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**UNITED STATES ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
TO BURMA (1950 - 1985)**



CONTENTS

- 3 Introduction
- 4 The program from 1950 to 1953
- 23 Map of Burma (excluding Rangoon) showing projects from 1950
- 24 The program from 1956 to the 1960's
- 53 Map of Rangoon area showing projects from 1950
- 54 The program from 1980 to the present
- 63 Map of Burma showing Maize and Oilseeds Production Project
- 64 Disaster relief program
- 69 Map of Burma showing natural disasters afflicted areas
- 70 Conclusion
- 72 Table showing U.S. assistance to Burma from 1980 through 1985



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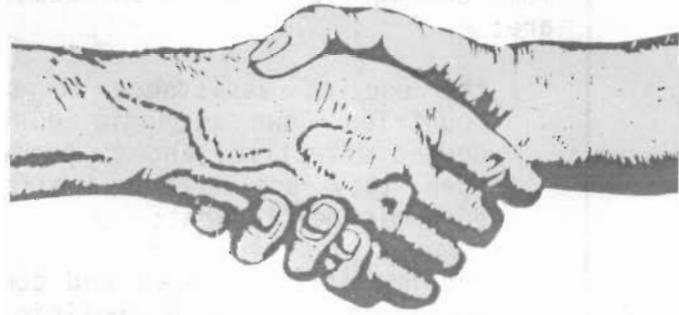
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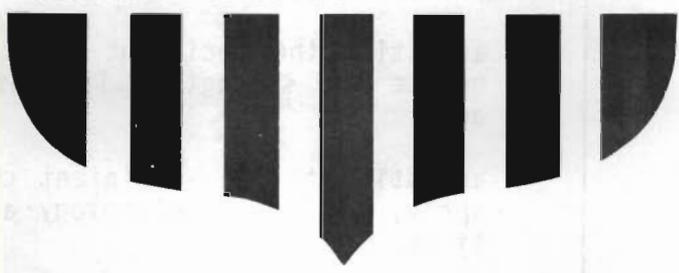
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UNITED STATES ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO BURMA (1950 - 1985)



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA





UNITED STATES ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
TO BURMA
(1950-1985)

Economic development is a long-term process. Development assistance can play a critical role, especially for lower income countries, by providing the resources necessary to address basic long-term constraints to development and, in certain cases, the resources to help countries avoid serious disruption of their economies while needed stabilization and adjustment programs are being conducted. As a strategy for assistance the United States has identified four key areas of emphasis which it will continue to apply across all programs including the priority sectors of food and agriculture, human resources and energy. They are:

the use of assistance to support aid-recipient countries' own economic policies when they are deemed effective, and to promote their improvement when they are deemed ineffective for long-term economic development;

the promotion of open and competitive markets and the support of public policies that permit the exercise of private sector initiative and ingenuity;

assisting the recipient country in its effort to create and strengthen its institutional capacity; and,

assisting the aid-recipient countries to develop, apply, and adapt technology and technical innovations.

Now, more than ever, our future is directly linked to other members of the global community. These interdependencies have made us partners, whose economic, security and political interests are intertwined.

M. Peter McPherson
Administrator
Agency for International Development



Introduction

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and its predecessor agencies have been providing economic assistance to developing countries for over forty years. Since 1950, the people of Burma and the United States have worked side by side in a variety of development projects to achieve economic progress and a better life for all Burma's people.

To carry out these development projects Burma has invested its own resources, while the United States has provided equipment, supplies, technical services and overseas training. While the objective of economic cooperation between the two governments is Burma's economic progress, success depends primarily on Burma's own efforts. The role of United States assistance is subsidiary, supplementing, as appropriate, the steps which Burma itself takes to promote its own economic development.

Since 1950, the United States has assisted Burma in every development sector including agriculture, irrigation, forestry, fish-

eries, livestock, public health, transport, communications and education. Most recently, the USAID program in Burma was reinitiated in 1980 and has now grown to a level of \$15.0 million annually. USAID/Burma's strategy is to apply a gradually increasing level of economic assistance to Burmese development projects which are of high priority within Burma's twenty year development plan; which are nationwide in scope and beneficial impact; and which meet the basic human needs mandate.

According to U.S. Ambassador Mr. Daniel A. O'Donohue, "The continuing contribution AID is making to Burma's development effort has significantly strengthened our basic bilateral relationship."

This booklet describes some of what has been accomplished over the years through economic cooperation between the United States and Burma. The story that the following pages and pictures portray is intended to strengthen the existing friendly ties between the Burmese and American people.

Through the Port of Rangoon pass almost all of Burma's imports and exports. Because the port facilities were heavily damaged during World War II, rehabilitation of the port was a top priority. The United States provided over two and a half million dollars for the Rangoon Port Rehabilitation Project, the largest single amount provided during this three-year period. Major works under the project included construction of transit sheds at Ahlone, Sule and Brooking Street wharves, provision of steel pontoons for sea-going and inland vessels, and supply of fixed moorings and workshop equipment.

Part of Rangoon Port heavily damaged during World War II.

The program from 1950 to 1953

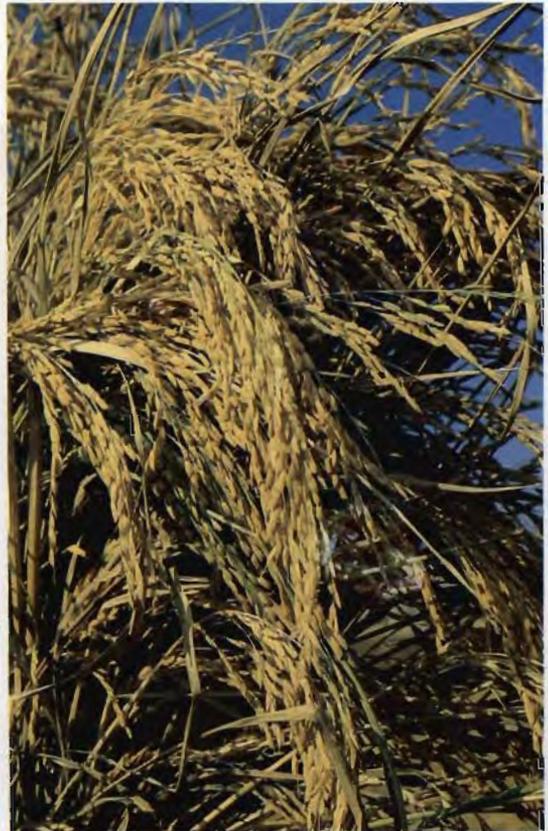


The same view after the rehabilitation.

Steel rails: the railroad
is still an important means
of transportation.



Golden paddy: growing of rice has always been the most important aspect of rural life in Burma.

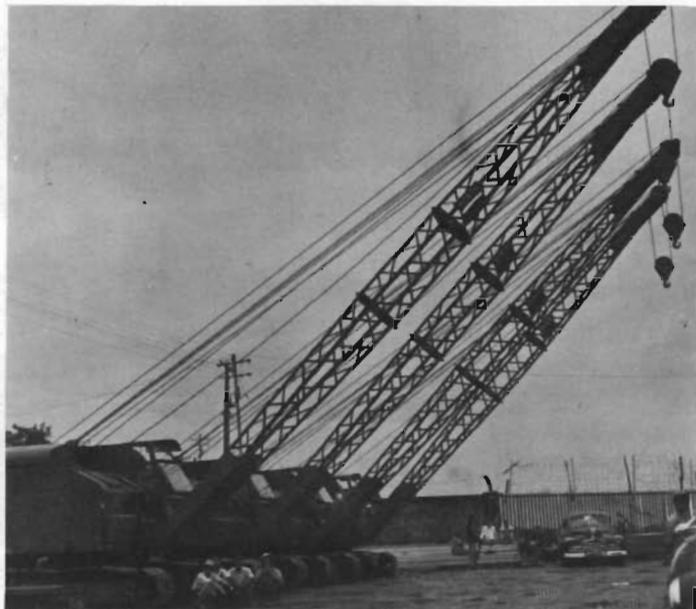


Healthy children: an invaluable resource in a developing country (below).





Assembly of pontoon bridges provided by the United States.



Cranes for the Rangoon Port financed by the United States (above right).



A new pontoon being assembled at Rangoon Port (right).



Painter U Hla Maung Gyi's view of Rangoon Port.



Dredger 'Salween', supplied by the United States, prior to launching in Scotland.



Dredger 'Irrawaddy', also supplied by the United States, at Sittwe.

During this period, with United States technical assistance amounting to nearly two million dollars, an economic and technical survey of Burma's resources was made. The result was the Economic Planning and General Engineering Services Project, a comprehensive economic and social development undertaking adopted by the Burmese Government.

For rice export and coastal trade, the outports along the coastline of Burma are important. These secondary ports also suffered damage during the war. Under the Outport Rehabilitation Project the United States supplied nearly one and a half million dollars worth of port and navigation equipment, such as mooring buoys, pontoons and dredgers for Sittwe on the Rakhine Coast; Bassein in the Delta; and Moulmein, Tavoy and Mergui on the Tenasserim Coast.

During this period the Public Health Project, carried out with United States assistance of over one million dollars, concentrated on environmental sanitation, malaria control, health education and public health training. Independent Burma's first efforts to supply safe and abundant drinking water for the rural population was initiated with U.S. assistance when eight water jet units were provided for drilling tube wells. Health teams were set up at Aungmyanmye (12 miles north of Rangoon), Sittwe, Bassein, and Taunggyi. Public health experts and medical specialists provided their services and also helped train Burmese doctors and medical technical personnel in the United States.

Aungmyanmye Demonstration Health Centre, where the United States set up a health team.



A village clinic for the rural population.

A mobile drill financed by the United States.



Under the Rice Milling and Processing Project, a model American rice mill capable of a daily output of 40 tons of cleaned rice was constructed at Setsan, Pazundaung, in Rangoon with United States assistance of \$290,000. Based on its experience with this pilot plant, the Burmese Government undertook a program of new rice mill construction and rehabilitation of privately-owned mills. Improved rice fetched higher prices in the international



Rice mills constructed on river banks.

Dr. Deal from the United States examining rice destroyed by insects.





The interior of a rice godown under construction at Ahlone Jetty (above).

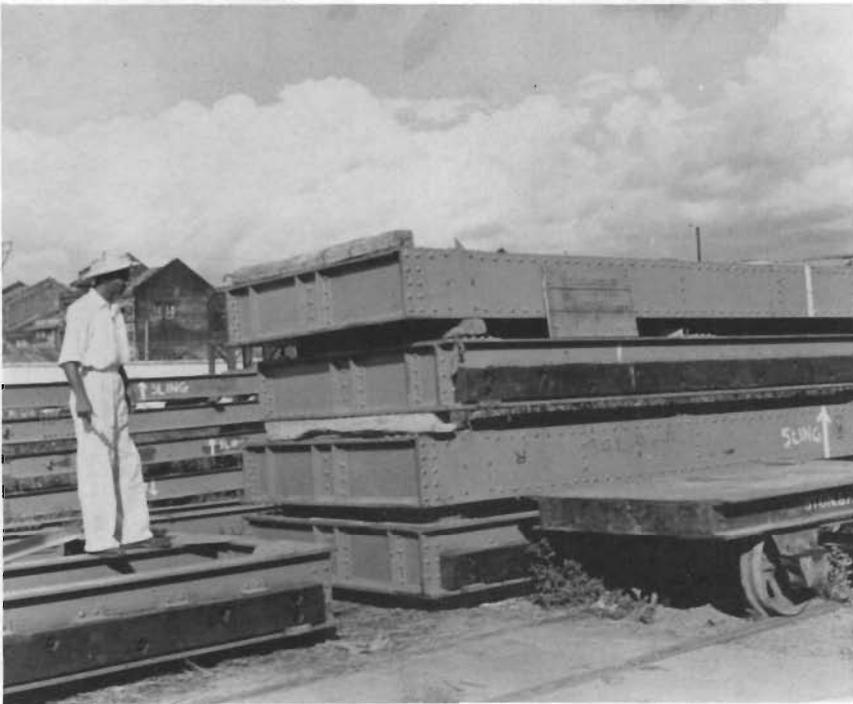
Construction work on the godown being carried out with equipment supplied by the United States.

rice market and thus increased Burma's foreign exchange earnings.

To meet the need for adequate storage facilities for rice, over fifty warehouses were built in Ahlone and Pazundaung areas of Rangoon, Kanaungto (across the river from Rangoon) and Myaungmya (in the delta) under the Rice Storage Project. Besides the nearly \$740,000 costs, the United States made a gift of 4,250 tons of cement for the construction.



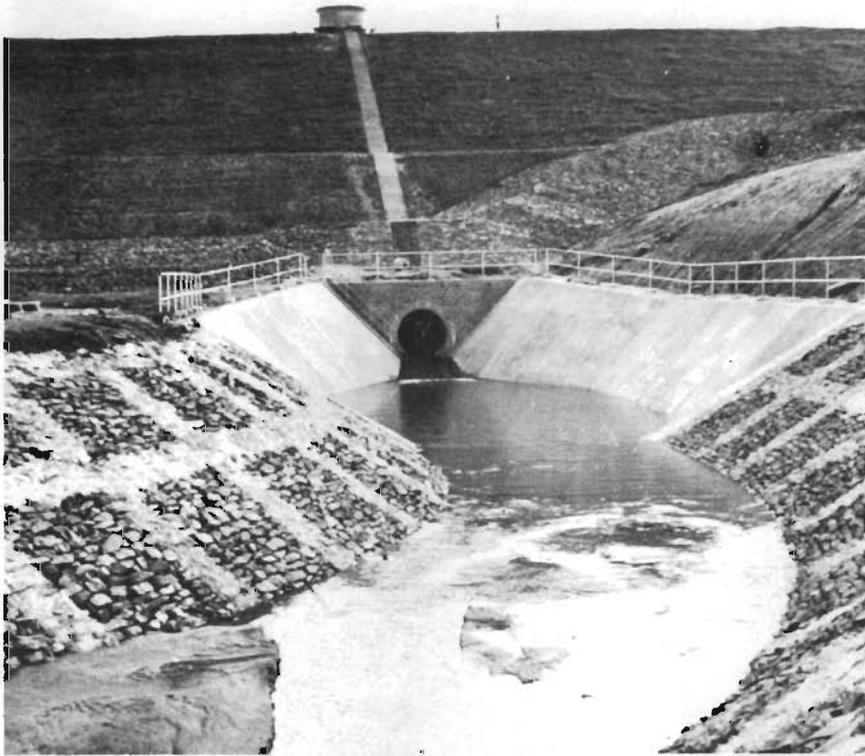
Land in the Irrawaddy Delta is fertile and suitable for rice cultivation. Unfortunately, it is subject to annual flooding. One such area is near the important delta town of Mabin. The building of the Yandoon Island sluice gate with United States cooperation of over \$250,000 helped prevent annual floods in this area. The result of this program, part of the Flood Control Project in Lower Burma, was that about 75,000 acres of riceland were protected.



Arrival of United States financed sluice gates for Yandoon Island.



Irrigation construction at Yandoon Island.



Water outlet at Thitson Dam built for irrigation purposes.

While lower Burma is liable to flooding, upper Burma is subject to drought. A large dam for irrigation purposes was constructed at Taungpulu, 13 miles from Meiktila in upper Burma with United States assistance of nearly \$140,000 under the Irrigation Project in Upper Burma. Since then the Burmese Government has constructed other dams for irrigation.

Shifting cultivation has caused soil erosion in the hilly Shan State. An extensive Soil Conservation and Agricultural Improvement Project in the Shan State was initiated near Taunggyi with United States assistance of over \$170,000. American technical assistance was given also in the use of fertilizers and in animal husbandry.

Seeds, financed by the United States, being loaded on truck for the Shan State.



Dr. Staker, an Agricultural Chemist from the United States, demonstrating soil testing.



Through the Agricultural Improvement Project in Kachin and Kayah States, American agricultural experts introduced new ways of raising crops and livestock, as well as methods of storage and marketing, with assistance amounting to over \$51,000 for Kachin and nearly \$34,000 for Kayah states.

Tree planting machine for the Shan State, also provided by the United States.



New vaccine production building, financed by the United States, in Rangoon (above).

The Veterinary College at Insein, 10 miles north of Rangoon, was reopened with United States assistance of nearly \$39,000 in 1952. The college was established to teach, conduct research, and produce vaccine for livestock. Under the Livestock Disease Control Project, books, laboratory equipment and refrigeration equipment were provided.

With United States assistance of \$240,000 under the Kalewa Coal and Mineral Development Project, one of Burma's prime coal deposits at Kalewa in the Chindwin Valley was first surveyed and explored. Reserves were estimated at 68 million tons.

For its contribution to the Railways Rehabilitation Project the United States brought in rolled steel wheels for freight cars, lighting equipment, locomotive parts and steel rails, costing over \$650,000.



Project model of the Kalewa Coal Field.

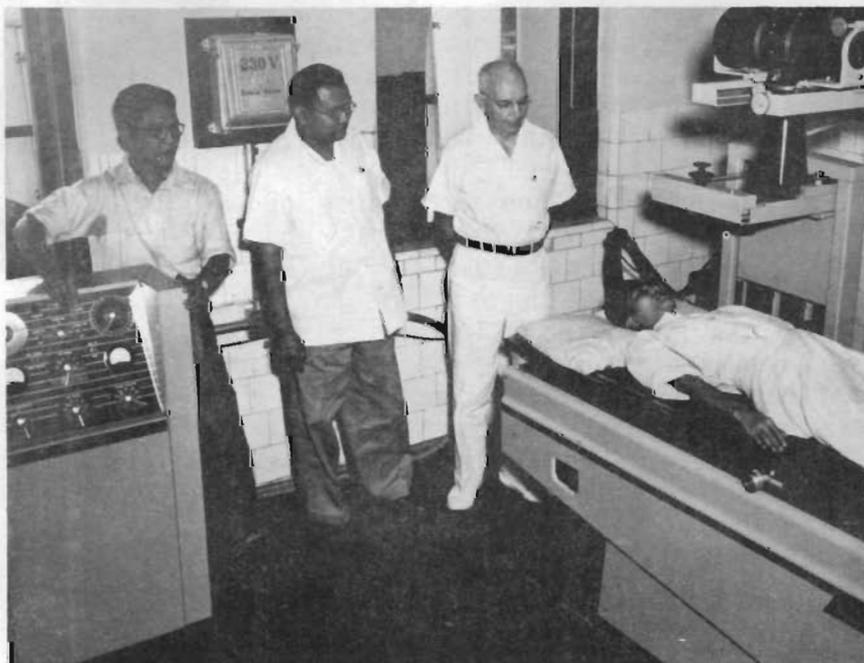
Orthopedic operation performed by Dr. Phillips F. Green (left) from the United States.



