

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

March 1 1971

TO : Mr. Norman Green, Chief, Education Division

FROM : James Fitzgerald, CEA/Regional *Monthly Report*

SUBJECT: Community Education Monthly Report, February 1971

Problems:

CEA/Refugees reports some problems in Xiang Khoueng area due to enemy dry season activity

Project Progress

Refugee School Programs

The refugee school building program under GE 1013 is completed and a final report has been submitted under PMIS system.

It is quite significant that the Ministry of Education, with some USAID support has been able to take the initiative and provide an educational opportunity to the children who moved in from the Plain of Jars. CEA/Refugees is still working with the officials on insuring adequate supply distribution.

Mr. Woodson's monthly report also contains the latest figures available on refugee school statistics. It should be noted there has been a slight decrease in enrollment due primarily to dry season enemy activity.

During the summer period, a two day field trip was accomplished with high level SA officials in Pakxane of Attapeu Province. The local authorities in Pakxane are in the process of requesting most of the refugees and as soon as they are settled activity plans will be implemented for additional school cooperation and care of that area.

CEA/Refugees has also assisted CDAAs and CBAs draft activity plans for permanent school construction wherever they are certain the people are settled permanently.

2. Community Education/Program

Seven teacher candidates and three testing and measurement candidates are in their third month of training at Dong Dok. Two PIO/Ps are in the approved program and have people in Thailand for six months additional training.

CEA/Program continues significant work on curriculum review and revision.

A PIO/P has been drafted and is under MoE review to send 41 directors of groups scolaires to Thailand for ten days for intensive local in service training in Pakse. Prior to its submission it will be forwarded to Pakse for review and approval.

Miss Engler and the CE staff have completed a comprehensive report on the Annual 1971 Primary School Inspectors Conference. This report will be reviewed with the Department of Primary Education, duplicated, and given wide distribution throughout USAID. Each school inspector gave an assessment of his province and much of the current thinking and trends of elementary school education is contained in the report. These materials should prove quite useful to area and field personnel in their dealings with local counterparts.

3. Budget Planning FY 72-74

A good deal of time and effort was expended during the reporting period preparing the drafts of narratives and reviewing requirements with USAID field staff. Many meetings were held with counterparts to insure that project proposals really reflect what the Royal Lao Government is trying to accomplish.

The Area Coordinators' presentations were very helpful in that

they pinpointed requirements, provided a clearer picture of the area, and discussed areas of concern. The budget being submitted does contain most of the requests of the Area Coordinators except for some big expenditures which are very limited.

As in any activity there are probably ways in which to improve and the following is submitted for consideration.

a. The final Community Education subproject submission was thirty-eight (38) hecto pages and this did not include a separate classified submission. All of the information is relevant but the format probably can be redesigned to condense and simplify the document.

b. The term "overhead" is used to denote any charge that is not directly chargeable to an area. In Community Education the project thrust is really on national and area levels, therefore a better nomenclature might be "national budget" instead of "overhead" which has a different meaning completely.

c. The predetermined budget levels in each column restrict any creative or innovative planning except in the optimum column. The project manager is forced to put things in Column F that he feels really should be Column B or C items.

4. Urban Self-Help Construction and Related Projects

All self-help CE urban self-help construction is underway except Vang Vieng, CE 100A, which is awaiting purchase of RLG commodities.

The Department of Primary and Adult Education submitted a proposal to the Ministry of the Plan to construct ten additional urban self-help schools in the larger population centers of Laos during fiscal year 1972.

5. ConstructionSummary of 5th 71 self help projects approved in 1970

	No. of APs	No. of Schools	Number of Classrooms New Grades		Number of Classrooms Replace Grades		Total
			1-3	4-6	1-3	4-6	
Rural Self-Help	37	46	95	10	65	22	117
CE Urban	4	1	15	3			18
Refugees					19	31	50
	41	100	110	13	84	53	167

Percent of new classrooms for Grades 1-3: 61%

Percent of new classrooms for Grades 4-6: 39%

Status of approved CE construction projects:

AP CE 69/4	Phone Sakhay Groupe Scolaire (Pakse)	88% C
CE 70/3	Tha Hai Groupe Scolaire (Pakse)	7% C
CE 70/9	Urban Self Help Construction (Vientiane/North)	60% C
CE 70/10	Urban Self Help Construction (Vientiane/South)	55% C
CE 70/11	Urban Self-Help Construction (Luang Prabang)	99% C
CE 70/12	Urban Self Help Construction (Pakse)	58% C
CE 70/13	Urban Self-Help Construction (Savannakhet)	47% C
CE 70/17	Self Help construction Vocational School (Savannakhet)	80% C
CE 1003	Urban Self Help Construction (Pakse)	60% C
CE 1004	Urban Self Help Construction (Vang Viang)	15% C
CE 1005	Urban Self Help Construction (Chamkassak)	5% C
CE 1006	Urban Self Help Construction (Vientiane/North)	74% C

= C - completed