

Larry

For discussion during
resettlement conf, 12/14

Mr. Charles A. Mann, Director

December 13, 1971

Norman Green, Chief, EDU

Norman Green

**New Classroom Construction and Projection of Teacher
Assignments for School Year 1972-73**

During the Dry Season Review you requested a projection of the assignment of elementary school teachers for the 1972-73 school year so that the construction of new classrooms in any area will not exceed the number of teachers available. Attached are summaries of the information we have obtained. (Attachment No. 1: Source of New Teachers for the 1972-73 School year; Attachment No. 2: Tentative Projection of Assignment of New Teachers for the 1972-73 School Year.)

In this discussion, new classrooms should be defined as construction projects where additional teachers will be required. The term would not apply to classrooms replacing temporary or sub-standard structures where teachers are already available, nor to additional classrooms for schools operating on double sessions with two sets of teachers and for which no teachers will be required.

A total of about 600 new Civil Service teachers will be assigned to the 22 PSI districts next year. If we allow for a loss of personnel through retirement, death, and other causes at a rate of about three percent, the 600 new teachers will give us a net increase in personnel of about seven percent. Nationally, a seven percent increase in the supply of teachers about equals the demand. The problem, of course, is in the distribution of teachers, particularly in the rural areas.

The RLG rules that a new teacher may be assigned anywhere in Laos but after two years he may request, and generally obtain, a transfer, and as would be expected the transfers are towards the urban centers. For this reason the Ministry assigns a relatively small number of new teachers to urban districts but larger numbers to rural areas. For example, Vientiane/South (the largest school district) receives only 37 new teachers but Paklay receives 45, Vang Vieng 44, etc.

Movement of teachers obviously complicates planning since we have no way

New Classroom Construction/Projection of
Teacher Assignments for School Year 1972-73

-2-

of knowing at this time how many teachers may choose to transfer out of or into a PSI district. The net figures for teachers available in any district may be quite a bit different from the figures shown in Attachment No. 2 which indicate only the assignment of new teachers.

The Ministry adjusts new teacher inputs in each area to compensate for teacher transfers which is why the attached projection is only tentative. Each school district can normally count on increasing its number of teachers by about seven percent.

There are some exceptions:

1. Some areas (Xieng Khouang and Houei Sai especially) can draw on military personnel for teaching staff, permitting a valuable flexibility in new school construction. Such construction should be authorized in cases where military officials have assured that military teachers will be available.
2. There will be 100 new CREC teacher positions next school year if funds are authorized in the Development Budget. These positions also allow for flexibility and therefore we have not made a projection of their distribution. In the past two years, for example, new CREC teachers have been assigned for the most part to refugee schools in the Vientiane Plain.

Aside from these exceptions, a seven percent increase in the number of teachers obviously allows only a seven percent increase in the number of classrooms. If we calculate a seven percent increase in the number of classrooms in each PSI district (excluding Xieng Khouang area which has special conditions), we arrive at a figure of 340 for the total number of new classrooms which could be opened and staffed in 1972-73. (See Attachment No. 3: Increase of Classrooms, by PSI Districts, at Rate of Seven Percent)

Nationally, a ceiling of 340 new classrooms would not limit USAID projects at all since the mission is usually involved in the construction of only about 200 new classrooms each year. Even if 140 other classrooms were added entirely by self-help, the number of new classrooms would not exceed the total teacher supply.

New Classroom Construction/Projection of Teacher
Assignments for School Year 1972-73

- 3 -

The problem comes back to the questions of distribution: how to ensure that no school district goes overboard in new school construction to the extent of requiring more teachers than would normally be its fair share. The information on teacher assignments in Attachment No. 2, though interesting, is not especially meaningful because it does not take into account teacher transfers. A better guideline for planning new classroom construction is Attachment No. 3 which follows the simple rule of thumb that new classroom construction in any school district should not normally exceed seven percent of the number of existing classrooms.

