

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : Mr. Norman W. Green, Chief, EDU

FROM : Lucius A. Butler, Chief of Party, USAID Team

SUBJECT: Secondary Education Monthly Report - November 1972

A. Problem

Lack of kip for publishing.

The PAR textbook goal calls for 55 textbooks to be published by the end of FY 73. There have been 25 textbooks published during the period from FY 68 through FY 72.

There have been 11 textbooks published thus far during FY 73. Another four textbooks are at the printers and should be published by December 30. This means that there should be 40 textbooks ready for student by December 30, 1972.

This means 15 more textbook manuscripts must be printed before July 31, 1973, if we are to achieve the PAR textbook goal. There are five manuscripts approved and 10 manuscripts waiting for approval by the Ministry of Education.

Printing of textbooks in-country is time consuming because of limited production capability; however, this practice is developing a textbook publishing capability in Laos for the future. A steady flow of manuscripts is necessary to make maximum use of this developing capability.

Prior year and current year textbook printing funds were depleted in an effort to achieve PAR textbook goals. The Hawaii team and Fa Ngum curriculum center staff have worked hard to achieve the goal. The printers can only handle a few books at one time. Whenever we send several books to the printer at the same time, they require three or four months for printing.

There is a need for at least two million kip during December and an additional six million kip before February 1, 1973, if we are to achieve the PAR textbook goals. This potential accomplishment can be implemented for the kip sum equivalent of \$15,000.

An amendment to the AP for SE printing has been sent to PNO, requesting an additional K 6 million for Fa Ngum textbooks. These funds were transferred from the OR project. The total printing budget for SE for FY 73 is now K 10 M. If further funding is required, it will be provided when approved manuscripts are submitted to EDU. To date, 10 books have been held up for lack of funds.

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Prior years failure to achieve textbook publishing goals can be explained in various other ways, but failure to achieve FY 73 PAR textbook goals will be the result of lack of kip funds to print the completed manuscripts.

The history of textbook printing using kip funds can be summarized as follows:

AP SE-59/1-9107 10 million kip (FY 69)
 AP SE-70/1-0125 10 million kip (FY 70)
 No kip funds allotted in FY 71
 AP SE-2007-2190 5 million kip (FY 72)
 AP SE-3004-3027 4 million kip (FY 73)

No kip funds were obligated during FY 71 because FY 69 and FY 70 funds were still available for use. During FY 72 most FY 69 and FY 70 funds were expended. Most FY 72 funds were expended during the latter part of FY 72.

The current balance in project records indicate that USAID/CM has written purchase orders for all the available kip funds allocated for printing.

The question as to why no more than four million kip was budgeted for textbook printing in FY 73 is answered by the fact that there was only a total kip budget for project operation and implementation of 18 million kip. My request for 15 million kip for textbook printing was refused on the basis of prior year carryovers which certainly was understandable from a program point of view.

The problem is that project manager projections for meeting PAR textbook goals were somewhat accurate and funds could not be budgeted to implement these projections.

About two million kip is needed during December for printing the following priority textbooks:

1.	IA 10:	Sheets Metals	61 pages	3000 copies	K 280,000
2.	IA 10:	Bench Metals	91 pages	3000 copies	500,000
3.	Bus 9:	Adding Machine Operation	49 pages	3000 copies	220,000
4.	Agr 10:	Horticulture	223 pages	2000 copies	700,000
	Books:	4	Pages: 424	Copies: 11,000	Cost: K1,700,000

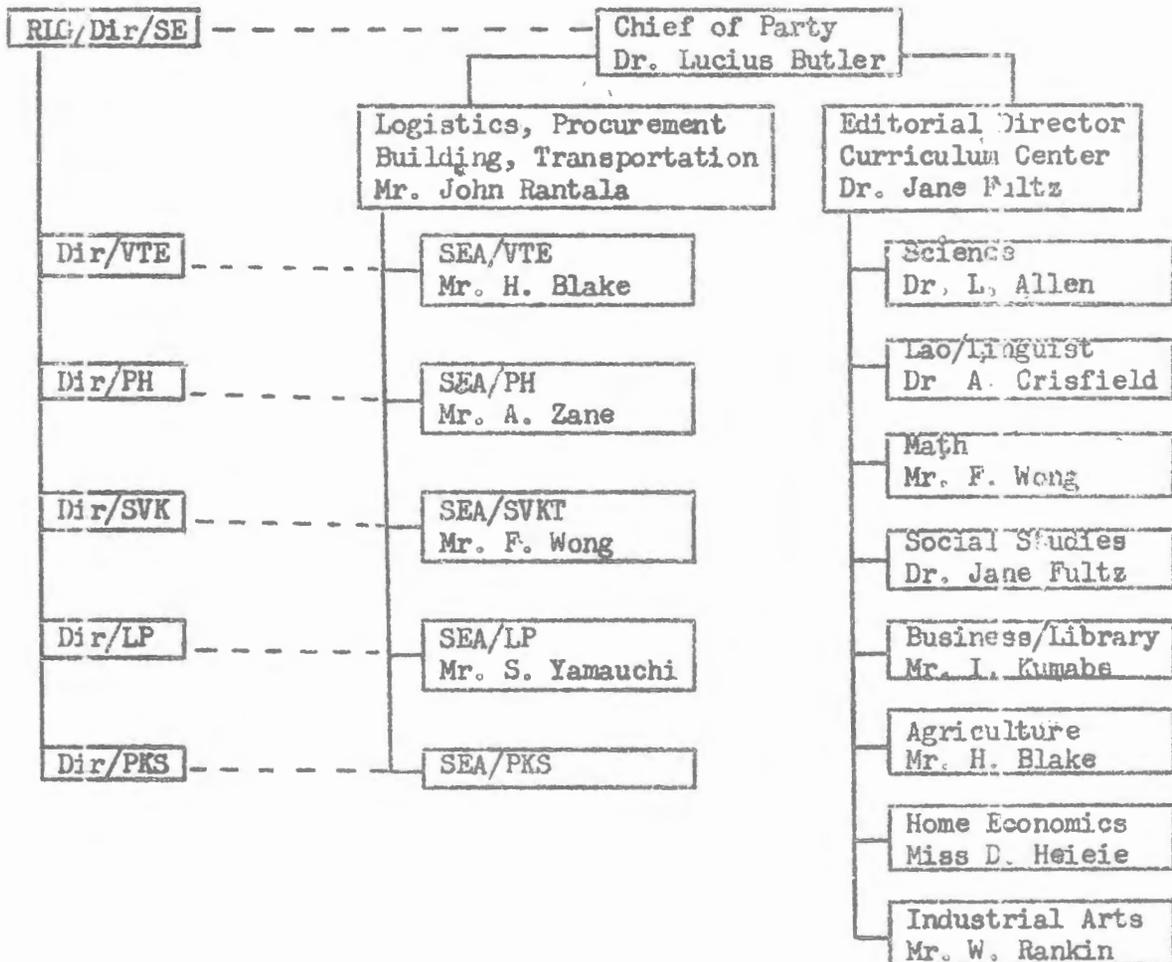
This does not provide the eight million kip needed to print the other eleven books completed and now at the Ministry of Education awaiting approval or being corrected; but would care for these four books now approved and being given final corrections.

