

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

1064-197

TO : Norman Green, Chief, EDU

FROM : *Dwane Collins*
Dwane Collins, COP - Uoff Contract

SUBJECT: Secondary Education Monthly Report - June 1977

Problems:

I reported last month that the pump and generators were working fine at Fa Ngum Phone Hong. The past week their month long water service came to a halt. The motor of the new pump had burned out. The last pump on the second well has been inoperative for two months - the 3-inch intake pipe cracked and drop down inside the 4-inch well casing, making recovery almost impossible. FWD contact was made with working on solutions.

Monthly Progress:

Completion procedures, selection of new students for the four Fa Ngum Schools and development of details for summer workshops continued the June activities of the project.

The most significant single event during the month was the conclusion of the nation's first university graduate credit course. Messrs. Somsak, Wath, Bou and Boumy and Miss Maniphanh successfully earned three credits toward a Masters Degree at the University of Hawaii. Mr. Pradith, Director of Information for Laos posted pictures in his center and will run an article with pictures in a forthcoming issue of their photo news spread. USIS plans to feature the event in a forthcoming issue "Around the Universe" (in Lao). It is anticipated that additional courses will be offered to the entire English speaking community during the coming year.

Entrance examinations to the four Fa Ngum Schools were completed on June 3 by 4,001 applicants from which 423 were selected. Their geographical distribution is as follows:

Secondary Education Monthly Report - June 1971

	Applicants	Admitted
Luang Prabang	682	108
Phone Hong	690	105
Vientiane	1682	105
Savannakhet-Pakse	<u>947</u>	<u>105</u>
Total	4001	423

The 7th, 10 and 11 internal course examinations were completed. 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 37 students who entered the 10th grade last fall 80 received the certificate. Twenty were automatically promoted to grade 11 (second cycle) groups 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 emphasis on practical performance tests in the prevocational areas.

Of the 11 students who received the certificate and had not achieved a grade point average of 2.8, 40 competed for admission to the second cycle through a comprehensive examination. Forty (40) students are being admitted, making the total 11th grade students for school year 1971-72 140. Their majors are distributed as follows:

Science	8	Home Economics	5
Business	10	Industrial Arts	<u>15</u>
Commercial	14	Total	60

Of the 20 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 70 percent retention of first cycle students to the second cycle compares very favorably with the nation's 50 percent retention.

The secondary summer work shop and work-study experience activity includes seven groups.

Secondary Education Monthly Report - June 1971

<u>What?</u>	<u>When?</u>	<u>Where?</u>	<u>By Personnel</u>
1. School Improvement	July 1 - Aug 15	Phoua Hong	11 students
2. School Improvement	July 5 - Sept 10	Sayasakhet	11 students
3. Maintenance Work Experience	June 28 - Sept 3	Vientiane	11 students
4. Agriculture Work Experience	July 5 - Sept 11	Vientiane	11 students
5. Maintenance Work Experience	June 29 - Aug 1	Vientiane (Sam Thong)	11 students
6. Maintenance Work Experience	July 5 - Sept 11	Vientiane	47 students
7. Maintenance Work Experience	July 5 - Sept 11	Vientiane	2 students

The Assistant Chairman of the Mathematics Department is attending a conference in Singapore during the summer vacation.

Miss Stappank's brochure on animals and fowls of the zoo is being considered for publication by the American Women's Club. She develops a plan for gifted children during her studies at the University of Southern Illinois.

The Commercial Department is providing a course in Lao typing during the summer for the Teacher Training Department and selected RLG employees. One of the advanced students is teaching the course.

The Industrial Arts Department constructed test tube holders for the new RLG nurses school in response to a request from the World Health Organization.

Secondary Education Monthly Report - June 1971

Construction and land development is progressing very well at Siemachet, Phone Hong and Luang Prabang. At the latter, new religious and permanent resident movement has contaminated the potable water from the Nam Fa river which was originally planned for use in the Fa Ngum School. Fortunately the city of Luang Prabang has agreed to make available its water supply to the school. AC Canterucci is working out the details. The Nam Fa source will be used for the agriculture work of the school.

Staff Consultant Shozo Yamauchi and his wife have been granted the use of a very fine home in Luang Prabang by USAID. They will move about July 13.

Four new members (and families) of the Hawaii Team arrived in Phnom Penh June 30. All have been comfortably housed even though housing is very limited at this time. A planned orientation will be carried out and the team will be heavily involved in the workshop beginning July 5. The new members are: Dr. Lucius Butler (and son), Chief of Party; Dr. Leo Feltz (and mother), Consultant in Social Studies, Language, Arts and Music; Mr. Hartwell Blake (and wife), Consultant in Mathematics; Mr. Ivan Kumabe (wife and two daughters) Consultant in English. Two other team members and Mrs. Butler and daughter will arrive July 1.

Through my last monthly report I extend warmest aloha and sincerest appreciation to my colleagues in USAID/EDU. Their professional collaboration and personal friendships will long be cherished. The Fa Ngum project could not have been possible without them. My appreciation to a host of other helpers is included in my last Semi-Annual Report (the Eighth).

Fa Ngum visitors during June included Dr. Robert Johnson, USOM/EDU Chief, Bangkok and Colleague James Coleman and Thomas Ljston. Also Mr. George Jones, diesel mechanics specialist from Great Britain visited the campus. Mr. Jones will serve as consultant to Pak Passak Technical School during the next two years. All visitors spoke highly of the school and its offerings.

EDU/SE:DRCollins:mv