

UNITED STATES AID MISSION TO LAOS

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 10, 1970

TO : Mr. Charles A. Mann, Director

FROM : Norman W. Green, Chief, Education Division

NW Green

SUBJECT: Education Division Monthly Report, August, 1973

Refugee Schools

Activity Proposals for refugee school supplies, notebooks, and textbooks, have been prepared and are in the approval process. We are planning to reprint all of the Reading and Arithmetic books for use in refugee schools this year.

Preparations were made during August for the opening of the new school year September 3. Work included repair of temporary schools in the Vientiane area and delivery of additional school furniture prefabricated at Kao Lien.

Schools in the Xieng Khouang area are opening on schedule this year. An Activity Proposal has been prepared for the rehabilitation of the large elementary schools in Long Tieng.

Larry Woodson visited refugee school sites in the Pak Hineboun area of Khammouane province where 14 temporary classrooms will be provided. He also discussed rehabilitation work needed for the groupe scolaire in Nong Bok.

Mr. Woodson also visited Ban Houei Sai during the month to review the refugee school program. He will return there during the week of September 18 to work with the PSI and CDAA on a detailed survey to determine the number of school aged children in each refugee village, the teachers available, and the construction needs. When this information is complete, appropriate action will be taken with the Ministry.

CE Test Reform

Lee Engler reports on the continued improvement and broadened scope of objective-type testing for the national Sixth Grade CEP examination.

380 test items covering subject matter in Lao language, arithmetic, science, hygiene, geography, history, civics, ethics, religion and French were included in the examination given last June. Final results have not yet been compiled but information from sixteen out of twenty centers shows a passing rate of approximately seventy percent for the 11,000 students who took the exam from those areas.

Fa Ngum Construction

Curriculum Center - Vientiane: This ten-classroom building has been completed and the Hawaii advisors and staff are in the process of occupying the rooms on the upper floor. The Sam Thong College will make temporary use of the five rooms on the ground floor.

Fa Ngum Luang Prabang: Final inspection was made on the last phase of construction, however, floor glass is not yet available for all of the windows and the potable water system has yet to be tested under pressure.

Fa Ngum Pakse: Shortages of some building materials have hampered construction progress -- the latest being a lack of roofing nails which are now on order from Hawaii. We still hope to have adequate classrooms ready for the opening of school October 1.

Relocation of the Xieng Khouang Teacher Training School

Two Activity Proposals have been submitted to the Program Office relevant to the ENI/Sam Thong: one to fund the relocation of the school from Dong Dek to Ban Nam Moh (Site 207) and the other to provide certain improvements to the hospital building which the school will occupy. Since no major work is required, we expect the ENI to be established at Nam Moh during October.

School Improvements

The ENI/Pakse has been connected to the Pakse city water system, thus eliminating operational and maintenance problems for the school's pump and well. A great deal of work has also been done on the project to improve the drainage system at this school.

Summer work projects have been particularly active at the Fa Ngum Schools in Vientiane and Luang Prabang. Work accomplished includes the construction of sidewalks, bicycle racks, physical education equipment, shelves, and bulletin boards and a great amount of planting and landscaping work.

Participants

Eight participants recently left Laos to undertake degree programs in Education in the U. S. :

Mr. Watt Symbun, Director of Fa Ngum School Luang Prabang, to study for an MA in school administration at Northern Michigan University.

Mr. Onsey Inthavong, to study for a BA in Vocational Teacher Training at Stout State, Wisconsin.

Mr. Saly Chittavoravong, to complete studies for a BA in English at the University of Hawaii.

Five graduates from English language studies at Dong Dok, to study for a BA in English - three at Northern Iowa University and two at the University of Hawaii.

Secondary Education and Teacher Training Workshops

Maintenance

13 employees of Teacher Training and Fa Ngum Schools are attending a four-week course in school maintenance at the Fa Ngum Vientiane School. The course is concerned with acquiring and applying basic skills in such things as furniture repair, replacing light fixtures, pouring concrete, care of washrooms, etc.

Home Economics

20 home economics teachers from the Fa Ngum and Teacher Training Schools and the Home Economics School at Chan Anou attended a ten-day workshop at the Fa Ngum Vientiane School. The workshop emphasized improvement of methods of teaching and included instruction in weaving and a presentation on Family Planning.

Education Materials Being Printed

CE-Refugees	Reading, P-1, Part One	20 000 copies
CE-Refugees	Reading, P 1, Part Two	20 000 copies
CE-Refugees	Reading, P 2	10 000 copies
CE-Refugees	Reading, P 3	5 000 copies
CE-Refugees	Geography, P 4	6 000 copies
SE	Algebra/Geometry, Grade 10	3 000 copies
SE	Social Studies: <u>S & Savat</u> , Gr. 11	5 000 copies
SE	Literature: <u>Mahasat</u> , Gr. 11	5 000 copies
SE	Literature: <u>Art of Friendship</u> , Gr. 11	5 000 copies
SE	Chemistry, Grade 11	3 000 copies

Students working at the Ministry of Education this summer have produced 57 mimeographed booklets for adult reading interest. The illustrations in the booklets are somewhat amateurish but certainly entice persons to read the stories. Besides the many story books, there are readers about pig diseases, insecticides, raising ducks, growing mushrooms, and so on.

Various

We were pleased to have Dr. Hal Hall, Education Officer with the Supporting Assistance Bureau, visit the Mission this month. We were able to make a profitable review of most aspects of the educational program with him during his three-day stay in Vientiane.

Information required for the Dry Season Review is being compiled by each of the project managers. In many cases, complete Activity Proposals have already been submitted for appraisal.

Personnel

Home leave returnees:

- Jane Foltz, UH Social Studies Adviser - August 12
- Hunter Fitzgerald, CEA/National - August 20

Mr. Ah Chung Zang, University of Hawaii Secondary Education Adviser, transferred to Pakse August 29 to begin his assignment as advisor to the new Va Ngum School.

Mr. Soukane Souksamlane, Program Assistant for Community Education, departed Laos August 27 to attend the Maxwell International Development Seminar at Syracuse.

Mr. Khamdeng Souksamlane, who recently returned from a year in California with AFS, has been employed as a clerk-typist in the SE office.

As is usual at this time of year, a number of school directors have received reassignments:

Mr. Littana Soumpholphakday - Director, ESP
Mr. Teng Khokham - Director, ENI Pakse
Mr. Sot Seymany - Director, ENI Vientiane
Mr. Cam Hungtry - Director, Savannakhet Lycee
Mr. Bouala Chanthathirath - Director, Pakse Lycee

Reporting Units: School Maintenance and Supply Advisor
Teacher Training
Secondary Education
Community Education

EDU:NWGreen:mv

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