It is therefore recommended that the construction of new classrooms in any PSI district be limited to seven percent of the number of existing classrooms except: a) in areas where military personnel are available as teachers, b) in emergency situations, such as large scale refugee movements, where CREC teachers can be assigned, or in other special situations.

With your approval, this memorandum and the attachment tables will be distributed as a statement of general guidelines for use in program and project planning.

Attachments - 3

Approved for distribution:

Clearances:

OPE (in draft) RJH

DD (in draft) JBC

Charles A. Mann, Director

EDU:NW Green:el

Distribution:

DD

AD/PE

AD/FO

AD/RA

AD/M

PRO

EPM

CDS-10

EDU- 8

C&R- 3

AC/LP

AC/XK

AC/SYB

AC/BHS

AC/SVK

AC/Pakse

Attachment No. 1

Source of New Teachers for the 1972-73 School Year

	Students in Graduating Class of 4-year teacher training schools (June, 1972)	Students in Graduating Class of 2-year teacher training schools (June, 1972)
Vientiane ENI	180	-
Ban Keun ENI	-	70
Vang Vieng ENI	-	70
Sam Thong ENI	-	41
Luang Prabang ENI	61	34
Kene Thao ENI	-	69
Savannakhet ENI	74	35
Pakse ENI	<u>70</u>	<u>48</u>
Totals	385	367

Explanation:

The total number of students in graduating classes in the normal schools this year is 752 (385 + 367). However, only about 600 of this number will be assigned to teach in the next school year because of the following deductions:

1. About 25 percent of the graduates (or 96 students) from the 4-year programs will continue their studies at the FSP. Most of these students will come from the Vientiane ENI.
2. About 5 percent of the graduates (or 20 students) from the 2-year programs will continue their studies in the ENIs.
3. About 5 percent of all students (38) will repeat their final school year because they failed examinations.

Attachment No. 2

Tentative Projection of Assignment of New Teachers
for the 1972-73 School Year

<u>AC Area</u>	<u>PSI District</u>	<u>Current Teacher Assignment</u>	<u>New teachers Projected for 1972-73</u>
Houei Sai	Houei Sai	156*	16
Xieng Khouang]	Sam Neua	109	21
	Xieng Khouang	319*	35
Luang Prabang	Luang Prabang	446	30
Sayaboury	Sayaboury	285	51
	Paklay	271	45
Vientiane	Vang Vieng	288	44
	Phone Hong	242	39
	Ban Keun	249	37
	Vientiane/North	500	35
	Vientiane/South	691	37
	Borikhane	168	17
Savannakhet	Khammouane	319	15
	Nong Bok	132	12
	Savannakhet	478	35
	Keng Kok	393	32
Pakse	Saravane	0	0
	Vapikhamthong	233	20
	Sedone	406	29
	Champassak	268	30
	Sithandone	237	20
	Attopeu	18	0
	Totals	6,208	600

*Includes military teachers

Attachment No. 3

Increase in Classrooms, by PSI Districts, at Rate of 7 Percent

<u>AC Area</u>	<u>PSI District</u>	<u>No. of Existing Classrooms</u>	<u>No. of New Classrooms at 7 Percent Increase</u>
Houei Sai	Houei Sai	131	9
Xieng Khouang	Xieng Khouang	290	(not included)
	Sam Neua	91	(not included)
Luang Prabang	Luang Prabang	390	27
Sayaboury	Sayaboury	231	16
	Paklay	227	15
Vientiane	Vang Vieng	247	17
	Phone Hong	207	14
	Ban Keun	190	13
	Vientiane/North	408	28
	Vientiane/South	618	43
	Borikhane	124	8
Savannakhet	Khammouane	303	21
	Nong Bok	133	9
	Savannakhet	444	31
	Kengkok	364	25
Pakse	Vapikhamthong	212	14
	Sedone	296	20
	Champassak	226	15
	Sithandone	220	15
	Saravane	-	-
	Attopeu	33	-
	Totals		5,385