

UNITED STATES EMBASSY MISSION TO LAOS

November 16, 1971

TO : Mr. Charles A. Mann, Director *NW Green*
FROM : Norman W. Green, Chief, Education Division
SUBJECT: Education Division Monthly Report for October, 1971

Refugee School Programs

Efforts have been concentrated this month on planning new refugee school construction in Borikhane and in the Xieng Khouang-Sam Neua PSI areas and on completing the construction of 36 temporary classrooms at various locations.

Attached is a copy of a statistical summary compiled by the CE Branch showing classrooms available and classrooms required for refugee children. The report was prepared for use during the Dry Season Review.

Community Education

Another of the standard plan urban groupes scolaires was completed during the month at Nong Bouathong in Vientiane City. Six other schools of this type are under construction and plans have been completed for nine new projects for this dry season.

Mr. Fitzgerald participated in the FWD construction conference this month where considerable time and attention was devoted to school construction plans and problems. He states that the conference was extremely beneficial.

Mr. Bounthong, Deputy Director for Primary and Adult Education, has been named to replace Mr. Khamphao Phonekeo as Director of that department when Mr. Khamphao leaves for France in December. Mr. Khamphao will be assigned to the position of Cultural Affairs Officer in Paris for at least two years.

Teacher Training

All nine teacher training schools in Laos opened for the new school year on October 11. Official enrollment figures are not yet available but the total number of student teachers is only slightly higher than last year's figure of 3340. Approximately 750 students are in their final year of study in the various programs for training elementary teachers. At the higher level, it is of special significance to Laos to note the new group of students who began the third year of college level work at the ESP. In June, 1973, these students will be the first class to receive the equivalent of a B.A. in teacher training in Laos.

Mr. Colman is continuing a series of visits to the ENIs. Mr. Phansy Abhay, new Deputy Director for Teacher Training, has been given the responsibility for supervision and coordination of ENI programs. He is accompanying Mr. Colman on the field trips, establishing a counterpart relationship which should prove valuable to the development of the normal schools.

Two new women's dormitories and two new classroom buildings at Dong Dok were completed and inspected during the month. The only remaining TT construction project is the three story multipurpose building at the Luang Prabang ENI.

Secondary Education

The Hawaii Team has set itself the goal of having all ninth grade texts ready for the printer by the end of December and all tenth grade texts ready for the printer by June, 1972. Dr. Butler feels this schedule can be met except, perhaps, for three of the textbooks which may encounter unavoidable delays. If the Team comes close to these commendable targets we will be back on schedule for the production of SE materials.

October 11 was opening day for all secondary schools including, with the addition this year of the Luang Prabang school, four Fa Ngum Comprehensive High Schools. Enrollment in the Fa Ngum schools is

Secondary Education (continued)

as follows:

Vientiane	487	Grades 7 - 11
Phone Hong	317	Grades 7 - 9
Savannakhet	213	Grades 7 - 8
Luang Prabang	<u>95</u>	Grade 7
	1112	

Budgeting procedures to support the operation of the four schools are being developed by the project. The procedures involve limited kip and commodity input by USAID based on enrollment figures and a phased plan for eventually turning over operational responsibility to the RLG.

Fa Ngum construction at Luang Prabang and Phone Hong is continuing satisfactorily but the Savannakhet project has fallen well behind schedule. The contractor, already under financial penalty, now gives January 1 as the date when Phase I buildings can be occupied. The students, meanwhile, are using classes at the Technical School and are attending school on double sessions

Educational Materials

Educational materials completed this month:

CE	Reading book, Grade 2	6,000 copies
CE	Reading book, Grade 3	5,000 copies
CE	Reading book, Grade 5	3,300 copies

Educational materials being printed:

SE	Mechanical Drawing, Grade 8	3,000 copies
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General

Director General Khamkhing Souvanlasy and his wife spent 15 days in India last month as guests of the Indian government. They were given an interesting tour of many parts of the country.

Personnel

Four Lao employees of the Education Division are attending the management training courses being given by HRDD/LT.

Mr. Seuth Vongsenghanh began work as an Administrative Assistant in the CE branch this month.

Reporting Units

Teacher Training
Secondary Education
Community Education

attachment

EDU:NWGreen:ei

DIST: OD/DD 2, AD/M, AD/FIN, AD/FO, AD/PE, AD/RA, Each AC,
EPM-2, HRDD, AGR PHD, PSD, PWD, OICC, SMB-2, IVS,
EDU 18, Laos Desk, EA/TECH/EDU, C&R-3