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QUARTERLY REPORT
CONTRACT
GOB/AID 511-93

RESETTLEMENT ADVISOR, PROJECT CHANE/FIRAY - SAN JULIAN
LOAN #511-T-050

July 1, 1975 - September 30, 1975

Submitted October 10, 1975
By Harry Pencock

QUARTERLY REPORT

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1.0 INTRODUCTION:

Contract "GOB/AID 511-95 specified under Article 1, "Services to be Performed", Section A, paragraphs 1 and 2 that:

1. The Contractor in his capacity as Resettlement Advisor shall:
 - a. Provide assistance to the National Colonization Institute and other GOB agencies participating in the project in the development, organization, implementation, and coordination of programs in technical fields such as land selection and entry, new settler orientation, community organization, cooperative development organization of agricultural research and extension, rural credit systems, marketing, and crop and livestock husbandry.
 - b. Assist GOB participating agency personnel in the design of functional programs, organizational structure, and inter-agency coordination, directed at developing technical service support systems for the project specifically and for rural development in Bolivia generally.
 - c. Assist in the design and execution of in-service training programs for GOB agency personnel involved in implementation of the project.
 - d. Assist in the establishment of job standards and selection of personnel and short term consultants necessary for the execution of the project.
 - e. Assist in designing systems to evaluate the effectiveness of various elements of the Project.
2. The Contractor, in addition, shall:
 - a. Provide liaison with USAID as necessary and appropriate.
 - b. Assist in carrying out actions required by USAID and approved by the Institute as related to the Project.
 - c. Assist the Operations Committee and the Institute in preparing materials and reports necessary to meet USAID loan implementation requirements.

1.2 Section 2 of this report provides a general review of principle activities carried out between June 1 and September 30 without strict adherence to chronological sequence. Section 3 deals with problems encountered, and offers specific recommendations. Section 4, in compliance with Part A of Article 1 of the contract GCB-AID 511-27 presents a work plan for the three-month period, October through December and includes an estimate of required travel with a projection of anticipated costs.

2.0 GENERAL REVIEW OF PRINCIPLE ACTIVITIES

2.1 SETTLEMENT OF NEW COLONISTS

During the first week of July major activity concentrated on preparation for receiving colonists in Nucleo 6. The colonists had earlier been advised that they would be accepted on or about June 1. Entrance date was postponed to July 1, and finally to July 26. The delays were due to the inability of the National Institute of Colonization with its defective machinery, inadequate transport facilities and inefficient administrative procedures to carry out the machine clearing of two hectares of land at the proposed community center and the provisional installation of a hand pump. Before the onset of rainy season in 1974 a trail had been opened by crawler tractor to the proposed community center. A four-inch well was drilled and the necessary provisional structures were erected to receive the colonists.

The crawler tractor available to perform the necessary work was an International TD-20 subject to overheating and lacking a generator. Beside the recurring necessity to remove batteries and have them recharged at the National Road Service Maintenance Camp, the tractor was frequently paralyzed due to lack of fuel, oil, filters or grease. There was no major downtime due to factors which were not predictable.

Transportation available to supply the land clearing operation within the colonization zone was during this period inadequate. An ancient Powerwagon and a six-year-old Nissan truck, neither of which was in working order, were the only vehicles assigned to the San Julian area. Not only did this make transport of fuel and other supplies difficult, but it severely limited the supervision which could be provided by administrative personnel.

One week prior to the arrival of the new colonists the contractor executed a two-day training program for Institute of Colonization personnel, staff members of the United Church Committee and persons specifically employed to act as orienters with the new colonists. The session included a detailed review of the three-month orientation process. Special attention was given to the roles of the village-level coordinator, the chain-saw operator and agricultural specialists. After initiation

of the orientation program on July 26, the contractor made four visits to the site of the new settlement, during which time it was possible to confirm reports that the orientation process was progressing according to schedule. By September 30 the colonists were harvesting lettuce, beets, carrots and onions from the community garden. Use of latrines, bathing facilities and covered garbage pits indicated a high level of environmental sanitation. The one hectare of beans planted in the machine-cleared area was bearing heavily. Eight-tenths hectare per colonist had been cleared by machete, axe and chain-saw and was in the drying stage prior to the burn. Project chief Adolfo Gallardos has provided good administrative support for this unit of work and an outstanding job has been done by National Institute of Colonization employee Alejandro Arauz in the role of Community Coordinator. In the future Arauz should be used in such a way as to gain a multiplier effect from his experience.

