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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Olson, William H.

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REFERENCE - Agricultural Advisor - Area, Office of Agriculture and Rural Dev.

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Attached hereto is End-of-Tour Report by William H. Olson, Agricultural Advisor - Area, for the period July 19, 1964 through November 30, 1965.

Mr. Olson has done an outstanding job during his time in Brazil and has retired as a USAID employee. The Mission is in general agreement with the information contained in the attached report.

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Attachment: End-of-tour report - William H. Olson

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1 OF 6

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Terminal Report
William H. Olson
Agricultural Advisor - Area

I GENERAL OBJECTIVES AND SPECIFIC GOALS OF ASSIGNED DUTIES

On February 26, 1962 the writer started his initial assignment in Brazil as Extension Advisor - Area to the Rural Extension Services of the states of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina.

In February 1963 the area was increased to include the state of Paraná and in November 1963 the adviser was appointed ARD Regional Director; Southern Region; for regional planning and program development. Returning from Home Leave in July 19, 1964 the technician continued in this capacity until September 1964 when he assumed the position as "Agricultural Advisor - Area" and with the establishment of a University of Wisconsin ~~adviser~~ Contract Team in Porto Alegre his headquarter was changed to Curitiba on December 1st, 1964.

Assigned duties for the reporting period July 1964 - November 1965 are as follows:

Serve as representative of the Director of ARDO and coordinator of the ARDO projects, giving required administrative and technical guidance to joint projects and ARDO personnel, in the states of Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina and Paraná.

Collaborate with the three State Secretaries of Agriculture, the Directors of the Extension Services, Deans of the Schools of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine and representatives of other federal and state agricultural institutions. Coordinate AID agricultural assistance with federal, state and local agencies within the area.

Responsible for the planning, management, stimulation and implementation of mutually planned and supported agricultural development projects in Paraná. Plan and organize state agricultural development programs that are being carried out in Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina.

Special emphasis was given to developing and implementing livestock, forage and soil fertility programs in the three States.

II - PROBLEMS AND DIFFICULTIES

Problems and difficulties encountered in the first tour of duty in Brazil from February 26, 1962 to April 1964 had been largely overcome by the end of this tour.

Upon return to Brazil in July 1964, the adviser came back to an organization that was working smoothly and minor difficulties and problems were largely those pertaining to the magnitude of the job needing to be done and the need of coordinating all entities, state and federal into a harmonious unit of agricultural technicians and interested private individuals all working towards the same goals in mutually planned and supported agricultural development projects.

Coordination in the three states, where the technician had this responsibility, was made much less difficult due to the fact that the present Minister of Agriculture, Hugo Leme, repeatedly made public speeches supporting this theory and recommended the forming of State Advisory Councils of Agriculture in each state.

III-SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

In order to effect the coordination of federal, state and local agencies in a USAID supported Animal Production Project involving 275 million cruzeiros, in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, a meeting ^{was arranged} on August 19, 1964 with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Director of ASCAR extension, the delegado of the Ministry of Agriculture, Institute of Agriculture URGS, ^{and} Wisconsin Contract Team. A working committee was appointed and through a series of planning meeting developed a plan of work and a Budget and an agreement signed on October 27, 1964 in the Governor's Palace with 14 people present.

For the State of Santa Catarina a proposal for a Livestock Production and Pasture Improvement project, similar to the one in Rio Grande do Sul, was presented, by this Advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture and technicians of other entities on December 10, 1964. Instead of the USAID/state agreement, Santa Catarina was later requested establish Sub-projects with Ministry of Agriculture/USAID Project agreement 247 on production and 248 in on Agricultural Marketing. This Advisor assisted in arranging for a meeting of all entities and participated in a planning session in Florianopolis on March 17 - 19, 1965.

João Renato Basta Neves, Administrator of the Ministry of Agriculture of the two above mentioned project agreements attended this meeting as well as one on June 1 - 3, 1965 held in Florianopolis.

During the week of May 3, 1965 this Advisor worked in Rio de Janeiro with Basta Neves and other American and Brazilian technicians in drawing up Sub-projects. (1) Improvement of Livestock, (2) Storage, (3) Swine, (4) Training of Volunteer Leaders and technicians were planned for Santa Catarina. These Sub-projects as drawn up, were approved by the Ministry/USAID Consul and accepted in the Florianopolis meeting of June 1 - 3.

For the state of Paraná where this Advisor had the responsibility for the planning, management, stimulation and implementation of mutually planned projects, assistance was given to the Emergency program in 1963. The projects in poultry, swine, storage and livestock improvement in the USAID/Secretary of Agriculture agreement were carried over into 1964 and in 1965 have become Sub-projects to the Ministry/USAID

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agreements 247 and 248.

In the states of Paraná and Santa Catarina this Advisor assisted in setting up in each state the following organization from March to June with Basta Neves, National Administrator of the Ministry of Agriculture and USAID/Brazil agreements.

1. State Committee
2. State Administrator
3. Sub-project Committees.
4. Executors of Sub-projects.

In Paraná a state agricultural council was designated on August 10, 1965. Plans are now underway in Paraná to organize a state Agricultural Advisory Council as recommended by Minister of Agriculture Hugo Leme.

