

TO: Mr. Hunter A. Fitzgerald, OAR/National

December 30, 1971

FROM: Richard N. Costantino, CEA/Operations

Richard N. Costantino

SUBJ: Monthly Report For December

Problems:

None

Progress:

Refugee Schools

Up-to-date statistics are being obtained from all areas especially in Muang Phouang, Ban Houei Sai, Pakse, Wapikhamthong, Khammouane and Savan-nakhet. These are being submitted to Mr. Woodson.

The PSI's are still complaining that they cannot distribute textbooks, school supplies and other items to refugee schools since they are not receiving them from the MoE. Every effort should be made to get these supplies to the areas since they are badly needed.

The CEA and his Assistants have distributed flags to all refugee schools as requested and each PSI has been given a supply for future needs. The American Women's Club in Vientiane has requested that refugee schools supply one trip of the money needed for the purchase of sports equipment. Actually this cannot be done since refugees on full support have no financial assistance given to them when they leave their areas.

The refugees from Thak Ing, Ong in Savannakhet are being moved to an area adjacent to Hong Sepheung Camp.

The temporary building at Solabou Camp have roofs which must be replaced since they were damaged when so badly. CR/Phou has agreed to supply the material needed for the roofs.

San Heliou Schools

Work still has not begun on the repairs of the Groupe Scolaire in Ban Houei Sai. The President of the PTA has promised to hold a meeting to raise the money needed for the lime washing, brushing and carpet work. They have already raised the 1000 Kips but more is needed.

The BSA is now being in setting up a field trip for the CEA to the various schools in the area. The trip will probably take place in late January.

The CEA has written and for schools approved during dry season review. These have been submitted to Vientiane for approval.

Work is proceeding very well on the Groupe Scolaire in Ban Houei Sai. The BSA's carpenters have completed work at Aphay, Phou and Phou Phou and are presently working at Phou Khou. The AP for the extra work done at Phou Khou has been submitted to Vientiane for approval. The BSA also congratulated the PSI, OAR and other officials on the inspection of the schools. Problems were noted and recommendations made. The BSA is now working on the repair of the four schools, however the Ban Houei Groupe Scolaire. At least 115 children have been enrolled in the school and the repair of the building.

constructed previously by the PTA would allow the added enrollment. The PTA will supply bricks, lumber, unskilled laborers, etc. and USAID is being asked to furnish cement for the floor and columns, hardware, plywood for the doors and windows and a skilled carpenter.

Mr. Tom Easton, Maintenance Advisor, accompanied the CEA and PSI on trips to various groupés scolaires in the city and three refugee schools. He has made a report on his recommendations for the Phong Kham Groupe Scolaire.

The RIG agricultural agent and PSI distributed vegetable seeds to schools in the area. No schools without adequate water supply were issued seeds.

The Chao Khoueng called a special meeting to discuss the AP for the Fa Ngum Groupe Scolaire urban self help school. The PTA, various Khoueng officials, three saw mill owners, the CEA and CEA were present. Lengthly discussions were held on the money allocated by the RIG and PTA. The PSI was asked to give detailed reports on how the money would be spent and the saw mill owners gave the prices on lumber, sand and gravel. At the end of the two hour meeting it was decided that the PSI would submit his request through the Chao Khoueng for commodities needed and work would begin next month. It was also decided that similar meetings for the project would be held each six weeks to determine amount of money spent and what was still needed to complete the project.

Urban school construction for this period is as follows:

Fa Ngum Groupe Scolaire	LP3-003	Not started
Phong Kham	CS2-004	25%

Pakse Work has been completed on the improvements at Thanh Khoueng Groupe Scolaire. The USAID carpenters has promised to correct deficiencies on floors painting etc. Work should be completed by the end of this month at the Ban Phong Groupe Scolaire.

The Chao Khoueng of Savane has requested USAID assistance on the construction of a seven classroom temporary building for the College of Savane. The Chinese School has served notice that they must vacate the building by the end of this school year where classes are presently being held. The RIG will assist with 2 million Kips but the Chao Khoueng would like USAID to help with commodities needed for the construction of the temporary building.

The American Women's Club sent 1150 copies of Somchai Goes to Market for distribution to Pakse schools. The PSI/Sedone has submitted a list of schools which will receive the copies and distribution will be made in early January.

The PSI/Vapichamlong has returned to Khong Sedone where he is attempting to get the schools back in order for the inhabitants who will be returning to their homes soon. A visit will be made by the CEA/National when he comes to the Pakse area next month.

Mr. Boumy Brihanouvon, Deputy PSI/Sedone returned from a three month course at UNICEF in Singapore. Mr. Boumy was very impressed with the seminar and stated that he assisted in solving problems in: inefficient learning of the 1-3 grade; rate of drop-outs in primary schools; problems of low quality teachers; lack of relevance of education to societal needs; and high cost of providing universal primary education.

The Kok Thaphane Groupe Scolaire continues to have water problems. It has been decided that the electric pump which was supplied by USAID would be replaced by a hand pump. The AC/Pakse has requested assistance in procuring the money to pay for the pump. Two groupes scolaires in the city have agreed to use the city water to replace their well and the cost will be borne by their PTA.

Urban self-help school construction for Pakse is as follows:

Dons Talat	CE 1-005	90%
Pakse Groupe Scolaire	CE 2-010	95%
Samsy Groupe Scolaire	PK 3-002	7%

Savannakhet - Work is progressing on repairs on the Chomkeo Groupe Scolaire. The PTA has supplied unskilled laborers to paint the building and the USAID carpenters are supervising the painting of the doors and windows. Work should be completed by the end of January.

Seeds have been distributed to schools and school gardens are flourishing.

Work has begun on the making of cement blocks for the Na Seng Groupe Scolaire. The blocks are being made at Sayamoungkhoun Groupe Scolaire since there is no electricity at Na Seng.

An inspection was made on the Na Ke Groupe Scolaire. Minor deficiencies were noted and P/D Savannakhet was informed.

Work has been completed on the Takrek Groupe Scolaire. The USAID carpenter has completed the painting of the school and an inspection will be made by the USA in his next visit.

The lease for the land needed for the new urban groupe scolaire building at Thakhet has been submitted to the MoE. The PTA and municipality have raised over 1 million kips for the construction.

The budget for the repairs needed on the school buildings damaged by the enemy at Sangket has been submitted to Vientiane for approval.

Urban self-help school construction is as follows:

Na Ke	CE 1-011	98%
Na Seng	SK 3-006	2%
Thakhet	SK 3-005	Not started

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