The first week of August, twenty new colonists were admitted to the San Julian program and assigned to Nucleo #1. The United Church Committee was invited to assume responsibility for the orientation of this group, but declined on the grounds that:

1. The orientation program developed with six repetitions over five years, has demonstrated that for results that justify the input, the highly integrated program should be executed in its entirety. This calls for initiating the program from a base of defined minimal conditions with reference to date of entry, availability of personnel and financing, and infrastructure.
2. Infra-structure recognized as necessary on the basis of past experience lacked the following:
 1. Two hectares of cleared land
 2. Temporary shelter (3 meters square per colonist)
 3. One latrine
 4. Storage facilities, 16 meters square
 5. Available potable water.

The agricultural engineer assigned to work with the new colonists of Nucleo #4 received instruction from the contractor in regard to recommended procedures for orientation of new colonists. However, these procedures were in general not followed due to:

1. A time lag of six weeks in the provision of potable water at the colony center,
2. The fact that the assigned agricultural engineer did not maintain continuous contact with the colonists, but computed on an irregular basis from the National Institute of Colonization Center. The long delay in provision of water for the new colonists was due primarily to the defective procurement system which allows for ambiguity in division of responsibility between the Field Project Director and the Regional Office in Santa Cruz.

2.2 PLANNING FOR AGRICULTURAL AND CATTLE PROMOTION

On August 29 the newly assigned Agricultural Director for the San Julian and Chane/Piray project, engineer Eduardo Zelaya submitted his first work plan covering the months September-December, 1975. This work plan contemplates familiarization with the areas and the carrying out of a general census. Development of contacts with a variety of technical service, institutions and agencies is not only projected but is in effect with respect to National Forestry Department, Saavedra Experiment Station, the wheat experiment program in Portachuelo, the Japanese Experiment Station in San Juan and United Church Committee agricultural technicians. The leadership currently being provided by engineer Zelaya is a major positive element in project development.

The project veterinarian Dr. Moscoza, after consultation with representatives of Heifer Project International, has proposed a program for reproduction and distribution of cattle on a rotating basis. This proposal is currently being discussed within the National Institute of Colonization and with technicians who have experience in extension service and organization of cattle cooperatives.

The planning process which is under way with respect to the Agricultural Service Center, crops, and cattle shows initiative on the part of the Institute of Colonization Field Staff.

2.3 PROPOSED ROAD ROUTE AND VILLAGE SITE SELECTION

During Project Coordinator Monroe's visit to Santa Cruz (September 17-19) he was informed by the Project Advisor on the following items concerning work advanced on the study trail along the proposed road route:

- a. As of September 15 one D-7 tractor was working at a point 40 kilometers 500 meters from the beginning of the trail.
- b. There exist in the zone numerous properties where there were indications of work which had been developed over a period of 5 to 15 years.
- c. Continuing the trail in the same direction it would enter the property of Mr. Edgar Landivar, owner of the small Guayay and of the agricultural properties Failas and Acrites.
- d. The observations of the Project Advisor noted the existence of numerous poorly drained areas along the study trail which would not be appropriate for village sites.

In light of the implications of these observations, the Project Advisor was called to La Paz where IIC administrative personnel proceeded to take appropriate steps. The action proposed at that time revolved around two basic points. First, authorization for the formation of a commission to identify and clarify the legal status of properties found in the area designated as the San Julian colonization zone. Second, necessary steps were taken to provide for the organization of study groups which would open a trail veering to the north of the existing study route at approximately kilometer 35 and following an approximate heading of 350 east of north.

