

January 2, 1973

TO : Mr. Hunter A. Fitzgerald, CEA/National
FROM : Larry Woodson, CEA/Refugee *LW*
SUBJECT : Monthly Report For December 1972

Problems

The lumber contractor has defaulted for the second consecutive time. SMB/Local Procurement has taken action, but the resulting delays will force suspension of work on the construction of refugee school furniture until such lumber is obtained.

Some shortages of chalk are being reported by the Primary School Inspectors. The shortage has been caused by the late arrival of the Australian chalk. The combined chalk requirements of both refugee and non-refugee schools has temporarily forced SMB to ration the remaining amounts of chalk on hand.

Project Progress

Refugee textbooks being printed under CE-3002 are starting to arrive at the Ministry of Education Warehouse. They are scheduled to be shipped out as sufficient amounts are available for distribution. Recommended distribution lists have been given to the Ministry which correspond to refugee enrollment statistics.

Traditional refugee schools on the Vientiane Plain are beginning to show the effect of termite damage. We have met with the Tassergs involved and plans have been made to assist with the repairs.

Permanent refugee schools constructed in the North Nam Ngum area need to be improved. The activity plans also called for school furniture which has not been provided. Makeshift furniture in the Ban Thin school is composed of scrap lumber which is nailed in bits and pieces to the walls.

The International Rotary Club has cleared the grounds at Ban Y-Lai I and construction of their refugee school is in progress.

Work on activity plans for permanent refugee school construction as proposed and approved in the Dry Season Review has been suspended pending the completion of land surveys and policy clarification.

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