

SEVENTH MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT  
Project No. 048-Sahel Desert  
for the period  
April 1 through April 30, 1979

Contract No. AID/DSAN-C-0048

Prepared by  
Ebon Research Systems  
Washington, D.C.

Prepared for  
Agency for International Development  
Washington, D.C.

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A. Progress During Last Thirty Days:

- 1) Soils mapping was completed for the Senegal-Falame, Lake Chad, and Inland Delta test sites. The mapping was based on the "Soil Map of Africa", (Ed. FAO and UNESCO 1974), but boundaries were altered considerably to fit observed lithologic and geomorphologic units. Difficulty was encountered in the Niamey Site, however, where the soil units shown on the map bear no relationship to observable rock and land-form units. Additional ground truth has been located and should help to clear up the difficulty when it has been received and examined.
- 2) A good source of meteorological data has been located and copied. These data consist of, among other things, monthly totals of precipitation and their departure from the average. The locations of the weather stations are being plotted on Army Map Service Charts. Also plotted on these charts are the watersheds of the Senegal-Falame River systems, the Niger River and Lake Chad. Correlations will then be made between water levels in the rivers and lake and local and distant watersheds.
- 3) Approximately 90 percent of the data required for the desertification project has been acquired and reduced. This includes not only data relating to soils, geology, hydrology, meteorology, and vegetation, but to sensor capability and the postulation of a future monitoring program.

B. Problems Encountered During Last Thirty Days:

It was anticipated that the computer analysis of Landsat multispectral data would have been well underway by the end of this reporting period. However, the wrong computer compatible tape was sent by the EROS Data Center, thereby setting this task back two or three weeks.

C. Progress Anticipated During Next Thirty-One Days:

Thus far, the work performed under this contract has been confined to data acquisition and reduction. Now that a sufficient data base has been created, the emphasis will shift to analysis of the data and interpretation of results. It is anticipated that this work will be completed during the next reporting period, and that the results will be submitted in draft form to the Project Officer, Dr. Charles Withington, by 31 May. This does not include the results of the computer analysis, which will be delayed to about the middle of June.

D. Problems Anticipated During Next Thirty-One Days:

None