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FROM RIO DE JANEIRO

SUBJECT University of Wisconsin AID/1a-147
 512-11-110-094.2 Evaluation of Contractor's 3rd
~~XXXXXXXX~~ Quarterly Report - Report No U-510

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1. The Contractor's Third Quarter Report for 1967 was prepared in accordance with provisions contained in Section 10, Appendix B of the operational plan of the University of Wisconsin contract for developmental assistance given the University of Rio Grande do Sul (URGS), Pôrto Alegre.

2. The report is informative and adequately describes the contractor's work in behalf of URGS. Several developments described in the report give indication of considerable progress being made, for example:

Research - Advanced soil testing methods developed in cooperation with URGS personnel are being adapted by other soil testing laboratories throughout the State of Rio Grande do Sul. Graduate students are taking initiative to introduce new research programs in soil fertility; field and greenhouse trials have been established in soybeans, corn rice and forages. A survey of major state ~~soil areas~~ ^{soil areas} was completed by graduate students. The study has resulted in the identification of specific lime and fertilizer needs for general crop areas. These data are currently being used by the Ministry of planning to develop a program of fertilizer utilization for the lime industry in RGS.

Communications - A program of agricultural communications research is being advanced. Well developed studies of mass media in the State are available but these are considered to be ineffectively used at the present time.

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The contractor aims to spur more extensive utilization of agricultural information and technical data. This program will be carried out in cooperation with ASCAR, the State extension agency and other State entities.

Teaching - The contractor's staff is engaged in teaching graduate courses and, in general, giving guidance to both students and faculty members at URGS. The project staff is also giving assistance to strengthening departmental organization within their sectors and encouraging the linkage of their work with similar activities carried on by State agricultural agencies.

3. The contractor's cooperation given the University and other State entities has been commented on favorably by URGS and state and municipal officials, including the State Secretary of Agriculture, the Director of the Rice Institute, RGS and the Rector of URGS. The contractor has maintained good working relations with host government officials and members of the project staff.

4. The contractor's concern about the lag in the release of CONTAP cruzeiro funds for local program needs was brought to the attention of the Mission. Cause of delay was clarified. The University is speeding up its accounting to the Central Bank on expenditure of cruzeiro funds received. This will expedite getting new parcels of funds for local support.

5. The University has not always lived up to its commitments to support of the project. However, during 1968, an agreement was reached that additional faculty members would be hired for work in sector areas where expansion has been recommended by contractor's personnel. This will help to move the work along at the pace desired by the contractor.

6. The contractor's report does not adequately discuss participant training in its relation to project objectives. However, the provision of U.S. training for URGS graduate students and faculty members is being given keen attention by the contractor. Participant training is being implemented in harmony with project phase-out plans. In FY-1967, a total of nine participants were sent for training at the University of Wisconsin. The USAID approved FY-1968 budget for January 1 to December 31, 1968 allocated \$ 75,000 for participant training.

7. During the report period, the contractor had 11 technicians on board with one vacancy in the Marketing position. All except one, are tenured staff members of the University of Wisconsin. The exception mentioned is the specialist in Farm Management who, now a full staff member, was formerly a research associate. His work as project associate was outstanding and resulted in his selection as for

... service when a replacement was considered for the sector.

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