2.4 In the Chane/Piray area major attention has been given by the Project Advisor to the development of inter-agency participation in regard to the future establishment of the Agricultural Service Center contemplated in the development program. After a series of visits to the Sagrada Corazon, San Pedro and Mardoran communities where interviews were held with National Institute of Colonization employees, community leaders, British geographer Colin Crossley and agronomist Walter Henry, an appointment was made with Nestor Suarez, Director of GOB Agricultural Extension Services for the Santa Cruz Department. In consultation with Mr. Suarez, it was decided to call a meeting concerning the establishment of the Agricultural Service Center with representatives from Agricultural Extension, INC and private agencies currently engaged in agricultural extension work north of the Chane River. On August 4, as planned, the meeting was held with the following guidelines being accepted by all participating parties:

1. The Agricultural Service Center should function primarily as a base camp for extension services to be executed on private plots in the area to be served.
2. The total area should be 20-50 hectares.
3. The location should be between Sagrada Corazon and San Pedro.
4. Housing should be provided for permanent extension personnel, SAS representative and one maintenance family.
5. Facilities should include improved pastures and corrals, sufficient for quarantine of up to 30 head of cattle.

The Project Advisor and the INC agricultural engineer assigned to San Pedro conferred with community authorities concerning the possible location of the ASC. The community of San Pedro offered land adjacent to the community which could be supplied with potable water from the community system and had frontage on the proposed route of the all-weather Chane/Piray road. They further suggested that an adjacent lot consisting of 30 hectares could be acquired. An inspection of the proposed site by the Program Advisor, INC employee agricultural engineer Alverado and agronomist Walter Henry revealed that the area possessed favorable characteristics taking into consideration location, drainage and soil types.

Efforts to contact the owner of the unoccupied lot which constitutes over 50% of the proposed area have as yet been unsuccessful.

Agricultural engineer Bonifacio Delgadillo has been employed to assist agricultural engineer Alverado with extension services in the Chane/Piray area. Prior to his entrance in the zone the Project Advisor dedicated one day to familiarizing Delgadillo with the INC-AID project to be developed in San Julian as well as in the Chane/Piray area.

2.5 MARKETING STUDY

During the period covered in this report, British geographer, Dr. Colin Crossley engaged in a study of factors influencing transportation costs and availability in the Chane/Piray area. Prior to the initiation of his study the Project Advisor reviewed proposed procedures, made recommendations regarding implementation strategies and assisted Dr. Crossley in procurement of equipment as well as employment of personnel used in field interviews. When the study material is tabulated and analyzed, copies will be sent to the offices of the National Institute of Colonization and Rural Development Division AID Bolivia.

3.0 PROBLEMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Procurement and Supply

The inability to provide a simple hand pump in less than six weeks to operate the already existing drilled water well typifies a basic problem in logistics which threatens almost every aspect of the program. During the period covered in this report, the drilling equipment and crew, scheduled to clean old wells in the colony, was paralyzed for twelve days for lack of gasoline which had been ordered two weeks prior to the delay period. The International TD-20 assigned to clear two hectares of land and trails totaling 2,400 meters was repeatedly idle for lack of diesel. The 3,000 liter storage tank requisitioned by the Field Director has not yet been purchased. Procurement of horses requisitioned by the Field Director and selected by the project veterinarian was pending for four weeks. When an attempt was made to purchase the indicated animals, they had been sold and a new selection was required.

In the report filed by the contractor corresponding to the month of June, 1975 (Page 2, Section 3, Item A), the recommendation was made that purchasing of larger lots be facilitated in order to reduce delays in procurement. This has been accomplished through the issuing of administrative orders that authorize block sums for specified purchases listed in the budget. It is evident, however, that additional steps need be taken with regard to procurement procedures. There is lack of clarity regarding relationships between the roles of JNC National Director, Project Coordinator, JNC National Administrator, Regional Chief and Project Field Manager. The uncertainty of authority limitations and areas of responsibility result in unnecessarily complex decision-making procedures. (Example: Ballagilles solicits the purchase of building materials authorized by Monroe in Administrative Order #3. The requisition is received by General Aguiri in the Santa Cruz Regional Office. Before acting on the requisition Major Aguilar is consulted in La Paz. The radio reply comes back that no purchase should be made without further instructions).

