

CALENDAR

MARCH

14-15: Society for International Development (SID) Conference. The theme is "Trade and Development: Economic Realities and Political Risks."

Sponsored by SID's Washington chapter. Contact: SID, 1889 F St., NW, Washington, DC 20006; telephone (202) 682-0238

18-21: Fifteenth annual meeting of the World Mariculture Society, Vancouver, British Columbia. Contact: John J. Manzi or T. I. J. Smith, Marine Resources Research Institute, PO Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29412

19-June 29: International Course on Applied Plant Breeding, Wageningen, The Netherlands. Contact: Director, International Agricultural Center, PO Box 88, 6700 AB Wageningen, The Netherlands

21-23: Transcultural Nursing Perspectives in Primary Health Care Workshop, sponsored by the National Council for International Health (NCIH), Salt Lake City, UT. Contact: Barbara Kohl, conference coordinator, NCIH, 2100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 740, Washington, DC 20037; telephone (202) 466-4740

28-31: Seventh National Conference of the National Council for International Visitors, Washington, DC. Contact: NCIV, 1630 Crescent Place, NW, Washington, DC 20009; telephone

APRIL

2-8 June: "Appropriate Technology and International Development Strategies," a

program sponsored by the Farallones Institute. The course is designed for international development professionals and students. Contact: Glen Price, director, Farallones International, 15290 Coleman Valley Rd., Occidental, CA 95465

3-5: European Weed Research Society Symposium on Weed Problems in the Mediterranean Area, sponsored by Estacao Agronomica Nacional, Oeiras, Portugal. Contact: EWRS Symposium Secretariat, Ilidio Moreira, Instituto Superior de Agronomia, 1399 Lisboa Codex, Portugal, or European Weed Research Society, 8, Avenue du Président Wilson, 75116 Paris, France

4-5: Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD) meeting, sponsored by AID, Washington, DC. Contact: John Rothberg, AID/BIFAD, Room 5318, Washington, DC; telephone (202) 632-0228

15-17: The Association of Private Enterprise Education meeting in San Francisco, CA, on industrial policy, entrepreneurial management, and the Caribbean Basin Initiative. Contact: Calvin Kent, secretary-treasurer, Association of Private Enterprise Education, Hankamer School of Business, Baylor University, Waco, TX 76798; telephone (817) 755-3766

16-18: National Council for International Visitors Program Training Institute II, Atlanta, GA. Contact: NCIV, 1630 Crescent Place, NW, Washington, DC 20009; telephone (202) 332-1028

17-21: International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women, The Netherlands. Contact: C. E. Clason, Sociological

Institute, University of Groningen, Grote Markt 23, 9712 HR Groningen, The Netherlands

23-25: Universities and International Health: Building Partnerships Workshop, co-sponsored by the National Council for International Health (NCIH) and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC. Contact: Barbara Kohl, conference coordinator, NCIH, 2100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 740, Washington, DC 20037; telephone (202) 466-4740

30-June 17: Sixth International Course on Applied Taxonomy of Insects and Mites of Agricultural Importance, London, U.K. Contact: Director, Commonwealth Institute of Entomology, 56 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5JR, U.K.

MAY

7-November: The International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) will host programs in the United States and abroad on fertilizer use. Contact: Donald McCune, managing director, IFDC, PO Box 2040, Muscle Shoals, AL 35660; telephone (205) 381-6600

7-8: Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD) meeting, sponsored by AID, Washington, DC. Contact: John Rothberg, AID/BIFAD, Room 5318, Washington, DC; telephone (202) 632-0228

7-9: Eighth annual Larval Fish Conference, and International Symposium on the Early Life History of Fishes, Vancouver, Canada. Contact: Jeff Marliave, Vancouver Aquarium, PO Box 3232, Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 3X8, Canada

Any additions or corrections should be addressed to "Calendar," Front Lines, Room 4890 NS, Washington, DC 20523

FRONT LINES

THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MARCH 1984

"the front lines" of a long twilight struggle for freedom . . . John F. Kennedy

PN-ACZ-504



AID IN THE CARIBBEAN

Fiscal 1985 Budget Goes to Congress

Peace Corps, AID Sign ORT Accord

More Aid for Africa

Fiscal 1985 Aid Program Goes to the Hill

More Aid Requested for Africa

by Paul Olkhovsky

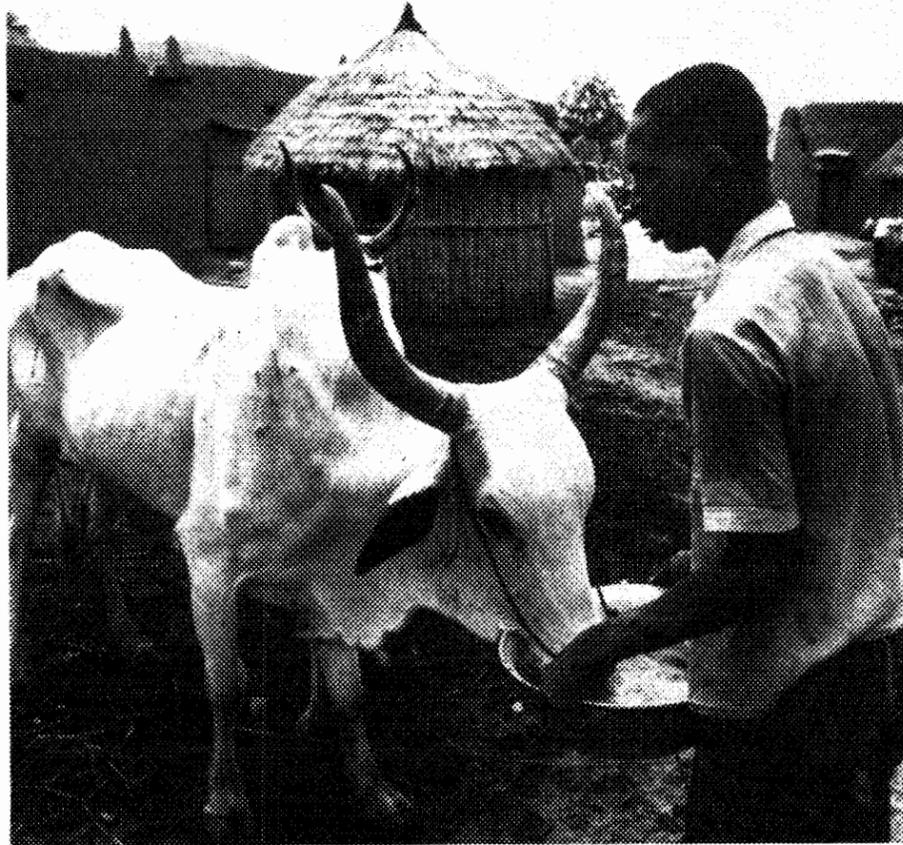
Long-term decline in agricultural production, compounded by a recent drought, has critically reduced the food supply in much of sub-Saharan Africa. AID is responding to Africa's needs with a two-part plan which will address emergency food needs as well as its long-term economic crisis, announced Secretary of State George Shultz and Administrator McPherson in a joint Jan. 30 press conference. "The message is when people are hungry and dying, America responds," Secretary Shultz said.

The Reagan Administration will ask Congress to approve a \$90 million supplemental for fiscal 1984. The additional appropriations would fund a P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance program. Severe African drought has depleted most of Title II food reserved for emergencies.

In the first four months of fiscal 1984, AID approved shipment of 218,000 metric tons of emergency food—a 38% increase in tonnage over the 157,000 metric tons distributed in the entire previous fiscal year. Part of the \$90 million supplemental would cover the cost of an additional 215,000 metric tons that have already been requested, or that the Bureau for Food for Peace and Voluntary Assistance (FVA) anticipates will be requested later this year.

Of the first quarter allotment, McPherson announced that 30,000 metric tons in immediate emergency food assistance, valued at \$10.8 million, was sent to Upper Volta, Mali, and Zambia.

According to a recent Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) report, southern Africa is suffering the



worst drought in a century. "The stocks which had been accumulated in 1981, when crop growing conditions were more favorable, had cushioned the production shortfalls; however, by early 1983 these stocks had been used up in most of the affected countries," the report says.

Due to world recession and oil price increases, drought-stricken countries cannot now afford to cover shortages by importing food on the open market, according to the FAO report. Political instability and difficulties with food distribution also have added to the present crisis, FAO points out.

FAO estimates that 9 million are suffering from severe malnutrition. And in sub-Saharan Africa, some are starving. Administrator McPherson noted at the press conference that per capita food production has declined 20% in the past 20 years and African caloric intake also has dropped.

Twelve countries have requested
(continued on page 3)

Food stocks that accumulated when growing conditions were more favorable were used up by early 1983 in most of the affected countries.



Package Contains Two Bills

by Robert Lester

President Reagan on Feb. 17 submitted to Congress legislation to carry out the Administration's \$11.9 billion foreign assistance program for fiscal 1985. The program is contained in two separate bills which would mean significant new assistance for Africa and Central America. One legislative package would authorize appropriations for economic and security assistance programs worldwide—except for Central America.

The assistance for Central America is contained in a separate piece of legislation, the Central America Democracy, Peace, and Development Initiative Act of 1984. This bill would authorize supplemental appropriations for fiscal 1984, as well as specific authorizations for fiscal 1985 and a general authorization for fiscal 1986-89.

The larger of the two bills—the worldwide bill—authorizes a total of \$10.7 billion for fiscal 1985, of which \$1.41 billion is for AID's functional development assistance accounts and the Sahel, \$2.8 billion is for the Economic Support Fund (ESF), and \$398.1 million is for AID operating expenses.

Figure 1 on page 4 provides an account-by-account comparison of:

- Fiscal 1984 continuing resolution levels (including aid for Central America).
- The amount requested for fiscal 1985 (excluding Central America).
- A separate column outlining the 1985 request for Central America.

The fiscal 1984 supplemental appropriations request of \$634 million for Central America is shown in Figure 2 on page 4.

(continued on page 4)

The Agency last month fulfilled another pledge that Administrator McPherson made at the 1983 International Conference on Oral Rehydration Therapy (ICORT)—to work with the Peace Corps to "develop a collaborative program to further promote the use of ORT at the community level."

AID and the Peace Corps signed a two-year, \$459,657 PASA (Participating Agency Services Agreement) calling for training and technical assistance for Peace Corps field staff and host-country counterparts in up to nine developing countries. The aim of the PASA will be to prevent diarrhea-caused dehydration among children and to promote ORT at the community level.

The agreement is financed through a new project in the Bureau for Science and Technology's Office of Health (S&T/H): Oral Rehydration

AID & Peace Corps Promote ORT Use

Therapy—Health Education and Long-term Planning (ORT-HELP). The three-year, \$4.8 million project will enable S&T/H to provide developing-country health leaders with information they need to incorporate ORT in their national health programs.

The PASA is a major component of ORT-HELP. Under the agreement, Peace Corps volunteers or their counterparts in developing countries will:

- Undertake local surveys and assessments of needs and resources.
- Plan and carry out educational programs to promote the prevention of diarrhea and the early use of ORT.
- Demonstrate the correct preparation and use of oral rehydration solution.

- Show how local ingredients can make up ORT solution.
- Monitor the preparation and use of ORT in homes.
- Promote nutritious feeding while infants recuperate from diarrhea.
- Refer severe cases of diarrhea to proper medical facilities.

The Peace Corps will undertake these activities on a pilot basis in up to nine countries, the selection of which will be coordinated with AID's other projects.

The agreement includes funding for workshops involving Peace Corps volunteers and host-country counterparts; staff conferences; trainers to conduct the workshops and confer-

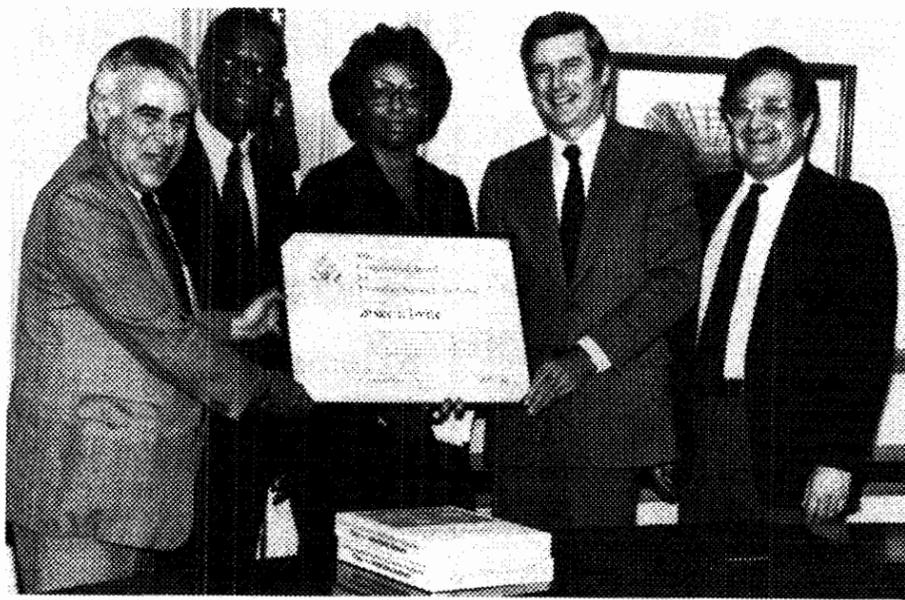
ences; programming assistance to the target countries; development or adaptations of training models; a staff assistant; and a supply of ORT packets for use by Peace Corps volunteers and local counterparts in treating dehydration due to diarrhea.

Besides the PASA with the Peace Corps, the ORT-HELP project will have these major components:

- Publication and dissemination of technical material.
- A series of regional conferences and meetings to provide information on ORT as a follow-up to ICORT.
- Technical assistance for ORT policy development and information exchange.

The Peace Corps PASA fulfills Administrator McPherson's "point five" in the pledge of follow-up action he made at ICORT last June. With a funding increase of more than 50% for ORT activities between fiscal 1983

(continued on page 4)



Congratulating Mary Little (center) are, from left: Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-NY); Julius Becton, director, Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance; Donald Devine, director, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management; and Rep. Elliott Levitas (D-GA).

Little's Exemplary Service Recognized

Mary G. Little, disaster operations specialist in the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, was presented the Congressional Award for Exemplary Service to the Public in a ceremony at the Capitol, Jan. 24.

Little has served as government liaison with private voluntary organizations, international organizations, U.S. industry and high-ranking representatives of foreign governments in coordinating the U.S. relief program since November 1980. Especially noteworthy were her services after the earthquakes in Italy (1980), the earthquake in Greece (1981), civil strife in Lebanon (summer 1982) and Typhoon Isaac which devastated the island kingdom of Tonga.

She earned the award for her "compassionate attitude, constant good will and unflagging determination."

The award also called attention to Little's "dedicated efforts which were instrumental in alleviating the suffering of peoples."

The award was established in 1981 to recognize, publicize and encourage exemplary and courteous service to the public among government personnel and to underscore the emphasis that the President and Congress assign to courtesy throughout government, explained Donald Devine, director, Office of Personnel Management.

Little was one of three winners selected from 73 candidates nominated by the heads of 41 departments and agencies. Final selections were made by Reps. Elliott H. Levitas (D-GA) and Benjamin A. Gilman (R-NY) who established the award program.

Little has served in government for 20 years and in AID for the past five years. She has a bachelor's degree from Central State University in Ohio.

Staff Leaves Lebanon, AID Program Remains

Withdrawal of AID personnel and contractors from Lebanon by military helicopters and ships started Feb. 7 and was completed Feb. 11 as part of a plan to move out all but very essential U.S. personnel," according to Letitia Kelly Butler, Lebanon desk officer in the Office of Middle East Affairs.

The five direct hires, two wives and 41 contractors left Beirut on very short notice. They first went to Cyprus and have now returned to the United States.

"The Lebanon program has not been dismantled," Butler emphasized, "but depending on the political situation AID may need to restructure the program." Butler pointed out that when project activities resume, AID will use the safest and most effective way to program and transfer un-

committed resources. "We cannot now predict when any personnel will go back," she said, explaining that return depends on significant improvement of security in Beirut.

Lee Twentymen, acting mission director, remained in Cyprus longer than other AID staff to assess relief and other needs. Other Lebanon mission staff returning to AID/W are Kurt Shafer, program officer; David Mandel, capital development project officer; Edward Birgells, capital development project officer; Clyde Laursen, administrative officer. They will backstop the existing program, help design any necessary changes and develop relief activities to be carried out by international and Lebanese relief agencies already working in Lebanon.

Returning to the United States with their husbands are Jill Mandel and Rosemary Laursen.

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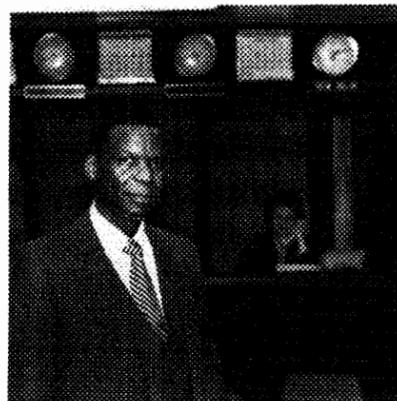
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Photo Credits: Africa pictures on pages 1 and 3—World Bank; Potato picture, page 18—Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research.



Cover Photo: "Hucksters" in Dominica sell local produce in the marketplace and also transport it to nearby islands for sale. AID's Regional Development Office in Barbados, with responsibility for programs in Dominica and other Caribbean countries, is Mission of the Month. Article begins on page 9.



Agency to Implement Gray Amendment

The Agency has moved vigorously to increase involvement of minority- and women-owned or -controlled organizations in its programs.

A new Early Alert System carrying out the Gray Amendment and Presidential orders on minority contracting will offer these enterprises more opportunities to work with AID. Also benefitting are historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), private and voluntary organizations and institutions controlled by Americans who are black, Hispanic, women or American Indian, as well as Americans who are otherwise economically and socially disadvantaged.

