

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

July 17, 1971

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

Community Education

The CE project has completed plans for summer in-service training at 21 locations for the following numbers of teachers:

177 teachers in refugee schools  
111 CREC teachers  
120 regular teachers for Grades 1-3  
39 directors of groupes scolaires  
763

The training for CREC teachers has now been organized so that a participant can become a regular civil service teacher by completing four summer courses and passing certain required examinations. The establishment of this system is a significant achievement for the project.

Forty-five monk primary level teachers from twelve provinces completed a 45-day training course to improve teaching techniques. The course, which was held in Viennac, was a cooperative effort of the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education, and USAID.

Teacher Training

Teacher Training actually graduated about 775 students at various academic levels this June. This only gives an indication of the number of new teachers available for next school year, however since some students will continue into the next cycle of training while other students who failed their final examinations will be given a second chance in September.

Teacher Training plans for the vacation months include the following activities:

- a. 130 students will do maintenance work and improvement projects at the nine normal schools;
- b. 60 elementary teachers and principals will attend a seminar at the Savannakhet ENI for the purpose of improving practice teaching programs in the Savannakhet area;
- c. A course in Lao typing will be given at the Fa Ngum school for 20 Teacher Training administrative personnel;
- d. Five science teachers from the ENIs will attend the SEI workshop at the Fa Ngum school;
- e. 14 graduates of the Buddhist Institute will be given a brief course in methods of teaching before being assigned to secondary schools as teachers of Lao language and literature.

The main pump at Deng Dok went out of operation again just after the students left for summer vacation. The school switched to the auxiliary water system, which is functioning at low volume. The main pump is being repaired and a letter of complaint is being sent to the pump manufacturer because the breakdown "shouldn't have happened".

PWD has done some work on improving the campus roads at Deng Dok but heavy rains have prevented completion of the job. We hope to follow up the PWD work with a project to get the roads surfaced during FY 72.

### Secondary Education

Statistics for this year's entrance examinations for the Fa Ngum schools are of interest:

	<u>No. of Applicants</u>	<u>No. Admitted</u>
Luang Prabang	682	108
Phou Hong	490	105
Vientiane	1682	105
Savannakhet-Fakao	947	105
	4001	423

Fa Ngum Vientiane graduated its first students from the first cycle of secondary education this June. Dr. Collins' report on this subject is quoted in full:

The examinations to qualify for the certificate indicating completion of the first cycle (grades 7-10) were given on June 14 and 15. Of the 86 students who entered the 10th grade last fall 80 received the certificate. Of these 20 were automatically promoted to grade 11 (second cycle grades 11-13) by having earned a grade point average of 2.8 or higher (on a 4 point scale). A special feature of the examinations was the inclusion of practical performance tests in the prevocational areas.

On June 24 all students who received the certificate and had not achieved a grade point average of 2.8 competed for admission to the second cycle by taking a comprehensive examination. Forty (40) students succeeded bringing the total 11th grade students for school year 1971-72 to sixty (60). Their majors are distributed as follows.

Academic	8	Home Economics	5
Agriculture	18	Industrial Arts	15
Commercial	14	Total	60

Of the 26 students who failed the promotion examination 20 will seek employment or attend other schools and six plan to repeat grade 10. The school has arranged a coordinated effort to help the students secure employment. A careful follow up program will be carried out.

The Secondary Education project has made plans for in-service training programs for 47 Fa Ngum teachers this summer. Workshops will be held in the various curriculum areas along with combined meetings to discuss general project problems. In addition, the project is sponsoring a number of activities for students who will do various types of maintenance and school improvement projects.

Five Fa Ngum teachers completed their special seminar with Dr Collins this month and thus earned three credits toward a Masters Degree at the University of Hawaii. It is anticipated that additional courses of this nature will be offered by the Hawaii Team to the entire English speaking community during the coming year.

Fa Ngum Phone Hong is giving Dong Dok some stiff competition in water supply problems. The pump motor on the main well at Phone Hong burned out and the pipe for the hand pump dropped down the auxiliary well. These are just the latest mishaps. PWD, Power Section, and others continue to be most cooperative in helping us get out of such difficulties but there are many days when pumping water seems to be the most serious educational problem in Laos.

### General

Mr. Shamsoo Boekhewong, who is presently Deputy Director of Secondary Education, has been appointed director of the Vientiane Lycee, replacing M. Beffon. This is the first time that a Lao has held this important educational post.

Dr. Robert Johnson, Assistant Director for Education, USOM/Thailand, came up from Bangkok for two days this month to get acquainted with our projects and personnel. Among topics discussed were Lao participant training requirements and the use of Thai language educational materials and resources.

### Personnel

The following new members of the University of Hawaii Contract Team arrived at the end of the month:

Dr. Lucius Butler	Chief of Party
Dr. Jane Fultz	Social Studies and Language Arts Advisor
Mr. Hartwell Blake	Agriculture Advisor
Mr. Iwao Kurabe	Commercial Advisor

Arrangements have been made to transfer Mr. Shozua Yamauchi to Luang Prabang about July 15 to take up his duties as advisor to the new Fa Ngum School.

Hunter Fitzgerald Community Education project manager, returned to post July 3 following emergency leave in the U. S.

Larry Woodson returned from home leave and resumed his duties July 1 as advisor for refugee school programs.

Reporting units:

Teacher Training  
Secondary Education  
Community Education

EDU:NWGreen:mv

Distribution: OD/DD-2, AD/M, AD/FIN, AD/FO, AD/PE, AD/RA,  
Each AC, ESD-2, EAD, HRDD, AGR, PHD, PSD, PWD, OICC, SMB 2,  
IYS, EDU-17, Labs Desk, EA/TECH/EDU, C&B-3