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Recommendation: It is recommended that Project Coordinator Monroe submit to Committee President, Sub-Secretary Marinovic, for his approval, the detailed procedure which is to be followed for procurement of materials, equipment and supplies, excluding those cases where bids are required. After the Committee President's approval this procurement procedure should be distributed to all parties involved. Implementation of the procedure should be the responsibility of the Project Coordinator.

3.2 Operation and Maintenance of Heavy Equipment

Provided the serious problem of logistics can be dealt with in a satisfactory manner, there still remain difficulties regarding salary level and the total administrative load with respect to the operation and the maintenance of heavy equipment. While salary levels determined by the INC budget for equipment operators are below the commercial scale, there are some indications that a more critical problem is encountered in the ability to retain qualified maintenance personnel.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the INC explore possibilities of contracting with SNC for maintenance of heavy equipment to be used in the San Julien phase of the project covered under AIE loan 511-T-050. In the event this should not prove feasible, consideration should be given to contracting the total operation involved in building access trails included in the project.

3.3 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ZONE

Observations made by the Project Advisor along the study trail, as well as in the area of El Puente, confirm information provided by hunters and old settlers of the existence of un-uniform jungle cover in the area. It is necessary to take into account the location and area of swamps and other poorly-drained areas in order to develop planning with reference to the location of villages and future access roads.

RECOMMENDATIONS: It is recommended that administrative personnel take the necessary action to achieve the earliest possible completion of aerial photographic studies contracted with GEOSOL.

3.4 PREPARATION OF INFRA-STRUCTURE

In order to take advantage of the first part of dry season for the settlement of new colonists, it is necessary to prepare infra-structure during the months of October and November of this year. More specifically, it would be advisable to machine-clear a total of 8 hectares and to drill a total of four water wells and four different sites. It is also advisable to construct a temporary shed providing a covered area of 50 square meters at each of these sites. Without these minimal preparations the 1975 settlement of new colonists will be delayed until the middle of June, losing 1/3 of the season which is best for this activity.

RECOMMENDATIONS: It is recommended that one of the D-8 tractors be assigned to clear two hectares of land at each of 4 indicated sites along the study trail. By the same token it is recommended that water wells be drilled at each site indicated in the settlement plan.

3.5 AGRICULTURAL INVESTIGATION

Along the study trail there are areas which are evidently subject to flooding for relatively short periods of time. These areas covered with low, thick brush are different from any of the areas currently under cultivation in the San Julian area. The depth to which water rises during rainy season in these areas is unknown. Equally unknown are the most recommendable plant varieties and agricultural techniques.

RECOMMENDATIONS: A. That soil studies with chemical analysis be done along the proposed route of the new road as soon as possible.

B. That there be opened a one-hectare clearing in each type of jungle which is encountered along the proposed road route.

C. That variety trials be carried out on the cleared plots. This activity should be given highest priority within the agricultural program.

3.6 DELIMITING THE PROJECT

The San Julian colonization project financed by USAID Loan 511-T-050 contains a general definition of activities to be carried out. A difficulty which has become evident arises from the need to delimit the specific activities of the program. In the past the lack of clearly established and well-understood limits has permitted the development of unrealistic expectations. Many times well-intentioned personnel of limited experience have turned out to be principle contributors to the situation.

Recognizing the number of colonists and the broad area involved it is necessary to channel the activities initiated by the Institute within limits that correspond to semi-directed colonization. The fundamental principle of this procedure is the insistence that colonists assume the highest possible level of responsibility for social organization and technical development.

RECOMMENDATIONS: It is recommended that directing the on-going process of delimiting specific aspects of the program should be the responsibility of the project chief. Details should be presented as part of the bi-annual report for the information and approval of the coordinator and of the committee in general.