During World War II, the Rangoon General Hospital, the largest in the country, lost much of its equipment. For its Rangoon General Hospital Project, the United States provided over \$100,000 for new laboratory equipment (including a large X-ray unit) and badly needed hospital supplies.

United States financed antibiotics.

X-ray unit installed by the United States in the Rangoon General Hospital.



Like many other public institutions, the University of Rangoon lost a great deal of its resources during the war. Books and laboratory equipment worth nearly \$710,000 were provided by the United States under the University of Rangoon Project for the Engineering College, Medical College and the university's Science, Psychology and Education Departments. Funds for a science block extension, staff bungalows and a new water supply system for the university were also provided.

In 1947, University College and Agricultural College at Mandalay were reopened. The war had depleted them of books and scientific apparatus, and the Agricultural College of farm equipment. Under the University of Mandalay Project, the United States provided nearly \$140,000 for scientific and farm equipment to ac-

celerate the rehabilitation of these institutions, which in 1958 became incorporated in the Mandalay University.

Microscopes, supplied by the United States, being used by students at the Medical College.



The Recreation Center at the Rangoon University -- painted by U Hla Shein.

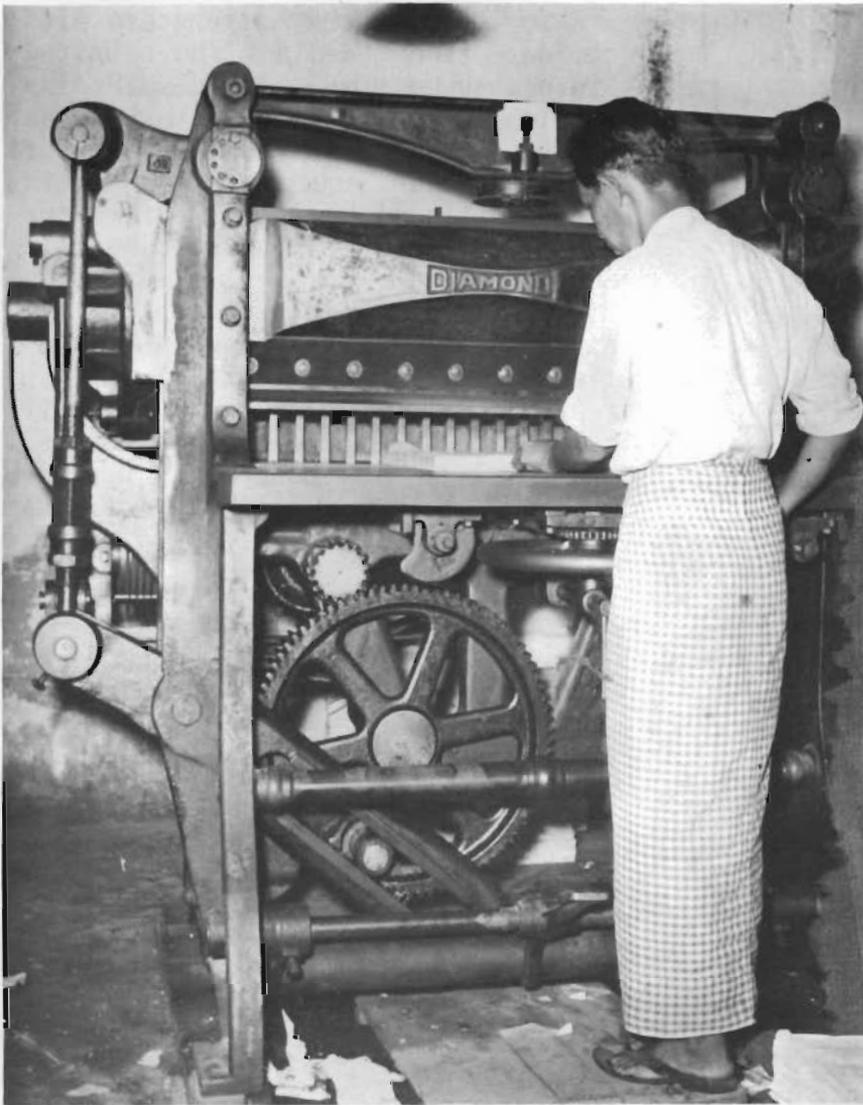


Founded after Independence, the Burma Translation Society undertook the publishing of educational books at low cost. To help print the newly translated as well as original works, the United States, under the Burma Translation Society Project, provided a complete printing plant and technical assistance costing nearly \$240,000. Four Burmese printers were trained in the United States to operate the plant. Since 1964 the Burma Translation Society, situated on Prome Road, Rangoon, has been known as Sarpay Beikman.



A view of the office of Sarpay Beikman, previously known as the Burma Translation Society (left).





Pictures showing the complete printing plant for the society provided by the United States.



Outdoor audio-visual film training.

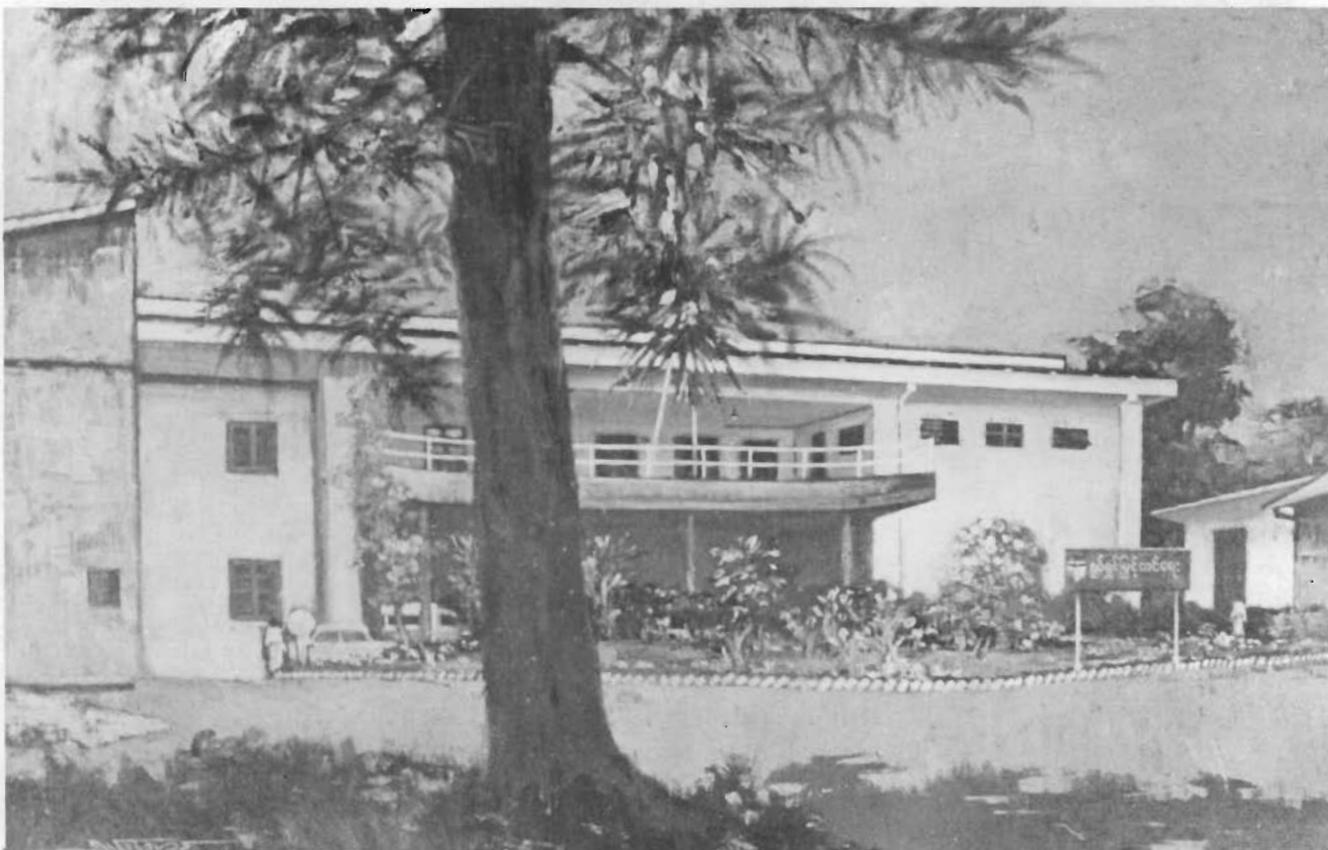


To help Burma strengthen its communication media the United States, under the Audio-Visual Aids Development Project, supplied funds amounting to nearly \$770,000 for building and equipping a modern air-conditioned motion picture studio (now known as the Feature Film Section of the State Film Promotion Board, located at 50, Golden Valley, Rangoon) and processing laboratories. The studio now produces newsreels and documentary films as well as films for independent producers, and has been instrumental in upgrading the technical quality of the Burmese film industry.



Audio-visual training in health work with a visiting American expert.

U Than Aung's painting depicting the modern motion picture studio (below).





Completed Pyidaungsu Flats, also assisted by the United States, at Halpin Road in Rangoon.

Post-war migration from the countryside doubled the population of Rangoon from 400,000 to nearly one million. This new population created an acute housing shortage. Five American architects, under an Economic Cooperation Administration contract, contributed their services to the design and building of Pyidaungsu Flats at Halpin Road in Rangoon. Five of the eighteen buildings were constructed with United States funds of over \$160,000 provided under the Low-Cost Housing Project. American architects were also associated with the planning of the new housing development at Kanbe, six miles north of Rangoon.



Completed apartment of United States assisted housing project in Kanbe.

To promote applied research in science and engineering, and provide technical services to both private and government enterprises, the Burmese Government founded the Industrial Research Institute in 1947. This institute received over \$200,000 worth of equipment and apparatus under a United States grant to the Industrial Research Institute Project. In 1954, the institute was enlarged and its name changed to the Union of Burma Applied Research Institute (UBARI). It is now known as the Central Research Organization, and is situated at the corner of Kaba-Aye and Kanbe roads in Rangoon.

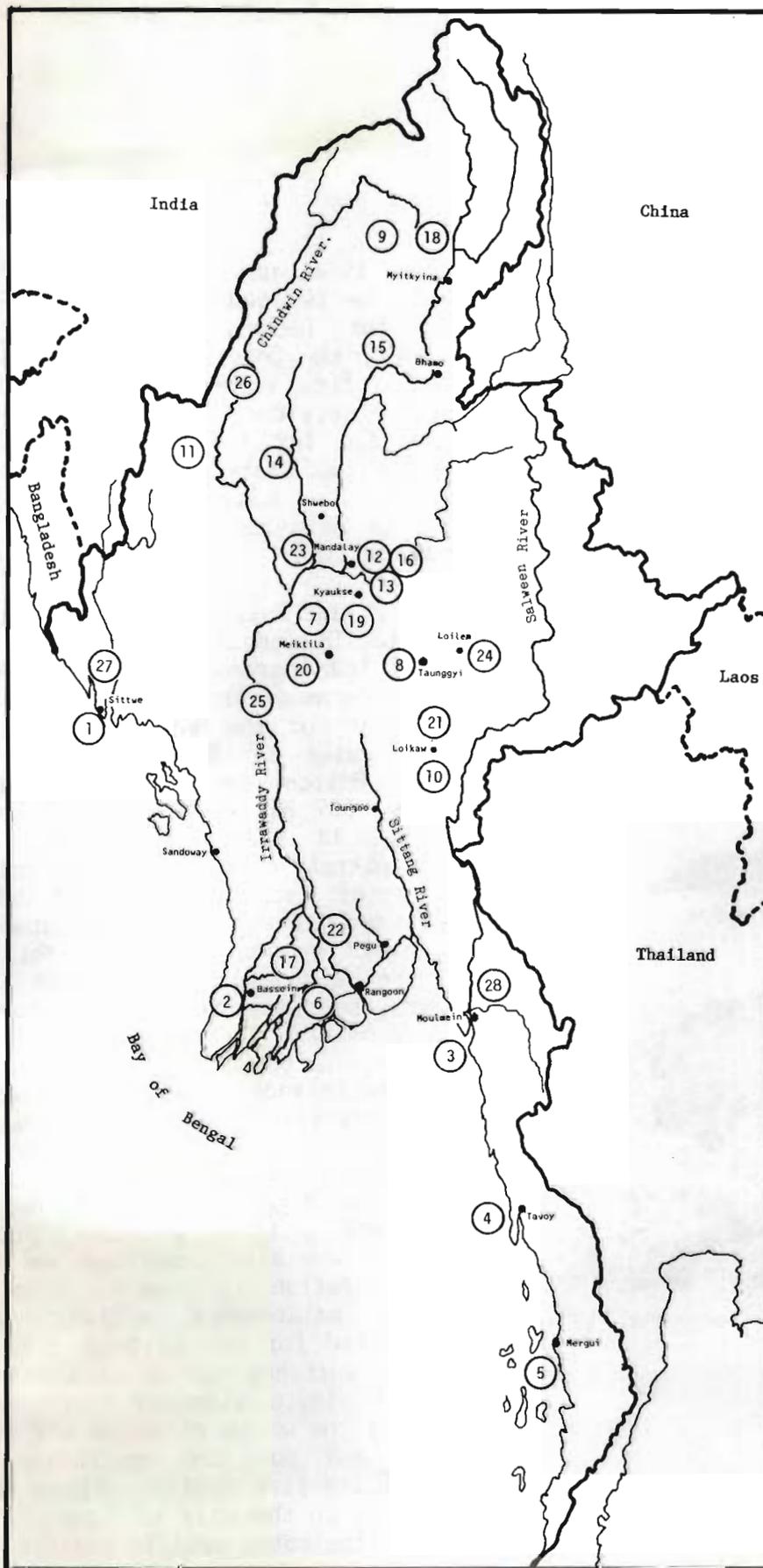
Maps are of vital importance to economic development planning. Burma was completely mapped in the early 1950's by the Aerial Survey Division of the Burma Survey Department. Under the Aerial Survey Project, the United States helped initiate the aerial survey program with a grant of nearly \$880,000 for training and equipment.

Map drawing process (left).



Map drawing assisted by Mr. Ernest J. Petersen of the United States.





MAP OF BURMA
(EXCLUDING RANGOON)
SHOWING PROJECTS
FROM 1950

- ① ② ③ ④ & ⑤ Out-port Rehabilitation Project
- ⑥ Flood Control Project in Lower Burma
- ⑦ Irrigation Project in Upper Burma
- ⑧ Soil Conservation and Agricultural Improvement Project in the Shan State
- ⑨ & ⑩ Agricultural Improvement Project in Kachin and Kayah States
- ⑪ Kalewa Coal and Mineral Development Project.
- ⑫ University of Mandalay Project
- ⑬ Police Assistance Project
- ⑭ Reconstruction of Kabo Dam Project
- ⑮ Timber Extraction Project
- ⑯ Telecommunications Project
- ⑰ Land Restoration Project
- ⑱ ⑲ ⑲ ⑲ & ⑲ Land and Water Resources Development Project
- ⑳ & ㉓ Village Water Supply and Sanitation Project
- ㉔ Namsang Area Development Project
- ㉕ ㉖ ㉗ & ㉘ Inland Waterways Fleet Improvement Project

The program from 1956 to the 1960's



Police patrol launch received by the Burma Police.

In 1956, under an agreement between the two countries known as the Rice for Technicians and Scholars Project, the Government of Burma exchanged rice valued at \$1.1 million for the services of American technicians and for the cost of sending Burmese scholars to the United States. The United States used the rice to help meet a food emergency in Pakistan.

For the Police Assistance Project, the United States concluded two dollar loan agreements with the Burmese Government in 1958 and 1959 for equipment for the Burma Police at a total value of \$8.8 million. The Burma Police received 225 small trucks, 557 Willys Jeeps, 212 Landrovers, 48 three-ton trucks, 108 Fiat patrol cars, 1,700 bicycles, 475 motor cycles, 16 patrol boats and many other types of equipment. For swift communication, 21 sets of Burmese keyboard teleprinters and other telecommunication equipment were provided. The Burma Police also received 61 police patrol launches, 40 portable radio sets and a quantity of traffic security equipment. Wireless control station buildings in Rangoon and Mandalay were completed and began operating in November, 1963. A third wireless station building was also completed and put into operation in Insein. A motor vehicle maintenance workshop was constructed for use as both a maintenance workshop and a storage godown. A single sideband telenetwork covering the whole of Burma was completed and put into operation in 1965. Fifty-five traffic lights were installed in the city of Rangoon for controlling motor vehicle traffic.