Sponsored by Rep. William Gray (D-PA), the amendment was passed last November and affects the fiscal 1984 AID appropriation.

The amendment stipulates that, except as determined otherwise by the Administrator, 10% of AID's development assistance and Sahel funds be made available for minority- and women-owned or -controlled enterprises, minority private and voluntary organizations as well as HBCUs.

The new Early Alert System is a program to help AID planners who must consider how minority- and women-owned or -controlled enter-

prises might participate at the design stage of a project. This, therefore, would be before general decisions are made on how to offer contracts and grants. The new system replaces the less comprehensive Early Alert System adopted last August which applied only to direct contracts for small and minority businesses.

"The Agency is committed to the objectives of the Gray Amendment and to increasing involvement of such organizations generally as it has been since this Administration has been in office at AID," said Deputy Administrator Jay F. Morris, who oversees all AID equal opportunity programs. "In implementing it, we have rejected arbitrary actions that would distort program planning and execution, such as earmarking Agency or mission funds. Instead, we choose to rely upon initiatives by the missions, the bureaus, and host country selection procedures."

Besides the organizations covered by the Gray Amendment, the Early Alert System also includes small businesses, in general, for careful consideration in early project planning.

Examples of how this new approach works:

- Offering HBCUs the opportunity to

work with larger universities in obtaining AID grants.

- Encouraging large contractors to sub-contract to minority- and women-owned businesses.
- Granting minority- and women-controlled private and voluntary organizations a part in AID-sponsored programs.

This initiative springs from a solid record, according to Morris. Preliminary results reported to the Small Business Administration show that minority- and women-owned enterprises received over \$30 million under direct contracts in fiscal 1983—about *three times* the \$10.3 million for fiscal 1978. HBCU involvement increased from \$3.7 million in fiscal 1982 to \$5.9 million in fiscal 1983, Morris points out.

The Early Alert System is the central mechanism under which AID offices, committees and individuals work with the bureaus and missions to identify and further the new initiative. The Agency has established special offices and committees within AID for furthering the involvement of each group.

The Office of Business Relations, and particularly its Minority Resource Center, concentrates on opportunities for minority- and women-owned enterprises. That office has greatly

expanded information on minority- and women-owned or -controlled organizations that have the capability to assist AID and host governments in meeting the goals of the Early Alert System.

An Agency HBCU Committee, established at the request of the President in July 1983, focuses on ways to further participation of HBCUs.

The Office of Private Voluntary Cooperation supports efforts to involve and inform private and voluntary organizations covered by the Gray Amendment. In each regional bureau, individuals have been designated to serve as liaison to each of these specialized committees or offices.

"A principal purpose of the Gray Amendment is to increase involvement of such organizations under host country contracts. However, there is no requirement that host country governments set aside funds for these organizations," says the Deputy Administrator, "But if we are to improve our performance, it is essential that everyone—the bureaus, missions and others—work closely to promote qualified organizations for appropriate opportunities under the Early Alert System."

—Paul Olkhovsky

Africa

From page 1, column 2

emergency food assistance that cannot be provided without the supplemental. They are Benin, Chad, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Somalia, Upper Volta, Zaire, and Zimbabwe.

"In Senegal, the food problem is not the result of mismanagement but severe drought—particularly on its northern tier," said Catherine Gordon of FVA's Food for Peace, Title II office. Gordon accompanied Sen. John Danforth (R-MO) and Congressional staff on a recent fact-finding trip through Africa's drought-stricken areas. "We saw large meteor-like craters that turned out to have been lakes at one time," she reported.

The Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance will provide \$2 million to CARE to help with inland transportation for food distribution in Mozambique, according to McPherson. "Given the poor transportation infrastructure in Africa, it is important that AID work closely with these organizations to ensure the delivery of the food."

To improve the long-term outlook of the African economy, AID plans to request Congress to authorize funds for a \$500 million, five-year Economic Policy Initiative (EPI) program above current funding plans. In the fiscal 1985 budget, the Agency requested \$75 million for the program.

With Congressional approval, AID will begin considering African nations eligible for EPI funds. "This money will be directed to those countries

which have indicated a willingness and ability to implement comprehensive growth-oriented policies," said McPherson. A second feature of EPI will aim at strengthening donor coordination to provide broader support for policy reform, according to McPherson. Shultz termed EPI, "a big carrot approach."

EPI funds would be used to help carry out reform at a sectoral level,

particularly in agriculture. For example, they might be used to strengthen the private sector's capacity to market crops in a country where government-controlled marketing boards have dominated, according to an AID statement by Assistant Administrator for Africa Frank Donatelli before the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa Feb. 7.

"The United States is inviting other



EPI will be directed to countries indicating a willingness and ability to carry out comprehensive growth-oriented policies.

donors and institutions to join us in the EPI effort," said McPherson. "Increased donor coordination should help African governments develop more comprehensive approaches to the range of their short-, medium- and long-term economic problems and objectives. The World Bank is willing to play a leadership role in this effort. The EPI will help to improve other bilateral and multilateral assistance programs by being a catalyst."

Said Donatelli, "We believe the time has ripened for the Economic Policy Initiative. Even though Africa's economic performance has deteriorated in the recent past and a large number of countries face extremely serious macroeconomic problems, we see reasons for optimism about Africa's prospects over the next several years," the assistant administrator said.

"The very recognition of the crisis provides reason for optimism," Donatelli continued. "It shows that African countries have become increasingly aware of the need for massive changes in the way they conduct their economic affairs. We have begun to see a significant shift in policy in countries that only a year or two ago we would have considered intransigent. The next few years will be crucial in determining whether Africa can set the stage for sustainable economic growth after a generation of false starts. The request for a special authorization for EPI demonstrates our commitment to Africa at this critical turning point," Donatelli said.

Olkhovsky is a writer in the Office of Publications, Bureau of External Affairs.

Budget

From page 1, column 4

Increases over 1984 continuing resolution levels are being proposed for each of AID's functional accounts. The largest increases are for Selected Development Activities (SDA) and Agriculture. Taking both the Central America and worldwide bills together, SDA totals \$236.2 million—an increase of \$95.9 million. Agriculture (\$752.6 million) reflects a total increase of \$27.5 million.

As was the case in fiscal 1984, AID proposes using up to \$20 million of funds authorized for development assistance for the Private Sector Revolving Fund. The fund was authorized in the fiscal 1984 continuing resolution.

The regular fiscal 1985 authorization (worldwide) bill also authorizes \$75 million for an Economic Policy Initiative (EPI) for Africa to assist countries that are willing to undertake growth-oriented policy reforms necessary for economic development. (See article on page 1, column 1.)

EPI funds are not earmarked by functional account, nor are beneficiary countries designated in the bill. It is anticipated that the EPI will be a multiyear effort involving coordination with the World Bank and other donors.

Other elements of the worldwide bill include:

- A proposal that eliminates the Congressional notification requirement for development projects when the proposed fiscal year obligation would not exceed the amount shown in the Congressional Presentation by more than 10%.
- A proposal to continue authorization to Sept. 30, 1985 of the Agricultural and Productive Credit and Self-Help Community Development Program (Section 222A of the Foreign Assistance Act).
- A proposal to increase from \$2 million to \$3 million the amount of funds that can be used to assist disadvantaged children in Asia (Section 241 of the Foreign Assistance Act).
- A proposal to remove the People's Republic of China from the list of communist countries now excluded

FIGURE 1
(\$000,000)

ACCOUNT	FY 1984 CONTINUING RESOLUTION ^a	FY 1985 ^b REQUEST	FY 1985 CENTRAL AMERICA
Functional Development Assistance	\$1,419.9	\$1,312.9	\$272.8
Agriculture, Rural Development & Nutrition	725.1	682.6	69.8
Population	245.0	235.0	15.0
Health	143.0	118.1	40.0
Education & Human Resources	126.5	124.8	64.0
Selected Development Activities	170.3	152.2	84.0
Science & Technology	10.0	(10.0)	—
Sahel Program	103.0	97.5	—
EPI	—	75.0	—
Operating Expenses	372.4	398.1	6.0
Disaster Assistance	25.0	25.0	—
American Schools & Hospitals Abroad	30.0	10.0	—
Economic Support Fund	3,193.7	2,797.5	640.6
Housing Guaranty Reserve	—	—	10.0
Military	2,135.6	5,829.8	255.9
Other Agencies and Activities	—	144.0	69.8
Subtotal	—	10,889.5	1,254.9
Grand total	\$7,279.6	\$11,944.4	

^a Includes proposed supplemental amounts contained in the fiscal 1985 worldwide budget request bill.
^b Contains no request for Central America.

from U.S. foreign assistance (Section 620(f) of the Foreign Assistance Act).

• A proposal that AID be authorized to borrow funds from the Treasury for the reserve fund of the Housing Guaranty Program if the working level of that fund declines to a level inadequate to meet potential claims against it.

The Central America bill contains most of the recommendations of the Bipartisan Commission on Central America. It is designed to promote the establishment of a long-term framework to build democracy, restore peace, and improve living conditions in Central America. It authorizes a total of \$7.7 billion in economic assistance for fiscal 1984 through 1989. An additional \$600 million in guaranties authorized in other legislation, such as the Export-Import Bank Act, also forms a part of this comprehensive economic assistance package for Central America. Fiscal 1984 and 1985 military assistance for the region totals \$514.9 million.

The bill represents not only a multi-year, but also a multi-agency effort to address the economic problems of Central America. Such agencies as the Export-Import Bank, the U.S. Information Agency, Peace Corps, the Overseas Private Investment Corp. and

The responses from missions reporting on current and future ORT activities have been the basis for ORT planning.

• New worldwide programs to promote ORT. S&T/H has launched two projects to support ORT activities: the Technology for Primary Health Care (PRITECH) project and ORT-HELP.

In his closing remarks at ICORT, McPherson outlined what he termed "practical goals—goals that must be achieved" in the ORT effort. He called upon "governments in developing countries, donors and private groups around the world to increase their efforts to save children's lives through this therapy." He urged a worldwide effort toward having ORT widely available within five years—and toward a doubling of the use of ORT each year for the next five years. He also pledged AID "to the effort to attain near-universal availability of the therapy within 10 years."

FIGURE 2

Central America Supplemental
Fiscal 1984
(\$000,000)

Functional Development Assistance	73.0
Operating Expenses	2.5
Economic Support Fund	290.5
Peace Corps	2.0
USIA	7.0
Military	259.0
Total	\$634.0

the National Endowment for Democracy will play roles in this comprehensive program.

The bill contains an in-depth statement of policy and findings that recognize both the need for significantly greater amounts of economic assistance and the interrelationship of economic, political and security considerations in order to achieve a democratic and economically secure Central America. The bill reflects the commission's support of certain basic principles in the economic development of Central American countries:

- Growth-oriented economic policies are fundamental to increased production, investment, trade, and regional cooperation.
- Similarly, increased participation and promotion of the private sector, and the creation and strengthening of private and public sector institutions are all necessary to provide the people of the region with the tools for development.
- The issues of hunger, health deficiencies, infant and child mortality, population growth, illiteracy, underemployment and financial instability are related to each other. Each must be addressed if equitable economic growth is to occur.

In addition to the fiscal 1984 supplemental and fiscal 1985 requests for Central America, the bill authorizes \$1.2 billion for each of fiscal years 1986 through 1989 for non-military assistance for Central America. The particular funding accounts or agencies that would receive these funds would be determined by the President at a later date.

In addition, the Central America bill contains several substantive provisions aimed at administration of justice, land reform and trade credits, as well as suggesting the establishment of a Central American Development

Organization (CADO).

The bill authorizes using up to \$20 million in each fiscal year for a program designed to strengthen the administration of justice in Central American countries and the Caribbean. The program would provide technical assistance, training and material resources to strengthen the courts, prosecutors, justice ministries, law schools and bar associations to carry out their functions in a manner that contributes to increased respect for law.

In fiscal 1984, the program would expand activities already under way. These include a scholarship program for specialized graduate studies in criminal, administrative and agrarian law at the University of Costa Rica and a regional training program for judges.

The program also would support development of specific plans and programs in several countries in Central America and the Caribbean, facilitated by ILANUD, a U.N.-affiliated, Latin American regional institution whose primary purpose is to seek improvements in the criminal justice systems of Latin American and Caribbean countries.

With regard to land reform, the bill amends section 620(g) of the Foreign Assistance Act to authorize the use of foreign aid funds to compensate a country's citizens, in accordance with a land reform program, if the President determines that such assistance would be in the interest of the United States.

The provision builds on a similar measure adopted by the House Foreign Affairs Committee during markup of last year's foreign assistance bill.

At that time, the committee agreed, in the context of the land reform program in El Salvador, that compensating owners for expropriated property was permissible. The provision proposed in the Central America bill would not be limited to Central America.

In view of the difficulty that many Central American importers have in obtaining short-term trade credits, the bill authorizes a new Trade Credit Insurance Program. Under this program, ESF funds would be used to guarantee U.S. lenders in cases where the risk of loss or non-payment is such that the Export-Import Bank would not be able to guarantee the loan.

Finally, the bill encourages the President to enter into negotiations with representatives from Central American countries to establish a CADO. The organization would be comprised of public and private sector representatives from those Central American countries committed to progress on human rights, building democratic institutions, and encouraging economic growth through policy reforms.

CADO would meet periodically to make recommendations concerning political, economic and social development objectives; mobilization of resources and external assistance needs; and reform of economic policies and structures. One of its functions would be to monitor country performance in these matters.

Lester is assistant general counsel for legislation and policy. John Wilkinson of the Bureau for Program and Policy Coordination's Office of Planning and Budget also contributed to this article.

ORT

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and 1984, the Agency has made great strides in fulfilling all the pledges McPherson made:

- Continued support for diarrheal disease research. The Agency recently awarded a \$1.4 million grant to the International Center for Diarrheal Disease Research/Bangladesh.
- Inclusion of ORT in AID's primary health care program. Since ICORT, many add-ons and new project activities have been started. Funding for these activities increased more than 50%, to \$19.6 million in fiscal 1984.
- Informing AID representatives abroad about ICORT and urging new ORT activity by missions. The Administrator sent a worldwide cable summarizing the conference and requesting reports on ORT activities.

PERSONALITY FOCUS

Julius W. Becton Jr.

by Raisa Scriabine

Is going from U.S. Army lieutenant general to director of the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance a big switch? "Not really," according to Julius Wesley Becton Jr., 57, who assumed the OFDA post in January. "Crisis management, planning and operations are a part of both jobs."

In his almost 40-year military career, General Becton has seen his share of natural and man-made disasters. He served in combat in three wars—World War II, Korea and Vietnam—and received two purple hearts. "That's two too many," he says with a smile.

Joining the Army in 1943 was the natural thing to do. "I was a senior at Lower Marion High School in Ardmore, PA—the same school that Alexander Haig went to," Becton recalls. "General 'Hap' Arnold, then chief of staff of the Army Air Corps, came to visit. He talked to us about winning silver wings and gold bars."

Arnold must have left quite an impression because that December, Becton and five of his football team mates were sworn into the Air Corps enlisted reserves. "My eyesight wasn't good enough to make pilot, though," Becton remarks with a tinge of regret.

But the new recruits from Lower Marion High School had no intention of making the military a career. "We signed up for World War II plus six months." Two years later, Julius Becton Jr. was commissioned as a second lieutenant. Following a tour in the Philippines and New Guinea, he rejoined the reserves and moved back to Pennsylvania. There, he began pre-med studies on a football scholarship at Muhlenberg College in Allentown.

"Hap" Arnold wasn't the only one to influence Julius Becton's career. His father, a janitor in affluent Bryn Mawr, PA, had a lot to do with it, too. "My father wanted me to be a doctor. But by my junior year, I realized that I didn't like medicine and went back to the Army."

"I went to school in an integrated area and sort of felt ashamed that my father was a janitor, while everyone else's was a banker. It was only later that I realized that my father taught me something very important: the meaning of the word 'respect.' He died a very proud man after having worked in the same job for 44 years. He was respected by everyone who knew him. And that made a lasting impression. My father also instilled in us the quality that makes you want to give it your best shot," Becton recalls.

Medicine's loss was the Army's gain. In the military, Becton went on to "give it his best shot." He was awarded a Silver Star for valor and bravery under fire while in Korea (1950-51). In Vietnam, in 1968, he received a second Silver Star for helping secure the provincial capital of



Crisis management, planning and operations are part of Becton's new job as director of OFDA (above), just as they were in the Army (below, right).



Song Be during the Tet Offensive.

He also received two Legions of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Knight Commanders Cross of the Order of Merit awarded by the Federal Republic of Germany.

Becton rounded out his military education at the Infantry School, the Command and General Staff College, the Armed Forces Staff College, the Institute for Defense Analyses and the National War College. He also earned a bachelor's degree from Prairie View A&M in mathematics and a master's degree from the University of Maryland in economics.

He went on to command both the 1st Cavalry Division in Ft. Hood, Texas (1975-76) and the 7th U.S. Army Corps in Stuttgart, Germany (1978-81). By the time he retired last August he was deputy commander of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command at Ft. Monroe in Virginia. There, he was in charge of all schoolhouse training programs for enlisted personnel and he was also the Army's training inspector.

For all the discipline and rigors of military life, Julius Becton brings warmth and informality to his post at OFDA. "Call me Julius or J.B.," he says. "My door is always open." He also brings a seasoned management philosophy which, in a different setting and in a different uniform, was his policy for command. Professionalism, integrity, innovation, efficiency, cost effectiveness, sensitivity and good humor are all part of it.

"Professionalism means doing the job to the best of your ability all of the time. Know your job. Or learn it. Follow orders as well as use initiative," he advises. "But, don't be afraid to admit mistakes or to disagree. Disagreement is not disrespect."

Becton encourages his staff to challenge assertions. "It's all part of the decision-making process," he says. "But once the decisions are made, everyone salutes the flag and follows through." On Becton's team, there is no substitute for honest conviction and candor. "Integrity is not negotiable," he emphasizes. "You may be wrong in an assessment, but I want you to give it to me as you see it."