Proposed Travel and Expense
Month of October, 1975

4.1

D A T E	P L A C E	M O D E O F T R A V E L	C O S T	P E R D I E M
1	Santa Cruz	Official		
2	Montero - San Julian	Public	\$1.00	\$13.50
3	San Julian			13.00
4	San Julian			18.00
5	San Julian - Montero	Public	1.00	9.00
6	Montero			
7	Montero - San Julian	Official		13.50
8	San Julian			18.00
9	San Julian			18.00
10	San Julian			18.00
11	San Julian - Montero	Public	1.00	13.50
12	SUNDAY			
13	Santa Cruz	Official		
14	Montero - San Julian	Official		13.50
15	San Julian - Montero	Official		13.50
16	Cuatro Ojitos	Official		
17	Montero			
18	Santa Cruz	Official		
19	SUNDAY			
20	Santa Cruz	Official		
21	Montero			
22	Montero			
23	Montero			
24	Montero			
25	Montero			
26	SUNDAY			
27	Santa Cruz	Official		
28	Montero - San Julian	Public	1.00	13.50
29	San Julian			18.00
30	San Julian			18.00
31	San Julian - Montero	Public	1.00	13.50
Totals Month of October			\$5.00	\$229.50

Proposed Travel and Expense
Month of November, 1975

DATE	PLACE	MODE OF TRAVEL	COST	PER DIEM
1 SATURDAY				
2 SUNDAY				
3	Montero - La Paz	Public	\$35.00	\$15.00
4	La Paz			3.00
5	La Paz			3.00
6	La Paz - Montero	Public	35.00	13.00
7	Montero			
8 SATURDAY				
9 SUNDAY				
10	Santa Cruz	Official		
11	Montero - San Pedro	Official		9.00
12	San Pedro - Montero	Official		9.00
13	Montero			
14	Montero			
15 SATURDAY				
16 SUNDAY				
17	Santa Cruz	Official		
18	Montero			
19	Montero - San Julian	Official		13.50
20	San Julian			18.00
21	San Julian			18.00
22	San Julian - Montero	Official		13.50
23 SUNDAY				
24	Santa Cruz	Official		
25	Montero			
26	Montero - San Julian	Official		13.50
27	San Julian			18.00
28	San Julian - Montero	Official		13.50
29 SATURDAY				
30 SUNDAY				
Totals Month of November			\$70.00	\$226.00

Proposed Travel and Expense
Month of December, 1975

4.3	DATE	PLACE	MODE OF TRAVEL	COST	PER DIEM
	1	Santa Cruz	Official		
	2	Montero			
	3	Montero - Piray	Official		13.50
	4	Piray			18.00
	5	Piray			18.00
	6	Piray - Montero	Official		13.50
	7	SUNDAY			
	8	Santa Cruz	Official		
	9	Montero			
	10	Montero - San Julian	Official		13.50
	11	San Julian			18.00
	12	San Julian			18.00
	13	San Julian - Montero	Official		13.50
	14	SUNDAY			
	15	Santa Cruz	Official		
	16	Montero			
	17	Montero - San Pedro	Official		13.50
	18	San Pedro - Montero	Official		13.50
	19	Montero			
	20	SATURDAY			
	21	SUNDAY			
	22	Santa Cruz	Official		
	23	Montero			
	24	Montero			
	25	CHRISTMAS			
	26	Montero			
	27	SATURDAY			
	28	SUNDAY			
	29	Santa Cruz	Official		
	30	Montero			
	31	Montero			
	Total Month of December				153.00

4.4 QUARTERLY WORK PLAN - OCTOBER-DECEMBER , 1975

October 1 - October 15:

1. Provide assistance in the organization of teams to open a trail along the proposed road route.
2. Stimulate planning and execution of activities to:
 - a. clarify land tenure status in the project area
 - b. establish most acceptable sites for village development along the first 30 kilometers of the proposed road route.
3. Prepare quarterly report.

October 16-October 31:

1. Consult with Montero medical personnel, National Institute of Colonization officials and AID advisors concerning the future development of medical programs in the San Julian area.
2. Provide assistance in planning which delimits responsibilities of the National Institute of Colonization with regard to the Chane/Piray - San Julian project.
3. Assist in negotiations with private institutions in regard to the assignment of specialized personnel (CUSO, IVS, International Exchange Service).

November 1 - November 15:

1. Participate in the general reconnaissance of the trail along the proposed road route.
2. Provide support in the development of planning for the location of settlements along the proposed road route.
3. Assist the United Church Committee in the development of detailed plans for orientation programs to be carried out in 1976.
4. Participate in consultations and planning with National Institute of Colonization staff in La Paz.