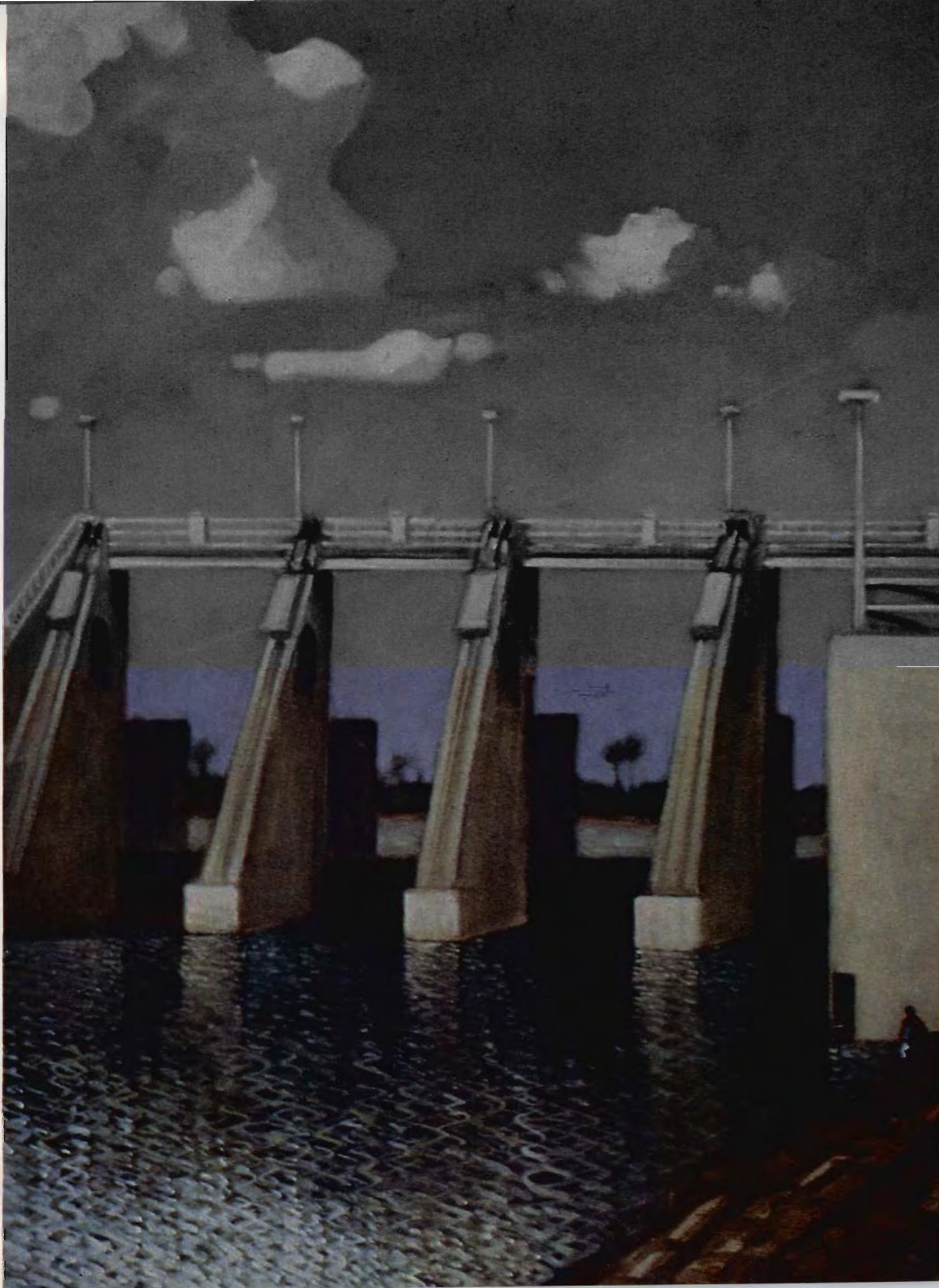
River at sunset: often the
only means of communication
between population and tra-
ding centers.



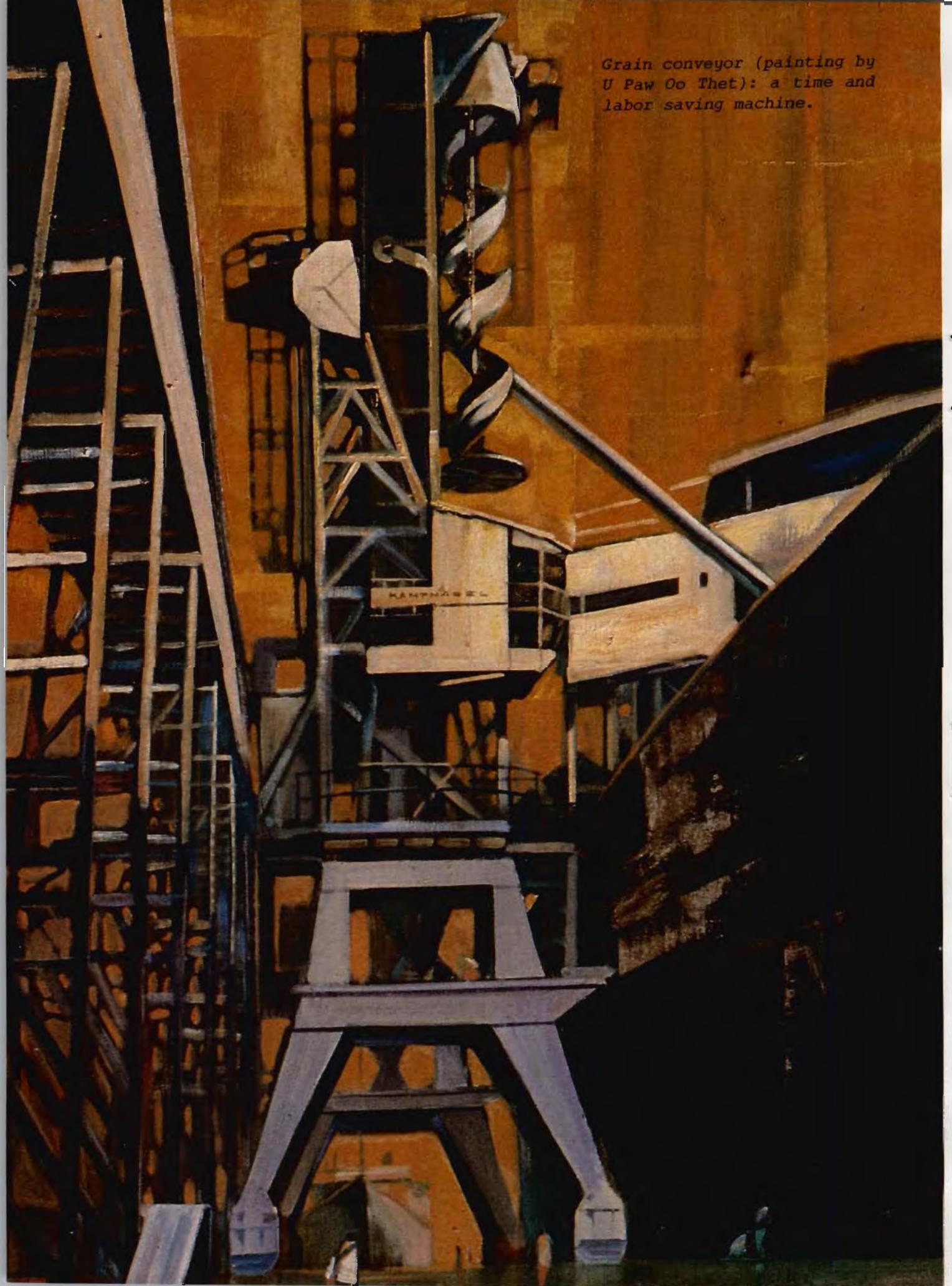
Reconstructed Kabo Dam (painting by U Hla Shein): providing water for irrigation and drinking.

Tractor at work: higher production requires modern techniques.





Grain conveyor (painting by
U Paw Oo Thet): a time and
labor saving machine.



Piling being drawn for the new foundation of the United States assisted Kabo Dam reconstruction.



Headworks controlling the flow of irrigation water into one of the two irrigation canals which are supplied by Kabo Dam.



Kabo Dam after reconstruction.



Under the Reconstruction of Kabo Dam Project, near Shwebo in upper Burma, United States assistance of nearly \$1.6 million made it possible to be able to continue to supply the town of Shwebo with drinking water and for some 50,000 families to resume the cultivation of approximately 300,000 acres of land nearby. Reconstruction was completed in September 1959.

Burma's foreign exchange earnings from timber exports, notably green teak, were increased with American assistance of over \$660,000 under the Timber Extraction Project. Mechanized equipment for modernizing timber extraction in upper Burma

Equipment for timber extraction provided by the United States.

Painting by U Aung Khin showing timber extraction work being done by mechanized equipment (below).

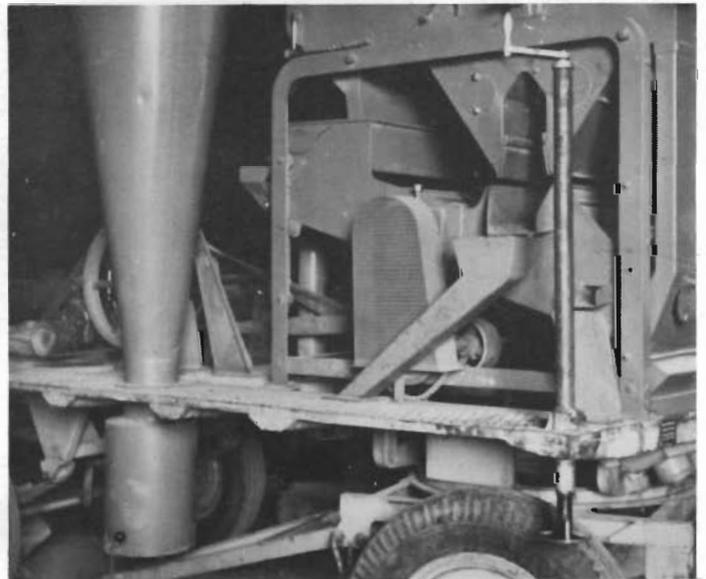




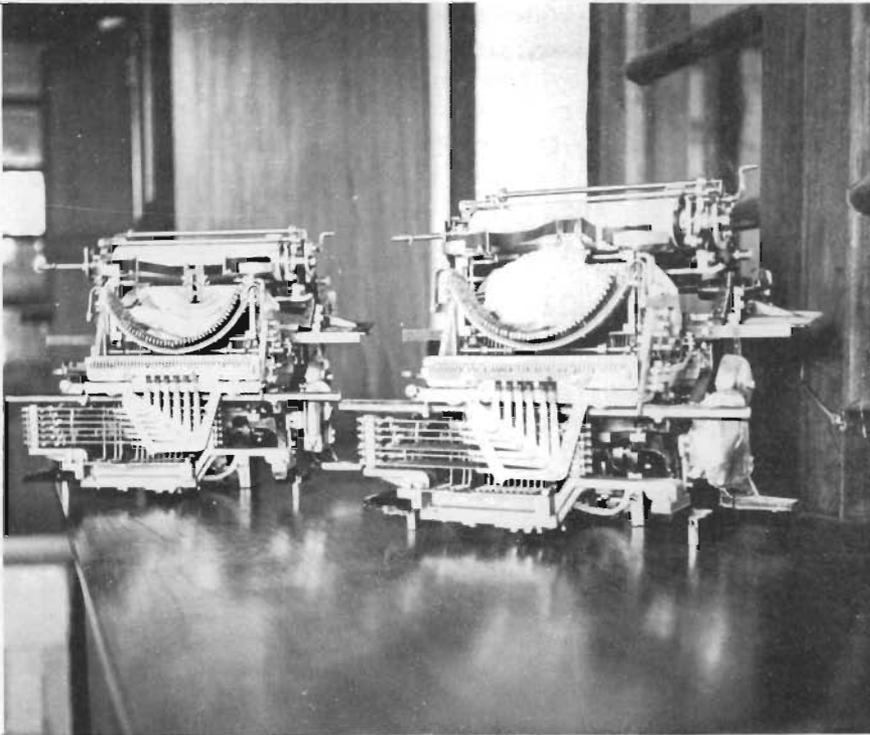
forests near Bhamo, as well as technical assistance, were provided in this pilot project. The first year of operation reflected an increase in extraction output of more than 11 thousand tons.

Although Rice Handling and Processing Mechanization was a pilot project, the industrial tractors, flat bed trailers, sack pilers, mobile conveyors and cleaning and grading equipment, which were provided by the United States at a cost of over \$150,000, significantly improved the rate at which rice could be loaded at the port of Rangoon. For the first time since Independence, loading at the port was able to keep pace with deliveries of rice and available shipping space.

Mobile conveyors, tractors, and other equipment supplied by the U.S. to improve rice handling and processing.



The telegraph and telephone carrier systems between Rangoon and Mandalay were restored (utilization commencing in January 1960), and new terminal equipment installed, with American assistance of nearly \$160,000. 12 telephone channels and 12 telegraph-teleprinter channels were set up under this Telecommunications Project.



Teleprinters and terminal equipment installed by the United States for improvement of telecommunications in Burma.



Earthmoving equipment provided by the United States.

Under the Land Restoration Project approximately 508,000 acres of farm land were reclaimed in lower Burma, resulting in an increase in the production of rice and other crops, such as jute. The Agricultural and Rural Development Corporation (ARDC) used funds amounting to over \$5.3 million provided under this project to procure tractors, earthmoving equipment, and other materials to help restore to cultivation and resettle areas in the Irrawaddy and Sittang River valleys. This work entailed the reconstruction of protective embankments and drainage systems as well as assistance to farmers in helping them resume cultivation. The project brought a significant increase of milled rice production, most of which was available to assist in increasing exports to near pre-war levels. In addition, the project promoted double and triple-cropping, crop diversification and shifts in land use. Very significantly, the project also pro-



United States financed tractor at work.

Completed bund section along the Sittang River near Kyaungywa (below).



A brush cutter, supplied by the United States, in action.



A small dredge provided under the project is assembled prior to being used to clear silted drainage canals.

All of these bulldozers were provided by American aid.





American AID officials inspecting groundnuts grown under the project.

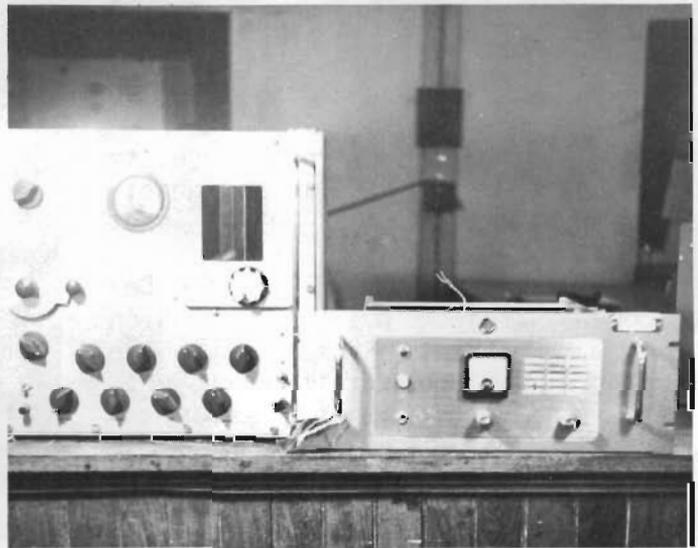
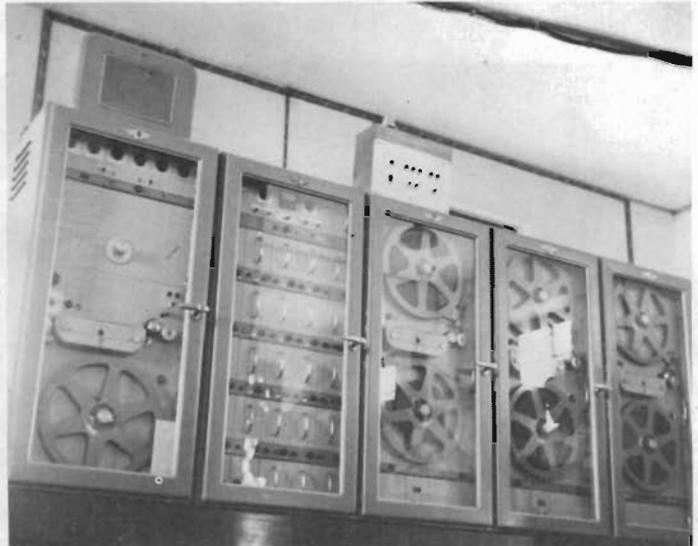
Tractors financed by the United States in action.

moted internal peace and security through the return of former inhabitants to productive work on the land.

The Land and Water Resources Development Project was an extension of activities carried out under the completed Land Restoration Project, with the exception that greater emphasis was given to crop diversification under the new project. With assistance of \$3.4 million from the United States, the four-year project put an additional one million acres under non-rice cultivation, principally for cotton, groundnuts, rubber, tobacco, peas, beans, maize, wheat and jute. Tractor spare parts were also delivered.



14-cubic-yard scrapers at work on bund construction.



Communications equipment installed
at 18 airfields through United
States aid.

