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Memorandum

512003701 Dr. Cohen
#5302
December 6, 1967

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TO: Dr. Monroe Cohen, Development Officer
FROM: Frank T. Lane, Chief-of-Party-EATEP
SUBJECT: PROGRESS REPORT TO HRO-E-November, 1967
Project: AID/1a. 365

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1. Objectives for November

The major objective is to press for HRO-INEP meetings to reconcile the current situation thus enabling EATEP to re-direct its focus in that direction deemed most constructive.

Effort is being made to arrange for an executive visit by Dr. Vincent Aloia, Director International Services & Contracts, State University of New York, Planting Fields, New York.

Meanwhile various individual projects are being pursued including the preparation by the North American members of drafts for a series of pamphlets utilizing the problem identification and analysis guides as a base to be followed by a textual section commenting on the problems and suggesting methods and procedures for alleviating them.

2. Summary of Activities and Achievements

2.1 Following INEP-USAID meetings the Brazilian counterparts were informed late in the month that none of the North American technicians would continue in Rio beyond the present contract period. While this made it possible for the North Americans to discuss openly with the counterparts those individual projects with which they had been involved since the major project was interrupted, actually there was little opportunity to do so because of the involvement of the Brazilians in planning the language arts workshops.

2.2. Exploratory talks were held between and among various MEC, USAID, EATEP and EPEN personnel concerning the relation of future primary education activities to the work of the secondary education project. To date this situation has not been reconciled.

2.3 Executive visit

Mr. Vincent Aloia, Director International Services arrived in Rio on 3 November for consultation with the chief of party, team members and HRO personnel. Conferences were held with Mr. Cardwell - Mr. Gelabert (HRO) Mr. Gower and Mr. Harrison (Program Office) concerning the shift in emphasis of the contract extension. During a brief trip to Recife with the chief-of-party, conferences were held with Messieurs Lyon and Sampson (State University)

and with Messieurs Pease and Bisset (HRO), Mr. Lockhart (Program office) and Mr. Renville (Assistant to the Assistant Director of the Mission).

Arrangements were made for a short range extension of the present contract, to continue technicians at USAID/NE provided the anticipated financial base is confirmed by the contractor's New York office and for a further extension based on a PIO/T now being revised. Such an agreement will meet the need of USAID/NE for technicians and place the contract cycle in phase with the university's academic schedule.

2.4 Pernambuco

Further contact with Pernambuco has been deferred pending decision by the Brazilians relative to the continuation of the project after the departure of the North Americans.

2.5 Espírito Santo

Data forms were printed and distributed to all first grades in Vitória. Professora Diva and Dr. White oriented the teachers in the procedure for using the form - which will be completed and submitted to the secretariat by the second week in December.

The program for data processing has been completed.

2.6 Rio Grande do Sul

Forms and directions have been distributed to the first grades of all public schools in Porto Alegre. Supervisors oriented the teachers. Distribution to private schools is beginning. All data is expected to be collected by mid-December. The program for the computer is being completed. Professora Norma and Dr. Turner consulted with personnel responsible for the program.

Dr. Turner met with the five participants who will go to State University College at Oswego in January. Dr. Turner will return to New York in early December to assume the campus responsibility of arranging for and directing their program.

2.7 Sample studies of federal data

1965 - completion by PUC of its processing of these data is anticipated by 15 December.

1967 - bids for the processing of the sample of 1967 data were requested from three centers. Their responses are expected in early December.

2.8 Kessel Study

Prof. Kessel has accepted the design of the study described by Dr. White. Details for contracting with him to perform the study are being worked out with Dr. Abreu and Professora Lyra.

2.9 Teacher self-improvement materials

The teacher-self evaluation instrument has been revised. A trip to DAP is planned in mid-December to arrange for the preparation of supplemental textual material.

- 2.10 First drafts for all of the areas have been completed and revision has been started. Arrangements are being made for at least one Brazilian educator not attached to EATEP, to read and discuss each set of material with its author.

2.11 Seminar

The seminar on language arts with a focus on beginning reading was held at EATEP headquarters from 27 Nov. to 2 December. Participants were from INEP regional and teacher training centers, MEC and Guanabara.

The principal objective of the meeting was to discuss aspects related to the productivity of the Brazilian primary school, with special emphasis on the teaching of Reading in the First Grade as the major cause of the high index of school failure and evasion.

The various reading methods in use throughout Brazil were evaluated in relation to their practicality against the varying backgrounds of both pupils and teachers.

Although there was general agreement as to the importance of the individual teacher in the success of any reading method, it is apparent that a concerted effort must be made by INEP, using every means available to bring up-to-date professional knowledge of Reading to both the directors and classroom teachers.

3.0 Problems and Recommendations

3.1 Research

The data for most studies will become available too late for complete processing and analysis before the departure of the North Americans. A means must be found to provide for the analysis and the writing of a report on each research following the departure of the team if the results are to be of value to those continuing to work on the problems of Brazilian primary education.

3.2 Pamphlets

[When completed by the North Americans, a means must be found for translation, rewriting, publication and distribution.]

3.3. Phase-out

Some situations not yet fully resolved because of problems of communication cause some personal concerns. It is important that an early resolution be reached and efforts continue in order to arrive at a clear picture of the fiscal and logistic aspects of the shift in contract focus from the project to the USAID/NE aspects.

Much of the chief-of party's time as well as that of team members will of necessity be directed to determining procedures involved in termination, preparation of unfinished projects and arranging for departure from Rio.

The North American members of EATEP feel a responsibility to consult, as appropriate, with INEP, USAID and LPEM personnel concerning joint and/or independent efforts to improve the Brazilian primary education situation.

The states of Pernambuco, Espírito Santo and Rio Grande do Sul must be informed of the future of the project as soon as it has been determined by INEP.

4. Objectives for December

- 4.1 Complete English version of pamphlets; arrange for translation and printing.
- 4.2 Arrange for future analysis of data being collected and processed.
- 4.3 Arrange for completion of teacher self-improvement materials
- 4.4 Completion of individual final reports and draft of contractor's end-of tour report.
- 4.5 Assist in completion of arrangements for contract extension.
- 4.6 Complete arrangements for departure in January from Rio.

Attachments

- 1) Status of Research Report - dated Nov. 9, 1967, by Harry White.
- 2) Translation of "Seminary on training and improvement of teachers in Latin America (Santiago do Chile, Sept. 67) School Retention, published by Regional Office for Education of the UNESCO (Nov. 16, 1967)
- 3) Trip Report - Vitória Nov.21-22 (report dated Nov. 28) H. White
- 4) Semana de Estudos - INEP/EATEP by D. Lyra Paixão (dated 2/12/67)

FTL/dcd

