliable tool issue & checking system.

Parts for jigsaw ordered as requested and replacement tools for the woodshop are in process of procurement from SMD. The replacement tools should be in hand within 30 days.

2. Thirteen of an original fifteen small engines were brought from SMD to Fa Ngum, Vientiane and are being stored in the Elec/engine storeroom.

(PIO Comment)

Two 3½ HP engines were either stolen or improperly issued. A report was made to SMD. The SMD investigation could not account for the loss.

3. Thavisith completely itemized contents of 3-1 Kit and priced them in Bangkok at \$100.00 each. Since it appears difficult to get dollars or baht for this project, he will try ordering the items in Vientiane by ordering enough for five kits. Early investigation indicated that it could not be done if only one each was ordered.

(PIO Comment)

The instructional value of this electronic instructional kit needs to be discussed with the Chief of Party in order to establish the justification for the purchase.

4. Suggestion: The new shop building will have two offices, six inside storage rooms and one fenced in storage. U.M. should keep the key to one for storage of items that may be issued to all schools as needed.
5. German School: The bill for teachers and materials for October, November, and December was not in a form acceptable to USAID so I paid it from my personal income. It totaled 172,213 Kip and was paid with \$200.00 and 4,200 Kip. I would like to be reimbursed for this sum.

(PIO Comment)

To the best of my knowledge, it was not a matter of the bills not being an acceptable form to USAID; but rather the amount or manner of payment was not acceptable to the Lao Bursar of the German Technical School. A 288 for part or full payment of the bill was processed and the money made available for payment. I do not know what followed in the attempted payment but I do know that the money was returned to Dr. Butler who in turn returned it to Finance.

I presently have the receipts of payment by William Rankin and will seek approval of the COP and Chief of Education for reimbursement to Mr. Rankin.

#### Fa Ngum School Pakse

##### Furniture

Arrangements have been completed for the delivery of the bid invitations for the first phase of school furniture construction. This phase will consist of 220 chairs, 100 student desks, 10 teacher desks, 4 dining/library tables and 36 drafting tables. Mr. Zane will hand carry the bid invitations on July 5th and explain them to each furniture manufacturer.

1.000 - 1.000

Messrs. Dittus, Kennedy, Nitro, ... (IUC Architect) have held several conferences on the requirements and design of the irrigation system. Agreement was reached on June 28, 1973 on the following general design of the system:

The system will consist of a 15,000 gallon ground tank, 7,500 gallon elevated tank filled by centrifugal pump from the constant supply of the ground tank; the irrigated land will be divided into 4 sectors appropriately divided off in the piping system. The system will be capable of delivering a total of 22,500 gallons daily in the center and outer field area and 21,500 gallons daily to the agricultural lands. It is not expected that more than two sectors of the system will be used simultaneously. It is also unlikely that daily watering will take place in any one sector. The San Joaquin of the water and their filtration plant is expected to be a most convenient facility. The daylight hours of it has considered safe and practical to water. (IUC's various design in terms of water storage capacity)

2.000 - 2.000

The ... (IUC's various design in terms of water storage capacity)

3.000 - 3.000

1. The ... (IUC's various design in terms of water storage capacity)

2. The ... (IUC's various design in terms of water storage capacity)

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