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END OF TOUR REPORT

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Job Title:	Professor and Head, Department of Anatomy Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Ahmadu Bello University Zaria
Country of Assignment:	Nigeria
Contract Employer:	Kansas State University
Project Number:	620-11-110-817
Contract Number:	AID/afr - 707
Tour of duty began:	September 18, 1971
Tour of duty ended:	August 30, 1973

## End of Tour Report

Benjamin L. Hart  
Department of Veterinary Anatomy  
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine  
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### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

One of my primary objectives as department head was to guide the department through an evaluation of the curriculum in anatomy and the development of a sequence of courses relevant to the goals of educating veterinarians in West Africa. It was understood that there would be a substantial reduction in total time allotted to anatomy in order to allow for expansion of areas such as animal production, livestock economics, preventive medicine, and epidemiology. This meant the streamlining of subject matter to that which is essential for student progress in subsequent courses, but sufficient to meet international standards of competency.

Another objective was to help prepare new Nigerian staff members for graduate study abroad under the KSU/AID participant training program. There was also the need to build up the Nigerian and expatriate teaching staff to a level adequate to handle the department's teaching responsibilities.

Finally there was the objective of initiating research activities to provide a background for future research programs in the department.

### PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### Administrative Responsibilities

A substantial proportion of my administrative effort has gone into recruiting and working with new staff members. It has been necessary to recruit foreign nationals to help carry our teaching load. Over the past two years we have managed to recruit and appoint three anatomists from India, each on a

two-year contractual basis. To accommodate the increased staff, we have remodeled and improved our office and general departmental space. The gross anatomy teaching laboratory will soon be remodeled.

#### Teaching Activities

I have taken responsibility for teaching microscopic anatomy, neuroanatomy, and the new courses in animal behavior. The course in microscopic anatomy has been revised and the laboratory guide completely rewritten. The new course in the principles of animal behavior for DVM I students emphasized those aspects of behavior that are involved in the handling, breeding and care of livestock species of West Africa. The advanced course in behavior for DVM III students emphasizes applied and medical aspects.

#### Research Activities

With some assistance from Dr. Adeoye, I have been conducting two experiments with tropical goats. One of these deals with an analysis of the effects of two different tranquilizers in suppressing rejection of strange goat kids by lactating females. The second project involves a study of changes in mating and aggressive behavior of adult male goats following castration. It is felt that these studies may yield information useful in promoting the husbandry of small ruminants.

In collaboration with Dr. Lott, who was a visiting staff member from the University of California at Davis, I have been working on a field study of the behavioral interrelationships between the nomadic Fulani herdsmen and their cattle. This project ran from mid-May through mid-August. An understanding of the behavioral aspects of Fulani cattle husbandry is obviously important in expanding livestock production of Nigeria.

The work on goats and Fulani cattle should be written up and submitted for publication within the next year.

### NIGERIAN STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Two recent graduates from Ahmadu Bello University joined our staff in July of 1972, and I have guided their activities over the past year. They have been gradually given more responsibility in teaching and lecturing. This activity should enhance their potential for excellence in graduate studies as they join the participant training program. Dr. Adeoye hopes to emphasize animal behavior in his training while Dr. Ojo plans to concentrate on developmental biology and gross anatomy.

### SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS

I would like to express my appreciation and extend my compliments to the KSU/AID staff who have been involved in administration of this project. I have always received all the assistance they could offer in helping me to carry through my responsibilities to the project and to Ahmadu Bello University.

Perhaps the most serious problem facing both the future KSU/AID personnel and Nigerian staff of the Department of Veterinary Anatomy is the difficulty in initiating research projects. The only source of operating expenses for research is the University. The research fund currently allocated directly to the department is entirely inadequate to support the research of even one active investigator. The individual grants from the University require an application and a lengthy delay. These funds can only be applied for at one time during the year (November). In my own case, obtaining research funds and constructing animal research facilities delayed experimental work by at least eight months. I would suspect that the same delay will face the Nigerian staff when they return from study abroad and wish to start their research work. In view of the phase-out date of the project, these problems should be given additional attention by both KSU/AID and University officials. Perhaps something like a special research fund could be established within the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine to obviate this delay.

Benjamin L. Hart  
Professor and Head