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MONTHLY REPORT NO. 3

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July 1, 1971

To: Government of the Philippines
Thru: USAID, Manila
From: Project Engineer, Water Resources Development Project,
BuRec, Manila
SUBJECT: Monthly Report, June 1971, in Accordance with PIO/T
492-233-2-90095, Amendment No. 1, dated March 24, 1971.

Significant Accomplishments:

On June 3 the Critical Path Method Chart on the Magat River Project was submitted to USAID/Washington through USAID/Manila, along with the budget estimate, organization chart, functional chart, and a chart showing timing of consultants. The submission was made by a letter of May 23, 1971 signed by the Administrator, National Irrigation Administration and the Project Engineer, BuRec, in accordance with the request contained in State Department telegram No. 006945, dated May 19, 1971, to USAID/Manila.

A draft of a letter was furnished the Magat Acting Project Chief for him to request that sediment sampling and quality of water sampling be commenced on the Magat River. The letter was finalized and sent to the Director, Bureau of Public Works on June 10, 1971. As yet no sampling has been started.

On June 15 a letter was handed to the Acting Project Chief, Magat Project, recommending various preparations and assembly of equipment for the drainage study. These steps can and should be taken before the arrival of the Drainage and Groundwater Engineer.

An interview form for collecting agricultural economic statistics on the Magat Project was developed and a draft copy was given to the Acting Chief, Magat Project on June 15. He returned the form with his comments on June 23. The form was further discussed on June 30 with the possible (not yet appointed) Chief, Economics and Land Resources Section, and the form was finalized. It will be forwarded to the BuRec Denver Office

for review, then produced late in July. The farmer interviews can then commence. It is planned to conduct about 150 interviews as a basis for the agricultural economic study.

A Presidential Order was issued on June 15 requiring the participation and cooperation of the Central Luzon-Cagayan Valley Authority (CLCVA) in the preparation of the feasibility study of the Magat River multi-purpose project to be undertaken by the National Irrigation Administration. The CLCVA was directed to participate and extend full cooperation to the NIA, and to make available all data and information, personnel, and equipment needed by NIA. A meeting has been scheduled for July 2, for NIA and CLCVA, to discuss the subject. The BuRec Project Engineer has been invited to attend.

Comments on a draft of the agricultural economic appendix of the Balog-Balog Project were furnished the Chief, Investigations and Design Branch, BPW on June 25. The comments raised several questions about the study and recommended that additional benefits for the storage reservoir be sought as it is possible that the project will not be feasible as a single-purpose irrigation project.

A notice to proceed was given to the aerial photography contractor on the Magat Project on June 22 by the NIA.

Photographic negatives of the Balintingan Reservoir site were received from Aero Service Corporation June 9. That completes delivery of all materials on Contract No. 14-06-D-5057, Invitation No. D-5997. The BuRec Denver Office, Code 1310, was notified on April 7, 1971 that work was completed on the contract and final payment was recommended. Upon further review of the contract it was noted that the negatives had not been supplied. Aero Service was contacted by letter of May 10, 1971 pointing out that they had not furnished the negatives. Their letter of May 14 transmitted the negatives so the project is now complete.

An estimate of in-country travel for FY 1972, was furnished USAID/Manila, covering all of the BuRec team.

Drafts of FY'72 PROAG and FY'72 PIC/T were furnished USAID/Manila. There was also an FY'73 program submission made, consisting of a short narrative on the content, nature, and objectives of the Water Resources Development Project, and the estimate of cost under the PASA for technicians, participants, and commodities.

A meeting was attended in the USAID/M Office of Rural Development on the Baloc Shallow Well Project. The project is being turned over to the Central Luzon State University to do the research works. The well drilling program, with which the BuRec team was assisting, has been

completed except for the final installation of the pump and prime mover on Well No. 4. The pump contractor has had difficulty in getting the proper engine, but the installation should be completed in early July.

The status of the UPRP land classification work is as follows:

- A. Field work completed.
- B. Laboratory work progress
 - (1) Screening tests of alternate samples are proceeding in UPRP laboratory and PW Hydrologic Laboratory. This phase (5000 samples) should be completed by mid-July.
 - (2) Complete analysis of master site samples are proceeding at the University of the Philippines College of Agriculture (UPCA) soils laboratory and should be completed before the end of July.
- C. Office work, planimentering and tabulating, has been completed.
- D. Report maps (reproducibles) have been completed.
- E. Report writing. Rough drafts have been completed of 7 of the 14 chapters. The remaining 7 chapters should be completed in rough draft form before the end of July.