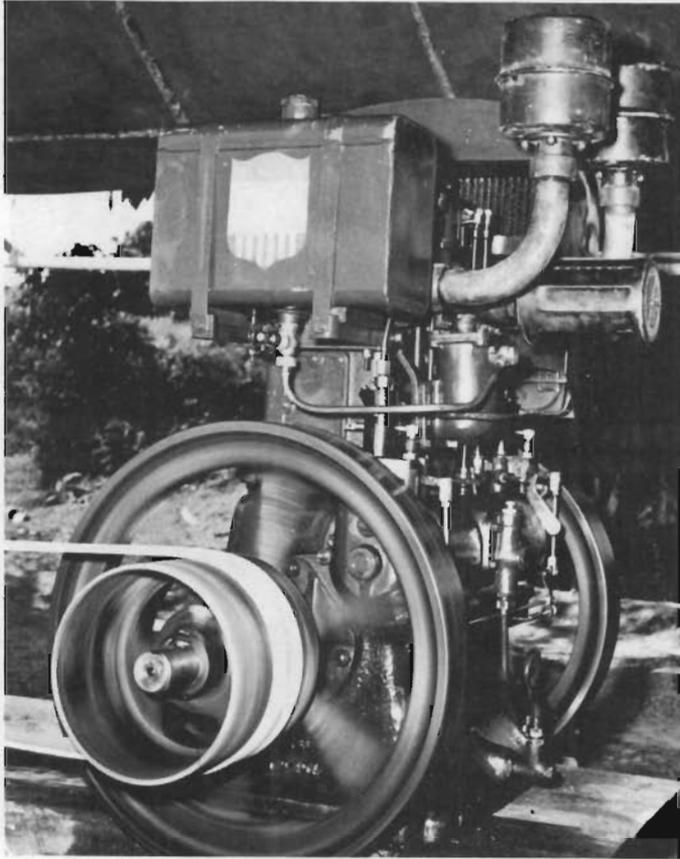


For the Union of Burma Applied Research Institute (UBARI) Project, the United States provided additional scientific and technical equipment and technical services amounting to nearly \$860,000 from the Armour Research Foundation. As Burma's principal center of industrial technology, the Central Research Organization, as it is known today, assists Burmese industry with analytic and applied research work and technical information. Its activities cover a number of fields of particular significance in Burma, including ore assaying, food technology, analytic chemistry, electronics, equipment calibration and standardization, and ceramics.

To meet international civil aviation standards, equipment worth over \$400,000 was installed by the United States under the Civil Aviation: Airport Development Project. Equipment for approach lighting, radio communications, traffic control, fire fighting and rescue work was installed at Rangoon Airport in Mingaladon, and at 17 smaller but frequently used airfields in Burma.

Transport equipment received under the Civil Aviation: Airport Development Project.

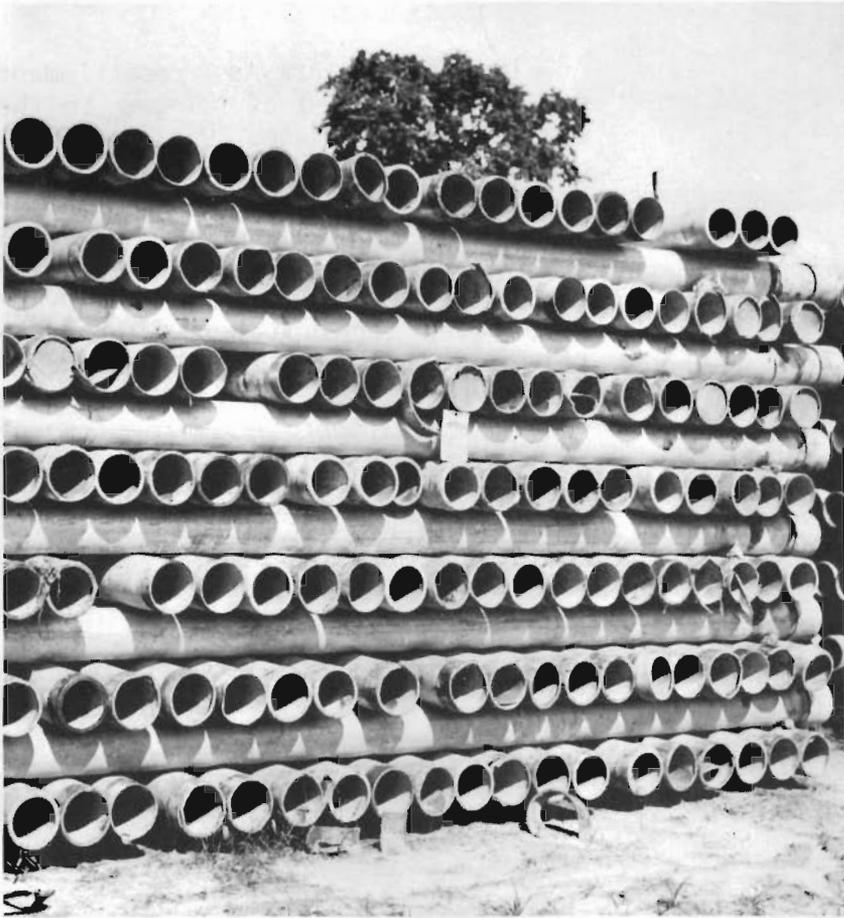
For the Village Water Supply and Sanitation Project the United States provided assistance of nearly \$570,000 for drilling rigs, steel pipes and pumps for village water systems. This equipment appreciably increased the Water Supply Board's operating efficiency and capacity. Over one and a half million people in rural areas benefitted from the adequate year-round supply of drinking water.



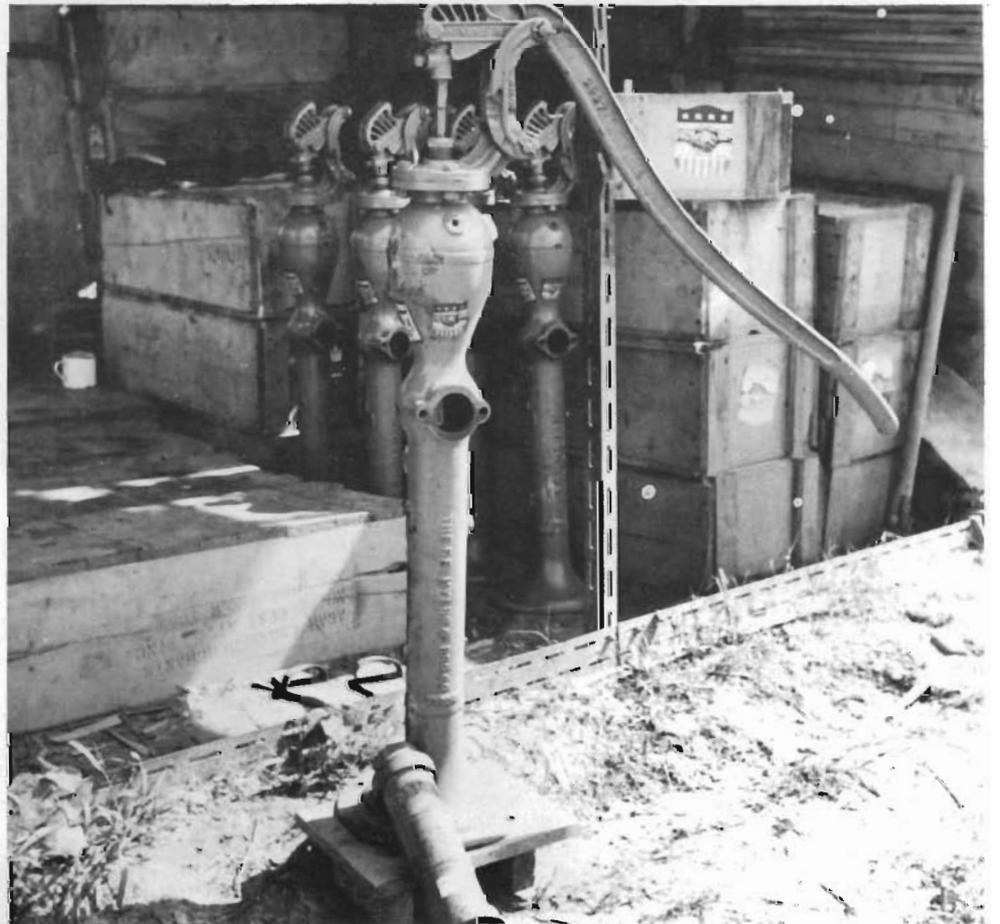
Engine of a well drilling rig supplied by the United States.

A well drilling rig in action (below).





Pipes and pumps provided under the project.



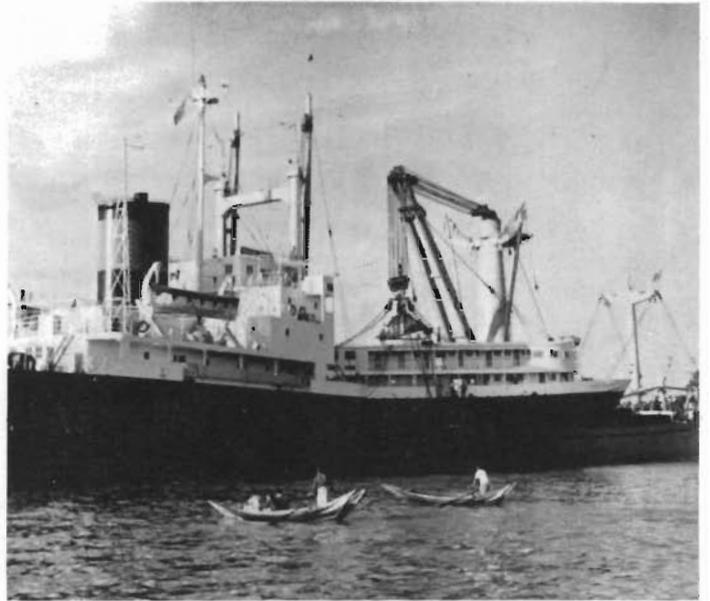
The Burma Army's resettlement project is located at Namsang in the southern Shan State. United States grant assistance of \$750,000 helped in providing a domestic water supply to serve the Namsang Area Development Project's ten resettlement villages and three Shan villages. Overall, seven thousand people benefited when the water supply was completed in September 1964. USAID also provided equipment to improve essential community services, and encouraged modest industrial expansion by the introduction of pilot agricultural processing plants.

Water supply that benefitted many in Namsang, southern Shan State.



Twinscrewed vessel 'Banyarnwe' being loaded.

Inland water transport has particular significance in Burma where the country's rivers and coastal waters often provide the only means of communication between population and trading centers. USAID assistance of over \$4.5 million for the Inland Waterways Fleet Improvement Project was used to increase the number of freight and passenger carrying vessels and to modernize maintenance and repair facilities. The arrival of new vessels in 1965-66, including three sternwheelers, four twin-screwed vessels, and two catamaran-type ferries, revitalised the IWT passenger services on the Rakhine, Chindwin and Rangoon-Syriam runs. Cargo-carrying capacity and maintenance facilities were strengthened with the delivery of 35 cargo barges, three power barges, 10 oil tanker pusher barges, one steam harbor tug, two water tenders, two river salvage vessels, and two pusher tugs.



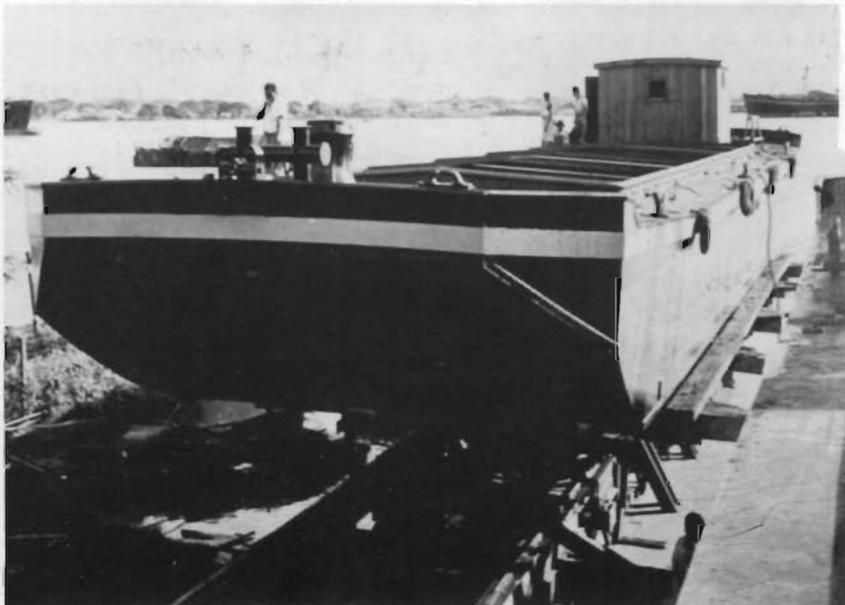
Twinscrewed vessels 'Thandwe' & 'Kyaukpyu' (above); and, 'Sittway' (left).

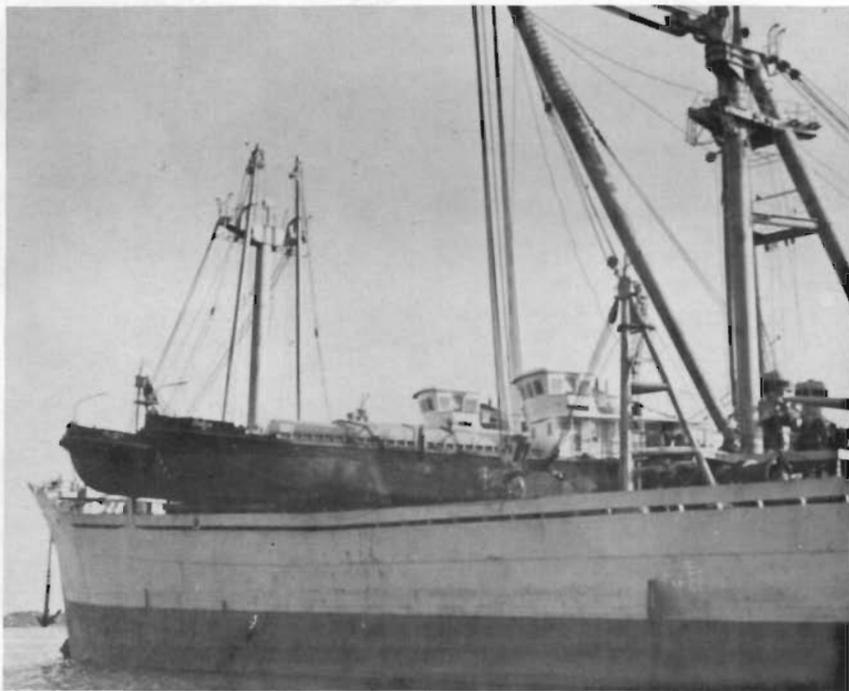


Catamaran-type 'Thidar I'
vessel.



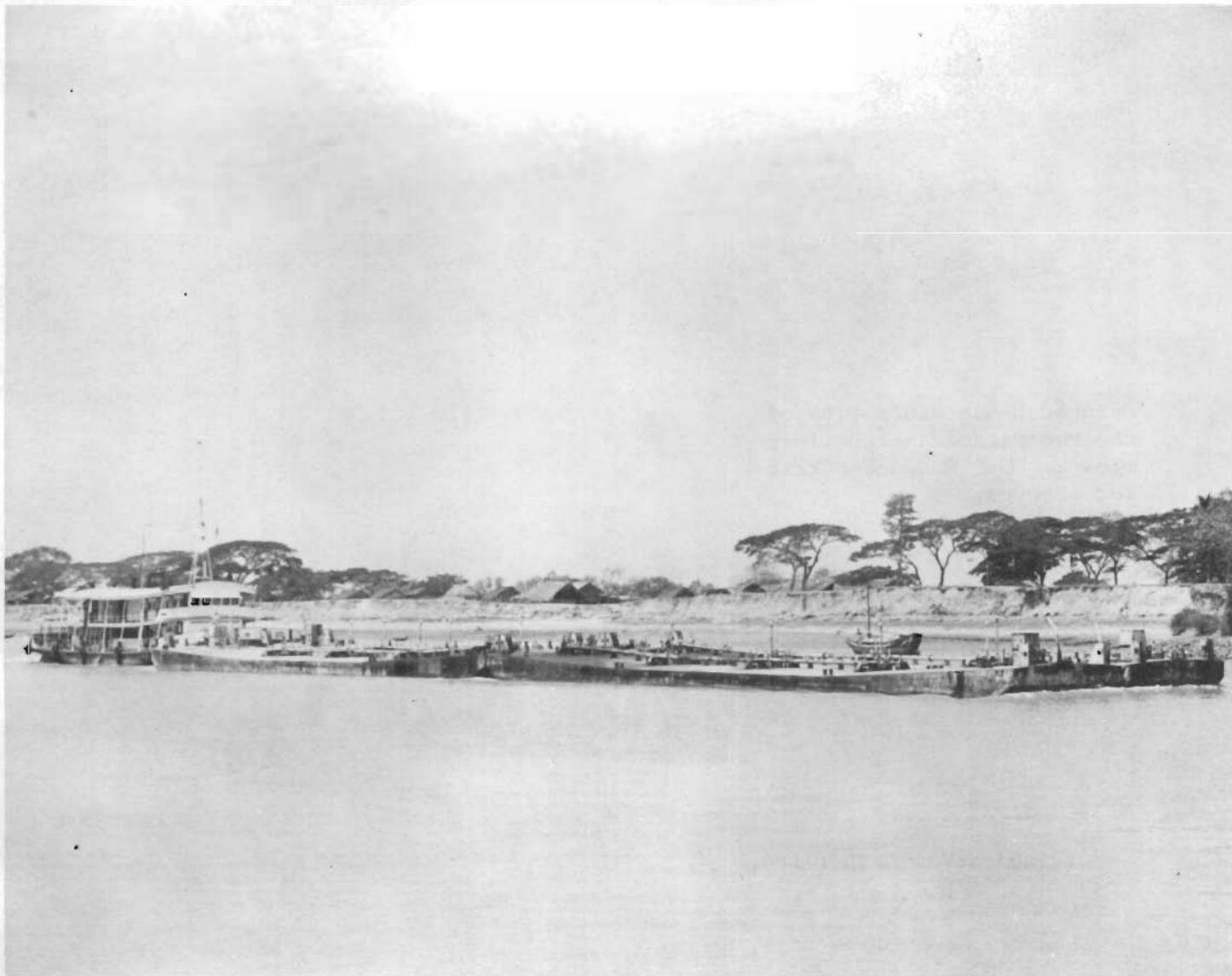
Barges financed by the
United States under construction.

