

September 7, 1975

TO : Mr. Norman Green, Chief, EDU  
FROM : Miss Lee Engler, Acting CEA/National  
SUBJECT: Community Education Branch Monthly Report for August 1975

1. Refugees

A contract technician approved for assignment September 8 will assist RDD in the development of educational programs and facilities for refugee children.

As self-help projects, 194 replacement classrooms for Xieng Khouang and 43 for Sam Neua, a total of 32 schools for refugee students, are being processed with RDD and RDD. Long Tieng Groupe Scolaire, with approximately 1,000 students enrolled last school year, is scheduled for repairs and reopening.

2. Training

- a. Thirty-five statistical workers from PSI and other MoE offices completed a 30-day training course, conducted by the Director of Educational Planning, to improve scope and quality of statistics for increasing efficiency in educational planning.
- b. The Health Training Course provided 30 teachers from Primary Schools and ENIs, in remote areas of two provinces, knowledge of basic health, sanitation, and first aid practices. It was also beneficial in involving the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, WHO, and UNDP, as well as USAID/PHD and EDU in the activity, promoting understanding of role and responsibility of personnel and opportunities for cooperation.
- c. The Minister of Education, with obvious pride in the seminar on Lao Geography, declared, "I fervently wish that initiative such as this can be taken in other disciplines such as natural sciences, mathematics, etc., in response to the imperative needs of education, in general, and the special area of the Laotianization of instruction." Whereas the MoE has initiated action to establish Lao as the language of instruction and staffing by Lao teachers at all levels, current emphasis on curriculum to correspond to the conditions and needs of the country will present a balanced approach to improve the quality of education as well as the Laotianization of its school system.
- d. The annual conference, held by the Director of Primary Education with selected PSIs and CEAs to plan in-service training programs has been scheduled for September 7. Preliminary proposals for the agenda of the annual PSI meeting indicate possible study and analysis of sixth-grade examinations, with implication for consideration of the testing program at all levels.

- e. Proposed assignment by MoE of two new positions, one in educational supervision, as an assistant to the Director of Primary Education, and the other in curriculum confirms MoE's increasing emphasis on curriculum development and the quality of instruction.
- f. The Director of Educational Planning departed August 30 for a six-week study and observation tour, sponsored by USIS, to gain concepts of planning and other aspects of education in the USA. The Director of Primary Education will leave September 9 for three months with the Primary Education Department of Hawaii for observation and experiences in administrative and supervisory techniques and practices. The Deputy Director of Primary Education and the Primary School Inspector/Savannakhet will participate in a Regional UNESCO meeting in Bangkok.

3. School Supplies

About 100 tons of school and office supplies were processed for shipment with MoE and assistance from the Transportation Branch to all provinces.

4. Construction

Summary of FY 71 self-help projects approved to-date:

	<u>Number of Classrooms*</u>						<u>Total</u>
	<u>No. of APs</u>	<u>No. of Schools</u>	<u>New Grade 1-3</u>	<u>New Grade 4-6</u>	<u>Replace Grade 1-3</u>	<u>Replace Grade 4-6</u>	
Rural Self-Help	1	1	-	-	3	4	7
CE (Urban)	1	1	3	3	-	-	6
Refugee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>13</u>

\* No change from July report. In addition to refugee classrooms previously mentioned, other APs for 14 new and 19 replacement classrooms are in process.

Status of Approved GE Construction Projects:

AP	CE 69/4	Phone Sikhay Groupe Scolaire (Pakse)	20% completed
	CE 69/5	Phone Savanh Groupe Scolaire (Phone Hong)	100% completed
	CE 69/7	Long Tieng Nova 3 S. (Xieng Khouang)	Not started
	CE 70/3	Tha Hai Groupe Scolaire (Pakse)	10% completed
	CE 70/9	Urban Self-Help Construction (VTE-North)	not started
	CE 70/10	Urban Self-Help Construction (VTE-South)	Construction started
	CE 70/11	Urban Self-Help Construction (Luang Prabang)	40%
	CE 70/12	Urban Self-Help Construction (Pakse)	20%
	CE 70/13	Urban Self-Help Construction (Savannakhet)	12%
	CE 70/16	Multi-Purpose Building (Paklay)	Construction started
	CE 70/17	Self-Help Construction: Vocational School (Sykt)	20%
	CE 1003	Urban Self-Help Construction (Pakse)	8%
	PIQ/T - 00329	Office Warehouse (PSI Vte/South)	14%

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