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Progress of Activities:

4. Textbook Production (continued)

4. Industrial Arts textbook for grade 9, Woodworking, is currently undergoing extensive proofing before being submitted to the MoE for approval. The grade 10 textbook, Metalworking, still requires several chapters for completion. Second-cycle materials, grades 11-13, are being studied and complete units on electronics and power mechanics are being considered.

5. Lao Language textbooks for grades 9 and 10 are being prepared in final manuscript format. Work on second cycle materials is just beginning.

6. Social Studies grade 9 text is moving steadily toward the December deadline and supplementary units are being translated for mimeographed draft publication.

7. Science text for grade 9 was lacking only a few pages for completion of the final typed manuscript. Illustrations will be put in place and the final style check will be made before it is sent to the printer.

8. Mathematics grade 9 textbook manuscript is complete and 47 pages are being mimeographed for immediate distribution to Phou Houng and Vientiane schools.

Summary: The pace of textbook production was increased during November. A reorganization of the editorial facilities and personnel at the curriculum office should further speed up production activities. The absence of Mrs. Nhamouk during most of the month for USAID/HRDD/LIT-sponsored supervisory training should result in ample dividends during the next months as she becomes the editorial supervisor at the curriculum office on the investment of about six weeks without her usual 18 months full-time supervisory training.

B. Curriculum implementation

The curriculum advisors spent some time during the month visiting various schools to aid in curriculum implementation. These included:

- Agriculture advisor Blake to Phone Hong 11/8 - 11/11
- Business advisor Kumabe to Phone Hong 11/5 - 11/06
- Home Economics advisor Heicis to Savannakhet 11/8 - 11/11 and
Phone Hong 11/15 - 11/19
- Industrial Arts advisor Rankin to Luang Prabang 11/9 - 11/11

In most cases, an experienced teacher from Fa Ngum Vientiane, also went to the school and engaged in further curriculum implementation. In the absence of regular full-time counterparts, these experienced teachers are performing an urgently needed function.

A procedure has been established by which the director of a Fa Ngum school can request assistance for curriculum implementation from Mr. Somsak, director of Fa Ngum Vientiane, through MoE Secondary Education Director Phou Rasphone. This permits the RLG teacher to receive both travel and per diem allowance from the Ministry of Education and relieve the burden placed upon USAID and the local directors. USAID Miikrua flights are still utilized where practical and available, but dependence upon this form of transportation has been greatly lessened.

This procedure also permits the curriculum advisor to spend a few hours "between planes" in joint consultation and the experienced teacher follows through for a day or so with the local teachers and director.

C. Logistics, Maintenance and Buildings

1. Logistic services during the October-November period reflect a substantial volume of material shipped to each school outside of

C. Unit 10 - 10

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