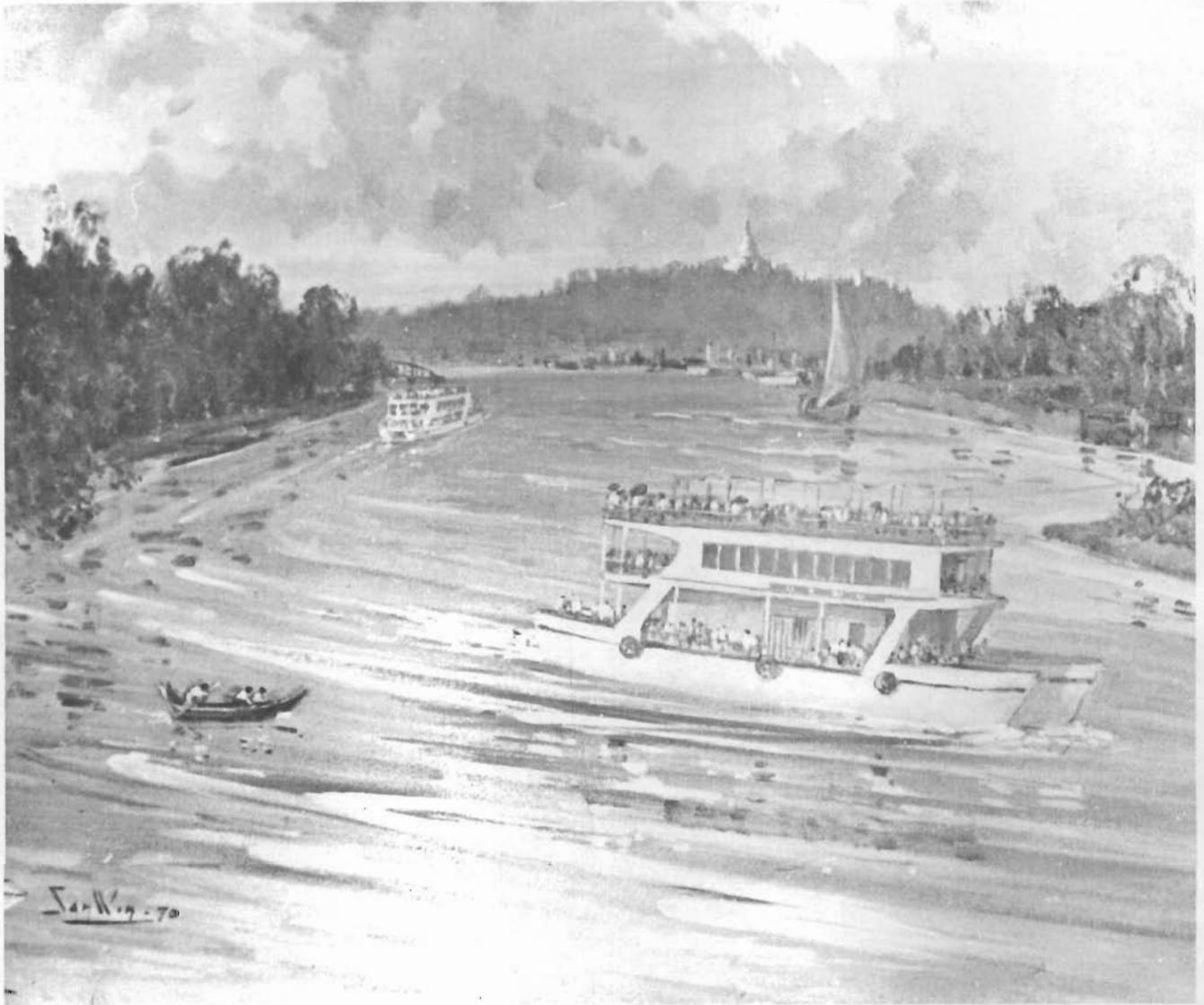




*Power barges 'Ngabyema' and
'Ngaponna' (left).*

*Oil tanker pusher tugs in
Twante Canal.*





Painter U San Win's view of the two catamaran-type ferries on the Rangoon-Syriam run (above).



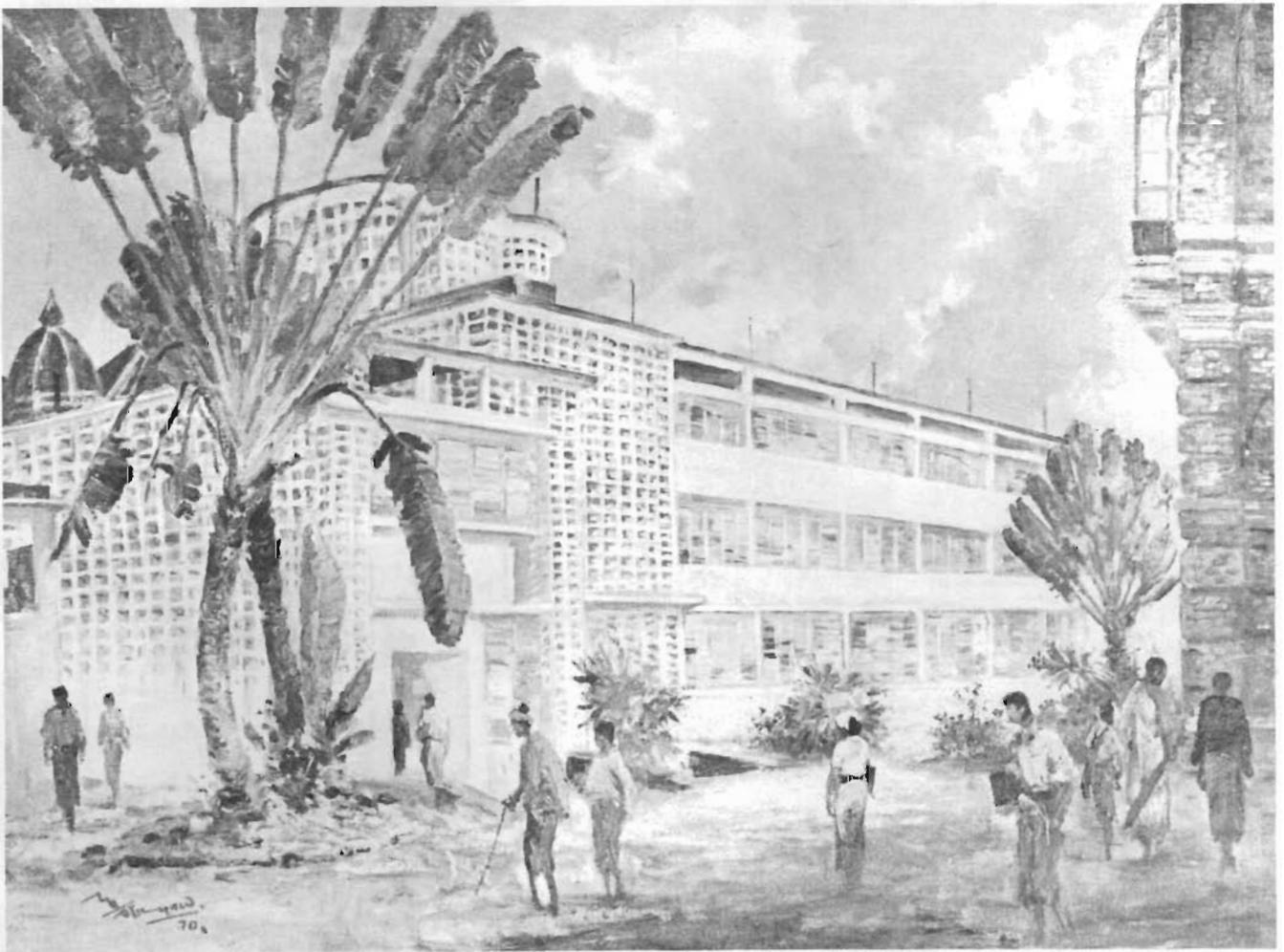
'Hlaing' steam harbor tug.

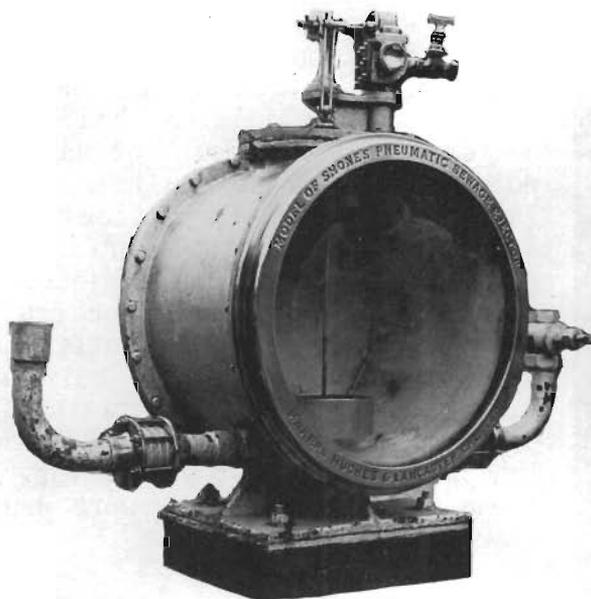


The Rangoon General Hospital remains the country's largest center for medical treatment. By the early 1960's its facilities had become overcrowded as a result of Rangoon's population increase. To help relieve the congestion USAID provided assistance of over \$750,000 for the Rangoon General Hospital Project, involving the construction of new Adjunct Services and Out-patient Department buildings. The buildings, with facilities for the training of paramedical personnel and improved laboratory, X-ray, physiotherapy and blood bank facilities, were handed over in December of 1972.

Site of the Rangoon General Hospital new buildings before work was started.

The completed buildings of the Rangoon General Hospital -- painted by U Myat Kyaw.

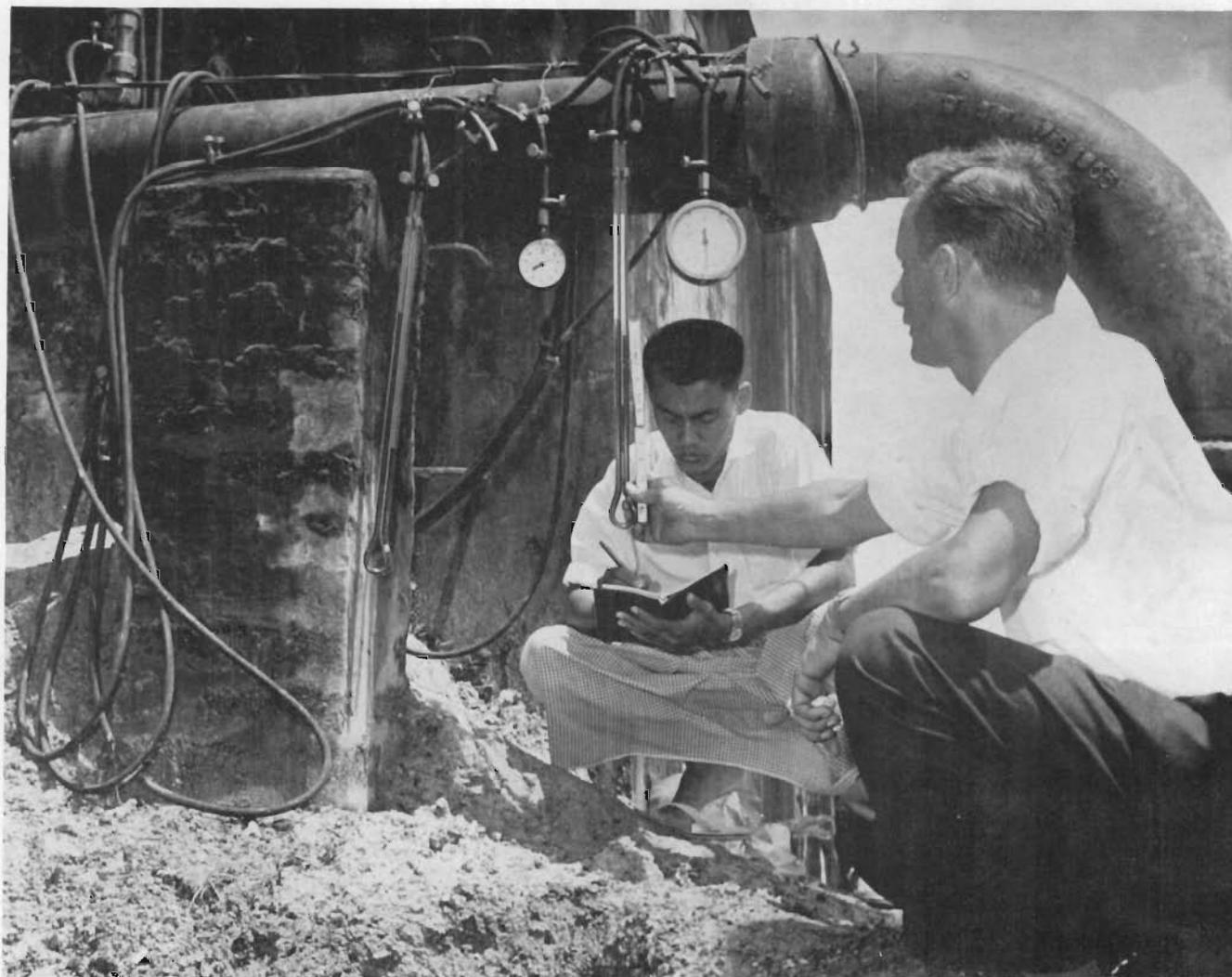


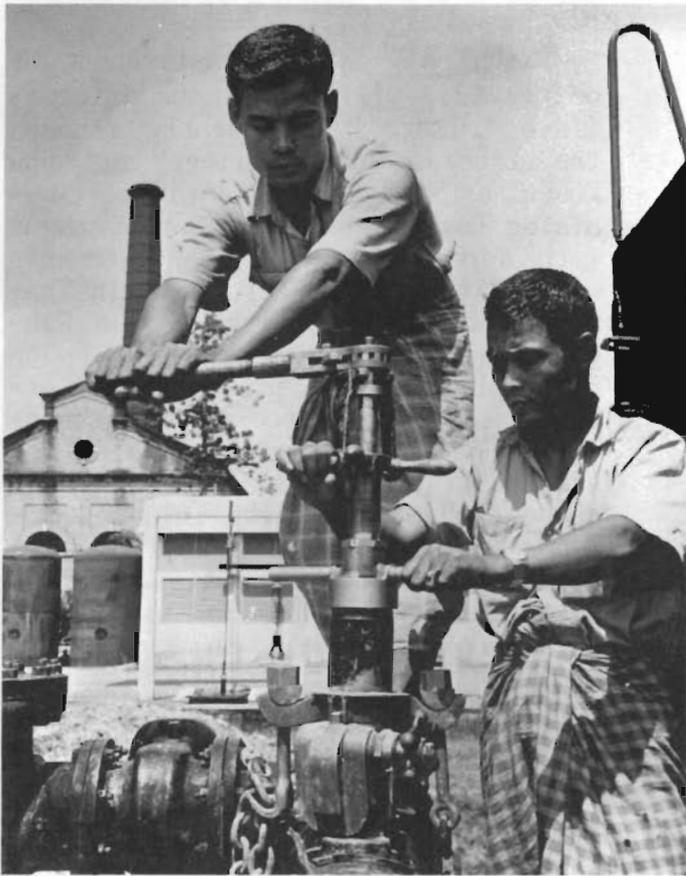


Model of Shone's Pneumatic Sewage Ejector (above).

Engineer L. Bienevelli of the Pitometer Company checking gauges on the Gyobyu and Hlawga water mains.

The water and sewerage systems for the capital were originally designed and constructed at the turn of the century. AID assistance of over \$1 million for the water system and over \$500,000 for the sewerage system under the Rangoon Water and Sewerage Systems Project helped in rehabilitating parts of the old systems and providing some new works. Repair of sewage ejector stations was also completed. In addition, a utility mapping survey of the city and master plans for both the water and the sewerage systems were completed. Detailed drawings and specifications for installation of water line improvements based on the approved master plan were done. The United States procured pipe and other commodities for the construction of a 10-million-gallon reservoir on Shwedagon Pagoda Road. Water meters were installed in the central portion of the city.





Workers tapping one of the huge water mains at the Yegu booster station.

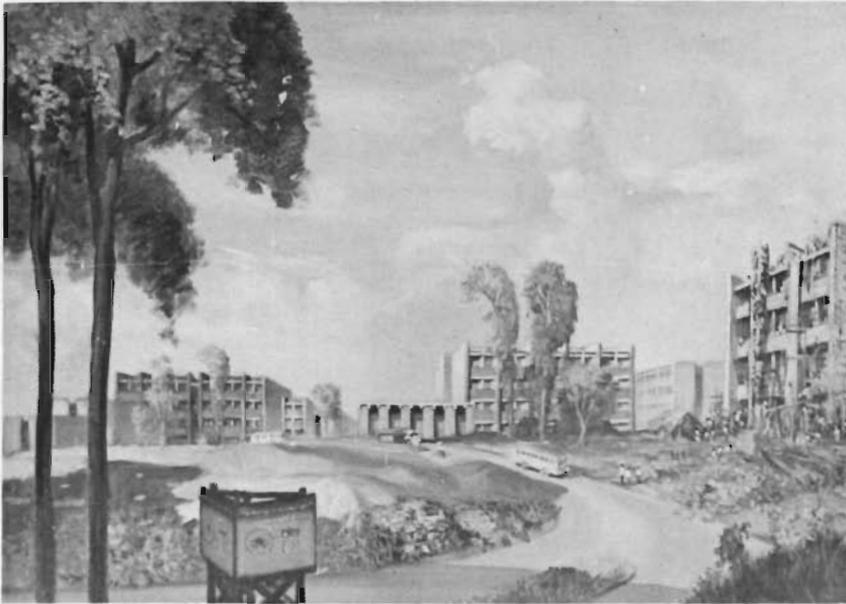
U Hla Sein's painting depicting the 10-million gallon reservoir on Shwedagon Pagoda Road (below).



