

February 6, 1973

To : Mr. Norman Green, Chief, Education

From : Lucius Butler, Chief of Party
University of Hawaii Contract Team

Subject: Monthly Report for January, 1973



PROBLEMS:

Several problems are being worked on but none are brought forward in this report.

PROGRESS:

1. Definition of Roles and Functions. Mr. John Rantala's report begins with the listing of the five areas of responsibility for the Procurement and Logistics Officer of the University of Hawaii Team. This is a continuation of a continuous activity of the team in relating and discussing the various roles and functions of each member of the team. The five areas include (1) Construction, (2) Maintenance, (3) Procurement/Logistics, (4) Transportation, and (5) Administrative Support. A preliminary statement of function is given for each of these areas all of which tend to point up that the title of this position is not completely adequate.

2. Progress at each school site is summarized by Mr. Rantala from data received by each of the University of Hawaii Secondary Education Advisers:

3. Textbook Production. Dr. Jane Fults's report includes a status report of textbooks in the final stages of development. During January, 1973, there were 2 books delivered from the printers: Accounting I for Grade 11 Business and Lao Calendar. At present there are seven books at the printers and two books at USAID/CH for bidding procedures. There are also eight books at the Ministry of Education/Royal Academy awaiting final approval by the Royal Lao Government. Other books are being worked on at the curriculum center.

4. Curriculum Implementation. Work continues at Fa Ngum Vientiane in a variety of efforts to implement each area of the curriculum, particularly those areas where there is little instructional materials yet produced. Visits to other schools were made by advisers Rankin, Heisler and Blake as well as Rantala and Butler during the month of January. The new duties of Dr. Fults as Curricula Director have required additional time from her curriculum and textbook development activities.

5. Typewriter Inventory. A special inventory was taken during the month by Adviser Iwao Kinsabe to ascertain the location of all project typewriters so that additional typewriters recently received could be assigned those schools needing them to be able to increase the size of the Business section of grades eight through ten. At present the section has been limited to 30 students inasmuch as there were only 30 English and 30 Lao typewriters available. Beginning with the 1973-74 school year, this can be raised to 36 students in line with the recommendation of the recent auditors report.

6. Visitors to Fa Ngum Vientiane met the Curriculum Center. U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye from Hawaii visited the campus and the curriculum center during his short visit to Laos on January 15-16. Hawaii team members were also present at a luncheon given by Director Mam for the group of visiting Senators.

Mr. Bill Hart, former USAID Education Chief visited the Fa Ngum schools at Vientiane and Luang Prabang and wrote a brief report to Mr. Mam on the latter visit in which he expressed his continued admiration for the project.

Other visitors include Dr. Barbara Underwood of Penn State University.

PHONE HONG:

This is the final (fourth) year for a SEA to be resident in Phone Hong to work with the Fa Ngum school director. Transfer of many of the logistic and supply functions as well as maintenance support needs careful consideration along with phasing out the USAID employee who operates the generator to be replaced by a RIG/MOE employee for the next school year.

VIENTIANE:

Water resources is still a problem with the lack of available city water during the dry season along with less water from the school well at the very time when the Sam Thong student dorm and construction projects require additional water. Various alternative solutions are under study in conjunction with the RIG school director.

LUANG PRABANG:

Setting up the shop equipment, staking out school boundaries, clearing additional land for agricultural program by activity proposal and reviewing water resources continue along with steady construction progress on the last classroom building and the auditorium.

PAKSE:

Disputed school land boundaries are being settled with landowners by the RIG/MOE. The current plans include a Phase I construction contract to include one one-story home economics/agriculture building and one toilet building to be completed by October, 1973.

SAVANNAKHET:

Completion of various small projects of construction continues along with some progress on the erection of electrical poles needed to bring EDL power to the school site.

EDU/SE:LAButler:kk