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FROM - RIO DE JANEIRO

SUBJECT - Ohio State University AID/La-161
 512-11-110-094 - U-510 Report "Evaluation
 of the Sixth Semi Annual Report of the OSU
 Contract with the Escola Superior de Agricultura
 "Luiz de Queiroz" (ESALQ)

1. This Semi-Annual Report covers the period of October 1, 1966 to March 31, 1967.
2. Substantial progress has been made by ESALQ in achieving the goals set forth in the Ohio State University contract.
3. During the report period, nine of the 10 OSU technicians specified under the contract were on board; two OSU consultants visited ESALQ to assist in specialized phases of the contract effort.
4. As stated in the initial USAID/OSU/ESALQ Agreement of 1964, a key goal was to increase the number of students at ESALQ to 1,000 by 1971. This goal was reached at the beginning of the 1967 academic year. The accomodation of increased enrollment was assisted by an increase in the staff at ESALQ and provisions made for expanded physical facilities.
5. Significant work has been done to strengthen teaching programs at ESALQ. The post-graduate program leading to the M.S. degree was begun in September 1964. From its inception the program was assisted by the contractor.

Encl.: Sixth Semi-Annual Report of the OSU Contract

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A total of 83 students entered the beginning program. By September 1966, 10 students had completed all program requirements and were awarded M.S. degrees. An additional 46 students had completed their course work but not the thesis and were actively seeking the fulfillment of degree requirements. 21 of these students were granted certificates; from September 30, 1966 to March 31, 1967 two additional students completed their theses and were awarded the M.S. degree.

Of the twelve students achieving M.S. degrees, three were from outside Brazil (2 from Venezuela and 1 from Brazil). Researches completed by M. S. graduates were on topics of significance to agricultural development in soils, genetics and plant nutrition.

6. From March 1966 to December 1967 the OSU project staff assisted ESALQ in the development of second-cycle course programs in Animal Nutrition, Pastures and Rural Social Science. These post-graduate programs were established with the collaboration of the OSU staff. Some assistance rendered by OSU technicians was in the provision of prerequisite post-graduate instruction. 160 students registered for post-graduate studies but because of the paucity of scholarship supplementary aid only 91 were enrolled. At present, there are about 80 second cycle students completing research studies for the M.S. degree. The fields of study are:

- a) Rural Social Science - 19 students enrolled; one from Paraguay. Four of these students are receiving USAID scholarship; the rest are getting help from national and state assistance agencies.
- b) Statistics and Experimentation - 11 students: one from Argentina and one from Uruguay. Most are recipients of local scholarships assistance.
- c) Plant Pathology - 13 students with/one from Uruguay enrolled. Nine are receiving AID scholarships.
- d) Genetics - Ten Brazilian students.
- e) Mechanics, Motors and Farm Machinery - Five Brazilians; two are getting USAID assistance.
- f) Animal Nutrition and Pastures - 9 students; one from Uruguay. All are getting assistance from national scholarship agencies.

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g) Plant Nutrition - 4 students; 2 from Columbia and one from Venezuela.

h) Soils - 9 Brazilian students are enrolled; one from Chile.

It is estimated that one-half of the above students will complete their theses by December 1967 and be qualified to receive the M.S. degree in January 1968. During progress of second cycle studies, OSU contractor's personnel was deeply committed to a broad spectrum of assistance, ranging from (a) assuming full responsibility for teaching some disciplines and assisting others, (b) presenting seminars, (c) counseling student research work (d) serving as advisors for numbers of graduate students (e) planning for program improvement (f) representing USAID at State agricultural projects and assisting state agricultural programs in general. OSU also provided some much needed items of laboratory equipment, didactic materials and books for the school library. The assistance rendered the ESALQ teaching programs by the contractor demonstrate considerable involvement in basic instructional development at the host institution.

7. Significant financial assistance for student scholarship aid was provided by the USAID/OSU contract. In addition, supplementary scholarship assistance was provided qualified students by outside organizations such as by CAPES, the National Research Council and IICA. The Ford Foundation shared in support of the post-graduate program by providing funds for research equipment, supplies, seminars and special consultants. OSU technicians also served as members of the ESALQ educational council which guided student training programs.

8. Participant training has been stressed by the contractor. The first participant to be sent to the U.S. under the OSU contract left Brazil in December 1964. This participant training program is presently assisting ESALQ in the improvement of faculty member academic and teaching qualifications. As of April 1, 1967, 6 academic contract participants were studying at Ohio State University and one at the University of California. Fields of study were in Food Technology, Animal Nutrition; Forages and Pastures and Rural Social Science.

By January 1967, 19 participants were programmed to enter U.S. universities as follows: 1 in Plant Pathology; 1 in Food Technology; 1 in Agricultural Engineering; 2 in Animal Nutrition; 2 in Entomology; 3 in Rural Social Science; 3 in Home Economics; 2 in Soil Science; 2 in Agricultural Biochemistry; 1 in Plant Genetics and 1 in General Crops.

Preliminary steps are being undertaken to process 11 participants whose programs will probably begin in September 1968. Additionally, between June 1967 and to November 1967, a total of seven faculty members received special short-term training in the United States.

9. The Contractor's report adequately presents the work of individual project sectors. Considerable information is provided to show the measurable progress being made from agricultural sector to sector. In 1967, ESALQ established a Planning Committee to which the contractor has been provided representation. Specific areas of planning include administration, teaching, research and extension. The needs of each project sector are reviewed by the Committee; continuity is being given the effort to identify problem areas and to project solutions to urgent problems affecting State agricultural development. This awareness and interest is commendable. In particular, the Extension Sub-Committee is active in an effort to attain teamwork in research activities embracing ESALQ and outside agencies, minimizing duplication and spurring the dissemination of research results and agricultural technology for farm people of the state and to related industries and marketing agencies. On occasion, the Sub-Committee has sponsored meetings with the Secretary of Agriculture in São Paulo to discuss problems needing cooperative ameliorative action.

10. Problems among which are those caused by the lack of local currency, traditional attitudes held by faculty members, poor communications with USAID/B and the difficulties of recruiting contract staff have created a measure of interference with progress. However the contractor's program has moved ahead despite these obstacles. Vigorous administrative leadership at the helm of ESALQ, favoring the OSU contract, resulted in distinct gains being made during the report period.

11. The report does not offer the contractor's prospectus on specific plans for the next report period. However, the discussion provided by the Director of ESALQ in an attachment to the report presents the Brazilian point of view of program development taking place at ESALQ and future program developments anticipated. Some projections on undergraduate enrollment are given in the attachment; estimates of student per-capita costs (p.35) for key curriculum areas are presented (p.35) and plans for future program evolution are discussed by the Dean. However only in one instance is mention made of OSU involvement in the program. The formal report would have been somewhat strengthened had the contractor's concepts on program improvement desired been provided. A suggestion will be made to the contractor that such information should be included in future semi-annual reports.

12. In totality, the Mission considers the progress of the contractor to be satisfactory.

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