With AID grant assistance of nearly \$2.3 million for the Intermediate College (subsequently renamed the Liberal Arts College and now known as the Rangoon University - Hlaing Campus) Project, a new campus with dormitories for 7,000 students was built on a 400-acre site in Thamaing, two miles north of the Rangoon University's main campus. The first phase of the project, completed in 1964, consisted of men's hostels and workers' quarters with the necessary utility services. In a second phase, beginning in 1965, women's hostels, dining halls and a multipurpose facility, all of which were finished in time for use during the SEAP Games held in Rangoon in December 1969, were built. Classroom buildings and lecture halls were also constructed. As part of the project, a prestressing plant produced prestressed concrete beams using glazed ceramic extrusions as forms. A new type of brick and tile glazing kiln at Danyingon, Insein, provided permanent finished surfaces in different colors for the buildings. The use of prestressed materials lowered the cost of building materials. Glazed ceramic products for both interior and exterior surfaces eliminated the use of paint and also prevented unsightly mold from growing on weather-exposed surfaces during the wet monsoon season.



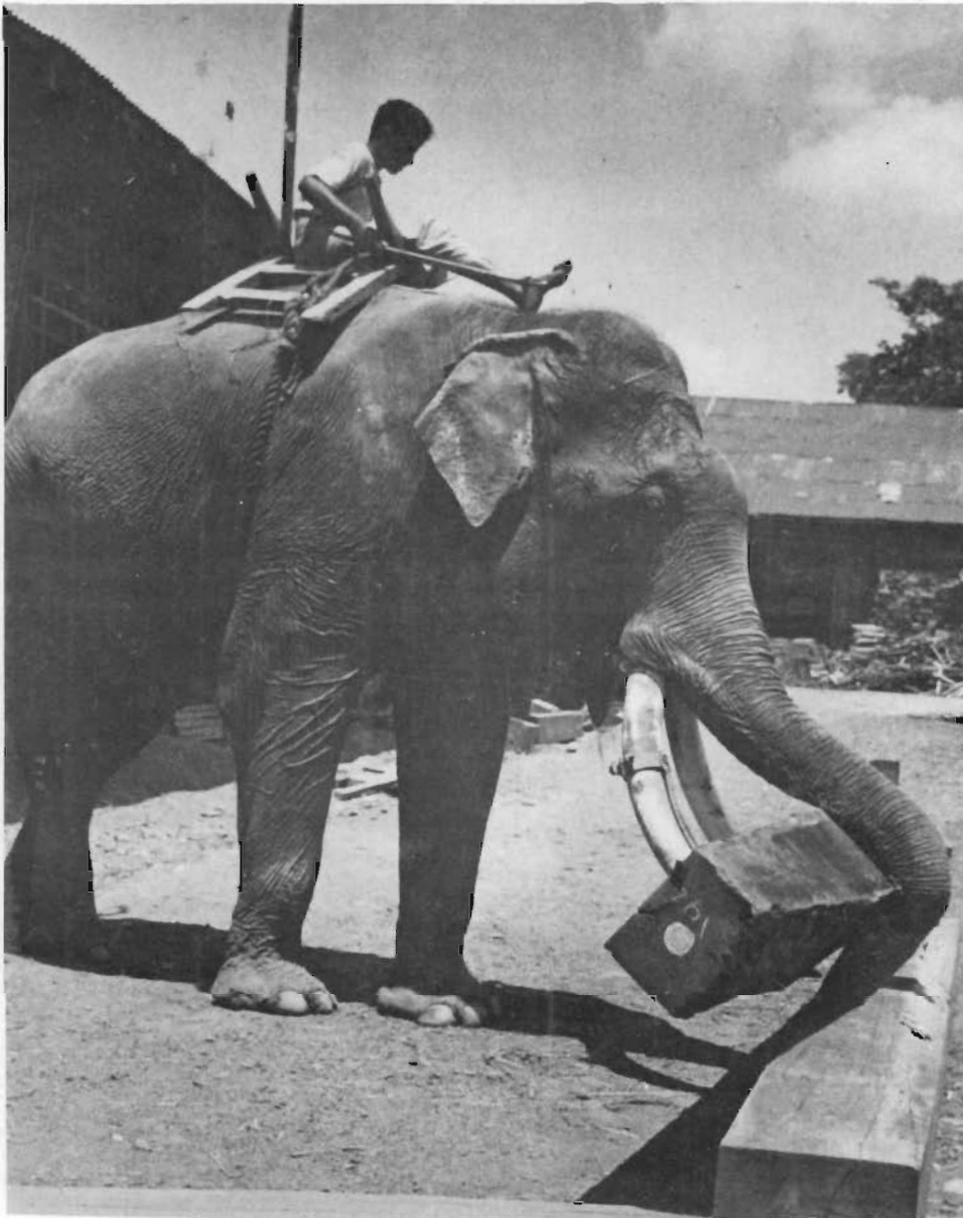
Billboard hailing the New Intermediate College Project.



Painting by U Ba Kyi showing some of the completed buildings of the Intermediate College.

A completed hostel on the 400-acre site of the new college (below).



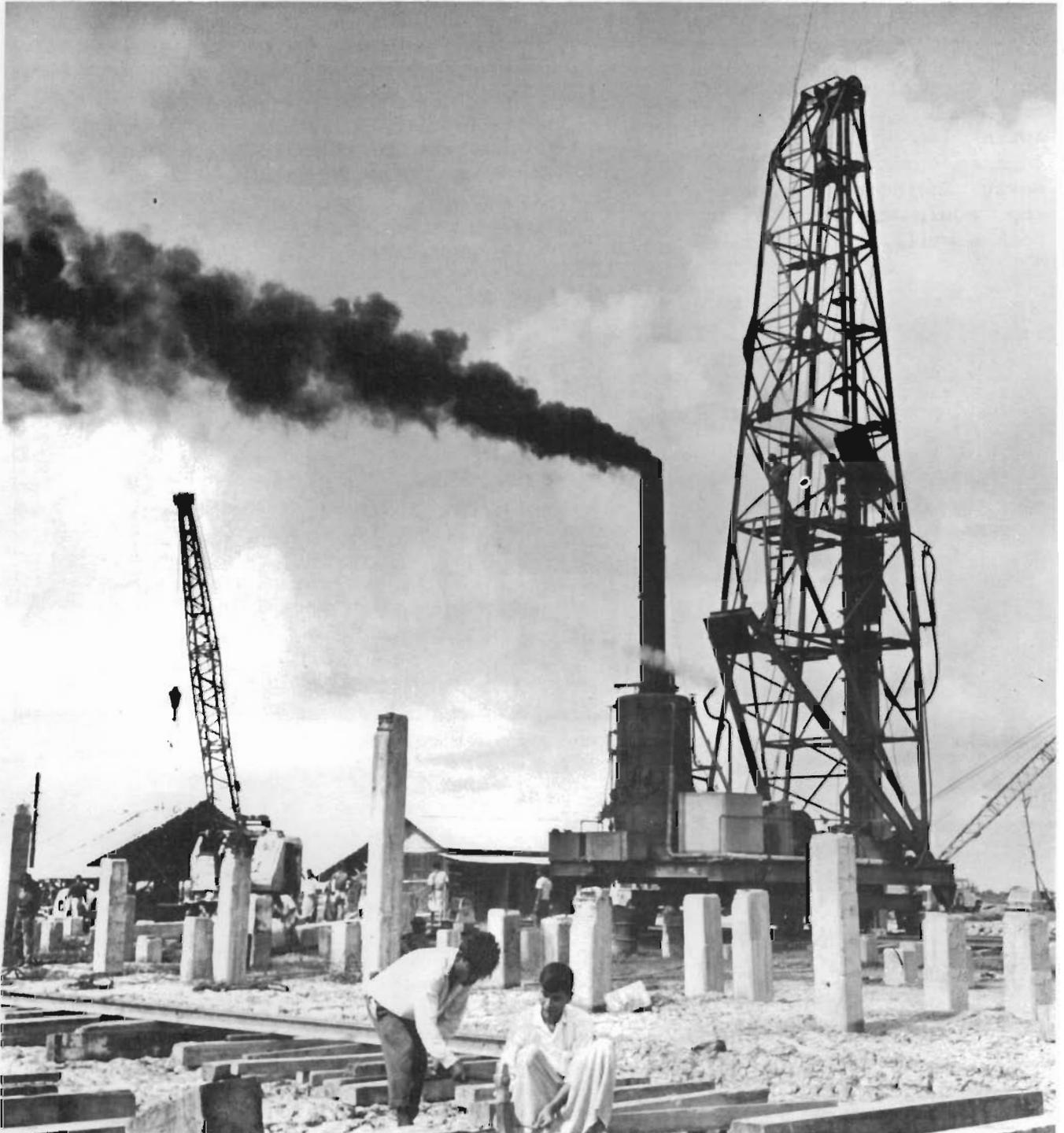


Elephant at work at Moulmein sawmill.

Teak is a very important earner of foreign exchange for Burma. US-AID, in recognition of this fact, provided over \$1.4 million assistance through the Expansion of Teak Production Project, Phase I, to establish more mechanical extraction units in the teak forests to supplement elephant power. Assistance was also provided to increase the productive capacity of several Rangoon sawmills. In this latter area, new or improved buildings were added to the old mill structures and new milling equipment was installed to replace that which was no longer economically operable.

Assistance of nearly \$3.5 million for the Expansion of Teak Production Project, Phase II, the last project under the 1957 \$25 million line of credit, provided for construction and equipment of a modern electrically-operated teak sawmill at Okkyin, near the east bank of the Hlaing River in the greater Rangoon industrial area. It is still the largest sawmill in Burma.

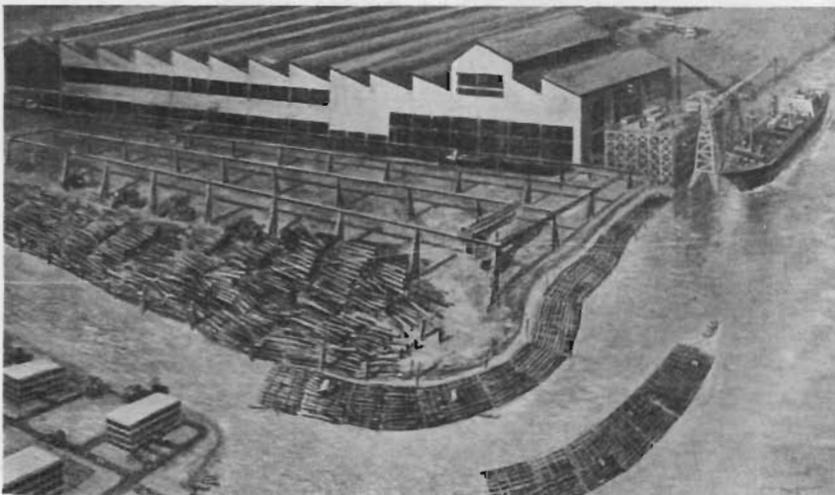
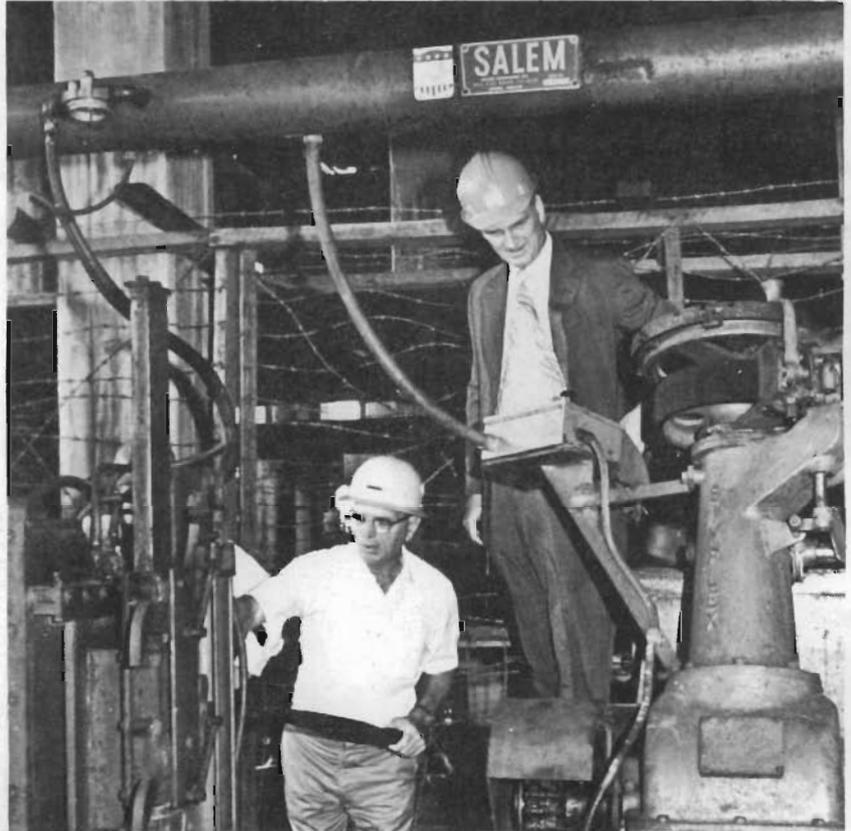
Okkyin teak sawmill being constructed with United States assistance.





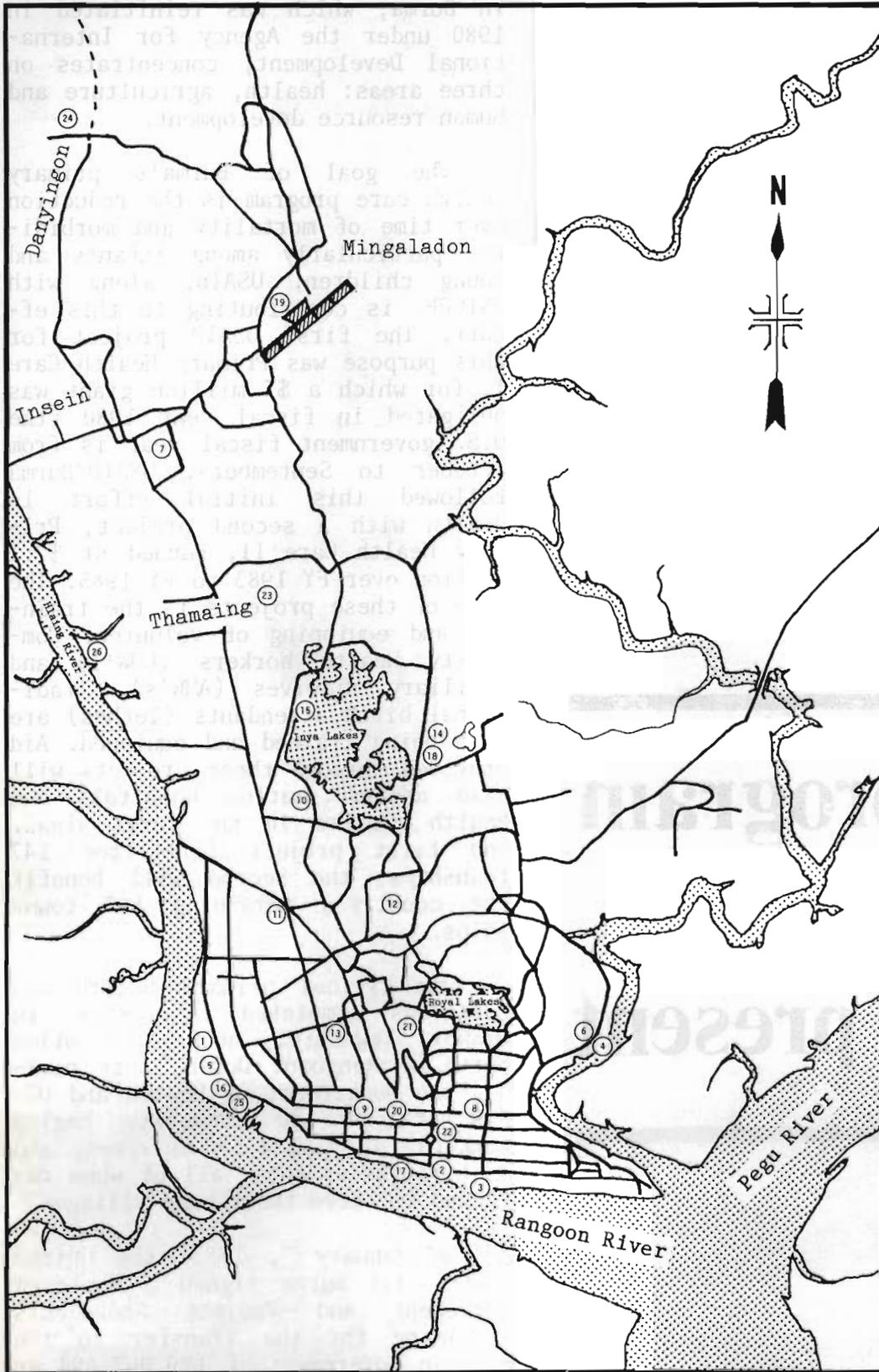
Assistance of nearly \$3.5 million for the expansion of the Okkyin project, Phase II, the project under the 1957 \$25 million line of credit, provided for construction and equipment of a electrically-operated saw at Okkyin, west the east bank of the Salween River in the greater industrial area. It is still the largest sawmill in Burma.

United States Ambassador to Burma (1971-73) Mr. Edwin W. Martin and Engineer Mr. Higley of Bovay Engineers, inspecting equipment at Okkyin teak sawmill.



Painter U Ba Lwin's view of the teak sawmill at Okkyin.

