

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

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

Date: April 6, 1972

FROM : James A. Colman, Teacher Education Adviser

SUBJECT: Monthly Report for the Month of March

Problems:

On March 24, 1972, a small number of students did not go to class because of unequal water distribution within Dong Dok campus. Some students felt they were not getting as much water as other. This was called a strike but was more of a protest. Dr. Veo, Director of Teacher Training, immediately visited each class the next day and talked to the entire student body. Dr. Veo's report was that the students no longer had a misunderstanding about water distribution.

Progress.

Increased communication with Lao working in Teacher Training is taking place. Mr. Thanh reported to work in the Education Division. Mr. Thanh has the professional respect within the Ministry of Education necessary for professional communication. The following has been accomplished with Mr. Thanh's professional assistance:

1. Development of a curriculum for a training program for primary teachers who have been temporarily relocated. This program has been scheduled for five (5) months to emphasize the improvement of Lao language instruction. The program is intended to help the teachers qualify as primary teachers.
2. Revision of the two year ENI curriculum that prepares lower grade primary teachers. In this revision, it was possible for the Assistant Director of Teacher Training to study the available Pa Ngum text books. Because of Mr. Thanh's ability in communication, the curriculum of the ENI school will be the same as other schools at the same grade level, especially the Pa Ngum school. Each ENI school will use the Pa Ngum text books for teaching.

3. The new ENI curriculum for the 7th and 8th grades were divided up in order to teach the curriculum in three summers. This curriculum was developed in anticipation of operating a summer school. The summer school would offer to teachers, who are teaching but have not completed the regular two year program, an opportunity to complete the minimum two year requirements.

A survey was made of a reported water problem at Savannakhet by Mr. Onsy Inthavong, MoE, and Mr. Casy Keur on 3/20/72. It was reported the generator was only operating a short period of time night and morning. The water pump can only be operated when the generator provides the electricity.

Therefore, it was recommended to run the generator for longer periods so the pump can pump water for more hours each day. A larger storage facility is needed. The student body has grown since the construction of the existing water tower.

Also the need to eliminate the generator was suggested. The city of Savannakhet has agreed to supply wire and a transformer if the school can supply 3 kilometer of poles. A plan and cost estimates will be developed. If city power is not provided another generator will be necessary.

Mr. Liston, USOM Thailand, Vocational Education Advisor, worked with Mr. Khamphat, Director Vocational Education Laos, who requested assistance in developing a Vocational Program for Laos. Many visits and discussion with USAID employees took place. Mr. Liston presented a draft of his findings to USAID Education Laos. However, requested to take the draft to Bangkok to discuss the findings with other Vocational Advisors. April 7, 1972, the final draft will be presented to the Mission.

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