B. Progress

1. Reorganization of University of Hawaii Contract Team.

The past seventeen months of management of the University of Hawaii Contract Team can be characterized as highly centralized in the person of the Chief of Party. This form of management was deemed necessary in order to bring progress into line with Project Appraisal Report goals.

There is now in effect a change in the emphasis of the role of chief of party and this change can be diagrammed as follows:



All requests and proposals from team members will be channeled through Dr. Fultz and Mr. Rantala. Requests from school directors will come through the Hawaii team SEA and Mr. Rantala. All monthly reports will be forwarded to Dr. Fultz and Mr. Rantala who will, in turn, submit summary reports to the chief of party.

One factor is added to the decision-making process. This factor is a recommendation for action by Mr. Rantala in the areas of his responsibility and by Dr. Fultz in the areas of her responsibilities. These recommendations will then be accepted, modified or rejected by the chief of party in his role as (1) chief of party, (2) secondary education advisor or (3) secondary education project manager.

Textbooks and curriculum outlines will be reviewed by Dr. Fultz who will make necessary corrections and revisions before forwarding them to the chief of party. The curriculum center staff at Fa Ngum school is under the supervision of Mrs. Khamsouk. Dr. Fultz is the immediate supervisor of Mrs. Khamsouk.

The assignment of Mr. Hartwell Blake as SEA for Vientiane, part-time, in addition to his major responsibility as Agriculture Curriculum Advisor was made at the request of RIG school director Somsak. This assignment is meant to advise in general administration with the responsibility for curriculum implementation to remain with the respective curriculum advisors under the direction of Dr. Fultz.

2. Field Visit by Dr. Teruo Ihara

Dr. Teruo Ihara, campus coordinator of the University of Hawaii/USAID/Laos contract visited Laos during the period from November 22 through December 5.

Several receptions and baci were held in his honor as he travelled to Luang Prabang on November 27-28, Phone Hong on November 30 and Savannakhet on December 1-2.

Meetings with USAID personnel of education, program, finance and transportation were held in order to finalize new arrangements for various payments to contract personnel. An orientation to the supply management activities was also arranged.

3. Construction Activities

Vientiane - Three separate activities are envisioned to further develop this school plant:

Home Economics Practice House. USAID/PWD personnel were on the site at the end of November and much of the lumber for the project had been delivered. This is being accomplished under Activity Plan No. VT-3012-3050 with account code 3064-4-B3. Assistance from students in the industrial arts department is envisioned during the second trimester.

Curriculum Center Building. ROICC/Laos let and awarded bids during the month and the construction company was on site during the first week of December.

Electrical-Motor Shop Building. The Activity Plan No. VT-3022-3237 has not yet been received from USAID/PRO and this PWC/Force Account activity awaits the release of this document.

Phone Hong - Requested corrections cited for action during the October final inspection were not all completed by the end of the month.

Savanakhet - Requested corrections cited for action during the November 2 final inspection were not completed by the end of the month.

Requested change orders to complete needed facilities are now being processed.

Luang Prabang - A special review trip was made at the request of Area Coordinator Connick. Some items requested can be done without additional cost to the project. Other items may be deferred or eliminated based upon availability of additional funding.

Pakse - A site orientation visit was made by Dr. Ihara and Dr. Butler on December 1. It was noted that the road leading to and bordering the site had been repaired.

4. Textbook Publishing

? → The lack of kip for publishing, the numerous November holidays and priority given to Dr. Ihara's visit resulted in no books being sent to USAID/CM for printing bids.

Two books were delivered during the month.

Industrial Arts 10: Forging Metal, 60 p, 3,000 copies.
Lao Language 10, 278 p, 6,000 copies.

This makes a total of 11 books delivered during FY 73.

Four books are currently being printed and four books are about ready for submission to USAID/CM for bids.

5. Staff Movements

Dr. Lucius Butler visited Phone Hong on November 6 and 30, Luang Prabang on November 14 and 27, and Savannakhet on November 2.

Mr. Hartwell Blake visited Savannakhet on November 7-9, and 13-6.

Mr. John Rantala visited Ban Houei Sai on November 17-19 and Savannakhet on November 2.

Mr. William Rankin visited Phone Hong on November 6.

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