Loyalty, which Becton sees as a two-way street, is another key ingredient in the management process. "Anyone who is smart is loyal to the boss. But supervisors should be just as loyal to those who work for them," Becton stresses. "They should be sensitive to the needs of their employees. Team spirit and a family atmosphere should be a part of office life."

"So should a good sense of humor. It's important to be able to laugh at yourself and to keep things in perspective—it helps overcome stress," the new OFDA chief says.

Keeping things in perspective is a lesson learned in combat. "When your whole world boils down to a very small piece of ground on top of a hill and you are in a life-and-death situation with your platoon, other things aren't important."

In Becton's opinion, any job can be done better. "Efficiency is good, but if you have nothing to do and are very efficient at doing nothing, that's not what we want. We want efficiency that is tied with effectiveness. You need a climate to dream a bit, to see things not the way they used to be but the way they ought to be. And then you need to have room to try new ideas. I encourage people to look for innovative ways to do things."

Innovation is nothing new to AID's three-star general. During his tour in the Federal Republic of Germany in the 1970s, Becton helped make the military more responsive to the needs of women in the armed forces.

"Having been black in an Army that was largely segregated in the 1940s and early 1950s, I was particularly sensitive to the need for change. It took us (blacks) 25 years to get to where we are today. I don't want to see the integration of women into the armed forces take that long." Some of the innovations that resulted from Becton's initiative have been adopted by the Department of Defense (DOD) and by the Office of Personnel Management.

For example, publication of a Department of Army manual on sexual harassment which helped sensitize the military to the problem can, to a large extent, be attributed to Becton's efforts. Another Becton contribution: DOD has replaced the term "dependents" with "family members."

Becton admits that he's a "workaholic." "I haven't been on a golf course since 1981 and I don't play nearly enough racquetball." But, like everything else, he puts work into perspective. "I'm not going to get gray hair and ulcers over it. The sun will come up tomorrow no matter what happens today."

Having come from a close family, Becton takes pride in his four daughters, one son and four grandchildren. He met his wife, the former Louise Thornton, in high school. "She went to a rival school and we used to clobber her football team. She didn't like me much and made a point of telling me. I wanted to find out why and we ended up getting married." That was on Jan. 29, 1948.

During their 36-year marriage, the Bectons have remained close despite many tours of duty overseas. "My wife is the one who tied it all together," he notes with pride. "Overseas there wasn't a month that went by that we didn't hear from our children. And, they were always in touch with each other. What is really important to me is that our children really like each other very much." While General Becton opted for the military over medicine, his wife brought medicine back into the family. She is a registered nurse in a hospice in Northern Virginia.

A combat veteran who has seen the worst that life can offer, Julius Becton never hesitates to look for the bright side. Under fire, as in less extreme situations, he manages to see a binding humanitarian spirit in people. "Helping each other is what we are all about," he says. And that's not a bad philosophy for a director of OFDA.

Scriabine is director of the Office of Publications in the Bureau of External Affairs.

Savings Bond Participation Encouraged

A 50% governmentwide employee participation in the U.S. savings bond program is the goal of the 1984 campaign, set to get under way March 26.

"Increased participation in the program is AID's goal," said Administrator McPherson in preparing to launch the Agency's campaign. "AID's participation has been among the lowest in government. I hope more employees will take advantage of this improved savings program."

The improved rate of return on savings bonds, which was introduced in the 1983 campaign, is a variable market-based interest rate for Series EE bonds held five years or longer. The rates are adjusted twice each year. The November 1982 rate of 11.9% was adjusted in May 1983 to 8.64%, followed in November 1983 with an adjustment to 9.38%. Interest rates during the first year of the new program stayed well above the guaranteed minimum interest rate of 7.5%.

To buy bonds, an employee need only decide what sum to set aside each pay period and sign an authorization card. Each AID mission, bureau and office has designated a bond coordinator and key workers who have all the

AID BRIEFS

information needed for participating.

Further information may be obtained from the Employee Relations and Services Division in AID's Office of Personnel Management, SA-1, Room 1116, telephone 632-2954.

Fire in Home, Friends Ask Assistance

On Feb. 1, fire destroyed the home of Piccola Wright, a 16-year AID employee who works as a program operations assistant in the Bureau for Food for Peace and Voluntary Assistance (FVA). Although no one was injured in the fire, only a few items could be salvaged.

Employees who would like to donate cash or a check to the Piccola Wright Fund, should contact Barbara Blackwell, Office of Management Services in FVA, Room 224, SA-8, telephone 235-1980, or Sylvia Mitchell, Office of Planning and Budget in the Bureau for Program and Policy Coordination, Room 3530NS, telephone 632-9107.

Tax Service Volunteered

The Agency's federal income tax adviser service is now available to all employees seeking assistance with their federal and state income tax problems.

Questions should be limited to specific tax matters. AID's advisers are not to be expected to prepare tax returns on official time. The volunteers are: Charles Christian, located at Main State, 632-1754; Charles Kapar, in Rosslyn, 235-9645; Bill Schrider, at Universal North, 632-0148; and Bruce Berry, also at Universal North, 632-0076.

In addition, Bob Dussell, an AID retiree, will answer telephone inquiries at no charge. Dussell is the owner and managing director of Tax Matters, 3601 Fairfax Dr., Arlington, VA 22201. His telephone number is 841-0158.

Tax forms are usually available at post offices and banks. Publication No. 17, "Your Federal Income Tax," 1983 edition, may be obtained from the IRS office, Room 803, 1201 E St., NW, or in Room 900, 1325 K St., NW.

Free Notary Service Here

Free notary public services are available to all employees. If a power of attorney or other document needs to be notarized, the following persons can be called:

Michael Guido, Room 405, SA-14, telephone 235-9098; Kathryn Walsh, Room 220, SA-8, telephone 235-1940; Mary Herbert, Room 3534NS, telephone 632-9104; Joan King, Room 508, SA-12, telephone 632-0024 and Sandra Winston, Room 1224, SA-1, telephone 632-5766.

Employees planning to use the service are asked to call the volunteers for an appointment.

Application Deadline Set

The Agency is accepting applications for the February 1985 International Development Intern (IDI) class. Deadline for receipt of inquiries is April 20.

Candidates referred by AID employees have proved to be an excellent source of program participants.

Employees are encouraged to apply for admission to the program, as well.

Applicants should send a resume or Form 171 to Sandy Mah, M/PM/R, SA-1, Room 1430.

NEW BOOKS AT DIU

Acquiring and Using Microcomputers in Agricultural Development: A Manager's Guide; Ingle, Marcus D.; Berge, Noel and Teisan, Marcia; U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of International Cooperation and Development, Development Project Management Center; University of Maryland, College Park, International Development Management Center 1983, 147 pages, PN-AAM-892

This guide provides agricultural and rural development specialists information about microcomputer acquisition, installation, and use. It focuses on processes used in assessing management needs and introducing a microcomputer system suited to local conditions. Included is a description of how microcomputers are being used in particular agricultural projects and agricultural and rural sector institutions. There is a brief discussion of future microcomputer and management trends, a glossary, bibliography, and appendices on current use, power supply problems, hardware and software manufacturers and periodicals.

Water and Human Health; McJunkin, F. Eugene; AID, Bureau for Science and Technology, 1983, 134 pages, PN-AAM-891

This study of the relationship between water supply and health begins with a general overview of water-related diseases, the development of our understanding of the water-disease relationship, and water's importance for maternal/child health, nutrition, sanitation, and primary health care. There is detailed information on specific diseases as well as epidemiological models of the impact that water supplies have on health. Bibliographies are provided.

Lebanon Health Sector Financing: Issues, Problems, and Recommendations; Jeffers, James R. and Zukin, Paul; AID, Bureau for Science and Technology, 1983, 81 pages, PN-AAN-195

This report analyzes public and private sector mechanisms for financing medical services in Lebanon. The authors conclude that weaknesses in the existing financial structure would indicate a unified health policy regulating the private sector which currently provides 80-90% of the country's health services. Recommendations include setting up a national health security system, rehabilitating the public curative sector, strengthening primary health care, improving health manpower distribution and encouraging alternative private sector initiatives.

Discharge and Mechanical Efficiency of Egyptian Water-Lifting Wheels; Slack, Roger; Wahby, Hassan and Clyma, Wayne; Colorado State

University, Consortium for International Development, 1983, 29 pages, PN-AAM-711

Data on 35 spiral-shaped waterwheels from Egypt's Mansuriya and Kafr El-Sheikh regions were used to develop a field procedure for calibrating the discharge per revolution, relative to the percent of submergence of the wheel. A procedure using field data was developed to determine a wheel's mechanical efficiency. Data on 11 waterwheels from the Kafr El-Sheikh area were analyzed.

Nutrition-Related Policies and Programs: Past Performance and Research Needs; Kennedy, Eileen T. and Pinstrip-Anderson, Per; International Food Policy Research Institute, 1983, 104 pages, PN-AAM-5360514K

Identifies critical gaps and needs in current nutrition research and outlines priority areas for the future. Footnotes conclude each chapter and a bibliography is provided.

Fertilizer Bulk Blending in Costa Rica; Soday, Albert; Weir, Howard and Carpenter, Kirby B.; Agricultural Cooperative Development International, 1983, 25 pages, PD-AAM-401

The economic and technical feasibility of establishing a fertilizer bulk blend plant for cooperatives in Costa Rica is the subject of this report. It concludes that short-term benefits of such a plant would be marginal. Costa Rica's chemical process fertilizer plant is deemed adequate and there are production and marketing advantages of chemical over bulk fertilizers. Marketing infrastructure, however, could be improved, according to the report.

Development Issues: U.S. Actions Affecting Developing Countries, the 1983 Annual Report of the Chairman of the Development Coordination Committee; McPherson, M. Peter; AID, Development Coordination Committee, 1983, 222 pages, PN-AAM-888

This fiscal 1982 report summarizes economic development issues and U.S. assistance programs in 1982. It reviews the status of developing countries in the world economy in terms of current levels of development, international trade and lending, private direct investment, economic policies, and the North-South dialogue in international economic systems. It explains the objectives and priorities of U.S. support for bilateral and multilateral programs and describes U.S. support during 1982 for multilateral development bank programs.

How to obtain: AID employees may receive a paper or microfiche copy of these reports free of charge. Orders should be directed to AID/DIHF/FL, 7222 47th St., Chevy Chase, MD 20815; Telephone: (301) 657-9319.

S-35 Sorghum Provides Hope for Future

In September 1982, Lawane Siddiki, chief of Yaldeo in northern Cameroon, was driving into the town of Maroua when he noticed an unusual field of sorghum growing behind a fence. Impressed by the abundant panicles (heads), the grain quality and the density of planting, Lawane Siddiki went to look for the sorghum grower to ask how such an increased yield was possible.

What Lawane Siddiki had stumbled onto was an experimental crop grown by Om P. Dangi of the National Cereals Research and Extension Project (NCRE). Operating within the

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While several local varieties failed, S-35 thrived.”

framework of Cameroon's Institute of Agronomic Research (IRA), NCRE is funded by AID under a contract with the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA). Over the project's five years, AID will contribute \$7.7 million.

AID established the NCRE project to develop research on Cameroon's principal cereal crops—maize, rice, millet and sorghum—and to improve the flow of information from researcher to extension worker to farmer.

Once the basic research is done and it is determined which improved seed varieties are best suited to Cameroon's climatic conditions, the AID-funded Seed Multiplication Project (Projet Semencier) will multiply the seeds for distribution. Information on the new seeds and improved methods of cultivation will be passed on to the farmers by the NCRE Project's Testing and Liaison Unit, by the Ministry of Agriculture's extension workers and by various Cameroonian parastatal agricultural organizations.

Although the staple and preferred food crop in northern Cameroon is sorghum, there are at present no parastatals for sorghum. Consequently, farmers like Lawane Siddiki sometimes receive information on new developments directly from the scientists.

When Dangi (a sorghum expert who has worked with the crop for over 10 years) arrived in Cameroon in January 1982, he and a group of experts identified the qualities most desirable in an improved Cameroonian sorghum: It should mature in 90 days (because of the short rainy season in north Cameroon). It should be drought-tolerant. It should have good grain quality (white, bold grain without brown sub-coat and with medium flint vitosity). It should have semi-loose panicles so that insects won't breed inside the heads. It should be medium height—approximately two meters—because the stalks are used to construct roofs. (Most native varieties are approximately four meters tall, making “lodging,” or falling over, a problem.) It should be resistant to local diseases and pests.

Dangi immediately began examining local sorghum varieties and improved species provided by the International



Above, Lawane Siddiki shows off his bumper S-35 sorghum crop, which produced six tons per hectare. Several hundred yards down the road from Lawane Siddiki's field, local sorghum grown under the same conditions pales in comparison (below).



Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT). Of the 350 strains examined, 16 were found to possess desirable agronomic traits suitable to northern Cameroon, where the annual rainfall range is 200-1400 millimeters. During the rainy season of 1982 (July through September), the 16 varieties were planted at 15 different sites.

One of the 16 varieties that Dangi identified as S-35 appears to meet all the criteria established for an ideal Cameroonian sorghum. Particularly impressive is the fact that S-35 is a short-cycle variety, maturing in 95 days (compared to 160-180 days for a local variety such as Yolobri) and that it offers a high yield under local conditions (six tons per hectare, compared to 2.5-3.5 tons per hectare for the highest-yield local sorghum).

S-35, a variety developed in India and tested in Nigeria before being introduced into Cameroon, was precisely the sorghum which so impressed Lawane Siddiki while he was driving past the Maroua station in September 1982. The chief immediately asked for the seed so that he could plant S-35 on his own land. Dangi explained that although S-35 appears to be an ideal sorghum for Cameroon's climatic and ecological conditions, continued careful research is needed before the seed can be

distributed to farmers. Nevertheless, he agreed to plant a one-hectare field trial on Lawane Siddiki's land.

In July 1983, Lawane Siddiki and the villagers of Yaldeo cleared shrubs and trees from a brush area near the village. With the land cleared and a



Workers harvest the S-35 sorghum, leaving the stalks to be used later for roofing material.

field plowed, Dangi on July 9 supervised the planting of the seed. The farmers of northern Cameroon traditionally plant approximately 40,000 sorghum per hectare. The planting density of Lawane Siddiki's field, however, was 86,660 per hectare even after thinning—the figure used in all of Dangi's field trials. Fertilizer was applied (60N-30P-30K) and weeding was done by hand after 35 days, but no insecticides or herbicides were used. Between the time of planting and the time of harvesting (Oct. 10), the area received approximately 450 millimeters of rain. Nevertheless, the crop was not irrigated.

While several of northern Cameroon's local varieties of sorghum failed under 1983's harsh weather conditions, NCRE's improved sorghum varieties—particularly S-35—thrived, giving yields up to six tons per hectare. After comparing S-35 with some local sorghum growing in a field a few hundred meters away, Lawane Siddiki said, “S-35 is our hope and our future. Because of its short growth cycle, enormous yield and drought tolerance it will make our lives better. All of us give thanks to USAID and Dr. Dangi. Our village would like to plant 100 hectares of S-35 sorghum next year.”

Despite the enthusiasm of Lawane Siddiki and other farmers, NCRE scientists and administrators remain cautious. Abdel Moustafa, the AID mission's agricultural research project officer, said, “Basic research has to be pursued and repeated so that exact results and data can be obtained; in this case it should take a minimum of four to five years. NCRE is here for the farmers and the direct impact will be on them. However, we must carefully analyze the data so that when the seed is passed to the farmers we can be certain of the results.”

Zachee Boli Baboule, chief of the IRA center in Maroua, agrees with Moustafa. “The staple traditional food in northern Cameroon is sorghum. Rice, for example, is cultivated near here, but the people sell the rice and eat sorghum. S-35 appears to have enormous potential, but one must realize that we do not yet have sufficient long-range data,” he said. “There can, however, be no doubt of the sorghum project's obvious importance and there is reason to be optimistic about S-35's potential. In northern Cameroon, where the risk of drought is high, people will be compelled to adopt improved, short-cycle varieties of sorghum. We're optimistic, we're proud of the quality of our research, but we are also very cautious.”

The relationship between the farmers and the researchers at NCRE's Maroua site is perhaps representative of all experimental agricultural projects. On the one hand there are farmers—such as Lawane Siddiki—who see immediate benefits in new crop varieties and would like to rush ahead with planting. On the other hand, there are the researchers and scientists who—wishing to avoid any possible disaster—are justifiably reluctant to distribute the new varieties of seed to farmers until extensive testing is completed.

AWAL Gives Teens Re-entry Assistance

Are you and your family getting ready to return to the States? Or, have you recently returned? Though there is no help provided for packing and unpacking, assistance is available to lessen the re-entry problems of Foreign Service teenagers.

"Around the World in a Lifetime (AWAL) gives young people the opportunity to meet others with common backgrounds and interests," according to Phyllis Habib of the Department of State Family Liaison Office (FLO). The club, organized a year ago, is sponsored by the Association of American Foreign Service Women (AAFSW), the Overseas Briefing Center and FLO.

"AWAL was founded on the premise that problems of re-entry could best be tackled by kids meeting and talking with others who have had the same experiences and problems,

says Linda Garufi, the 16-year-old daughter of AID Foreign Service officer Ray Garufi, who recently returned with his family from Liberia where he was mission director.

She explained, "(We Foreign Service) teenagers come from a small community overseas where friendships are made quickly. Here, a larger group of kids have been friends for years, but we might only stay here for two years. Also, coming back to the States, we might not know American styles, lingo or music."

While Habib acknowledges that some teenagers have special problems, the function of the group is not to provide counseling, although some counseling takes place on an informal basis. "The goal of AWAL is to ease the re-entry process for Foreign Service children coming in from overseas," she says.

With help from AAFSW, Habib hopes to make schools more responsive and sensitive to the problems of new students. She would like to organize a workshop for the Foreign Service teenagers to offer them tips on such problems as how to break into established cliques and to explain what's "in." Habib also thinks an AWAL newsletter would be helpful and provide a creative outlet, while keeping members informed of activities. But financial support for such a project currently is unavailable.

