

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

December 1, 1972

TO : Mr. Hunter Fitzgerald, CEA/National
FROM : Miss Lee Engler, CEA/Program
SUBJECT : Monthly Report for November 1972

Problems

No new significant problems not reported previously.

Project Progress

Curriculum Development

1. With MoE officials and the CEA/N, the CEA/P assisted the RIXSAM Science Advisor, Mr. David Harper, to plan a science seminar for five primary school inspectors—through briefings, classroom visits, and samples of science program materials used in Laos. The major purposes of the seminar are to draft objectives, course outlines, and sample units of instruction with simple teaching aids in science for primary grades. The seminar agenda worked out by Mr. Harper, after his return to Penang, and forwarded to EDU, reflected careful consideration of MoE/EDU suggestions, training and experience level of participants, the science program in Lao primary schools, and teaching materials available. Following their return from Penang on December 2, the committee will prepare the revised program for review at the National Conference of Primary School Inspectors in January, and then in working groups will finalize their program for adoption and implementation by the Ministry of Education.
2. The text for Geography, grade four, has been revised with minor corrections and is ready to print for refugee children. A revised manuscript for History, grade four, and manuscripts for grades five and six are being typed. Separate textbooks had not been developed, previously, for grades five and six.

Local In-Service Training

1. An activity proposal to provide a national conference for primary school inspectors is being revised as requested by PRO to meet the new format for design of Mission Training Programs.
2. A review of the CREC teacher in-service training project to evaluate accomplishments and to plan four levels of training for CREC teachers in July 1973 has been completed. Locations, course directors, instructional programs, and number of participants have been tentatively determined.

Participant Training

1. As planned by HRDD with EDU, the CEA/Program will be in Bangkok on TDY December 18-21 to work with USOM/BKK/TR and with Training coordinators, Mrs. Chanthana of USAID/L and Mr. Somboun of Prasarnmitr University, to assist in preparing a two-year program of training in educational testing and guidance, statistics, and budget fiscal. The four participant nominees are presently in pre-academic training conducted by HRDD/LT. EDU has also requested arrangements for the CEA to review training progress of the four-year CE participants and also supervisor trainees.
2. Study of applications for four-year training programs in Language Arts and Social Studies has continued with MoE and HRDD.

Other Donors

The French Cultural Mission is conducting a course to train instructors in the new method of teaching French in grade five. The Mission has completed printing of Books I and II for teachers of French in grades four and five. Books are provided to those teachers who have participated in the special training courses conducted by the Mission.