

December 5, 1973

To : Mr. Norman W. Green, Chief, Education Division
Contract Representative, USAID/Laos

From : *Robert M. Martin*
Robert M. Martin, Chief of Party
University of Hawaii Contract Team

Subject: November, 1973 Monthly Report

Team activities during the month of November centered upon three:

1. The annual review visit of Dr. Teruo Ihara, Campus Coordinator of the Contract. This visit involved visitation to all five schools; personal contacts with all team members; interviews with AID Mission personnel and Ministry of Education officials plus social activities which included a reunion with the Lao who have studied at the University of Hawaii and returned to posts in the Kingdom of Laos.
2. Meetings by Ihara and Martin with the Chief, Education Division, USAID/Laos regarding possible future areas of contract service. It is expected that these areas will assume sharper focus within the period of the near future. The University will be shaping its activities to accord with the new organizational and program structure of the Mission.
3. Continued heavy travel by team members to the Fa Ngum Schools. Advisory visitations have been scheduled to meet the local needs of the individual Fa Ngum schools and we are confident that the visitation schedule plan will be met by the end of the first trimester December 21.

A. Activities and Accomplishments

1. Field Trips:

Allen-----Illness precluded field trips
 Blake-----Phone Hong
 Crisfield-Phone Hong, Pakse, Savannakhet
 Fultz-----Phone Hong
 Kumbabe----Savannakhet, Luang Prabang
 Rantala---Luang Prabang (twice)
 Heieie----Phone Hong, Pakse, Savannakhet
 Martin----Phone Hong

2. SE Advisors

Wong -Savannakhet--As indicated by his monthly report (attached) satisfying progress has been made in staffing, water and electricity supply and in the setting out of the agriculture projects. A natural concern at the school on the part of the 4th year students has to do with what the MOE will decide concerning Cycle II. All are aware of the requirements but there is strong sentiment at the school for a second cycle.

Yamauchi -Luang Prabang--Plans are being developed for the dedication of the school. All textbooks needed are on hand and staff shortages are being overcome. The usual problems prevail regarding water distribution.

Zane -Pakse--All buildings are taking shape on schedule. Certain shortages such as roofing materials and glass louvers remain a problem. Water is at the school-needng only installation of pipes to distribute it to agriculture plots etc. Instructional equipment, supplies and textbooks are arriving on schedule and staff is complete.

Blake -Vientiane--Water supply is still somewhat irregular, but Tom Liston has completed arrangements for the construction of a storage tank which will enable the school to build up its reserve of water. Agricultural crop projects are under way and staff is complete.

3. Curriculum Advisors

Dorothy Heisle (Home Economics) notes that at this point all home economics teachers in the schools are fully qualified. Her concern is the stimulating of interest and enrolment among girls with regard to home economics electives.

Jane Fultz (English-Social Studies)--The Program of Studies Booklet is acquiring added dimensions. Interestingly, although completion of the Booklet is being delayed, the ultimate value is becoming greater. It is serving as a vehicle for curriculum development and the finished product will be essentially a Lao teachers achievement. Mr. Somsak and Jane Fultz are looking ahead to the development of Course of Study Guides in each of the subject matter areas.

Arthur Crisfield (Lao language & Literature)--Visits to three schools in November have given an opportunity to develop program goals with the Lao Language teachers. A suggestion that a curriculum newsletter be started and circulated among Fa Ngum schools is excellent and will be explored. Possibly one subject-oriented circular for each area, each could serve as an exchange of ideas vehicle.

Iwao Kumabe (Business Education)--An interesting new program is being developed whereby students from the Lao Technical School use the Lao typewriters at Fa Ngum School, Vientiane. Mr. Kumabe recommends that Lao typing classes be offered after school for adults, teachers, office workers etc.

Hartwell Blake (Agriculture)--As indicated by the report, locating and distributing seeds & plants as well as related equipment were achievements during November. The double job being handled by Mr. Blake should be noted.

John Rantala (Industrial Arts)--Industrial Arts advisory activities are already detailed in addition to the Procurement and Logistical work. This latter is a matter of coordination with Tom Liston who will assume all P. and L. responsibilities for the Division after January 1. It is recognized, however, that all SE advisors will continue to function in support of Mr. Liston. The industrial arts program is in need of sustained attention particularly in the newer Pa Ngum Schools.

Leslie Allen (Science/Mathematics)--Although plagued with health problems during November, Dr. Allen was able to initiate a science newsletter to be circulated among Pa Ngum Schools. Happily, the cause of the ailment has been located and is being treated and the team expects a healthy person back with us.

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