"All the fun and success AWAL has been having is due to a great deal of hard work," says Garufi. "Much of this hard work is done by the steering committee." The committee is composed of four teenagers, two college-age representatives and two adult members including Habib and an AAFSW representative.

The committee has been working on club policies and is now planning a

slate of activities similar to last year's events, which included pool parties, picnics and a trip to Kings Dominion. However, Garufi said one of the most successful activities, which Habib hopes will be repeated, was a weekend retreat in November at the Pasadena Conference Center in Maryland.

Both Habib and Garufi stress the importance of notifying AWAL of your return, even before you leave the overseas post, if possible. AWAL can be contacted through Habib at FLO, Room 1216A, Department of State, telephone 632-3178. High school students interested in participating in AWAL may call either Jennifer Kahane at (301) 449-9377 or David Fouche at (703) 534-6883. Young people who have been graduated from high school may contact Teresa Lauderdale at (202) 363-3372. All three are members of the AWAL steering committee.

JUST PLAIN ENGLISH

Come to the Point

by Thomas Murawski

What's the one sentence you'd keep if you could keep only one? Many letters and memos are short and simple enough to have such a key sentence. It should appear by the end of the first paragraph. Readers need to know your main point early so they can appreciate the relevance of whatever else you say. Put requests before justifications, answers before explanations, and summaries before details. Delay only to soften bad news or a controversial proposal.

The "before" example (below) puts weak ideas in the letter's strongest places: the opening and closing sentences. Those weak ideas receive even more attention by appearing in one-sentence paragraphs. Organization aside, the letter suffers from a marathon sentence (53 words), an unnecessary "it is" ("It is my understanding" for "I understand"), a diluted verb ("will

be beneficial to us" for "will help us"), and several doublings ("maintains and updates" for "maintains," "cooperation and assistance" for "assistance").

The "after" example (below) puts the request in the strongest place of all: the beginning. For added emphasis, the request appears in a one-sentence paragraph as a direct question. Background information has been stripped of unnecessary words and long sentences. Gone entirely is the sentence that ends the "before" example. Such a closing expression of good will might have helped if feelings were involved. But this letter is routine. It should start fast, explain as necessary, and then stop.

This is the first in a series of tips about writing. The author, an English professor on the White House staff, teaches writing to federal agencies. Late last year, he presented a seminar in AID/W on clear writing.

BEFORE

It is my understanding that in its oversight of the federal advisory committee program, GSA maintains and updates information concerning appointments to committees throughout the executive branch.

We are requesting that copies of periodic membership reports be furnished to our office as they become available. This information will be beneficial to us in our responsibilities relating to Presidential appointments, including providing a list of qualified citizens of all professions who might be considered for appropriate vacancies within the Administration, and help us avoid the selection of a

person who is already serving the federal government in another capacity.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance. (105 words)

AFTER

May we regularly receive copies of your reports on membership in federal advisory committees?

I understand that in overseeing the federal advisory committee program, GSA maintains information on appointments to committees throughout the executive branch. OMB prepares lists of citizens who qualify for Administration vacancies. Your information would help us avoid recommending people who are serving already. (57 words)

Ichord Nominated for Arthur Flemming Prize

Robert F. Ichord Jr., chief of the Energy, Forestry and Environmental Division in the Asia Bureau's Office of Technical Resources, has been nominated for the Arthur S. Flemming Award which honors outstanding young men and women in the federal government.

The Arthur S. Flemming Awards Commission and the Downtown Jaycees of Washington, DC, will select the top five nominees to receive awards on April 27.

Ichord arrived in the Asia Bureau in June 1979 as a GS-13 physical scientist. His reason for transferring to AID from the Department of Energy was "to help AID develop an increased awareness, capability and program in energy." He is responsible for new programs aimed at Asia's problems of

oil import dependence, dwindling forests and threatened environmental resources.

Ichord has organized and led teams for major energy projects in Pakistan, India and Indonesia. He also has led forestry research teams to India, Thailand, Philippines and Indonesia. He has published numerous articles on energy and is currently writing a book entitled "Energy, Development and Security in Asia." He is an accomplished musician with the trumpet and French horn and volunteers his time to perform with the Montgomery County Chamber Society.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Denison University, a master's degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and a doctoral degree from the University of Hawaii.

AID Doubles Resources for Malaria Research

The first prototype human vaccine developed through genetic engineering techniques has been created by AID-supported researchers at New York University. The research on an antimalaria vaccine started a decade ago and is now producing dramatic results against the mosquito form of the disease.

In a speech at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Administrator McPherson announced that AID plans to double the resources devoted to support research on the malaria vaccine. He explained that the recently developed vaccine is effective against the most deadly form of malaria. However, to be fully effective, vaccines against the blood stage of malaria and against other types of malaria must be developed.

AID's Bureau for Science and Technology supports research at several American universities and private

laboratories to meet this challenge. Laboratories at the University of Missouri, University of Hawaii and Scripps Institute recently used genetic engineering to isolate potentially protective antigens against the blood form of malaria.

Doubling the support will bring the total AID commitment to \$22.7 million between fiscal 1983 and 1985. "We anticipate that this increased level of effort will cut in half the length of time required to prepare the vaccine for Food and Drug Administration approval for human testing," said McPherson.

With the increased funding, it is believed that human trials could begin as early as 1985. Then, by 1990 AID could "provide the developing world an effective weapon against a scourge that afflicts hundreds of millions of people and kills millions of children each year," McPherson said.



An AID-financed project, the Oistins Fisheries Terminal in Barbados, provides covered stalls for vendors, an ice-making machine and cold storage facilities to benefit consumers, fishermen and small retailers.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

AID's Regional Development Office in the Caribbean

by Dolores Weiss

External forces have nearly always shaped the history of the West Indies. Recorded history begins abruptly with the arrival of Christopher Columbus' fleet in 1492 and continues through two social revolutions triggered by movements originating outside the region: the introduction of plantation slavery in the 16th century and its abolition 300 years later.

Today, major events in the islands are still influenced by outside circumstances. The economic history is written in the context of struggles among outsiders for control and, always, from the standpoint of growing crops for export.

Exterior forces also shaped the region's social and ethnic character. Early settlers brought with them disease and war. Consequently, the native West Indians, including the peaceful Arawaks and the fierce Caribs, were almost wiped out. Today, island inhabitants are descendants of Africans, who were brought as slaves, and European immigrants who came during the early colonial period.

The island countries form a natural geographical unit. Their histories are distinct but parallel. Their mixed societies share colonialism and neglect, but also genuine friendliness and a willingness to work.

From its Barbados location, AID's Regional Development Office in the Caribbean (RDO/C) carries out and

oversees the U.S. economic development program in the wide-flung islands of the area. "When we need to see someone at a government ministry," says Terry Brown, chief of the Development Resources Office, "we can't just walk down the street or drive across town. We have to get to the airport, fly to the country and return through customs. More importantly, we have to be familiar with nine different ways of planning and the bureaucratic methods in at least nine different countries."

Chartered in 1536 by a Portuguese navigator and named Los Barbados (most likely for the native fig tree's aerial roots which resemble beards), the island had no settlement until the English established Jamestown (now renamed Holetown) in 1627. English law and political institutions took hold so quickly that Barbados was nicknamed "Little England." Its parliament, established in 1639, has the distinction of being the second oldest (Bermuda's was the first) outside the British Isles.

Despite the distances that AID staff members must travel to monitor their projects and the absences that spouses endure, most AID families find Barbados a nice place to live. They point to Barbados' mixture of excitement and tranquility, its discos and placid sea, a wide selection of activities and beautiful weather as good reasons to stay. In fact, most two-year tours turn into four years.

But no post is perfect. Perhaps the biggest problem AID families face is finding a home. Demand is greater than the availability and families can search for three months before finding a place to rent. The high cost of living (30-50% higher than in the States) is another problem with which AID families must contend. Lettuce, for example, costs \$2.50 a head; the same amount of money also buys three apples.

"I don't mind so much paying these kinds of prices for food that is good, but sometimes what looks good in the store turns out to be rotten on the inside and can't be eaten," says Hilda Soules whose husband, Don, is assistant program officer. "We're more careful here than usual not to waste any food," she says.

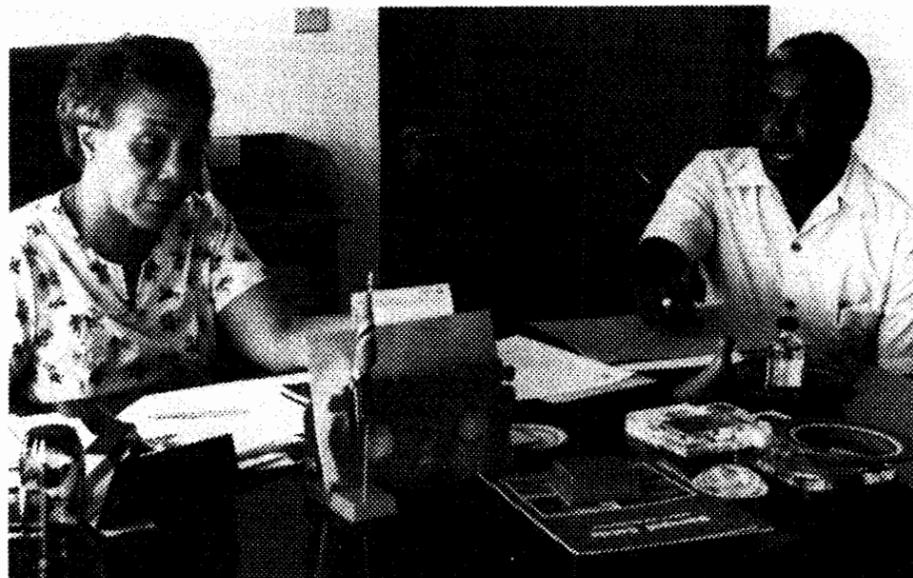
The comfortable *guayaberas* and cotton afternoon dresses that mission staff wear to the office, together with their seemingly relaxed attitudes, belie an almost frenetic pace that they must maintain to keep up with the work. As political interests and awareness of the vital role the Caribbean

plays in the security of the United States have increased, the workload also has become heavier. "On top of the extremely heavy workload," says Steve Szadek, "many of us travel 30-50% of the time."

"To compensate for the heavy travel demands, staff members collaborate as much as possible by phone and schedule several assignments together to make the most of their time away from home," says John Johns, management officer. "When the joint Embassy-AID plane is available, that makes travel a lot easier and faster." For example, if the program officer travels to St. Kitts by commercial aircraft, he can count on the trip taking at least three days and two nights. But if he uses the Embassy plane, costs are reduced and the trip takes half as long.

The Barbados mission has been building since day one," adds Terry Liercke, program officer. "Starting with \$26 million in 1979, Mission Director Bill Wheeler, myself, and three or four others, took on the task of devel-

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Darwin Clarke, senior program specialist (right), meets with Dominica Prime Minister Eugenia Charles to discuss the benefits of the CARDI agricultural research project.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

RDO/C: Building Since Day One

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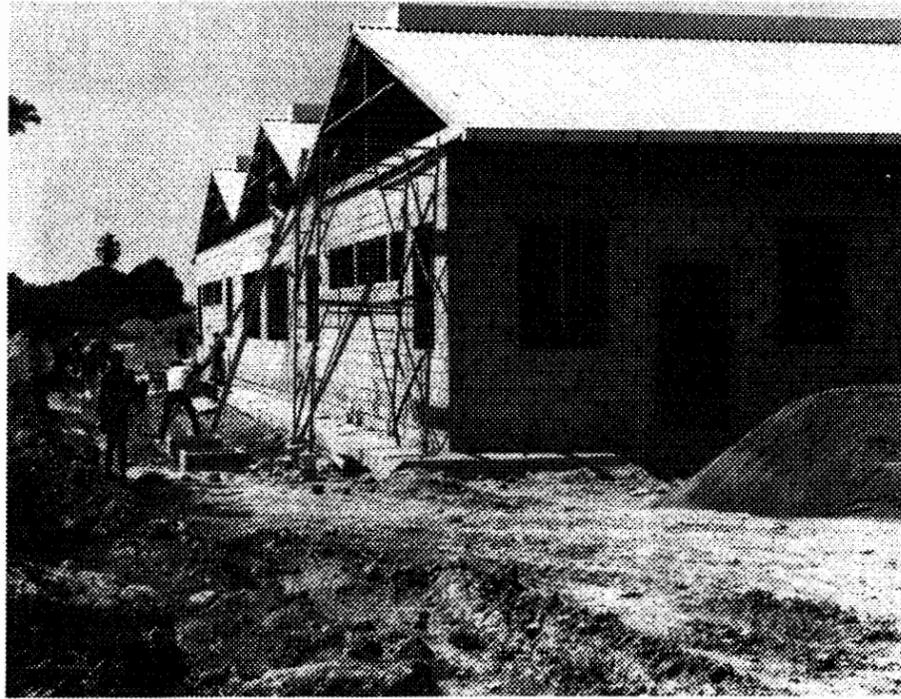
opening a regional program to cover the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). "Each year the mission's program has increased in complexity and to further complicate things, each year has brought at least one natural disaster."

Today, the mission manages an annual budget of \$70 million with a staff of 29 U.S. direct hires and 31 foreign nationals. Its program includes both regional projects and bilateral high-visibility projects tailored to specific countries. "The bilateral approach started in 1982," explains Ted Morse, deputy director. "Regional programs wholesale funding. Now we are also retailing funding more directly with our clients."

The bilateral programs are directed at the democratic, English-speaking, less developed countries (LDCs) of the Eastern Caribbean. They are Antigua/Barbuda, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts/Nevis, St. Vincent/Grenadines, St. Lucia and Grenada.

The regional program through the Caribbean regional development institutions covers the broader CARICOM and includes Anguilla, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Guyana, Trinidad and Jamaica. Through their association with regional development institutions, non-CARICOM countries, such as Dominican Republic and Haiti, also receive some benefits.

Because the AID mission is located in Barbados, it is easier for staff to monitor and carry out projects there than elsewhere. Recently, AID helped the Bridgetown Sanitary Sewerage System improve sanitary conditions for about 37,000 persons. "Sewage had been surfacing during heavy rains and a high water table made it impossible for the septic tanks and wells to cope with the growing volume of sewage," explains Peter Medford, project officer and financial analyst. The completed project includes a sewage collector



A loan of \$1.2 million provided by AID through the Caribbean Development Bank will provide 40,000 square feet of factory space to encourage light industry in Dominica.

system, a sewage treatment plant and an underwater effluent discharge system. The system plans to expand its testing facilities and make treated by-products available for fertilizer.

Another AID project, the Oistins Fisheries Terminal, now provides a sanitary terminal complex for receiving and selling fish for local consumption. The project includes covered stalls for vendors, ice-making equipment and cold storage. The fishermen use the ice aboard their boats to reduce spoilage. This enables them to stay out longer when the fish are running and increase their catch.

The project also has helped stabilize fish prices because it provides storage facilities and refrigerated trucks to transport fresh fish to markets in rural areas, according to Medford. Besides the consumer, other immediate beneficiaries are small retailers and fishermen with average household incomes of \$4,500.

Increased economic opportunity is a shared need of the region's countries. Such opportunity, together with self-sustaining productive activity and more jobs, is crucial to averting increased national frustration and enhancing the traditional cooperative relationship between the United States and the region.

Accordingly, AID's regional devel-

opment strategy for the Caribbean encourages formulating complementary regional and national policies by supporting programs which aim at achieving this goal. The strategy calls for:

- Strengthening regional development institutions.
- Supporting appropriate common services, particularly for the mini-states of the Eastern Caribbean.
- Fostering increased cooperation over the longer term among all countries of the Caribbean Basin.

"This strategy focuses especially on the Eastern Caribbean where the constraints of small size are acute. These constraints have taken the form of severe budgetary pressures that have restricted public investment programs and discouraged private sector expansion," explains Liercke.

AID carries out this regional development strategy in the framework of the multilateral Caribbean Group for Cooperation in Economic Development. Members are over 30 donors and recipient countries and 16 international and regional institutions. Chaired by the World Bank, the group provides a forum where development needs and priorities are analyzed and where economic assistance is coordinated.

Dangerously high levels of persistent unemployment (15-50%) has required quick-disbursing assistance in order to help stabilize economic conditions, but these programs must be linked with longer-term institution building and policy reform, Liercke stresses.

The strategy over the shorter term, therefore, is to restore economic vitality by rehabilitating essential infrastructure and reducing levels of unemployment while negotiating policy changes that will provide a foundation for renewed growth, according to Wheeler.

In the long term, support for selected national and regional institutions will be directed largely at increasing investment and creating jobs in the export sector, combined with support for changes needed to adjust to present world economic conditions. Bilateral programs in the Eastern Caribbean will continue to promote policy dialogue and permit AID to target support to those committed to democratic forms

of government and stimulating equitable social and economic growth.

One of the areas that relies on the combination of bilateral and regional programs is agriculture. "Agriculture is the greatest earner of foreign exchange in most of the island countries," according to William Baucom, agriculture development officer. From bananas in the Windward Islands to sugar in St. Kitts to cocoa in Grenada, each country depends on agriculture to employ its people. He explained that 30-35% of the labor force in St. Vincent and 60% of the labor force in Dominica find employment in the production or marketing of agricultural products.

Baucom explains, "AID has had a strategy beginning in 1976 of assisting agriculture primarily through regional institutions. One such institution is the Caribbean Development Bank which funds feeder roads so that the farmer can get his crops to market and provides farmer credit. Another AID-supported regional institution is the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) which works to accelerate on-farm programs. "Since each country can't afford separate research," Baucom continues, "CARDI has teams on each island examining the type of agriculture system in use and performing research on crops and farming systems. With AID support, CARDI tries to improve techniques and varieties and increase productivity."