The five man BPW land classification staff is now all recruited. The men are working in the laboratory making soils tests for the UPRP classification, and they are in training to commence work on the Balog-Balog and Balintingon projects as soon as rectified photos are made available. Work is now underway to rectify the Balog-Balog photos.

Problems:

Staff gages have been installed on the Magat River at the damsite and below the diversion dam and in the Magat Irrigation Project main canal. However, no discharge measurements have been made except one below the diversion dam. The river sections cannot be rated without current meter measurements. Discharge measurements should be made every few days during the present high flow season so that a rating curve can be established. The BPW hydrographer for the area does not have enough travel funds to remain in the area continually so he spends a large part of his time in Manila. Some solution must be found to obtain

Handwritten notes:
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Non-Balog-Balog
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all of the hydrologic data possible for the Magat study. The Acting Project Chief has been requested to work with the BPW on a solution and the Project Engineer has agreed to assist in any way possible. It is especially essential and urgent that a cableway measuring station be installed at the damsite for discharge measurements, and the collection of sediment and quality of water samples.

A problem developed during the month with respect to transportation for field crews. Six men, to constitute three land classification parties, went to the Magat Project on June 16 with the understanding transportation would be available. The BuRec Soil Scientist was to join them on June 22. (He was delayed because of being USAID Duty Officer June 14-21). While preparing to go on June 21, he learned that no vehicles were available at the project, so he cancelled his trip until cars can be made available to the field crews. One vehicle became available during the week of June 20, so the three parties are sharing one Jeep. It is hoped that the transportation problem can be resolved soon as many vehicles will be needed concurrently in the near future. The land classification crews will need about 7, the drainage crews at least 3, the engineering crew at least 3 or 4, the economics crew probably 3, geology probably 2, and other intermittent uses requiring 4 or 5 other cars. Rental of cars with drivers was very satisfactory on the UPRP land classification, and this procedure has been recommended to the Acting Project Chief. At the end of the month steps were being taken to rent vehicles so hopefully the problem will be resolved soon.

Most of the positions on the organization chart for the Magat River project are not filled. Staffing needs to be expedited to keep the study on schedule. Recommendations have been made to the Acting Project Chief that necessary transfers and recruiting be accomplished.

The BPW land classification laboratory still does not have a soil chemist to accept and put to use the \$15000 worth of laboratory equipment furnished by a PIC/C. All of the equipment has arrived in Manila, but none of it has been installed. Proposed training of laboratory personnel by representatives of Botica Laboratory Firm in operating and maintaining the spectrophotometer and flame photometer has not been started. This training is essential before critical soil and water quality tests can be made.

The Central Luzon-Cagayan Valley Authority data on Magat River studies have not been made available to the NIA; however, as discussed under "Significant Accomplishments", there has been a Presidential Order issued directing CLCVA to cooperate in the studies by the NIA. It is hoped that the data may become available early in July.

General Interest:

On June 11, the BuRec team was invited by the Administrator, NIA, to attend the groundbreaking ceremony of Pantabangan Dam, Upper Pampanga River Project. The ceremony, with President Marcos as the key speaker, was very well planned and conducted, and we appreciated the opportunity to attend.

Arrival dates of July 9 for Mr. Wayne Halliday and July 10 for Mr. Odes D. Steele, hydrologist and drainage engineer respectively, have been firmly established.

The country clearance for Mr. Edwin A. Kapernick has not been received by USAID/M, but it is expected early in July.

The Magat River Project investigation staff of the NIA is to move to new quarters in Quezon City in July. It is therefore anticipated that the BuRec team will join the NIA staff at that location in the near future.

The City of Manila celebrated its 400th anniversary on June 24, with a special holiday.

Typhoon "Loling" was in the Manila area on June 16 but there was no notable damage or work interference.

Visitors during the month included Roland Kaser, Harza Engineering Co.; H. Y. Hsu, International Engineering Co.; and Messrs. Little and Williams, Engineering Consultants Inc., consultants to U.P.R.P.

A. L. Mitchell

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