

UNCLASSIFIED  
CLASSIFICATION

For each address check one ACTION

INFO

DATE REC'D.

TO - AID/W TOAID A 479

DATE SENT

Sep. 22, 1964

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION

INFO

FROM - LAGOS

SUBJECT - Evaluation of Contractor's Performance, U-307  
AID/afe-50, Ohio University

REFERENCE .

- a. Ohio University
  - b. AID/afe-50
  - c. Nigeria
  - d. Teacher Training 620-11-660-732 (formerly 605)
  - e. February, 1964 - September, 1964
  - f. Government of Northern Nigeria
  - g. Edmund A. Ford, Teacher Education Advisor
- A. Contractor's Understanding of Contract Objectives

The Contractor has a firm understanding of the contract objectives which are being met in the development of this wholly new type of institution for the education of elementary teachers in Northern Nigeria.

B. Contractor's Performance

The performance of the contractor in Kano has been commendable. This is due in large part to a Chief of Party whose leadership has been outstanding. His present tour will be completed next January. Both the Assistant Director in Kaduna and the Chief Education Advisor in Lagos are initiating action to assure the continuance of the Chief of Party by Ohio University for a second tour. His presence during the critical

PAGE 1 OF 4

DRAFTED BY

EAFord:dm

OFFICE

EDUCATION

PHONE NO. DATE

Sept. '64 John B. Mossler, Deputy Director

APPROVED BY:

AID AND OTHER CLEARANCES

EDUCATION

LEGAL

ENGINEERING

PROGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION

developmental period of this project, 1965-67, is considered to be essential.

Orders for equipment and educational materials are continuing to be placed on schedule, while the installation of items received is proceeding normally.

A series of correspondence lessons have been prepared by contract personnel, and the Ministry of Education in Kaduna is especially pleased with this work. Complementing this in-service program for unqualified Northern teachers has been a summer course planned and implemented by the contract team. Meanwhile, the regular educational program of the college has continued on schedule.

The Nigerian principal, the program's first counterpart and participant in training, has just returned to his post from a year of graduate work at Athens where he received his Master's Degree. A second participant is beginning his second year at Athens, while four additional counterparts left this month to begin advanced study at Ohio University.

Rapport with local Nigerians and British expatriate officials in Northern Nigeria continues to be excellent.

#### C. The Contract Team

Twelve contract personnel are now on duty at Kano in addition to the Chief of Party. Their extra efforts in developing published correspondence courses are gaining wide recognition, and the overall in-service training program for unqualified teachers in Northern Nigeria is moving ahead well.

#### D. The Contract

The contractor is adhering satisfactorily to the terms of the contract. However, whereas the GONN had originally intended to transform the college to advanced status (a three-year program leading to Nigerian Certificate of Education) in 1970, the GONN education officials have now asked this be done in September, 1965. In this event certain amendments are now being studied which will be necessary in order for the contractor to comply.

Of most immediate significance, the maximum number of contract personnel at the project site in Kano may need be raised from the present fifteen since an entire new program will be added to the present five-year program which produces Grade II elementary teachers. Such a change seems worthwhile to both the contractor and USAID, for this new program would be the first in Nigeria offering an advanced pre-service

program for students in elementary education. The graduates of this program will be available beginning in 1968 to serve as tutors in the Grade II colleges training elementary teachers. USAID has this program under review in terms of its implications for additional personnel requirements.

Such a supply of tutors will fill a definite need and will supplement the Northern Nigeria Teacher Training Support Plan whereby a USAID loan has been authorized to build new Grade II colleges and expand the facilities of existing ones. While the Ford Foundation and the University of Wisconsin have agreed to provide needed tutors for these beginning in 1965, the graduates from the proposed new program at Kano will be critically needed from 1968 forward as the Wisconsin program is phased out.

#### E. External Activities Affecting Contractor Performance

The repeated delays in beginning the construction of the new college plant are proving embarrassing to USAID and the contractor. Such delays also serve as a genuine obstacle to the achievement of contract objectives, which hinge upon the occupancy of the new plant. It is now questionable that ground will be broken for the new plant before 1965, whereas the original plans called for the new plant to be ready for occupancy before the end of 1964. Meanwhile, the faculty of six Nigerians and thirteen contract personnel must attempt to operate under primitive conditions in several outmoded buildings which formerly housed a primary school.

It is not clear to the Education Division why so many delays extending over two years have been necessary. The present delay, however, is due to negotiations being conducted by the Ministry of Works in Kaduna with the Walsh Construction Company, the original low bidder. Due to the Morgan Report recommendations for salary increases accepted by the GON, prices have risen sharply throughout Nigeria and Walsh must increase its bid. As a result, it appears the revised bid will exceed the USAID funding granted for the construction of the new college.

Throughout this period it has been a credit to the contractor, the Chief of Party, and the contract team that the educational program has progressed so well under such adverse physical conditions and that excellent personal relationships have been maintained with the Nigerian officials.

During this evaluation period, an audit of the project was conducted by the Mission Controller. Following their report the contractor has resolved all outstanding matters pertaining to the recommendations made.

On a final point, the new campus coordinator should be made keenly

aware of the absolute necessity for the most careful screening of candidates being considered for the Kano project. This is a relatively isolated post in which the physical and psychological burdens are great. Among the first eight team members assigned to Kano, two had to be returned home due to their failure to adjust. In each case the immediate action by the Chief of Party was wholly justifiable and was instrumental in preventing serious difficulties from arising.

While the former campus coordinator was aware of these burdens due to his frequent visits to Kano, the new campus coordinator has not yet had time for an inspection tour, but he should be urged to make such a visit immediately.

F. Impact

Fortunately, as mentioned above, the GONN officials are increasingly pleased with the performance of the team in Kano. The effective in-service program for unqualified teachers has made a favorable impact upon hundreds of Northern Nigeria teachers.

The Nigerian principal of the college, having returned from a very professionally profitable and personally satisfying year in the United States, will have a significant impact upon GONN educators in telling of his fine experiences and in demonstrating increased competencies. This is already evident in the few weeks since his return.

Five of the sixteen college houses financed by AID have at last been completed after unfortunate delays by the builder. All are being occupied by Ohio personnel as completed. The remaining eleven are nearing completion and will be occupied by the faculty as finished. This compensates in small part for the long delays encountered in beginning construction of the college. An appropriate signboard on the site announces to the general public this contribution by USAID.

MATHEWS