Another AID effort, the Caribbean Agricultural Extension Project, will train extension agents in participating countries so that improved farming methods developed by CARDI can be transferred to farmers. It is a four-year collaborative project of the University of the West Indies, the Midwest Universities Consortium for International Activities and agricultural ministries of participating nations.

Probably the single largest constraint to growth in the region is the lack of access to markets and marketing coordination for agricultural products. The marketing problem is particularly acute in Dominica. Mike DeMetre, engineer and technical adviser, estimates that 25% of the banana crop is damaged or lost before reaching the port because of rough roads. One of the RDO/C's first and largest bilateral projects aims at repairing and reconstructing a 30.5 mile road between the airport and population centers. Besides offering the potential of halving a two-hour, bone-jarring ride, the road work is giving work to an estimated 23% of the unemployed. Road rehabilitation projects also are ongoing in St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenada.

"New agricultural areas have already been opened in St. Lucia as a result of road improvements finished ahead of schedule," DeMetre reports. Because of the efficient management of the project, supported by \$8.6 million in Economic Support Funds (ESF), he adds, St. Lucia will benefit by having additional road segments repaired.

Perhaps the most exciting bilateral effort is the four-year Agricultural Sector Structural Adjustment project begun on St. Lucia. "This rare opportunity to survey about 40,000 parcels and provide secure land ownership



Sanitary public convenience facilities have been constructed from the Basic Human Needs Fund to improve the lives of Dominica's poor.



AID-financed road construction in Dominica is providing work for about 23% of the country's unemployed. Above, workers repair a stretch of the road on the way to Canefield. Below, as Ambassador Miland Bish (left) watches, RDO/C Director William Wheeler breaks ground and officially starts the \$9.6 million road project in Dominica.



is really exciting." Baucom enthuses. "The present system is based on a combination of English Common Law and the Napoleonic Code and has become a mishmash. This project will, for the first time, give secure title and registration to the farmers so that they can plan for long-term production and use their land for collateral." Phases of the project will strive to foster greater private sector marketing activities through the use of private traders and increase diversification of products.

If the land tenuring project on St. Lucia is the most exciting project, the most promising private sector development project, according to Morse, is the Caribbean Financial Services Corp. (CFSC). With \$12 million from AID and over \$2 million in equity from West Indian private sector investors, CFSC will offer long-term lending and business services not now available.

Dominica, founded by Columbus on a Sunday in 1493 and fought over by England and France, received its independence from the British in 1978. Because it is one of the less developed countries, Dominica benefits from several regional and bilateral AID projects. Prime Minister Eugenia Charles says, "We are very pleased with AID; they have helped us a lot—but we need more money. I am old and

am hurrying to get things done." The strong-willed leader emphasizes, "We need training. We need more jobs. Every bucket of clean water is important."

Dominica received extensive assistance for rebuilding following the devastating hurricanes in 1979 and 1980. It continues to benefit from the Basic Needs Fund which helps meet urgent needs in education, sanitation, employment and health. Ten schools have been rebuilt since the hurricanes, water projects have delivered potable water to villages, bridges over 100 years old have or will be reconstructed, and health centers have been renovated for the poor.

Dominica has 365 fresh water streams and AID is investigating, at Charles' urging, the possibility of exploiting these to provide energy for the many small villages that dot the scenic island. One possible plan to help alleviate the severe drought in Antigua is that Dominica could ship Antigua water aboard barges. A pump and pipeline already has been installed in the harbor to make this possible.

In education and human resource development, AID emphasizes management and skills training, according to Ambrosio Ortega, human resources development officer.

In cooperation with the Organization of American States (OAS), AID is working in St. Lucia, Barbados and Dominica on a regional skills training program. The project, funded in part by \$872,000 from AID and \$459,000 from OAS, will provide salable skills to unemployed and under-employed youth.

"After OAS surveys each country to pinpoint its specific needs in such areas as marine engineering, welding, masonry and care of the elderly, it trains the young people and then helps them find a job," says Ortega. He reported that a survey of 34 program graduates in Dominica found that 16 were fully employed, 13 were employed part-time, two held apprenticeships, one went for further training and only two were unemployed.

To help improve curriculums and make them more relevant to the island nations, AID has tapped the resources of the University of the West Indies and the Caribbean Examinations

Council in the Caribbean Education Development Project. One of the project's activities is development and distribution of syllabuses. According to Ortega, secondary curriculum development was completed Dec. 31, and work is continuing to locally produce examination materials, thus altering the previously used Cambridge exam.

A major drain on the Caribbean nations' foreign exchanges is the high cost of importing its fuel. To help develop alternate energy sources and promote energy conservation, AID has provided \$7.6 million to the region for follow-on energy activities and planning, according to DeMetre.

Under a bilateral AID project on St. Lucia, in-depth studies by Los Alamos National Laboratory indicate that geothermal energy may offer an alternative. An active caldron on St. Vincent and lakes with bubbling water registering 190 degrees Fahrenheit on Dominica may make them good candidates for geothermal energy.

"On Antigua, wind turbines are being studied as a new concept in providing energy through wind farming," says DeMetre. At one site, 25-knot winds support a 100-foot-high windmill that operates a turbine. "It's not the



Teachers are now instructing in AID-financed classrooms, rebuilt after the hurricanes of 1979 and 1980.

whole solution—batteries are very expensive," he adds. Other AID projects include an energy audit for hotels and increasing the use of solar panels for hot water in both homes and industry.

For a time after the Grenada rescue mission in October, work on RDO/C projects came almost to a halt. Much of the staff, including secretaries and officers, were called to Grenada for temporary duty (TDY). Those remaining in Barbados covered for their TDY colleagues. Morse arrived the day after the rescue mission to manage the evacuation of American citizens and worked almost around the clock until the first part of February, according to Wheeler, who calls Morse "the prime mover" of the initial assistance.

"No one had as much impact in getting the Grenada programs under way as Ted," Wheeler said. "The enthusiasm, dedication and hard work of our staff in Grenada brought about immediate relief activities . . . and started the longer-term economic assistance."

On Dec. 28, a special two-year mission was approved for Grenada to carry out the work that needs to be done there. Jim Habron, associate director of the mission in Barbados and AID representative to Grenada, will direct the program's activities. RDO/C will continue to assist the new office, supplying, for example, legal and technical backstopping from Barbados. "It will be a unique mission," says Wheeler. "It will operate as a part of RDO/C but will have delegated to it major implementation authority."

Don Harrington, assistant agricultural development officer, says that the mission is trying to get technical assistance through an indefinite quantity contract so that AID can continue to provide immediate assistance to Grenada. He also said that contracts are being reviewed to provide for an agricultural policy specialist who will work with the Ministry of Agriculture on returning ownership of land to the farmers, an agricultural marketing specialist to examine how the government can promote trade of commodities and an agribusiness specialist to help determine how state-owned companies can become privately owned.

"AID represents the best of U.S. policy by dealing with humanitarian and development issues," Wheeler says. "One of the pleasures of working in the Eastern Caribbean is we have been able to make a noticeable difference in the living conditions of large numbers of people.

"It would be unfortunate to overlook the fact that the Caribbean is going through fundamental structural changes," he adds. "We must maintain a program for a five- to 10-year period if we want to strengthen the area's institutions and see them through this change.

"This mission's policy thrust and the hope for development in the region is the active growth of the private sector," he continued. "Our strategy is to stimulate this growth in every facet of the economy because private enterprise is the future of this region."

Weiss is assistant editor of Front Lines.

Following is a breakdown by occupational group and grade of the 197 Foreign Service officers promoted in 1983. The promotion list was published in the December 1983 issue of *Front Lines*.

Mission Directors, Deputies and Comparable Executive Levels (Backstop-01)
Minister Counselor to Career Minister: 4
Counselor to Minister Counselor: 13
FS-1 to Counselor: 8
FS-2 to FS-1: 1

Total: 26

Program Analysts and Economists (Backstop-02)
FS-1 to Counselor: 3
FS-2 to FS-1: 5
FS-3 to FS-2: 9
FS-4 to FS-3: 1

Total: 18

Administrative Management (Backstop-03)
FS-1 to Counselor: 3
FS-2 to FS-1: 3
FS-3 to FS-2: 4
FS-4 to FS-3: 3

Total: 13

Financial Management (Backstop-04)
FS-1 to Counselor: 1
FS-2 to FS-1: 6
FS-3 to FS-2: 9
FS-4 to FS-3: 3

Total: 19

Analysis Given for 197 FS Promotions

Secretaries and General Clerical (Backstop-05)
FS-6 to FS-5: 3
FS-7 to FS-6: 3
FS-8 to FS-7: 4
FS-9 to FS-8: 1

Total: 11

General Services (Backstop-06)
FS-3 to FS-2: 4
FS-4 to FS-3: 1
FS-5 to FS-4: 1
FS-6 to FS-5: 1

Total: 7

Administrative/Sub-Professional (Backstop-07)
FS-5 to FS-4: 1
FS-6 to FS-5: 1
FS-7 to FS-6: 2

Total: 4

Audit and Inspection (Backstop-08)
FS-1 to Counselor: 1
FS-2 to FS-1: 3
FS-3 to FS-2: 1
FS-4 to FS-3: 1
FS-5 to FS-4: 1

Total: 7

Agriculture (Backstop-10)
FS-1 to Counselor: 3
FS-2 to FS-1: 5

FS-3 to FS-2: 12
FS-4 to FS-3: 2

Total: 22

Program Management (Backstop-12)
FS-1 to Counselor: 3
FS-2 to FS-1: 3
FS-3 to FS-2: 5

Total: 11

Food for Peace (Backstop-15)
FS-2 to FS-1: 1
FS-5 to FS-4: 2

Total: 3

Business, Industry, Housing and Urban Development (Backstop-20)
FS-1 to Counselor: 1
FS-2 to FS-1: 2
FS-3 to FS-2: 1

Total: 4

Engineering (Backstop-25)
FS-1 to Counselor: 1
FS-2 to FS-1: 3
FS-3 to FS-2: 3

Total: 7

Health Sciences and Medical (Backstop-50)
FS-2 to FS-1: 2
FS-3 to FS-2: 3
FS-4 to FS-3: 1

Total: 6

Population (Backstop-55)

FS-1 to Counselor: 1
FS-2 to FS-1: 2
FS-3 to FS-2: 1

Total: 4

Human Resources, Education and Development Training (Backstop-60)
FS-1 to Counselor: 1
FS-2 to FS-1: 1
FS-3 to FS-2: 2

Total: 4

Energy, Environment, Behavioral Science, Science and Technology (Backstop-75)
FS-4 to FS-3: 1

Total: 1

Legal (Backstop-85)
FS-1 to Counselor: 1
FS-2 to FS-1: 1
FS-3 to FS-2: 1

Total: 3

Contract, Procurement and Supply Management (Backstop-93)
FS-3 to FS-2: 3
FS-3 to FS-4: 1

Total: 4

Project Development (Backstop-94)
FS-1 to Counselor: 3
FS-2 to FS-1: 7
FS-3 to FS-2: 12
FS-4 to FS-3: 1

Total: 23

RETIRING

Imogene Allen, NE/DP, program analyst, after 23 years
Elsie Amis, M/SER/MO, messenger analyst demographer specialist, after 28 years
Burton Behrens, FS/COMP, project manager/agriculture, after 5 years
Naomi Copeland, PPC/PB program analyst, after 22 years
Pablo DeRuiz, IG/RIG/II/W, foreign assistance inspector, after 3 years
Ann Fitzcharles, Haiti, general development officer, after 20 years
Carl Gleason, AFR/DP, assistant program economist, after 22 years
Joseph Jenkins, FS/COMP, administrative officer, after 16 years
Jalil Karam, ASIA/TR, malaria adviser, after 10 years
Marilyn Killen, M/PM, personnel management specialist, after 11 years
George Lemonnier, M/FM, systems accountant, after 17 years
Joyce Maddy, ASIA/DP, secretary, after 4 years
Paul Maddy, M/SER/COM, assistant supply management officer, after 24 years
Inetta McCall, FVA/FFP/II, secretary typist, after 16 years
Barbara McCoy, M/SER/IRM, computer specialist, after 26 years
George Medlin, FS/COMP, assistant general services officer, after 4 years
Berdine Pitsch, FS/COMP, secretary, after 17 years
Alver Roan, S&T/EY, program analyst, after 16 years

WHERE? IN THE WORLD ARE AID EMPLOYEES

Ronald Russell, GC, assistant general counsel for employee and public affairs, after 16 years
Susan Scharfman, OPA/NMR, visual information specialist, after 21 years
Frank Scordato, AFR/CWA, international cooperation officer, after 26 years
David Shear, Senegal, mission director, after 22 years
Edmond Steffan, M/SER/COM, property disposal specialist, after 13 years
Regina Wright, AA/NE, after 24 years

Number of years are AID service only.

LEAVING

Elizabeth Agnew, IG/SEC/PS
Regina Borchard, ADA/EXRL
Elizabeth Bowman, M/SER/EOMS
John Conje, Thailand
Sylvia Courembis, M/SER/CM
Paul Decain, OFDA
Helen Desaulniers, LAC/CAP
Donald Dickie, M/SER/CM

Ellen Ginsberg, GC
Harry Jacobson Jr., IG/SEC/PSI
Nancy Johnson, LEG/PD
Cassandra Morgan, NE/EMS
Deborah Motley, AFR/PD
Debi Mukherjee, Jamaica
Kathleen O'Bryan, A/AID
Carlos Poza, Honduras
Thomas Probus, S&T/IT
Laura Stacey, PRE/PPR
Karen Taylor, M/FM/PAD
Desiree Tucker, PPC/WID
Michael Vardac, AFR/TR
Jean Wright, S&T/N

MOVING UP

Joyce Brooks, M/SER/IRM, management analyst
Eric Chetwynd Jr., S&T/RD, supervisory community planner
Florita Christerson, NE/PD, secretary stenographer
Jessie Clyne, NE/TECH, secretary stenographer
Dennis Diamond, EOP/OD, special assistant
Elizabeth Donahue, S&T/RD, secretary stenographer

Michael Farbman, S&T/RD, supervisor economist
Barbara Felton, M/SER/MO, supervisory management analyst
Euzlear Foster, M/SER/MO, traffic manager

MOVING OUT

Neil Billig, LAC/SA, program officer, to assistant project development officer, Costa Rica
Cynthia Bryant, general services officer, FS/COMP, to assistant general services officer, M/SER/CM
Norma Doig, clerk typist, FVA/FFP, to secretary typist, M/SER/CM
Jean Durette, human resources development officer, Mali, to assistant human resources development officer, AFR/TR/EHR
Joseph Ferri, auditor, IG/PPP, to resident auditor, IG/RIG/A/W
Gwendolyn Joe, supervisory management analyst, M/SER/IRM, to deputy executive secretary, ES
Frederick Kalhammer, auditor, IG/PPP, to deputy regional inspector general for audit, RIG/A/LA
Thomas Kerst, Food for Peace officer, Mauritania, to assistant Food for Peace officer, FVA/FFP/II/LAC
Mary Lee McIntyre, assistant program officer, FS/COMP, to assistant population officer, ASIA/TR/PHN
Malcolm Novins, project manager/agriculture, FS/COMP, to assistant project development officer, PRE/PPR



AID financing to stimulate non-traditional exports from the Dominican Republic and to help start up Thailand's first modern private

meat-processing facility is under review by the Bureau for Private Enterprise (PRE).

Both are among initial proposals being considered for financing through AID's Private Sector Revolving Fund, approved by Congress in November. Appropriations will build the new fund to \$60 million over three years. It will be replenished after that by reflows from borrowers.

The projects reflect PRE's emphasis on strengthening LDC businesses so as to increase their development impact.

The Dominican proposal would match a \$2 million AID loan with \$2 million from the Banco de Desarrollo FINADE, a private Dominican development bank. The resulting loan pool of \$4 million would be earmarked for small- and medium-sized borrowers making non-traditional products for export primarily to the United States.

The pool idea fits in with the Dominican Republic's aggressive drive to diversify exports to reverse a negative trade balance, earn foreign exchange and stimulate the economy.

AID also would expect to provide a matching grant of up to \$50,000 to help Comercializadora Dominicana (COMEDOM), a local export trading company, to develop a marketing plan for non-traditional products, using U.S. trading firm expertise. Total capitalization of \$2.25 million for COMEDOM will be provided through stock issue to FINADE, other banks, and borrowers from the AID loan pool.

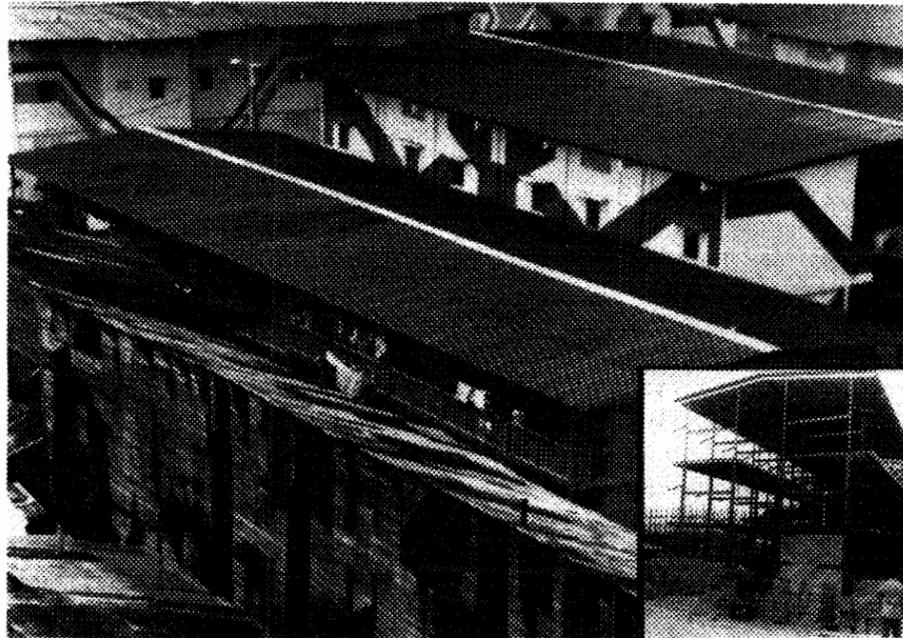
The Thailand project would use a \$2.5 million PRE loan as catalyst for a total \$17.5 million capitalization for a meat-processing plant in the Bangkok area.