MAP OF RANGOON AREA SHOWING
PROJECTS FROM 1950



- ① ② & ③ Rangoon Port Rehabilitation Project
- ④ Rice Milling and Processing Project
- ⑤ & ⑥ Rice Storage Project
- ⑦ Livestock Disease Control Project
- ⑧ Railways Rehabilitation Project
- ⑨ Rangoon General Hospital Project
- ⑩ University of Rangoon Project
- ⑪ Burma Translation Society Project
- ⑫ Audio-Visual Aids Development Project
- ⑬ Low-Cost Housing Project
- ⑭ Industrial Research Institute Project
- ⑮ Aerial Survey Project
- ⑯ & ⑰ Rice Handling and Processing Mechanization Project
- ⑱ Union of Burma Applied Research Institute Project
- ⑲ Civil Aviation: Airport Development Project
- ⑳ Rangoon General Hospital Project
- ㉑ & ㉒ Rangoon Water and Sewerage Systems Project
- ㉓ & ㉔ Intermediate College Project
- ㉕ Expansion of Teak Production Project, Phase I
- ㉖ Expansion of Teak Production Project, Phase II

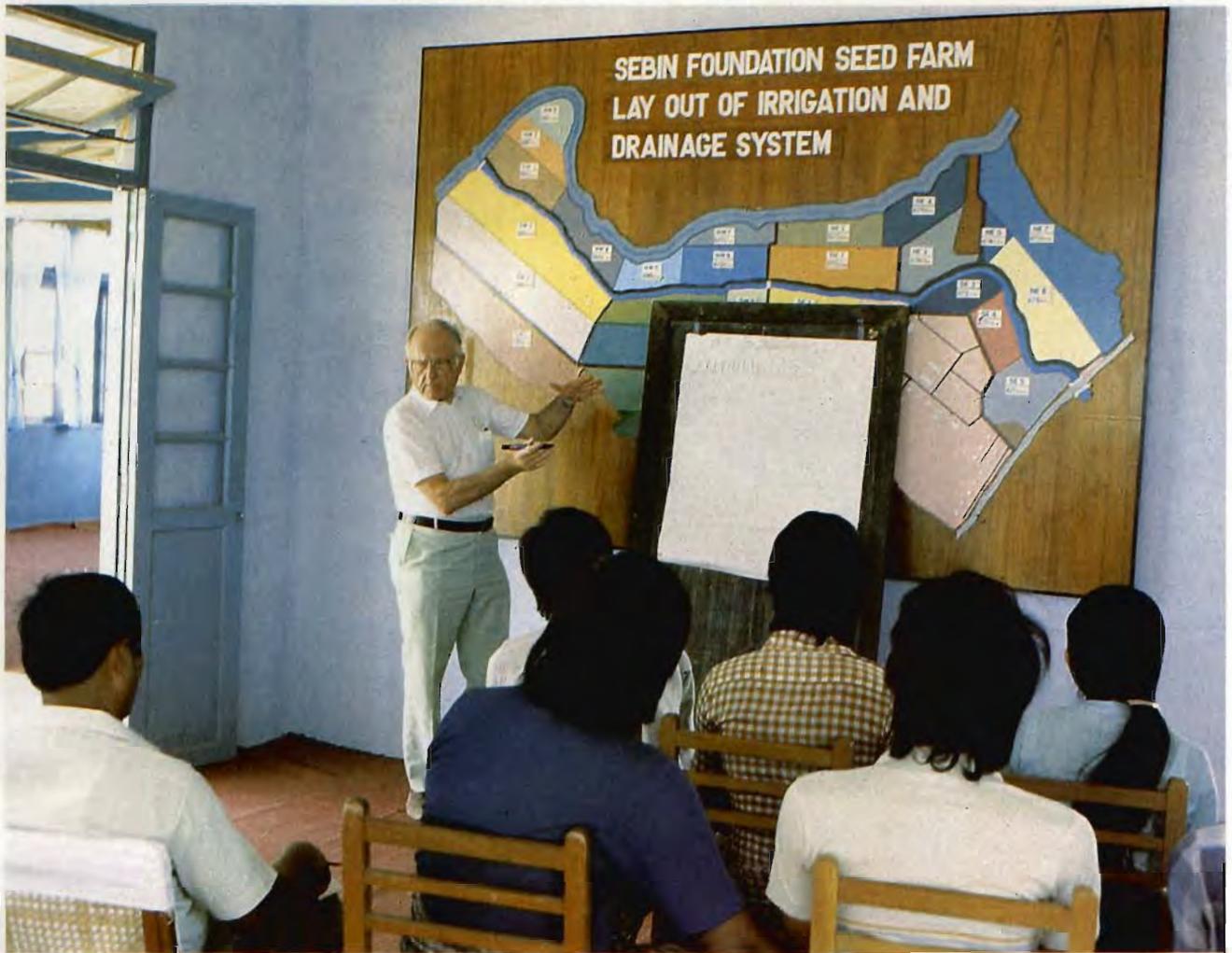
The program from 1980 to the present

The United States bilateral economic development assistance program in Burma, which was reinitiated in 1980 under the Agency for International Development, concentrates on three areas: health, agriculture and human resource development.

The goal of Burma's primary health care program is the reduction over time of mortality and morbidity, particularly among infants and young children. USAID, along with UNICEF, is contributing to this effort. The first USAID project for this purpose was Primary Health Care I, for which a \$5 million grant was obligated in fiscal year 1980 (the U.S. government fiscal year is from October to September). USAID/Burma followed this initial effort in health with a second project, Primary Health Care II, funded at \$7.1 million over FY 1983 to FY 1985. The core of these projects is the training and equipping of volunteer Community Health Workers (CHW's) and Auxiliary Midwives (AMW's). Traditional birth attendants (lethes) are also being trained and equipped. Aid provided through these projects will also assist station hospitals and health centers in the rural areas. The first project benefitted 147 townships; the second will benefit the country's remaining 167 townships.

One typical primary health effort was completed in 1981-82 in Hmawbi Township, about 35 miles north of Rangoon. During that period, the Department of Health and USAID trained 120 community health workers, 12 auxiliary midwives, and 42 birth attendants, all of whom returned to serve their home villages.

On January 7, 1983, the United States and Burma signed a Protocol Agreement and Project Amendments providing for the transfer to the Burmese Government of 129,007,694 in kyat currency for agreed development uses. The amount granted is equal to approximately \$16.5 million, and is intended for support of projects in



Seed farm: producing foundation and certified seed.



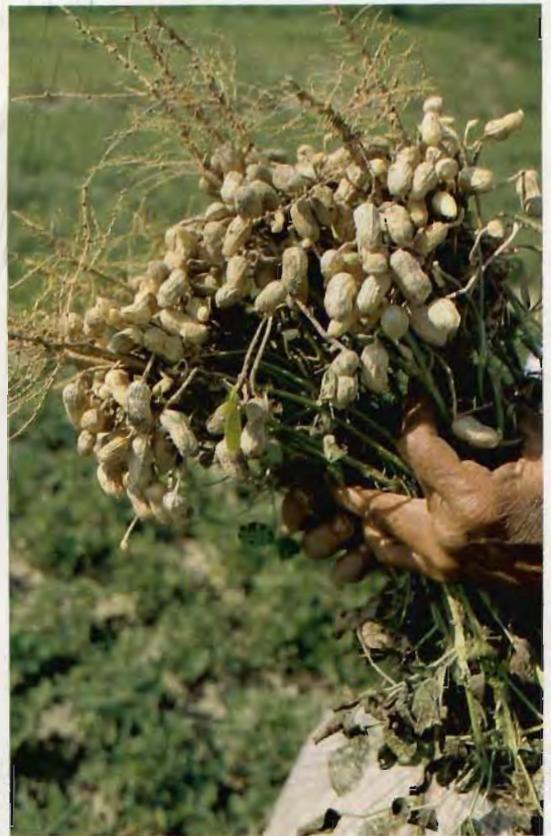
Hard-working midwives: on the move with USAID provided bicycles.



Sunflowers in bloom: brilliantly colored and beneficial.

High-yield groundnut: oil is the second most important food after rice (right).

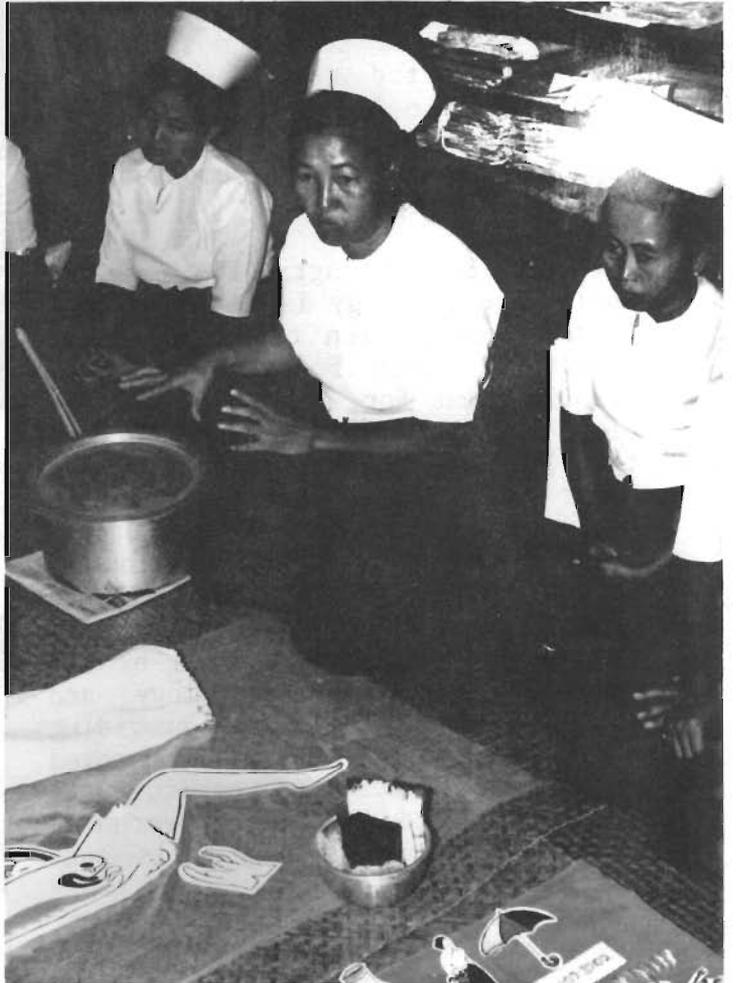
Experimental plot: improved technology and cultural practice for selected agricultural crops (below).





A village couple -- owners of a new latrine built by AID in a joint project with UNICEF for primary health care purposes.

Auxiliary midwives receiving instructions from a staff nurse.



AID and local officials together with the trained staff from one of the health centers.

primary health care and food production.

In the food and nutrition sector, USAID/Burma and the Burmese Ministry of Agriculture and Forests are working to increase the production of maize and oilseeds. Burma is self-sufficient in food except for edible oil, the second most important food after rice. AID support will help make Burma self-sufficient in edible oils, and will strongly support the nutrition component of Primary Health Care.

USAID/Burma's agriculture sector assistance strategy is to help Burma increase production of selected agricultural crops for domestic consumption and for export. For example, the Maize and Oilseeds Production Project agreement signed on October 26, 1981, provides over a four-year period for United States grant assistance of \$30 million to the Burmese Government for increased production of maize, groundnuts, sesame, sunflower and soybean by introducing improved technology and cultural practice, and by providing technical assistance, improved seeds, fertilizer and agricultural equipment. The Burmese Government contribution to the project is some \$21 million in local costs and foreign exchange.

Additional objectives of the project are: 1) to develop and fully equip seed farms to produce foundation and certified seed, 2) to build a functional rhizobium production facility to produce inoculum for peanuts and soybeans, and 3) to supply fertilizer to the project to supplement the indigenous supply of this essential input. All of the fertilizer supplied is being used in designated project areas where it has great potential to increase yields and to demonstrate the merits of fertilizer use to local farmers. Use of the inoculum on peanut and soybean seed can substantially increase the fixation of nitrogen and reduce the need for urea fertilizer



Looking over a maize and oilseeds project field are Deputy Project Director U Siang Uk with USAID Representative Mr. Charles Ward.

for these crops.

An additional component of the project is the graduate training of a number of Burmese agriculturists in skills relating to maize and oilseed production. Nearly all training

U Siang Uk with Agricultural Development Officer Dr. Charles Simkins and Agriculturalist Mr. Dennis Weller.



U Siang Uk with Dr. Simkins.





U Siang Uk and Dr. Simkins observing the production and bagging of rhizobium.

Farmers are all smiles after harvesting basketfuls of groundnuts, thanks to the co-operation effort between the USAID and the Burmese Government.





Dr. Charles Simkins personally assisting in the delivery of the fertilizer.

The delivery of 10,000 metric tons of triple super phosphate (TSP) fertilizer.



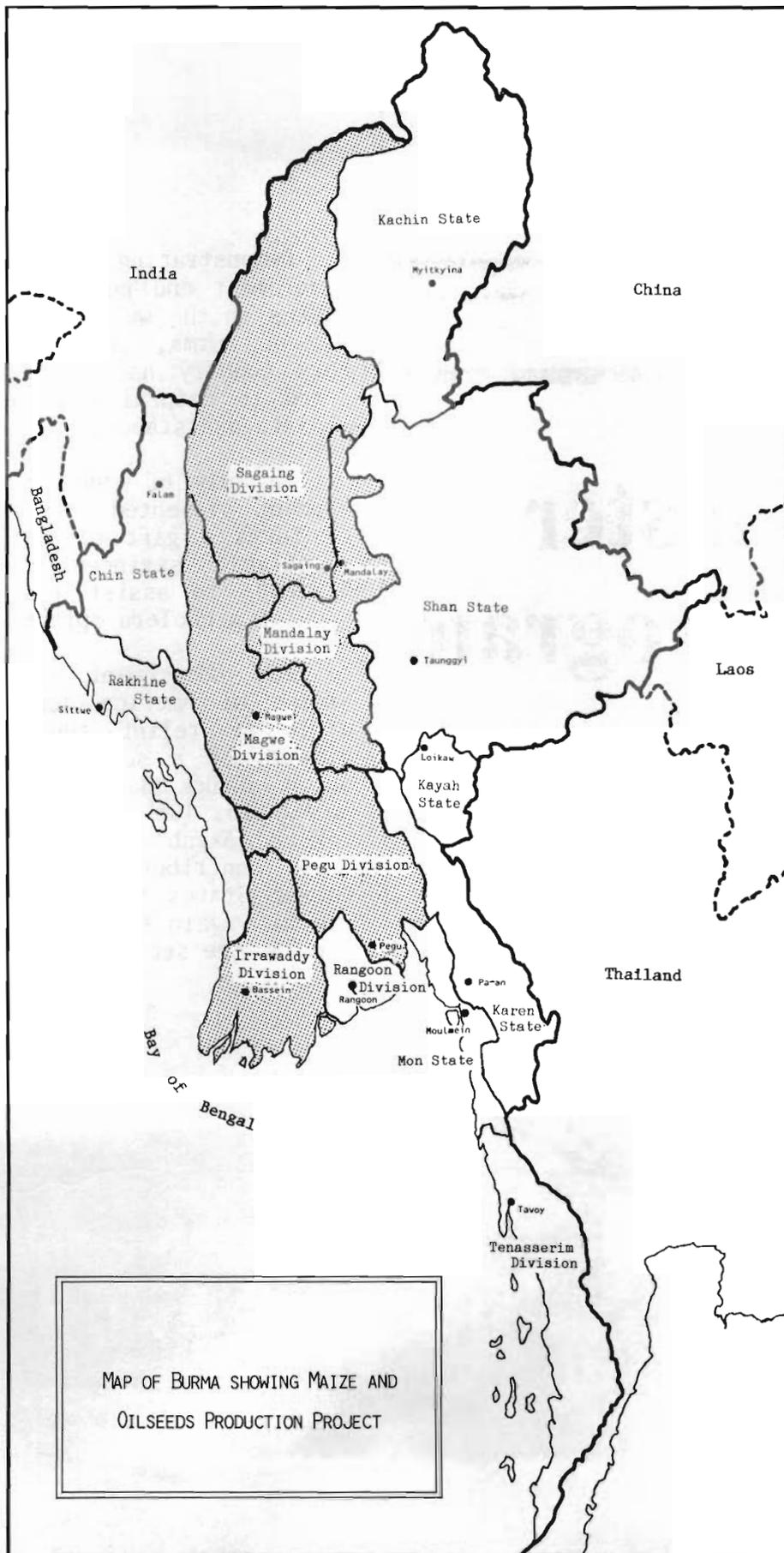


Seen at the Botataung Jetty wharf during the first delivery of AID-financed fertilizer in late 1983 are, from left to right, Program Officer Mr. Richard Nelson, USAID Representative Mr. David Merrill, U Mya Maung, U Laban Naw and U Siang Uk, all of Agriculture Corporation, AID Regional Commodities Advisor Mr. Bendeguz Viragh and AID/Burma Commodities Specialist U Tin Htut.

is taking place at U.S. universities, with the participants returning to Burma to assume key roles in the effort to produce more maize and oilseeds. Also included in the project are provisions for seventy additional Burmese to participate in short-term training programs. The aim of these short-term programs is to provide Burmese already working in the Maize and Oilseeds Project with experience in new techniques.

To assist with the technical aspects of improving production crops, a technical team of three individuals from the Mid-west Universities Consortium for International Activities (MUCIA) has been brought to Burma. The team includes an agronomist, a seed technologist and a water management specialist.

A very important element of the USAID program is the provision of general participant training in agriculture, health, energy and economic development planning. In the past three years, some Burmese Government officials have been sponsored for masters degree or technical training in the United States, separate from the training components of the projects described above. Perhaps the most important training has been in the energy sector, with twenty-seven participants now trained in petroleum management, energy policy, alternative energy development, power systems, geology and mechanical engineering.