Adequate winter pasture to maintain livestock just does not exist on farms in the three states covered by the report with the exception of some farms where the owners have introduced grasses and legumes that provide necessary nutrient requirements. For this reason one of the assigned duties of this Advisor was to help solve winter feeding. In order to do this tractors and the necessary field equipment in pasture improvement work was provided by USAID in each state to establish method and result demonstrations. The Ministry cooperating with the state Secretaries of Agriculture and USAID provided a special fund administered by the Ministry representative in each state.

A committee was established to plan and initiate the pasture demonstrations and seed multiplication centers. Through a series of meetings starting in Paraná on December 31st, 1964 with later meetings in March, the planting was completed in June 1965.

In Santa Catarina this Advisor met with a committee at Lajes (center of Beef production) in October 1964 and again in February and April 1965. At the later date, he worked with a Wisconsin Pasture Specialist. Plantings^{were} made in May and June 1965.

In Rio Grande do Sul the work was in the hands of a state committee and supervised by the University of Wisconsin Contract Team. Sixteen demonstrations were planned for the state in January 1965.

The technician working as a horticulturist and Temperate Climate Fruit specialist assisted and worked with Sergio Sachas, Rio Grande do Sul Fruit Specialist and set up a family farm orchard program with the extension workers of the ASCAR Extension Service stationed at Santa Cruz do Sul. Educational material and Bulletins on family size orchards were prepared and printed by ASCAR.

Propegation material was requested from USDA by this writer in September 1964 to compliment the work of Sergio Sachas, to be used in fruit trial tests and as parent material in a cross breeding program.

In October and November this Advisor worked in the São Joaquim and the Lajes

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4

area of Santa Catarina which is the temperate climate fruit area, on a consultation basis with a Municipal committee. In February 1965 Kent Tyler, horticultural specialist of the IRI Contract Team visited the area.

It was decided that a stateside Fruit and Marketing Specialist was necessary to determine the potential.

In July this Advisor met with the Secretary of Agriculture of the two states of Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul assisting them in preparing a request for a specialist to be attached to the Wisconsin Contract Team stationed in Porto Alegre and to come on a 90 day TDY.

The writer gave assistance to Dr. H. D. Bunch and C. Vaughn, Seed Specialist working in Brazil as a Mississippi/ARLO Contract Team. A Drill Box Survey in Paraná implemented by the specialists was started in August 1964. Through a series of meetings in October and December in which the writer participated and which he arranged with local Brazilian technicians of the Ministry, Secretary and State Extension Service resulted in the collection and testing of samples in April 1965.

The adviser also assisted in setting up committees on Seed Improvement work in the states of Santa Catarina and Paraná. He arranged meetings in December 1964 in Florianópolis and Curitiba, and effected the interchange of technicians of each state to sit in on the meeting of the other state.

The technician procured through USAID a supply of MH 30, a sprout deterrent for potatoes and onions, ^{and} set up method and result demonstrations in 1964 which are being continued in 1965-1966.

The IRI Research Institute, Inc. Contract is working with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and the state of Paraná Secretary of Agriculture in a proposed research project, supervised by IRI technicians, on the Ministry farms at Maringá and Londrina and the state farm at Cambará. The adviser assisted in arranging for meetings with local technicians and the Secretary of Agriculture and participated in the meetings.

The technician assisted in arranging for Observation Trips for groups going to the United States, namely, Secretaries of Agriculture, Dean of Agricultural State Colleges, Secondary level Agricultural Education, Forestry and Cooperatives, as well as five individuals on scholarships in Extension.

IV - COOPERATION WITH BRAZILIAN AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

The cooperation of Brazilian Agencies with Agricultural projects has been excellent. FAO has an Advisory Group with the Forestry School of the University of Paraná.

V- EVALUATION OF RESULTS

State agricultural committees for Agricultural development and subject matter

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5

sub-committees have been set up in each state as a result of the work with participation of National, State and local Agencies.

Method and Result Demonstrations in poultry, swine, storage and livestock improvement through improved pastures and use of corn and silage have been established in the state of Paraná.

In all three states, "Paiol de Tela", Corn Cribs, largely the work of another American Technician working with a Brazilian specialist out of Rio, were constructed extensively and used in livestock feeding. The advisor assisted in promotion and procurement of results.

Improved winter pastures with introduction of varieties of grasses and legumes that are providing adequate feed requirements have been established. Seed and vegetative propagating material is being produced in fields for future plantings and for distribution to farmers.

A fruit specialist has been requested from the University of Wisconsin to make an evaluation study of the potential for a Temperate Climate Fruit Industry in the states of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina. He will be here on 90 day TDY from January to March 1966.

A Drill Box Survey of farmer's seeds was made in 1965 with 1800 samples collected and tested. A Seed Certification program is well on the way to being realized in each state. Plans for Research work on two Ministry of Agriculture and one State Secretary of Agriculture farms are being developed.

VI RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Reference is made to recommendations contained in my previous End-of-tour Report See TOAID A-1632 that all USAID American personnel and Brazilians working directly with them, keep up the splendid start that has been made in getting all Agencies interested in Agriculture Development, public and private and to work as a coordinated team to build the Agricultural Economy of this great country to a level somewhere near the level of its tremendous potential.

Many hands and minds with the same goal in view will make what seems an impossibility an easy reality.