In an industry now dominated by the public sector, the plant would be Thailand's first such modern facility in private hands and the first to use U.S. technology.

It also differs in using the "nucleus" estate and "satellite" producers concept. This couples a core farm and processing facility with a large number of surrounding farms that provide most of the livestock. The concept not only provides a market for the farmers' output, but provides a technical outreach to upgrade the quality of herds. This concept supplants more expensive government extension services. An assured supply from the satellite farms also saves plant owners the cost of buying extra land to raise livestock.

Development impact includes creating up to 305 jobs, upgrading the income of up to 2,000 smaller-scale producers, and generating \$5 million annually in gross foreign exchange from the 10-20% of production to be shipped to markets in the Middle East and other parts of Asia.

The plant complex will be a joint venture of Thai and Filipino partners.



Housing construction in Panama City is sped up by using locally produced steel frames (inset). Shelter is constructed around the old dwellings to prevent relocating residents. At the far left are vacated barracks awaiting demolition. Their residents were moved to temporary housing (center) until new units (background) are completed.

Their products will use the "Swift's" label.

By providing long-term credit at fixed rates to this project, AID would fill a gap that currently discourages private investment in meat-processing in Thailand.

Assistant Administrator for PRE, Elise R. W. du Pont, left the Agency Feb. 20 after announcing her candidacy for Congress. She will seek Delaware's at-large seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

—Douglas Trussell

HOUSING

Since 1965, AID's Office of Housing and Urban Programs (PRE/H) has extended 12 housing guaranty loans to Panama. The most recent loan, which will be spent this spring, finances basic units, home improvement loans, sites and services, as well as an urban renewal program. While the first three forms of assistance are more traditional, the urban renewal feature is unique.

Demographics and the condition of existing housing are two main reasons that AID and Panama adopted an urban renewal strategy as part of the housing program in Panama.

As in other cities in the developing world, increasing numbers of new migrants settle vacant land on Panama City's periphery. However, Panama City is also beset with a highly visible and seemingly intractable problem: occupation of condemned and overcrowded units in the central city.

These wooden barracks were originally constructed as temporary housing for workers on the Panama Canal.

Over time, weather and hard wear have deteriorated these units. Despite their dilapidated condition, these units are the only permanent shelter available for thousands of poor Panamanians. It is not uncommon for balconies to tumble into the street or for floors to collapse. Fires, once started, race through these wooden buildings.

The four areas of the city where these barracks are concentrated contain 61% of the city's substandard housing—close to 10,000 units. There,

40,000 people live on less than 74 hectares of land. The density of these neighborhoods is twice the average density for Panama City. In one area, 80% of the families live in one-room dwellings.

The average per capita income in these four neighborhoods is \$290 a month. The median income in the city, as of 1982, was \$615. Surveys show that most of these low-income households work not in the informal sector, but in low-paying formal sector jobs. A full 30% of the household heads work directly in small commercial and artisan activities in the immediate area.

Many of the occupants have lived in the same neighborhood for over 20 years. Therefore, attempts to relocate these families to better communities on the outskirts of the city disrupt their lives economically and socially. Furthermore, extending city services to such planned communities is prohibitively expensive.

In most cases, the advice of PRE/H is to rehabilitate central city slums. In this particular case, however, the units were not worth preserving.

Therefore, the challenge was to design and construct new housing for a relatively large number of families who wanted to remain in their own neighborhood, and to price these units at a level that low-income families could afford.

The strategy adopted was to replace buildings within the neighborhood with new, moderate-cost, walk-up apartments. The occupants of existing buildings were given the option to purchase new units. The vast majority chose to do so. This approach used the existing infrastructure and preserved the social and economic makeup of the neighborhood.

The four barrios that the Panamanian government targeted for urban renewal were Santa Ana, Chorrillo, San Miguel and Curundu. Since 1982, 1,354 units have been completed. An additional 1,098 are under construction.

Because the incomes of the intended beneficiaries were so low, and because the Ministry of Housing needed to recoup costs to expand the program into other areas, the Panamanian government made three policy changes.

First, graduated payment plans were introduced. The program is now reaching households in the 15-50 income percentile. Depending on their incomes, these families devote 10-25% of their monthly earnings to repaying the loans.

Second, housing units were re-designed to reduce their cost. AID funded short-term training for six Ministry of Housing architects at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In this seminar, the architects reviewed the designs of the urban renewal units. The resulting redesign reduced the unit cost from \$7,000-9,000 to \$4,000-6,000.

Average unit costs have decreased even further, and the pace of construction has picked up since the Ministry of Housing started to rely on private developers to design and construct the housing. Other cost reductions are due largely to contractors experimenting with locally produced pre-fabricated steel frames.

A project paper approved in fiscal 1983 authorizes an additional \$25 million for Panama to fund a second phase of sites and services, home improvements, basic units and urban renewal. This loan will fund an additional 3,000 urban renewal units.

—Alexi Panehal



The Latin America-Caribbean Regional Private Sector Initiatives Project was launched Jan. 31 at a signing ceremony between AID and

the Latin American Chamber of Commerce (LACC). Signed in the House Appropriations Committee Room in the U.S. Capitol, the agreement provides a \$244,700 grant of which \$190,000 has been obligated to LACC to promote trade and development activities between its member firms (over 5,000) and two Caribbean Basin countries.

This project is similar to the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry grant of 1983 for activities in the Dominican Republic.

LACC, a component of the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, plans to concentrate its efforts in Honduras and Belize. With over 50,000 Hondurans living in New Orleans, the project will build on an established base of business and social relations. Belize was selected because of a substantial level of Louisianan investment and tourism, as well as for the ease with which it can be reached from either New Orleans or Honduras.

The project will include provisions for research, promotion, technical assistance in trade and investment, and a report on the linking of U.S. and Caribbean Basin businesses and executives. Promotional activities will include not only dissemination of information, but also training sessions.

Present at the ceremony were Sen. J. Bennett Johnston and Reps. Bob Livingston, Lindy Boggs and W.J. "Billy" Tauzin, all from Louisiana.

FROM WID



The Office of Women in Development (PPC/WID) and the Asia Bureau recently launched a project that will help an organization for poor women workers in India reach self-employed rural women. An AID contract recently was awarded to Martha Stuart Communications Inc. to teach video techniques to the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) in Ahmedabad, India.

SEWA plans to use videotapes as an extension tool to demonstrate to rural women how the organization can help them:

- Increase their access to capital through credit and banking programs.
- Improve their access to raw materials and markets.

- Participate in and organize forestry projects.
- Obtain support services such as child care and maternity benefits.
- Improve their occupational health standards.

Video has proven to be an excellent development tool for training rural women because it overcomes the literacy barrier. Small format video is easy to use and durable. It can be reused many times at very little cost.

SEWA is a well-known and effective self-help organization. It was formed in 1972 when a group of migrant women working as cart pullers in Ahmedabad's cloth market decided to form their own trade union.

Today, thousands of poor women workers in the state of Gujarat and in urban and rural areas throughout India are involved with SEWA. Members range from street vendors to hand-crafters and laborers. SEWA's services include a cooperative bank, training courses, and legal and political repre-

sentation. Learning how to use videotape will help SEWA tell rural women of these services, which will give these rural entrepreneurs a foothold in the national economy.

The first of the project's three-week training workshops will begin this month. Fourteen SEWA trainers and six trainers from local development institutions will learn production techniques and develop videotapes to educate and organize rural women in India. Once the workshop series is completed, all equipment will be left behind.

SEWA intends to make production of videotapes a self-sustaining activity by providing video services to governmental and non-governmental agencies. SEWA's tapes will be available to groups in other developing countries through the United Nations Programme in Village Information Transfer; AID-sponsored workshops on approaches to providing assistance to informal and small enterprise

sectors; and private voluntary organizations and other groups involved in assisting micro-enterprises.

In addition to strengthening SEWA's capacity to reach self-employed women entrepreneurs, the project should help the AID mission in New Delhi better assess the potential for tapping SEWA's capacities in small enterprise development, off-farm development and women in development.

The contractor has conducted video training workshops for other indigenous organizations in Mali, Indonesia, Egypt and Jamaica.

A detailed description of SEWA's rural development activities is contained in a paper entitled "Struggle and Development among Self-Employed Women." Jennifer Sebstad prepared the document in 1982 for the Office of Rural and Institutional Development, Bureau for Science and Technology (S&T/RD). Copies may be obtained from S&T/RD, Room 613, SA-18.

—Deborah R. Purcell



Development education and increased collaboration between private voluntary organizations (PVOs) and corporations were among

winter meeting highlights of the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA).

Meeting in Washington, ACVFA heard results of a study on PVO-corporate collaboration. Conducted by the Newman & Hermanson Co., the study identifies three ways that PVOs and corporations can work together: philanthropic contributions, partnerships and business relationships. It also found benefits and barriers to each.

The study found that a majority of PVOs favor increasing their role in corporate development activities. At the same time, others believe "their missions could be jeopardized by visible association with corporations" or their "philosophies and values preclude such involvement."

Similarly, business reaction ranges from little interest on the part of multinational companies experienced in international development, to high receptivity among small businesses and associations. Where corporate-PVO ventures occur, the study noted, they usually are undertaken independently, rather than through a coordinated effort or network.

Consequently, the study recommends that AID actively promote and facilitate PVO-corporate collaboration. Among its recommendations:

- A coordinated Agency approach to PVO-corporate collaboration.
- A major external promotional effort.
- A demonstration program with an American business working in an AID-assisted country.
- Provision of information on PVO-corporate collaboration to government agencies and others involved in overseas business.
- Development and distribution of a directory outlining specific PVO services available to business.
- Establishment of links with major business associations to expand

promotional efforts.

The study suggests that the first step for a PVO is a re-examination "of its own charter, mission and capabilities to determine whether they are congruent with making available certain of its services to assist business or industry objectives and operations."

The PVO can then work out contractual issues, develop a statement of functional capabilities, identify appropriate corporations and carry out a marketing plan to bring PVO leaders and corporate partners together.

For businesses, the study suggests direct contact with PVOs to explore their interests and services. Potential PVO services for businesses to consider include community organization, training of indigenous labor, cross-cultural training of corporate staff, development of infrastructure, engineering support in building design and logistics management.

Most importantly, the study says, both PVOs and corporations "must be willing to acknowledge that each has valuable contributions to make to the development process . . . and accept

that each has something to gain by collaboration."

In other meeting business, the joint working group of the American Council of Agencies in Voluntary Foreign Service and Private Agencies in Development presented its paper entitled "A Framework for Development Education in the United States." Nine representatives of PVOs and Congressional staff presented the paper, which ACVFA endorsed.

ACVFA further recommended that "AID give particular consideration to development education as the Agency works toward greater involvement of the private sector in carrying out and funding development activities."

ACVFA's Subcommittee on Food for Peace held the first of a series of meetings on various aspects of P.L. 480.

ACVFA will meet four times this year. Meetings are scheduled for March 15-16, Sept. 13-14 and Dec. 3-4 in Washington, DC, and June 17-20 in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

—Lori Forman



Returned participants of AID's Egyptian Peace Fellowship Program gave it high marks in a recent poll. The program, which grew out of the

Camp David Accords, has placed 1,318 students in more than 200 U.S. universities since 1979.

Under the program, fellowships to U.S. educational and research facilities are awarded in fields of study that mesh with Egypt's development needs. Participants are selected from Egyptian universities, research centers, the private sector and government. The graduate-level training they receive in the United States may be in both degree and non-degree programs.

At the time of the survey, participants only recently had completed their

fellowships. Nevertheless, they were found to be contributing to research and teaching, and were applying new ideas and techniques in their laboratories, offices and factories. Participants were asked the degree that their U.S. training helped them in their job. On a scale ranging from five (very much) to one (very little), the average rating was 4.30.

They reported that their U.S. training using "state of the art" equipment was beneficial, as was the opportunity to attend professional conferences and to get to know their American counterparts. Returned fellows report sharing their experiences with about six of their friends and colleagues, about half of whom subsequently applied to the program.

Applied science, business administration, economics, hospital administration, health, education, engineering, architecture, agriculture and finance are among the major fields

of study.

Although most fellowships are awarded for 10 months (two semesters) or 21 months (two academic years), the emerging trend seems to be for at least one year.

The program's first phase began as a pilot effort in 1979, and was followed in 1980 by the second phase. Approximately half of the \$54 million appropriated for the program has been disbursed. To date, 695 students have completed the program, 619 are currently enrolled, and 437 are in the process of being placed. The original plan allowed for 1,500 Peace Fellows. But the program was so well-received, that the number was increased to 1,900.

Other information that the survey yielded: 27% of fellowship recipients are women and their participation rate is climbing; once returned, most fellows maintain contact with U.S.

counterparts, academic advisers and friends.

The survey and evaluation were conducted by John R. Swallow of the Near East Bureau's Office of Technical Support and James F. Relph, a consultant.

—Suzanne Majors

SURVEY RESULTS

Program Aspect	Rating
Faculty Adviser	4.69
Professors	4.58
Appropriateness of Institution	4.50
Research or Special Academic Project	4.50
Coursework	4.42
Quality and Degree of Interchange with U.S. Students	4.26
Foreign Student Adviser	3.48



As technology in atmospheric sciences grows, so, too, will man's understanding of climate and weather. With this understanding will come the ability to predict and prepare for events, such as the *El Niño* ocean current which recently caused drought and flooding around the world.

But technology is expensive. Super computers and satellites are multi-million dollar items—well beyond the reach of developing countries. Consequently, they may not be able to invest adequately in this science, nor train the manpower necessary to take advantage of its new techniques.

AID's Office of the Science Advisor (SCI) funds several projects related to atmospheric sciences. This permits a few developing country scientists each year to participate in research and offers an opportunity for AID to strengthen atmospheric sciences in developing countries. Recently, SCI established an atmospheric, marine and earth sciences "premodule" to fund appropriate research grants.

A survey of the damage caused by *El Niño* reinforces the importance of such a program. From November 1982 to April 1983, while parts of Ecuador and northern Peru were suffering torrential rains, southern Peru and much of Bolivia were undergoing severe droughts. Over the last two years, drought ravaged Indonesia, parts of Central America, southern India, Sri Lanka, southern Africa and Australia, while floods poured over the Philippines. At the same time, California had its worst winter storms in years.

These weather aberrations were symptoms of one atmospheric and oceanic event: the 1982 breakdown of the Pacific trade winds. With the breakdown, waters that the winds normally forced to the west were released, forming a so-called Kelvin wave which moved thousands of miles eastward across the Pacific.

Eventually, the Kelvin wave raised the sea's level off the coast of South America by more than eight inches. It also pushed eastward the heavy tropical precipitation normally centered on Indonesia, inflicting floods on the Philippines and leaving Indonesia and Australia parched by drought.

Meanwhile, off the coast of South America, *El Niño* prevented cold upwelling waters from reaching the surface. This caused a rise in sea surface temperature—as much as 41 degrees above normal—and triggered the extreme weather in western South America. Eventually, an anomalous band of warm water stretched for 8,000 miles across the equatorial Pacific, spreading the climatic perturbation to the Indian Ocean and temperate zones.

Microscopic life in the eastern Pacific collapsed when deprived of nutrients normally carried by the upwelling of coastal waters. Soon, this disruption in the coastal ecosystem took its toll on fish, birds and marine mammals, as well.

Peru's fisheries were destroyed. Heavy exploitation of species before *El Niño*'s arrival this time may have so

“
An anomalous band of warm water stretched 8,000 miles across the Pacific.
”

depleted stocks that they will never rebound. Similarly, the rest of the food chain dependent on these fish may be permanently affected.

Overfishing may have permanently interrupted a cycle that evolved over eons to compensate for the atmospheric and oceanic disruption. The atmospheric and oceanic cycle and its accompanying events are documented as occurring every four years from as long ago as 1726. The 1982-83 event, however, is believed to be the most

severe of the century.

Even one of the few benefits of the event—growth of the shrimp fishing industry—may prove temporary. As water temperature returns to normal and nutrients no longer are washed to sea by inland flooding, the environment may become less attractive for shrimp.

If the magnitude of the recent *El Niño* had been foreseen, overfishing might have been prevented. Only recently was it identified as a consequence of the recurrent failure of trade winds and shift of the Pacific high pressure area. More than 50 years ago, a British scientist, Sir Gilbert Walker, hypothesized the existence of such global weather patterns. His idea met with considerable skepticism.

Only with the help of satellites and large weather data grids has it been possible to obtain hemispheric data to study such phenomena. In the future, it may be possible to spot early indications of such events and predict their effects. Thus, countries involved will be able to lessen the impact.

While no SCI grantees study *El Niño* directly, several are studying the shrimp fisheries of coastal Ecuador, and particularly their relation to coastal mangroves. SCI also is reviewing Peruvian scientific research on ocean floor resources of coastal Peru. In addition, several preproposals from the February 1984 project competition involving aspects of meteorology, climatology and marine science also are under consideration.

In a recent SCI-funded report entitled "Environmental Change in the West African Sahel," the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) examined the role of climatic change in the droughts and economic crises of that region. NAS concluded that there had been no major change in climate in the region in the last 2,500 years.

The drought that began in 1968 conforms to precedents set by at least six other periods of low rainfall since the year 1400. In fact, the report notes, persistent periods of high and low rainfall that seem unusual probably

really are characteristic of the Sahel. Some scientists believe that there are major feedback processes in the Sahel that keep it dry once drought has started, and keep it wet after one or more rainy years.

The combination of relatively heavy rainfall in the 1950-68 period followed by extended drought carried particularly bitter consequences. The pattern

“
Large-scale theories should be developed to predict the Sahel's climatic dynamics.
”

of exploitation of the land that developed in the good years may have destroyed fragile ecosystems during the drought. Had reliable climatic forecasts been available in the 1950s and 1960s, some of the damage might have been averted.