MAP OF BURMA SHOWING MAIZE AND OILSEEDS PRODUCTION PROJECT

Disaster relief program

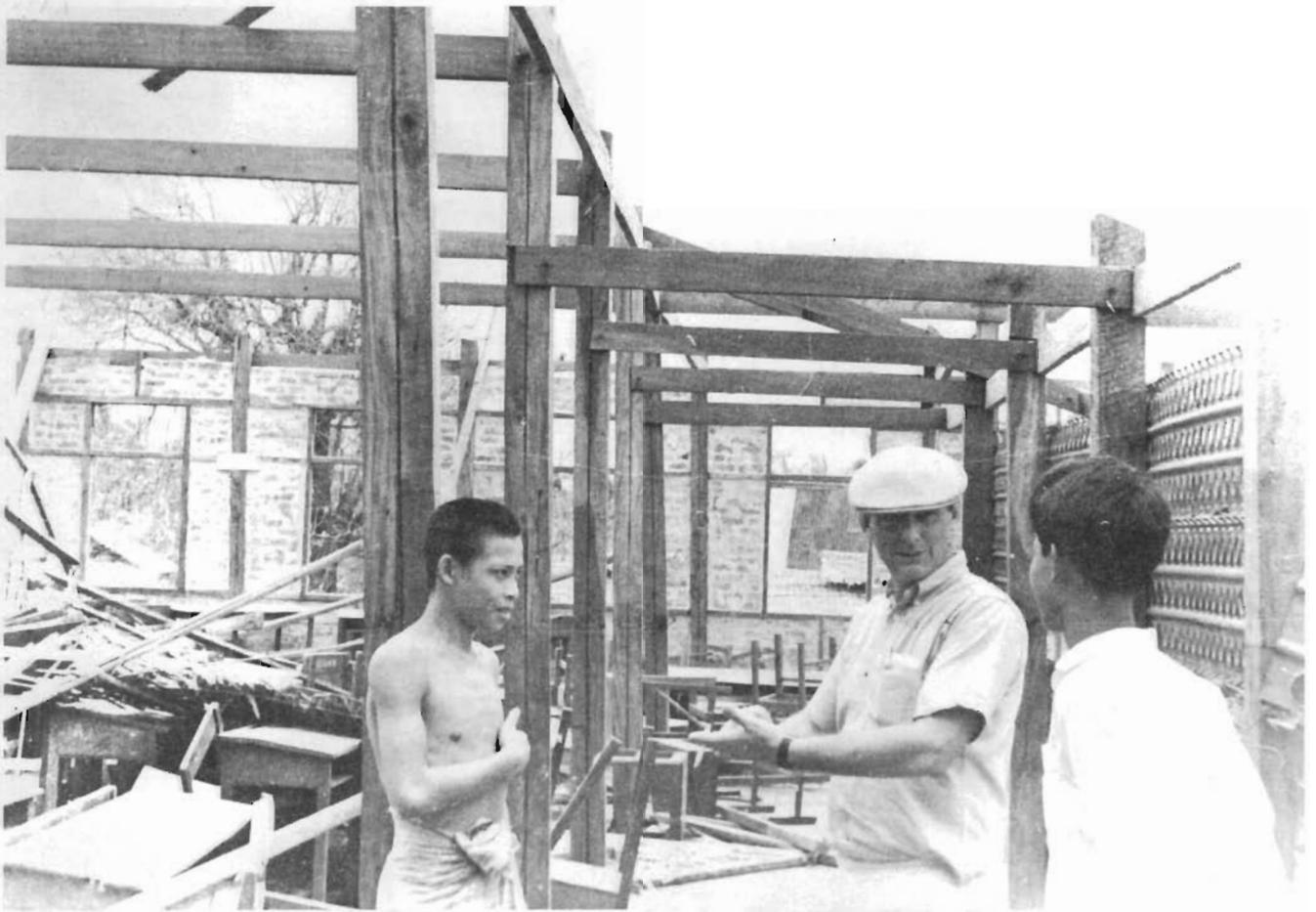
Demonstrating the concern of the government and people of the United States in the well-being of the people of Burma, the U.S. mission in this country has several times reacted to natural disasters with immediate assistance.

In July of 1964, the U.S. government presented to the government of Burma a gift of 200,000 plastic disposable syringes (worth nearly \$12,000) to assist in the eradication of cholera epidemic.

The Government of the United States of America donated \$200,000 worth of relief supplies for the victims of a severe cyclonic storm which struck Bassein and Myaungmya on May 16, 1967 and Kyaukpyu, Sandoway and Akyab two days later. A similar contribution was made by the United States Government when Akyab was hit again by a cyclone on October 23, the second within a year.

Buildings were destroyed and power and telegraph lines blown down during the cyclone.





AID Disaster Relief Officer conferring with men on the spot (above).



First assignment of United States aid arriving from Tokyo.



Two planeloads of clothing and tents from New York being unloaded at Rangoon Airport (left).

There was another cyclone on May 10, 1968, that flattened Akyab town and caused a death toll of over a thousand. A total of nearly \$137,500 was allotted for disaster relief by the United States Government. The American National Red Cross contributed sulfa drugs worth \$22,000, and these contributions were airlifted to Burma through the Disaster Relief Branch of AID/Washington.



The T.B. Ward of the Civil Hospital after the storm.



Aerial view of the port area showing storm damage.

AID Disaster Relief Officer taking personal delivery of longyis and long cloth airlifted by Pan American World Airways from Calcutta to Rangoon.





On March 30, 1969 a devastating fire gutted Sagaing, destroying more than half the town. From the emergency relief facilities of the U.S. Agency for International Development, a contribution of over \$5,000 was presented to bring aid and comfort to those afflicted.

On behalf of the Government and the people of the United States of America the American Ambassador, Ms Patricia M. Byrne, presented a

A U.S. Consulate car parked near ruins left by the fire.



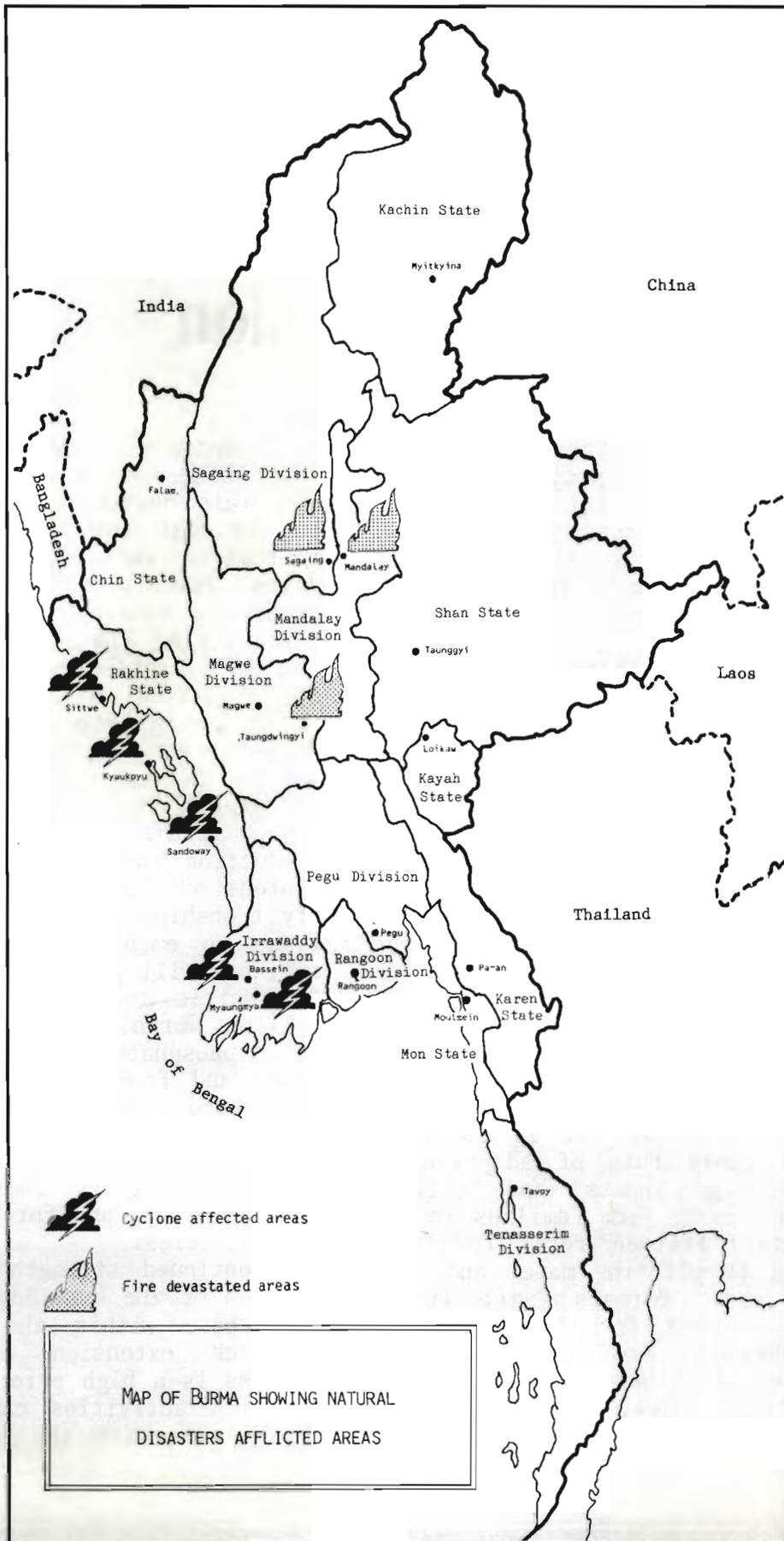
Ruins of residential houses in the center of Sagaing.

cheque for U.S. \$25,000 to the President of the Burma Red Cross Society U Kyi for the victims of a fire that broke out in Taungdwingyi on April 11, 1981.

More recently, Ambassador of the United States of America to Burma Mr. Daniel A. O'Donohue presented a cheque for U.S. \$15,000 to U Tha Zan Aung, Director General, Relief and Resettlement Department, in support of relief operations benefitting victims of a fire that occurred in Mandalay City on March 24, 1984.

Ambassador of the United States of America to Burma Mr. Daniel A. O'Donohue presenting a fire relief aid check to U Tha Zan Aung, Director General, Relief & Resettlement Department.





-  Cyclone affected areas
-  Fire devastated areas

MAP OF BURMA SHOWING NATURAL
DISASTERS AFFLICTED AREAS

Conclusion

The AID/Burma program and project portfolio is expected to expand gradually in the future. By 1986 projects at different stages of implementation, with life-of-project grant funding of more than \$100 million, will be managed by AID.

In the agriculture sector, project possibilities include a second phase of the Maize and Oilseeds Production Project, an Edible Oil Processing & Distribution Project with the Ministry of Cooperatives, and an Agriculture Research and Development Project with the Ministry of Agriculture & Forests. In the health sector, a third phase of assistance to Burma's primary health care program is being considered, and in the human resources sector, more overseas development training is envisaged.

The project purpose of Maize and Oilseeds Production II is to bring about a rapid rate of adoption of high-yielding inputs and tillage practices among farm families in approximately fifteen rural townships who will be planting maize and oilseed crops. Burma's agricultural sector accounts for 45 percent of gross domestic product and employs an estimated 64 percent of the country's labor force. In 1981-82, the sector accounted for 57 percent of

the country's foreign exchange earnings. Long-range planning by Burmese officials envisages fallow land being brought into production at an increasing rate over the next 15 years. Burma's goal of self-sufficiency in cooking oil is a driving force behind AID involvement in this country's agricultural sector. The United States, with its comparative advantage in oilseeds, has been the front-runner in providing assistance to the Burmese Government. Ongoing and future research under this follow-on project will mean further production increases in the present "intensive" townships and the priority townships. The project will continue to emphasize overseas training, and will provide 30,000 to 40,000 metric tons (approximately \$15 million worth) of urea and triple super phosphate (TSP) from AID grant funds and from Agriculture Corporation funds. Some grant funds, approximately \$5 million, will be programmed for appropriate farm machinery, particularly those which are energy-saving, and for inflation and contingencies.

Continued strengthening and expansion of the knowledge and technology base within the agricultural research extension and education systems is a high priority of USAID. Research activities carried out in conjunction with the proposed Agri-

culture Research and Development Project, a part of the Maize and Oilseeds Production Project II, will concentrate on appropriate technology for animal-drawn equipment, varietal improvements, cultural practices, disease problems, harvest and post-harvesting handling, marketing and pumps irrigation. These activities will be mutually supportive of other AID-assisted agricultural research activities.

The project purpose of the \$15 million Primary Health Care III is to expand health services coverage in Burma by Volunteer Health Workers to approximately 75% of rural villages, with increased emphasis on quality and scope of services through improved pre-service and in-service training and better use of available health manpower resources. A resident American technical services and training coordinator will supervise the educational portion of the project, in which participants will be trained each year in maternal and child health, nutrition, program management, data management and evaluation. Funds are also budgeted for the equipping of approximately 26,000 Volunteer Health Workers and for contraceptives. USAID will provide funds for training of private physicians as well as for the expansion of oral rehydration

therapy, immunization and nutrition programs.

* * * * *

In a statement to the United States Congress, Mr. M. Peter McPherson, Administrator of the Agency for International Development said: "...We remain convinced that the development of other countries is in the best interests of the United States for economic, political and humanitarian reasons. Development contributes to political stability and expands markets. American assistance in support of development thus is an integral part of the foreign policy of the United States... AID's goal is development, furthered in large measure by broadly-based economic growth, to meet the basic human needs in recipient countries. Broadly-based growth also serves the long term interests of the United States..."

From the inception of the AID program in 1950 until today, there is little doubt that the triple objectives of Burma's development needs, America's foreign policy interests, and USAID's mandate have been successfully met through the development co-operation between the United States of America and the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma.

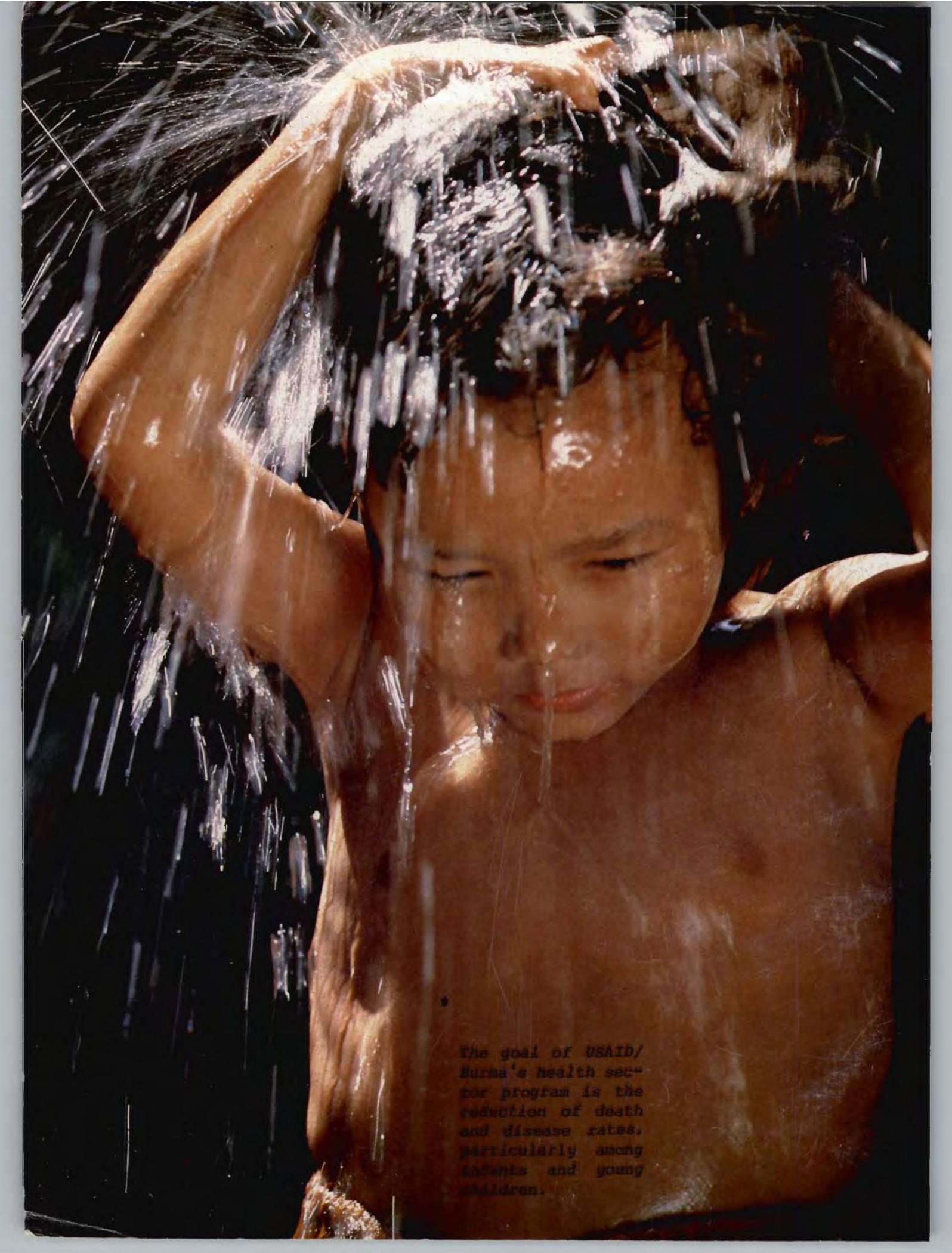
TABLE SHOWING U.S. ASSISTANCE TO BURMA
FROM 1980 THROUGH 1985

Fiscal Year	Assistance
1980	\$ 2.0 million
1981	\$ 3.0 million
1982	\$ 7.6 million
1983	\$ 13.8 million
1984	\$ 12.2 million
1985	\$ 14.5 million (estimate)



USAID/Burma's agriculture sector assistance strategy is to help Burma increase production of selected agricultural crops for domestic consumption and for export.





The goal of USAID/
Burma's health sec-
tor program is the
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and disease rates,
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children.