

Larry

November 18, 1971

Mr. Norman C. Barnes  
Director, U. S. I. S.  
Vientiane

Dear Mr. Barnes:

The Lao-American Association is appreciative of the action being taken by the United States Information Agency to provide additional funds in the amount of \$4500 to improve the LAA building in Luang Prabang. This support will greatly enhance the Association's activities at that location.

The Board of Directors has reviewed other projects and proposed activities which it would like to undertake this fiscal year. These include the creation of two new staff positions in Vientiane; enlargement of Friendship magazine's coverage; support for exhibits and other general activities; preparation of Lao language narrations for audio-visual materials; re-painting the LAA buildings in Vientiane; and making improvements to the LAA auditorium. The cost of these proposed activities, as summarized on the attached paper, is estimated at \$25,300. This amount is beyond the Association's present budget. By instruction of the Board of Directors, I am presenting these proposed activities to you as the basis for a request for a supplemental grant of \$25,300 by your Agency to the Lao-American Association for fiscal year 1972. The Board commends this request to your attention.

In addition to the above request, the Board endorsed, in principle, two other proposals. These are:

- (1) The possibility of bringing an expert in the field of Sports and Youth Activities to Laos under the sponsorship of LAA to report to the Board his recommendations of feasible projects the LAA or other agencies might undertake in this area. The Board sees a need to encourage healthy activities for Lao and American youths in Vientiane and

Mr. Norman C. Barnes

-2-

November 15, 1971

other urban areas. We believe your Agency might wish to provide the funds needed to bring an expert to Laos for this purpose. Your suggestions in this regard would be appreciated.

- (2) Consideration by the Board of support for activities of the Lao Fine Arts School on the basis of specific proposals to be presented to the Board by the Director of Fine Arts.

I mention these two proposals to indicate how the Lao-American Association is continuously seeking ways to serve the community and to strengthen understanding between Lao and Americans. The support of your Agency has been vital to the development of the Lao-American Association in the past. We hope for continuing support and close cooperation in the future.

Yours sincerely,



Norman W. Green  
President of the Board of Directors

attachment

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300

Summary of Supplemental Budget Request  
for the Lao American Association  
FY 72

	<u>Estimated Amount</u>
1. New staff positions:	
a. Assistant Director of Courses (Academic)	\$ 6,000
b. Accountant	4,000
2. Support for activities:	
a. <u>Friendship</u> magazine	
(1) Current deficit	400
(2) To increase from 5000 to 6000 copies per issue	900
b. Exhibits, general activities	2,500
c. Lao narrations for filmstrips, films	600
d. Two special supplements to <u>Friendship</u>	1,600
3. Building improvements:	
a. Painting buildings interior and exterior	2,500
b. Stage lighting for auditorium	1,500
c. Dressing rooms plumbing	5,000
d. Air conditioning for teachers' room	<u>300</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$25,300</b>