The NAS report, authored by T.N. Krishnamurti of Florida State University, recommends that large-scale climatic theories analogous to the *El Niño*-Pacific theory be developed to predict the Sahel's climatic dynamics. Krishnamurti already has demonstrated the applicability of such models.

Krishnamurti also has a SCI grant to study the dynamics of the monsoon in India and the Indian Ocean, together with Gyan Mohan and colleagues at the Indian Institute of Technology at Kampur. In addition to carrying implications for disaster warning systems, this work could yield information valuable in farming management in the Indian subcontinent.

While the SCI project is relatively modest, a much more ambitious Indo-American cooperative program is in the final design stage. Under the program, teams of U.S. and Indian scientists will collect data over 10 years on monsoons.

—John Daly



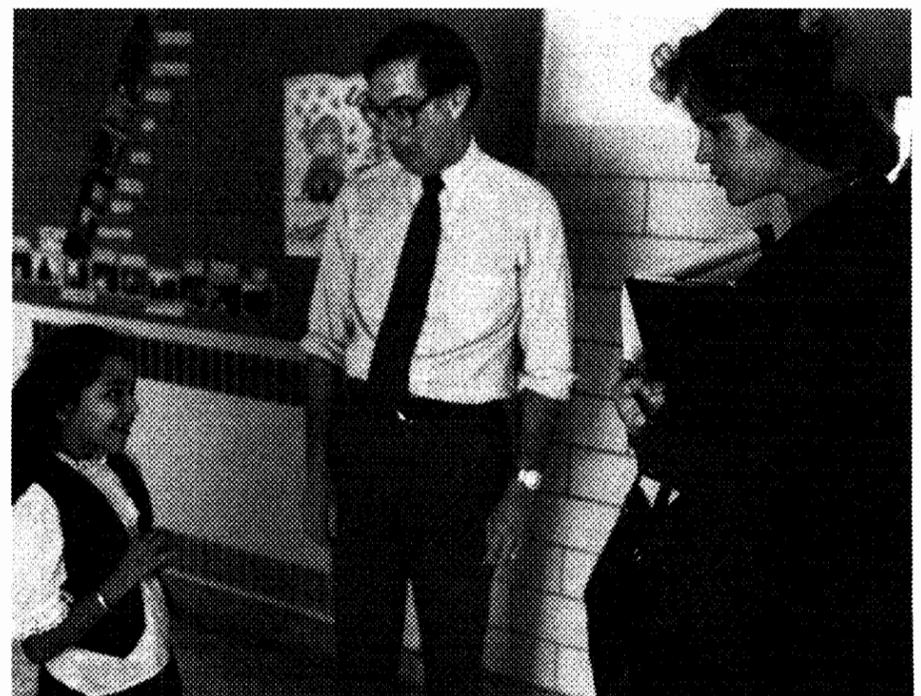
AID has "adopted" 488 elementary school children from the Arlington (Virginia) Public School system as part of the Partnerships in Education Program. Established by Presidential proclamation to observe 1984 as National Year of Partnerships in Education, the program invites each federal department or agency to adopt a school. AID's school is Glencarlyn, where 70% of the students are from developing countries.

The resulting partnership relies on AID volunteers to offer their special skills and time for activities with the students, thus adding a new dimension to their education. The program allows unlimited creativity and an opportunity for AID staff to share the experience of working for a foreign affairs agency.

For example, employees might

speak at school assemblies, tutor or accompany tours of the State Department. The program also plans to help match elementary school-age children of AID families overseas with Glencarlyn students in a pen pal program.

The Bureau of External Affairs (XA) is coordinating the initial stages of AID's participation in Partnerships in Education. AID employees who would like to volunteer should contact their bureau or office representative: John White, AA/PPC, 632-0482; Drina Shuler, S&T/TRI/PI, 235-9044; Don Sutton, M/SER/EOMS, 235-2450; Ross Bigelow, FVA/PVC, 235-1684; Roberta Gray, PRE/ADM, 632-9434; Joe Esposito, AA/Asia, 632-4177; Victor Rivera, AA/LAC, 632-8246; Suzanne Majors, AA/NE, 632-5783; Clifford Bennett, IG/PPP, 235-9671; Lisa De Soto, GC, 632-8277; Ivan Ashley, D/EOP, 632-5910; May Kido, OFDA, 632-8746; Frank Fender, BIFAD, 632-9048; Kim Getto, XA, 632-4213; Cynthia Perry, AFR, 632-8700.



Afghan Freshta Tabibi (left), a third grader at Glencarlyn Elementary, talks about her new school with Cindy Johnson (right), coordinator of AID's participation in Partnerships in Education, and Glencarlyn Principal Lee Penders. Johnson may be reached at 632-4306.



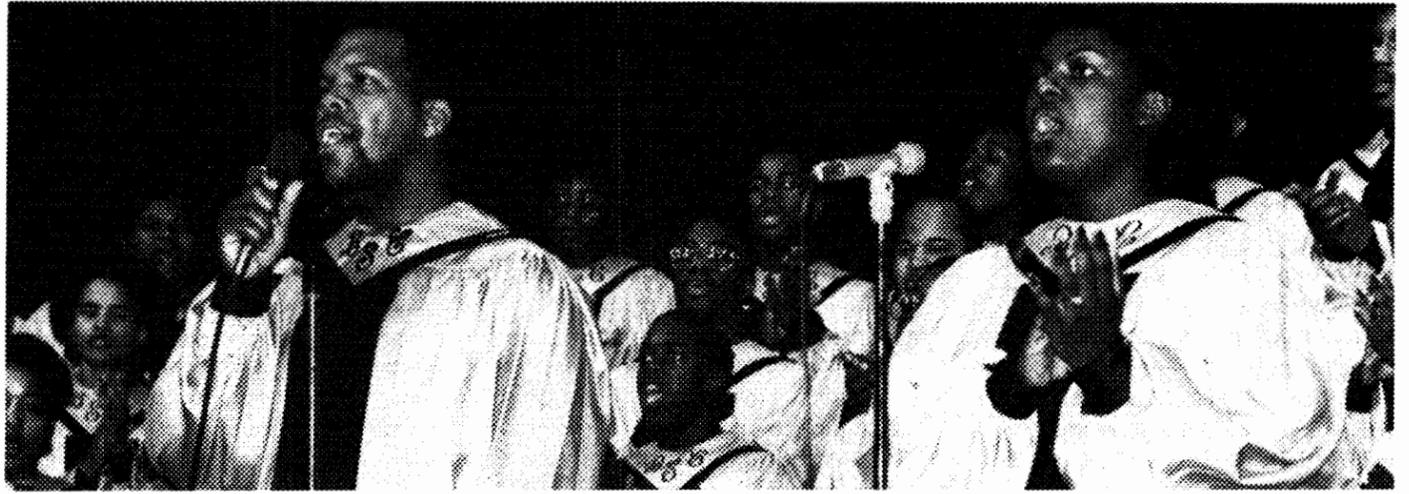
"Black Americans and the Struggle for Excellence" was the theme for the 1984 Black History Month program, sponsored in February by AID and the Department of State in cooperation with the Thursday Luncheon Group.

"Black Americans have a continuing and constructive role to play in foreign affairs," said Deputy Administrator Jay F. Morris, who spoke at the opening program. "At AID we have demonstrated our own ongoing commitment to that belief by selecting and advancing many qualified black Americans to help us carry out the huge and complex U.S. global economic assistance programs."

Ivan Ashley, director of the Office of Equal Opportunity Programs (EOP), said that the purpose for observing Black History Month is to promote an understanding and appreciation of the history and struggles of black Americans from their earliest years in this country.

Ashley read an excerpt from the February 1984 issue of *Ebony* magazine that summarizes the contributions of black Americans: "They came out of the sun, bringing with them the gift of the sun. Founders without heralds, benefactors without banners, they transformed the new land, creating the foundations of its wealth and giving it a new music and new spirit."

The keynote speaker, Ulric St. Clair Haynes, U.S. ambassador to Algeria (1977-80), said that he wants to "encourage all blacks . . . to under-



A performance by the Bowie State Gospel Choir concluded the joint AID-State program marking Black History Month.

stand the enormity of the challenge that they still face and to encourage them to keep up the struggle."

Other activities during the month included programs depicting the "Struggle for Excellence" through the arts. On Feb. 14, the Musicians Workshop, sponsored by the Foreign Affairs Recreational Association (FARA), presented a narration accompanied by music and dance in an original program. On Feb. 28, the Bowie State Gospel Choir presented a program of spiritual music.

An exhibition throughout the month in the State Department's D Street lobby featured pictures and facts about prominent black Americans.

EOP is conducting a series of Agency-wide seminars on the prevention of sexual harassment in the federal workplace. Deputy Administrator Morris directed that every AID employee enroll in and complete this training, which is part of an effort to

eliminate sexual harassment in all areas of federal service.

The hour-long seminar includes a review of data from a Merit Systems Protection Board study, Office of Personnel Management directives, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission guidelines and Administrator McPherson's policy statement. Definitions, forms, impacts and costs of sexual harassment in the workplace also are noted.

Following a 30-minute film, a discussion centers on the roles and responsibilities of all employees in preventing sexual harassment. Procedures for filing a formal complaint also are explained. Pamphlets and suggestions for in-house assistance and community support systems are distributed.

The training schedule for AID/W employees is set through July. The film, together with materials that meet the needs of AID staff in field offices, will be distributed overseas to ensure

that all AID employees benefit from the training.

National Women's History Week was observed March 4-10 with a series of open meetings, films and an exhibit sponsored by the Federal Women's Programs of AID and State.

In the meetings, Bonny Falk Creskoff spoke on "Career vs. Family: Having It All," Denise Cavanaugh addressed "Increasing Your Influence" and Frances I. Jackson discussed "Making Cents: A Woman's Guide." Although the speeches emphasized the week's purpose of recognizing the contributions of the American woman worker, the subjects were important to all employees.

Women's Week is observed annually by proclamation of the President. Copies of the proclamation were distributed and posted throughout AID and State.

—Voncile Willingham



At the recently concluded Title XII regional seminar series of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD), participants were told that, for the most part, competition among Title XII institutions has succeeded in bringing the best available university resources to match AID project requirements. This was one of the findings in a study on matching Title XII university resources with AID project requirements.

The BIFAD report further says that competition can help smaller institutions make a contribution to development by submitting their own proposals or by fostering partnerships with larger institutions submitting project proposals.

Seminar participants also were updated on agriculture-related activities of AID's regional bureaus. They were told that in Africa there are 28 projects relating to Title XII, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Half of the 14 contracts awarded to Title XII institutions in 1983 were for AID projects in Africa.

The Africa Bureau is stressing short-term personnel and graduate students

for its proposals as a way of reducing the number of long-term contract staff. Emphasis will be on strong team leaders with good administrative skills, technical competence, and a sensitivity for effective personal relationships with host country and AID mission personnel.

Participants were told that there is an improvement of food grain production in Asia and that 45 agricultural research projects focus on human resource development and institution building. In south Asia, the emphasis is on areas such as water management. Programs in southeast Asia were reported to be primarily in watershed management, rainfed agriculture and upstream forestry.

According to the Near East report, agriculture priorities are: policy and research, dryland agriculture, food and vegetable production and institution building. Among implications for Title XII universities: the need for French and Arabic language training and the need to expand project expertise beyond implementation to include such areas as project design and studies.

Participants also were told that the private sector is expected to become particularly active in AID programs in the Near East. Therefore, in contracting for AID projects, universities should consider ways of establishing relations with state-level private firms.

In addition to presentations on the Caribbean Basin Initiative and the

Kissinger Commission Report on Central America, seminar participants heard a report outlining AID's priority for the Latin America and Caribbean region. As reported, they are: agricultural production and diversification, market identification and development, improved access to land, forestry and irrigation.

Science and technology topics at the seminars included the relationships

“ One seminar focused on the University of Florida's role in AID's farming systems programs. ”

between universities and international agricultural research centers (IARCs). Funding mechanisms are being developed for universities to increase collaboration with IARCs. AID provides 25% of the IARCs' core budgets.

Also discussed at the seminars was the farming systems program, one of the areas supported by the Bureau for Science and Technology involving U.S. universities in agricultural development. Farming systems programs study various farming conditions and practices, and test and adapt improved technology suitable to these condi-

tions and practices that will improve production and farmers' income. One seminar discussion focused on the University of Florida's role in AID's farming systems programs. Florida provides support such as training, technical assistance, networking and communication.

Among other seminar topics were AID's four cornerstones of development and efforts to expand the relationship between AID's Office of Women in Development and Title XII institutions.

The northeast regional meeting Jan. 18-20 at Virginia State University concluded the fifth annual Title XII regional seminar series. The University of Arkansas at Fayetteville was the south central regional host, and the University of Idaho hosted the western regional seminar.

In addition to university and AID professionals, participants included consortia representatives and BIFAD staff. Board members attending were Charles Marshall, Duane Acker and Paul Findley.

Due to a typographical error in the January BIFAD column, it was incorrectly reported that BIFAD extended the Small Ruminants Collaborative Research Support Program, when in fact, BIFAD recommended that AID extend the CRSP.

—Mary Lester



Once the Office of Inspector General (IG) has completed an audit and issued its findings and recommendations, the next move is for Agency management to take certain steps that will lead to resolution or correction of the problem.

When the recommendation is monetary, management is required by

The Audit
Third in a Series

the Supplementary Budget and Recission Act of 1980 to resolve the matter within six months. In addition, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provisions require the following:

- Resolution of audit issues must be consistent with law and regulation.
- Disagreements between audit and management functions will be referred to the Agency head or his designee for resolution.

In audit language, there is a difference between a "finding" and a "recommendation." A "finding" is made when auditors determine that a particular program or operation is being conducted in a way that does not conform to law, regulations or Agency rules, and that this variance adversely affects the efficiency, effectiveness or economy of the program or operation.

The next step is issuance of a "recommendation." The purpose of a recommendation is to change "what is" to "what should be." A recommendation addresses the cause of a problem and indicates what should be done to correct it.

The auditors who make findings also propose recommendations. Audit managers and regional inspectors general for audit (RIG/As) then review the proposed recommendations.

Formal audit reports are accom-

panied by a letter in which the responsible RIG/A requests offices to whom audit recommendations are addressed to respond within 30 days. If no response is received after four months, a reminder cable or memorandum follows. A copy of this reminder is sent to the appropriate assistant administrator. If, after six months, no response has arrived, the recommendation becomes the responsibility of the inspector general, who immediately refers it to the Deputy Administrator for follow-up. In most cases, however, no reminders are needed and management's responses are received in a timely fashion.

In recommendations there also is a distinction between the words "resolution" and "closure." "Resolution" means that a course of action has been agreed upon to correct a problem. "Closure" means that the corrective action has been completed. This distinction is particularly important where monetary audit recommendations are concerned. Such matters must be tracked by the inspector general until the money is recovered or another appropriate settlement reached. Actual collection, however, is the responsibility of Agency management.

OMB guidance also requires that recommendation follow-up systems be evaluated periodically. Accordingly, on a selective basis, significant audit recommendations that previously were closed are examined to make sure that management's corrective actions have been completed and produced the desired results. Sometimes these reviews result in reopening a recommendation. RIG/As conduct follow-ups along with their normal audit tasks. Reopened recommendations become the inspector general's responsibility.

In April and October each year, the status of open audit recommendations is reported to the Administrator. These semiannual reports deal with overall

Agency performance in response to audit recommendations, compliance with laws and regulations, resolution of monetary findings and the status of recommendations resulting from joint AID/Department of State audits and General Accounting Office audits remaining open for more than six months. Also included are tables reflecting the status of actions on monetary recommendations and a breakdown of all IG audit recommendations by address, type, length of time open and resolution status.

In addition, as required by the Inspector General Act of 1978, AID's IG and other federal IGs make semi-annual reports to Congress on the

status of their operations. Such reports include a description of audit recommendations and identify recommendations from previous reports to Congress which have yet to be closed.

To more efficiently prepare these reports and provide audit data to OMB, the IG has automated his recommendation tracking system. Using the Agency's mainframe computer, IG monitors the course of each audit recommendation from issuance to closure. The system also tracks recommendations with monetary implications until recovery or other appropriate settlement.

—Fred Kalhammer

FROM PM



One of the Agency's most interesting workshops, the *Supervisor's Role in Personnel Management*, is scheduled for March 26-30. All

Agency managers below the assistant administrator level are encouraged to sign up for it.

The course was designed to broaden managers' knowledge of labor relations, equal employment opportunity, human relations, performance appraisal, employee relations and the classification system. Deadline for applications is March 16.

Contracting for Non-Procurement Personnel will be given May 2-4 for project officers with technical and program responsibilities that include contracting for design or implementation services. The course covers all types of contracts, grants and related procedures used in the Agency to support projects and programs. It also

explains services available from the Office of Contract Management. The emphasis is on contracting for services, planning, statements of work, and preparing project implementation orders for technical services (PIO/Ts). Deadline is April 13.

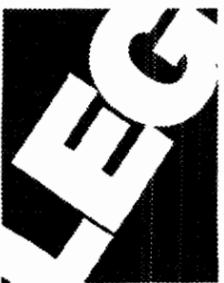
The next retirement seminar is scheduled for April 23-24. Part of the Agency's career planning program, retirement seminars are designed not only for employees who are about to retire, but also for those who are five years from retirement. They are scheduled four times a year.

Classes cover Social Security, retirement annuities, investment and estate planning, taxes, education and retirement volunteer work.

All classes are held in the AID Training Center in SA-14, 1735 Lynn St., Rosslyn, VA. Deadline is April 6.

Applicants for all courses may submit the Standard Form 182 or Optional Form 170 (Application for Training) through their supervisors and training coordinator to Claire Palistrant, M/PM/TD/AST, Room 495, SA-14.

—Marge Nannes



As Congress returned to Washington Jan. 23 to begin the second session of the 98th Congress, AID's Office of Legislative Affairs

(LEG) faced the new year with some personnel changes and some challenging legislative issues.

With both the House Foreign Affairs and the Senate Foreign Relations committees committed to "fast-tracking" the authorization bills, the hearing cycle got off to a quick start in anticipation of early markups and floor action.

In addition to the usual problems associated with foreign assistance legislation during a Presidential election year, AID is also deeply involved in several major new initiatives.

The Congress will consider the Administration request to implement the recommendations of the National Bipartisan Commission on Central America. This package includes both a fiscal 1984 supplemental appropriation

request for \$400 million as well as a multiyear request for a total of \$8 billion in fiscal 1985 through fiscal 1989. Early reactions from Congress indicate that the package has a generally strong base of support.

For Africa, the Administration has proposed for fiscal 1985 the first increment of the Economic Policy Initiative (EPI). The heart of the initiative is the commitment to a \$500 million, five-year plan beginning with the \$75 million appropriation request for fiscal 1985. The EPI resources will be used to provide incentives for economic policy changes, particularly to implement reform at the sectoral level in areas such as agriculture. (See article on page 1.)

In addition to EPI, AID is proposing a \$90 million food supplemental in fiscal 1984 for Africa which has received widespread support.

Personnel shifts and additions in LEG should help liaison activities better meet the challenges of the new session.

Director Kelly Kammerer's new deputy is Jim O'Meara. David Merrill,

LEG deputy during the First Session of the 98th Congress, has moved to the Asia Bureau as director of the Office of East Asia Affairs. O'Meara has been with LEG since 1981 as Congressional liaison officer (CLO) for the Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). He also covered the Asia Bureau for part of that period.

Immediately before coming to LEG in 1981, O'Meara served in the International Affairs Bureau of the Department of Labor. Before his tour at Labor, he worked at AID, both in LEG and overseas as a Foreign Service officer in Indonesia and Vietnam. He also was a Peace Corps volunteer (1965-67) in the Philippines.

A new face in the office is Charlotte ("Charlie") Ponticelli, who has assumed O'Meara's former duties with LAC. Ponticelli comes to LEG from the White House, where she worked in the Office of Legislative Affairs (1981-84).

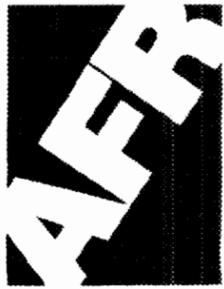
LEG also will benefit from the transfer of Bette Cook from LAC's Office of Development Programs. She will handle Congressional notifications, Congressional inquiries and a host of

other duties essential to efficient operation of the office.

Other familiar faces remain in LEG: Dee Ann Smith is associate director; David Liner, CLO for Africa, Clark Wurzberger, CLO for Asia and the Bureau for Food for Peace and Voluntary Assistance (FVA/private voluntary organizations); and Ken Ludden, CLO for Near East and the Bureau for Private Enterprise.

Marianne O'Sullivan will continue to cover the Appropriations Committees and will take on the additional responsibility of the Budget Committees. Susan Kakesako continues her duties with the Bureau for Science and Technology and primary responsibility for the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Peter Theil will continue to work with FVA (P.L. 480), American Schools and Hospitals Abroad and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Theil also retains his longstanding editorship of the *Congressional Presentation*. Kevin Rushton monitors narcotics, multilateral banks and a range of other issues.

—Ken Ludden



Topics at the Jan. 30-Feb. 3 Africa mission directors conference in Kigali, Rwanda, ranged from the Economic Policy Initiative (EPI)

to oral rehydration therapy (ORT) and personnel issues.

Discussions of four working groups occupied the bulk of the conference. Robert Brown, Sudan mission director, headed up the group discussing EPI and private enterprise, with Barry Riley, deputy director of the Kenya mission, serving as rapporteur. Lois Richards, director of the mission in Liberia, led the sectoral strategies working group, with Peter Benedict, director of the Mauritania mission, serving as rapporteur.

The working group on project implementation was led by Larry Bond, director of the Regional Eco-

conomic Development Services Office (REDSO), West Africa. Byron Bahl, AID representative to the Gambia, was rapporteur. Betty Boorady, director of the Lesotho mission, led a working group on management and personnel. Myron Golden, AID representative to Togo, was rapporteur.

Management and personnel issues received additional attention in discussions led by Deputy Assistant to the Administrator for Management Ain Kivimac, Office of Personnel Management (PM) Director William Sigler and Judy Ross, deputy chief of PM's Recruitment Division.

There were panels, as well. One, on obligation of funds, featured Ron Levin, director in Cameroon; John Koehring, REDSO director, East Africa; Hariadene Johnson, director of the Africa Bureau's Office of Development Planning; and Norm Cohen, director of the bureau's Office of Project Development. Other panel discussion topics: private voluntary

organizations (PVOs) and small country programming.

Among featured speakers at the conference were Counselor to the Agency Frank Kimball, who gave a policy overview emphasizing the "four cornerstones of development;" Senior Assistant Administrator for Science and Technology Nyle Brady; and Assistant Administrator of the Bureau for Food for Peace and Voluntary Assistance Julia Chang Bloch. In addition to her remarks on constraints to food production, Bloch focused attention on possibilities for increasing PVO involvement in Africa.

Other speakers from AID/W were Bud Munson, associate assistant administrator for private enterprise development, and Cynthia Perry, director of education and human resources. Dr. Jon Rohde of the Management Sciences for Health Consulting Group discussed ORT.

"The conference was a very constructive exercise," said Africa Bureau

Assistant Administrator Frank Donatelli. "We got a chance to hear what's on the minds of our people in the field. Now it's up to AID/W to follow up. I'd like to see appropriate action taken on each one of the recommendations coming out of Kigali so that we can begin the 1985 mission directors conference with a full report of our accomplishments," Donatelli said.

Donatelli praised the AID office in Rwanda and the Embassy for the smooth operation of the conference. Approximately 75 people attended the meeting. Besides remarks by AID Representative to Rwanda Eugene Chiavaroli and U.S. Ambassador John Blane, the opening session also featured a speech by Rwanda's Foreign Minister Ngarukiyintwali, who presented an overview of his country's foreign policy.

—Frank Lavin

AGRICULTURE



Ever since high-yield varieties of rice and wheat ushered in the Green Revolution, these two grains have tended to be the glamour crops.

Even maize, beans and cassava get higher billing than potatoes.

But recently in many developing countries, the potato has started to come into its own. It tops the list of food crops in terms of dry matter and energy production per hectare per day, and ranks fourth in production of edible protein per hectare per day.

The seat of international research on potato improvement is at CIP (Centro Internacional de la Papa) in Peru. CIP scientists are developing techniques for potato production from true seed (seed from flowers), which could provide a significant breakthrough in agriculture this century, according to CIP officials.

This is particularly important as developing countries increase the land area planted in potatoes. As this occurs

the quality of tuber seed available to farmers diminishes.

Bangladesh, for example, recently doubled potato production. CIP helped Bangladesh potato researchers test true-seed technology. In the tests, true seed gave potato yields of 15-20 tons per hectare in 80-90 days.

While traditional potato production from tubers can give higher yields, the costs of the tuber seed is about \$1,100 a hectare. True seed will cost no more than \$50 a hectare. An added advantage to production from true seed: avoidance of burying two tons of food—the rate of tuber seed used per hectare in traditional planting.

CIP, one of the research centers in the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), gets about 25% of its support from AID.

The Soil Science Department at North Carolina State University has published a report on agronomic-economic research on soils in the tropics which may interest AID agricultural development officers. The report covers 1980-81 research. A 1982-83 report will be published later this year.

The newly published 139-page

report covers research on continuous cultivation and nutrient dynamics. These data show that continuous cropping is possible in soils normally subjected to shifting cultivation. Also included are research results on low-input technology—a major research area since 1980.

Low-input research is reported for selection of acid soil-tolerant cultivars, legume inoculation, composting and mulching, rock phosphate use, legume-based pastures and lowland rice production on alluvial soils.

Agricultural development officers may request copies of the report from John Malcolm in AID's Office of Agriculture, SA-18, Room 406.

A fish farmer can produce about seven tons of fish per hectare per year by using pig manure to grow the fish, instead of inorganic fertilizer and feeds, according to results of recent tests in the Philippines. This represents a significantly higher yield than inorganically fertilized ponds which, in the same tests, produced 40% fewer fish.

Eighteen major experiments demonstrated the potential for producing high yields of tilapia and carp, while providing an efficient way to dispose of livestock manure. The experiments

were conducted by the Philippines' Central Luzon State University (CLSU) and the International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management (ICLARM).

ICLARM and CLSU studied two systems at the CLSU freshwater Aquaculture Center. The first involved two 90-day fish crops and raising pigs to market size (80-90 kilograms). The second was a 180-day crop of fish and raising pigs to market size.

The fish crops combined Nile tilapia (85%), common carp (14%) and snakehead (1%). The stocking rate was 20,000 fingerlings per hectare per cropping. The carp's movements stir the pond bottom and prevent aquatic weeds from growing. Snakehead preys on unwanted tilapia offspring.

Researchers found large White-Landrace cross pigs the most suitable for the pig-fish system. For each hectare of fishpond, 60-100 weanlings weighing 12-15 kilograms were raised. The recommended number is 80 per hectare.

The research emphasized determining the best number of pigs per unit area of pond as well as evaluating the economics of production for backyard and small-scale enterprise. Pig waste was washed directly into the fishponds. Tilapia ate undigested solids and plankton. Manure increases plankton growth.

In a 180-day experiment using 100 pigs and 20,000 fish per hectare, the yields of marketable fish averaged 4.53 tons per hectare. That yield did not differ significantly from the two 90-day yields.

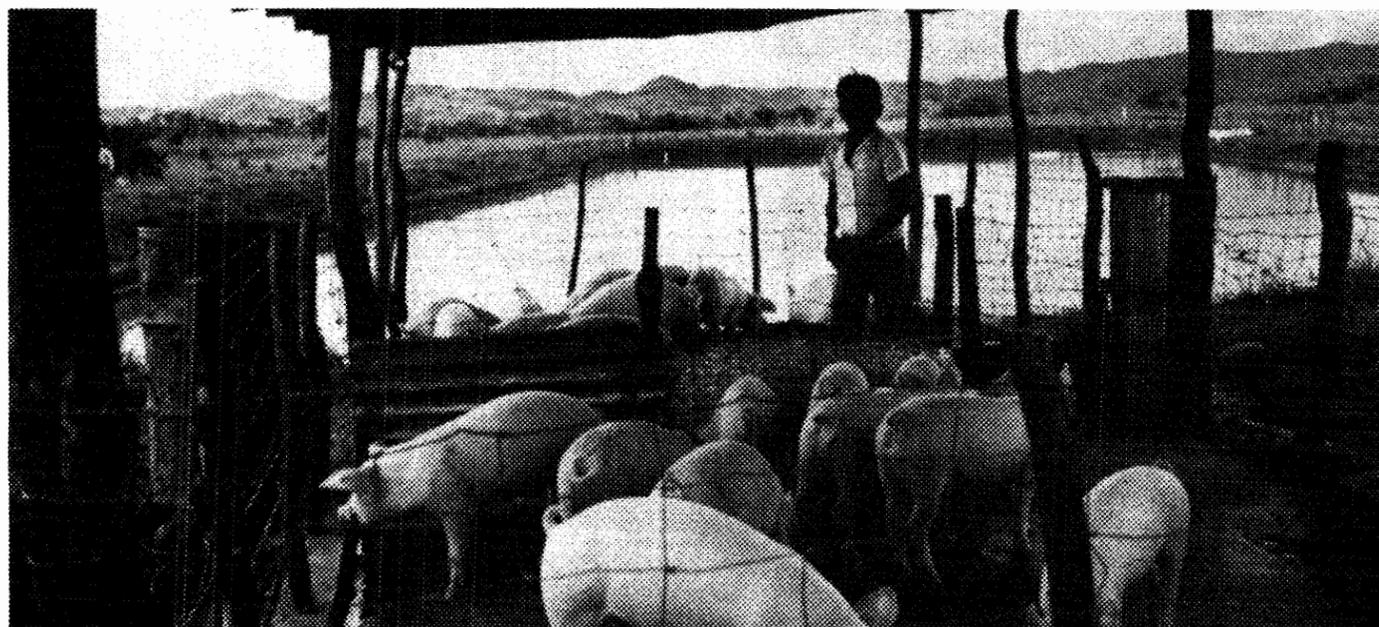
ICLARM-CLSU researchers say their results are good, considering that no inorganic fertilization or supplemental feeds were used to grow the fish. A taste panel preferred fish grown in the organically managed ponds to those from ponds fertilized with inorganic fertilizer. No parasites harmful to humans were found in the experimental fish.

AID, under an Inland Fisheries Project and an Aquaculture Production

(continued on page 19)



These potatoes in the Andes were grown from "true seed" (seed from flowers). While traditional potato production from tubers can give higher yields, the cost of tuber seed is about 22 times greater per hectare than true seed.



Project with Auburn University as contractor, provided about \$600,000 to help develop and operate CLSU's freshwater Aquaculture Center.

A fish farmer can produce seven tons of fish per hectare, per year, using pig manure to grow the fish instead of inorganic fertilizer and feeds, according to tests in the Philippines.

POPULATION

AID should continue its strong support of programs that provide technical assistance to collect and analyze demographic and family planning data, according to the American Public Health Association (APHA). This was the central recommendation coming out of APHA's fall meeting on demographic and family planning data collection.

Fifteen experts attending the meeting exchanged views on priorities for demographic and family planning data collection and analysis during the next decade. Included was a detailed discussion of the types of population data most needed, the strengths and weaknesses of the various data collection methods (censuses, surveys, vital registration, service statistics), and techniques to process and analyze information.

Other recommendations for AID and other donors:

- Continued support for sample surveys of fertility and family planning behavior.
- Support for development of new microcomputer software to process and analyze demographic information.
- Further exploration into inter-relationships between family planning, and maternal and child health.
- Continued efforts, including training, to develop analytical capabilities in host countries.

These and other meeting recommendations are expected to affect development of new demographic initiatives in the Office of Population. An example is the Family Health and Demographic Surveys Project scheduled to begin in fiscal 1984.

ENERGY

The Office of Energy has begun a subproject that provides technical assistance for energy planning to Haiti's Department of Mines and Energy Resources. The subproject will include a resident energy adviser for a year and short-term consultancies by a number of energy specialists.

Haiti's energy problems are classic examples of those faced by other low-income, developing countries:



- Heavy dependence on imported oil.
- An unreliable electric system.
- Severe deforestation due to agricultural clearing and fuelwood use. This contributes to the silting of hydroelectric reservoirs.
- Lack of energy resources.
- Shortage of people trained in energy.
- Inefficient energy use in industry, transportation and commercial buildings.
- Insufficient energy inputs for agriculture. This leads to low productivity.

FORESTRY

The Peace Corps is examining the possibility of working with AID on forestry projects funded by local currency generated from the sale of P.L. 480 food.

The Office of Forestry, Environment and Natural Resources estimates that as many trees are planted under such programs as under all other mission forestry projects combined.

The Peace Corps is carrying out its study in close cooperation with the Office of Food for Peace in AID's Bureau for Food for Peace and

Voluntary Assistance, the Africa Bureau and S&T. A joint fact-finding team will visit Africa soon.

NUTRITION

Results of a two-year study of Egypt's food subsidy and rationing system challenge some widely held views on food subsidies. Funded by the Office of Nutrition (S&T/N) and carried out by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), the study reports that the burden of the food subsidy system has been greatly reduced since 1974. It further estimates that if producers were paid closer to world prices, there would be an improvement in national income of 1.5%.

Expansion of Egypt's food subsidies in the early 1970s did result in some reduction of public investment in agriculture, which, in the long run, may have had an adverse effect on the sector's growth, the report says. However, it points out, increased subsidies also reduced the degree to which agriculture was implicitly taxed.

The study contends that subsidies

were not entirely at the expense of agriculture. Price distortions existed long before food subsidies became an important part of government spending. Protected domestic livestock markets provided higher prices and larger incomes for farmers.

Although the study recognizes that subsidies are a central feature of social policy, it suggests that if subsidies were to be restricted to those who need them the most, the economy would benefit significantly. Among the expected benefits: lower inflation, a decline in imported food and a better climate for industrial production and investment.

IFPRI is issuing separate reports on each of the six tasks that made up the study:

- A description of government policies for the procurement, pricing and rationing of food. The system touches wheat flour, bread, rice, tea, cooking oil, sugar, beans, lentils, frozen meat and poultry, and fish.
- An analysis of household decision-making regarding purchases of rationed and subsidized foods, and the extent to which different policies benefit market operators and agents instead of consumers.
- An analysis of the effect of the food rationing and subsidy system on household income, food consumption and nutrition.
- An analysis of the effects of food procurement and pricing policies on domestic food production, farm incomes, and incomes of the rural poor (landless laborers and low-income farmers).
- An analysis of government expenditures on food rationing and subsidies, the sources of revenue, distribution of the cost burden and implications for investment and intersectoral terms of trade.
- An analysis of the foreign exchange implications of pricing policies and their effect on foreign trade.

The findings have been presented in several IFPRI seminars and briefing sessions. Seminars were held both for the AID mission in Cairo and for several government ministries that contributed to the study. Similar sessions have been presented in Washington for other donors and the Near East Bureau.

The study is the first of four planned by S&T/N, with assistance from the Nutrition Economics Group in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of International Cooperation and Development. A second study is under way in Sri Lanka.

Further information and copies of the reports may be obtained by contacting Roberta van Haeften, USDA/OICD/NEG, telephone 475-4167.

FROM TRI/PI

In April, Elsevier Science Publishers of Amsterdam, The Netherlands, will launch a journal of biotechnology. AID's senior assistant administrator for science and technology, Nyle Brady, is a member of the new journal's editorial board. Elsevier will provide descriptive materials on the journal for AID's science and technology professionals.